

Related Rates #1 - link

Given $C(x)$, dx/dt , and a value of x at which to evaluate the rate dC/dt , find dC/dt .

$$\text{Scheme: } \frac{dC}{dt} = \frac{dC}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$\text{Given } C(x) = 15x^{4/3} + 54x^{2/3} + 600,000$$

$$\frac{dC}{dx} = \frac{4}{3} \cdot 15x^{1/3} + \frac{2}{3} \cdot 54x^{-1/3} + 0$$

$$\text{Marginal cost} \rightarrow \frac{dC}{dx} = 20x^{1/3} + 36x^{-1/3}$$

Marginal cost is therefore given by $\frac{dC}{dx}$, that is, $C'(x)$.

For any # of printers in production x , the cost to produce the $x+1$ printer is found by $C'(x)$.

However, the question is to find the rate (variable t) at which cost is increasing each month at a given level of production, the level reached being $x=1728$.

Plugging what we know into the scheme:

$$\frac{dC}{dt} = \frac{dC}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} \quad \text{for } x=1728$$

$$\left. \frac{dC}{dt} \right|_{x=1728} = \left. \frac{dC}{dx} \right|_{x=1728} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$= \left(20(1728)^{1/3} + \frac{36}{(1728)^{1/3}} \right) \cdot 350$$

$$= (20 \cdot 12 + 36/12) (350)$$

$$= 85,050 \rightarrow \$85,050/\text{month}$$