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# **Math 165: Calculus I**

## **Differentiation**

**ECE 111 Introduction to ECE**

**Jake Glower - Week #6**

Please visit [Bison Academy](#) for corresponding lecture notes, homework sets, and solutions

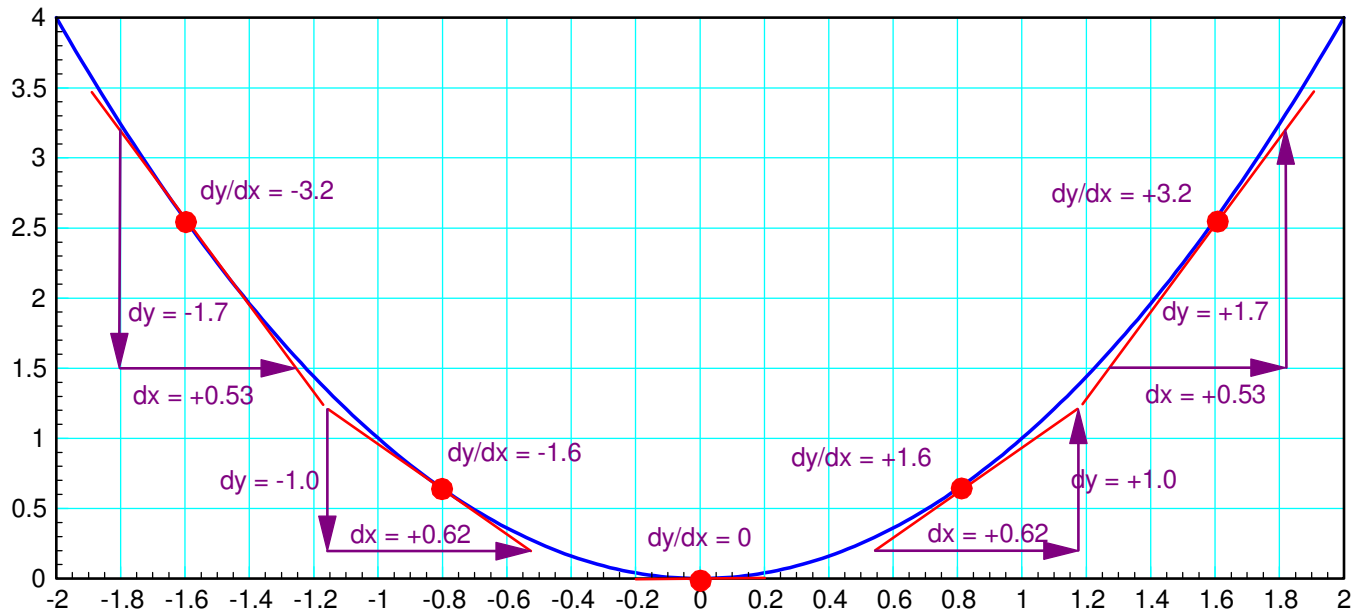


# Differentiation

The derivative of a function gives you the slope.

This has several uses.

- Can be used to find what's happening at a given time
- Can be used to find the maximum & minimum of a function



## Example: Bank Account

The derivative is the slope: this tells you what is happening with your bank account:

$0 < x < 2$ : The slope is zero

- Nothing is being added or taken out

$2 < x < 4$ : The slope is positive

- Money is being added to your account

$5 < x < 6$ : Negative slope

- Money is being withdrawn

Furthermore, the derivative also tells you how much money you're depositing or withdrawing.



# Calculating the Derivative

Determine the slope:

$$\text{slope} = y'(x) = \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\text{change in } y}{\text{change in } x}$$

$0 < x < 2$

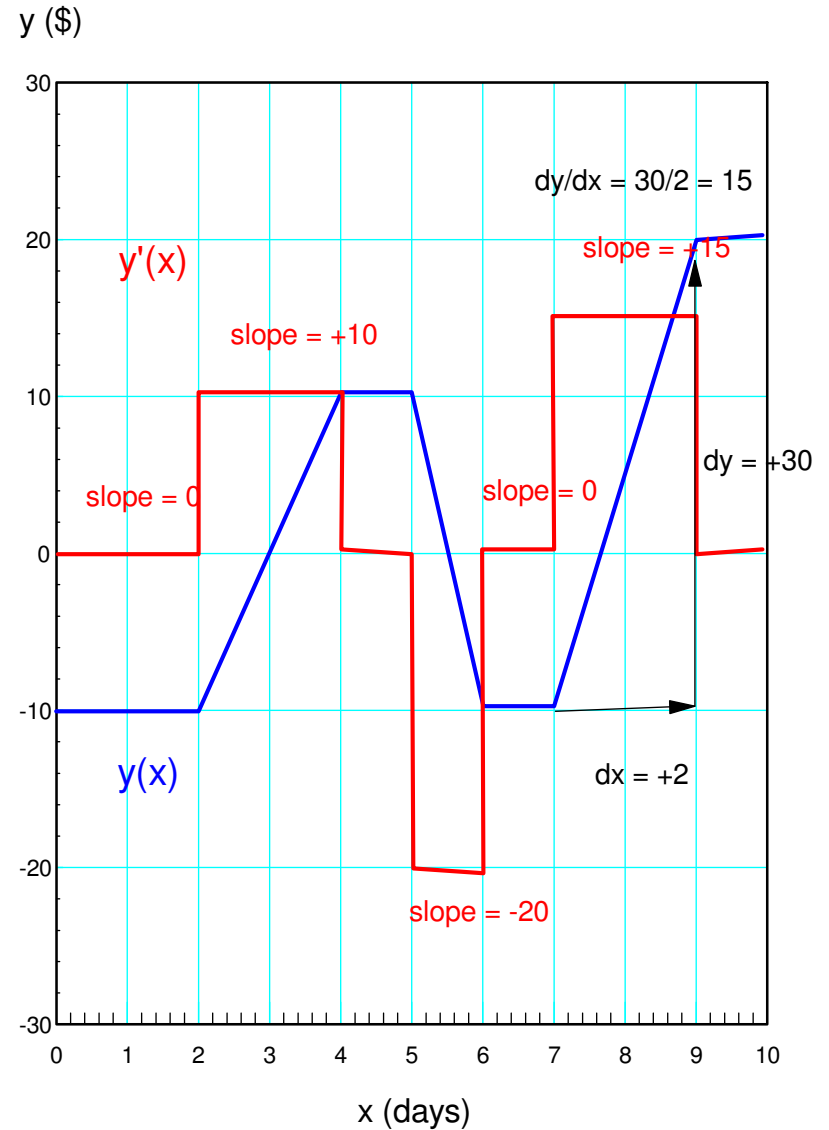
- $dy = 0, \quad dx = 2, \quad dy/dx = 0$

$2 < x < 4$

- $dy = 20, \quad dx = 2, \quad dy/dx = 10$

$7 < x < 9$

- $dy = +30, \quad dx = 2, \quad dy/dx = 15$



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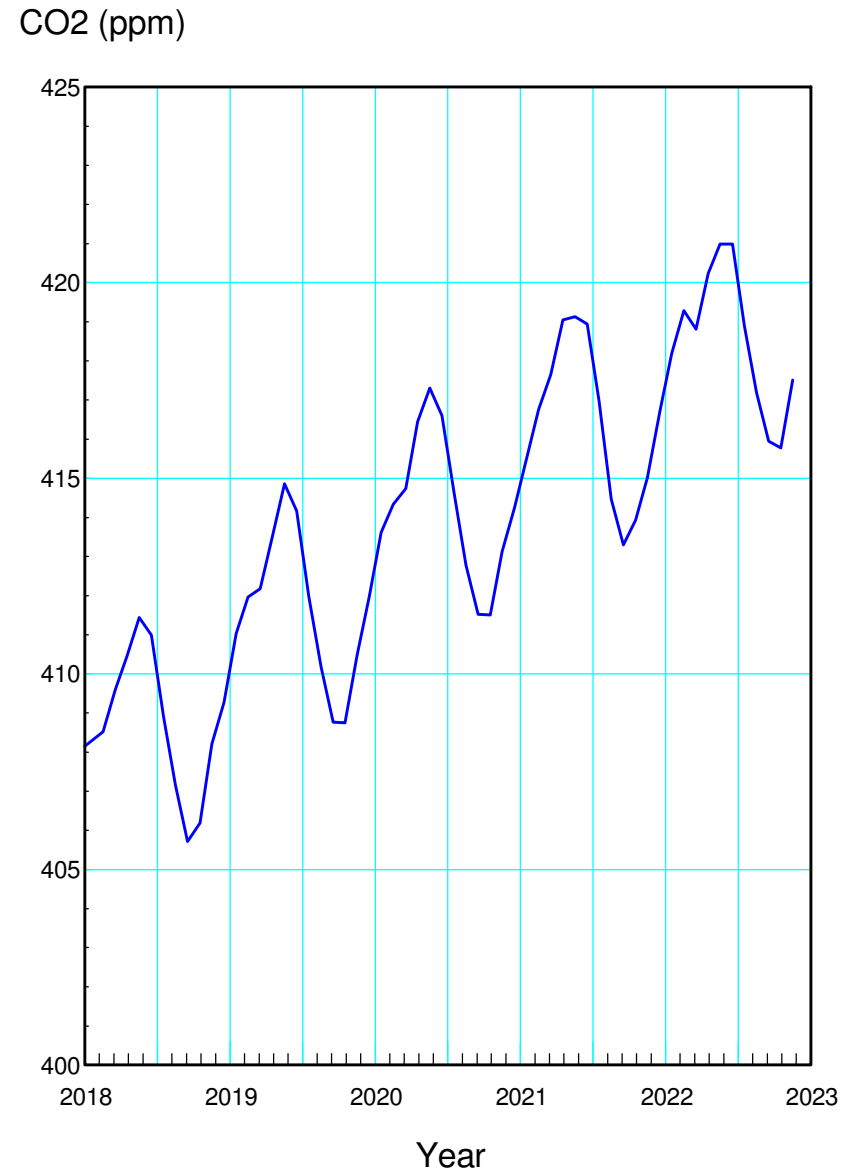
## Example: Global CO2 Levels

- 2015 - 2023

Graph shows global CO2 levels

Derivative shows amount of CO2 added

- Positive Slope: CO2 is being added
- Negative Slope: CO2 is being removed



# What's Happening?

Derivatives are useful

- They provide information about what's happening on a month-by-month basis.

