



Week 4 - Applications of Derivatives

≡ Tags

Linear Approximations

Linear Approximation/Tangent Line Approximation

$$L(x) = f(a) + f'(a)(x - a)$$

$$\Delta y = f(a + dx) - f(a)$$

$$dy = f'(a)dx$$

Error

Measurement Error

$$dx \text{ or } \Delta x$$

Propagated Error

$$\Delta y = f(a + dx) - f(a)$$

$$\Delta y \approx dy = f'(a)dx$$

Relative Error

$$\frac{\Delta q}{q} * 100 = \text{Percentage Error}$$

Extrema

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Absolute Maximum | $f(c) \geq f(x)$ for all x |
|------------------|------------------------------|

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| Absolute Minimum | $f(c) \leq f(x)$ for all x |
|------------------|------------------------------|

If $f(x)$ has an absolute minimum or maximum, $f(x)$ has an absolute extremum

Theorem 4.1 Extreme Value Theorem

If $f(x)$ is a continuous function over the closed, bounded interval $[a, b]$, then there is a point in $[a, b]$ at which $f(x)$ has an absolute minimum and absolute maximum

Requirements:

1. Continuous Function
2. Closed interval

Endpoint Extrema

If an absolute extremum occurs at an endpoint, this is an endpoint extremum

Critical Points

c is a critical point if either

1. $f'(c) = 0$
2. $f'(c)$ is undefined

Theorem 4.1 Fermat's Theorem

If $f(x)$ has a local extremum at c and is differentiable at c , then $f'(c) = 0$

Critical points are not necessarily local extrema

Proof:

Since $f(x)$ is differentiable at c :

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c}$$

This exists, therefore both one-sided and two-sided limits exist

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} \quad (*)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} \quad (**)$$

If we assume $f(x)$ to be a local maximum, $f(x) - f(c) \leq 0$, for x near c

However, $x > c$, therefore $\frac{f(x)-f(c)}{x-c} \leq 0$

From (*), we then know that $f'(c) \leq 0$

(**) would show that $x < c$, which would state that $\frac{f(x)-f(c)}{x-c} \geq 0$

Which could mean $f'(c) \geq 0$

$0 \leq f'(c) \leq 0$ therefore, $f'(c) = 0$

Theorem 4.3 Location of Absolute Extrema

The absolute extrema of $f(x)$ must occur at endpoints or critical points

Rolle's Theorem

If $f(x)$ is continuous over the closed interval $[a, b]$ and differentiable over the open interval (a, b) , such that $f(a) = f(b)$, there exists at least one c , such that $f'(c) = 0$

Proof

Let $k = f(a) = f(b)$

1. $f(x) = k$ for all x

In this scenario, $f'(x) = 0$ for all x in the interval

2. There exists x , such that $f(x) > k$
3. There exists x , such that $f(x) < k$

2. and 3. are the same:

By the Extreme Value Theorem, an absolute minimum/maximum exists.

The maximum value must be greater than k , in case 2, since there exists $f(x) > k$

The minimum value must be less than k , in case 3, since there exists $f(x) < k$

Therefore, the max/min values do not occur at the endpoints, but at an interior point

Because $f(x)$ has a max/min at an interior point c , and $f(x)$ is differentiable at c , by Fermat's Theorem, $f'(c) = 0$

Mean Value Theorem

If $f(x)$ is continuous over the closed interval $[a, b]$ and differentiable over the open interval (a, b) then there exists a point c such that:

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}$$

Proof

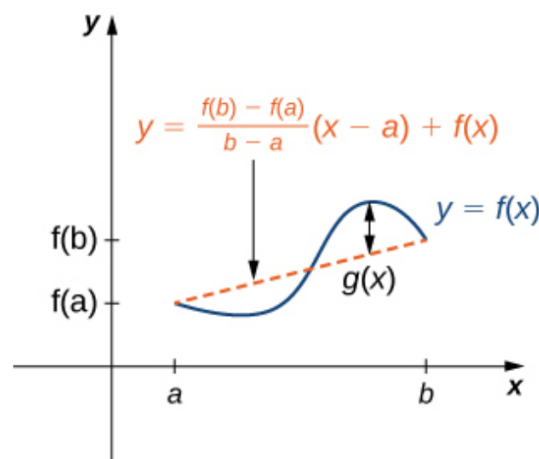
There is a straight line connecting $(a, f(a))$ and $(b, f(b))$

