

Math 100: Differential Calculus

Lecture 0

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Calculus ???

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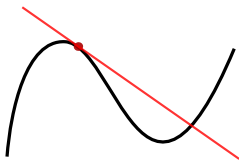
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1 About the
course

2 Learning
advice

3 About me



What is a *Calculus*?

²Image due to Jacj from: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tangent_to_a_curve.svg

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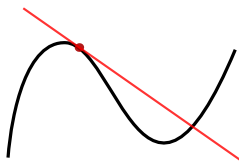
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What is a *Calculus*?

- *Differential calculus*: A collection of methods for studying rates of change.²
- Language to describe the world around us

²Image due to Jacj from: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tangent_to_a_curve.svg

Galileo says

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Philosophy is written in that great book (I mean the universe) ... but the book cannot be understood unless one first learns the language and the symbols in which it is written. This book is written in the mathematical language ... without whose help it is impossible to comprehend a single word of it; without which one wanders in vain through a dark labyrinth.

— Galileo Galilei, *The Assayer*, 1623.

HG Wells says

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... the new mathematics is a sort of supplement to language, affording a means of thought about form and quantity and a means of expression, more exact, compact, and ready than ordinary language. The great body of physical science, a great deal of the essential fact of financial science, and endless social and political problems are only accessible and only thinkable to those who have had a sound training in mathematical analysis, and the time may not be very remote when it will be understood that for complete initiation as an efficient citizen ... it is as necessary to be able to compute, to think in averages and maxima and minima, as it is now to be able to read and write.

— HG Wells, *Mankind in the Making*, 1903.

Today's Goals

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- 1 About the course
- 2 Learning methods
- 3 About me

1(a) Getting information

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- 1 Most information on the [Section Website](#)
 - Syllabus (must read!)
 - Textbooks (especially the [CLP Notes](#))
 - (in time) Exam information
 - Lecture-by-lecture table
- 2 Through [Canvas](#)
 - Piazza (discussion board)
 - Written homework submission
 - Gradebook

1(a) About the Course: Course plan

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- Asymptotics, limits;
- Differentiation and the derivative;
- Application of the derivative;
- Taylor approximation;
- Numerical methods.

1(b) About the Course: meetings

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- 1 Classes: TTh 8:00-9:30
- 2 Tutorial
 - One hour, meeting time TBD
- 3 Piazza
- 4 Office hours

1(c) About the Course: grades

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- 1 Two midterms [$2 \times 20\%$]
- 2 Final exam [50%]
- 3 Written homework assignments [10%]
 - Typesetting is important

The learning cycle

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- 1 Read before class: see the *lecture-by-lecture table* on the section website.
- 2 During class: mindful learning
- 3 After class: practice problems + homework

Advice

- Stay caught up
- Put in the hours (2-3 hours at home for each hour in class, spread around the week)
- Mindful practice in and out of class.
- Use office hours

Mindful class time

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Abducted by an alien circus company, Professor Doyle is forced to write calculus equations in centre ring.

(Gary Larson, "The Far Side", 15/9/1992)

- Learn *ideas* not solutions.
 - Pay attention to *cues*
 - (mostly) Ignore algebra
- *Solve worksheet problems to trigger thinking.*
- **ASK QUESTIONS!!**

Getting help

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- Math/course questions: Piazza
- Individual issues: email instructor.
- Office hours:
 - *Everyone is encouraged to come and ask questions*
 - After class near the classroom
 - In my office (check website for schedule)
- Math Learning Centre

About me

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- Dr. Silberman (Li'or Zilberman)
- Email: lior@math.ubc.ca, Office: MATX 1112.
- Work: Number Theory, Random Structures, ...

