

# Lecture 9, Tuesday , Oct/10/2023

## Outline

- Concavity (4.4)
- Second derivative test (4.4)
- Concavity, secants and tangents (4.4 extended, not in book)

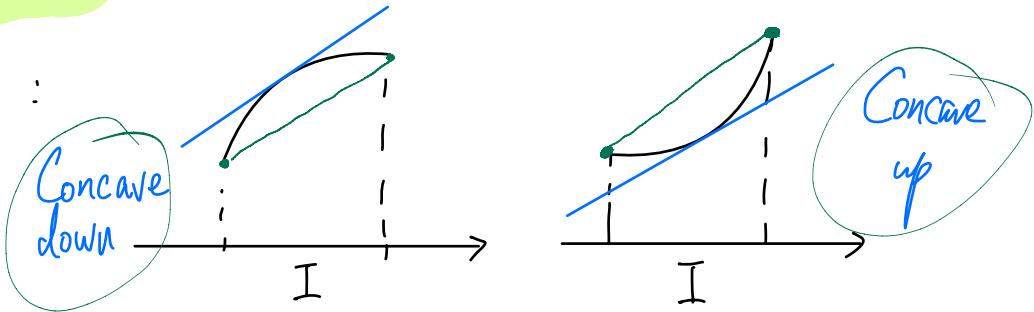
└ Need to know the facts (theorems) ;  
proofs are optional.

Concavity



The graph of a function can bend up or down on a given interval.

Intuitively :



Formally :

**DEFINITION** The graph of a differentiable function  $y = f(x)$  is

- (a) **concave up** on an open interval  $I$  if  $f'$  is increasing on  $I$ ;
- (b) **concave down** on an open interval  $I$  if  $f'$  is decreasing on  $I$ .

The property of being concave up or concave down is called **concavity**.

Remarks

- We may say that " $f$  is concave up" instead of "the graph of  $y=f(x)$  is concave up", for simplicity.
- One may extend the definition to say that  $f$  is concave up (or down) on  $[a,b]$ ,  $(a,b]$ , or  $[a,b]$ , with  $f'_+$  and

$f'$  replacing  $f'$  for left and right endpoints, respectively.

## Second Derivatives and Concavity

Suppose  $f''(x) > 0$  for all  $x$  in  $(a, b)$  and  $f'$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$ . By Corollary 4.3.3,  $f'$  is increasing on  $[a, b]$ , so  $f$  is concave up on  $[a, b]$ . A similar statement can be made to the case where  $f''(x) < 0$ .

Theorem

$f(x)$  在  $[a, b]$  CTS

Let  $f$  be a function where  $f'$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$ .  
 $f''(x) > 0$

- If  $f''(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in (a, b)$ , then  $f$  is concave up on  $[a, b]$ .
- If  $f''(x) < 0$  for all  $x \in (a, b)$ , then  $f$  is concave down on  $[a, b]$ .

Remarks

$$y = x^2$$

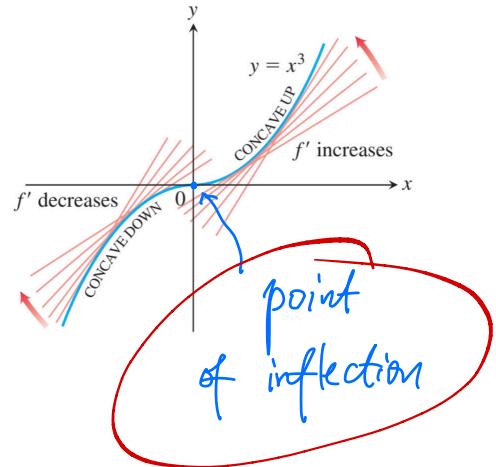
- The theorem can be extended to cover  $[a, \infty)$ ,  $(-\infty, b]$ , and  $(-\infty, \infty)$ .
- This theorem is NOT the definition of concavity.

e.g. 1 Consider  $y = x^3$ .  $f(x) = x^3$ ,  $f'(x) = 3x^2$ ,

$$f''(x) = 6x \quad \begin{cases} > 0, & \text{if } x > 0 \\ < 0, & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

So  $f$  is concave up on  $[0, \infty)$

and concave down on  $(-\infty, 0]$



Def: A function  $f$  is said to have a point of inflection (or an inflection point) at  $(c, f(c))$  if :

拐点

- ①  $f$  has a tangent line (or a vertical tangent) at  $x=c$ .
  - ②  $\exists a > 0$  such that the concavity of  $f$  on  $(c-a, c)$  is different from that on  $(c, c+a)$ .
- 在  $c$  的 两 侧 或  
内 凸 凹 性  
不 一 样

Remarks

• We can also say that  $f$  has an inflection point at  $x=c$ .

