

Howard Math 156: Calculus I Fall 2023

Instructor: Sam Hopkins (sam.hopkins@howard.edu)
call me "Sam"

8/21 Logistics:

Classes: MTWF 2:10 - 3pm, ASB - B # 100

Office hrs: Tue 1-2pm, Annex III - #220

or by appointment - email me!

Website: samuelhopkins.com/classes/156.html

Text: Calculus, Early Transcendentals, by Stewart, 9th Ed.

Grading: 35% (in person) quizzes

45% 3 (in person) mid terms

20% final Exam

There will be 11 in person quizzes taken on Tuesdays

(about 20 mins, we'll go over them for rest of class)

Your lowest 2 scores will be dropped (so 9 will count)

The 3 midterms will happen in class, also on Tuesdays.

The final will be during finals week.

Beyond that, I may assign practice problems (not graded)

and I expect you to SHOW UP TO CLASS

+ PARTICIPATE :-)

That means... interrupt me by asking questions!

And please say your name when you ask a question, so I can start to put names to faces.

What is calculus about?

Calculus is different from the math you've seen.

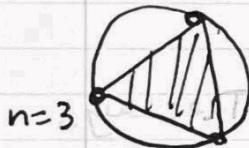
It deals with change, with infinities (and infinitesimals) and with limiting processes.

It's good to have a preview of this new stuff...

Area of a circle

We all know that the area of a circle of radius R is πR^2 , where $\pi = 3.14159\dots$ is a special number.

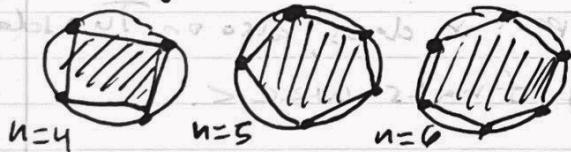
But how would you figure this out if you didn't know?



You could try to approximate the area ← by using a simpler shape, like a regular triangle, whose area you already know how to compute.

But this clearly leaves some of the area out...

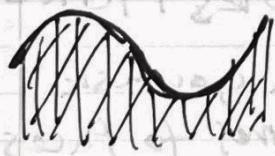
So you might consider regular 4-gon, 5-gon, ...



Each inscribed regular n -gon gives a better and better approximation to area of circle!

And true area can be obtained as limit as $n \rightarrow \infty$ (n goes to infinity)!

We won't study this exact problem this semester, but we will consider the area under a curve:

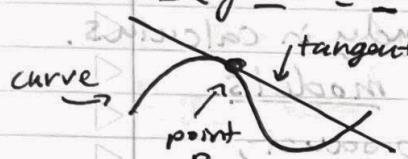


← Can also be obtained by a limit of simpler shapes:
thin rectangles under curve



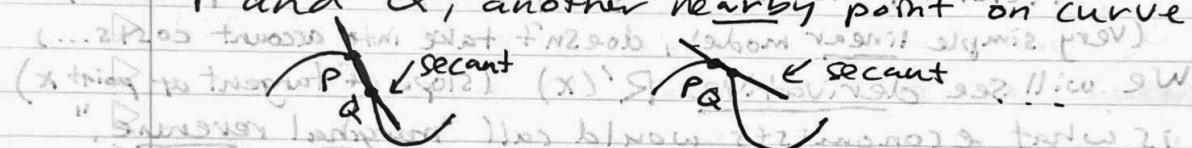
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Tangent to a curve: How would you find the tangent line to a curve at a point?



The tangent is the line that "just touches" the curve at that point.

Calling this point P, can draw secant line through P and Q, another nearby point on curve:

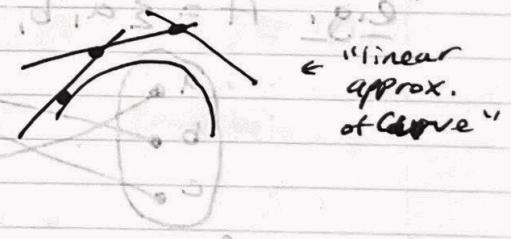


As we move this other point Q closer and closer to P, the secant becomes a better and better approximation of the tangent, and in the limit, secant becomes tangent!