This line has slope $\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}$

Which means it has equation $y = \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}(x-a) + f(a)$

$g(x)$ will represent the vertical difference between $(x, f(x))$ and (x, y)

$$g(x) = f(x) - \left[\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}(x-a) + f(a) \right]$$



$$g(a) = g(b) = 0$$

Since $f(x)$ is differentiable, so is $g(x)$

$f(x)$ and $g(x)$ are then also both continuous

Therefore, $g(x)$ satisfies Rolle's Theorem

Consequently, there must be some c , such that $g'(c) = 0$

$$\text{Since } g'(x) = f'(x) - \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}$$

$$g'(c) = f'(c) - \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}$$

$$\text{Since } g'(c) = 0$$

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}$$

Theorem 4.6 Functions with Derivative = 0

If $f'(x) = 0$ for all x , then $f(x) = c$ for all x

Proof:

Since $f(x)$ is differentiable, $f(x)$ is also continuous

Suppose there is some $f(a) \neq f(b)$

$$\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a} \neq 0$$

Since $f(x)$ is differentiable, by the Mean Value Theorem, there exists

$$f'(d) = \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}$$

$f'(d) \neq 0$ which contradicts the assumption

Theorem 4.7 Constant Difference Theorem

If $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ are differentiable and $f'(x) = g'(x)$ for all x , then $f(x) = g(x) + c$

Proof:

Let $h(x) = f(x) - g(x)$

Then $h'(x) = f'(x) - g'(x)$

By Theorem 4.6, $h(x) = d$

Therefore $f(x) = g(x) + d$

Theorem 4.8 Increasing and Decreasing Functions

Let $f(x)$ must continuous over a closed interval and differentiable in the open interval

- i. If $f'(x) > 0$ in the interval, then $f(x)$ is increasing in the interval
- ii. If $f'(x) < 0$ in the interval, then $f(x)$ is decreasing in the interval

Proof (for case i., case ii. is the same):

Suppose $f(x)$ is not an increasing function, with $a < b$ and $f(a) \geq f(b)$

Since $f(x)$ is differentiable, by the Mean Value Theorem

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a} \leq 0$$

However, $f'(x) > 0$ for all x

Therefore, there is a contradiction, so $f(x)$ must be an increasing function

Theorem 4.9 First Derivative Test

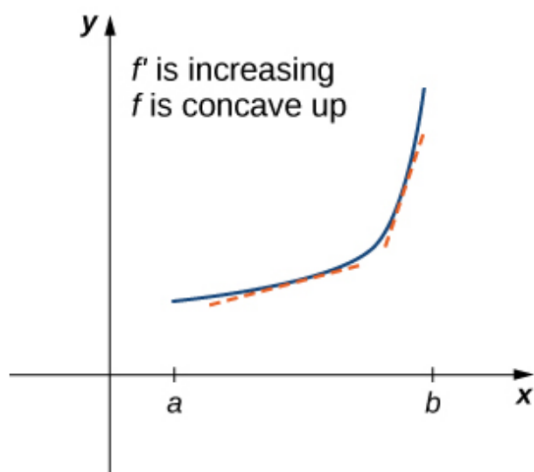
Suppose that $f(x)$ is a continuous function over an interval, containing a critical point c . If $f(x)$ is differentiable, then $f(x)$ satisfies one of the following:

1. If $f'(x)$ changes sign from positive when $x < c$ to negative when $x > c$ then c is a local maximum
2. If $f'(x)$ changes sign from negative when $x < c$ to positive when $x > c$ then c is a local minimum
3. If $f'(x)$ has the same sign when $x < c$ and when $x > c$ then c is neither a local maximum nor minimum

