

## (5) Functions

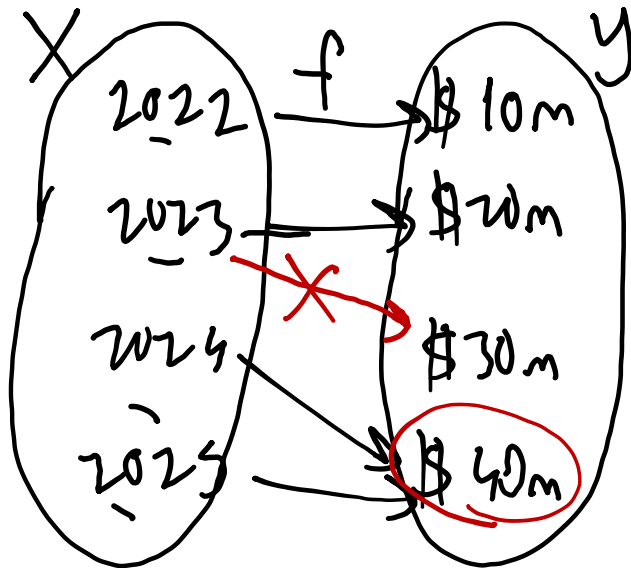
- A **function** relates a variable  $x$  (the *independent variable*) to another variable  $y$  (the *dependent variable*);  $f(x) = y$ , means  $f$  maps value  $x$  to value  $y$ .



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- For example, let  $f$  map the net profit of a firm over the recent years. Here,  $x$  is the year and  $y = f(x)$  is the net profit of the firm in that year.
- The possible values  $x$  can take is called the *domain* and the possible values  $y$  can take is called the *range* of the function  $f$ .



$$f(2022) = \$10m$$

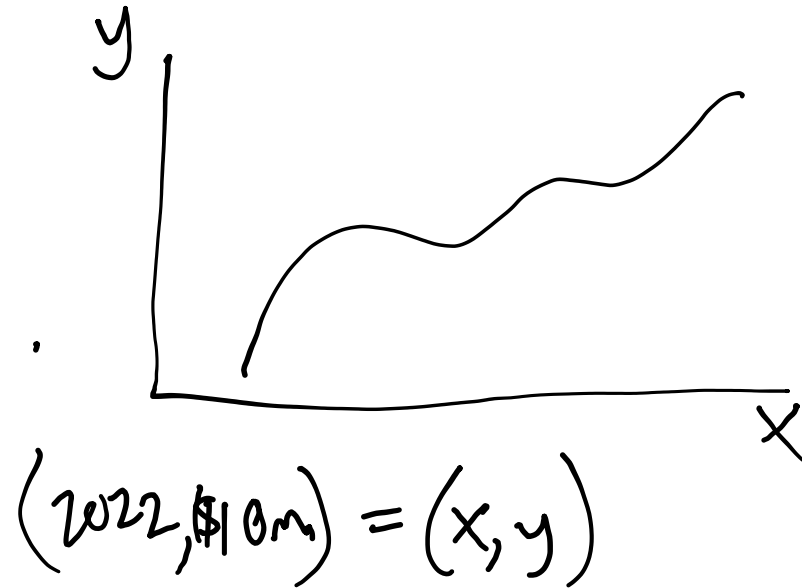
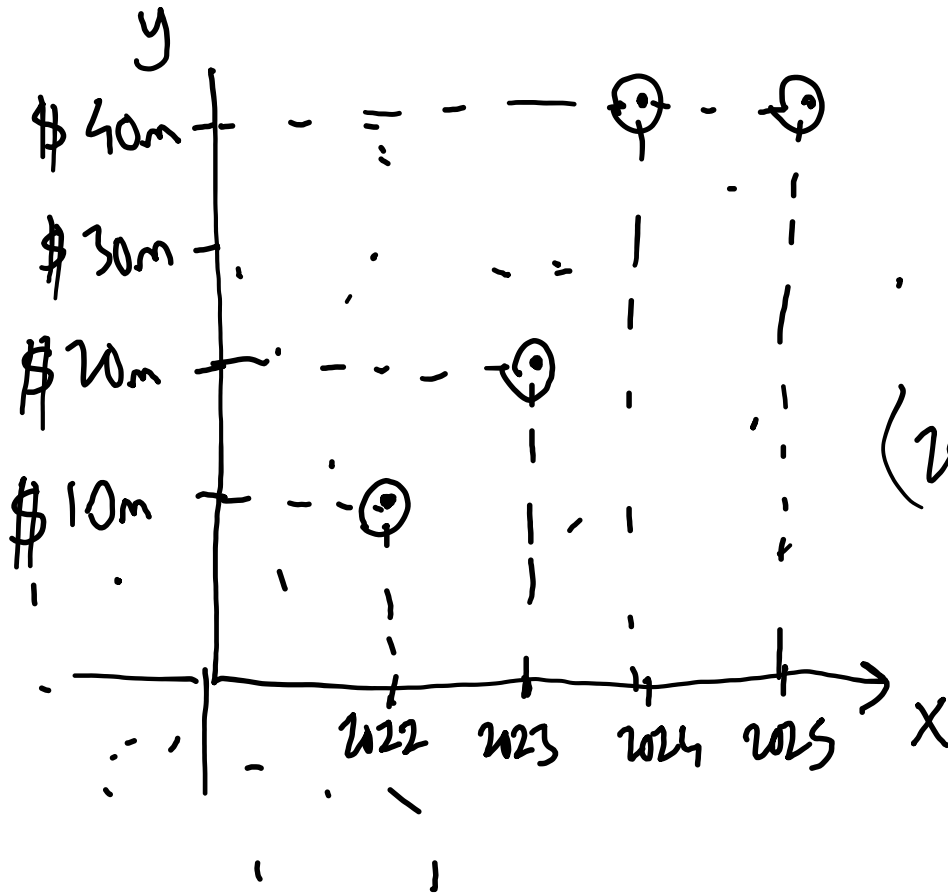
$$f(2025) = \$40m$$



