Class 1: Friday, September 2

Variables, Formulas, Functions, Graphs and Linear Approximation

Reading: Smith & Minton 0.2

Calculus was invented in the seventeenth century, a time when scientists began to describe physical phenomena mathematically. Experiments showed that certain quantities varied systematically as other quantities were varied and algebraic formulas relating these variable quantities were sought. The modern concept of a function developed from these early ideas but is both more precise and more general. A function whose output (dependent) variable changes proportionately to changes in its input (independent) variables is said to be linear. Local approximation of more general functions by linear ones is the key idea of differential calculus.

Quiz 1: Functions

Homework 1: Smith & Minton Section 0.2: 3, 71, 74, 79, 80, 100 Homework #1 due 5 p.m. Friday September 9 in Math 114 Course Box in Fowler 311.

NO LAB THIS MONDAY. TUESDAY LABS WILL MEET. You will be taking a diagnostic exam to evaluate your current understanding of concepts often found in Calculus courses. People who have a Monday Lab time should come to any one of the Tuesday Labs (10:00am, 1:30 or 3:00) or schedule a time in one of our offices.