

## SECTION 4.9 The Mean Value Theorem

### IN-SECTION EXERCISES:

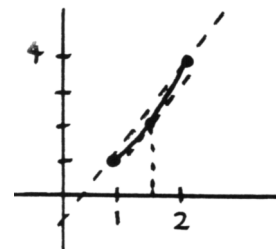
#### EXERCISE 1.

1. For  $[a, b] = [1, 2]$ ,

$$\frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} = \frac{f(2) - f(1)}{2 - 1} = \frac{4 - 1}{1} = 3$$

We seek  $c$  for which  $f'(c) = 3$ ; note that  $f'(x) = 2x$ , so that  $f'(c) = 2c$ . Then:

$$\begin{aligned} f'(c) = 3 &\iff 2c = 3 \\ &\iff c = \frac{3}{2} \end{aligned}$$

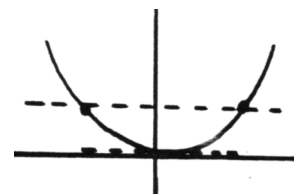


2. For  $[a, b] = [-1, 1]$ ,

$$\frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} = \frac{f(1) - f(-1)}{1 - (-1)} = \frac{1 - 1}{2} = 0.$$

Then:

$$\begin{aligned} f'(c) = 0 &\iff 2c = 0 \\ &\iff c = 0 \end{aligned}$$

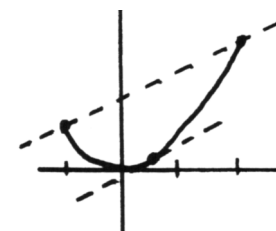


3. For  $[a, b] = [-1, 2]$ ,

$$\frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} = \frac{f(2) - f(-1)}{2 - (-1)} = \frac{4 - 1}{3} = 1.$$

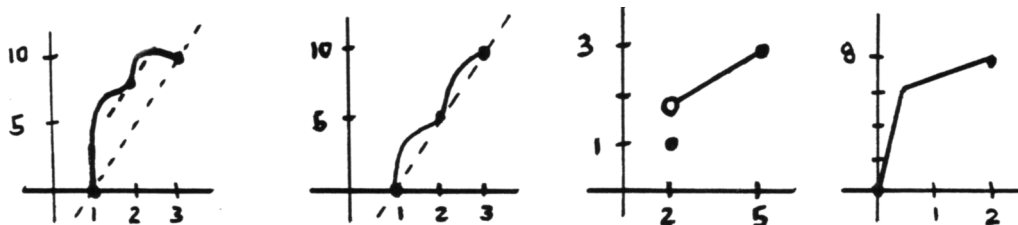
Then:

$$\begin{aligned} f'(c) = 1 &\iff 2c = 1 \\ &\iff c = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$



#### EXERCISE 2.

There are many possible correct graphs.



- Observe that  $\frac{f(3) - f(1)}{3 - 1} = \frac{10 - 0}{2} = 5$ . Thus, the slope of the line through the endpoints must agree with the slope of the tangent line at the point with  $x = 2$ . See the graph above.
- The point  $(2, 5)$  must lie on the graph of  $f$ ; the slope of the tangent line at this point equals the slope of the line through the endpoints.
- Note that  $\frac{f(5) - f(2)}{5 - 2} = \frac{3 - 1}{3} = \frac{2}{3}$ . If  $f$  were continuous on  $[2, 5]$ , then there would have to be a number  $c \in (2, 5)$  for which  $f'(c) = \frac{2}{3}$ . Thus,  $f$  must be discontinuous at an endpoint.
- It must be that  $f$  does NOT meet the hypotheses of the Mean Value Theorem.

## EXERCISE 3.

By the Mean Value Theorem, for every interval  $[a, b]$ , there exists  $c \in (a, b)$  with

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}.$$

Since  $|f'(x)| \leq 2$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , it must be that

$$\left| \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} \right| \leq 2;$$

that is,

$$|f(b) - f(a)| \leq 2|b - a|.$$

- Let  $[a, b] = [1, 2]$ , and  $f(1) = 5$ . Then,  $|f(2) - f(1)| = |f(2) - 5| \leq 2|2 - 1|$ . Thus, the distance from  $f(2)$  to 5 must be less than or equal to 2. That is,  $f(2) \in (5 - 2, 5 + 2)$ .
- Let  $[a, b] = [1, 3]$ , and  $f(1) = 5$ . Then,  $|f(3) - f(1)| = |f(3) - 5| \leq 2|3 - 1|$ ; that is,  $|f(3) - 5| \leq 4$ . Thus,  $f(3)$  must lie within 4 units of 5. That is,  $f(3) \in (5 - 4, 5 + 4)$ .
- When  $x$  changes by  $\Delta x$ ,  $f(x)$  can change (at most) by  $2\Delta x$ . (It could *increase* by  $2\Delta x$ , or *decrease* by  $2\Delta x$ .)

## EXERCISE 4.

- TRUE. A number's distance from zero is always greater than or equal to zero.
- FALSE. Take  $x = 0$ . Then, the sentence ' $|0| > 0$ ' is false.
- TRUE. Here, the dummy variable  $t$  was used, instead of  $x$ , to denote a typical element from the universal set.
- TRUE. No matter what number  $x$  is chosen from the interval  $(2, 3)$ ,  $x$  is greater than or equal to 0.
- TRUE. This is the *definition* of the set  $A \cap B$ .
- TRUE. This is a precise statement that the derivative of a sum of differentiable functions is the sum of the derivatives.

