

Topic: Derivatives.

The derivative of $f(x)$ at the point $x=a$ is defined to be the following limit.

$$f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}$$

Example: $f(x) = x$. derivative at the point $x=a$.

$$f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{a+h - a}{h} = 1.$$

Example: $f(x) = x^2$. derivative at the point $x=a$.

$$f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(a+h)^2 - a^2}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^2 + 2ah + h^2 - a^2}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (2a+h) = 2a.$$

Generally as a changes, $f'(a)$ will change.

The function $x \mapsto f'(x)$ is also called the derivative of $f(x)$.

Example: $f(x) = x$, $f'(x) = 1$.

Example: $f(x) = x^2$, $f'(x) = 2x$.

Example: $f(x) = x^3$, $f'(x) = ?$ $f'(x) = 3x^2$.
 $g(x) = x^3 - x$, $g'(x) = ?$ $g'(x) = 3x^2 - 1$.

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h)^3 - x^3}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h-x)(x+h)^2 + x(x+h)+x^2}{h} \quad \text{Recall: } a^3 - b^3 = (a-b)(a^2 + ab + b^2)$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (x+h)^2 + x(x+h) + x^2 = x^2 + x^2 + x^2 = 3x^2.$$

$$g'(x) = \cancel{x^3} (x^3 - x)' = (x^3)' - x' = 3x^2 - 1.$$

Topic 2: Geometric Meaning.

Recall: Derivative of $f(x)$ at the point $x = a$.

stands for the slope of the tangent line of the graph of the function at the point $(a, f(a))$.

Example: $f(x) = x^3$, then find the eqn. of the tangent line at $x = 2$.

$$\text{Slope} = f'(2) = 3x^2 \Big|_{x=2} = 12$$

of the tangent line.

It passes $(2, f(2)) = (2, 8)$.

$$\text{Eqn: } y - 8 = 12(x - 2). \quad (\text{point-slope formula})$$

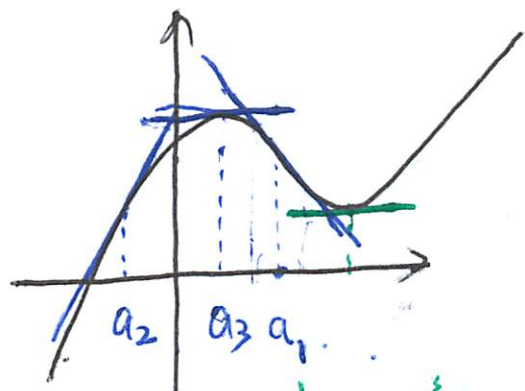
Exercise: Find the ~~tangent~~ equation of the tangent line of $f(x) = x^3 - 3x$ at the point $x=2$.

Ans: $y-2 = 9(x-2)$.

$$f'(x) = (x^3 - 3x)' = (x^3)' - \cancel{(3x)'} = 3x^2 - 3$$

$$f'(2) = 3 \times 4 - 3 = 9 = \text{slope. Point } (2, 2)$$

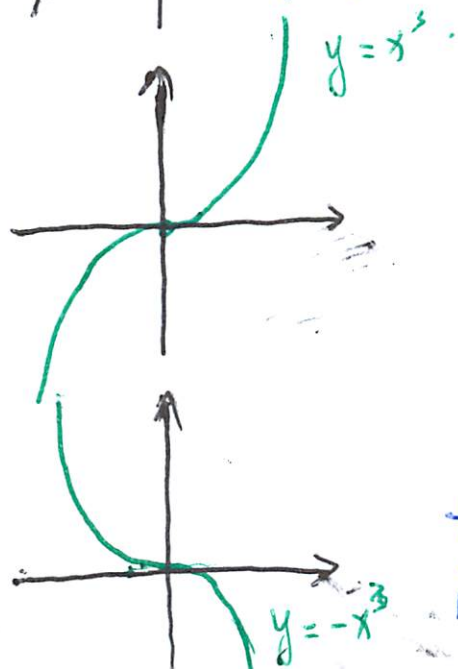
The slope of the tangent line of a function actually characterizes the "~~too~~" local behavior of a function.



