

CALCULUS

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- In sketching the graph of a differentiable function, it is useful to know where it increases and where it decreases over an interval. This section gives a test to determine where it increases and where it decreases.

① Increasing Functions and Decreasing Functions

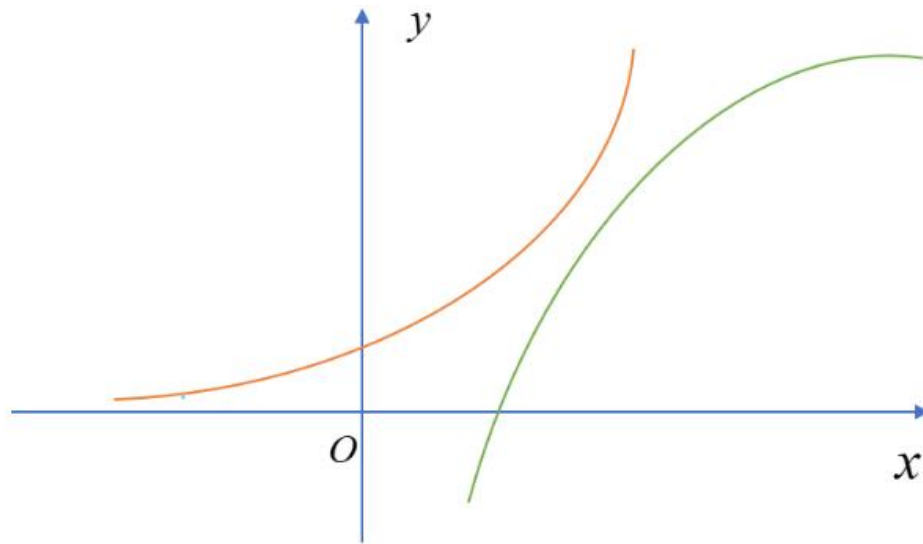
Definition:

(a) $f(x)$ is increasing on $I \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad f(x_1) < f(x_2)$ whenever $x_1 < x_2$.

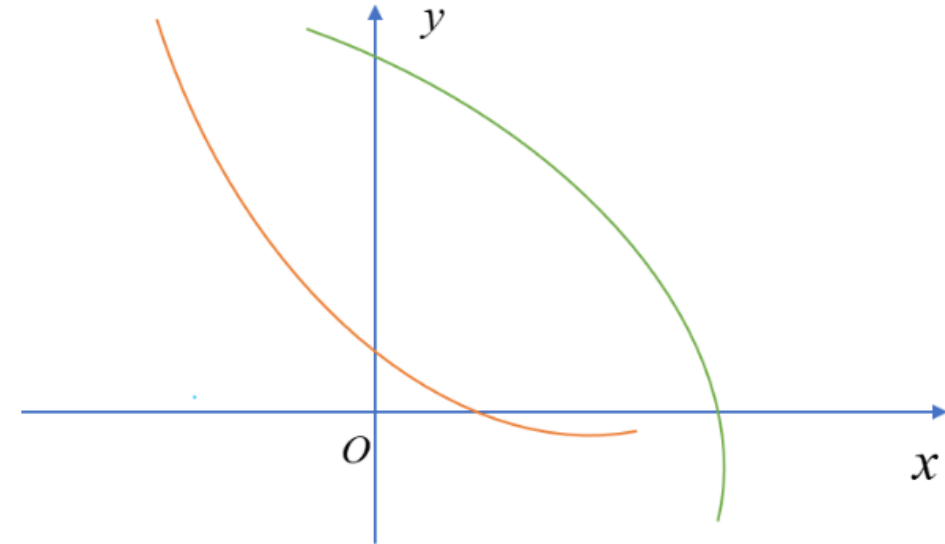
(b) $f(x)$ is decreasing on $I \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad f(x_1) > f(x_2)$ whenever $x_1 < x_2$.

- A function that is increasing or decreasing on an interval is said to be **monotonic** on the interval.

4.3 Monotonic Functions and the First Derivative Test



increasing function



decreasing function

Corollary 3:

Suppose that f is continuous on $[a, b]$ and differentiable on (a, b) .

- If $f'(x) > 0$ at each point $x \in (a, b)$, then f is increasing on $[a, b]$.
- If $f'(x) < 0$ at each point $x \in (a, b)$, then f is decreasing on $[a, b]$.

4.3 Monotonic Functions and the First Derivative Test

Example 1

Find the critical points of $f(x) = x^3 - 12x - 5$ and identify the open intervals on which f is increasing and on which f is decreasing.