Most land is in the northern hemisphere

Summer (July)

- Global CO2 levels drop.
- Trees green up and absorb CO2

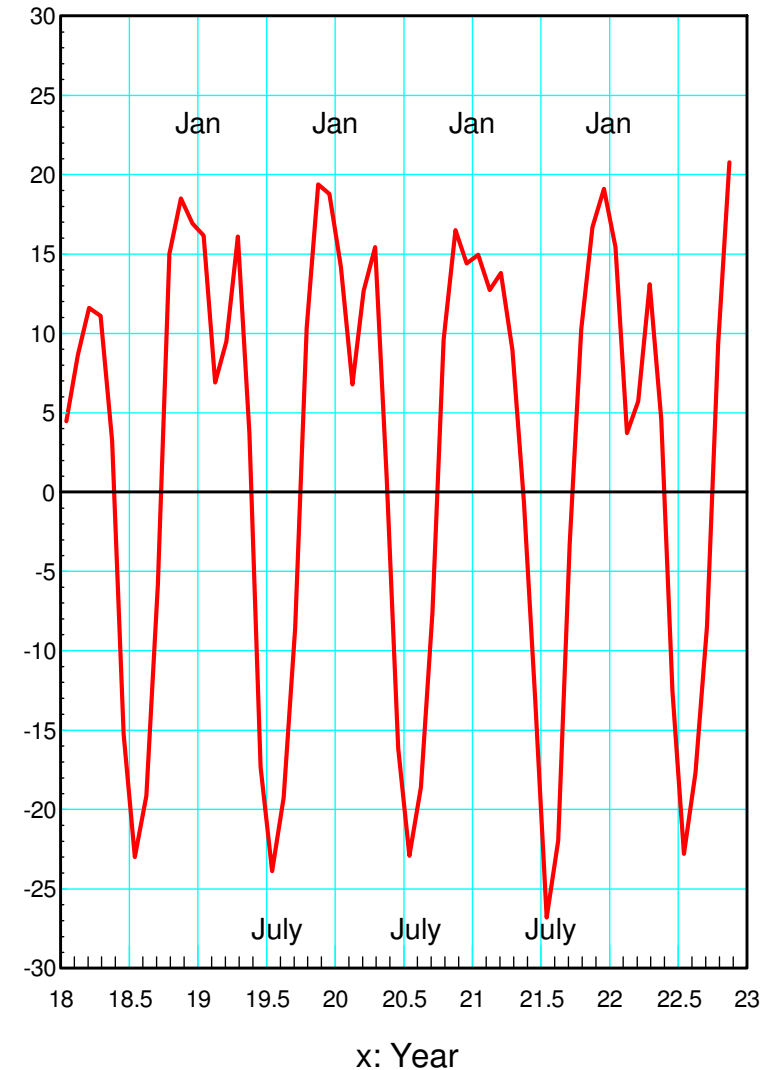
Winter (January)

- Global CO2 levels drop
- Trees drop their leaves
- Leaves decay, releasing CO2

Also shows a hiccup in March

- Not sure why...

y': ppm/year



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# Topics for This Lecture

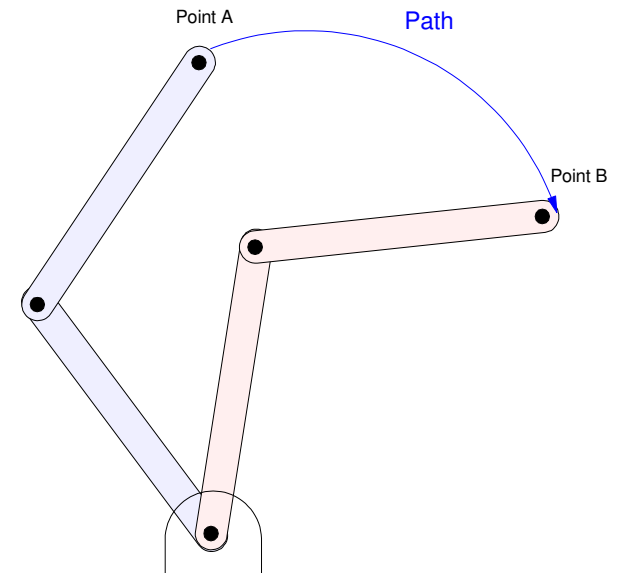
How to find a derivative

- Using lookup tables similar to what you'll do in Math 165,
- Using graphical methods, and
- Using numerical methods (i.e. Matlab).

Evaluate different paths for a robotic arm

- 1st derivative of angle = velocity
  - Velocity = voltage for a DC motor
- 2nd derivative of angle = acceleration
  - Acceleration = current for a DC motor

Different paths result in different implied voltages and currents



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## Differentiation: Method #1

Memorize and apply a set of rules.

- What you do in Calculus I

Power Functions:

$$\frac{d}{dx}(x^n) = n \cdot x^{n-1}$$

Exponential

$$\frac{d}{dx}(e^{ax}) = a \cdot e^{ax}$$

Sine Function

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\sin(ax)) = a \cdot \cos(ax)$$

Cosine Function

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\cos(ax)) = -a \cdot \sin(ax)$$

Chain Rule

$$\frac{d}{dx}(f(x) \cdot g(x)) = \frac{df(x)}{dx} \cdot g(x) + f(x) \cdot \frac{dg(x)}{dx}$$

Division

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}\right) = \frac{g(x) \cdot \frac{df(x)}{dx} - f(x) \cdot \frac{dg(x)}{dx}}{(g(x))^2}$$

With these rules, you can find

$$y = \frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{\cos(x)}{x^2+1}\right)$$

Stay tuned until you take Calculus I to solve using this method.

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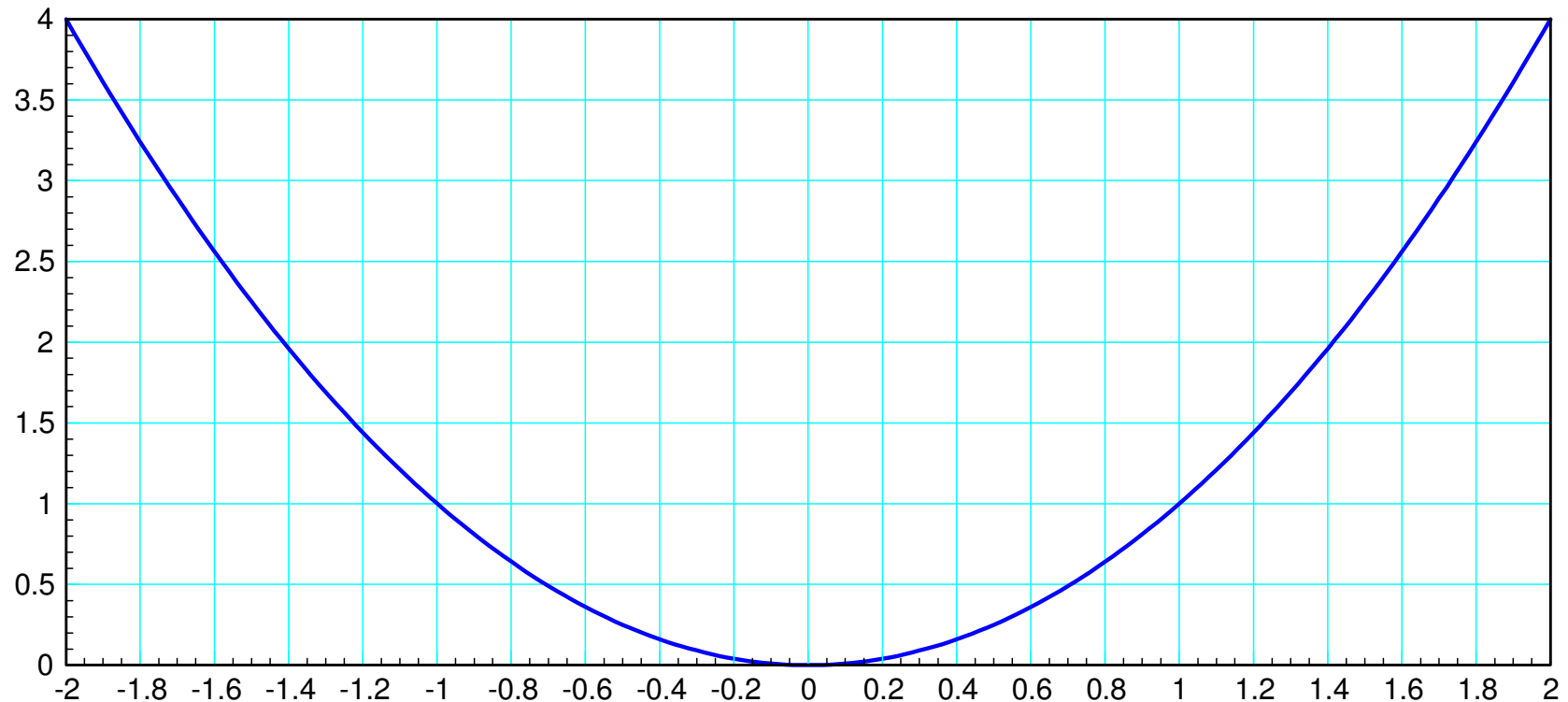


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## Differentiation Method #2: Graphical

