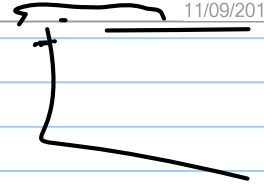


poincare.nuigalway.ie/teaching/MA133



Functions

What is a function?

- A function describes a quantitative relationship.

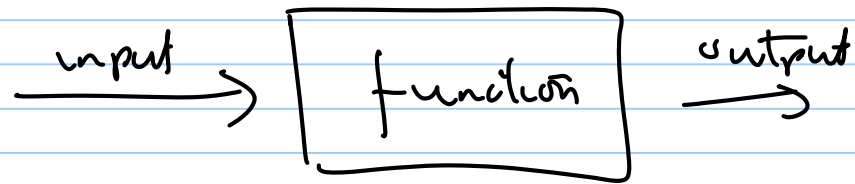
e.g. position vs. time

speed vs. time

• stock prices vs. time

- ~~a~~ a function takes in a number

and returns a number.



~~a~~ function can be described in various ways

- verbal description
e.g. the height of an object at time t

- algebraic description:

$$h(t) = 10 - 5t^2$$

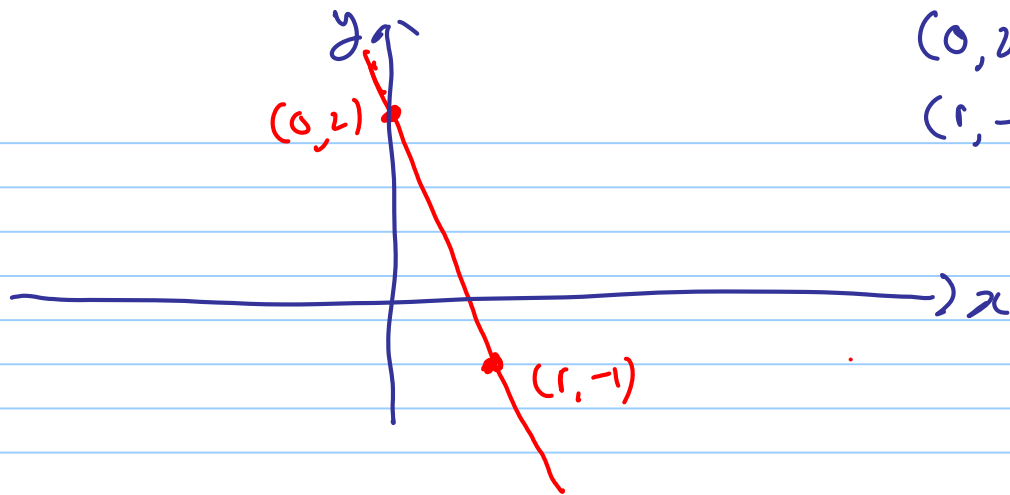
graphically :



numerical :

$$h(0) = 10 \quad h(1) = 5 \quad h(2) = -10$$

Exercise 2.1.1. graph of $f(x) = 2 - 3x$



$$(0, 2) \leftarrow f(0) = 2 - 3(0) = 2$$

$$(1, -1) \leftarrow f(1) = \cancel{2} - 3(1) = -1$$

2.1.3

$P(t)$ = price at time t

t = number of days since Jan. 1

$$P(0) = 150000$$

$$P(84) = 156000$$

(Mar 25 $\Leftrightarrow t = 84$)

$$P(180) = ?$$

(June 30 $\Leftrightarrow t = 180$)

$$P(t) = at + b \quad \text{since } P \text{ is linear.}$$

$$P(0) = b \quad \text{so } b = 150000$$

$$P(84) = a(84) + 150000 = 156000$$

$$\text{so } 84a = 6000$$

$$a = \frac{6000}{84}$$

$$\text{so } P(t) = \frac{6000}{84}(t) + 150000$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \text{Price on Jun 30} \\ \omega \quad p(180) &= \frac{6000}{84} (180) + 150000 \\ &= 163,000 \quad (3 \text{ significant} \\ &\quad \text{places}) \end{aligned}$$