

The Derivative:

The **derivative** is the first real calculus concept we will study this year. It is the rate of change of the output of a function with respect to its input.

In other words, it is the change in $f(x)$ compared to the change in x .

slope!

HMMMMMMMMM..... sound familiar?

Feb 24-11:38 AM

I can explain how the difference quotient estimates slope of a function.

The Derivative:

Evaluating A Difference Quotient

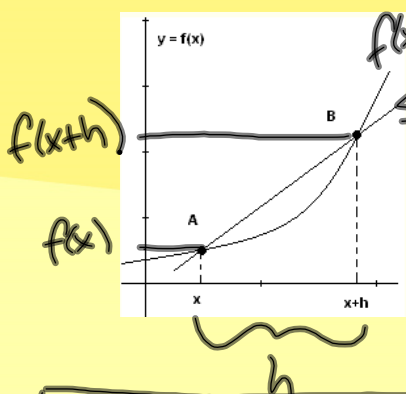
A common expression from calculus is the **difference quotient**. It is used when introducing a concept called the derivative. This presentation will show examples of how to simplify a difference quotient. The expression for the difference quotient is commonly given by:

$$\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

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The Derivative:



$$m = \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{x+h - x}$$

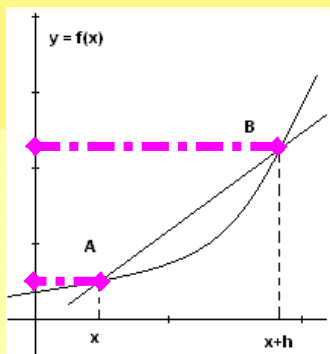
$$m = \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

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

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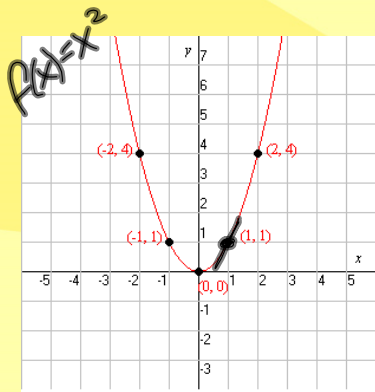
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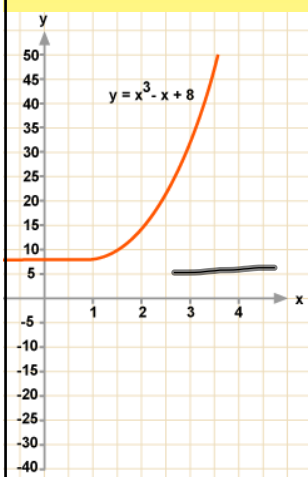
I can calculate the derivative (slope) of a function using the limit definition.



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h)^2 - x^2}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 + 2xh + h^2 - x^2}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h^2 + 2xh}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} h + 2x \\ &= 2x \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h)^3 - (x+h) + 8 - (x^3 - x + 8)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{x^3} + 3x^2h + 3xh^2 + \cancel{h^3} - \cancel{x} - h + \cancel{8} - \cancel{x^3} + \cancel{x} - \cancel{8}}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 3x^2 + 3xh + h^2 - 1 \\ &= 3x^2 - 1 \end{aligned}$$

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