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## (5) Functions

- A graph of the function  $f$  is the set of all points  $(x,y)$  on the Cartesian plane that satisfy  $y = f(x)$



$$f(x) = y$$
$$f(2022) = \$10m$$



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## (5) Linear Functions

- $f$  is a *linear function* if it is of the form  $f(x) = y = ax + b$  where  $a, b$  are given real numbers.

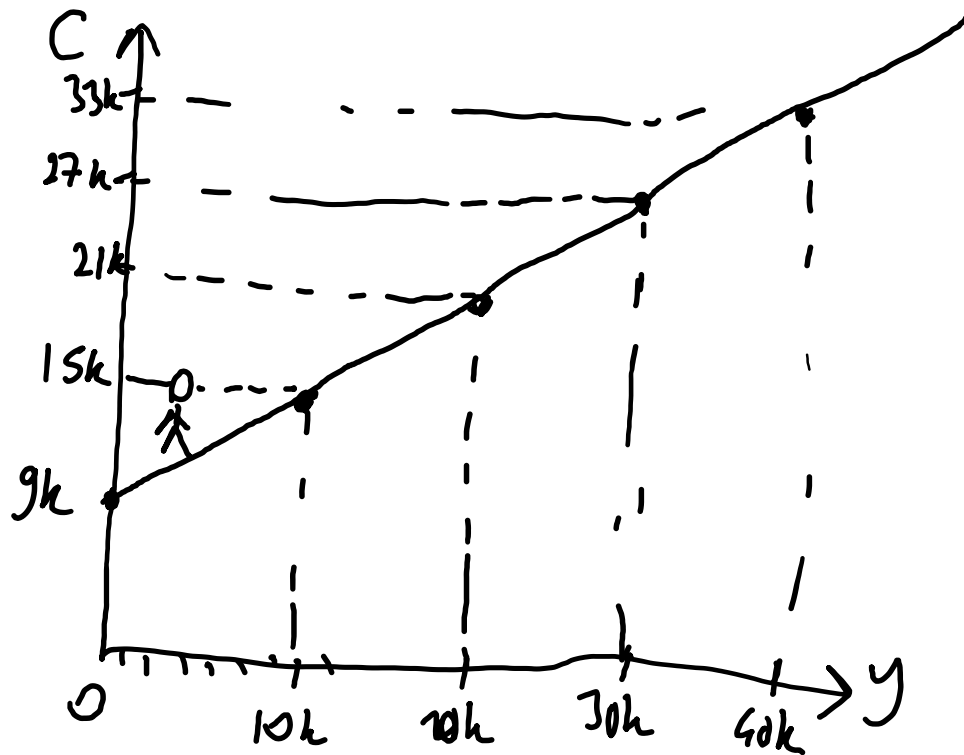
$$y = 3x - 7$$



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## (5) Linear Functions

- $f$  is a *linear function* if it is of the form  $\mathbf{f(x) = y = ax + b}$  where  $\mathbf{a}$ ,  $\mathbf{b}$  are given real numbers.
- **Example:**  $f(Y) = \overset{\text{20k}}{\boxed{0.6Y + 9,000}} = \overset{\text{30k}}{\boxed{C}}$  where  $Y$  is the average income and  $C$  is the average consumption of a household, both expressed in dollars.