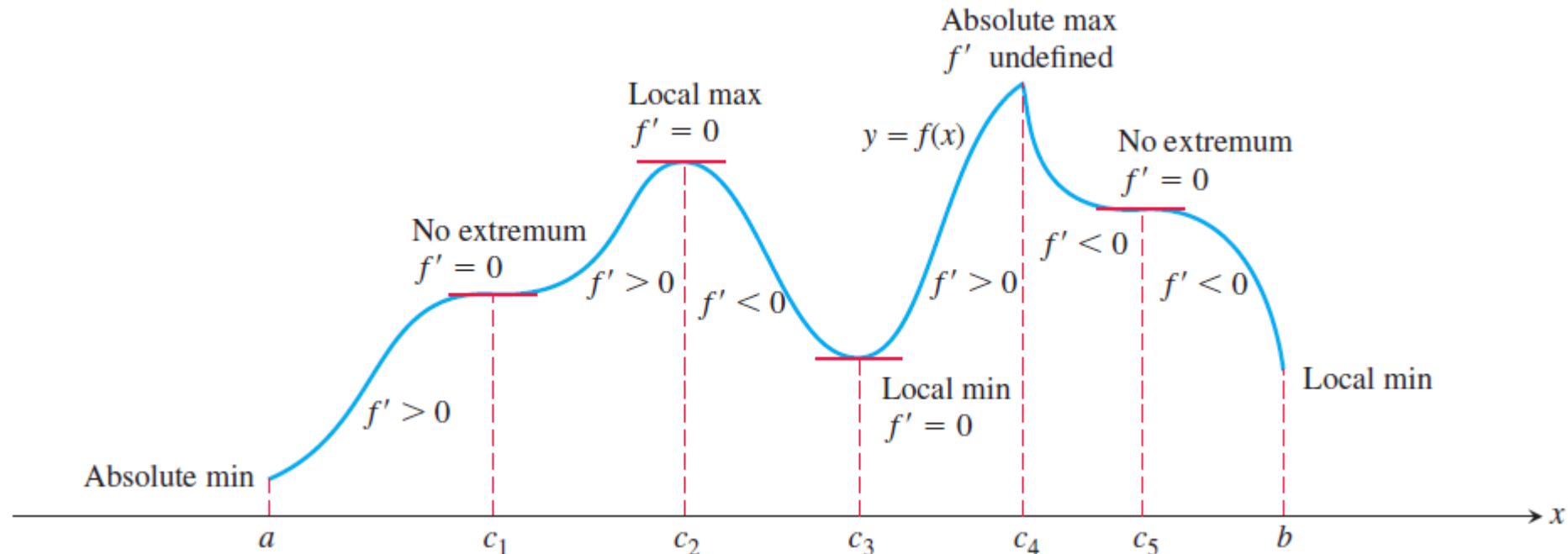
Example 2

Determine where the following function is increasing and where it is decreasing.

$$f(x) = x^3 - \frac{3}{2}x^2 - 6x + 3$$

③ First Derivative Test for Local Extrema

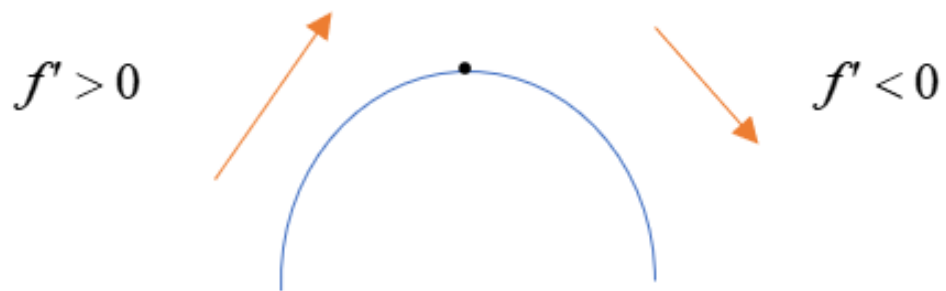
- At the points where f has a minimum value, $f' < 0$ immediately to the left and $f' > 0$ immediately to the right. (If the point is an endpoint, there is only one side to consider.).
Similarly, at points where f has a maximum value, $f' > 0$ immediately to the left and $f' < 0$ immediately to the right. **In summary**, at a local extreme point, the sign of $f'(x)$ changes.



● First Derivative Test for Local Extrema

Suppose that c is a critical point of a continuous function f , and that f is differentiable at every point in some interval containing c except possibly at c itself. Moving across this interval from left to right,

1. if f' changes from negative to positive at c , then f has a local minimum at c ;
2. if f' changes from positive to negative at c , then f has a local maximum at c ;
3. if f' does not change sign at c , then f has no local extremum at c .

