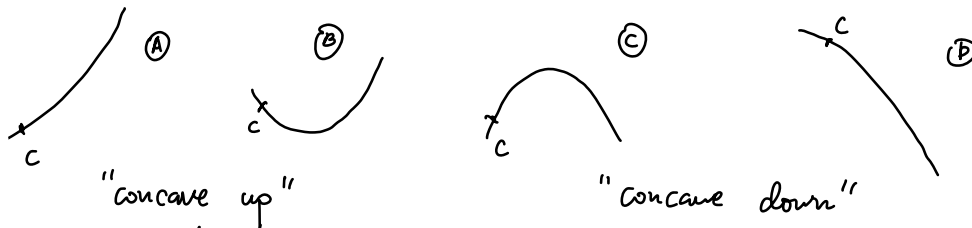


\* Interpretation of the derivative.

- $f'(x) = 5$  means, if  $x$  is increased by 1 unit,  $f$  would "roughly" increase by 5 units.
- $f'(c) > 0 \Leftrightarrow f$  is increasing near  $x=c$ .
- $f'(c) < 0 \Leftrightarrow$  ..... decreasing .....
- $f'(c) = 0 \Leftrightarrow f$  is roughly the same .....



- { (A)  $f'(c) > 0$  and  $f'$  keeps increasing:  $f$  is increasing faster and faster.
- { (B)  $f'(c) < 0$  and  $f'$  keeps increasing:  $f$  is decreasing, but try to increase gradually.

(A), (B):  $f'(x)$  increase = "concave up near  $c$ ".

- { (C)  $f'(c) > 0$  and  $f'$  keeps decreasing:  $f$  is increasing, but try to decrease.
- { (D)  $f'(c) < 0$  and  $f'$  keeps decreasing:  $f$  is decreasing faster and faster.

(C), (D):  $f'(x)$  decrease = "concave down near  $c$ ".

Ex. The accumulated profit function  $R(x)$  of a company is modelled by

$$R(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x-500)^2 + 2x,$$

for  $0 \leq x \leq 1500$ , where  $x$  is the number of goods produced.

① Find the derivative  $R'(x)$  on  $0 < x < 1500$ .

② Plot the graphs of  $R'(x)$ .

③ Interpret  $R'(x)$  within the context.

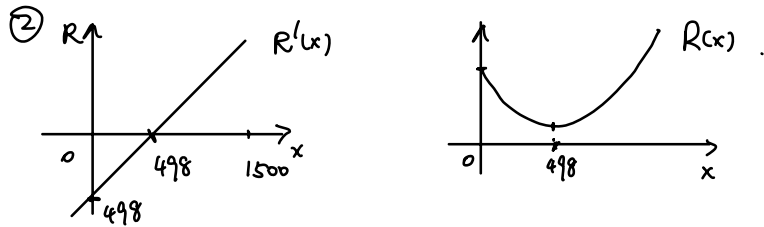
Sol<sup>n</sup> ①  $R'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta R}{\Delta x} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{R(x+h) - R(x)}{h}$

$$R(x+h) = \frac{1}{2}(x+h-500)^2 + 2(x+h) = \frac{1}{2}(x-500)^2 + 2h(x-500) + h^2 + 2x + 2h$$

$$R(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x-500)^2 + 2x.$$

$$R(x+h) - R(x) = h(x-500) + \frac{1}{2}h^2 + 2h = h(x-498) + \frac{1}{2}h^2.$$

$$R'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h(x-498) + \frac{1}{2}h^2}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} x-498 + \frac{1}{2}h = x-498 \quad \text{on } 0 < x < 1500.$$



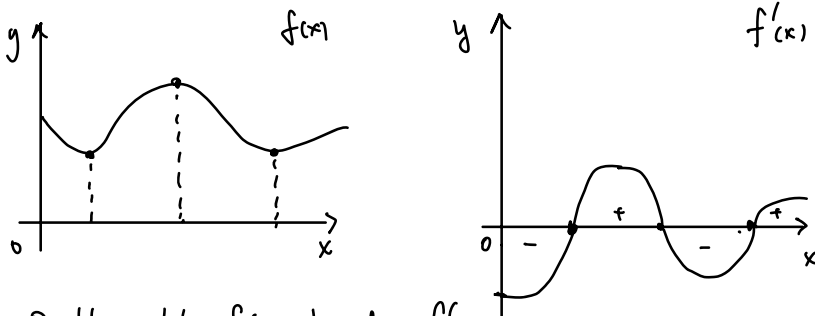
③  $R'(x)$  = the change in profit if increase production  $x$  by 1  
 = marginal profit of product.

