

**Learning Goal:** I will be able to solve problems involving instantaneous and average rate of change using the difference quotient.

**Minds On:** Warm-up

**Action:** Note and examples

**Consolidation:** Another way

## Minds On

### Question from Yesterday

Using the definition of the slope of a tangent, determine the slope of the tangent to the curve  $y = 2x^2 + 3x - 5$  at the point where  $x = 3$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 m &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} \quad \text{same as last semester} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(2(3+h)^2 + 3(3+h) - 5) - (2(3)^2 + 3(3) - 5)}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(2(9+6h+h^2) + 9+3h-5) - (18+9-5)}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{18} + 12h + 2h^2 + \cancel{9} + 3h - \cancel{5} - \cancel{18} - \cancel{9} + \cancel{5}}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2h^2 + 15h}{h} \\
 &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{h}(2h+15)}{\cancel{h}} \\
 &= 15
 \end{aligned}$$

### Minds On

Warm-up: A pebble is dropped from a cliff, 120 m high. After  $t$  seconds, the pebble is  $s$  metres above the ground, where  $s(t) = 120 - 6t^2$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 4$ .

a) Calculate the average velocity of the pebble between the times  $t = 2$  s and  $t = 4$  s.

$$\frac{s(4) - s(2)}{4 - 2} = -36 \text{ m/s}$$

$$= \frac{24 - 96}{2}$$

b) Calculate the average velocity of the pebble between the times  $t = 2$  s and  $t = 2.5$  s.

$$\frac{s(2.5) - s(2)}{2.5 - 2} = -27 \text{ m/s}$$

$$= \frac{22.5 - 96}{0.5}$$

c) Explain why your answers for parts a) and b) are different.

a is over 2s  
b is only over 0.5s  
the object is accelerating over time

d) What would happen to the average velocity if we continued to shorten the time interval?

the average velocity would approximate/approach instantaneous velocity

e) What is the average velocity between the times  $t = 2$  and  $t = 2 + h$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{average velocity} &= \frac{s(2+h) - s(2)}{(2+h) - 2} \\ &= \frac{120 - 6(2+h)^2 - 96}{2+h-2} \\ &= \frac{120 - 6(4 + 4h + h^2) - 96}{h} \\ &= \frac{\cancel{120} - \cancel{24} - 24h - 6h^2 - \cancel{96}}{h} \\ &= \frac{-6h^2 - 24h}{h} \\ &= \frac{-6h(h+4)}{h} \\ &= -6(h+4) \\ &= -6h - 24 \end{aligned}$$

## Action

### Average Rate of Change:

The difference quotient  $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}$  is called the average rate of change in  $y$  with respect to  $x$  over the interval from  $x = a$  to  $x = a + h$ .

### Instantaneous Rate of Change:

$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}$ , provided that the limit exists.

### Average Velocity:

The difference quotient  $\frac{\Delta s}{\Delta t} = \frac{s(a+h) - s(a)}{h}$  is the average rate of change in displacement with respect to time over the interval from  $t = a$  to  $t = a + h$ .

### Instantaneous Velocity:

$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{s(a+h) - s(a)}{h}$ , provided that the limit exists.

## Action

Example 1: A toy rocket is launched straight up so that its height  $s$ , in metre, at time  $t$ , in seconds, is given by  $s(t) = -4t^2 + 14t + 5$ . What is the velocity of the rocket at  $t = 4$ ?

$$v(t) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{s(4+h) - s(4)}{(4+h) - 4}$$

$$\begin{aligned} s(4+h) &= -4(4+h)^2 + 14(4+h) + 5 \\ &= -4(16+8h+h^2) + 56 + 14h + 5 \\ &= -64 - 32h - 4h^2 + 56 + 14h + 5 \\ &= -4h^2 - 18h - 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} s(4) &= -4(4)^2 + 14(4) + 5 \\ &= -64 + 56 + 5 \\ &= -3 \end{aligned}$$

$$v(t) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(-4h^2 - 18h - 3) - (-3)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-4h^2 - 18h}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-2\cancel{h}(\cancel{2h} + 9)}{\cancel{h}} \quad \frac{h(-4h - 18)}{h}$$

$$= -18 \text{ m/s}$$

## Action

Example 2: The total cost, in dollars, of manufacturing  $x$  calculators is given by  $C(x) = 10\sqrt{x} + 1000$ .

a) What is the total cost of manufacturing 100 calculators?

$$C(100) = 1100$$

b) What is the rate of change in the total cost with respect to the number of calculators,  $x$ , being produced when  $x = 100$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{C(100+h) - C(100)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{10\sqrt{100+h} + 1000 - 1100}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{10\sqrt{100+h} - 100}{h} \times \frac{10\sqrt{100+h} + 100}{10\sqrt{100+h} + 100} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{100(100+h) - 10000}{h(10\sqrt{100+h} + 100)} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{100\cancel{h}}{\cancel{h}(10\sqrt{100+h} + 100)} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{100}{10\sqrt{100+h} + 100} \\ &= \frac{100}{10\sqrt{100} + 100} \\ &= \frac{100}{200} \\ &= 0.5 \end{aligned}$$

the cost is <sup>increasing</sup> changing at a rate of \$0.50 per calculator.

## Consolidation

### Another Way

#### Example from yesterday

**Example 2:** a) using the definition of the slope of a tangent, determine the slope of the tangent to the curve  $y = -x^2 + 4x + 1$  at the point determined by  $x = 3$ .

In general, the velocity of an object at time  $t = a$  is  $v(a) = \lim_{t \rightarrow a} \frac{s(t) - s(a)}{t - a}$ .

Similarly, the instantaneous rate of change in  $y = f(x)$  with respect to  $x$  when

$x = a$  is  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a}$ .

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