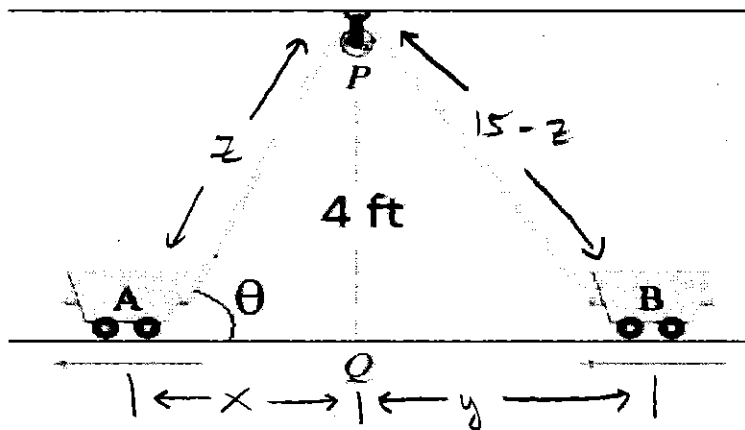


Closing Thurs: 3.9  
 Closing next Tues: 3.10  
 Closing next Thurs: 4.1(1), 4.1(2)  
 Remember: Friday is a Holiday (no class)

**Entry Task (2016 Midterm Question):**

Two carts are connected by a rope 15 ft long that passes over a pulley  $P$ . The point  $Q$  is on the floor 4 ft beneath  $P$ . Cart  $A$  is being pulled away from  $Q$  at a constant speed of 2 ft/s.

- (a) Find the rate at which  $\theta$  is changing when cart  $A$  is 3 ft from  $Q$ .  
 (b) How fast is cart  $B$  moving when cart  $A$  is 3 ft from  $Q$ ?



(a) **KNOW**  $\frac{dx}{dt} = 2$   
**WANT**  $\frac{d\theta}{dt} = ??$  WHEN  $x = 3$

$\tan \theta = \frac{4}{x} \Rightarrow \sec^2 \theta \frac{d\theta}{dt} = -4x^{-2} \frac{dx}{dt}$

**PLUG IN**  $\tan \theta = 4/5 \Rightarrow \sec \theta = 5/3$

$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{5}{3}\right)^2 \cdot \frac{d\theta}{dt} = -\frac{4}{(3)^2} (2)$

$\Rightarrow \frac{d\theta}{dt} = -\frac{8}{9} \cdot \frac{9}{25} = -\frac{8}{25} \frac{\text{RAD}}{\text{SEC}}$

(b) **WANT**  $\frac{dy}{dt} = ??$  WHEN  $x = 3$

$x^2 + 4^2 = z^2 \Rightarrow 2x \frac{dx}{dt} = 2z \frac{dz}{dt}$

$y^2 + 4^2 = (15-z)^2 \Rightarrow 2y \frac{dy}{dt} = 2(15-z)(-1) \frac{dz}{dt}$

**PLUG IN**  $x \frac{dx}{dt} = z \frac{dz}{dt} \Rightarrow (3)(2) = (5) \frac{dz}{dt} \Rightarrow \frac{dz}{dt} = \frac{6}{5}$

$y^2 + 4^2 = (15-5)^2 \Rightarrow y^2 = 100-16 = 84$   
 $\Rightarrow y = \sqrt{84} = 2\sqrt{21}$

$y \frac{dy}{dt} = -(15-z) \frac{dz}{dt} \Rightarrow 2\sqrt{21} \frac{dy}{dt} = -(15-5) \left(\frac{6}{5}\right) = -12$

$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dt} = -\frac{12}{2\sqrt{21}} = -\frac{6}{\sqrt{21}} \frac{\text{ft}}{\text{sec}}$

### 3.10 Linear Approximation

*Idea:* "Near" the point  $(a, f(a))$  the graphs of  $y = f(x)$  and the tangent line

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

are close together.

