What's Calculus?

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This semester: *Differential* Calculus. (Tangent lines.) Next semester: *Integral* Calculus. (Areas.)

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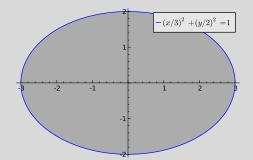
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- Area of triangle: half of the length of base times length of height. (From this, we can get areas of polygons.)
- Area of Circle: π times the square of the radius. Why???? How did one find that out?

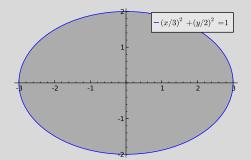
How about the area of an *ellipse*?

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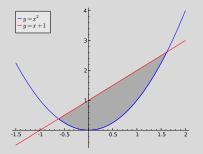
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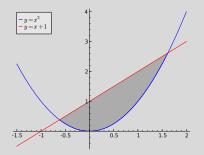
What's its area?

How about the area between a line and a parabola?

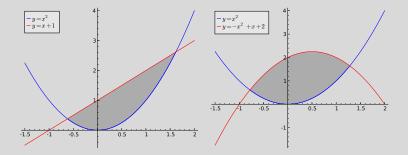
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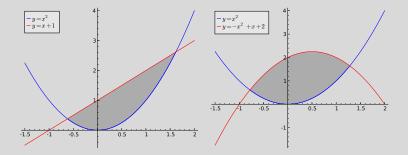
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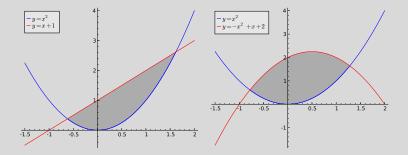


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These are hard questions! Answers in Math 142.

Suppose that you know that a particle in moving along a straight line such that t seconds after we start observing the movement, the position of the particle is t^2 meters from the original position.









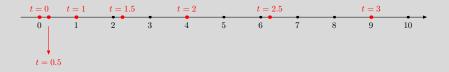






Movement

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One can clearly see that the particle is accelerating.

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So, the speed at t = 2 is pretty close to 4.0001. (Is it 4?)

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$$\begin{split} \frac{\Delta s}{\Delta t} &= \frac{s(t_0 + \Delta t) - s(t_0)}{(t_0 + \Delta t) - t_0} = \frac{(t_0 + \Delta t)^2 - t_0^2}{\Delta t} \\ &= \frac{(t_0^2 + 2t_o\Delta t + (\Delta t)^2) - t_0^2}{\Delta t} \\ &= \frac{2t_o\Delta t + (\Delta t)^2}{\Delta t} = \frac{2t_o\Delta t + (\Delta t)^2}{\Delta t} \\ &= \frac{2t_0 + \Delta t}{\Delta t}. \end{split}$$

$$t_0 \quad \Delta t \quad \text{Aver. Sp.}$$

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4	0.01	8.01

This makes it easy to compute average speeds and estimate instantaneous speeds:

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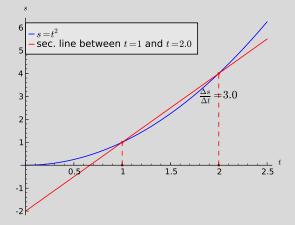
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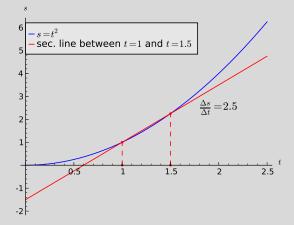
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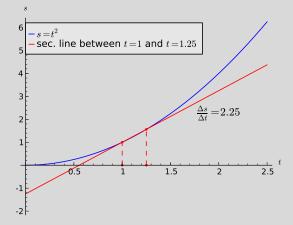
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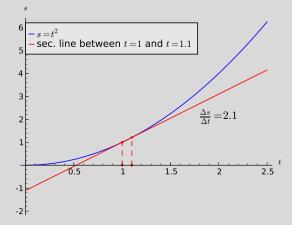






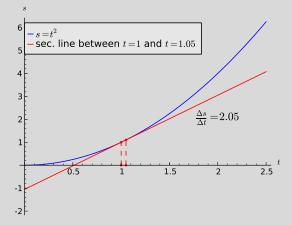
Geometrical Interpretation of Average Speed

Now let's look at the geometry of the average speed. The formula $\frac{\Delta s}{\Delta t}$ is basically a *slope* $(\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x})$. The average speed between $t = t_0$ and $t = t_0 + \Delta t$ is the slope of the line secant to the graph of s(t) through $t = t_0$ and $t = t_0 + \Delta t$.

