

3.9 Differentials

3.9 # 1, 7-15, 19, 27, 31, 37, 41

Homework on the Web *Part 1* *Part 2*

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Class Notes: Prof. G. Battaly, Westchester Community College, NY

3.9 Differentials

Two Objectives:

1. Approximations
2. Definition of Differential - needed for Integration

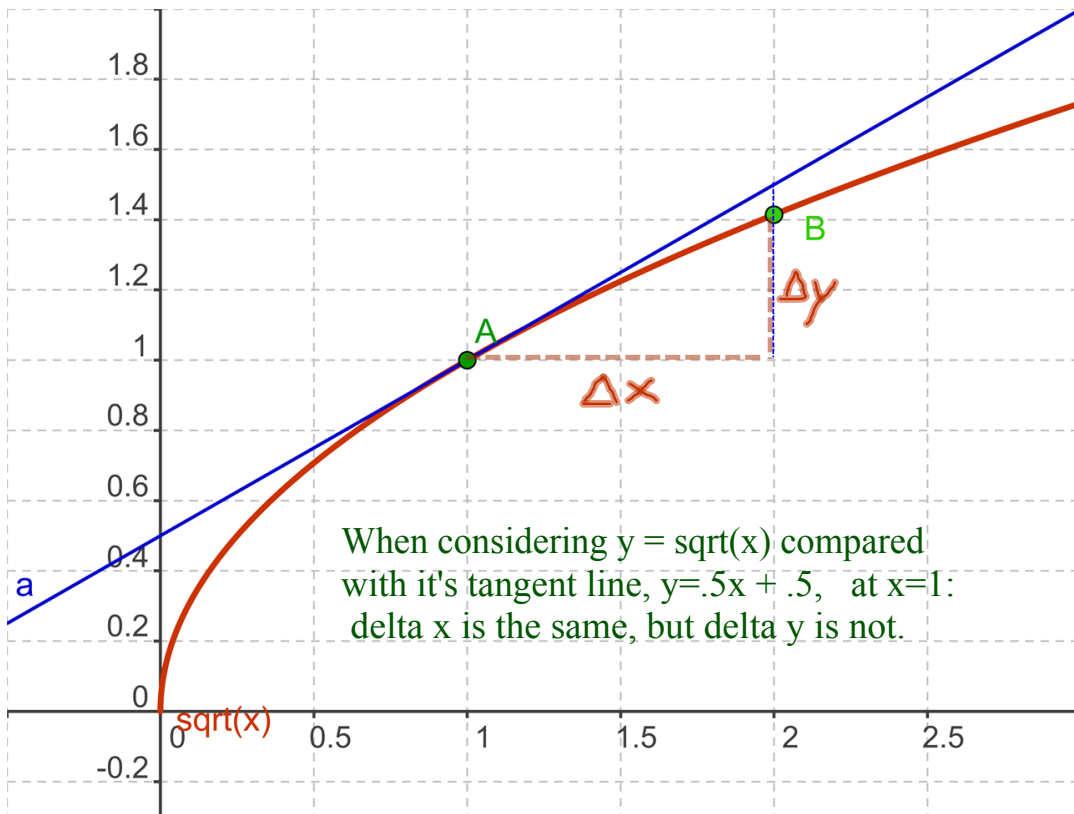
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1. Approximations

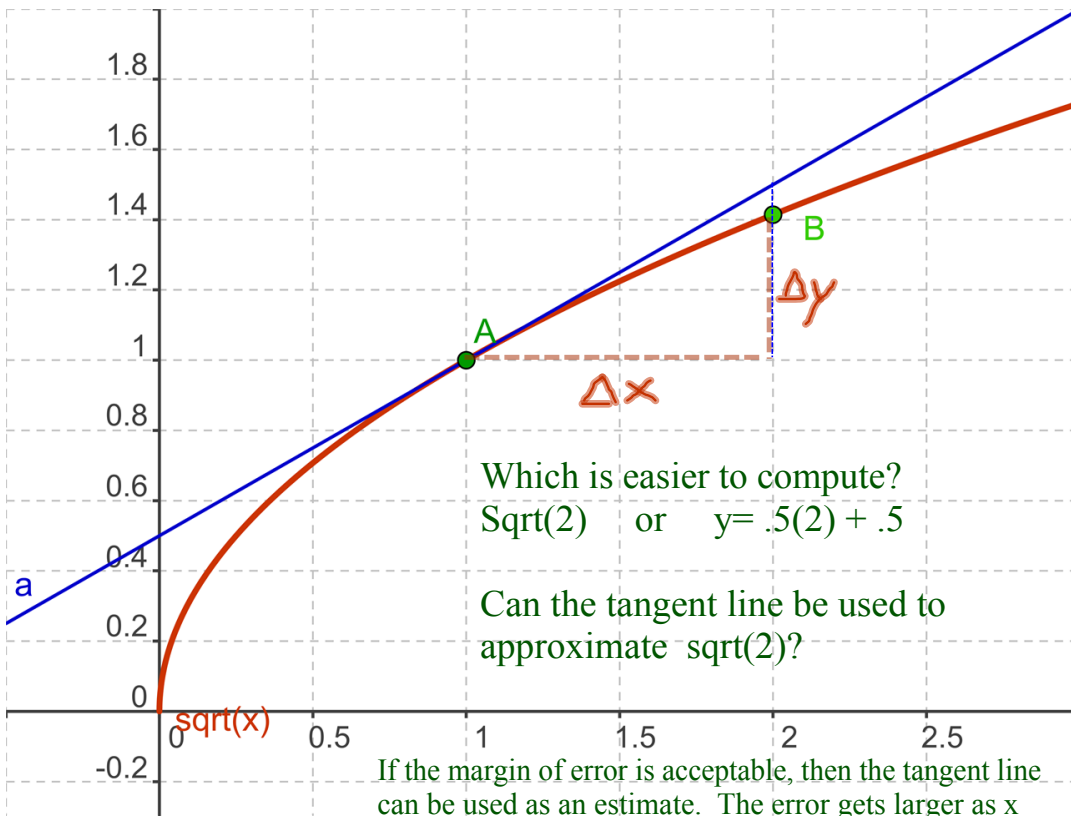
Without using a calculator, find:

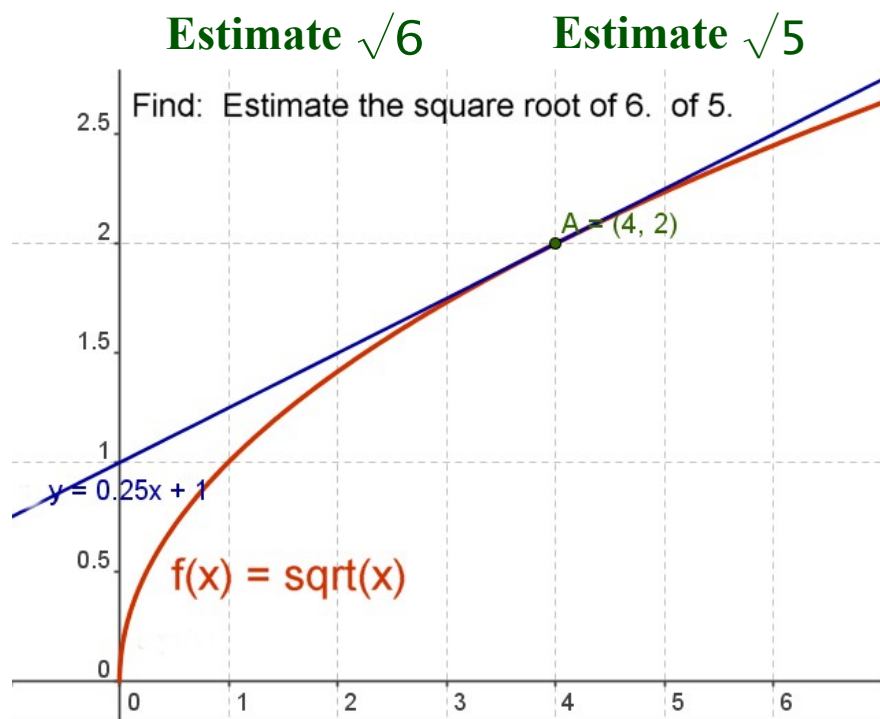
$$\sqrt{2}$$

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One method is to **use the tangent line**.
This can be a good estimate when the value of x
is close to a value that is easy to compute.

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Another method is to use differentials:

Definition:

Let $y = f(x)$ represent a function that is differentiable on an open interval containing x .

The differential of x (dx) is any nonzero real number.

The differential of y (dy) is:

$$dy = f'(x) dx$$

Another method is to use differentials:

Find $\sqrt{5}$ Use $y = \sqrt{x}$. Let $x = 4$ and $dx = +1$

$$dy = f'(x) dx$$

$$dy = 1/(2\sqrt{x}) dx$$

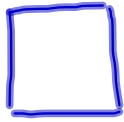
$$dy = 1/(2\sqrt{4}) (1)$$

$$dy = 1/4$$

Therefore, $\sqrt{5} \approx \sqrt{4} + dy = 2 + 1/4 = 2.25$

Calculator ~ 2.24

p. 240 #31.

F: a) \sim % error in
A

$$s = 15 \text{ cm} \pm 0.05 \text{ cm.}$$

b) max allowable
error in s of error
in A $\leq 2.5\%$

$$A = s^2$$

$$dA = \frac{dA}{ds} ds.$$

$$\frac{dA}{ds} = 2s$$

$$dA = 2s ds$$

$$a) dA = 2(15 \text{ cm})(0.05 \text{ cm}) = 1.5 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$\% \text{ error } A = \frac{1.5 \text{ cm}^2}{15^2 \text{ cm}^2} = \frac{1.5}{(15)(15)} = \frac{1}{150} = 0.007$$

$$= (0.007)100 = 0.7\%$$

$$\% \text{ error } A = \frac{dA}{A} \leq 0.025$$

$$dA = 0.025(15 \text{ cm})^2 =$$

$$= 0.025(225) = 5.625 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$dA = 2s ds$$

$$5.625 \text{ cm}^2 = 2(15 \text{ cm}) ds$$

$$ds = \frac{5.625 \text{ cm}^2}{30 \text{ cm}} = 0.1875 \text{ cm.}$$

$$0.1875 \text{ cm.}$$