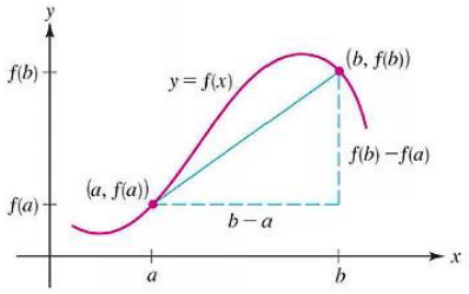
Average Rate of Change

The average rate of change, *m*, of a function *f* on the interval [a, b] is given by the slope of the secant line.



$$m = \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}$$

$$\text{Average Rate of Change of } f(x) \text{ on } [a, b] = \frac{f(b)-f(b)}{b-a}$$

Average Rate of Change (slope of the secant line)

If the points $(a, f(a))$ and $(b, f(b))$ are on the graph of $f(x)$ the average rate of change of $f(x)$ on the interval $[a,b]$ is

$$\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}$$