When $f'(a) < 0$, $f(x)$ is decreasing "near a ".

When $f'(a) > 0$, $f(x)$ is increasing "near a ".

When $f'(a) = 0$, $f(x)$ is "flat" "near a ".



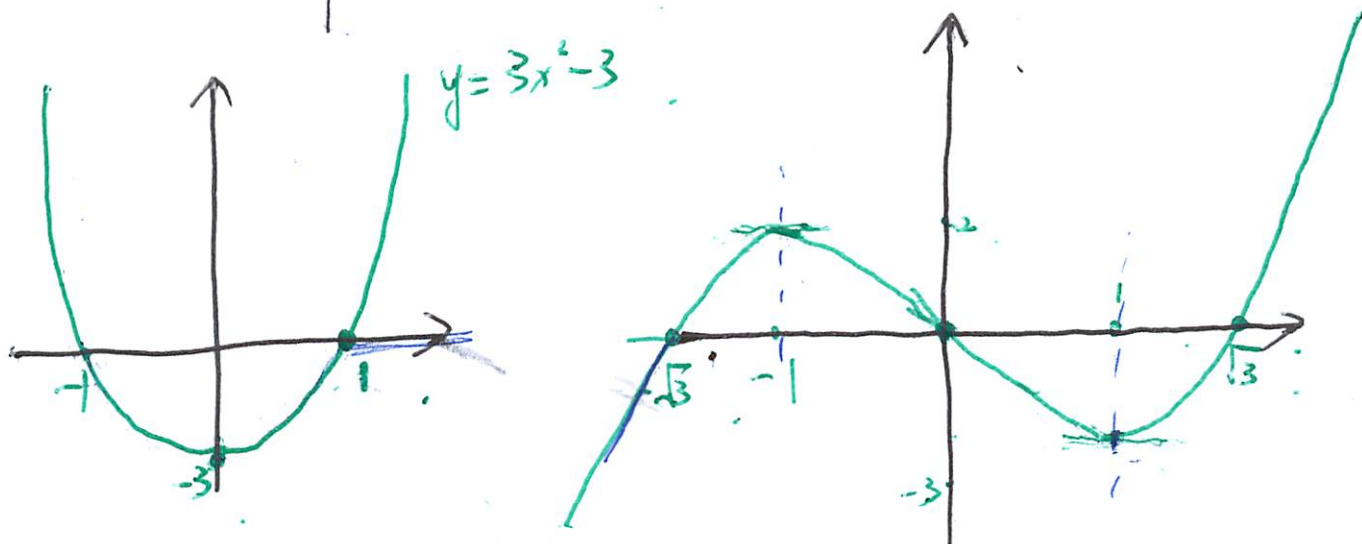
By "flat", ~~there are~~ I only mean that the tangent line is horizontal. It may be increasing, decreasing, extremal "near a ".

The knowledge of $f'(x)$ can help to draw the graph of a function.

Relationship of graphs between $f'(x)$ & $f(x)$

Example: $f(x) = x^3 - 3x$.

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 3.$$



In this example, ~~an~~ $f(x)$ takes extremal values at the point $x = -1$, $x = 1$.

$$x > 1, \quad f'(x) > 0,$$

$$-1 < x < 1, \quad f'(x) < 0.$$

$$x < -1, \quad f'(x) > 0$$

Summary: $f'(a)$ stands for the slope of the tangent line at $x=a$. $f'(a) > 0$, means increasing locally.
 $f'(a) < 0$ means locally decreasing,
 $f'(a) = 0$ means locally flat. } increasing } not so important
 } decreasing } in most applications
 } extremal.

Topic ③: Existence of derivative.

$f'(a)$ exists if the limit $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}$ exist.

Example: $f(x) = |x| = \begin{cases} x & x \geq 0 \\ -x & x < 0 \end{cases}$.

