

Section 2.1

Limit Idea: Instantaneous Velocity and Tangent Lines

- (1) Tangent Lines
- (2) Secant Lines
- (3) The Velocity Problem
- (4) The Tangent Problem

Tangent Lines

Tangent Lines

The **Tangent Line** to a curve at the point **P** is the line that "just touches" the curve at **P**.

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Tangent Lines



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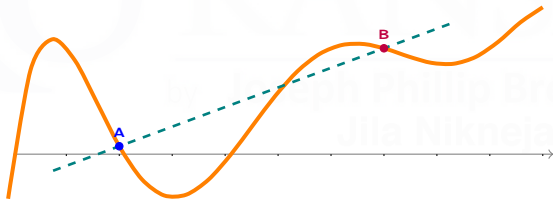
Secant Lines

Secant Lines

The **Secant Line** to a curve **F** at the points **A** and **B** is the line that passes through **A** and **B**.

The slope of the secant line is

$$m = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{F(b) - F(a)}{b - a}$$

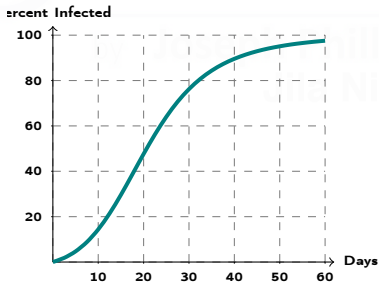


▶ [Link](#)

A computer virus has been released which spreads through a common voicemail application preloaded on many smartphones. The following table describes the spread of this virus:

Days	0	10	20	30	40	50	60
Percent Infected	0	16	44	78	91	96	98

Find the **average rate of change** of infection over the intervals $[20, 30]$, $[30, 40]$, and $[20, 40]$. Explain this **growth** with secant lines on the graph.



The Velocity Problem

Velocity

Velocity is a type of Rate of Change.

Units: $\frac{\text{miles}}{\text{hour}}$ $\frac{\text{kilometers}}{\text{hour}}$ $\frac{\text{feet}}{\text{second}}$ $\frac{\text{meters}}{\text{second}}$



5 hours



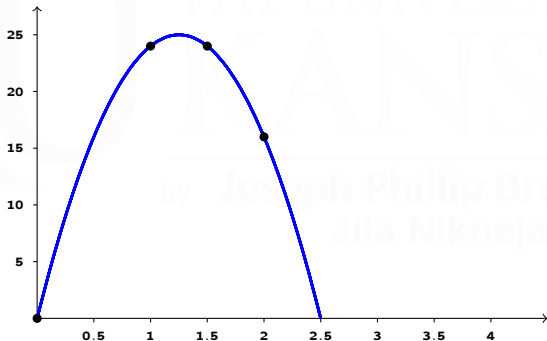
3 hours



0 hours

Average Velocity

A ball is thrown upwards with a velocity of 40 feet per second. The height in feet t seconds later is given by $y = 40t - 16t^2$. Find the average velocity of the ball between times $[0, 2]$, $[1, 2]$, and $[1.5, 2]$.



The Tangent Problem

Given a point P on a function F , how do we find the **tangent line** of F at P ? [▶ Link](#)

Tangent Line

The **tangent line** to the function $y = f(x)$ at a point P is a secant line through the point P and a point infinitely close to P on the curve.

Tangent Slope

$$\lim_{b \rightarrow a} \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$$

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

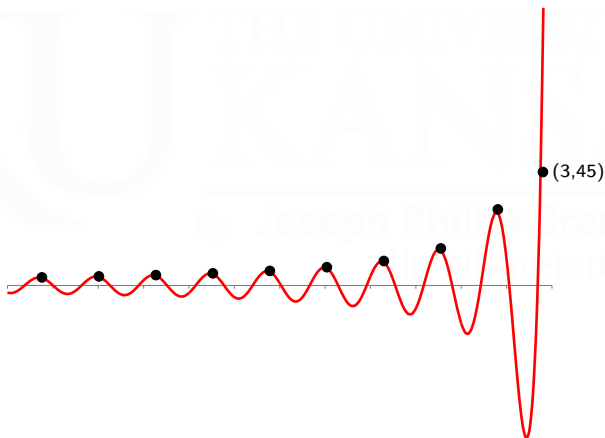
In a game of Quidditch at Hogwarts, a ball is thrown upwards and the heights at certain times have been recorded:

Time (seconds):	2	2.5	2.9	2.95	2.995	3
Height (feet):	20	31.25	42.05	43.51	44.8501	45

Suppose the relationship between time and height is represented by the function $H = F(T)$.

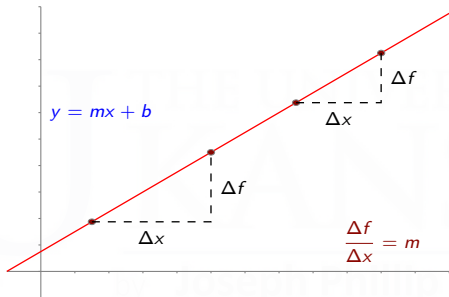
WHAT IF?????

Interval:	[2,3]	[2.5,3]	[2.9,3]	[2.95,3]	[2.995,3]
Avg Velocity:	25	27.5	29.5	29.75	29.975



Linear Functions $f(x) = mx + b$

Linear functions are characterized by their uniform average rates of change.



The average rate of change for a linear function between **any** distinct pair of points is the slope m .

slope of the line

The instantaneous rate of change at **any** point is the slope m .

slope of the line