Why care about tangents to curves?

They tell us about velocity and acceleration in physics (and rates of change in sciences in general...)

Also, can approx. curve by a series of tangents:
("Newton's method"... used by NASA)



Big idea of calculus:

Even though the area problem and the tangent line problem seem pretty different...

They are actually the same problem!

Or more precisely, they are opposite problems!

This semester we'll learn why (+ how)!

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Functions (§1.1 of textbook)

Functions are the basic thing we will study in calculus.

They are fundamental in all sciences as models.

E.g. If we produce x units of some product, our revenue may be given by the function

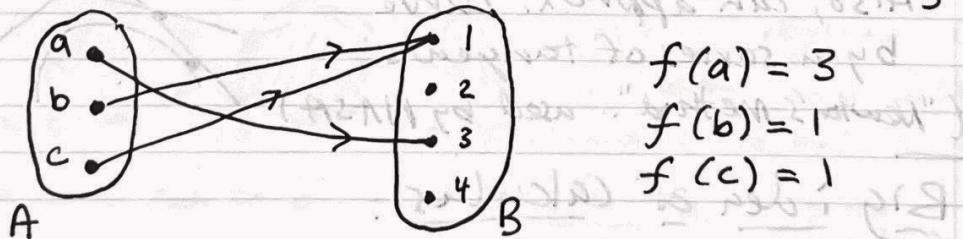
$R(x) = p \cdot x$ where p = price per unit of product
(very simple linear model, doesn't take into account costs...)

We will see derivative $R'(x)$ (slope of tangent at point x) is what economists would call "marginal revenue".

But what is a function?

Formally, a function f between two sets A and B is a relation between the elements of A and B such that every element of A is related to exactly one element of B .

E.g. $A = \{a, b, c\}$ and $B = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$



The set A is called the domain of f and the set B is called the codomain of f .

The range of f is the set of all $f(x)$ for $x \in A$.

E.g. Range for f above is $\{1, 3\}$ (actual values of inputs).

The function is called one-to-one if every element in the range is the output of a unique $x \in A$.

E.g.: Example f above is not one-to-one since $f(b) = 1$ and also $f(c) = 1$.

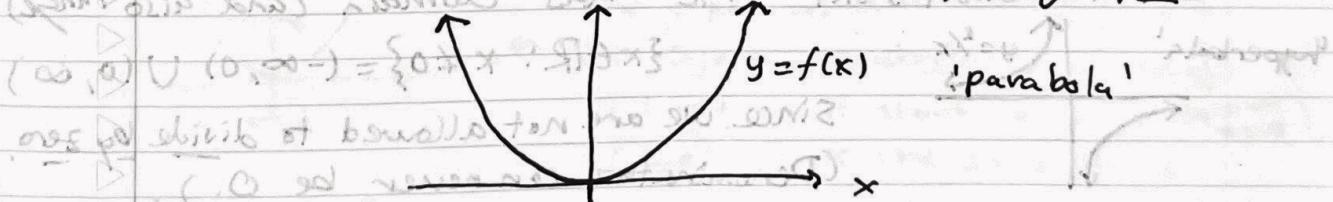
That is the formal definition of a function, but we will normally work with functions f whose domain & range are subsets of real numbers \mathbb{R} .

Then we'll have several other ways to represent f , beyond an "arrow diagram" or "chart" (and we'll need other ways since there are ∞ -many real #'s!)

You are probably used to functions defined by algebraic formulas, such as

$$f(x) = x^2$$

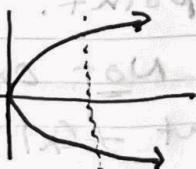
which we can also represent by a graph.



How do we know if a graph represents a function?

"vertical line test": graph represents a function \Leftrightarrow each vertical line intersects ≤ 1 point on graph

E.g.

