

2. Given the function $w(n)=2n^2+3n$, find an equation of the secant line containing $(3,w(3))$ and $(4,w(4))$. Express the equation in slope-intercept form.

$$u = -78 + 17n$$

$$u = 78 - 17n$$

$$u = -24 + 17n$$

$$u = -23 + 18n$$

Solution

The line passing through the two points has the slope:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{w(4)-w(3)}{4-3} \\ &= \frac{(2(4)^2+3(4))-(2(3)^2+3(3))}{1} \\ &= \frac{44-27}{1} \\ &= 17 \end{aligned}$$

using one of the points, say $(3,27)$ and the slope to get the equation of the secant line:

$$u-27 = 17(n-3)$$

The equation in slope-intercept form:

$$u = -24 + 17n$$