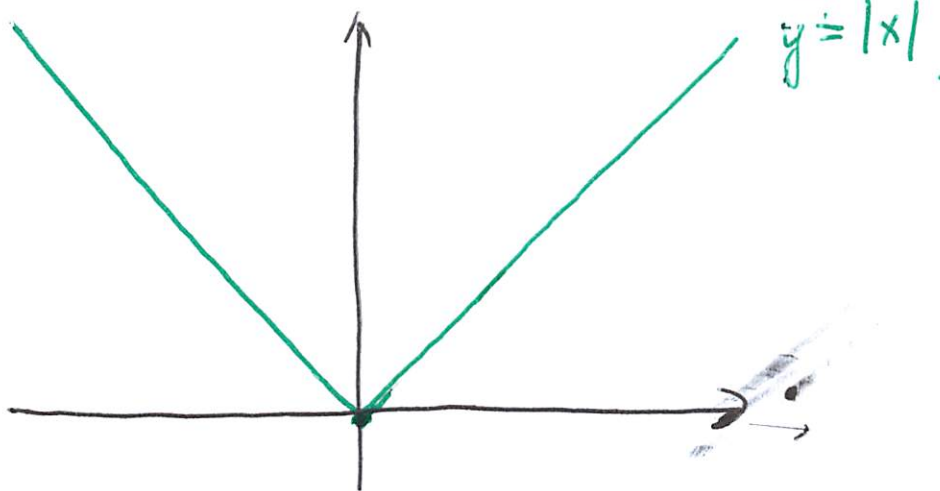
Fact: $f'(0)$ does NOT exist.

$$f'(0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0+h) - f(0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|h| - 0}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|h|}{h} \quad \text{does not exist.}$$

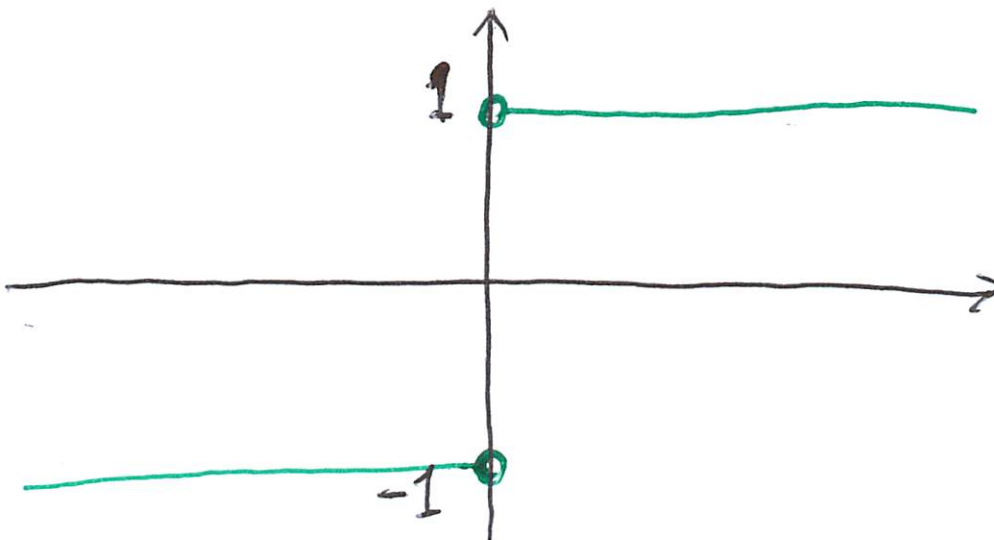
$$\text{b/c } \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{|h|}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{h}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} 1 = 1$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{|h|}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{-h}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} (-1) = -1$$



$$f'(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x > 0 \\ -1 & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

at $x=0$, $f'(x)$ is not defined.



Exercise: ① Compute $f'(x)$ for $f(x) = |x|$ when $x > 0$.
 ② " " " " " " " " $x < 0$.

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \quad f(x) = |x|$$

$$x > 0, \quad f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|x+h| - |x|}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x+h - x}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h}{h} = 1$$

As $h \rightarrow 0$,
 $x+h$ will be
 positive.