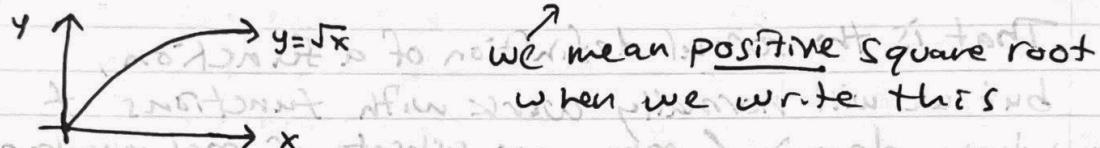


graph $x = y^2$ is NOT graph of a function $y = f(x)$,

since vertical line $x=4$ intersects two points on the graph!

The domain of $f(x) = x^2$ is all of the real numbers \mathbb{R} , also denoted $(-\infty, \infty)$ in "interval notation." The range is the nonnegative reals, or $[0, \infty)$.

What about $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$?

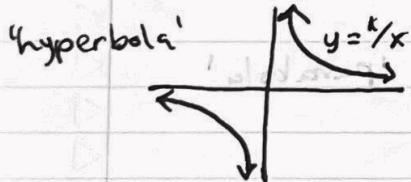


The domain is $[0, \infty)$, and range is also $[0, \infty)$.

In general, to find the domain of a function $f(x)$ think about what values you're allowed to plug into f .

E.g. Domain of $\sqrt{x-1}$ is $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \geq 1\} = [1, \infty)$
since can only take square root of a nonneg. #.

E.g. Function $f(x) = 1/x$ has domain (and also range)



$$\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \neq 0\} = (-\infty, 0) \cup (0, \infty)$$

Since we are not allowed to divide by zero.
(Denominators can never be 0.)

Can also test one-to-one-ness graphically, using:

"horizontal line test": A function f is one-to-one \Leftrightarrow every horizontal line intersects graph $y = f(x)$ in ≤ 1 point.

E.g. $f(x) = x^2$ is Not one-to-one.



Q: What about $f(x) = x^3$?

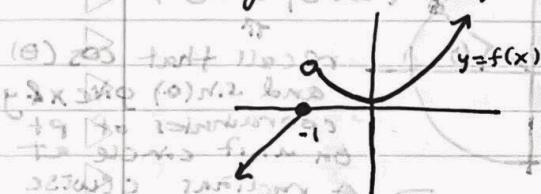
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Not every function is determined by a single formula.

We can define a piecewise function like

$$(x) f(x) = \begin{cases} x+1 & \text{if } x \leq -1 \\ x^2 & \text{if } x > -1 \end{cases}$$

The graph of $y = f(x)$ has two parts:



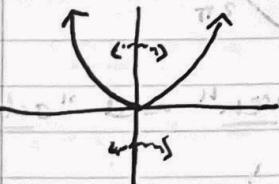
(see how we use \circ empty circle to denote a 'discontinuity')

Another important piecewise function is absolute value:

$$|x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

graph of $|x|$ has two parts, but they 'touch' each other

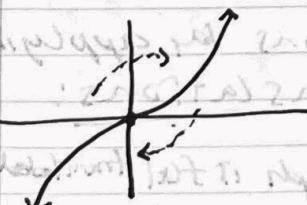
Symmetries of functions



The graph of function $f(x) = x^2$

is symmetric about the y-axis:

if I reflect it about the y-axis (vertical axis), I get back the same thing.