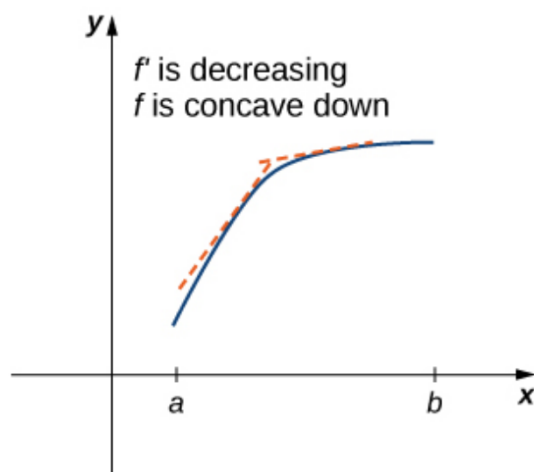
Concavity

If $f'(x)$ is increasing, $f(x)$ is concave up

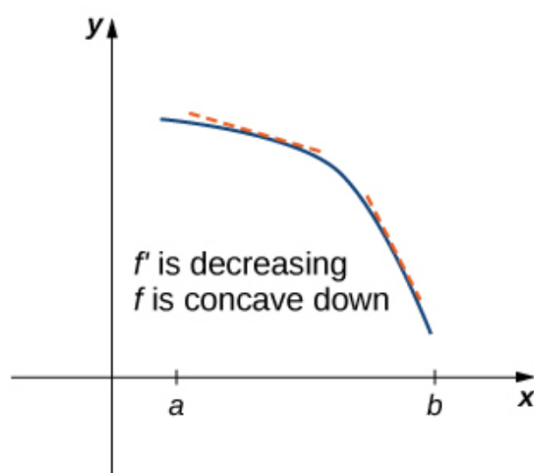
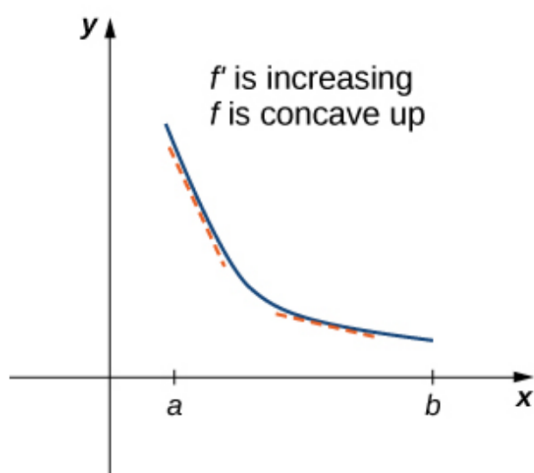
If $f'(x)$ is decreasing, $f(x)$ is concave down



(a)



(b)



Theorem 4.10 Test for Concavity

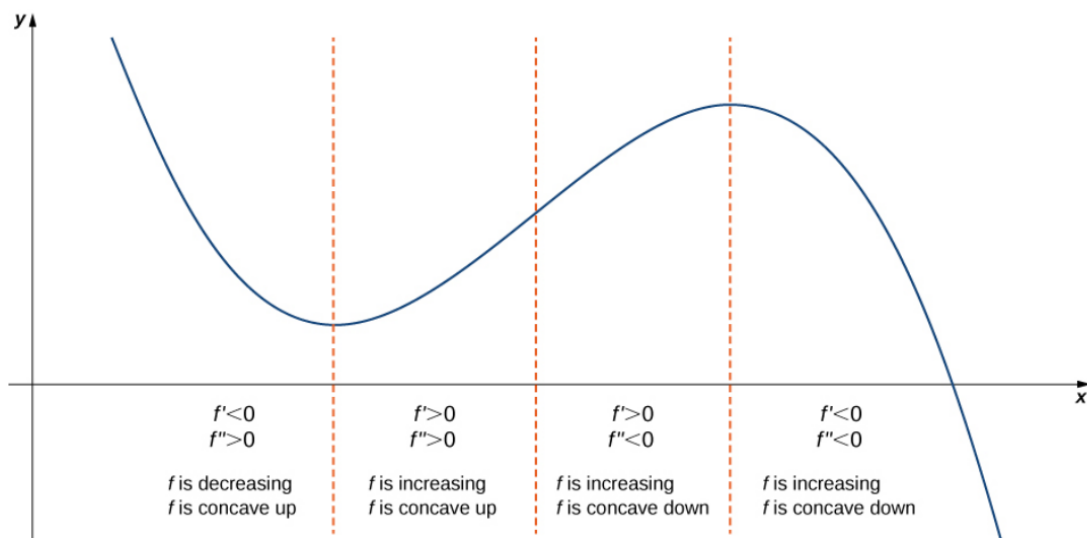
- i. If $f''(x) > 0$ in the interval, then $f(x)$ is concave up
- ii. If $f''(x) < 0$ in the interval, then $f(x)$ is concave down