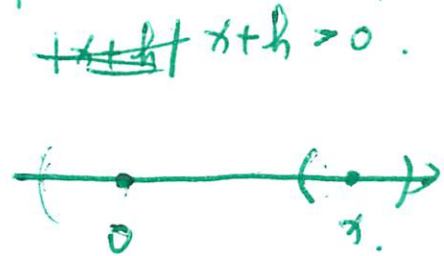
Why: b/c x is a
 fixed positive number.
 So as $h \rightarrow 0$, at some
 point $|x| > |h|$.

$$x < 0, \quad f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|x+h| - |x|}{h}$$

b/c $x+h < 0$.

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-(x+h) - (-x)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-x-h+x}{h} = -1$$



Reminder: $|a| = \begin{cases} a & a \geq 0 \\ -a & a < 0 \end{cases}$

Summary: For $f(x) = |x|$,

① $f'(0)$ DNE. ② $f'(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x > 0 \\ -1 & x < 0 \end{cases}$

Example: $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$.

~~f'~~ Fact: $f'(0)$ DNE

$$f'(0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{0+h} - \sqrt{0}}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{h}}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{h}}$$

This guy blows up, i.e., limit DNE, i.e. $f'(0)$ DNE.

Exercise: Compute $f'(x)$ for $x > 0$. ($f(x) = \sqrt{x}$).

Hint: Rationalization.

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\sqrt{x+h} - \sqrt{x}}{h} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}} \right) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x+h-x}{h(\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x})}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{x}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

Example: $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & x \geq 0 \\ -x & x < 0 \end{cases}$

① Is $f(x)$ continuous?

② Find $f'(x)$ for $x > 0$ and for $x < 0$.

③ Does $f'(0)$ exist?

①. Yes, it is continuous; b/c.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} x^2 = 0. \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} (-x) = 0. \quad f(0) = 0.$$

②. $x > 0$, $f'(x) = (x^2)' = 2x$. ~~$x \rightarrow 0$~~

$x < 0$, $f'(x) = (-x)' = -(x)' = -1$.

$$f'(x) = \begin{cases} 2x & x > 0. \\ -1 & x < 0. \end{cases}$$

③. WARNING: the argument in green is incorrect.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f'(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f'(x) = 0, \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f'(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} (-1) = -1.$$

Not equal, so $f'(0)$ DNE.

The argument in green actually says that $f'(x)$ is not continuous at $x=0$.

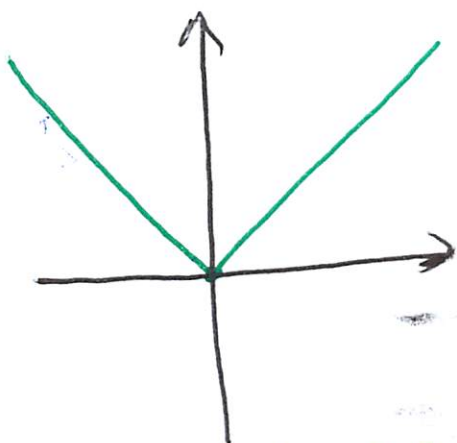
$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(0+h) - f(0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{h^2}{h} = 0.$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{f(0+h) - f(0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{-h}{h} = -1.$$

So $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(0+h) - f(0)}{h}$ DNE.

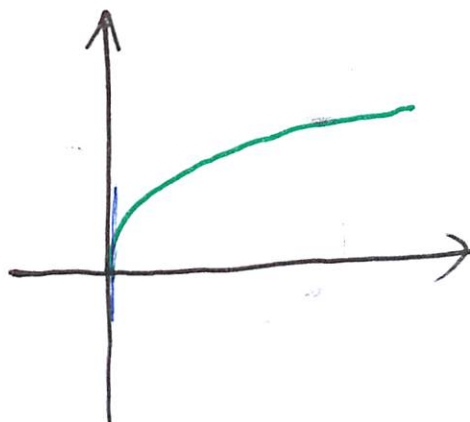
Summary: ①. Absolute value.
 ②. Square root.
 ③. Piecewise function.

These are the types of function that at some point the derivative ~~is~~ does not exist.

