

SECTION 2.1: PREVIEW OF CALCULUIS

1. The point $P(2, 3)$ lies on the graph of $f(x) = x + \frac{2}{x}$.

(a) If possible, find the slope of the secant line between the point P and each of the points with x values listed below. For each estimate the slope to 4 decimal places. NOTE: You do not need the graph of the function to answer this numerical question.

point Q		slope of secant line PQ
x -value	y -value	
$x = 4$		
$x = 3$		
$x = 2.5$		
$x = 2.25$		
$x = 2.1$		
$x = 0$		
$x = 1$		
$x = 1.5$		
$x = 1.75$		
$x = 1.9$		

(b) Now, use technology to sketch a rough graph $f(x)$ on the interval $(0, 5]$ and add the secant lines from part *a*. (Your graph may be messy...It's ok.) Label the secant lines with their respective slopes. What can you conclude about the slope of the tangent line to $f(x)$ at $x = 2$?

(c) Write a best guess for the equation of the line tangent to $f(x)$ at point P . Is your equation plausible?

2. The table shows the position of a cyclist after accelerating from rest.

t (minutes)	0	30	60	90	120	150	180	210	240
d (miles)	0	9.2	18.7	23.1	38.1	46.6	59.7	72.6	80

(a) Estimate the cyclist's average velocity in miles per hour during:

i. the first hour

ii. the second hour

(b) Estimate how fast the cyclist was going 1.5 hours into the ride.

(c) What does any this have to do with secant lines and tangent lines?