

Note:Challenging Problems are for your own exercise.

Problem 1 ((4pts)). Given a function $f(x) = x - x^2$.

1. Find the average rate of change over the following intervals: $(0.99, 1)$, $(0.999, 1)$, $(0.9999, 1)$, $(1, 1.01)$, $(1, 1.001)$, $(1, 1.0001)$;
2. Estimate the instantaneous ROC of $f(x)$ at $x = 1$;
3. ¹ Find the tangent line of $f(x)$ at $x = 1$.

Solution. 1.

Interval	$(0.99, 1)$	$(0.999, 1)$	$(0.9999, 1)$	$(1, 1.01)$	$(1, 1.001)$	$(1, 1.0001)$
$\frac{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}{x_1 - x_0}$	-0.99	-0.999	-0.9999	-1.01	-1.001	-1.0001

2. The instantaneous ROC is -1.
3. Since the slope of tangent line equals the instantaneous ROC, i.e. -1, the defining equation of the tangent line is given by $y - f(1) = -1(x - 1)$, equivalently, $y = -x + 1$.

Problem 2 ((6pts)). Evaluate the limits using the Limit Laws.

1. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} x^4 + 3x - 4x^2$;
2. $\lim_{h \rightarrow -1} \frac{h^{-3} - h^4}{h - 1}$;

Solution. 1. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} x^4 + 3x - 4x^2 = (\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} x)^4 + 3 \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} x - 4(\lim_{x \rightarrow 2} x)^2 = 16 + 6 - 16 = 6$.

2. $\lim_{h \rightarrow -1} \frac{h^{-3} - h^4}{h - 1} = \frac{(\lim_{h \rightarrow -1} h)^{-3} - (\lim_{h \rightarrow -1} h)^4}{(\lim_{h \rightarrow -1} h) - 1} = \frac{(-1)^{-3} - (-1)^4}{-1 - 1} = \frac{-1 - 1}{-1 - 1} = 1$

Problem 3 (Challenging Problem). Evaluate the limits. Assume that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 1$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = 2$.

¹Challenging Problem. To find the tangent line is a kind of typical problem which you will see later. In fact, as you will see, the instantaneous ROC of a function at a point x is the same as the first derivative at x . They are both equal to the slope of the tangent line of the function at x .

$$1. \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{xg(x) - 2}{g(x)^2 \sqrt{f(x)} - 3};$$

$$2. \lim_{x \rightarrow 5a} f\left(\frac{x}{5}\right)g\left(\frac{x}{5}\right) + x.$$

Solution. 1. $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{xg(x) - 2}{g(x)^2 \sqrt{f(x)} - 3} = \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} x \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) - 2}{(\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x))^2 \sqrt{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x)} - 3} = 2a - 2.$

2. $\lim_{x \rightarrow 5a} f\left(\frac{x}{5}\right) \lim_{x \rightarrow 5a} g\left(\frac{x}{5}\right) + \lim_{x \rightarrow 5a} x = \lim_{t \rightarrow a} f(t) \lim_{t \rightarrow a} g(t) + 5a = 2 + 5a, \text{ where } t = \frac{x}{5}.$