The graph of function $f(x) = x^3$

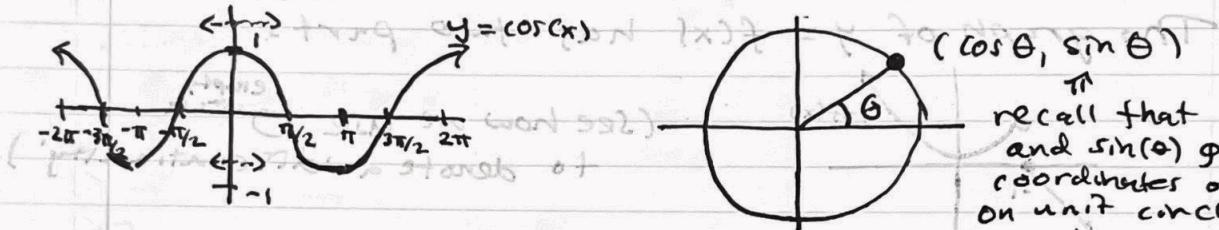
is symmetric about the origin:

if I rotate it 180° about origin $((0,0))$, I get back the same thing.

These two kinds of symmetry are called even and odd for functions $f(x)$.

A function $f(x)$ is called even if $f(x) = f(-x)$ for all x .
 Same as saying graph is symmetric about y -axis.

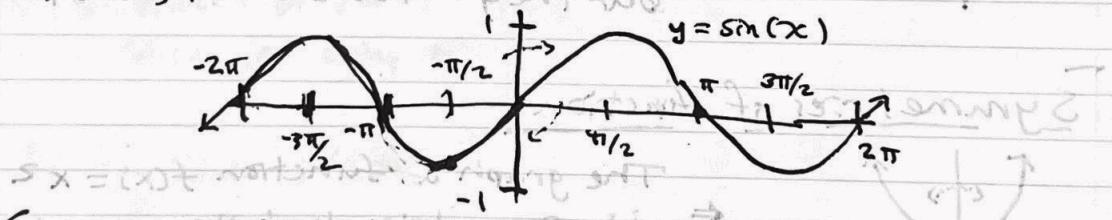
Examples of even fn's: $x^2, x^2+1, x^4, |x|, \cos(x)$



recall that $\cos(\theta)$ and $\sin(\theta)$ give x & y coordinates of pt on unit circle at θ radians clockwise from pos. x-axis

A function $f(x)$ is odd if $f(-x) = -f(x)$ for all x .
 Same as saying graph symmetric about origin.

Examples: $x^3, x, x^5 + x^3, \sin(x)$
 of odd fn's

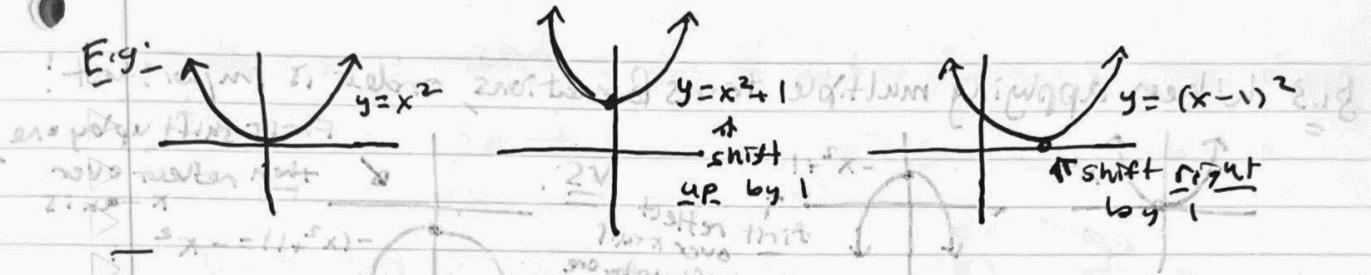


8/28 Can you guess why we use names "even" and "odd"?

