

tangent  
 $y = mx + b$

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

## Chapter 2

# Derivatives

### 2.1 Derivatives and Rates of Change

**4 Definition** The derivative of a function  $f$  at a number  $a$ , denoted by  $f'(a)$ , is

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

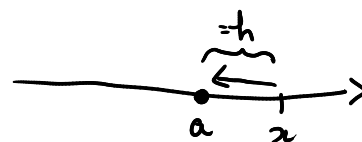
if this limit exists.



Another notation:

$$f'(a) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a}$$

$$\text{let } h = x - a$$



**EXAMPLE 4** Find the derivative of the function  $f(x) = x^2 - 8x + 9$  at the number  $a = 1$

By def.:

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

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

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(1+h)^2 - 8(1+h) + 9 - 2}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{1} + 2h + h^2 - \cancel{8} - 8h + \cancel{7}}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-6h + h^2}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (-6 + h)$$

$$= -6 + 0 = \boxed{-6}$$

$\rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$

**Example.** Find the derivative at  $a = 3$  of the function

$$f(x) = \frac{3}{x}.$$

From the def.:

$$f'(3) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(3+h) - f(3)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{3}{3+h} - \frac{3}{3}}{h} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{3}{3+h} - 1}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{3}{3+h} - \frac{3+h}{3+h}}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{3 - (3+h)}{3+h} \right) / h$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\cancel{h}}{(3+h)\cancel{h}}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} -\frac{1}{3+h}$$

$$= \frac{-1}{3+0} = \boxed{\frac{-1}{3}}$$

## Tangents.

How do we find the tangent at a point P on a curve given by the graph of a function?

Answer:

↓  
The tangent line to  $y = f(x)$  at  $(a, f(a))$  is the line through  $(a, f(a))$  whose slope is equal to  $f'(a)$ , the derivative of  $f$  at  $a$ .

$$y - f(a) = f'(a)(x - a)$$

value at  $a$       slope      point compute derivative.

## Velocities



- Position at  $t$ :  $s(t) = t^2$

- Average velocity from  $t = a$  to  $t = a + h$ :  $\frac{s(a + h) - s(a)}{h}$

- Instantaneous Velocity at  $t = a$ :

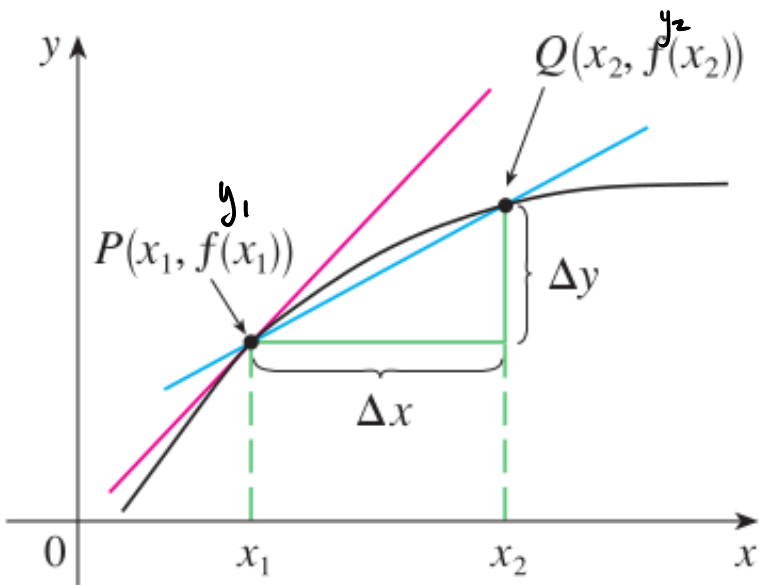
$$v(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{s(a + h) - s(a)}{h} \rightarrow s'(a)$$

Rates of Change.

- Average rate of change when  $y$  varies by  $\Delta y$  and  $x$  varies by  $\Delta x$  :

Average rate of change =  $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$

- Take limit as  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$



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instantaneous rate of change =  $\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \lim_{x_2 \rightarrow x_1} \frac{f(x_2) - f(x_1)}{x_2 - x_1} = f'(x_1)$