- $R'(x) < 0$  on  $x \in (0, 498)$ : for the first 498 products, the company are losing money.
- $R'(x) > 0$  on  $x \in (498, 1500)$ : the company is making more and more money for each product produced after # 498. ☑

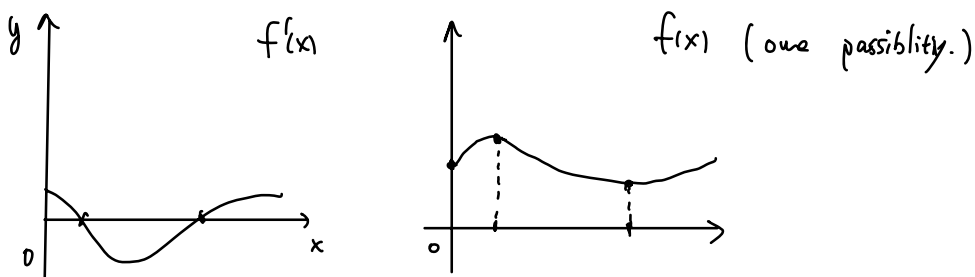
Remarks: Key observations of  $f'(x)$ :

- The zeroes of  $f'(x)$ :  $f$  is not changing locally (horizontal tangent line)
- If  $f'(x)$  transitions from  $-$  to  $+$ :  $f$  started decreasing for a while but transitioned into increasing.
- If  $f'(x)$  is undefined:  $f$  has a sharp corner or a jump.

Ex: Roughly plot  $f'(x)$  based on  $f(x)$ :



Ex: Roughly plot  $f(x)$  based on  $f'(x)$ .

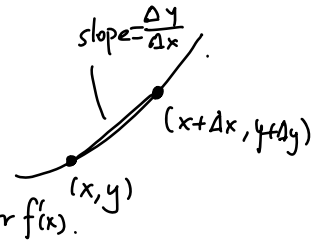


⊛ Derivative: more on notations (S.S.4)

•  $f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}$  denoted  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

↑  
not a fraction

but a notation for  $f'(x)$ .



• Equivalent notation for  $f'(x)$ , as a function

$f'$ ,  $f'(x)$ ,  $y'$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ ,  $\frac{df}{dx}$ .

• Equivalent notation for  $f'$  at  $x=c$ , as a value:

$f'(c)$ ,  $y'(c)$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dx}|_{x=c}$ ,  $\frac{df}{dx}|_{x=c}$ .

•  $\frac{d}{dx}$ : take the derivative of what follows after, as a function:

$\frac{d}{dx}(f) = \frac{df}{dx}$ ,  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^2) = 2x$ .

Ex: Find  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^3 + 4x)$  and  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^3 + 4x)|_{x=2}$ :

Sol<sup>n</sup>:  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^3 + 4x) = \frac{df}{dx}$ ,  $f(x) = x^3 + 4x$ .

$\frac{df}{dx} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \frac{(x+h)^3 + 4(x+h) - (x^3 + 4x)}{h}$

• numerator =  $(x+h)(x^2 + 2hx + h^2) - \cancel{x^3} - \cancel{4x} = \cancel{x^3} + 2hx^2 + h^2x + hx^2 + 2h^2x + h^3 + \cancel{4x} + 4h$

=  $3hx^2 + 3h^2x + h^3$

$\frac{df}{dx} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3hx^2 + 3h^2x + h^3 + 4h}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 3x^2 + 4 + \underbrace{3hx + h^2}_{\text{small}} = 3x^2 + 4$ .

• So  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^3 + 4x) = 3x^2 + 4$ .

•  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^3 + 4x)|_{x=2} = f'(2) = 3 \cdot 2^2 + 4 = 16$ .