

2.7: Derivatives and R.O.C.

Recall secants & tangents.

The slope of the tangent line to $f(x)$ at $x=a$

is:
$$m = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \quad (1)$$

or
$$m = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} \quad (2)$$

ex1: find the eqn. of the tangent line to

$f(x) = 2x^3 - 5x$ at $(-1, 3)$ (use formula 2)

$g(x) = \frac{2x}{(x+1)^2}$ at $(0, 0)$ (use formula 1)

If $s(t)$ is a position fun along a straight line.

Ave vel. = $\frac{\text{displacement}}{\text{time}}$

= $\frac{s(a+h) - s(a)}{h}$

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

We call the slope of the tangent line the derivative.

Defn: The derivative of a fct f at a , denoted $f'(a)$ is

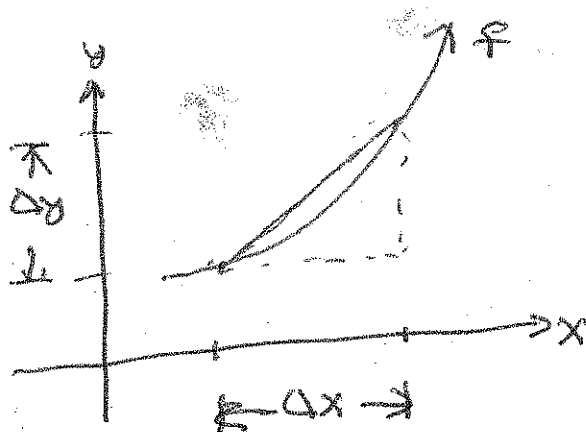
$$f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}$$

if the limit exists.

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

Qx2: Find $f'(a)$ if $f(x) = 2x^3 + 3x - 7$

then find the eqn. of the tangent line @ $(1, -2)$.



Ave. ROC = $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$

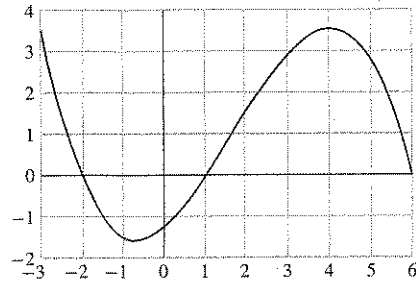
Inst. ROC = $\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$

This is the slope of the tangent line.

Hence $f'(a)$ is the inst. ROC of $y = f(x)$ w.r.t x @ $x = a$.

ex 3:

The graph of a function f is shown below.



(a) Fill in the missing entries in the table below.

| | | | | | |
|---------|------|-----|----|-----|------|
| x | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 |
| $f'(x)$ | -4.9 | | | 0.8 | |
| x | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| $f'(x)$ | | 1.1 | | | -4.0 |

(b) Sketch a graph of f' .

ex 4: A roast turkey is taken from the oven @ 185°F & placed on a tray in a 75°F room.

(a) sketch a curve to describe $T(t)$.

(b) estimate & interpret $T'(30)$