

1.4 Types of functions and their rates of change:

Constant functions

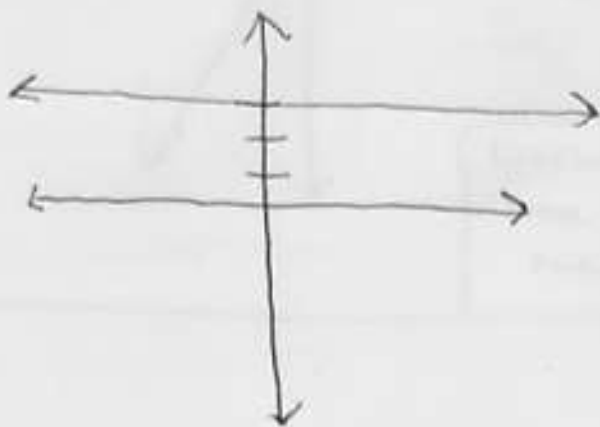
A function f represented by $f(x) = b$ where b is a fixed number is a constant function.

ex.

$$f(x) = 3$$

$$\text{Domain} = \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{RANGE} = \{3\}$$



No matter what x value I choose my y -value is always 3.

Applications:

Age during a given year $A(t) = 30$ years

Speed of car using cruise control $S(t) = 30$ mph

Temperature of your house $T(t) = 68^\circ$

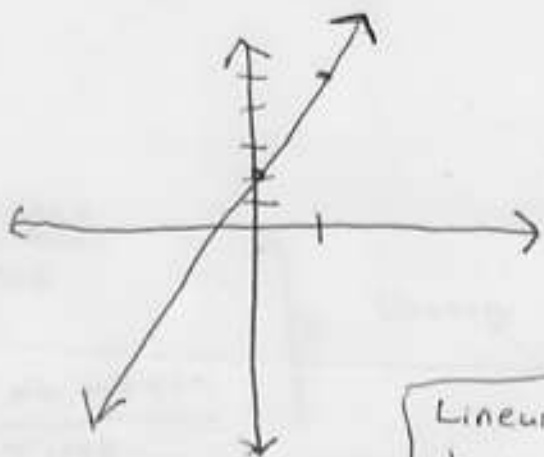
Linear Functions:

A function f represented by $f(x) = ax + b$ where a and b are constants, is a linear function.

ex.

$$f(x) = 3x + 2$$

| x | $f(x)$ |
|-----|--------------|
| 0 | 2 $3(0) + 2$ |
| 1 | 5 $3(1) + 2$ |



Linear functions
have constant
rates of change

Applications:

constant function: Distance between you and your house during class:

$$D(t) = 15 \text{ miles}$$

Linear function: Distance between you and your house after class driving at 30 mph.

$$D(t) = 15 - t(30) = -30t + 15$$

$$0 \leq t \leq 1/2$$

-30 is my constant
rate of change.

Slope as a rate of change:

rate of change - describes a relationship between one quantity with respect to another

examples:

$$\text{Speed} = \frac{\text{Distance}}{\text{TIME}}$$

$$\text{FLOW} = \frac{\text{Volume of water}}{\text{TIME}}$$

} Usually with time

When you are climbing a mountain you may notice

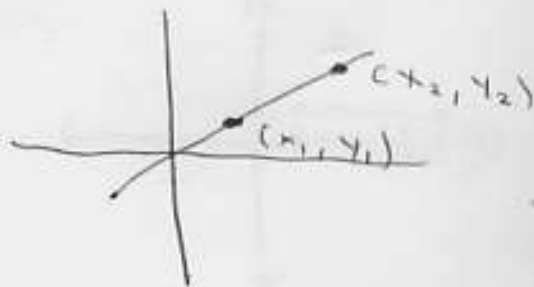
or temperature
elevation

Amount of oxygen
~~distance~~ elevation

Now recall the slope of a line is constant:

Slope of a line passing through two points (x_1, y_1) , (x_2, y_2) is

$$m = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{y_1 - y_2}{x_1 - x_2}$$

