



1. This problem concerns the function $f(x) = x^2 e^{-x}$.

(a) $f'(x) = 2x e^{-x} + x^2 e^{-x}(-1)$

$$f'(x) = e^{-x}(2x - x^2)$$

(b) Find the critical points of f $f'(x) = 0$

$$e^{-x}(2x - x^2) = 0$$

$$e^{-x} x(2 - x) = 0$$

Critical points: $x=0$ $x=2$

(c) $f''(x) = e^{-x}(-1)(2x - x^2) + e^{-x}(2 - 2x)$
 $= e^{-x}(-2x + x^2 + 2 - 2x)$

$$f''(x) = e^{-x}(x^2 - 4x + 2)$$

(d) Use the second derivative test to identify the local extrema of f .

Test $x=0$: $f''(0) = e^{-0}(0^2 - 4 \cdot 0 + 2) = 1 \cdot 2 = 2 > 0$

$\therefore f$ has a local minimum at $x=0$

Test $x=2$: $f''(2) = e^{-2}(2^2 - 4 \cdot 2 + 2) = -2e^{-2} < 0$

$\therefore f$ has a local maximum at $x=2$

1. This problem concerns the function $f(x) = 4 - x^2 e^x$.

(a) $f'(x) = 0 - 2x e^x - x^2 e^x$

$$f'(x) = -e^x(2x + x^2)$$

(b) Find the critical points of f $f'(x) = 0$

$$-e^x(2x + x^2) = 0$$

$$-e^x x(2 + x) = 0$$

Critical points: $\boxed{x=0 \quad x=-2}$

(c) $f''(x) = -e^x(2x + x^2) - e^x(2 + 2x)$

$$f''(x) = -e^x(2x + x^2 + 2 + 2x) = -e^x(x^2 + 4x + 2)$$

$$f''(x) = -e^x(x^2 + 4x + 2)$$

(d) Use the second derivative test to identify the local extrema of f .

Test $x=0$: $f''(0) = -e^0(0^2 + 4 \cdot 0 + 2) = -1 \cdot 2 = -2 < 0$

\therefore $\boxed{\text{Local maximum at } x=0}$

Test $x=-2$: $f''(-2) = -e^{-2}((-2)^2 + 4(-2) + 2) = -\frac{2}{e^2} = \frac{2}{e^2} > 0$

\therefore $\boxed{\text{Local minimum at } x=-2}$