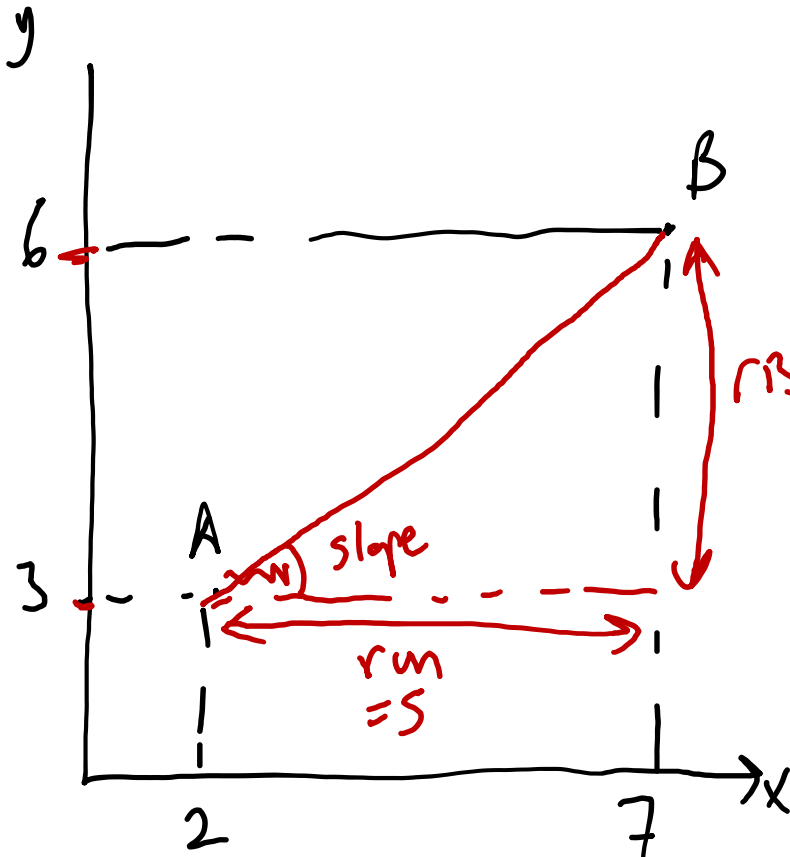


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## (5) Slope

- The **slope** between two points  $A = (x_1, y_1)$  and  $B = (x_2, y_2)$  is

$$\text{Slope}_{AB} = \frac{\text{vertical rise}}{\text{horizontal run}} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$



$$\text{slope}_{AB} = \frac{\text{rise}}{\text{run}} = \frac{6-3}{7-2} = \frac{3}{5} = \underline{\underline{0.6}}$$



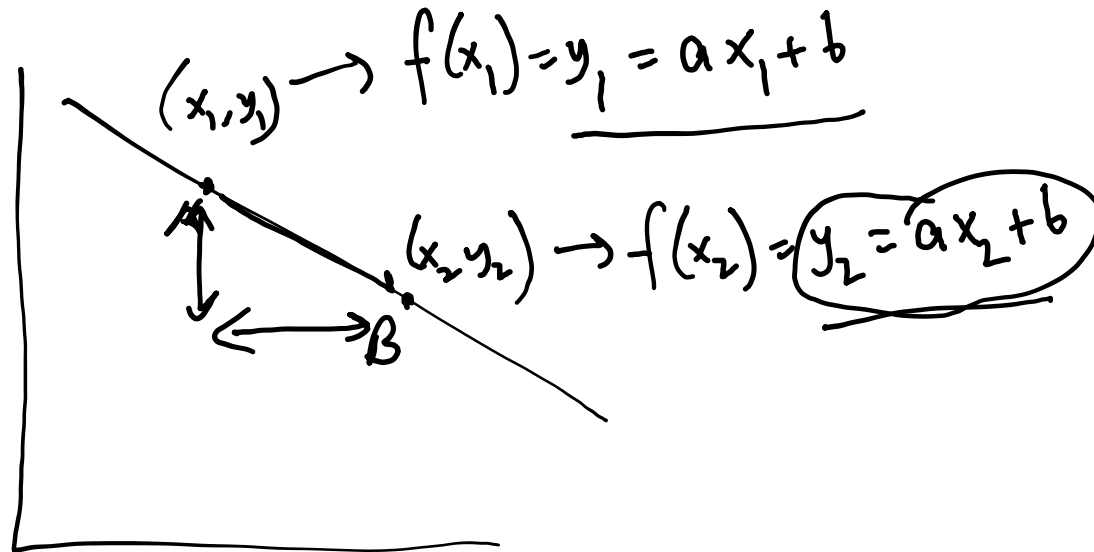
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## (5) Slope on a Linear Function Graph

