

MATH 231, Chapter 2

Calculus with Functions

James Madison University

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- ▶ $s(t)$ = the *position* of the object at time t , i.e. the distance from some identified point. Typical units are ft, miles, km, etc.

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- ▶ $a(t)$ = the *acceleration* of the object at time t , i.e. the rate at which the velocity is changing. Typical units are ft/sec per sec (ft/sec^2), miles/hr per hour (mi/hr^2), km/min per minute (km/min^2), etc.

Imagine the following: A bicycle is initially not moving, but beginning to move at time $t = 0$ (so that velocity $v(0) = 0$ but $v(t) > 0$ when $t > 0$). Also let $s(0) = 0$ (recalling that we can define the “coordinates” for our starting position anyway we want).

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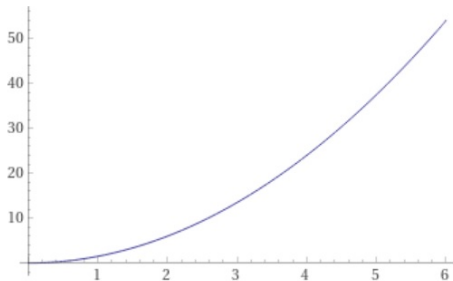
If the bicycle has constant acceleration, here is a *possible* formula for position s in feet after t seconds (later: how did we get this??).

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What is the position after 3 seconds (what is $s(3)$)?

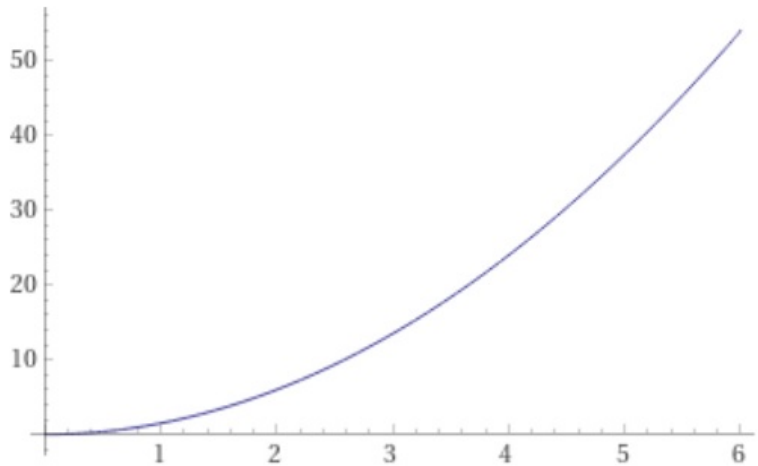
What is $s(5)$?

What is the average velocity of the bicycle between $t = 3$ and $t = 5$?

In other words, starting at $t = 3$, the average velocity over the next 2 seconds is ...?

Starting at $t = 3$ what is the average velocity ...

- ▶ ... over the next 1 second?
- ▶ ... 0.5 second?
- ▶ ... 0.1 second?
- ▶ ... 0.01 second?
- ▶ ... over the next h seconds? (Where h is an arbitrary but presumably small number.)



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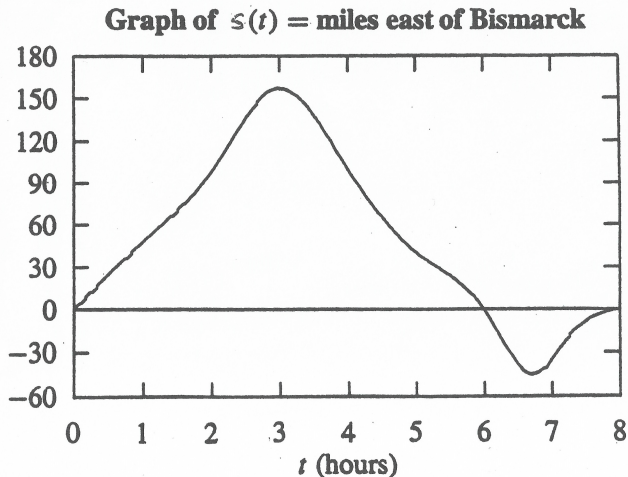
Does it seem reasonable to say the following:

The average velocity between time 3 and time $3+h$ is ...

