

# 1.6 Functions

## Study 1.6

# 5-27, 14, 31-41, 47-53

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

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## 1.6 Functions

## Algebra: Language of Science

1. Use variables to represent things that change in amounts:
  - Independent Variable (usually  $x$ )
  - Dependent Variable (usually  $y$ )

2. Verbs:  $=$ ,  $<$ ,  $>$ ,  $\leq$ ,  $\geq$

3. **Equations:** sentences that are rules for mathematical operations applied to the independent variable to obtain the dependent variable.

eg: Linear equation:  $y = 2x + 1$

The rule is: select a value ( $x$ )  
multiply by 2  
add 1

What is the rule for:  $y = 3x - 4$  ?

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 [geogebra, interactive: slope-intercept form,  \$y = mx + b\$   
http://www.battaly.com/collegealgebra/geogebra/slopeIntercept/](http://www.battaly.com/collegealgebra/geogebra/slopeIntercept/)

## 1.6 Functions

## Definitions:

**Relation:** set of ordered pairs

**Domain:** all of the values of the independent variable  
that result in a real number for the dependent variable

**Range:** values of the dependent variable

**FUNCTION:** Relation in which each value of the  
independent variable results in  
**exactly one value**  
of the dependent variable.

$$\begin{aligned}y &= 2x - 2 \\y &= 4 \\3y - 2x &= 2 \\y &= -(1/3)x + 0.1 \\y + x &= 2x - 2\end{aligned}$$

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## 1.6 Functions

### Are linear equations functions?

1. For equations of the form  $y = mx + b$   
is  $y$  a function of  $x$ ? (m, b constants)
  
2. Are there any lines for which  
 $y$  is NOT a function of  $x$ ?

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## 1.6 Functions

Given:  $y = -3x + 1$  Find: Is  $y$  a function of  $x$ ?

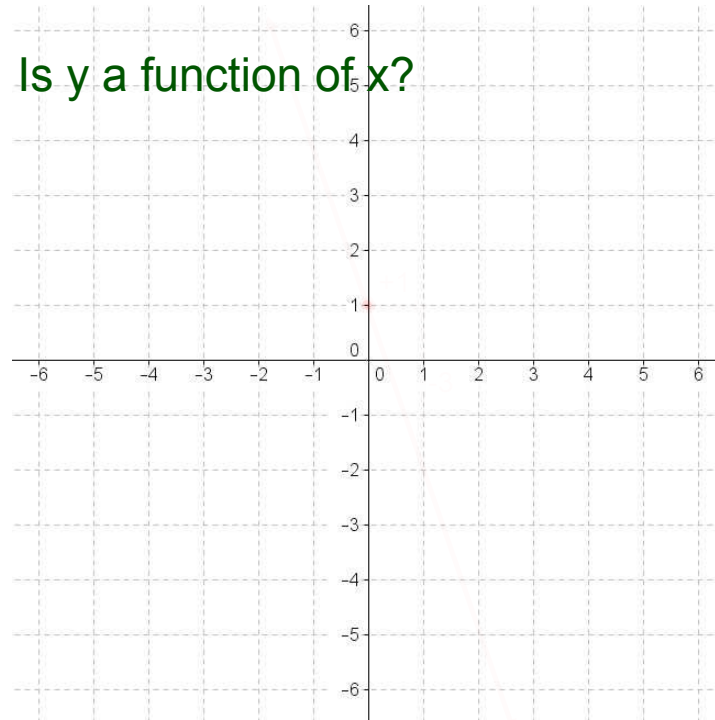
1. Start with a sketch:

y-intercept:  $(0, 1)$

$$m = -3 = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{-3}{+1}$$

2. Use vertical line test:

Does a vertical line intersect the graph at more than one point?



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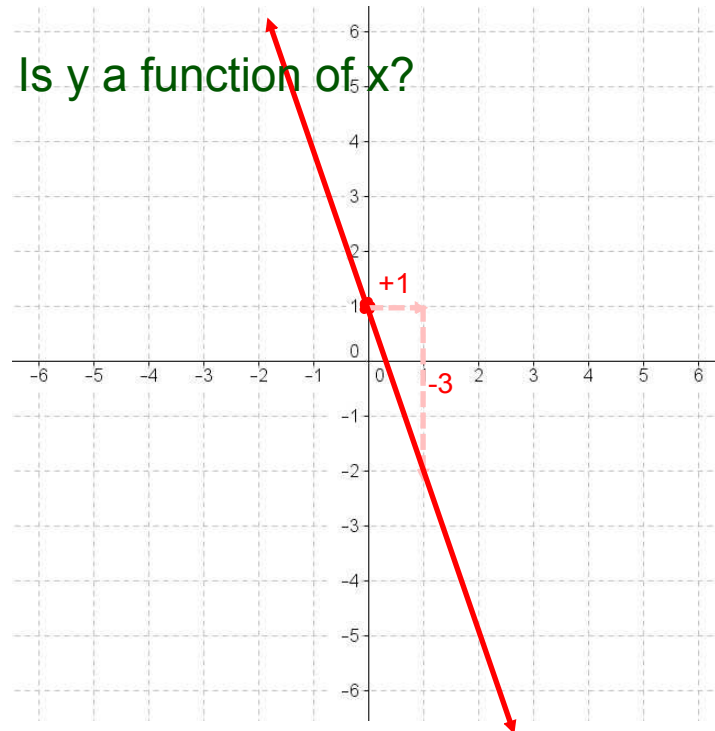
$$m = -3 = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{-3}{+1}$$

2. Use vertical line test:

Does a vertical line intersect the graph at more than one point?

**Passes vertical line test:**

A vertical line does NOT intersect the graph at more than one point?



**Therefore, YES,  $y$  is a function of  $x$ .**

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1.6 Functions

G:  $2x + 5y = 9 - 4(x + 2y) - 3x + 1$       F: Is  $y$  a function of  $x$ ?

Every value of  $x$  in the domain results  
in exactly one value of  $y$ .

Therefore, YES,  $y$  is a function of  $x$ .

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