- If **A**, **B** lie on the linear function's graph  $f(x) = y = ax + b$ , substituting

$$\text{Slope}_{AB} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{ax_2 + b - (ax_1 + b)}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{a(x_2 - x_1)}{x_2 - x_1} = a$$

- Indeed, the slope between any two points on the linear function is equal to **a** !



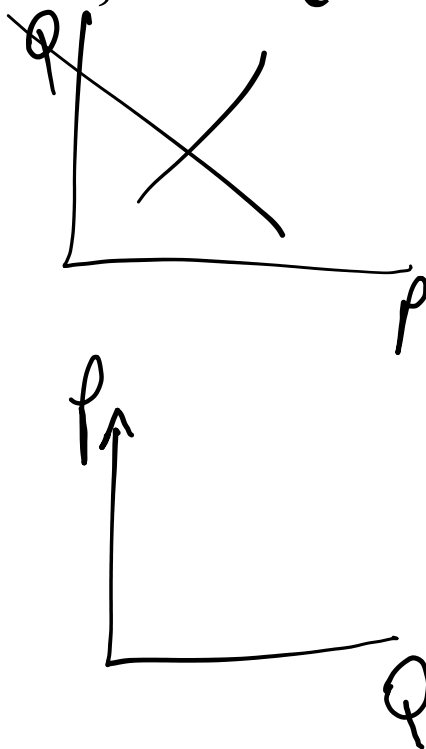
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## (5) Linear functions: Example

- Demand function:  $f(p) = Q = 120 - 2p$  where  $p$  is the *market price* and  $Q$  is the *demanded quantity*.
- For example, if  $p = 20$  dollars, then  $Q = 120 - 2p = 120 - 2 \cdot 20 = 80$

$$Q = 120 - 2p$$
$$2p = 120 - Q$$
$$p = 60 - \frac{Q}{2}$$

↓  
Inverse demand



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## (5) Linear functions

- $y = ax + b$  and  $ax + by + c = 0$  are common “formats” for linear functions;
- Example:  $y = 3x + 2$  can also be written as  $3x - y + 2 = 0$   
 $2x + 5y + 8 = 0$  can be written as  $5y = -2x - 8 \rightarrow y = -\frac{2}{5}x - \frac{8}{5}$



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## (5) Linear functions

- In  $\boxed{ax + by + c = 0}$  format, the slope of the line is,
- $\underbrace{by}_b = \underbrace{-ax - c}_b \rightarrow y = \underbrace{-\frac{a}{b}}_{\text{slope}} x - \frac{c}{b}$  hence its slope is  $-\frac{a}{b}$

