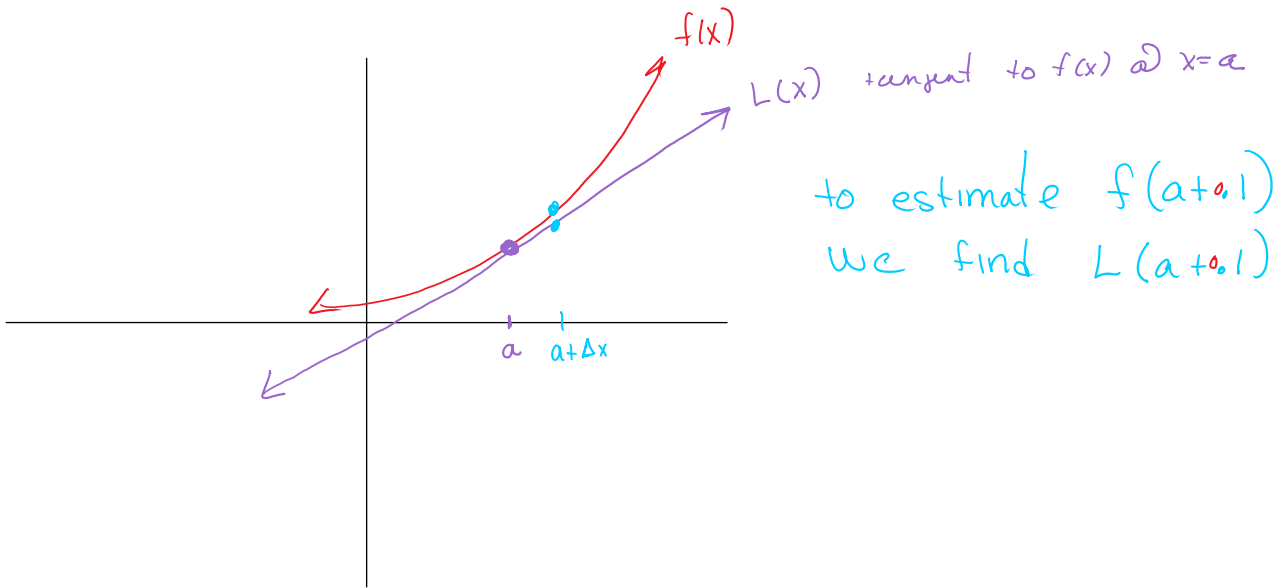


# Linearization & Differentials



Def: If  $f$  is differentiable at  $x=a$ , then the equation of the tangent line

$$y - f(a) = f'(a)(x - a)$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$L(x) = f'(a)(x - a) + f(a)$$

defines the linearization of  $f$  at  $x=a$ .

This can be used to approximate value close to  $x=a$  on the curve.

★ linear approximation

Ex: Find the linearization of  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$  at  $x=4$  and then approx.  $\sqrt{4.01}$  w/o a calc.

1.  $f'(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2}$

2.  $m = f'(4) = \frac{1}{2}(4)^{-1/2} = 1/4$

3. p.o.t  $f(4) = \sqrt{4} = 2$  (4, 2)

4.  $L(x) = \frac{1}{4}(x-4) + 2$

5. approx.  $L(4.01) = 0.25(4.01-4) + 2$   
 $= 0.25(0.01) + 2$   
 $= 2.0025$

$\sqrt{4.01} \approx 2.0025$

$$\text{Error: } \left| \text{true value} - \text{approx} \right|$$

$$\left| \sqrt{4.01} - 2.0025 \right| \quad \text{Less than } \overbrace{1.56 \times 10^{-6}}^{10^{-5}}$$

★ when is the linear approx. an under/over estimate?

• Concavity ↓

- up → under

- down → over

Ex:  $f(x) = x^3 + 2x + 3$

a. Find the linearization @  $x = 2$

b. approx  $f(2.01)$  using a linear approx.

c. Determine if the approx. is an under/over estimate. Justify

a.  $f'(x) = 3x^2 + 2$      $f'(2) = 14$      $f(2) = 15$

$$L(x) = 14(x-2) + 15$$

b.  $L(2.01) = 14(.01) + 15 = 15.14$

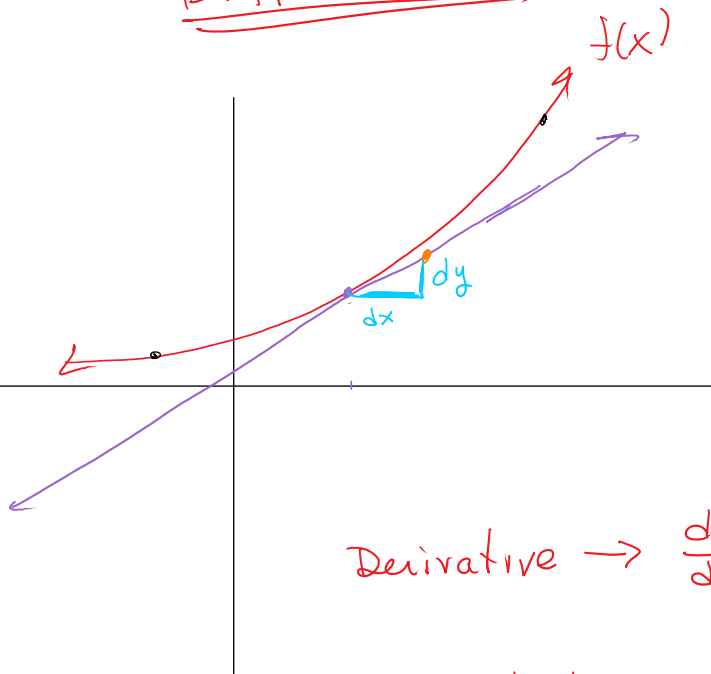
c.  $f''(x) = 6x$      $f''(2.01) > 0$      $f'' \leftarrow \begin{array}{c} N \quad P \\ | \\ 0 \end{array} \rightarrow$

$L(2.01) \approx 15.14$  is an under estimate  $f(2.01)$  b/c  $f$  is concave  
 $(0, \infty)$  b/c  $f'' > 0$  over the interval.

d. Error  $|f(2.01) - L(2.01)|$  less than  $10^{-3}$

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## Differentials



$\frac{dy}{dx} \Rightarrow$  change in  $y$   
 $dx \Rightarrow$  change in  $x$

Derivative  $\rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx}$  tells you slope

Differentials  $\rightarrow dx$  &  $dy$ , which  
are separate components of  $dy/dx$   
and they tell us about change.

Ex:

$$y = 4x^2 + 5$$

suppose

$$x = 3$$

&

$$dx = 0.01$$

find  $dy$

1.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 8x$  (Derivative)

2. Differential  $dy = 8x \cdot dx$

$$dy = 8(3)(.01) = 24(.01) = .24$$

when  $x$  increases by  $.01 \rightarrow y$  changes by  
approx -  $0.24$

@  $x=3$