§1.3 Transformations of functions:

Given $f(x)$ can make new functions by applying various transformations, like translations:

- $y = f(x) + c$ - function whose graph is $f(x)$ translated up by c
- $y = f(x) - c$ - graph is $f(x)$ translated down by c
- $y = f(x - c)$ - graph is $f(x)$ translated right by c
- $y = f(x + c)$ - graph is $f(x)$ translated left by c
 (for $c > 0$)



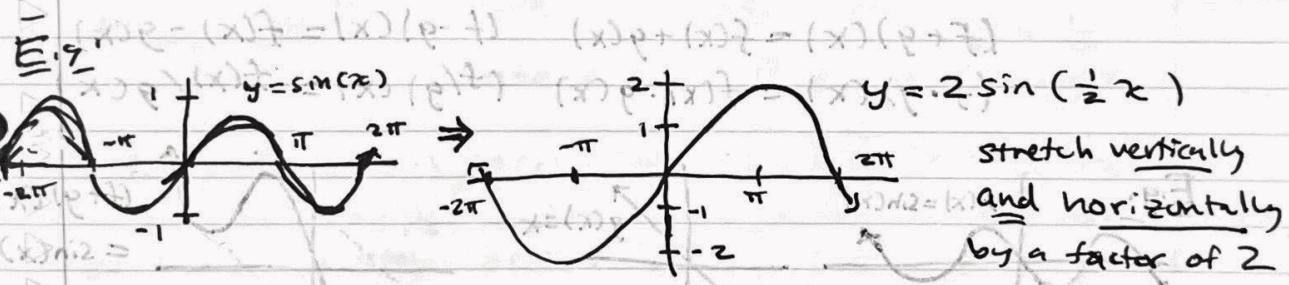
Can also Stretch a function: for $c > 1$,

$y = c \cdot f(x)$ - stretch graph vertically by factor of c

$y = \frac{1}{c} \cdot f(x)$ - shrink graph vertically to $y \leq c$

$y = f\left(\frac{x}{c}\right)$ - stretch graph horizontally by c

$y = f(c \cdot x)$ - shrink graph horizontally by c

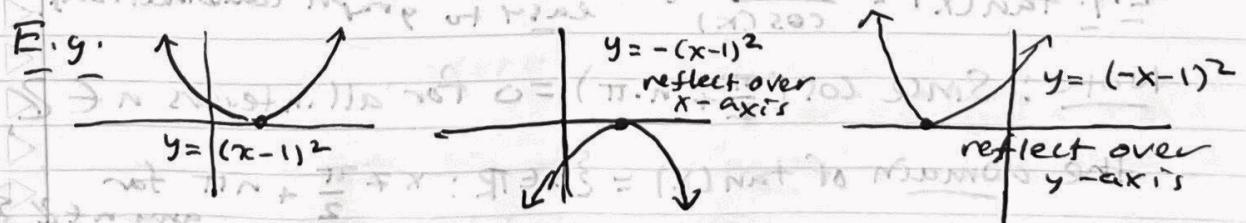


We see in this example how we can combine multiple transformations!

One more geometric transformation: reflection:

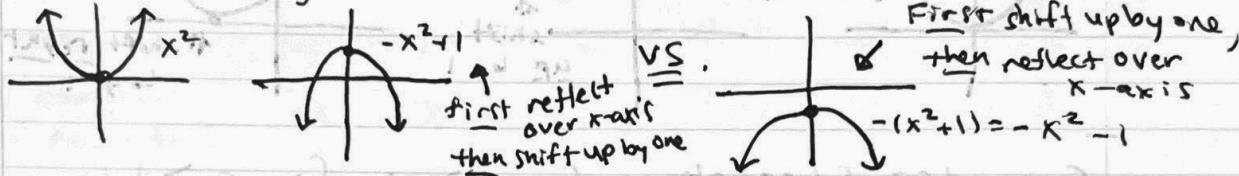
$y = -f(x)$ - reflect graph about x -axis

$y = f(-x)$ - reflect graph about y -axis



Q: What happens w/ reflections for even + odd fn's?

§1.3 When applying multiple transformations, order is important!

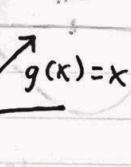
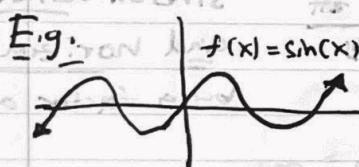


8/30 Another way to get new functions from old ones is by combining functions in various ways.