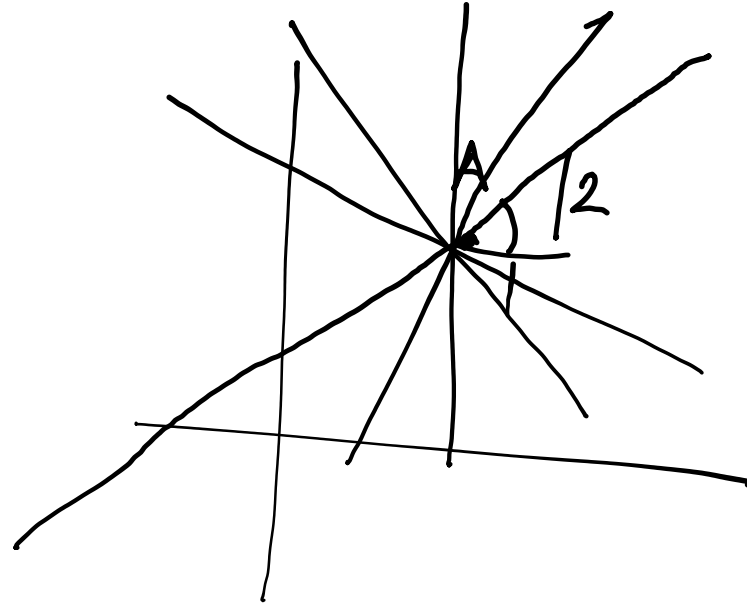
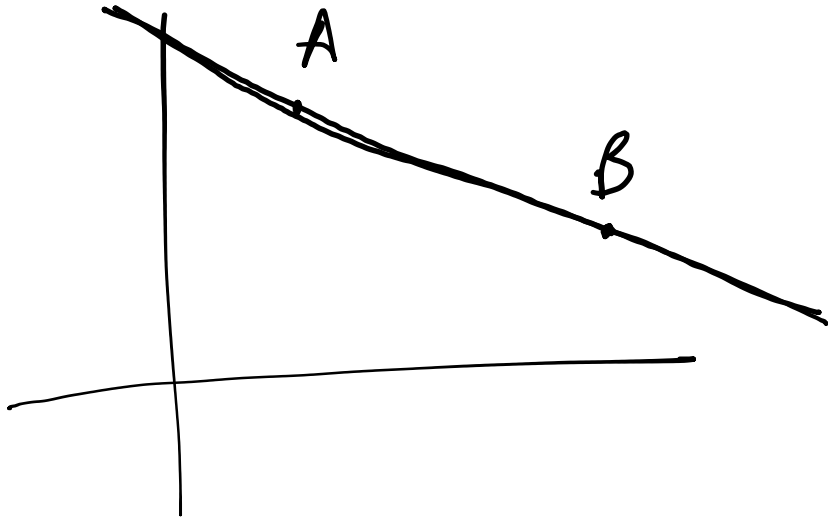
$$\frac{x}{k} + \frac{y}{l} = m$$



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## (5) Fitting a Linear function

- There is a unique line that passes through two points.
- There is a unique line passing through a point with a given slope.



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## (5) Finding the Linear function passing through two given points

- If the line passes through two given points  $A(x_1, y_1)$  and  $B(x_2, y_2)$

- $\underline{a} = \text{slope} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$ , hence  $y = ax + b = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}x + b$

$$y = ax + b$$



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- and plugging in the line equation one of the points, say  $A$

- $y_1 = ax_1 + b = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}x_1 + b$  hence you can also solve for  $b$ ;

- $b = y_1 - \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}x_1$

$A(2, 3)$   $B(0, -5)$

$$a = \text{slope}_{AB} = \frac{-5 - 3}{0 - 2} = \frac{-8}{-2} = 4$$

$$y = ax + b$$
$$-5 = 4 \cdot 0 + b$$
$$-5 = b$$

$$y = 4x - 5$$



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## (5) Finding the Linear function given its slope and a point on it

- If the line has a given slope  $a$  and passes through  $A(x_1, y_1)$
- $y = \textcircled{a}x + \textcircled{b}$  as the slope is the coefficient in front of  $x$ .
- As point  $A$  is on the line,  $\textcircled{y_1} = \textcircled{a}\textcircled{x_1} + \textcircled{b}$  hence you can also solve for  $b$ ;  
 $\boxed{b} = y_1 - ax_1$

line that has slope  $-3$  and passes through

$\textcircled{1}, \textcircled{-4}$

$$\begin{aligned}y &= -3x + \textcircled{b} \\ -4 &= -3(1) + b \\ -4 &= -3 + b \\ -1 &= b\end{aligned}$$