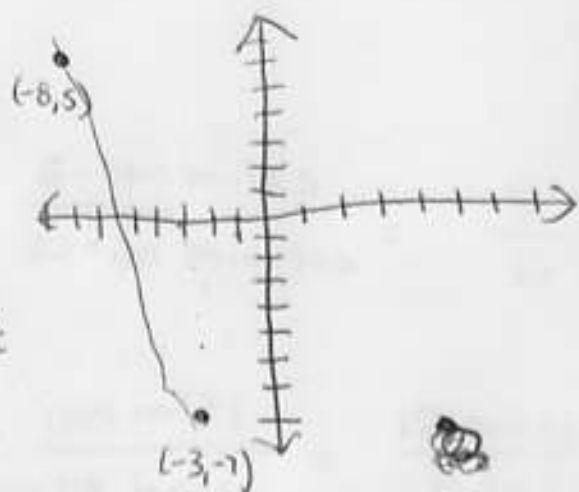


Calculating the slope of a line

passing through the points (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2)
 $(-8, 5)$ and $(-3, -7)$

$$m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{-7 - 5}{-3 - (-8)} = \frac{-12}{5} = -\frac{12}{5}$$

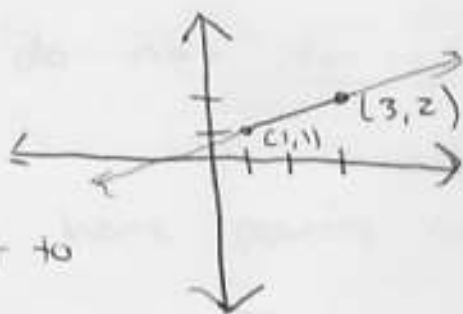
$$= \frac{y_1 - y_2}{x_1 - x_2} = \frac{5 - (-7)}{-8 - (-3)} = \frac{12}{-5} = -\frac{12}{5}$$



Negative slope - decreases from left to right

passing through the points $(1, 1)$ and $(3, 2)$

$$m = \frac{2 - 1}{3 - 1} = \frac{2}{2} = 2$$

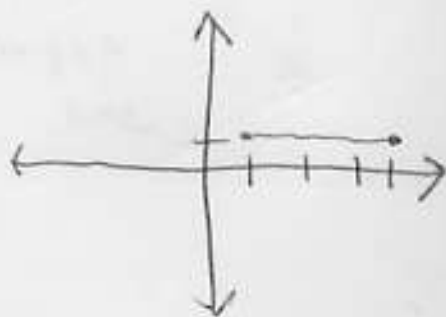


positive slope = increases from left to right

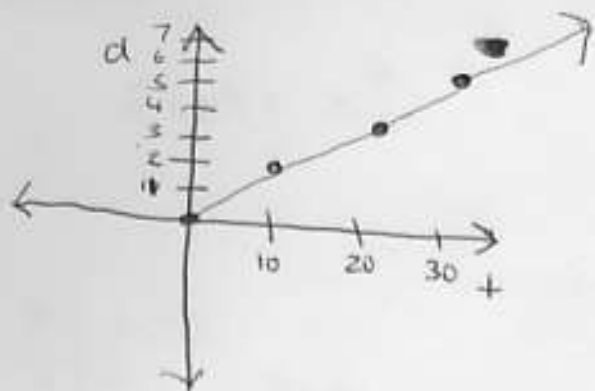
Passing through the points $(1, 1)$ and $(4, 1)$

$$m = \frac{1 - 1}{4 - 1} = \frac{0}{3} = 0$$

0 slopes = stay the same
from left to right



Quick Application: Find the speed of the bicyclist



points $(10, 2) = 10 \text{ minutes, } 2 \text{ miles}$

$(20, 4) =$

$(30, 6) =$

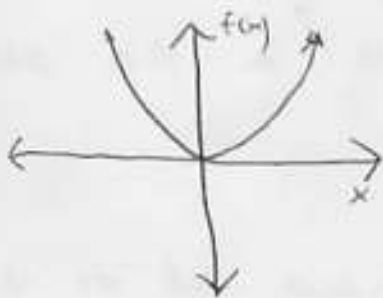
$$\text{Slope of line} = m = \frac{30 - 20}{6 - 4} \text{ miles} = \frac{2 \text{ miles}}{10 \text{ minutes}}$$

