# Math137 - November 11, 2015 Curve Sketching - Applied Max/Min Problems

### Example

Sketch the following function:  $y = (\frac{\ln(x)}{x})^2$ 

i) X Intercepts:

$$\ln(x) = 0 \\
x = 1$$

iii) Vertical Asymptotes:

x = 0 On the positive side of 0, the goes to infinity. On the left side, the function is undefined.

v) Critical Values:

$$f(x) = (\frac{\ln x}{x})^2$$

$$f'(x) = 2(\frac{\ln x}{x})(\frac{(\frac{1}{x}(x) - \ln x)}{x^2})$$

$$= \frac{(2)(\ln x)(1 - \ln x)}{x^3}$$

 $\therefore$  Critical values are 1, e, 0.

vii) Concavity

$$\begin{split} f'(x) &= \frac{2 \ln x - 2(\ln x)^2}{x^3} \\ f''(x) &= \frac{(\frac{2}{x} - \frac{4 \ln x}{x})x^3 - (2 \ln x - 2(\ln x)^2)3x^2}{x^6} \\ &= \frac{2x^2 - 4(\ln x)(x^2) - (2 \ln x - 2(\ln x)^2)(3x^2)}{x^6} \\ &= \frac{2 - 4 \ln x - 6 \ln x + 6(\ln x)^2}{x^4} \\ &= \frac{2(3(\ln x)^2 - 5 \ln x + 1)}{x^4} \\ \ln x &= \frac{5 + -\sqrt{25 - 4(3)(1)}}{6} \\ &= \frac{5 + -\sqrt{13}}{6} \\ x &\approx e^{1.43}, e^{0.23} \\ &\approx 4.18, 1.26 \end{split}$$

ii) Y Intercept:

$$y = \left(\frac{\ln(0)}{0}\right)^2$$

This function does not exist at 0, so there is no y

iv) Horizontal End Behavior:

As x gets big positively, x overpowers ln(x), so the function tends to 0.

As x gets big negatively, The function does not exist.

vi) Increasing/Decreasing Intervals

	x < 0	0 < x < 1	1 < x < e	x > e
$2(\ln x)(1-\ln x)$	dne	-	+	-
$x^3$	-	+	+	+
f'	dne	-	+	-
f	dne	Dec.	Inc.	Dec.

$$f(1) = \left(\frac{\ln 1}{1}\right)^2$$

$$f(1) = 0$$

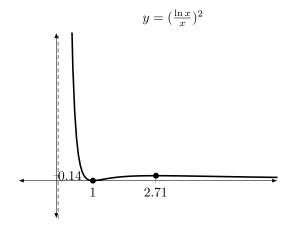
$$f(1) = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} f(1) = (\frac{\ln 1}{1})^2 & f(e) = (\frac{\ln e}{e})^2 \\ f(1) = 0 & f(e) = \frac{1}{e^2} \\ \text{So, min at } (1,0) & \text{So, max at } (e,\frac{1}{e^2}) \end{array}$$

viii) Intervals of Concavity and POIs

v							
	x < 0	0 < x < 1.26	1.26 < x < 4.18	x > 4.18			
Num.	dne	+	_	+			
Denom.	+	+	+	+			
f''	dne	+	-	+			
f	dne	Conc. Up	Conc. Down	Conc.Up			

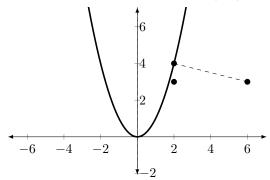
The function exists at x = 1.26, 4.18, and concavity changes at these values so they are points of inflection.



### Applied Max/Min Problems, Optimization

#### Examples:

i) Find the point on the parabola  $y = x^2$  which is closest to the point (6,3).



We want to minimize distance d, the length of the line segment from the nearest point on the parabola to (6,3). If we were to choose some point P on our parabola, we could create a triangle connecting P, (6,3), and a point consisting of the x value of P and the y value of P and the y value of P and the y-value of P and P are the y-value of P and P are the y-value of P and the y-value of P and the y-value of P and P are the y-value of P are the y-value of P and P are the y-value of P and P are the y-value of P and P are the y-value of P ar

$$d^2 = (x-6)^2 + (x-3)^2$$

## **Critical Points:**

$$\frac{dd^2}{dx} = 2(x-6) + 4x(x^2 - 3)$$
$$= 2(2x^3 - 5x - 6)$$
$$= (x-2)(2x^2 + 4x + 3)$$

 $2x^2 + 4x + 3 = 0$  has no real solutions, so the only critical value is x = 2. If we check, we see the derivative is negative before x = 2 and positive after x = 2, so x = 2 is the minimum.

$$y = (2)^2$$
$$y = 4$$

 $\therefore$  the closest point on the function  $y = x^2$  to the point 6,3)

ii) A rain gutter is to be constructed from a metal sheet of width 30cm by bending  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the sheet up at both sides through an angle  $\theta$ . How should  $\theta$  be chosen to maximize the amount of water contained? I have no idea how to illustrate this, so I'll explain it. We have a 30cm flat metal sheet. We want to bend up

2

the 10cm at both ends to maximize the amount of water contained. Bending up the 10 cm at both ends creates a trapazoid with theta representing the angle between the ground and the sheet. We want to find theta such that the area of our trapezoid is maximized.

$$A(\theta) = (10h) + 10h\cos(\theta) 
As h = 10\sin(\theta), 
A(\theta) = 100\sin(\theta)(1 + \cos(\theta)) 
\frac{dA}{d\theta} = 100\cos(\theta)(1 + \cos(\theta)) - 100\sin^2(\theta)$$

Set derivative equal to 0 for Critical Values.

$$0 = 100(\cos^2 \theta - \sin^2 \theta + \cos \theta)$$
  

$$0 = 2\cos^2 \theta + \cos \theta - 1 \ 0 = (2\cos \theta - 1)(\cos \theta + 1)$$

So, 
$$\cos \theta = \frac{1}{2}$$
 or  $-1$ 

-1 is out of our interval, so  $\frac{\pi}{3}$  is our theta that maximizes area.