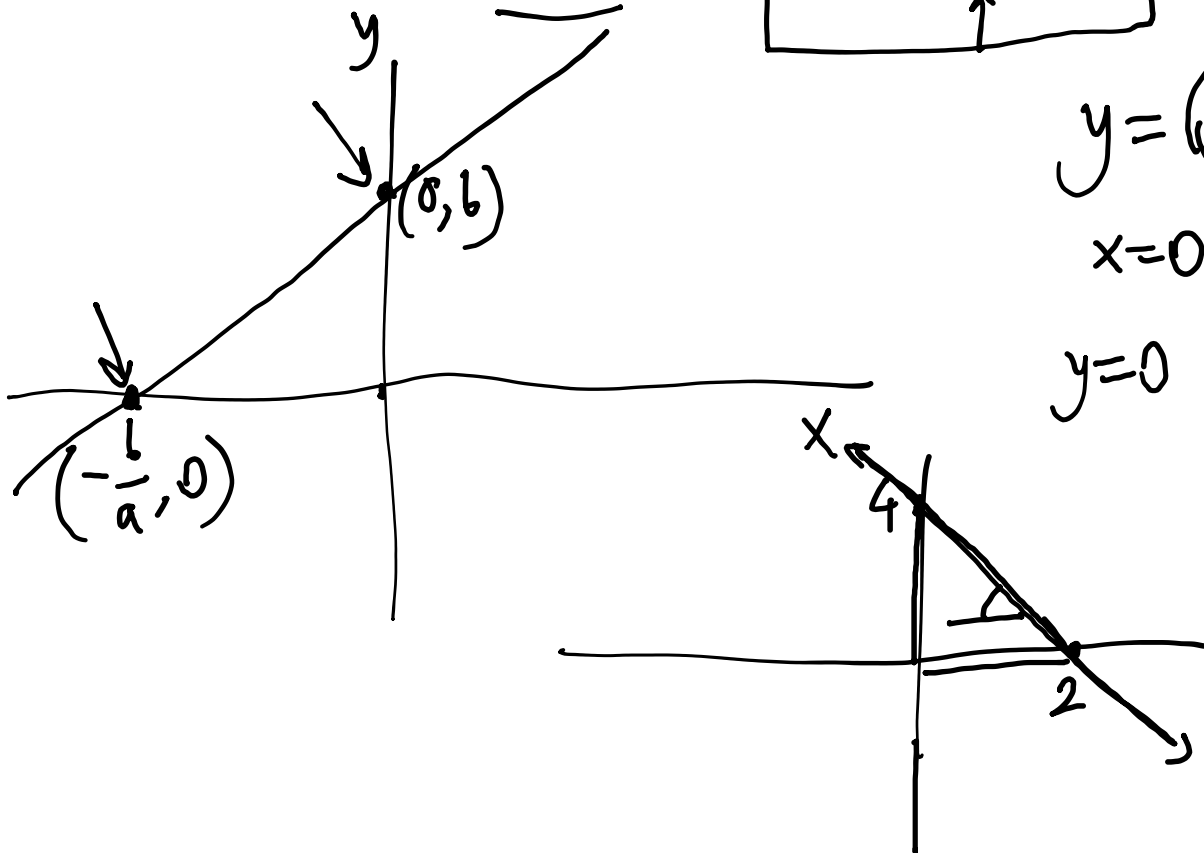
$$\boxed{y = -3x - 1}$$



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## (5) Linear functions: Intercepts with axes

- A line (linear function)  $y = ax + b$  cuts the  $x$  and  $y$  axes respectively at:
- $x$ -intercept:  $y = 0 = ax + b \rightarrow x = -\frac{b}{a}$  hence at the point  $(-\frac{b}{a}, 0)$
- $y$ -intercept:  $x = 0 \rightarrow y = a \cdot 0 + b = b$  hence at the point  $(0, b)$ .



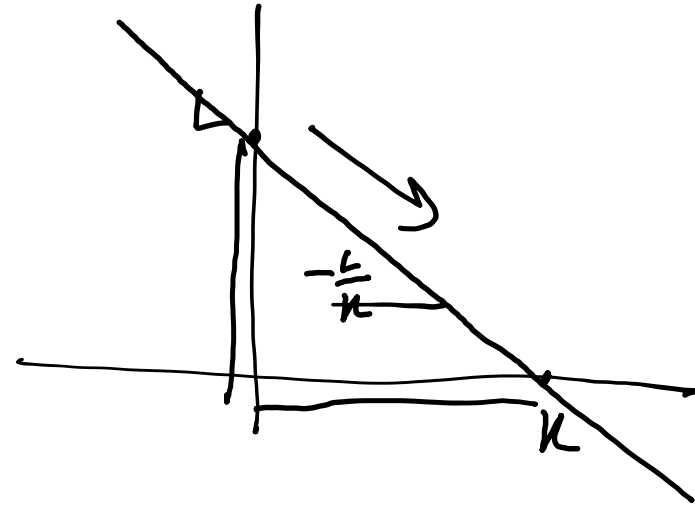
$$y = -2x + 4$$
$$x = 0 \rightarrow y = -2 \cdot 0 + 4 = 4 \quad (0, 4) \rightarrow y\text{-int}$$
$$y = 0 \rightarrow 0 = -2x + 4 \quad 2x = 4 \quad x = 2$$
$$(2, 0) \rightarrow x\text{-int}$$



