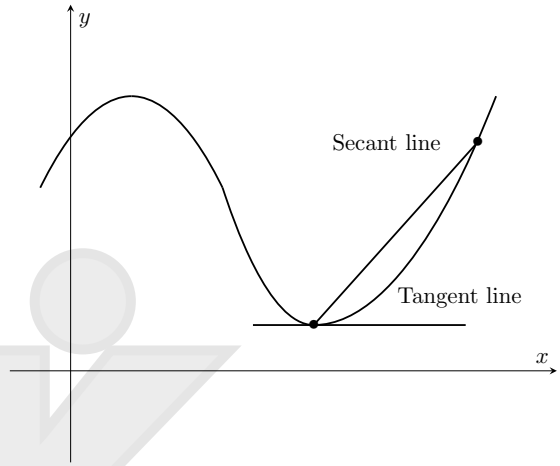
**DIFFERENCE QUOTIENT AS THE SLOPE OF A SECANT/CHORD**:

A secant line connects two points on a polynomial. By using the difference quotient, we can determine the slope of the secant between two points; $(x, f(x))$ and $((x+h), f(x+h))$.

1. Find the difference quotient of the function.
2. Sub in the values for "$x$" and "$h$" , then evaluate.




7.1 WORKED EXAMPLE

Find the slope of the secant connecting $f(3)$ and $f(5)$ on the function $y = x^2$.

7.2 WORKED EXAMPLE

What is the slope of the secant line between the origin and $x = 5$ on the function $y = x^3$?