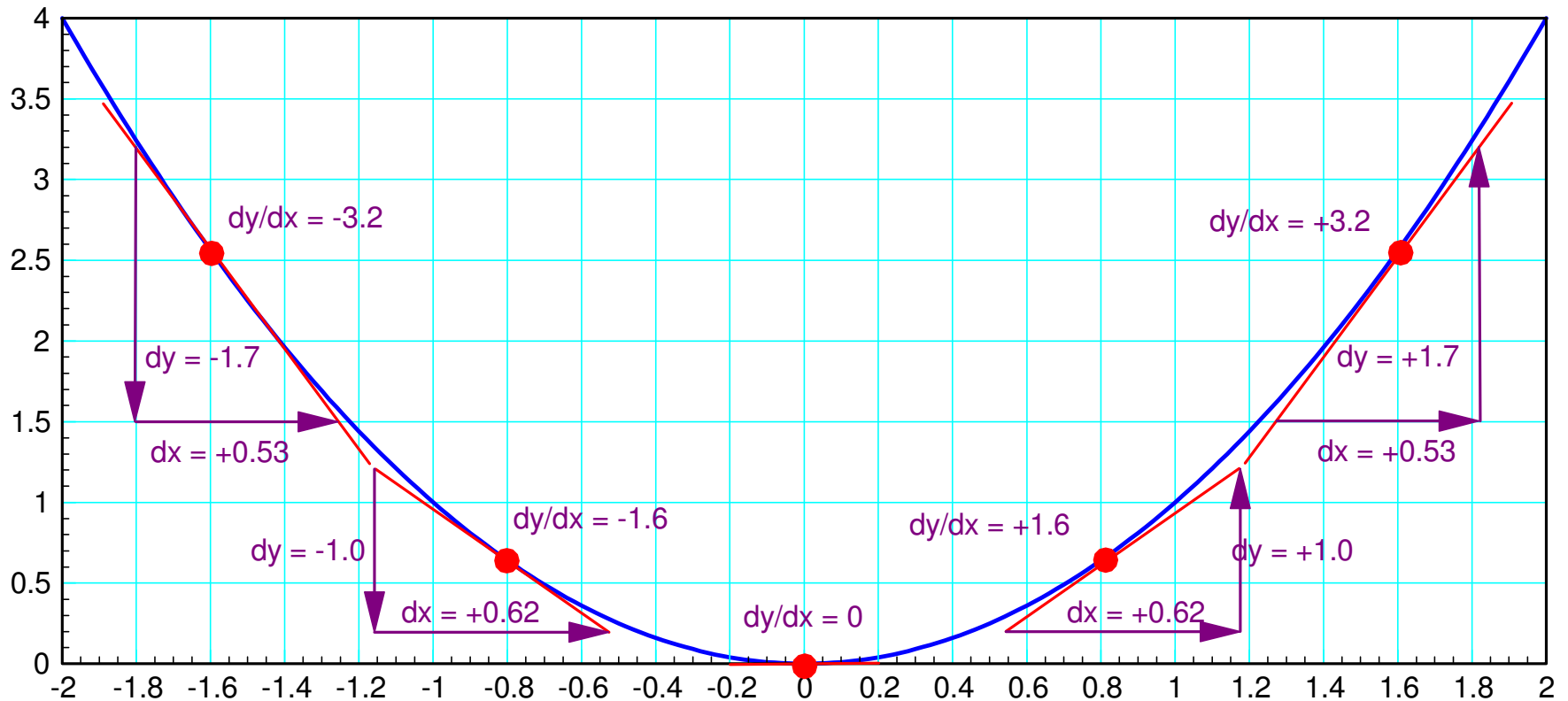
- Draw the tangent at several points
- Determine the slope at each point
- Draw a curve connecting the slopes

Example: Find the derivative of  $y = x^2$



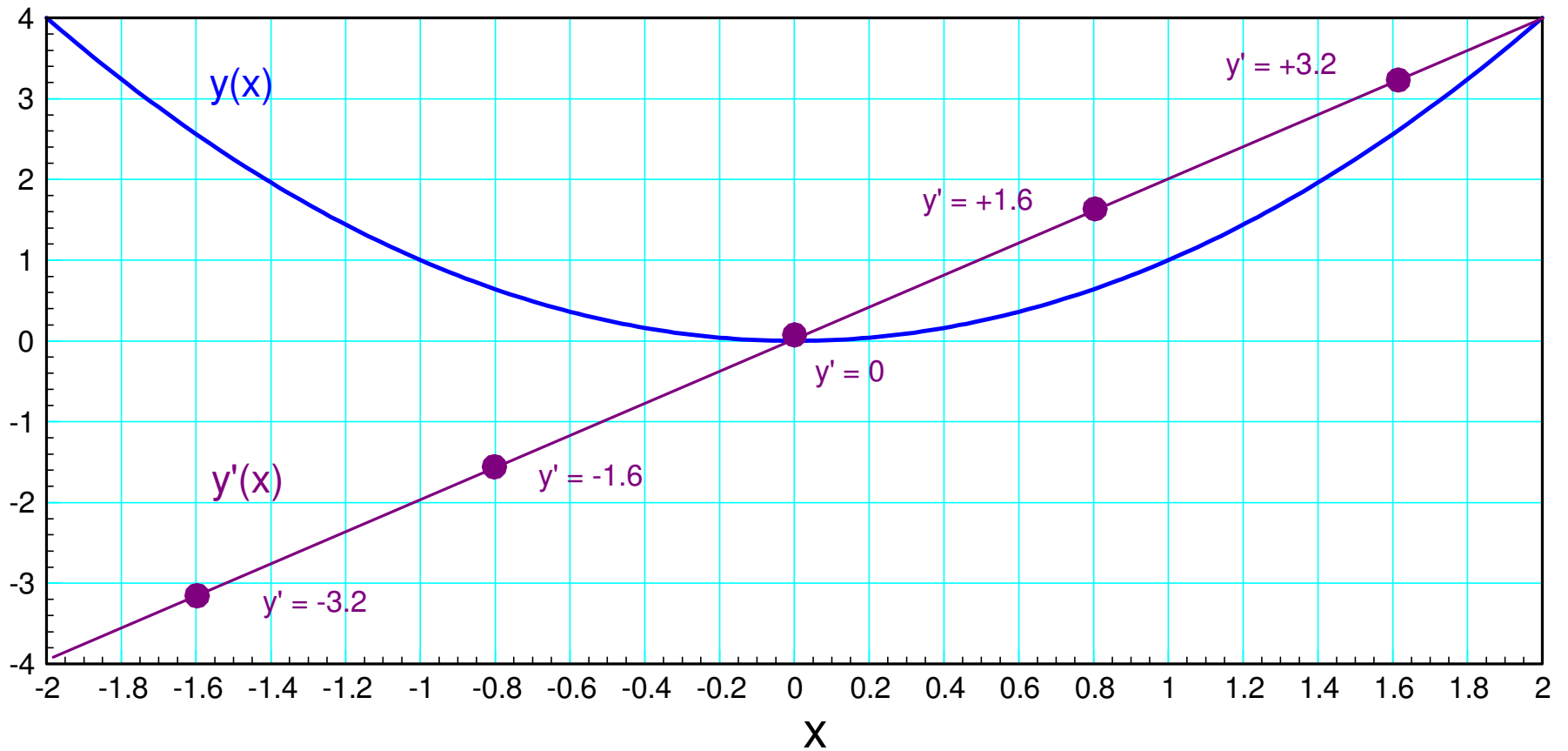
Step 1: Draw the tangent at several points (shown in red)

Step 2: Determine the slope at each point (shown in purple)



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Step 3: Connect the points (shown in purple)



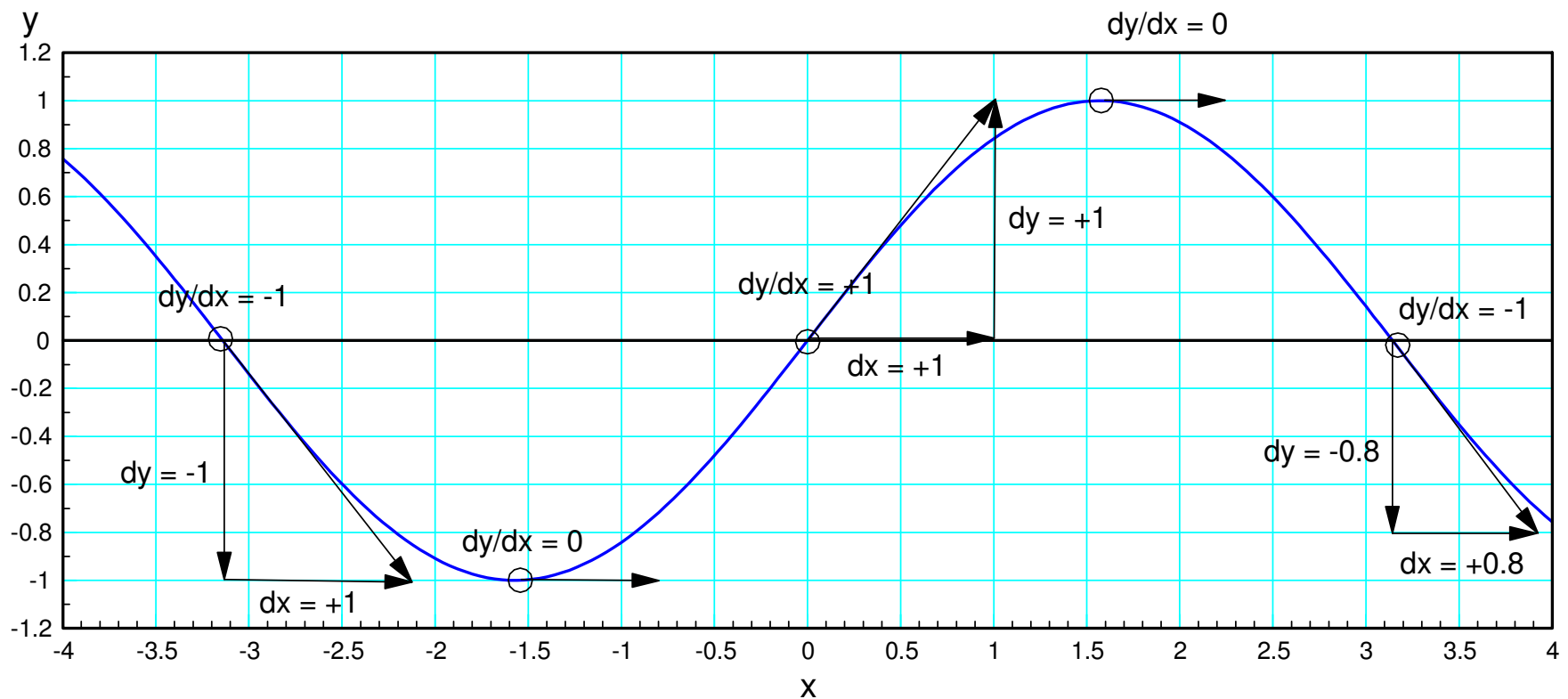
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Example #2: Determine the derivative of a sine wave:

$$y = \sin(x)$$

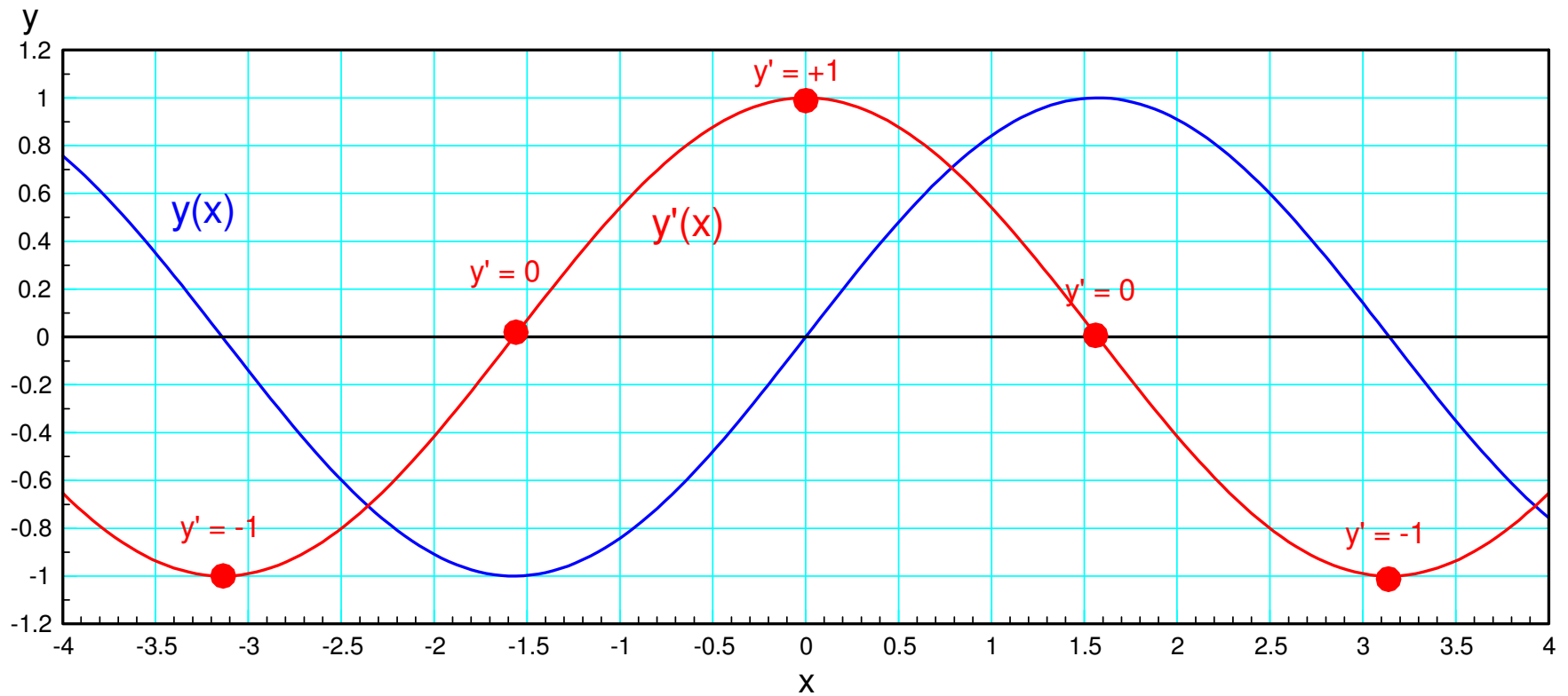
Step 1: Plot  $y$  vs.  $x$  (shown below)

Step 2: Compute the slope at several points



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Step 3: Plot the slopes and connect them with a smooth curve



The result (shown in red) is a cosine function

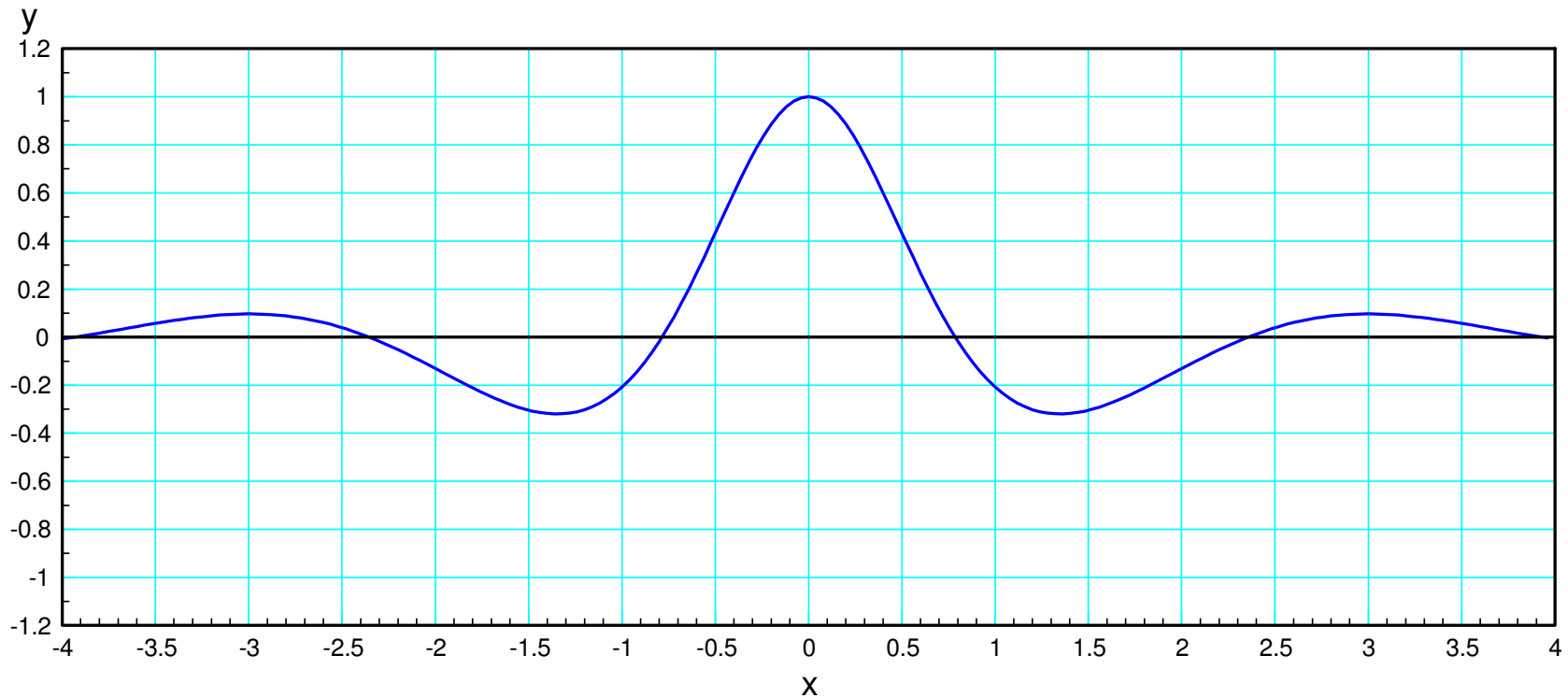
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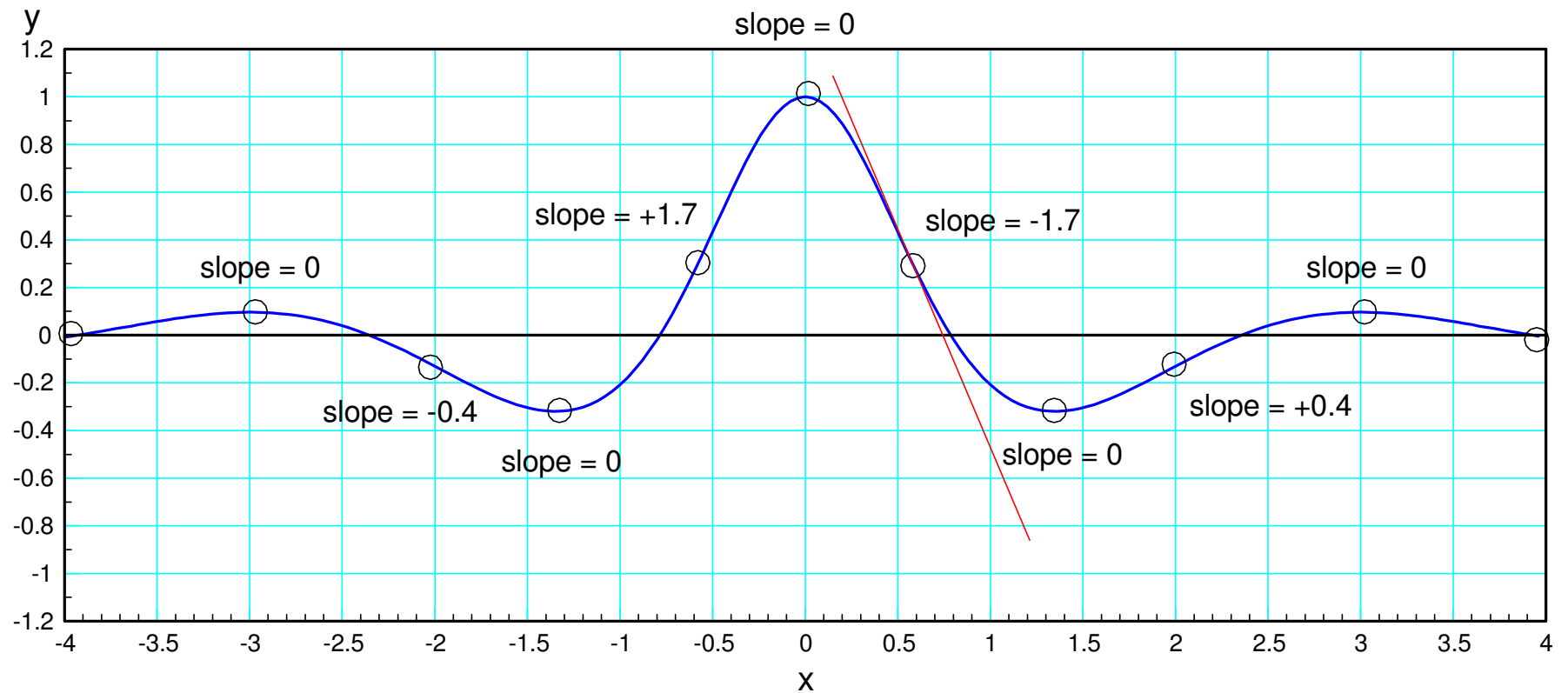
## Graphical Example #3:

- Works for any function

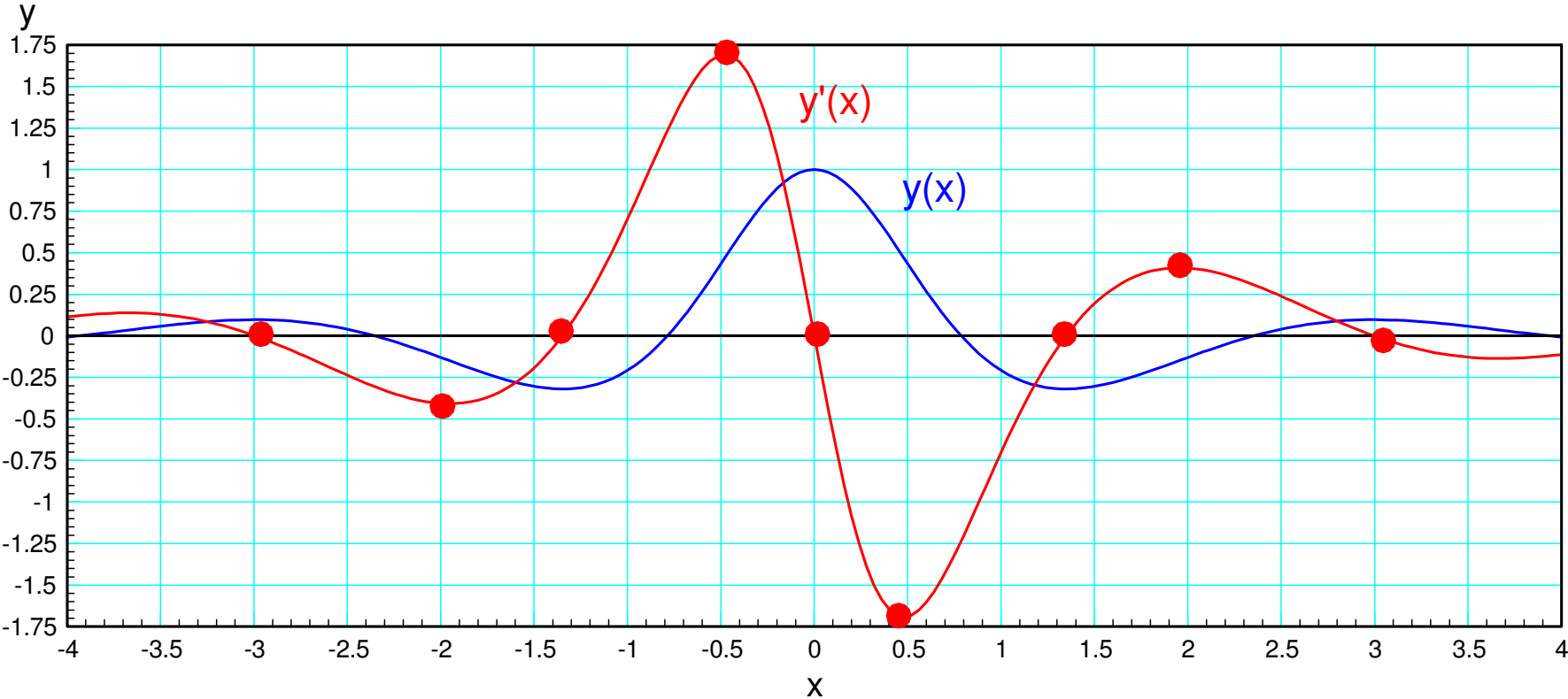
Example:  $y = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{\cos(x)}{x^2+1} \right)$



## Step 1: Compute the slope at several points



Step 2: Plot the derivatives and connect with a smooth curve





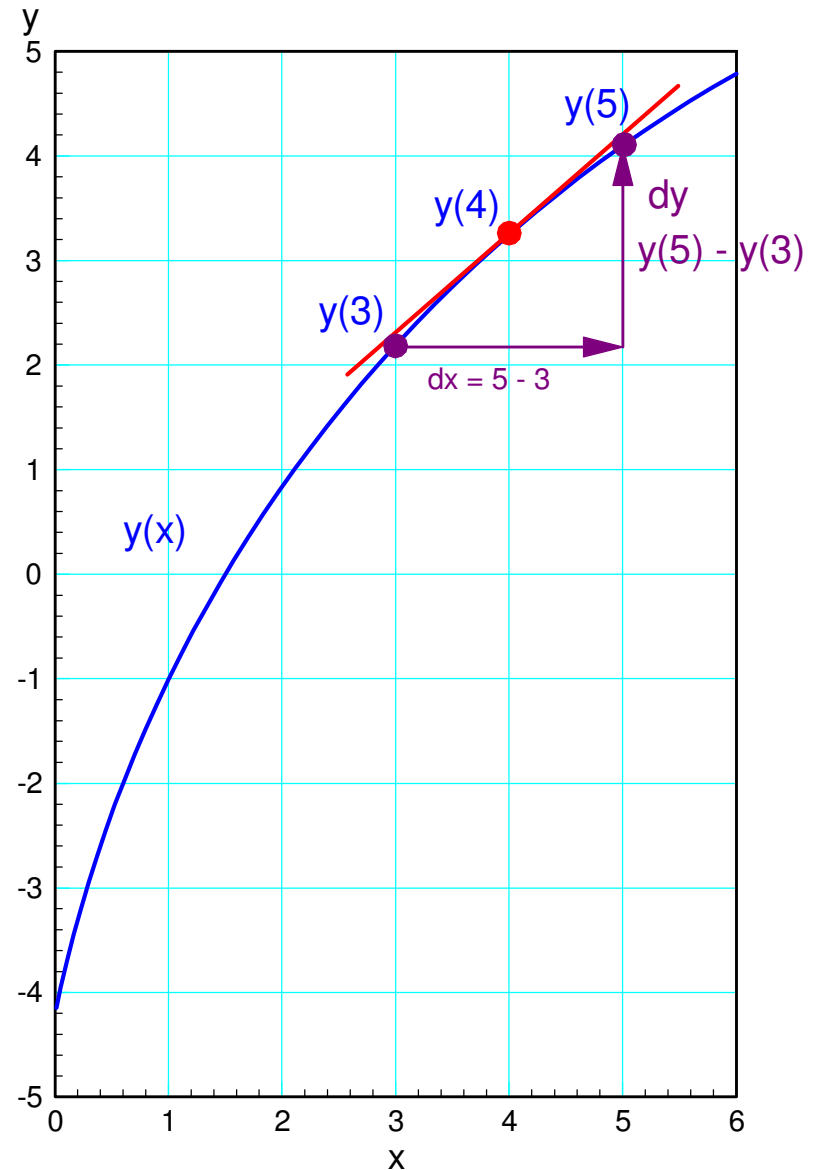
## Differentiation Method #3: Numerical Differentiation.

Repeating, the derivative is

$$\frac{dy}{dx} \equiv \frac{\text{the change in } y}{\text{the change in } x}$$

You can approximate this as

$$\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)_{x=4} \approx \frac{y(5)-y(3)}{x(5)-x(3)}$$



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Repeat a a bunch of points

$$y'(i) \approx \frac{y(i+1)-y(i-1)}{x(i+1)-x(i-1)}$$

Note: Endpoints cause problems

- Can't go beyond the endpoints

Use a slightly different equation for the endpoints

$$y'(1) \approx \frac{y(2)-y(1)}{x(2)-x(1)}$$

$$y'(n) \approx \frac{y(n)-y(n-1)}{x(n)-x(n-1)}$$



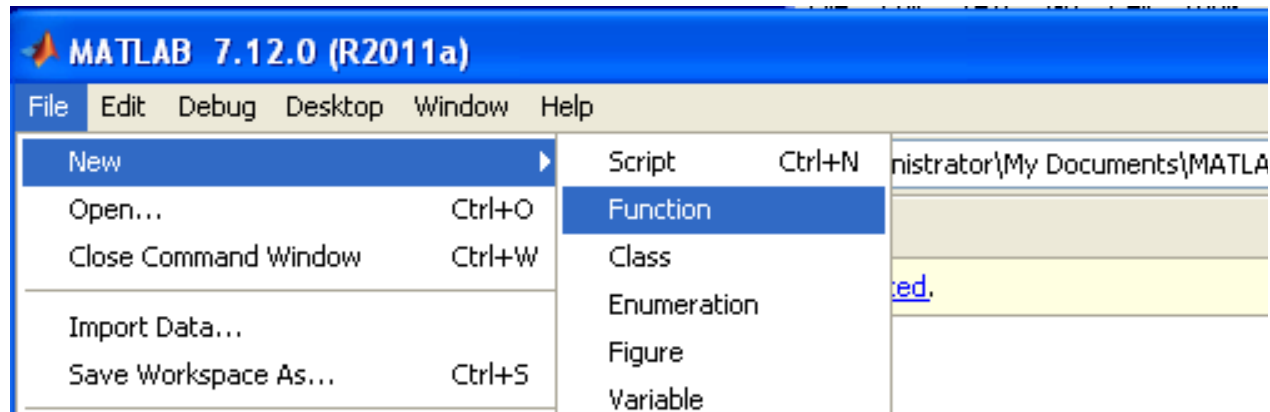
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# Differentiation in Matlab

Create a function

- A Matlab routine you can call
- Similar to  $\cos(x)$  or  $\exp(x)$

In Matlab, click on 'File New Function'



Creating A New Function in Matlab: File New Function

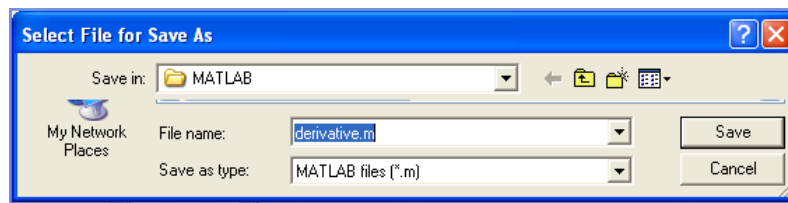
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In the editor window, type in the following:

```
function [dy ] = derivative( x, y )  
  
npt = length(x);  
  
dy = 0*x;  
  
for i=2:npt-1  
    dy(i) = ( y(i+1) - y(i-1) ) / ( x(i+1) - x(i-1) );  
end  
  
dy(1) = (y(2) - y(1)) / ( x(2) - x(1) );  
dy(npt) = (y(npt) - y(npt-1)) / ( x(npt) - x(npt-1));  
  
end
```

Save as 'deravitive.m'