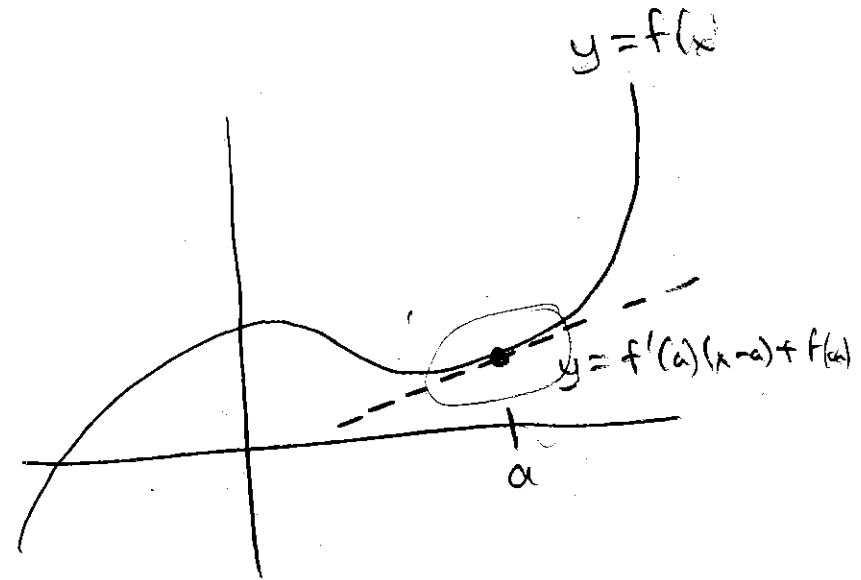
We say the tangent line is a **linear approximation** (or **linearization** or **tangent line approximation**) to the function. Sometimes it is written as

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

In other words:

If  $x \approx a$ ,

then  $f(x) \approx f'(a)(x - a) + f(a)$



$$f(x) \approx f'(a)(x - a) + f(a)$$

Example: Find the linear approximation of  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$  at  $x = 81$ . Then use it to approximate the value of  $\sqrt{82}$ .

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

$$f(81) = \sqrt{81} = 9 = y\text{-VALUE}$$

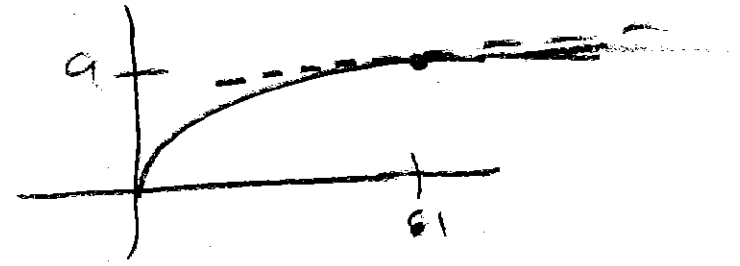
$$f'(81) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{81}} = \frac{1}{18} = \text{slope}$$

$$y = \frac{1}{18}(x - 81) + 9$$

$$L(x) = \frac{1}{18}(x - 81) + 9$$

$$\sqrt{x} \approx \frac{1}{18}(x - 81) + 9$$

For  $x \approx 82$



THUS,

$$\underbrace{\sqrt{82}}_{9.055385138\dots} \approx \underbrace{\frac{1}{18}(82 - 81) + 9}_{9.055} = 9 + \frac{1}{18}$$

Example: Find the linearization of  $g(x) = \sin(x)$  at  $x = 0$ . Then use it to approximate the value of  $\sin(0.03)$ .

$$g'(x) = \cos(x)$$

$$g(0) = \sin(0) = 0 = y\text{-VALUE}$$

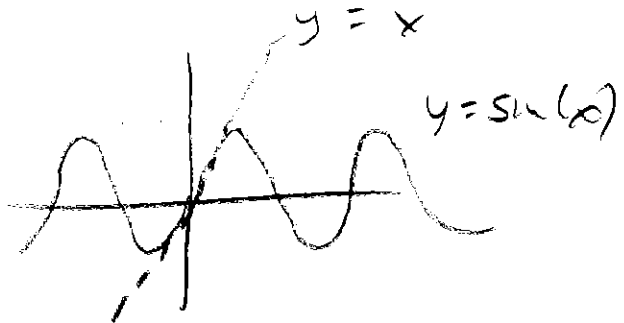
$$g'(0) = \cos(0) = 1 = \text{slope}$$

$$y = 1(x - 0) + 0$$

$$y = x$$

$$L(x) = x$$

$$\sin(x) \approx x \text{ for } x \approx 0$$



THUS,

$$\sin(0.03) \approx 0.03$$

$$0.029995506$$

ASIDE

$$\frac{\sin(x)}{x} \approx 1$$

AND GETS CLOSER

AND CLOSER AS  $x \rightarrow 0$

RECALL

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x)}{x} = 1!$$

Example:

Using tangent line approximation estimate the value of  $\sqrt[3]{8.5}$ .

$$f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x} = x^{1/3}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{3} x^{-2/3} = \frac{1}{3x^{2/3}}$$

$$f(8) = 8^{1/3} = 2$$

$$f'(8) = \frac{1}{3(8)^{2/3}} = \frac{1}{12}$$

$$y = \frac{1}{12}(x-8) + 2$$

$$L(x) = \frac{1}{12}(x-8) + 2$$

$$\sqrt[3]{x} \approx \frac{1}{12}(x-8) + 2$$

$$\text{IF } x \approx 8$$

3. Using tangent line approximation estimate the value of  $\sqrt[3]{8.5}$ .

Thus

$$\sqrt[3]{8.5} \approx \frac{1}{12}(8.5-8) + 2$$

$$\frac{1}{24} + 2$$

$$2.041\bar{6}$$

$$2.040827051$$

ASIDE "Differentials"

NOTE  $y = \frac{1}{12}(x-8) + 2$

CAN BE WRITTEN AS

$$y - 2 = \frac{1}{12}(x - 8)$$

WE SOMETIMES WRITE

$$dy = y - 2 \quad \text{AND} \quad dx = x - 8$$

SO  $dy = \frac{1}{12} dx$

change in y  
on tangent  
line

change in  
x on tangent  
line

THIS IS JUST

ANOTHER WAY TO SAY THE SAME THING!

Example: (Newton's Method)

Consider  $f(x) = e^x - 4x$ .

From the graph, note that

$$e^x - 4x = 0$$

has one solution "near"  $x = 0$ .

Find the linearization at  $x=0$ ,

and use it to approximate

this solution.

