

SIG787 - Mathematics for AJ

Assignment - 1

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Question 1:

Consider the following function:

$$f(x) = (\sqrt{x})^{\log_5(x) - 1}$$

(i) Find the domain of $f(x)$

(ii) Solve the equation of $f(x) = 5$

Hint: You need to use the rules of logarithms to solve the problem. In general, for the function:

$$y = \log_b(x) \text{ where base } b > 0 \text{ and } b \neq 1$$

Solution 1:

Since $\sqrt{x} = x^{1/2}$, so we can rewrite the function now,

$$f(x) = x^{1/2} (\log_5(x) - 1) \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$$

We know that:

x^a is defined except for $x = a = 0$.

The logarithmic function is defined for all $x > 0$.

(i) Here $\log_5(x)$ is defined for all $x > 0$.

Hence the domain for $f(x)$ is $(0, \infty)$

(ii) To solve the equation for $f(x) = 5$

Implementing $f(x) = 5$ in (1)

$$x^{\frac{1}{2}(\log_5(x) - 1)} = 5$$

Now we have to take log on both sides,

$$\log_5(x^{\frac{1}{2}(\log_5(x) - 1)}) = \log_5 5$$

Here base is taken as 5.

With the help of logarithm properties,

$$\left[\frac{1}{2} (\log_5(x) - 1) \right] \log_5(x) = 1 \rightarrow (2)$$

$$\therefore \log_5(a^b) = b \log_5(a) \rightarrow (3)$$

$$\text{Also, } \log_5 5 = 1 \rightarrow (4)$$

On simplifying the above Eq. (2) using

Eq. (3) + (4).

$$[\log_5(x)]^2 - \log_5(x) = 2 \rightarrow (5)$$

On taking, $y = \log_5(a)$. The above Eq. (5) is replaced with this.

$$\boxed{y^2 - y = 2} \rightarrow (6)$$

Solving this eq. (6) for y :

$$y^2 - y = 2$$

$$y^2 - y - 2 = 0$$

On comparing this above equation with:

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

$$\text{where } b = -1$$

$$c = -2$$

$$(y-2)(y+1) = 0$$

On equating the above Equation to 0.

$$y = 2; y = -1$$

When $y = 2$:

$$\log_5(x) = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \log_5(5)^2$$

$$\text{Since } \log_5(a^b) = b \log_5(a)$$

$$\begin{array}{cc} & -2 \\ & \swarrow \searrow \\ -2 & +1 \\ \downarrow & \downarrow \\ -2+1 & -2 \\ -1 & \end{array}$$

Cancelling logarithm both side,

$$x = 5^2 = 25$$

When $x = -1$:

$$\begin{aligned}\log_5(x) &= -1 \\ &= \log_5(5^{-1})\end{aligned}$$

The solution of Equation $f(x) = 5$:

$$\text{are } x = 25, \frac{1}{5}$$

(i) Domain of $f(x)$ is $(0, \infty)$

(ii) Solution for $f(x) = 5$ are $25, \frac{1}{5}$

Q2. Consider the following function:

$$f(x) = \frac{x}{1 + x|x|}$$

- (i) Find the domain of $f(x)$
- (ii) Find all x & y intercepts
- (iii) Rewrite the above functions as piecewise defined functions
- (iv) Find all the stationary points & classify them
- (v) Determine the intervals for which the function is increasing and the intervals for which the function is decreasing.
- (vi) Find the second derivative of the function and identify all the intervals that the function is convex (or) concave.
- (vii) Sketch the function by hand based on the information you gained through (i) to (vi) steps.
Label all the important points on the graph of function:

Solution:

Given: $f(x) = \frac{x}{1+x|x|} \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$

(i) Domain of $f(x)$:

The function is defined for all real numbers except where the denominator becomes zero.

(ie) where $1+x|x| = 0$.

Since the denominator has an absolute value, this occurs when x is either negative (or) positive, that leads to $|x| = -x$ (or) $|x| = x$ respectively.

For $x < 0$, $|x| = -x$, so the eq. becomes $1-x^2 = 0$ and has no real solutions.

For $x \geq 0$, $|x| = x$, the equation becomes $1+x^2 = 0$, this also has no real solutions.

The domain for $f(x)$ is real numbers.