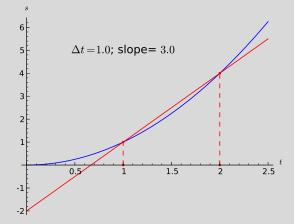


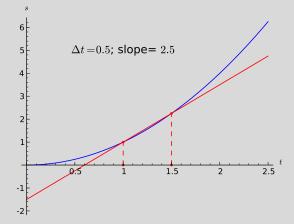
Geometrical Interpretation of Average Speed

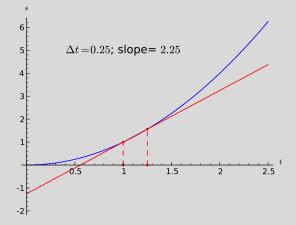
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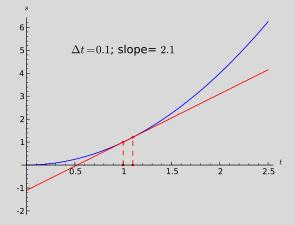


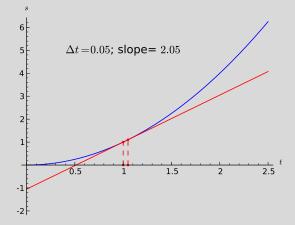
So, what is the geometrical interpretation of the *instantaneous* speed?

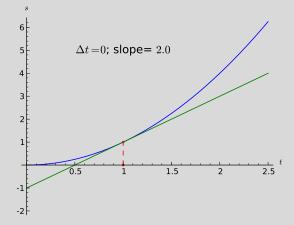












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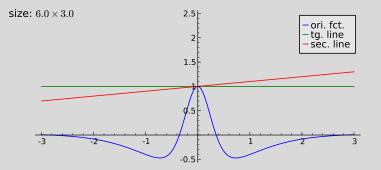
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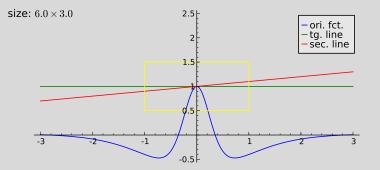
Another way to see it: if a curve is smooth (no sharp edge), by *zooming in enough*, it starts to look like a straight line. This straight line is the tangent line!

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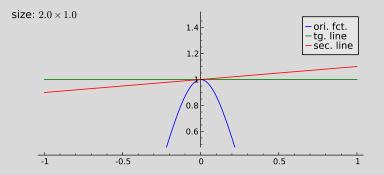
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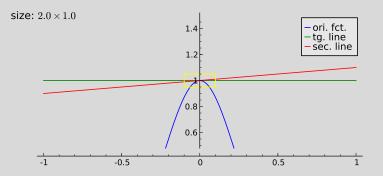
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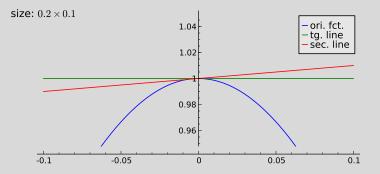
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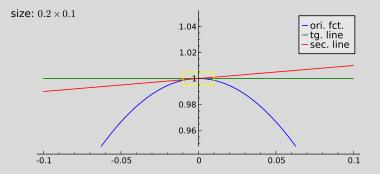
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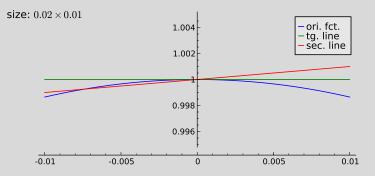
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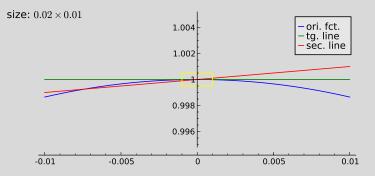
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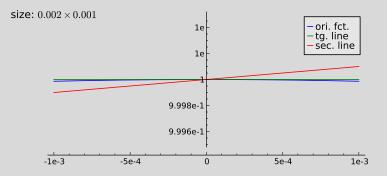
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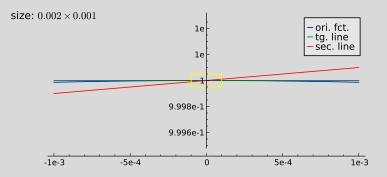
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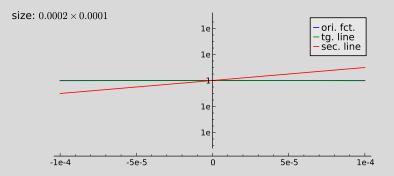
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In general, the rate of change of a function f(x) at $x = x_0$ is the *slope* of the tangent line to the graph y = f(x) at $x = x_0$. This tells us how fast is the y value changing at $x = x_0$.

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- Consider the ratio: $\frac{f(x_0 + \Delta x) f(x_0)}{\Delta x}$;
- simplify so that we don't have a Δx in the denominator;
- replace Δx by 0.

Consider $f(x) = x^2 - x$.

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Consider $f(x) = x^2 - x$. What is the slope of the tangent line at x = 1?

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Now, we can make $\Delta x = 0$ in the above expression, obtaining the answer: 1.

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We need the notion of limit!