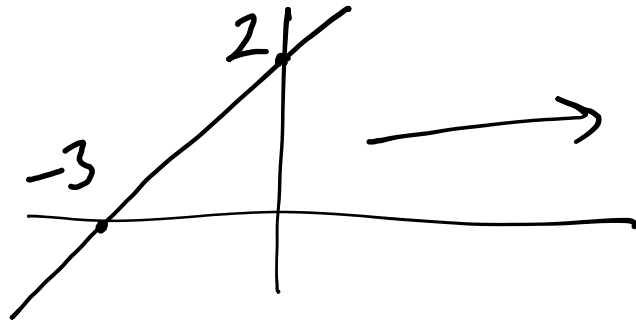
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## (5) Linear functions: Intercepts with axes

- The formula of a line with intercepts  $(\underline{K}, 0)$  and  $(0, \underline{L})$  is  $\boxed{\frac{x}{K} + \frac{y}{L} = 1}$



$$\frac{y}{L} = 1 - \frac{x}{K}$$
$$y = L \left( -\frac{L}{K} x \right)$$



$$\frac{x}{-3} + \frac{y}{2} = 1$$

$$\frac{y}{2} = \frac{x}{3} + 1$$

$$3y = 2x + 6$$
$$y = \frac{2}{3}x + 2$$



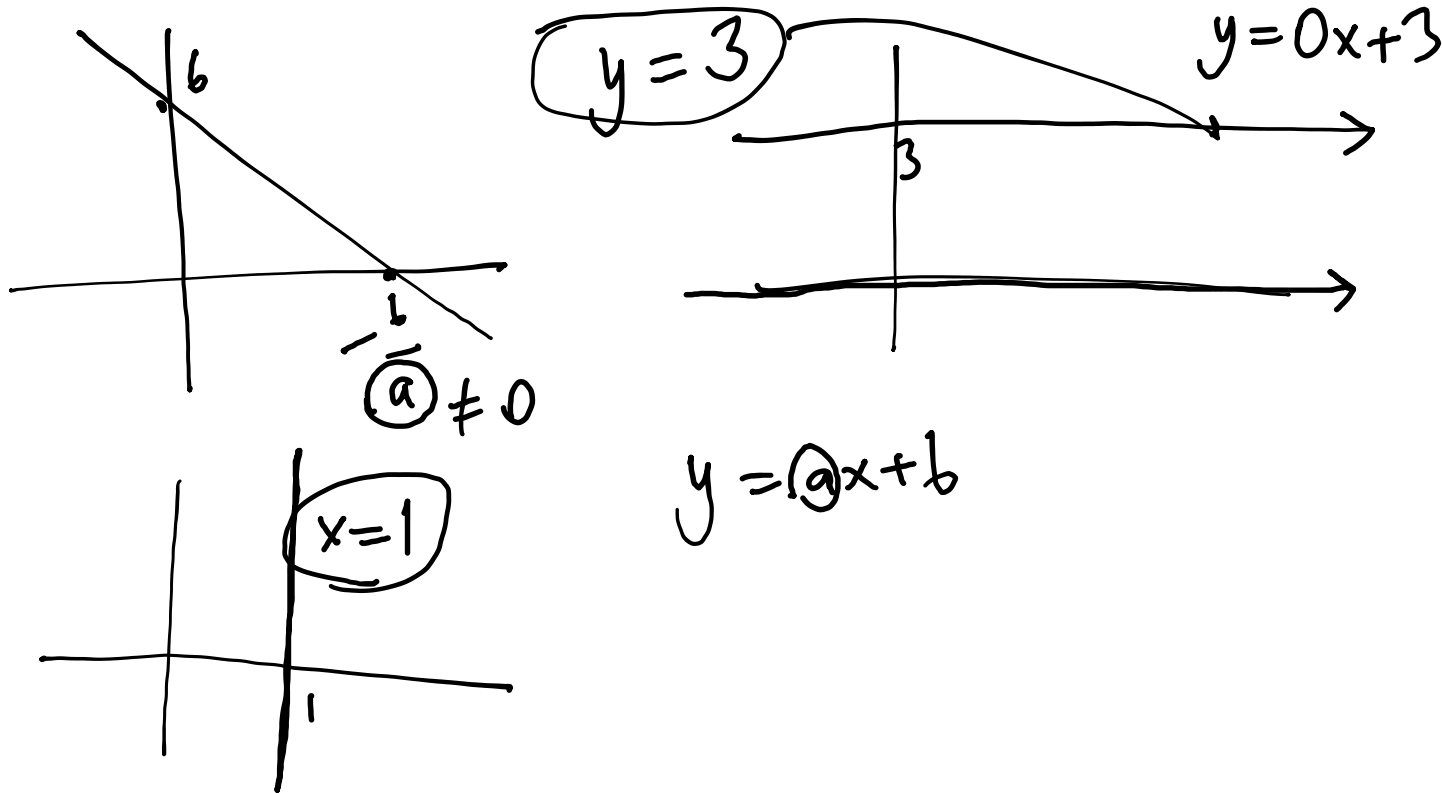
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## (5) Horizontal or Vertical Linear functions