(ie) $(-\infty, -1) \cup (-1, 1) \cup (1, \infty)$

(ii) Find the x & y intercepts:

→ we have to set $f(x) = 0$ to find x-intercept:

$$\text{ie) } \frac{x}{1+x|x|} \quad \text{at } x=0$$

The numerator x can be zero. Now the intercept is at $x=0$

$$\rightarrow \text{Now } f(0) = \frac{0}{1+0} = 0$$

Now $y=0$ [that is y intercept is 0] is also got.

The intercepts x- & y- are $(0,0)$.

(iii) Piecewise defined functions:

At $x=1$, Eq ① becomes:

$$f(1) = \frac{1}{1+(1)|1|} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$f(-1) = \frac{-1}{1+(-1)|-1|} = \frac{-1}{1+(-1)(1)} = \frac{-1}{0}$$

$$f(2) = \frac{2}{1+2|2|} = \frac{2}{5}$$

On rewriting we get:

$$f(x) = \frac{x}{1+x^2}; x \geq 0$$

$$f(x) = \frac{x}{1-x^2}; x < 0$$

The domain is for all real numbers except $x = -1, 1$.

x intercept is $(0, 0)$

y intercept is $(0, 0)$

(iv) Find all the stationary points & classify them

For $x \geq 0$:

Differentiating: $\frac{d}{dx} \left[\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right] = \frac{g(x) \frac{d}{dx} [f(x)] - f(x) \frac{d}{dx} [g(x)]}{g(x)^2}$

(ii)

$$f(x) = x$$

$$g(x) = 1+x^2$$

as $x \geq 0$

Applying the $f(x)$ & $g(x)$ in Eq. (2), It becomes

$$\frac{(1+x^2) \frac{d}{dx}(x) - x \frac{d}{dx}(1+x^2)}{(1+x^2)^2}$$

Differentiating:

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

x is raised to power of 1

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

Combining the powers using the power rule;

$$a^m \cdot a^n = a^{m+n}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1+x^2 - 2x^2}{(1+x^2)^2} = \frac{1-x^2}{(1+x^2)^2} \rightarrow \textcircled{3}$$

To find the stationary points we set
 $f'(x) = 0$ on Eq. (3)

$$\frac{-x^2 + 1}{(x^2 + 1)^2} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -x^2 = -1$$

$$x^2 = 1$$

$$\boxed{x = 1}$$

for $x < 1$, $f'(x) > 0$. this in turn
implies that function is increasing.

for $x > 1$, $f'(x) < 0$, this implies that
function is decreasing.

For $x < 0$;

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

$$f'(x) \neq 0 \text{ for } x < 0$$

At $x = 0$, the function has stationary point.

This is the local maximum point.

(v) Determine the intervals for which the function is increasing and decreasing.

Now differentiating with respect to x

For $x \geq 0$;

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

we get $x = 1$, for $f'(x) = 0$

For $f'(x) > 0$, function is increasing

For $f'(x) < 0$, its decreasing.

$f(x)$ is not defined at $-1, 1$

So the critical points are $x = -1, 0, 1$

For $x \geq 0$ Intervals: $[0, 1), (1, \infty)$

$[0, 1) \Rightarrow f'(x) > 0$; $[1, \infty) \Rightarrow f'(x) < 0$

For $x < 0$:

$f'(x) > 0$ for all $x < 0$

$f'(x) > 0$ for $(-\infty, 0)$

(ii) Find the second derivative of function & identify all the intervals that function is concave or convex.

Using the Quotient rule:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right] = \frac{g(x) \frac{d}{dx} [f(x)] - f(x) \frac{d}{dx} [g(x)]}{[g(x)]^2}$$

Using Eq. (3) we get:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right] = \frac{(x^2+1)^2(-2x) - (-x^2+1) \frac{d}{dx} (x^2+1)^2}{(x^2+1)^4}$$

$$f''(x) = \frac{(x^2+1)^2(-2x) - (-x^2+1) \left(2(x^2+1) \frac{d}{dx} (x^2+1) \right)}{(x^2+1)^4}$$