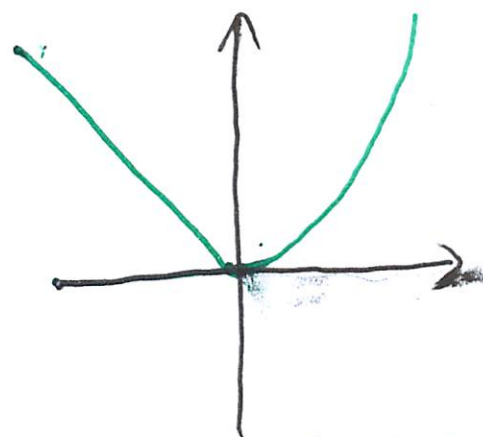


at $x=0$, tangent line DNE

"Angle" at $x=0$



at $x=0$, tangent line is vertical.



at $x=0$, tangent line DNE.

"Angle" at $x=0$

Topic ④. Differentiability v.s. Continuity.

Theorem: If a function is differentiable at $x=a$
 (derivative at $x=a$ exists).

then it is continuous at $x=a$.

Proof: It suffices to show $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} f(a+h) = f(a)$.

(Equivalent to $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = f(a)$, $x \rightarrow a+h$, $\lim_{\substack{a+h \rightarrow a \\ h \rightarrow 0}} f(a+h) = f(a)$)

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} = f'(a) \quad \text{by differentiability,}$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} [f(a+h) - f(a)] = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} [f(a+h) - f(a)] \cdot \frac{h}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} \cdot h$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} \cdot \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} h \quad (\text{Product rule})$$

$$= f'(a) \cdot 0 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} [f(a+h)] - f(a) = 0 \Rightarrow \text{Continuity at } x=a.$$

Topic (5). Derivative notation. For $y = f(x)$,

~~$f'(x)$~~ $f'(x)$ is usually denoted as $\frac{dy}{dx}$ (Leibniz notation).

Example: $y = f(x) = x^2$, ~~$f'(x)$~~ $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x$.

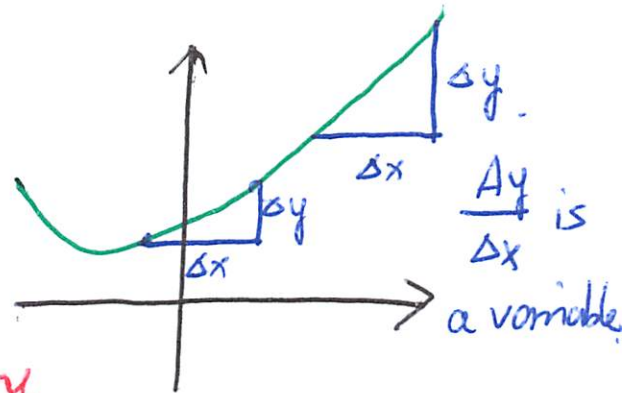
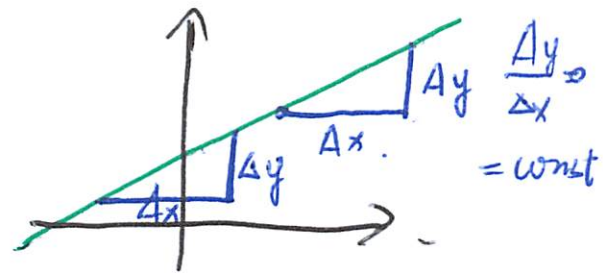
Or sometimes, $\frac{dx^2}{dx} = 2x$. $\frac{d}{dx}(x^2) = 2x$

Remark: This notation is handy when using chain rules, integration by parts, by substitution, etc.

Topic ⑥: Rate of change.

Example: Linear function.

