

# Rate of change and Inverse function

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- ▶ Recall  $f'(x)$  is the instantaneous rate of change of the function  $f$ .
- ▶ Suppose  $s = f(t)$  is the position function of a moving object,
- ▶ The velocity function is  $v(t) = f'(t)$  ,  
the speed function is  $|v(t)| = |f'(t)|$   
the acceleration function is  $a(t) = v'(t) = f''(t)$ .
- ▶ In economics, if  $c(x)$  is the cost function where  $x$  is the number of unit produced. Then  $c'(x)$  is called the marginal cost of production which is the rate of change of cost with respect to level of production.

- A rock thrown vertically upward from the surface of the moon at a velocity of 16 m/sec reaches a height of  $s(t) = 16t - 0.8t^2$  meters in  $t$  sec.
- (a) Find the rock's velocity and acceleration at time  $t$ .
  - (b) How long does it take the rock to reach its highest point?
  - (c) How high does the rock go?
  - (d) How long does it take the rock to reach half its maximum height?
  - (e) How long is the rock aloft?

Solution: 1<sup>o</sup> The velocity is

$$v(t) = s'(t) = (16t - 0.8t^2)' = 16 - 1.6t$$

$$\text{The acceleration is } a(t) = v'(t) = (16 - 1.6t)' = -1.6$$

2<sup>o</sup> The rock will reach its highest point when the velocity becomes zero, Solving  $v(t) = 16 - 1.6t = 0$ , we get

$$t = \frac{16}{1.6} = 10.$$

3<sup>0</sup> ( How high does the rock go?)

At  $t = 10$ , its height is  $s(10) = 16 \cdot 10 - 0.8(10)^2 = 160 - 80 = 80$ .

So the rock goes up to 80 meter.

4<sup>0</sup> (How long does it take the rock to reach half its maximum height?)

The maximum height is 80. So the half of its maximum height =  $80/2 = 40$ .

To find the time it reach half its maximum height, we need to solve  $s(t) = 40$ , i.e  $16t - 0.8t^2 = 40$ .

This is the same as solving  $-0.8t^2 + 16t - 40 = 0$ . Using the quadratic formula, we get

$$t = \frac{-16 \pm \sqrt{16^2 - 4 \cdot (-0.8) \cdot (-40)}}{2 \cdot (-0.8)} = \frac{-16 \pm \sqrt{256 - 128}}{-1.6} = \frac{-16 \pm \sqrt{128}}{-1.6}. \text{ So it}$$

reach half its maximum height when time is  $\frac{-16 + \sqrt{128}}{-1.6}$  or  $\frac{-16 - \sqrt{128}}{-1.6}$

5<sup>0</sup> ( How long is the rock aloft?)

We need to know when the rock reach the ground. So we need to solve  $s(t) = 0$ .

Solving  $16t - 0.8t^2 = 0$  or  $t(16t - 0.8) = 0$ , we get  $t = 0$  or  $t = \frac{16}{0.8} = 20$ .

Hence the rock is aloft for 20 seconds.

## Inverse functions.

- ▶ If a function is one to one, then we can define the inverse of  $f$  by  $x = f^{-1}(y)$  if  $y = f(x)$ .
- ▶ the domain of  $f^{-1} =$  the range of  $f$
- ▶ the range of  $f^{-1} =$  the domain of  $f$
- ▶ The graph of  $y = f^{-1}(x)$  and the graph  $y = f(x)$  is symmetric with respect to the line  $y = x$ .
- ▶ To find the formula of  $f^{-1}(x)$ , we start from  $y = f(x)$  and try to solve  $x$  in terms of  $y$ . Then we get  $x = f^{-1}(y)$  and get a formula for  $f^{-1}(y)$ . Then we substitute  $y$  for  $x$  to get  $f^{-1}(x)$ .

- Find the formula of  $f^{-1}(x)$  if  $y = \frac{x-1}{2x+3}$ .

Solution: We want to express  $x$  in terms of  $y$

$$\text{From } y = \frac{x-1}{2x+3}, \text{ we have } y(2x+3) = x-1 \Rightarrow \\ 2yx + 3y = x - 1$$

Now we try to solve for  $x$  in  $y$ .

$$\Rightarrow 2yx - x = -1 - 3y \Rightarrow x(2y - 1) = -1 - 3y$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{-1-3y}{2y-1}$$

$$\text{So } f^{-1}(y) = \frac{-1-3y}{2y-1} \text{ and } f^{-1}(x) = \frac{-1-3x}{2x-1} .$$

Now work on "Recitation problems Oct 21 (grade will count)" in MYMATHLAB <http://portal.mypearson.com/cclogin.jsp>