On simplifying, we get:

$$f''(x) = \frac{(x^2+1)^2(-2x) - 4(-x^2+1)((x^2+1)x)}{(x^2+1)^4}$$

for $f''(x)=0$; $f''(x) = \frac{2x(x^2-3)}{(x^2+1)^3}$

And values of x are: $0, \sqrt{3}$

If $x=1$, $f''(1) = -\frac{4}{8} < 0$

If $x=\sqrt{3}+1$, $f''(\sqrt{3}+1) > 0$

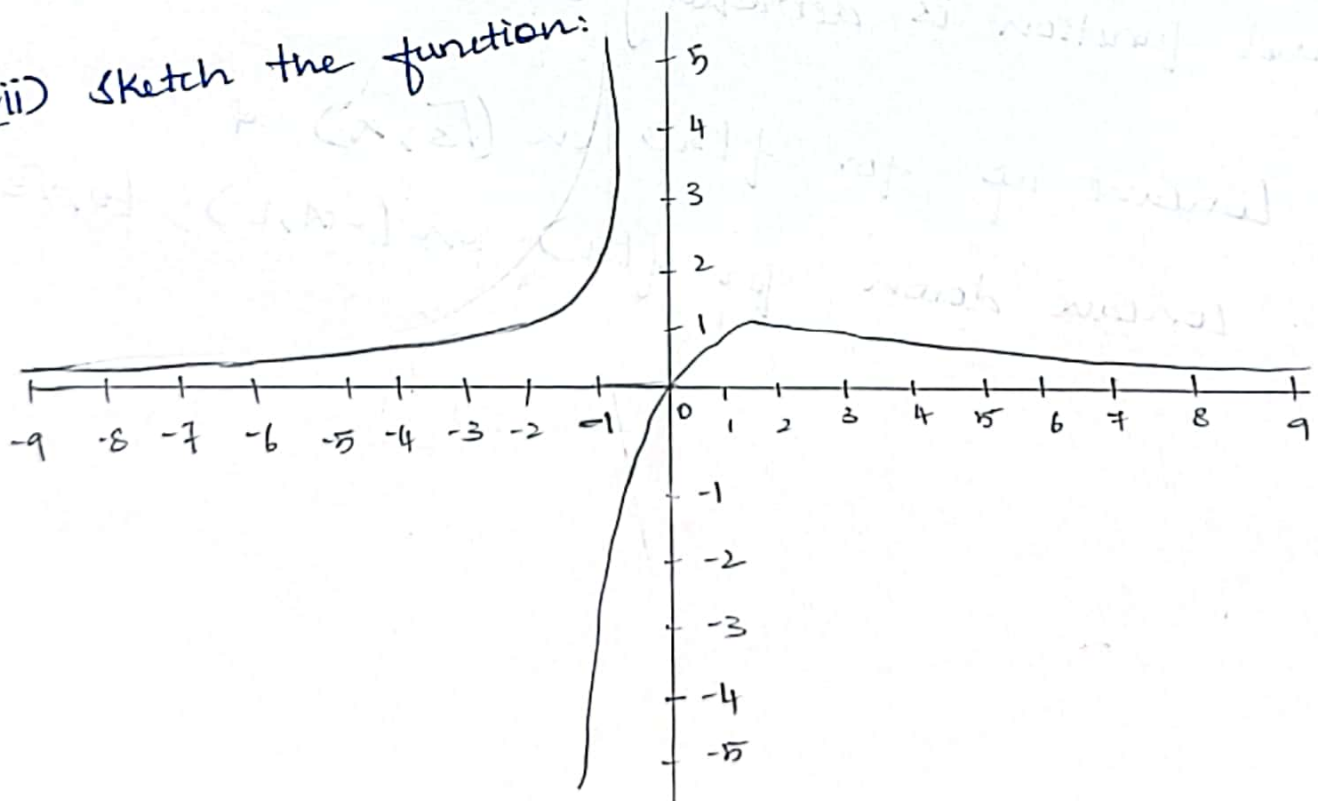
So; $f''(x) > 0$ for $x \in (\sqrt{3}, \infty)$

$f''(x) < 0$ for $x \in (0, \sqrt{3})$

$f(x)$ is concave up for $(\sqrt{3}, \infty)$ & concave down for $(0, \sqrt{3})$.

Also $f(x)$ is concave down on $(-\infty, 0)$

(vii) Sketch the function:



Final answers/ conclusions:

(i) The domain of the function is all real numbers except $x = -1, 1$

(ii) x intercept is $(0, 0)$ + y intercept is $(0, 0)$

(iii) Piecewise function:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x}{1+x^2} & x \geq 0 \\ \frac{x}{1-x^2} & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

(iv) At $x=0$, the function has stationary point
This point is local maximum.

(v) Function is increasing on $(-\infty, 0)$, $[0, 1)$ for $f'(x) > 0$
and function is decreasing on $(1, \infty)$ for $f'(x) < 0$

(vi) Concave up for $f(x)$ on $(\sqrt{3}, \infty)$ +
concave down for $f(x)$ on $(-\infty, 0)$, $(0, \sqrt{3})$