## Check your function

- Always a good idea
- Check against a known answer

From Math 165,

$$\frac{d}{dx}(2 \sin(3t)) = 6 \cos(3t)$$

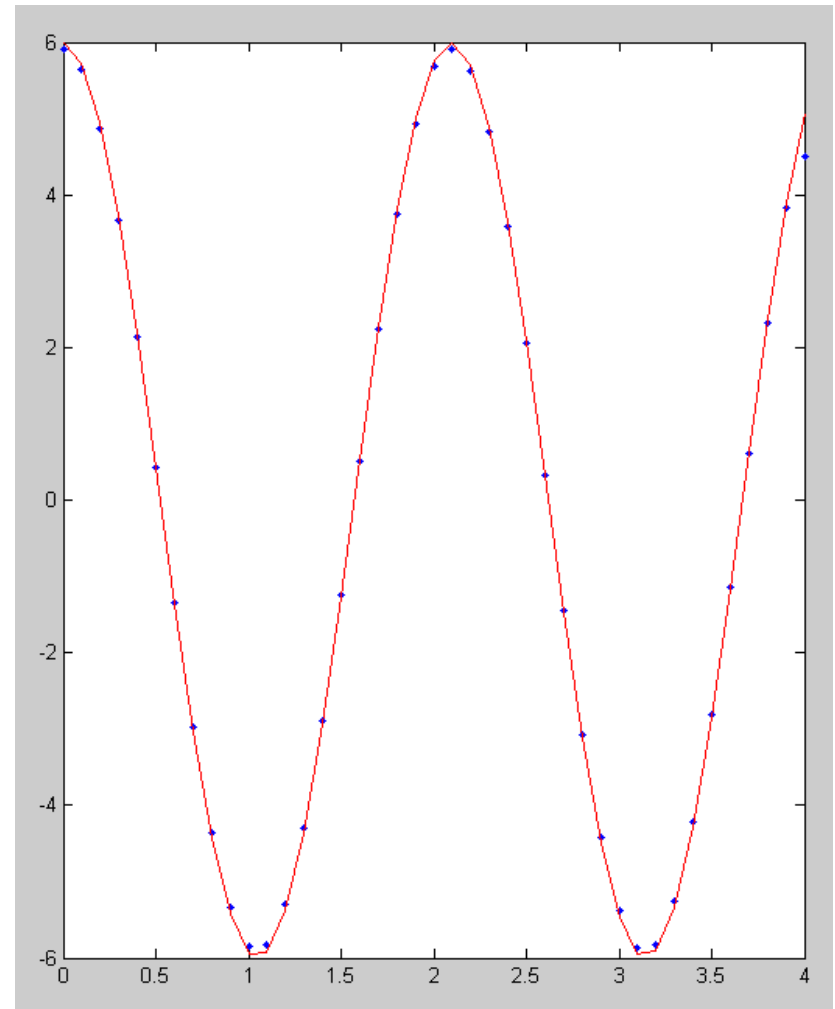
Checking in Matlab:

```
>> x = [0:0.1:4]';  
>> y = 2*sin(3*x);  
>> dy = derivative(x,y);  
>> plot(x,dy,'b.',x,6*cos(3*x));
```

c

The two match up

- The derivative function seems to be working
- The endpoints are a little off (common problem)



## Example 2:

- Numerical solutions work even if you don't know the answer

Find the derivative of

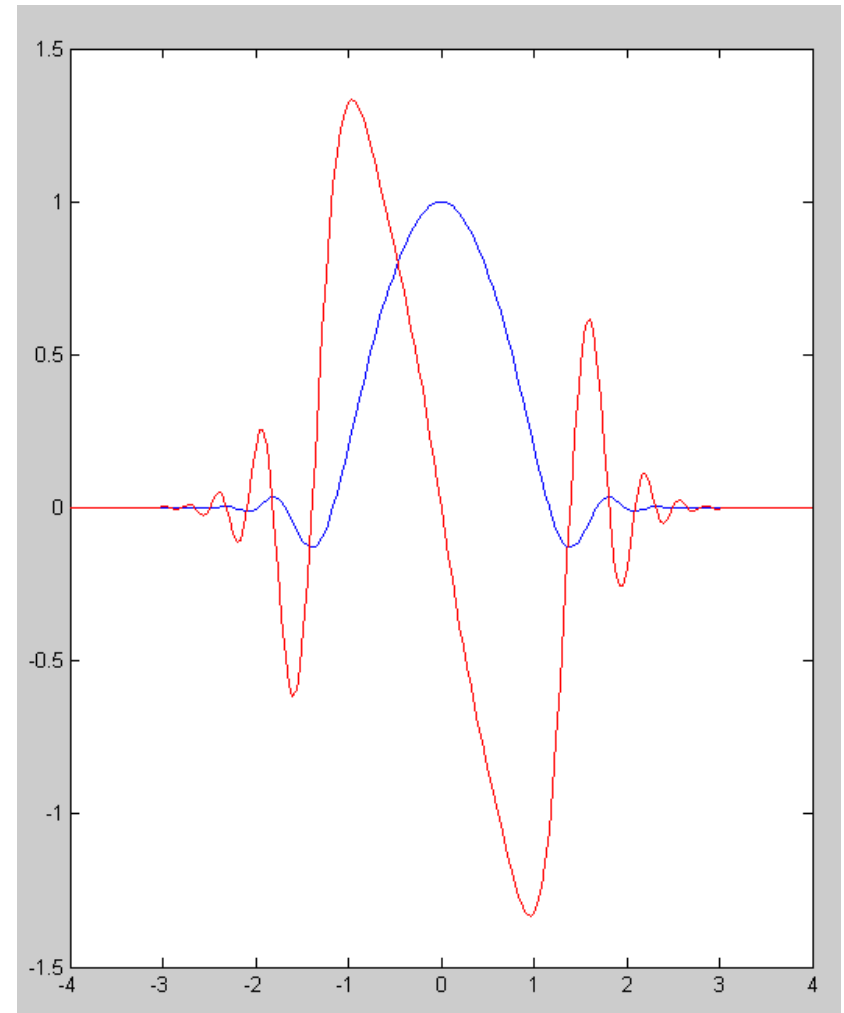
$$y = e^{-x^2} \cdot \cos(x^3)$$

First, input  $y(x)$  into Matlab

```
>> x = [-4:0.04:4]';  
>> y = exp(-x.^2) .* cos(x.^3);  
>> plot(x,y)
```

Now find the derivative:  $dy/dx$

```
>> dy = derivative(x,y);  
>> plot(x,y,'b',x,dy,'r')
```



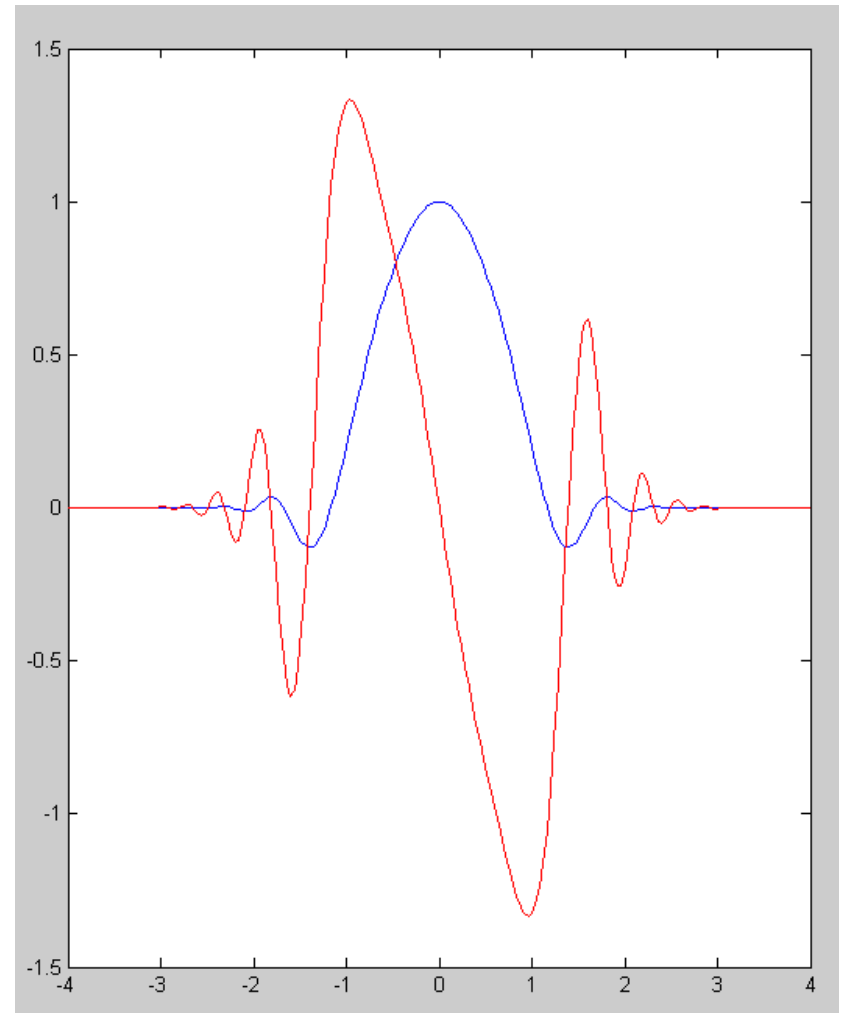
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## Finding local maximums & minimums

$y(x)$  is a max/min when  $y'(x) = 0$

This is how you'll find the max/min of a function in Math 165

- Take the derivative
- Set  $y'(x) = 0$



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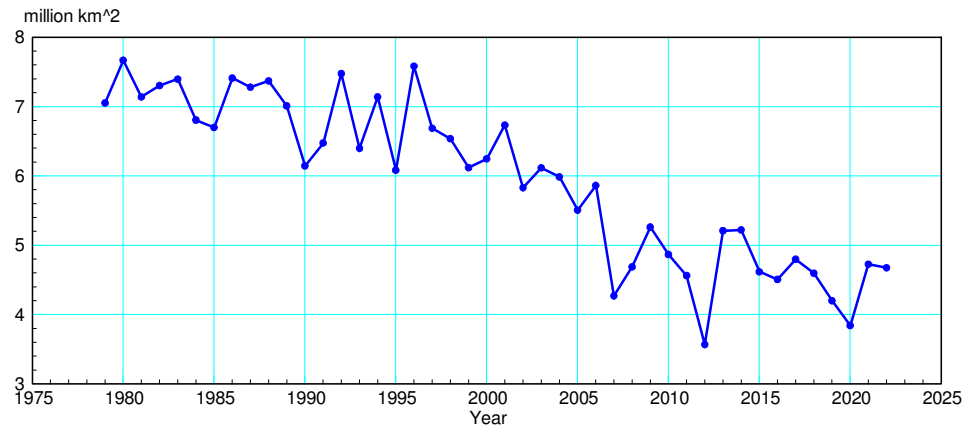
# Differentiation and Noise