• A continuous curve is said to have a vertical tangent at

$$x=c \quad \text{if} \quad \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(c+h) - f(c)}{h} = \infty \quad \text{or} \quad = -\infty;$$

e.g.,  $y = x^{1/3}$  has a vertical tangent at  $x=0$ , and

$y = f(x)$  has a vertical tangent at  $x=c$

$y = x^{4/3}$  does not.

def:  $f(x)$  has a v

tangent at  $x=c$

if  $f'(c) = +\infty$  或  $f'(c) = -\infty$

Q: How do we find inflection points?

沒有 v tangent

Fact: If  $(c, f(c))$  is an inflection point of  $f$ ,

then either  $f''(c)$  does not exist or  $f''(c) = 0$ .

→ The proof of this requires the so-called "intermediate value property of derivative functions", which we will not discuss in this course. We omit the proof of the fact.

$f''(x) = 0$  或  $f''(x)$  DNE

e.g. 2 Determine all points of inflection for the curves:

(a)  $y = x^{1/3}$ ,  $D = \mathbb{R}$ .  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{3}x^{-\frac{2}{3}}$   $f'(x) = -\frac{2}{9}x^{-\frac{5}{3}}$

(b)  $y = x^4$ ,  $D = \mathbb{R}$ .  $x=0$   $f'(x)$  DNE  $= -\frac{2}{9}\sqrt[3]{x^5}$   $x < 0$   $f'(x) > 0$

(c)  $y = x^{4/3} - 4x^{1/3}$ ,  $D = \mathbb{R}$ .  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 4x^{\frac{1}{3}} \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 12x^2 \geq 0$   $x > 0$   $f''(x) < 0$

Ans: (a)  $x=0$ . (b) None. (c)  $x=-2, 0$ .

$$\frac{4}{3}x^{\frac{1}{3}} - \frac{4}{3}x^{-\frac{2}{3}} \quad \frac{4}{9}x^{-\frac{5}{3}} + \frac{8}{9}x^{-\frac{8}{3}}$$

Discussion Is  $f(x) = x^4$  concave up on  $\mathbb{R}$ ?

$$\frac{4}{9}x^{-\frac{5}{3}}(1+2x^{-1})$$

C up C down

$$\frac{4}{9}\sqrt[3]{x^2}(1+\frac{2}{x})$$

## Second Derivative Test

4.4.5

local max

**THEOREM 5—Second Derivative Test for Local Extrema** Suppose  $f''$  is continuous on an open interval that contains  $x = c$ .

1. If  $f'(c) = 0$  and  $f''(c) < 0$ , then  $f$  has a local maximum at  $x = c$ .

2. If  $f'(c) = 0$  and  $f''(c) > 0$ , then  $f$  has a local minimum at  $x = c$ .

3. If  $f'(c) = 0$  and  $f''(c) = 0$ , then the test fails. The function  $f$  may have a local maximum, a local minimum, or neither.

Continuity is not essential:

only need  $f''$  exists

$\star$  Proof: 2. Suppose  $f'(c) = 0$  and  $f''(c) > 0$ .  
 (Optional)  $f(c) = 0$   $f'(c) > 0$ . 不一定需要  $f''(x)$  CTS  
 local min

• Suppose  $f'(c) = 0$  and  $f''(c) > 0$ .

• Then  $0 < f''(c) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f'(x)}{x - c}$ .

• Let  $L = f''(c)$ . For  $\varepsilon = \frac{L}{2}$ ,  $\exists \delta > 0$  such that

$\frac{f'(x)}{x - c} \in (L - \varepsilon, L + \varepsilon) = \left(\frac{L}{2}, \frac{3L}{2}\right)$  for all  $x \in (c - \delta, c + \delta) \setminus \{c\}$ .

