Let V denote the volume in a piston

Let P denote the pressure of the gas inside the piston



The value of P depends on the value of VP is a **function** of V

$$P = f(V)$$

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The value of P depends on the value of VP is a **function** of V

$$P = f(V)$$
$$P = \frac{nRT}{V}$$

Let x = the distance (in meters) a spring is stretched. Let E = the energy it takes to stretch the spring x meters

E = f(x)

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E = f(x)

$$E = \frac{1}{2}kx^2$$

Water is being poured into a conical container.



Let h = the height of the water level Let M = the mass of water inside this container

M = f(h)

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Let h = the height of the water level

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$$M = f(h)$$
$$M = \frac{1}{3}\pi\rho \frac{a^2}{b^2}h^3$$

A ball is dropped from cliff.

Let t be the elapsed time (in seconds) that the ball is falling. Let s be the distance (in meters) that the ball has fallen after t seconds.



Time t	(in sec)	Distance $f(t)$	(in	feet)
0		0		
1		16		
2		64		
3		144		
4		256		

Time (in sec) t	Distance (in feet) $f(t) = 16t^2$
0	0
1	16
2	64
3	144
4	256

Some functions require more than one equation.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{for } x \ge 0\\ -x & \text{for } x < 0 \end{cases}$$





An equation defining a function can be regarded as an *instruction* for converting an *input* to an *output*

$$y = f(x) = x^{2} + 2x$$

output = $f(input) = (input)^{2} + 2(input)$

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Examples:

$$f(a) = a^2 + 2b$$
$$f(h) = h^2 + 2h$$
$$f(a+h) = (a+h)^2 + 2(a+h)$$

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Examples:

$$f(a) = a^2 + 2b$$

$$f(h) = h^2 + 2h$$

$$f(a+h) = (a+h)^2 + 2(a+h)$$

Please note that f(a) + f(h) is not the same as f(a + h)

$$f(a) + f(h) = a^2 + 2a + h^2 + 2h$$

 $f(a+h) = (a+h)^2 + 2(a+h) = a^2 + 2ah + h^2 + 2a + 2h$

We will be particularly interested in expressions of the form:

$$\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

Example:

$$f(x) = x^2 + 2x$$

$$f(x+h) - f(x) = ((x+h)^2 + 2(x+h)) - (x^2 + 2x)$$

= $(x^2 + 2xh + h^2 + 2x + 2h) - (x^2 + 2x)$
= $2xh + h^2 + 2h$

$$\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \frac{2xh + h^2 + 2h}{h} = 2x + h + 2$$

The car begins at Mile Marker 50.



Let t denote the time of travel (in hours) Let y denote the mile marker that the car is up to

> Distance = (Rate)(Time) y - 50 = 70ty = 70t + 50

Let x be time. Let f(x) be the mile marker that the car is up to.

$$f(x) = 70x + 50$$

 $f(x+h) = 70(x+h) + 50$

$$\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \frac{(70(x+h) + 50) - (70x + 50)}{h} = \frac{70h}{h} = 70$$

The set of all allowable *inputs* into a function is its *domain*. The set of all possible *outputs* from a function is its *range*.

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x}$$

What is the domain of this function?

Suppose we enter the number -2 on a calculator and press the square root button?



A negative number is not an allowable input.



 $Domain = \{ x \, | \, x \ge 0 \}$



$$y = \frac{1}{x^2}$$



What is the domain of this function? The range?



 $Domain = \{ x \mid x \neq 0 \}$

$$\text{Range} = \{ y \mid y > 0 \}$$





Domain = The set of all real numbers = $\{x \mid -\infty < x < \infty\}$ = \mathbb{R}



Interval Notation

$$[a, b] = \{x \mid a \le x \le b\}$$
Closed Interval
$$(a, b) = \{x \mid a < x < b\}$$
Open Interval
$$(a, b] = \{x \mid a < x \le b\}$$
$$[a, b) = \{x \mid a \le x < b\}$$

$$y = f(x) = \sin 2x$$

Domain = $I\!R = \{x \mid -\infty < x < \infty\} = (-\infty, \infty)$
Range = $\{y \mid -1 \le y \le 1\} = [-1, 1]$

$$f(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{(x-2)^2}$$

What is the domain of this function? What is the range of this function?

$$f(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{(x-2)^2}$$

$$Domain = \{x \mid x \neq 2\}$$

Range =
$$\{y \mid y > 1\} = (1, \infty)$$



$$f(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{(x-2)^2}$$

 $f(\boldsymbol{x})$ gets closer and closer to 1 as \boldsymbol{x} gets larger and larger



$$f(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{(x-2)^2}$$

 $f(\boldsymbol{x})$ gets closer and closer to 1 as \boldsymbol{x} gets larger and larger







 $f(\boldsymbol{x})$ gets larger and larger (without bound) as \boldsymbol{x} gets closer and closer to 0