$$\frac{2 \text{ miles}}{10 \text{ minutes}} \left(\frac{60 \text{ minutes}}{1 \text{ hour}} \right) = \frac{120 \text{ miles}}{10 \text{ hours}} = \frac{12 \text{ miles}}{\text{hour}}$$

Nonlinear functions: A function that is not linear (from our book)

- ① functions whose graphs do not form straight lines.
- ② functions whose variables have powers not equal to 1.

ex. $f(x) = x^2$ — greater than 1.

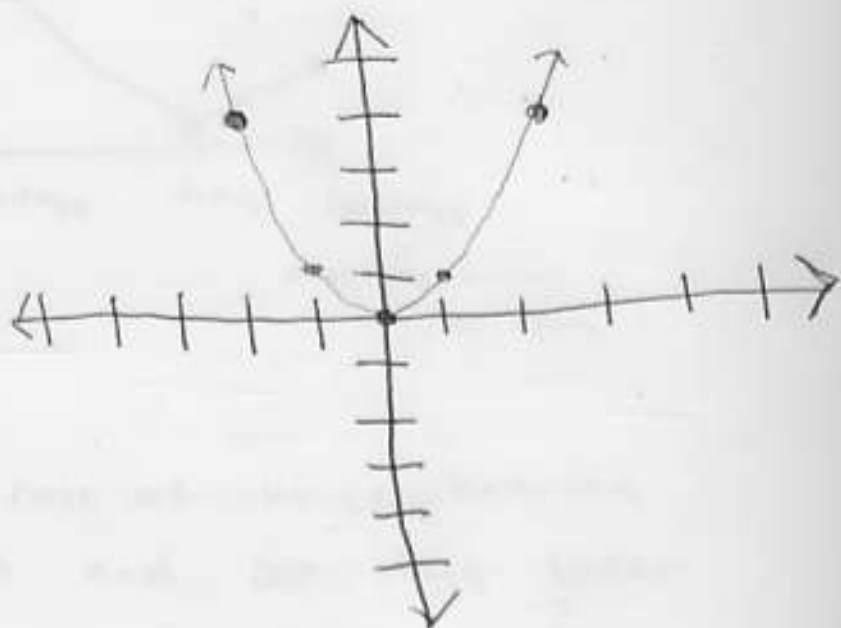


← NOT A straight line

Consider

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

| x | $f(x)$ | |
|-----|--------|-----------|
| 0 | 0 | $(0, 0)$ |
| 1 | 1 | $(1, 1)$ |
| -1 | 1 | $(-1, 1)$ |
| 2 | 4 | $(2, 4)$ |
| -2 | 4 | $(-2, 4)$ |



The slope of this curve is always changing. Notice that from negative to zero the slope is negative and from 0 to infinity the slope is positive. So we can't calculate a "single rate of change" but we can calculate an average rate of change.