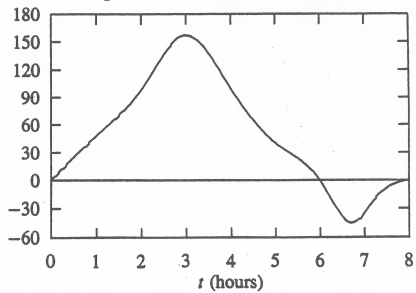
$$\begin{aligned}\frac{s(3+h) - s(3)}{h} &= \frac{\frac{3}{2}(3+h)^2 - 13.5}{h} \\ &= \frac{\frac{3}{2}(9 + 6h + h^2) - 13.5}{h} \\ &= \frac{9h + \frac{3}{2}h^2}{h} \\ &= 9 + \frac{3}{2}h\end{aligned}$$

Another example? Below is the graph of “position” for a little 8 hour automobile trek.

Another example? Below is the graph of “position” for a little 8 hour automobile trek. Think about how to describe the trip. What we really want is a graph of velocity (obviously “approximate”).
Bismarck ...North Dakota.



Graph of $s(t)$ = miles east of Bismarck



Back to our bicycle example:

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The exact velocity (or exact rate of change of position) at time 3 is the limit of the average rate of change between time 3 and time $3+h$ as h gets very small. Or in symbols:

$$v(3) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{s(3+h) - s(3)}{h}.$$

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If t is any particular time (t could be 2 or 3 or 1.67 or whatever) then the velocity at time t is

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The rate of change of s (or any function, not necessarily representing *position*) is also called the *derivative* of s and denoted s' . So we could write

$$s'(t) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{s(t+h) - s(t)}{h}.$$

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There is nothing special about position functions. If f is *any* function, then the derivative f' (or rate of change) of f is given by

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Note that there is no guarantee that the limit above actually exists. Sometimes limits exist, sometimes not. When and where *this* limit does exist (and thus the derivative exists) we say that the function is *differentiable*.

The Derivative of a Function at a Point

The *derivative at* $x = c$ of a function f is the number

$$f'(c) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(c+h) - f(c)}{h}, \quad \text{or equivalently,} \quad f'(c) = \lim_{z \rightarrow c} \frac{f(z) - f(c)}{z - c},$$

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Differentiability at a Point

A function f is **differentiable at** $x = c$ if $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(c+h) - f(c)}{h}$ exists.

One-sided Differentiability at a Point

The *left derivative* and *right derivative* of a function f at a point $x = c$ are, respectively, equal to the following, if they exist:

$$f'_-(c) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{f(c+h) - f(c)}{h}, \quad f'_+(c) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(c+h) - f(c)}{h}.$$

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Equation of the Tangent Line to a Function at a Point

The *tangent line* to the graph of a function f at a point $x = c$ is defined to be the line passing through $(c, f(c))$ with slope $f'(c)$, provided that the derivative $f'(c)$ exists. This line has equation

$$y = f(c) + f'(c)(x - c).$$

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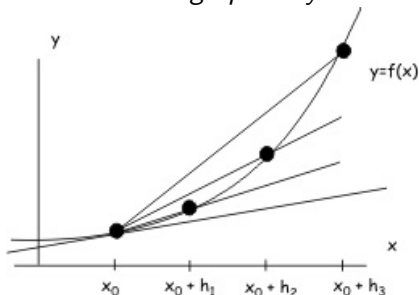
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Local Linearity

If f has a well-defined derivative $f'(c)$ at the point $x = c$, then, for values of x near c , the function $f(x)$ can be approximated by the tangent line to f at $x = c$ with the *linearization of f around $x = c$* given by

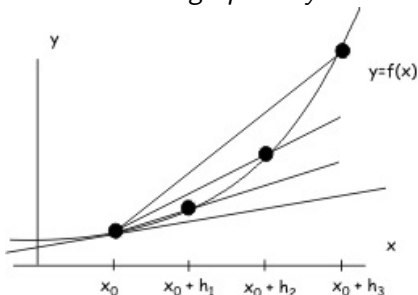
$$f(x) \approx f(c) + f'(c)(x - c).$$

The derivative *graphically*:



The **average** rate of change between point x_0 and point $x_0 + h$ is the slope of the line joining two points $(x_0, f(x_0))$ and $(x_0 + h, f(x_0 + h))$. This is called a *secant* line.