Example: Nonlinear function



Average rate of change.

$$y = f(x). \quad x \mapsto x + \Delta x$$

$$y = f(x) \mapsto f(x + \Delta x) = y + \Delta y.$$

$$\text{i.e. } \Delta y = f(x + \Delta x) - f(x).$$

$$\text{Avg. rate of change} = \frac{\text{Change in } y}{\text{Change in } x} = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}.$$

$$= \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x}.$$

Taking $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$, we will have instantaneous rate of change

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Instant. rate of change} &= \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+\Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x} \\ &= f'(x) = \cancel{\frac{dy}{dx}} \end{aligned}$$

In more rigorous words, suppose $f(x)$ is differentiable at $x = x_0$, then the instantaneous ~~change~~ rate of change of $y = f(x)$ at the point $x = x_0$ is the value of $f'(x_0)$, i.e. $\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{x=x_0}$

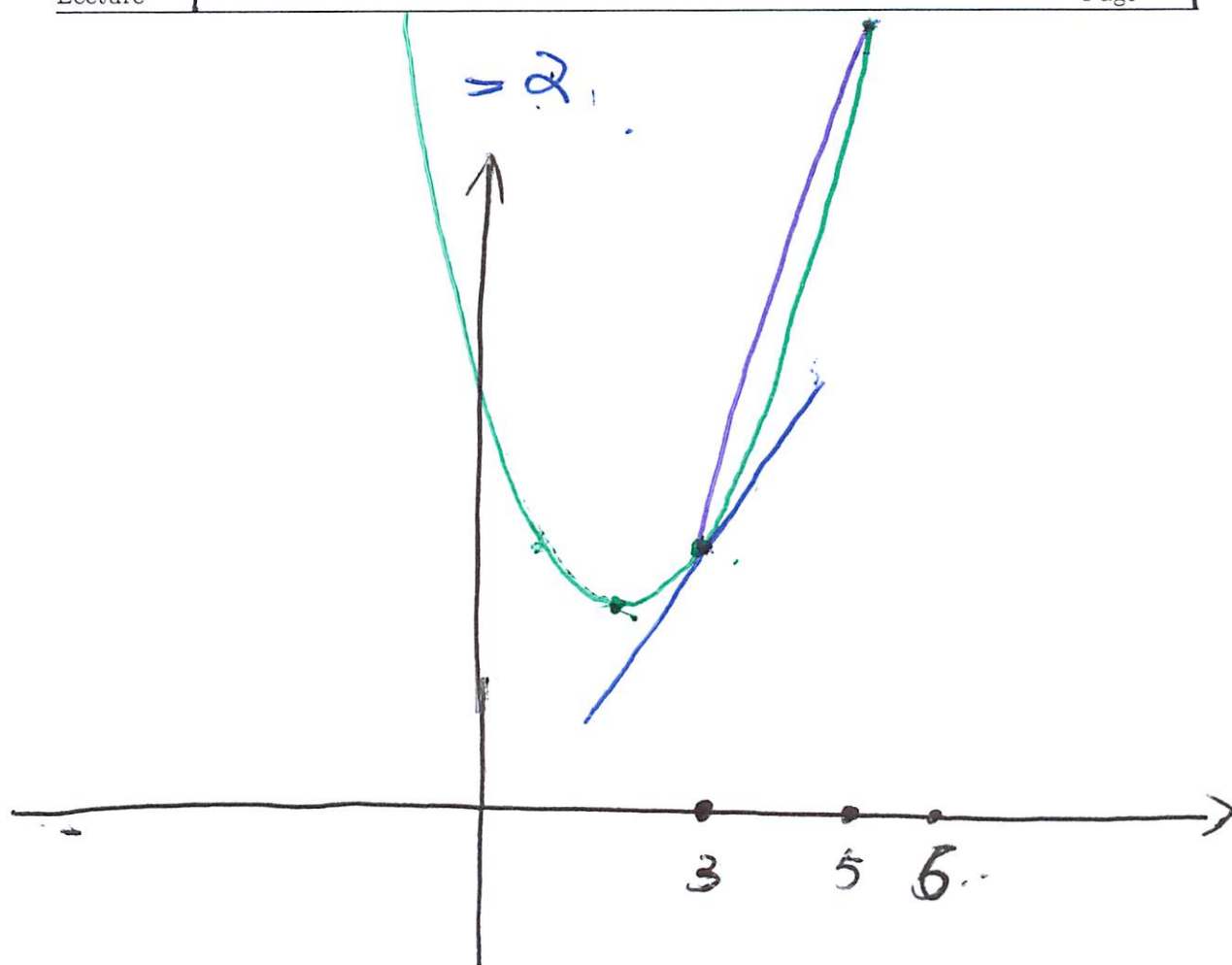
Example: Compute the ^{& the inst.} average rate of change of