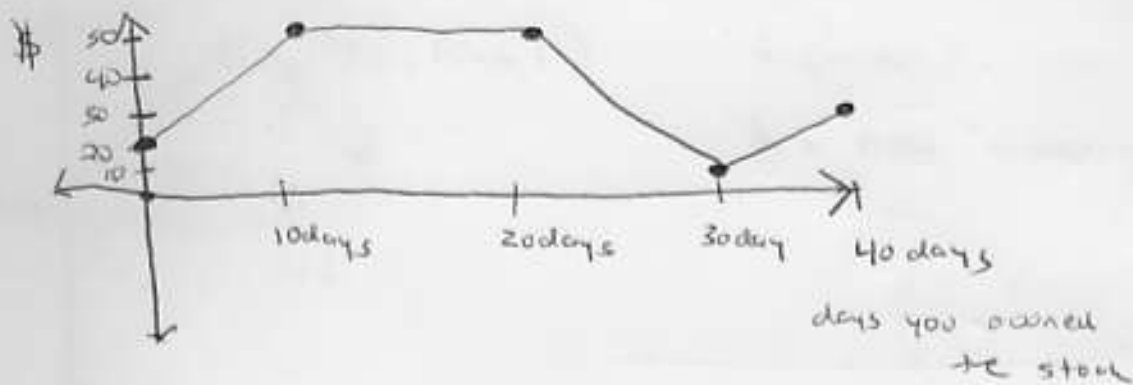
Average rate of change:

Let (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) be distinct points on the graph of a function. The average rate of f from x_1 to x_2 is

$$ARC = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

That is the average rate of change from x_1 to x_2 equals the slope of the line passing through (x_1, y_1) , (x_2, y_2)

Applications: Stock Quote:



What is the average rate of change between when you bought it and 20 days later

$$P_1 = (0, 20), P_2 = (20, 50)$$

$$\text{ARC} = \frac{(50 - 20) \text{ dollars}}{(20 - 0) \text{ day}} = \frac{30}{20} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{\text{dollars}}{\text{day}}$$

$$+ \boxed{\$1.50 / \text{day}}$$

What is the average rate of change between when you bought it and 30 days later

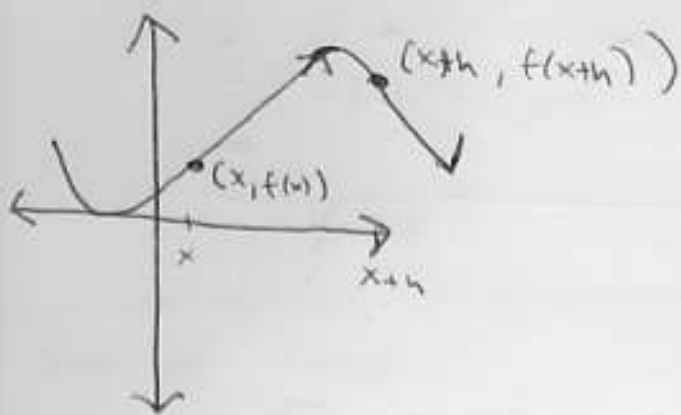
$$P_1 = (0, 20), P_2 = (30, 10)$$

$$\text{ARC} = \frac{10 - 20 \text{ dollars}}{30 - 0 \text{ day}} = \frac{-10 \text{ dollars}}{30 \text{ day}} = \frac{-1}{3} \frac{\text{dollar}}{\text{day}} \approx \text{lost } 33\% / \text{day}$$

What is the average rate of change between when you bought it and 40 days later

$$P_1 = (0, 20), P_2 = (40, 30)$$

A more generalized approach



h is now a variable

Difference Quotient! The difference quotient of a function f is an expression of the form

$$\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}, \quad h \neq 0$$

Consider

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

Determine

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \\ &= \frac{(x+h)^2 - x^2}{h} \\ &= \frac{x^2 + 2hx + h^2 - x^2}{h} \\ &= \frac{h(2x+h)}{h} = 2x+h \end{aligned}$$

$$f(x) = 3x^2 + 1$$

FIND THE Difference Quotient:

$$f(x) = 3x^2 + 1$$

$$f(x+h) = 3(x+h)^2 + 1$$

So

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} &= \frac{[3(x+h)^2 + 1] - [3x^2 + 1]}{h} \\ &= \frac{3(x^2 + 2hx + h^2) + 1 - 3x^2 - 1}{h} \\ &= \frac{3x^2 + 6hx + 3h^2 + 1 - 3x^2 - 1}{h} \\ &= \frac{6hx + 3h^2}{h} = \frac{h(6x + 3h)}{h} \\ &= 6x + 3h\end{aligned}$$