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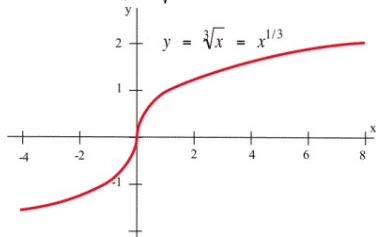
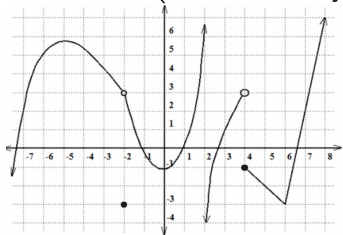


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The actual (instantaneous) rate of change at a point is the slope of the line *tangent* to the curve at that point. The slope of the tangent line is given by f' , the limit of the slopes of the secant lines:

$$f'(x_0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0)}{h}.$$

More on this later, especially how this fits with the algebra and formulas, but we should consider what it means if a function does *not* have a derivative at a point, at least graphically. Here are a couple examples. Where do the functions in the graph fail to have a derivative (where are they not *differentiable*)?



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Uh oh, lots of alternative symbols:

$$f'(x), \frac{dy}{dx}, y', y'(x), \frac{df}{dx}, D_x(y), \frac{d}{dx}(f(x)), \frac{d}{dx}(y), \dot{y}, \dots$$

Other variables: If W is a function of z , for example, then derivative is $\frac{dW}{dz}$ or $W'(z)$.

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Try another?

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{x+3}$$

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Derivatives of Constant, Identity, and Linear Functions

For any real numbers k , m , and b ,

(a) $\frac{d}{dx}(k) = 0$

(b) $\frac{d}{dx}(x) = 1$

(c) $\frac{d}{dx}(mx + b) = m$

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What about x^4 ??

$$\begin{aligned}(x+h)^0 &= 1 \\(x+h)^1 &= x+h \\(x+h)^2 &= x^2+2xh+h^2 \\(x+h)^3 &= x^3+3x^2h+3xh^2+h^3 \\(x+h)^4 &= ?\end{aligned}$$

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 (x + h)^0 &= 1 \\
 (x + h)^1 &= x + h \\
 (x + h)^2 &= x^2 + 2xh + h^2 \\
 (x + h)^3 &= x^3 + 3x^2h + 3xh^2 + h^3 \\
 (x + h)^4 &= x^4 + 4x^3h + 6x^2h^2 + 4xh^3 + h^4 \\
 (x + h)^5 &= x^5 + 5x^4h + 10x^3h^2 + 10x^2h^3 + 5xh^4 + h^5 \\
 &\dots \\
 (x + h)^n &= ??
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(x + h)^n = x^n + nx^{n-1}h + \frac{n(n-1)}{2}x^{n-2}h^2 + \dots + h^n$$

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So

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The Power Rule

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Derivatives of Constant Multiples and Sums of Functions

If f and g are functions and k is a constant, then for all x where the functions involved are differentiable, we have the following differentiation formulas:

$$\textit{Constant Multiple Rule: } (kf)'(x) = kf'(x)$$

$$\textit{Sum Rule: } (f + g)'(x) = f'(x) + g'(x)$$

$$\textit{Difference Rule: } (f - g)'(x) = f'(x) - g'(x)$$

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4. $y = \sqrt[5]{x^7}$ (assumes more than we have explained ...)

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7. $y = \frac{\sqrt{x} - 3x^3}{x^2}$

Derivatives of Products and Quotients of Functions

If f and g are functions, then for all x such that both f and g are differentiable, we have the following differentiation formulas:

$$\textit{Product Rule: } (fg)'(x) = f'(x)g(x) + f(x)g'(x)$$

$$\textit{Quotient Rule: } \left(\frac{f}{g}\right)'(x) = \frac{f'(x)g(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{(g(x))^2}$$

Find f' in each of the following:

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▶ $f(x) = \frac{x^5 + x}{x^3 + 2x - 1}$

▶ $f(x) = \frac{x^3 + 7x + 1}{\sqrt{x} + 2}$

Unfortunately, combinations such as the following are very common.

$$h(x) = \sqrt{x^3 - 5x}$$

$$h'(x) = ??$$

Unfortunately, combinations such as the following are very common.

$$h(x) = \sqrt{x^3 - 5x}$$

$$h'(x) = ??$$

The Chain Rule

Suppose $f(u(x))$ is a composition of functions. Then for all values of x at which u is differentiable at x and f is differentiable at $u(x)$, the derivative of f with respect to x is equal to the product of the derivative of f with respect to u and the derivative of u with respect to x .