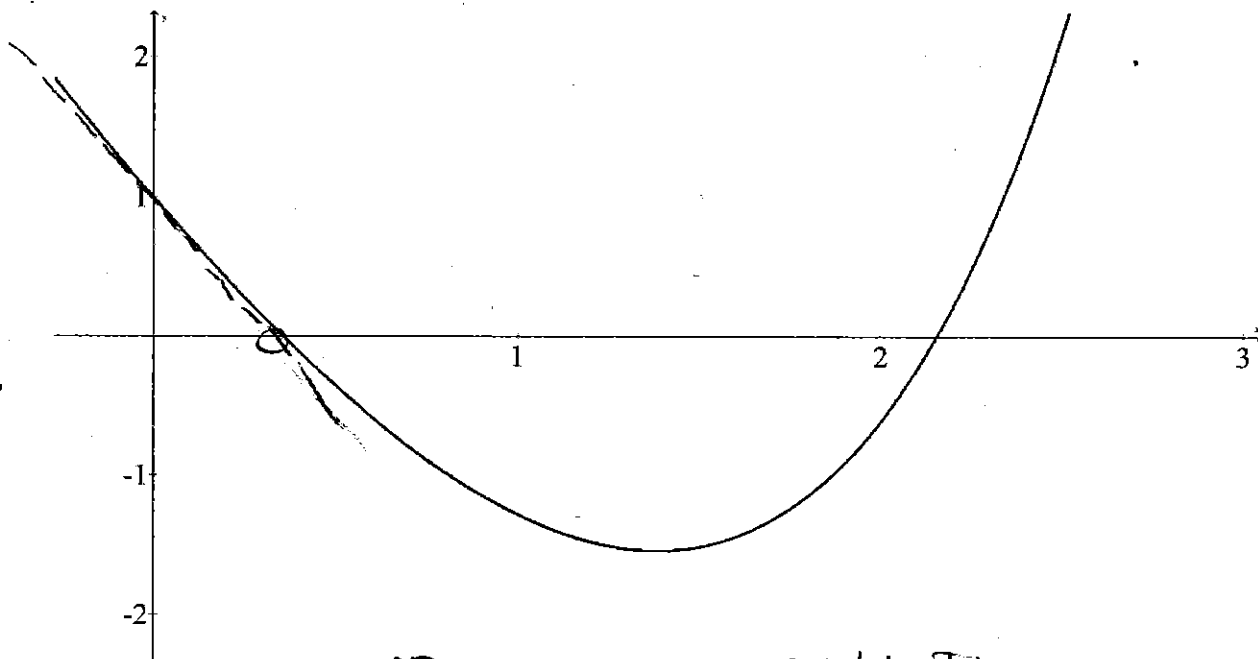
$$f'(x) = e^x - 4$$

$$f(0) = e^0 - 4(0) = 1$$

$$f'(0) = e^0 - 4 = 1 - 4 = -3$$

$$y = -3(x-0) + 1 = -3x + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow e^x - 4x \approx -3x + 1 \text{ for } x \approx 0$$



WE APPROXIMATE A SOLN TO

$$e^x - 4x = 0 \quad \text{BY REPLACING}$$

$$-3x + 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{3} = 0.\bar{3}$$

("ACTUAL" VALUE = 0.35740296)

ASIDE

IN NEWTON'S METHOD, WE USE  
 $x = \frac{1}{3}$  AND REPEAT THE PROCESS TO  
GET A BETTER APPROXIMATION?

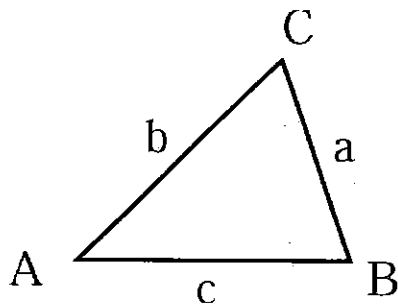
$$\Rightarrow y = f'(\frac{1}{3})(x - \frac{1}{3}) + f(\frac{1}{3}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{f(\frac{1}{3})}{f'(\frac{1}{3})} \approx 0.357246$$

AND AGAIN, AND AGAIN, UNTIL ANSWER IS  
PRECISE ENOUGH

## Some Homework Hints:

**Problem 10:** Suppose that  $a$  and  $b$  are pieces of metal which are hinged at  $C$ .



By the "law of sines," you *always* have:

$$\frac{b}{a} = \frac{\sin(B)}{\sin(A)}$$

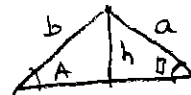
At first: angle  $A$  is  $\pi/4$  radians =  $45^\circ$  and angle  $B$  is  $\pi/3$  radians =  $60^\circ$ .

You then widen  $A$  to  $46^\circ$ , without changing the sides  $a$  and  $b$ .

**The question asks you to use the linear approximation to estimate the new angle  $B$ .**

$$46^\circ = 46 \frac{\pi}{180} \text{ RADIANS}$$

ASIDE → PROOF



$$\begin{aligned} \sin(A) &= \frac{h}{b} \quad \text{AND} \quad \sin(B) = \frac{h}{a} \\ \Rightarrow h &= b \sin(A) \quad \text{AND} \quad h = a \sin(B) \\ \Rightarrow b \sin(A) &= a \sin(B) \Rightarrow \frac{b}{a} = \frac{\sin(B)}{\sin(A)} \end{aligned}$$

CONSTANTS ↓

$$b \sin(A) = a \sin(B)$$

WE WANT THE TANGENT LINE

$$B = \square (A - \square) + \square$$

$\frac{dB}{dA}$        $A_0 = \pi/4$        $B_0 = \pi/3$

$$b \cos(A) = a \cos(B) \frac{dB}{dA}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dB}{dA} = \frac{b \cos(A)}{a \cos(B)}$$

At  $B = \pi/3$  and  $A = \pi/4$ , WE HAVE

$$\frac{b}{a} = \frac{\sin(\pi/3)}{\sin(\pi/4)} = \frac{\sqrt{3}/2}{\sqrt{2}/2} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$\text{AND} \quad \frac{dB}{dA} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{\cos(\pi/4)}{\cos(\pi/3)} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{\sqrt{2}/2}{1/2} = \sqrt{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow B = \sqrt{3} (A - \pi/4) + \pi/3$$