Inflection Point

If $f(x)$ is continuous at a , and $f(x)$ changes concavity at a , the point $(a, f(a))$ is an inflection point

| Sign of f' | Sign of f'' | Is f increasing or decreasing? | Concavity |
|--------------|---------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Positive | Positive | Increasing | Concave up |
| Positive | Negative | Increasing | Concave down |
| Negative | Positive | Decreasing | Concave up |
| Negative | Negative | Decreasing | Concave down |

Table 4.1 What Derivatives Tell Us about Graphs



Theorem 4.11 Second Derivative Test

Suppose $f'(c) = 0$, $f''(x)$ is continuous over an interval containing c

- If $f''(c) > 0$, then $f(x)$ has a local minimum at c
- If $f''(c) < 0$, then $f(x)$ has a local maximum at c
- If $f''(c) = 0$, then the test is inconclusive

Limits at Infinity

If the values of $f(x)$ become arbitrarily close to L as x becomes sufficiently large, we say the function $f(x)$ has a limit at infinity $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = L$

If the values of $f(x)$ become arbitrarily close to L for $x < 0$ as $|x|$ becomes sufficiently large, we say the function $f(x)$ has a limit at negative infinity

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = L$$

$y = L$ is the horizontal limit of $f(x)$

Limit at infinity

$f(x)$ has a limit at infinity if L exists such that for all $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $N > 0$ such that

$$|f(x) - L| < \epsilon$$

Example

Prove $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} 2 + \frac{1}{x} = 2$

Let $\epsilon > 0$. Let $N > 1/\epsilon$. Therefore, for all $x > N$

$$|2 + \frac{1}{x} - 2| = |\frac{1}{x}| = \frac{1}{x} < \frac{1}{N} = \epsilon$$

Infinite Limit at Infinity

$f(x)$ has an infinite limit at infinity if for all $M > 0$ there exists an $N > 0$ such that $f(x) > M$ for all $x > N$

Example

Prove $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^3 = \infty$

Let $M > 0$. Let $N = \sqrt[3]{M}$, then for all $x > n$

$$x^3 > N^3 = (\sqrt[3]{M})^3 = M$$

Therefore $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x^3 = \infty$

End Behaviour

1. The function approaches a horizontal asymptote $y = L$
2. The function approaches $\pm\infty$
3. The function does not approach a finite limit, nor does it approach ∞ or $-\infty$, in this case the function may exhibit oscillatory behaviour

Theorem 4.12 L'Hôpital's Rule ($\frac{0}{0}$ case)

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 0$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = 0$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$$

Proof:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = 0 \text{ so } f(a) = g(a) = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{g(x) - g(a)} \text{ Since } f(a) = g(a) = 0$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{\frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a}}{\frac{g(x) - g(a)}{x - a}}$$

$$= \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a}}{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{g(x) - g(a)}{x - a}}$$

$$= \frac{f'(a)}{g'(a)}$$

$$= \frac{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f'(x)}{\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g'(x)}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$$

Theorem 4.13 L'Hôpital's Rule ($\frac{\infty}{\infty}$ case)

If $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = \pm\infty$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = \pm\infty$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$$

Antiderivative

$F(x)$ is an antiderivative of $f(x)$ if $F'(x) = f(x)$

Theorem 4.14 General Form of an Antiderivative

Let $F(x)$ be the antiderivative of $f(x)$, then

1. For each constant c , the function $F(x) + c$ is also an antiderivative of $f(x)$
2. If $G(x)$ is an antiderivative of $f(x)$, there is a constant d , for which $G(x) = F(x) + d$

Indefinite Integrals

$$\int f(x)dx = F(x) + c$$

An integral is the most general antiderivative

| Integrand | Variable of Integration |
|-----------|-------------------------|
| $f(x)$ | x |

Theorem 4.15 Power Rules for Integrals

$$\int x^n dx = \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} + c$$

Theorem 4.16 Properties of Indefinite Integrals

Sums and Differences

$$\int (f(x) \pm g(x)) dx = F(x) \pm G(x) + c$$

Constant Multiples

$$\int kf(x) dx = kF(x) + c$$