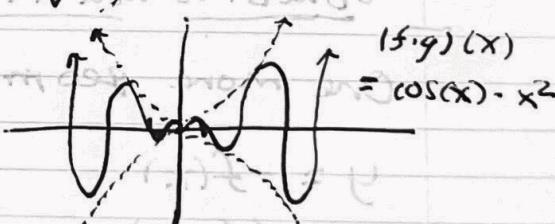
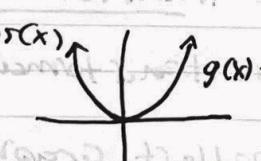
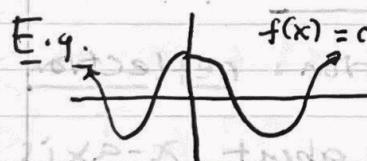
Def'n If f, g are two fns, we define their sum, difference, product, and quotient by

$$(f+g)(x) = f(x) + g(x) \quad (f-g)(x) = f(x) - g(x)$$

$$(f \cdot g)(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x) \quad (f/g)(x) = f(x)/g(x)$$



$$(f+g)(x) \\ = \sin(x) + x$$



E.g. $\tan(x) = \frac{\sin(x)}{\cos(x)}$ ← not always easy to graph combinations.

Note: Since $\cos(\frac{\pi}{2} + n\pi) = 0$ for all integers $n \in \mathbb{Z}$,

the domain of $\tan(x) = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \neq \frac{\pi}{2} + n\pi \text{ for any } n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$

(because we don't want to divide by zero!)

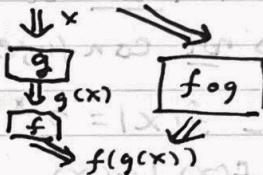
Another very important way to combine functions is composition:

Def'n If f and g are two functions, their composition $f \circ g$ is:

$$(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$$

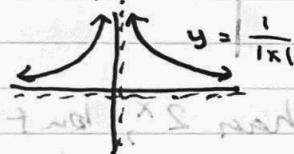
"Do g first, then do f to that!"

" f of g of x "



E.g.: $f(x) = x^2$, $g(x) = 2x - 1$, $(f \circ g)(x) = (2x - 1)^2 = 4x^2 - 4x + 1$

E.g.: $f(x) = \frac{1}{|x|}$, $g(x) = |x|$, $(f \circ g)(x) = \frac{1}{|x|} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{x} & \text{if } x > 0 \\ -\frac{1}{x} & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$

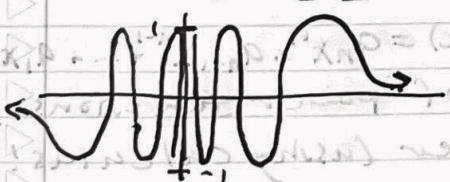


Note: $\frac{1}{|x|}$ is even since $\frac{1}{-x} = \frac{1}{|x|}$

and $x=0$ is not in the domain.

E.g.: $f(x) = \sin(x)$, $g(x) = \frac{1}{x}$, $(f \circ g)(x) = \sin(\frac{1}{x})$

What does $\sin(\frac{1}{x})$ look like? As $|x| \rightarrow \infty$, $\frac{1}{x} \approx 0$ barely changes, so $\sin(\frac{1}{x})$ stops oscillating for big x . But as $|x| \rightarrow 0$, $\frac{1}{x}$ changes a lot, so $\sin(\frac{1}{x})$ oscillates a ton near $x=0$:



Very hard to draw accurate graph of $y = \sin(\frac{1}{x})$.

Also, note $x=0$ Not in domain (since $\frac{1}{0}$ not defined)

If $(f \circ g)(x) = x$, then we say that f is the inverse function of g . f "undoes" what g does!

E.g.: $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$, $g(x) = x^2$, $(f \circ g)(x) = \sqrt{x^2} = x$
(for nonnegative $x \geq 0$)

The square root function $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ "undoes" the square $g(x) = x^2$

We will be more careful about domain issues for inverses later...