

# Formal Definition of Derivative

$$m_{\text{sec}} = \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{(x+h) - (x)}$$

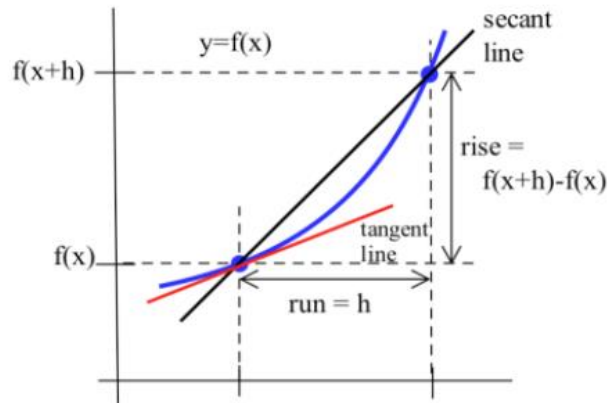
Average Rate of Change

is the slope of the secant line

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

Instantaneous Rate of Change

is the slope of the tangent line



## Formal Definition of Derivative

**Definition of the Derivative:**

The derivative of a function  $f$  is a new function,  $f'$  (pronounced "eff prime"), whose value at  $x$  is:

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

if this limit exists and is finite.

# Formal Definition of Derivative

## Definition of Derivative

The derivative of a function  $f$  at a point  $x$ , written  $f'(x)$ , is given by:

$$f'(x) = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x}$$

if this limit exists.

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## Formal Definition of Derivative

Derivative at a point

$$f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a}$$

## Formal Definition of Derivative

The average rate of change of  $f(x)$  with respect to  $x$  as  $x$  changes from  $a$  to  $b$  is

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

The instantaneous rate of change of  $f(x)$  at  $x = a$  is

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a + h) - f(a)}{h} = \lim_{b \rightarrow a} \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a},$$