• This means that  $\frac{f'(x)}{x - c} > \frac{L}{2} > 0$  for all  $x \in (c - \delta, c + \delta) \setminus \{c\}$ ,

so  $f'(x)$  has the same sign as  $x - c$ :

$f'(x) < 0$  for  $x \in (c - \delta, c)$  and

$f'(x) > 0$  for  $x \in (c, c + \delta)$ .

• By the first derivative test,  $f$  has a local minimum at  $c$ .

The proof of 1 is similar. How do you prove 3?



$$f(x) = 4x^3 - 12x^2 \quad \begin{cases} x=0 \\ x=3 \end{cases}$$

$$= 4x^2(x-3)$$

e.g. 3  $f(x) = x^4 - 4x^3 + 10$ . Find all local extrema.

Sol.  $f'(x) = 4x^3 - 12x^2 = 4x^2(x-3)$  ( $D = \mathbb{R}$ )

- $f'(x) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x=0 \text{ or } x=3$ .  $\underline{= 4x^2(x-3)}$

$$f''(x) = 12x^2 - 24x.$$

critical pts 2  
 $x=0$

- $f''(0) = 0$ , second derivative test gives no info.

$$f(x)=0 \quad x=3 \quad f''(3) > 0.$$

- $f''(3) = 12 \cdot 9 - 72 > 0$ ,  $x=3$  gives a local

minimum  $f(3) = 81 - 4 \cdot 27 + 10 = -17$ .

- For  $x=0$ , note that  $f'(-1) < 0$  and  $f'(1) < 0$ ,

So it gives no local extrema by first derivative

test.  $x=0 \quad f'(x)=0 \quad f''(x)=0$

$$x \in (0, 3) \quad f'(x) < 0$$

$$x < 0 \quad f'(x) < 0.$$

$x=0$  不是极值点

## Concavity vs Secant & Tangent Lines

Here, we prove two geometric facts about concavity formally and see the power of the MVT.

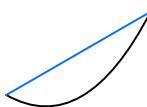
### Theorem (Concavity and Secant Lines)

Let  $f$  be continuous on  $[a,b]$  and differentiable on  $(a,b)$ .

(i) If  $f$  is concave down on  $(a,b)$ , then the graph of  $f$  lies above the secant line joining  $(a, f(a))$  and  $(b, f(b))$  on  $(a, b)$ .



(ii) If  $f$  is concave up on  $(a,b)$ , then the graph of  $f$  lies below the secant line joining  $(a, f(a))$  and  $(b, f(b))$  on  $(a, b)$ .



(Optional)

Proof (i) The secant line has graph 做害忙

$$y = g(x) = f(a) + \left(\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}\right)(x-a). \quad ①$$

Will show that  $f(x) > g(x)$  for all  $x \in (a, b)$ . Fix any  $x_0 \in (a, b)$ . By the MVT,

MVT

$$f(x_0) = f(a) + f'(c_1)(x_0 - a) \text{ for some } c_1 \in (a, x_0). \quad ②$$

If we can show that  $\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a} < f'(c_1)$ , then by ① & ②,

$$f(x_0) - g(x_0) = \left( f'(c_1) - \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a} \right)(x_0 - a) > 0$$

and we are done. It remains to show ③. Now

$$f(b) - f(a) = f(b) - f(x_0) + (f(x_0) - f(a))$$

$$= f'(c_2)(b-x_0) + f'(c_1)(x_0-a)$$

$$\text{放缩法} \quad < f'(c_1)(b-x_0) + f'(c_1)(x_0-a)$$

(MVT,  
for some  $c_2 \in (x_0, b)$ )

( $f'$  is decreasing by  
concavity)

$$\text{So } f(b) - f(a) < f'(c_1)(b-a), \text{ proving ③.}$$

(ii) Similar. □

# Concave down 切线上

Theorem (Concavity and Tangent Lines)

Let  $f$  be continuous on  $[a,b]$  and differentiable on  $(a,b)$ .

(i) If  $f$  is concave down on  $(a,b)$ , then for any  $c \in (a,b)$ , the tangent line to  $y=f(x)$  at  $c$  lies above the graph of  $y=f(x)$ .

