

**Problems on Differentials – Solution to #1**

1. The volume  $V$  of a right circular cylinder is related to the radius  $r$  and height  $h$  of the cylinder by  $V = \pi r^2 h$ .

- (a) Find the linear relation among the differentials  $dV$ ,  $dr$ , and  $dh$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} dV &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial r} dr + \frac{\partial f}{\partial h} dh \\ &= 2\pi r h dr + \pi r^2 dh \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Use your result from (a) to deduce a relation among percent changes in  $dV$ ,  $dr$ , and  $dh$ .

**Solution:** The percent change in the volume  $V$  is given by  $\frac{dV}{V}$  and similarly for the other variables. Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dV}{V} &= \frac{2\pi r h dr + \pi r^2 dh}{V} \\ &= \frac{2\pi r h dr + \pi r^2 dh}{\pi r^2 h} \\ &= 2\frac{dr}{r} + \frac{dh}{h} \end{aligned}$$

- (c) If the height and the radius of a cylinder are each increased by 1%, by what percent does the volume increase?

**Solution:** Using the result from part (b) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dV}{V} &= 2\frac{dr}{r} + \frac{dh}{h} \\ &= 2(1) + 1 \\ &= 3(\text{that is, } 3\%) \end{aligned}$$

- (d) If the height of a cylinder is increased by 1%, how much must the radius be changed to keep volume constant?

**Solution:** Keeping the volume constant means staying on the same level set which means  $dV = 0$  giving  $\frac{dV}{V} = 0$ . Thus we seek  $dr$  for which

$$0 = \frac{dV}{V} = 2\frac{dr}{r} + 1$$

This gives  $\frac{dr}{r} = \frac{1}{2}\%$