Also, don't forget these extreme cases:

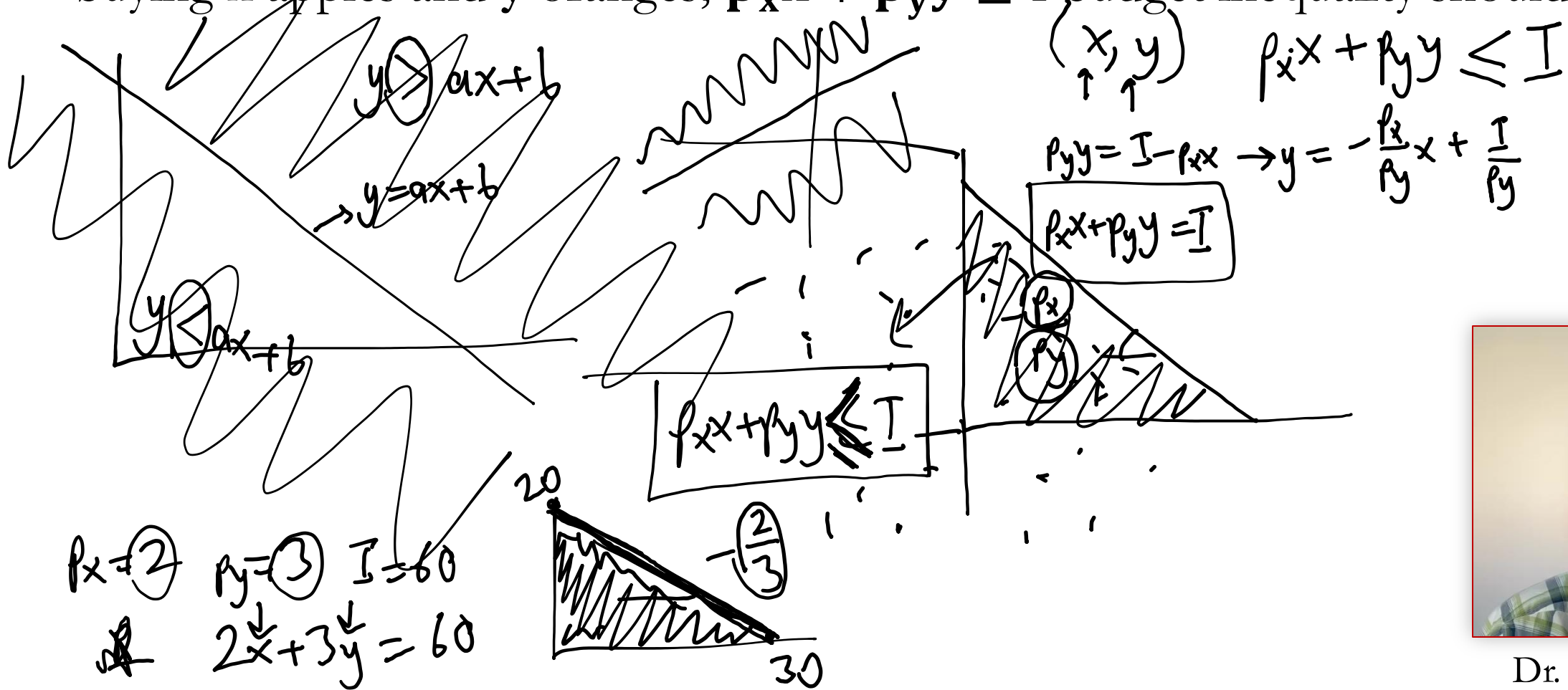
- A horizontal line ( $slope=0$ ) has the form  $y = c$
- A vertical line ( $slope=\pm\infty$ ) has the form  $x = c$ , for some value  $c$ .



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## (5) Linear functions: Example

- Budget Equation:** Assume each apple (the good  $\mathbf{x}$ ) costs  $\underline{\$p_x}$  and each orange (the good  $\mathbf{y}$ ) costs  $\underline{\$p_y}$ , and you have  $\underline{\$I}$  budget in total for fruits. If you end up buying  $\mathbf{x}$  apples and  $\mathbf{y}$  oranges;  $\mathbf{p_x x + p_y y \leq I}$ , budget inequality should hold.



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