In Leibniz notation, we write this as

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{df}{du} \frac{du}{dx}.$$

In “prime” notation, we write it as

$$(f \circ u)'(x) = f'(u(x)) u'(x).$$

Find r' in each of the following:

▶ $r(x) = \sqrt{x^3 - 5x}$

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▶ $r(x) = (x^4 - x^3 + 4x)^{10}(x^3 + x - 1)^4$

Find r' in each of the following:

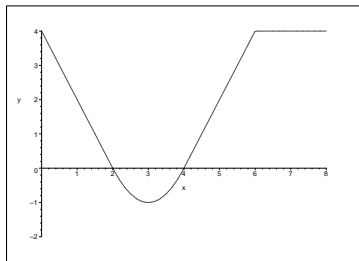
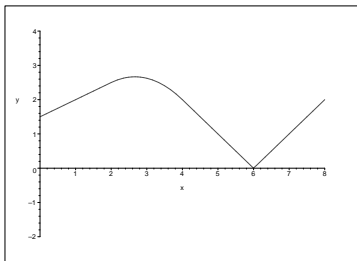
▶ $r(x) = \sqrt{x^3 - 5x}$

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▶ $r(x) = \sqrt[3]{\frac{7x^3 - 1}{2x + 1}}$

▶ $r(x) = (x^4 - x^3 + 4x)^{10}(x^3 + x - 1)^4$

▶ $r(x) = (x^3 + \sqrt{3x^2 + 2})^8$

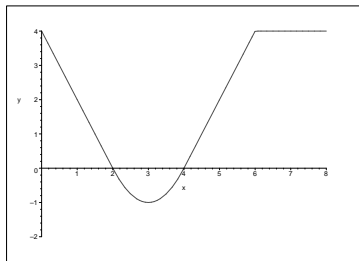
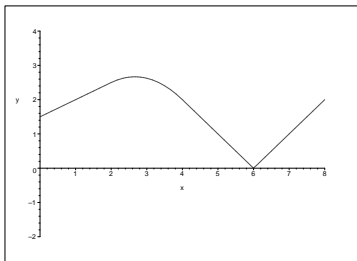


Graphs of f (left) and g (right) are above. Let $P(x) = f(x)g(x)$, $Q(x) = f(x)/g(x)$ and $H(x) = g(f(x))$. Evaluate the following:

$$f(1) = \quad g(1) = \quad f(5) = \quad g(5) =$$

$$f'(1) = \quad g'(1) = \quad f'(5) = \quad g'(5) =$$

$$P'(1) =$$

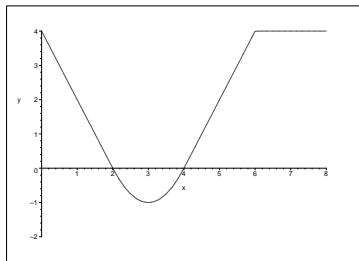
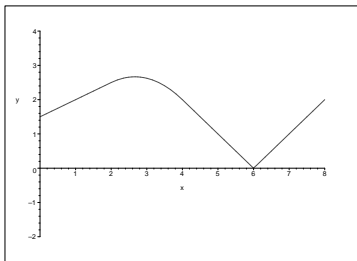


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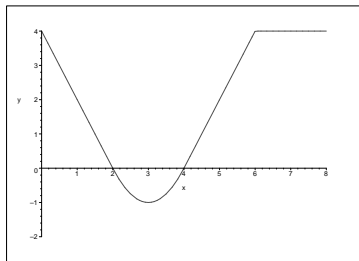
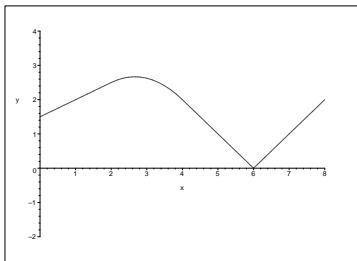


Graphs of f (left) and g (right) are above. Let $P(x) = f(x)g(x)$, $Q(x) = f(x)/g(x)$ and $H(x) = g(f(x))$. Evaluate the following:

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$$f'(1) = \quad g'(1) = \quad f'(5) = \quad g'(5) =$$

$$P'(1) = \quad P'(5) = \quad Q'(1) =$$



Graphs of f (left) and g (right) are above. Let $P(x) = f(x)g(x)$, $Q(x) = f(x)/g(x)$ and $H(x) = g(f(x))$. Evaluate the following:

$$f(1) = \quad g(1) = \quad f(5) = \quad g(5) =$$

$$f'(1) = \quad g'(1) = \quad f'(5) = \quad g'(5) =$$

$$P'(1) = \quad P'(5) = \quad Q'(1) = \quad H'(5) =$$

