# Slopes of Secant and Tangent Lines

#### Slopes of Secant and Tangent Lines

- Determine slopes and write equations of secant lines for given functions.
- Make basic observations about tangent lines on graphs.
- Language Objectives:
  - Distinguish between secant lines and tangent lines.

#### Secant and Tangent Lines

•What are secant and tangent lines?

#### Equations we will use

• 
$$m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

• 
$$m = \frac{f(x+\Delta x)-f(x)}{\Delta x}$$
 or  $m = \frac{f(x+h)-f(x)}{h}$ 

•  $y = m(x - x_1) + y_1$  or y = mx + b

• Sketch  $y = (x + 3)^2$ 

• Sketch the secant line that connects the points x = -1 and x = -3

• Sketch  $y = (x + 3)^2$ 

• Sketch the secant line that connects the points x = -1and x = -3

• Sketch  $y = (x + 3)^2$ 

• Find the slope of the secant line that connects the points x = -1 and x = -3

#### Equations of Tangent Lines

- To find the slope of a tangent line...
- $y = m(x x_1) + y_1$
- It doesn't matter which point you pick, as long as  $x_1$  and  $y_1$  correspond.
- To get *m*, use the equation:  $m = \frac{y_2 y_1}{x_2 x_1}$

• Sketch  $y = (x + 3)^2$ 

•Write the equation of the secant line that connects the points x = -1 and x = -3

#### Tangent Lines

•What is a tangent line?

• How does it differ from a secant line?

• Sketch  $y = (x + 3)^2$ 

• Sketch the tangent lines that contain the points x = -1, x = -3, and x = -4