$$f(x) = x^2 - 4x + 7.$$

Average change from 3 to 5 = 3 + 2.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rate} &= \frac{f(5) - f(3)}{5 - 3} = \frac{5^2 - 4 \times 5 + 7 - (3^2 - 4 \times 3 + 7)}{2} \\ &= \frac{5 + 7 - (-3 + 7)}{2} = \frac{8}{2} = 4. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Inst. rate at } x=3 = f'(3) = (x^2 - 4x + 7)' \Big|_{x=3} = (2x - 4) \Big|_{x=3}$$



$$\text{Relative Rate of Change} = \frac{\text{Inst. rate of change}}{\text{Size of quantity}}$$

Rigorously, relative rate of change of $y = f(x)$ at $x = x_0$ is given by the ratio $\frac{f'(x_0)}{f(x_0)}$.

Why interested: Suppose ~~your~~^{my} salary is \$15,000/yr. I'll be happy if I got an extra \$3,000.

But I won't be equally happy if my salary is \$150,000 / yr.

Remark: You need to know how to compute these rates in ~~an~~ the exam.

Topic ⑦. Rectilinear motion.

motion along a line. (1-dim motion).

Motion is characterized by $s(t)$, which stands for the position of the moving object at time t .

Given the position function $s(t)$.

Velocity $v(t) = \frac{ds}{dt}$.

Speed $|v(t)| = \left| \frac{ds}{dt} \right|$.

~~Acceler~~
Acceleration $a(t) = \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{d^2s}{dt^2}$.

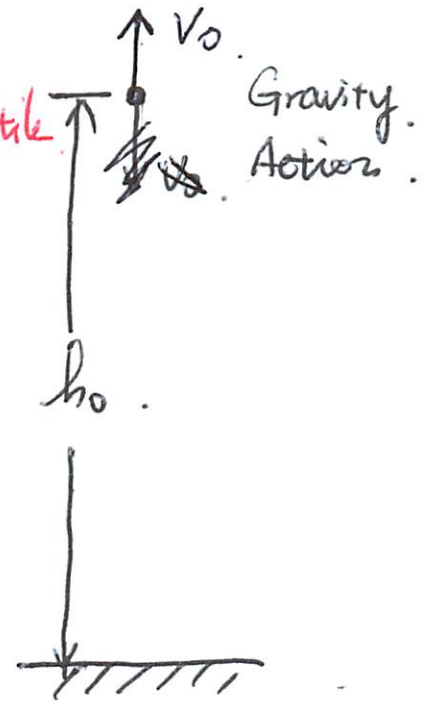
$\left(\frac{d^2f}{dx^2} \right)$ is just the derivative of $f'(x)$.
 $\frac{d}{dx} f'(x) = \frac{d^2f}{dx^2} = f''(x)$.

Example: Falling body.

Formula of the ~~high~~ height of a projectile.

$$h(t) = -\frac{1}{2}gt^2 + v_0t + h_0.$$

\uparrow acceleration due to gravity
 \uparrow initial velocity
 \uparrow initial height.



$$v(t) = ?$$

$$a(t) = ?$$

Ans: $v(t) = v_0 - gt$.

$$a(t) = -g.$$

If you don't want to write $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0}$ all the time, here is a way to be lazy:

For $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$, $f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$.

$$\frac{\sqrt{x+h} - \sqrt{x}}{h} = \frac{\sqrt{x+h} - \sqrt{x}}{h} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}} = \dots = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+h} + \sqrt{x}}.$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0.$$

$$\text{So } f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{x+h} - \sqrt{x}}{h} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}.$$