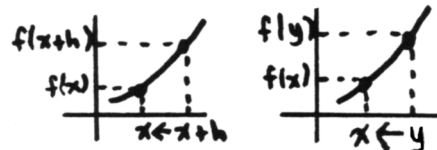
## EXERCISE 5.

- For all  $x$  and  $y$ ,  $x + y = y + x$ .  
Or, more briefly:  $x + y = y + x$ .
- For all  $x$ ,  $x = 2 \iff 3x = 6$ .  
Or, more briefly:  $x = 2 \iff 3x = 6$ .
- For all  $A$  and  $B$ ,  $A \subset A \cup B$ .  
Or, more briefly:  $A \subset A \cup B$ .
- For all  $P$  and  $Q$ ,  $((P \Rightarrow Q) \iff (\text{not } Q \Rightarrow \text{not } P))$ . Observe that this is a statement that an implication is equivalent to its contrapositive.  
More briefly:  $(P \Rightarrow Q) \iff (\text{not } Q \Rightarrow \text{not } P)$ .

## END-OF-SECTION EXERCISES:

- The limit gives the slope of the tangent line to the graph of  $f$  at the point  $(x, f(x))$ , whenever the tangent line exists and is non-vertical.
- Same as (1). Indeed:

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

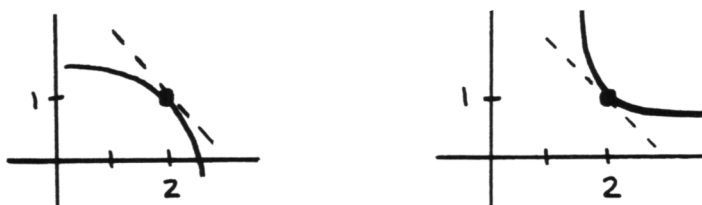


The difference quotients  $\frac{f(x+h)-f(x)}{h}$  and  $\frac{f(y)-f(x)}{y-x}$  both represent the slope of the secant line through the point  $(x, f(x))$  and a nearby point. The nearby point is called  $(x+h, f(x+h))$  in the first difference quotient; and is called  $(y, f(y))$  (where  $y$  is close to  $x$ ) in the second difference quotient.

3. There is a tangent line to the graph of  $f$  when  $x = 2$ , and its slope is 4.



4. The graph of  $f$  contains the point  $(2, 1)$ , and the slope of the tangent line at this point is  $-1$ .



5. Let  $f(x) = -x^2$ . Then:

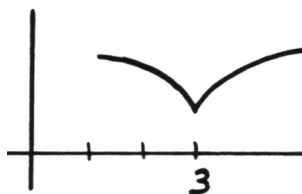
$$\begin{aligned}
 f'(x) &:= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-(x+h)^2 - (-x^2)}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-(x^2 + 2xh + h^2) + x^2}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h(-2x - h)}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (-2x - h) = -2x
 \end{aligned}$$

(Using the Simple Power Rule is certainly easier:  $f'(x) = -2x!$ )

6. Let  $f(x) = 3x$ . Then:

$$\begin{aligned}
 f''(x) &:= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f'(x+h) - f'(x)}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3(x+h) - 3x}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3h}{h} = 3
 \end{aligned}$$

7. Put a 'kink' in the graph when  $x = 3$ .



8. If  $f$  is differentiable at  $c$ , then  $f$  is continuous at  $c$ . Therefore, it is impossible to find a function that is differentiable at 3, but not continuous at 3.

9. Using a 'generalized' product rule:

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= (1)e^{2x} \ln(2-x) + x(2e^{2x}) \ln(2-x) + xe^{2x} \frac{1}{2-x}(-1) \\ &= e^{2x} \ln(2-x) + 2xe^{2x} \ln(2-x) - \frac{xe^{2x}}{2-x} \\ \mathcal{D}(f) &= \{x \mid 2-x > 0\} = \{x \mid -x > -2\} = \{x \mid x < 2\} = (-\infty, 2) \\ \mathcal{D}(f') &= \{x \mid x \in \mathcal{D}(f) \text{ and } 2-x > 0 \text{ and } 2-x \neq 0\} = (-\infty, 2) \end{aligned}$$

When  $x = 0$ ,  $f(0) = 0$ , so the point  $(0, 0)$  lies on the graph of  $f$ . The slope of the tangent line at this point is:

$$f'(0) = e^0 \ln(2-0) + 0 - 0 = \ln 2 ;$$

the tangent line has equation  $y - 0 = \ln 2(x - 0)$ , that is,  $y = (\ln 2)x$ .

10. Without using the Chain Rule:

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= f\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{x^2} = x^{-2} , \\ \frac{d}{dx} f(g(x)) &= -2x^{-3} = -\frac{2}{x^3} \end{aligned}$$

Using the Chain Rule:

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= 2x , \quad g(x) = x^{-1} , \quad g'(x) = -x^{-2} = -\frac{1}{x^2} , \\ \frac{d}{dx} f(g(x)) &= f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) \\ &= f'\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{x^2}\right) \\ &= 2\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{x^2}\right) \\ &= -\frac{2}{x^3} \end{aligned}$$

Same results (of course)!