

MTH1W Grade 9 Mathematics

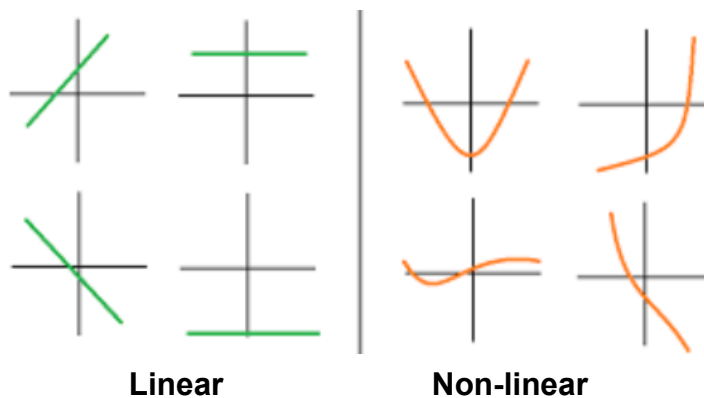
### 3.2 What is a Linear Relation?

- Goal(s)**
- To identify the relationship between two variables as linear
  - To identify a linear relationship from its graph
  - To use first differences to identify a linear relationship
  - To identify the initial value (y-intercept) from a graph

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#### Linear Relation vs. Non-Linear Relation

A linear relation has a **constant rate of change**. When graphed, a linear relationship is a **straight line**.



The **initial value** of a linear relation is the point where the graph crosses the vertical axis (y-axis). At this point value of the independent variable (usually  $x$ ) is 0.

A **table of values** is used to record the coordinates of points in a relation.

The **x-coordinate** (independent variable) is listed on the left of the table beginning with the smallest value.

The **y-coordinate** (dependent variable) is listed to the right of the x-coordinate.

If the table is in rows, then the first row would be the x-coordinates and the second row would be the y-coordinates

x	y
-2	6
-1	9
0	12
1	15

**Can we determine if a relationship is linear from its table of values?**

<u>x</u>	<u>y</u>	<u>x</u>	<u>y</u>
-3	9	-3	-9
-2	4	-2	-5
-1	1	-1	-1
0	0	0	3
1	1	1	7
2	4	2	11
3	9	3	15

Yes, we can. We need to look at something called the first differences.

**First differences** are the differences between consecutive y-values in tables of values with evenly spaced x-values.

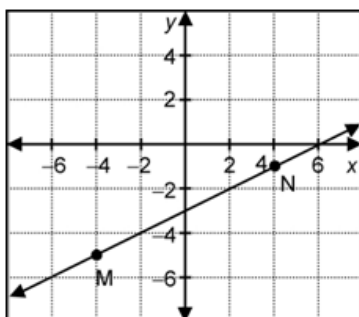
To determine the first differences of an equation, subtract consecutive y-values.

x	y	1st Differences
0	4	
1	7	$7 - 4 = 3$
2	10	$10 - 7 = 3$
3	13	$13 - 10 = 3$
4	16	$16 - 13 = 3$

$1^{st}$  differences are the same  
 $\Rightarrow$  linear relation

If the first differences of a relation are **constant**, the relation is **linear**.

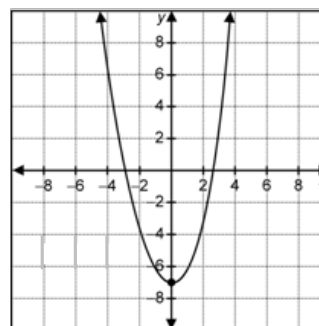
x	y	1 <sup>st</sup> Diff.
-2	-4	
-1	-3.5	$-3.5 - (-4) = 0.5$
0	-3	$-3 - (-3.5) = 0.5$
1	-2.5	$-2.5 - (-3) = 0.5$



Straight line  
graph  $\rightarrow$  linear

If the first differences of a relation are **not constant**, the relation is **non-linear**.

x	y	1 <sup>st</sup> Diff.
-1	-6	
0	-7	$-7 - (-6) = -1$
1	-6	$-6 - (-7) = 1$
2	-3	$-3 - (-6) = 3$



Curved line  
graph  $\rightarrow$  non-linear

Complete the table of values.  
 Is this relationship linear?  
 What would the initial value be?  
 How many squares would be in the 12<sup>th</sup> figure?

Figure #	# of Squares
1	8
2	13
3	18
4	23
5	28
6	33

12<sup>th</sup> figure  
 $= 12 \times 5 + 3$   
 ↑                      ↑  
 1<sup>st</sup> diff              initial value

**Yes, the relationship is linear**

Initial value would be 3. This is because we are looking for the number of squares when  $n=0$ . Counting back 5 from 8 gives 3.

The **cost** of a taxi ride is **\$5.00** plus **\$0.75** for every kilometre travelled.

Is the relationship between the distance travelled and the total cost linear or non-linear?

Complete the table of values.

Distance	Cost
0	5
3	7.25
6	9.5
9	11.75
12	14

Determine the total cost of **25km** ride.

Determine the distance travelled if the total cost is **\$19.25**.

**Linear, because cost per km is the same**

$25\text{km} \Rightarrow 25 \times 0.75 + 5$   
 $= 18.75 + 5$   
 $= \$23.75$

$\$19.25 \Rightarrow (19.25 - 5) \div 0.75$   
 $= 14.25 \div 0.75$  Do the reverse process  
 $= 19\text{km}$