(ii) If  $f$  is concave up on  $(a,b)$ , then for any  $c \in (a,b)$ , the tangent line to  $y=f(x)$  at  $c$  lies below the graph of  $y=f(x)$ .

↙ (Optional)

Proof: (i) The tangent line at  $c$  has graph

$$y = g(x) = g_c(x) = f(c) + f'(c)(x-c).$$

Will show that  $g(x) > f(x)$  for all  $x \in [a,b] \setminus \{c\}$ .

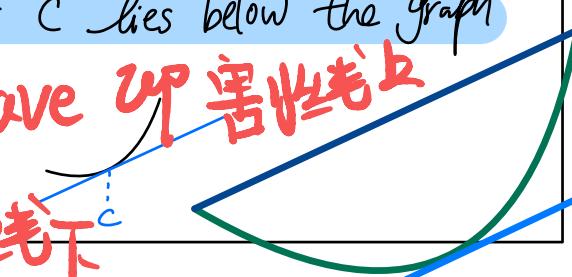
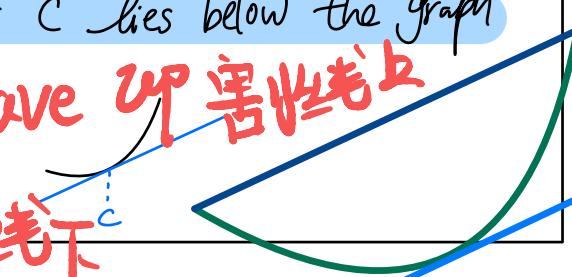
Fix any  $x_0 \in [a,b] \setminus \{c\}$ . Note that

$$\begin{aligned} g(x_0) > f(x_0) &\Leftrightarrow f(c) + f'(c)(x_0 - c) > f(x_0) \\ &\Leftrightarrow f'(c)(x_0 - c) > f(x_0) - f(c) \\ &\Leftrightarrow f'(c) \begin{cases} > \frac{f(x_0) - f(c)}{x_0 - c}, & \text{if } x_0 > c; \\ < \frac{f(x_0) - f(c)}{x_0 - c}, & \text{if } x_0 < c, \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

# Concave up 割线下

切线下

切线



So it suffices to show that

$$f'(c) \begin{cases} > \frac{f(x_0) - f(c)}{x_0 - c}, & \text{if } x_0 \in (c, b]; \\ < \frac{f(x_0) - f(c)}{x_0 - c}, & \text{if } x_0 \in [a, c). \end{cases}$$

Assume that  $x_0 \in [a, c)$ . By the MVT,

$$f'(c_1) = \frac{f(x_0) - f(c)}{x_0 - c} \quad \text{for some } c_1 \in (x_0, c). \quad (*)$$

Since  $f$  is concave down on  $(a, b)$ ,  $f'(c_1) > f'(c)$ , which, together with  $(*)$ , shows ②.

① can be proven similarly. This proves (i).

(ii) Similar.  $f'(c_2) = \frac{f(x_0) - f(c)}{x_0 - c} \quad x_0 \in (c, b]$

□

$$c_2 \in (c, x_0)$$

$$f'(c_2) > f'(c) . \quad c_2 \in (c, x_0)$$

## additional problem

Fact: If  $f$  is concave up on  $(a, b)$

Then this  $f$  attains no global max in  $I$

$f(x) \in C(a, b)$ ,  $f''(x) > 0$  则  $f(x)$  no  
global max

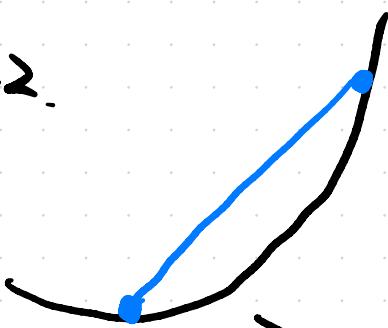
If there exist  $\xi \in (a, b)$

st  $f(\xi)$  is the global max.

If  $f(\xi)$  is the global max

Pick  $x_1 < \xi < x_2$ .

$x_1, x_2 \in (a, b)$ .



$f(\xi) < g(\xi)$  By Theorem 1

$$g(x) = f(x) + \frac{f(x_2) - f(x_1)}{x_2 - x_1} (\xi - x)$$