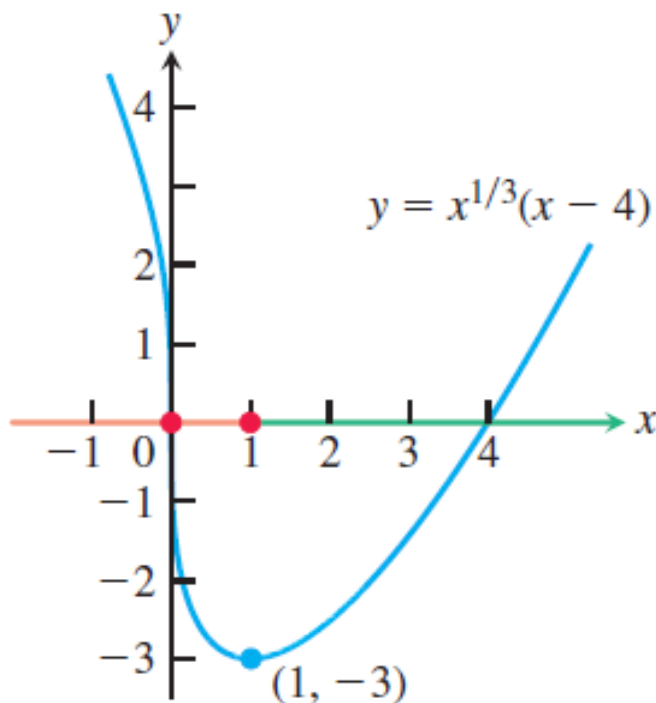


4.3 Monotonic Functions and the First Derivative Test

Example 3 Find the critical points of

$$f(x) = x^{1/3}(x - 4) = x^{4/3} - 4x^{1/3}$$

Identify the open intervals on which f is increasing and decreasing. Find the function's local and absolute extreme values.

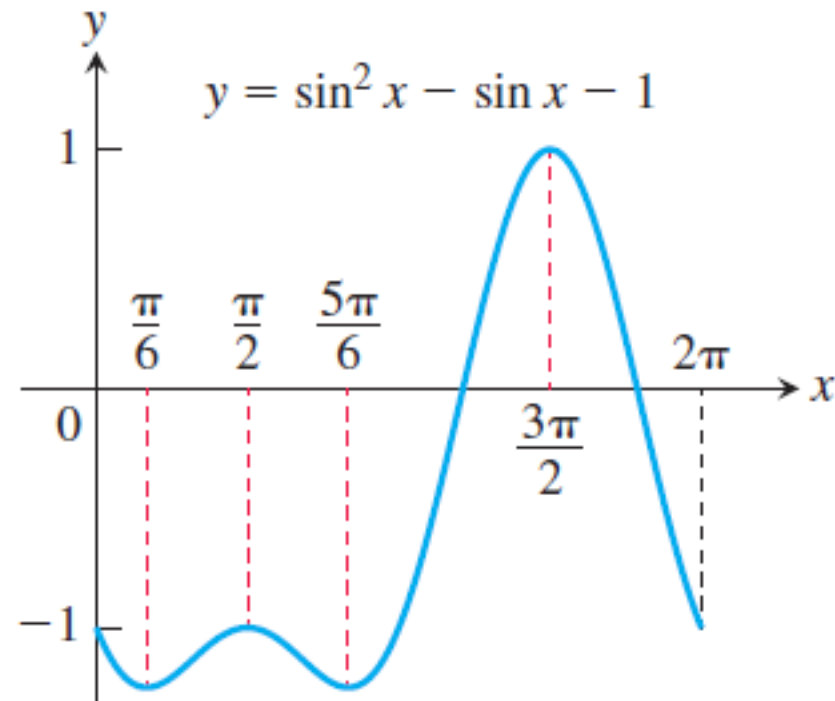


4.3 Monotonic Functions and the First Derivative Test

Example 4 Within the interval $[0, 2\pi]$ find the critical points of

$$f(x) = \sin^2 x - \sin x - 1.$$

Identify the open intervals on which f is increasing and decreasing. Find the function's local and absolute extreme values.



4.3 Monotonic Functions and the First Derivative Test

Skill Practice 1 For the function

$$f(x) = x\sqrt{1-x^2}$$

- a. What are the critical points of f ?
- b. On what open intervals is f increasing or decreasing?
- c. At what points, if any, does f assume local maximum and minimum values?

Skill Practice 2

Determine the values of constants a , b , c , and d so that $f(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ has a local maximum at the point $(0, 0)$ and a local minimum at the point $(1, -1)$.