Differentiation amplifies noise

- Major problem

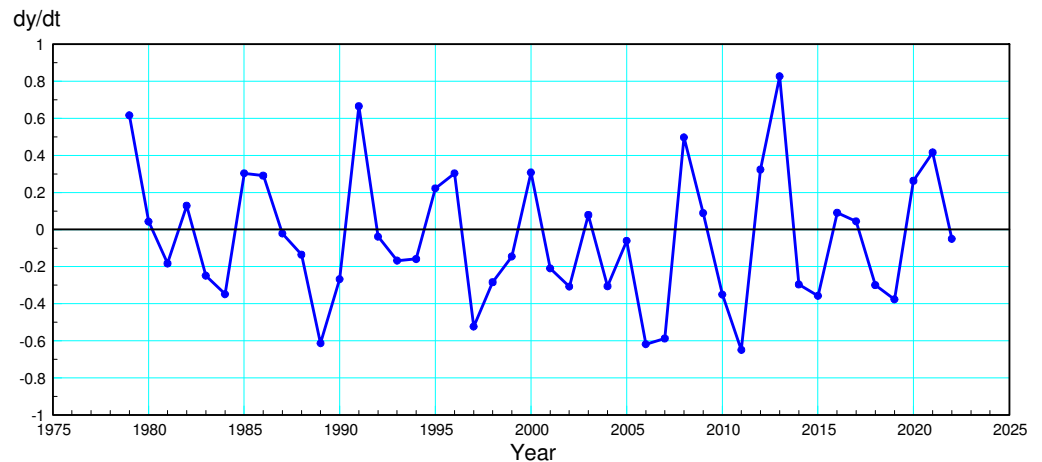
Arctic Sea Ice (top curve)

- Decent data
- Seems like a downward trend



Derivative (bottom curve)

- Lots of noise
- Can't tell what's happening



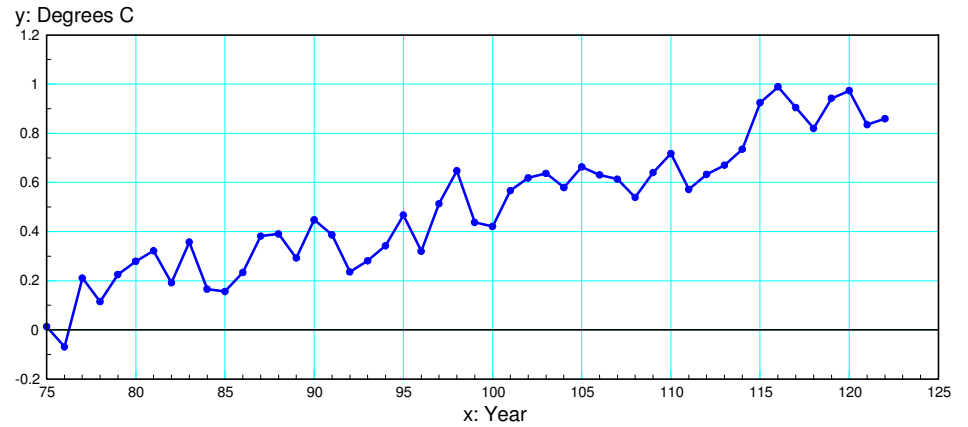


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## Example 2:

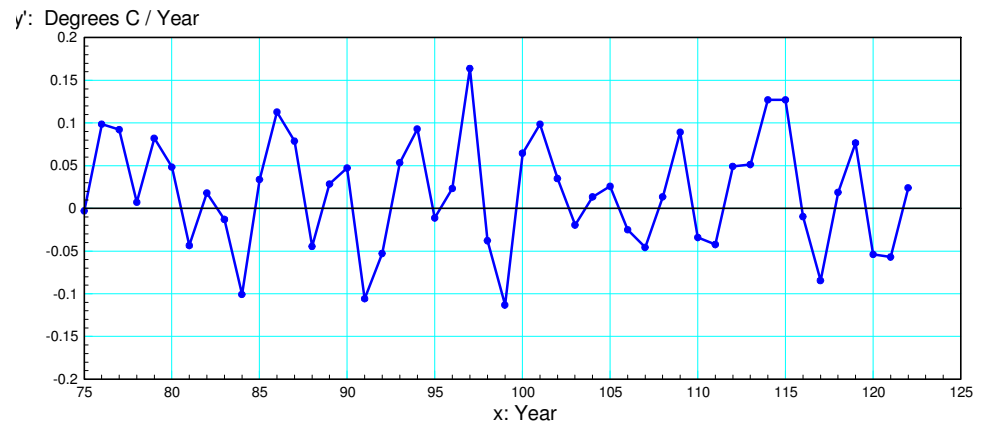
Global Temperatures (top curve)

- Decent data
- Seems to be an upward trend



Derivative (bottom curve)

- Looks like random noise
- Can't see the trend



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# Robotics & Path Planning

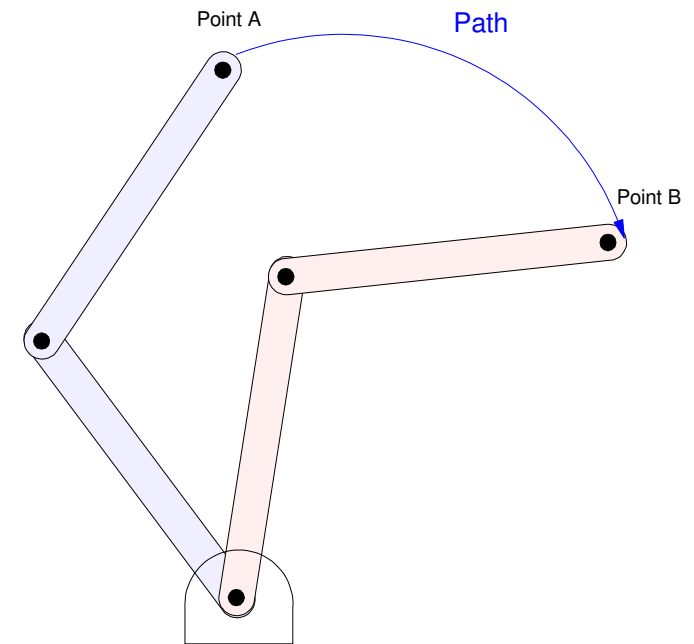
Another application of derivatives.

Problem:

- Find a path from point A to B
- Keep the 1st and 2nd derivatives small

Why?

- $y(x) = \text{Motor angle}$
- 1st derivative: Motor velocity
  - Roughly same as voltage for a DC motor
- 2nd derivative: Motor acceleration
  - Roughly same as current for a DC motor



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## Option 1: Linear Motion.

Assume motor follows the path

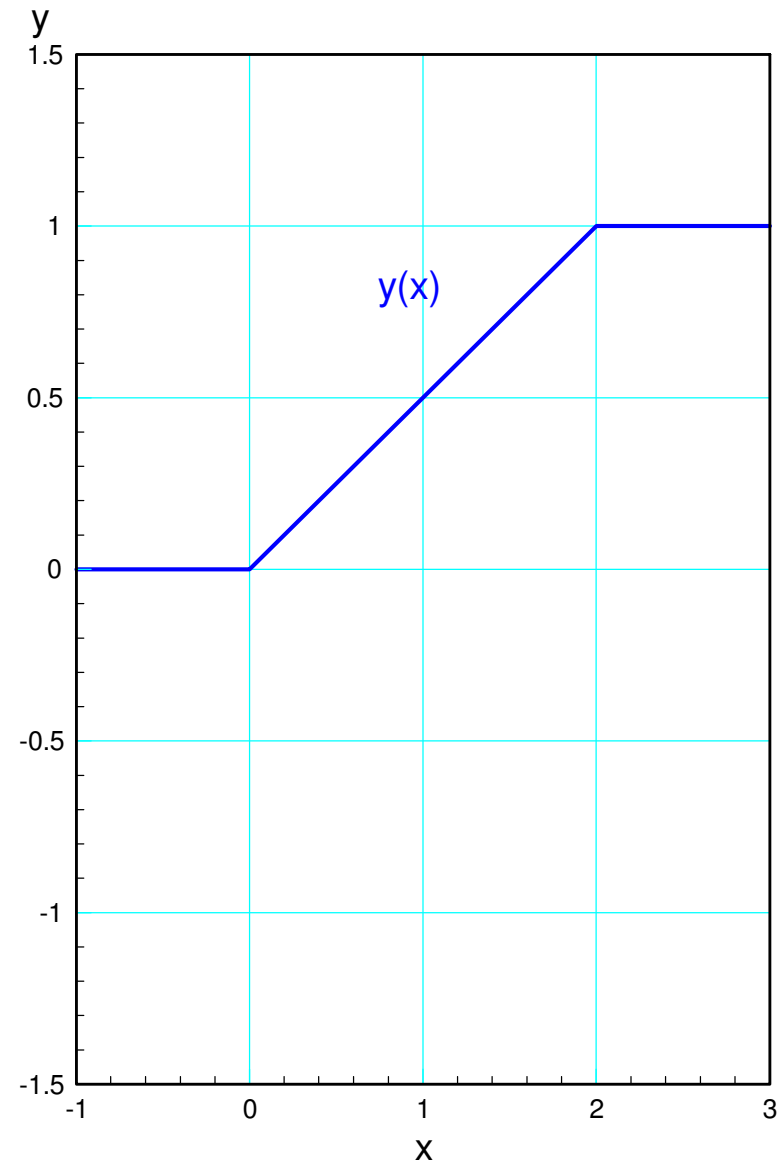
$$y = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ t/2 & 0 < t < 2 \\ 1 & t > 2 \end{cases}$$

Advantage:

- Simple function

Disadvantage:

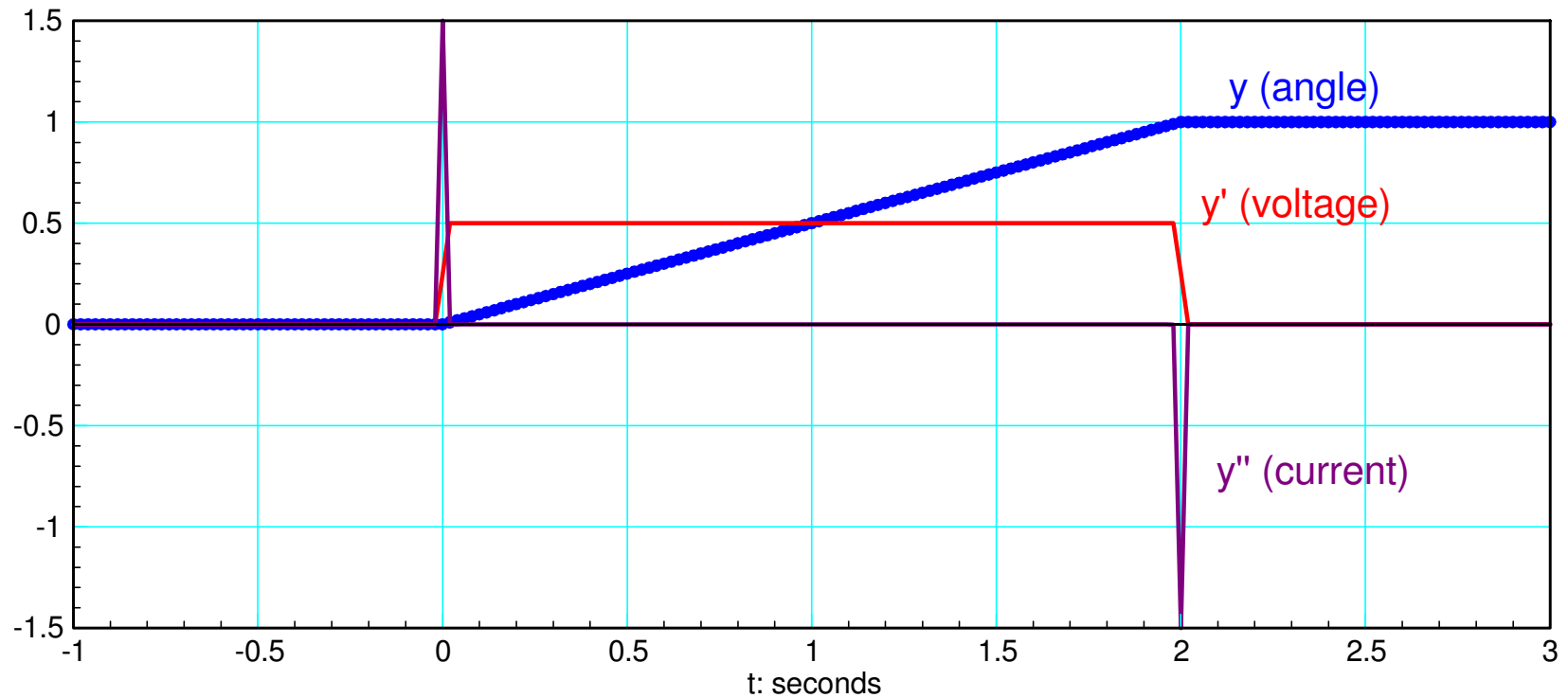
- Jump discontinuity in voltage ( $y'$ )
- Current goes to infinity ( $y''$ )



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## Find the derivatives in Matlab

```
>> t = [-1:0.01:3]' + 1e-6;  
>> y = 0*(t<0) + (t/2) .* (t>0) .* (t<2) + (1)*(t>2);  
>> dy = derivative(t,y);  
>> ddy = derivative(t,dy);  
>> plot(t,y,t,dy,d,ddy)
```



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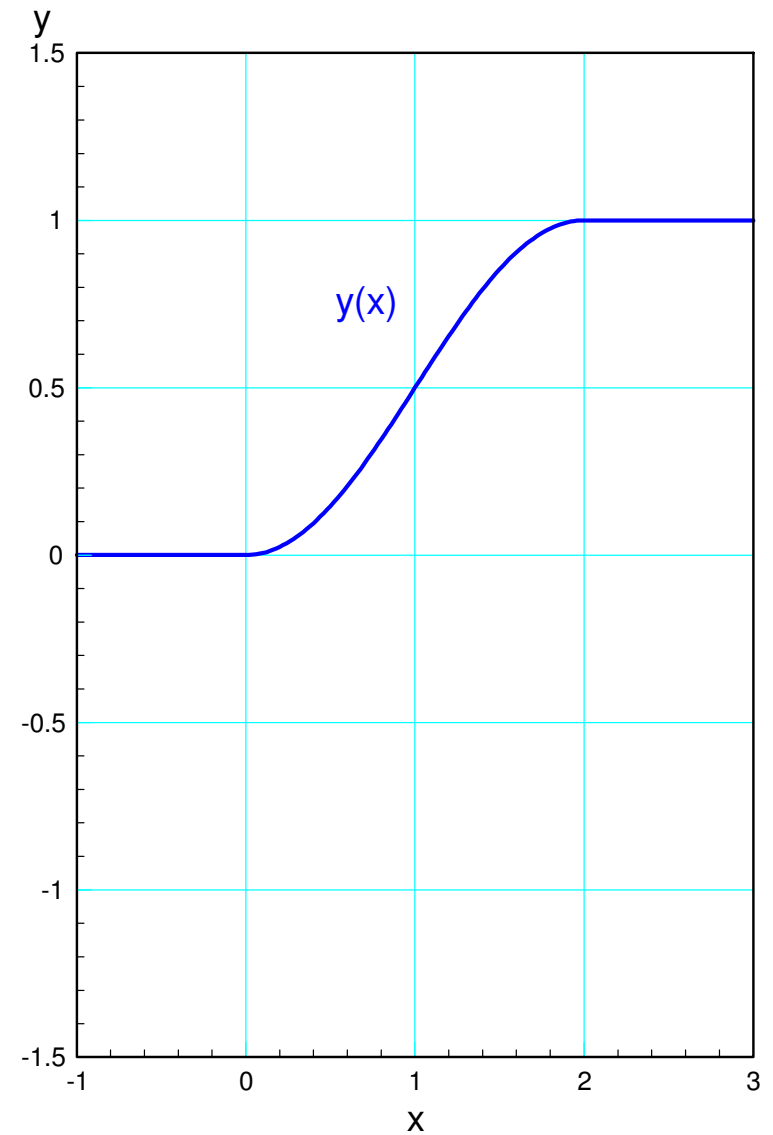
## Option 2: Cosine Motion

Let

$$y = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0 \\ \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \cos\left(\frac{\pi t}{2}\right)\right) & 0 < t < 2 \\ 1 & t > 2 \end{cases}$$

A little more complicated function

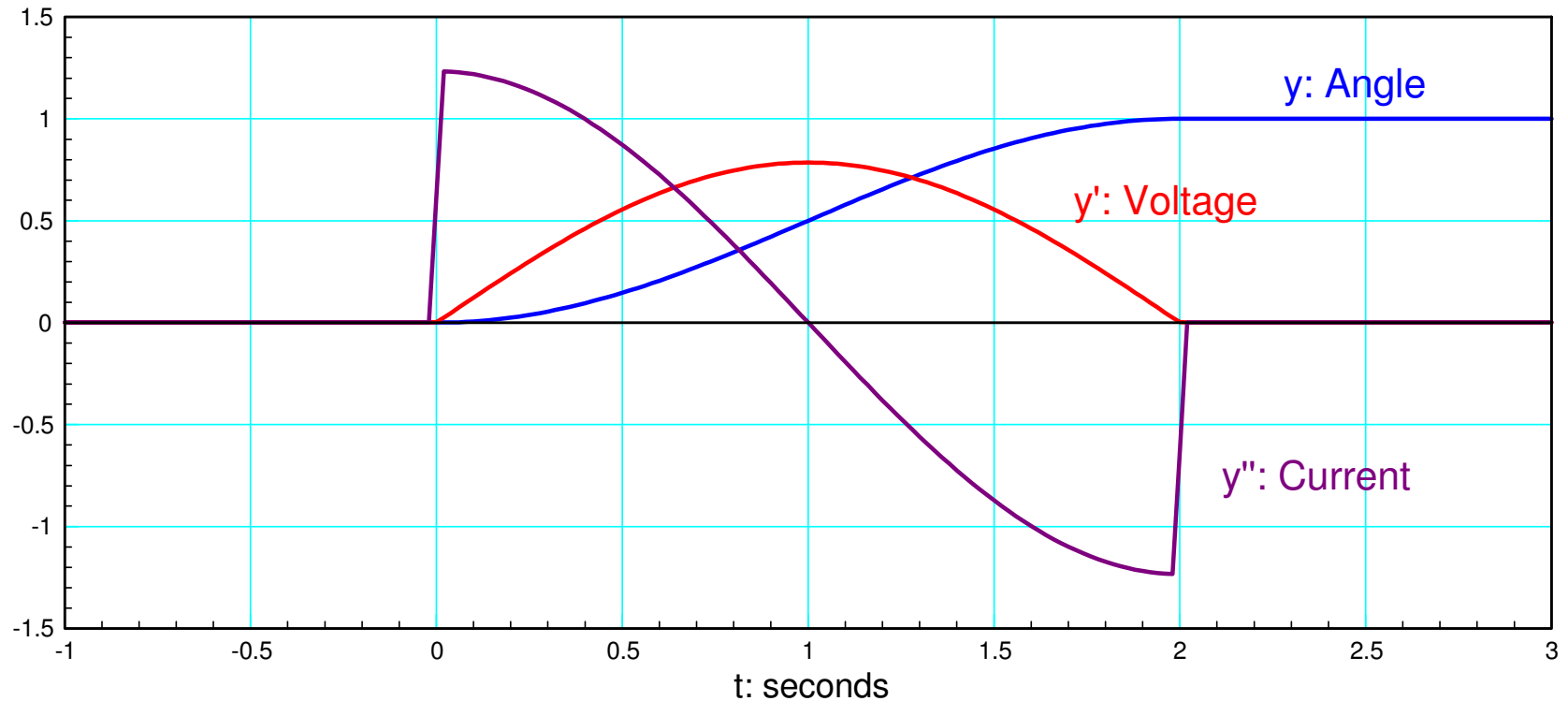
- 1st derivative is finite
- 2nd derivative is finite



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## In Matlab:

```
>> t = [-1:0.01:3]' + 1e-6;  
>> y = 0*(t<0) + ((1-cos(pi*t/2))/2) .* (t>0) .* (t<2) + (1)*(t>2);  
>> dy = derivative(t,y);  
>> ddy = derivative(t,dy);  
>> plot(t,y,t,dy,t,ddy)
```



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Other paths from A to B can be defined

- Keep acceleration constant
- Start and end with zero acceleration
- Cubic function for  $y(x)$
- Other

This is kind of the idea with path planning

- What's the best path for going from point A to point B?
- Derivatives are used to evaluate each path

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## Summary:

Derivatives and differentiation are useful:

- Bank Account
  - Derivative tells you how much money is being deposited or withdrawn
- Arctic Sea Ice
  - How much ice is being added (positive derivative)
  - How much ice is being lost (negative derivative)
- DC Motors
  - Voltage to the motor (1st derivative)
  - Current to the motor (2nd derivative)

Graphical methods work for any function

- The derivative is the slope at any point

Numeric methods work

- If you can get the function into Matlab, you can find the derivative
  - Noise causes problems: differentiation amplifies noise
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