

## 18. Min/Max Values

### Lec 17 mini review.

◇ **Midpoint Rule:**  $M_n = \sum_{i=1}^n f(\bar{x}_i) \Delta x$   $(\bar{x}_i = \frac{1}{2}(x_{i-1} + x_i))$

◇ **Trapezoidal Rule:**  $T_n = \frac{\Delta x}{2} \left[ f(x_0) + 2f(x_1) + 2f(x_2) + \cdots + 2f(x_{n-1}) + f(x_n) \right]$

◇ **Simpson's Rule ( $n$  even):**

$$S_n = \frac{\Delta x}{3} \left[ f(x_0) + 4f(x_1) + 2f(x_2) + 4f(x_3) + \cdots + 2f(x_{n-2}) + 4f(x_{n-1}) + f(x_n) \right]$$

**Error Bounds:**

- If  $|f''(x)| \leq K$  for all  $a \leq x \leq b$ , then  $\left| T_n - \int_a^b f(x) dx \right| \leq \frac{K(b-a)^3}{12n^2}$  and  $\left| M_n - \int_a^b f(x) dx \right| \leq \frac{K(b-a)^3}{24n^2}$
- If  $|f^{(4)}| \leq K$  for all  $a \leq x \leq b$ , then  $\left| S_n - \int_a^b f(x) dx \right| \leq \frac{K(b-a)^5}{180n^4}$

## MAX/MIN VALUES

A function  $y = f(x)$  has...

...an **ABSOLUTE/GLOBAL MAXIMUM AT  $x = c$**  if  
 $x = c$  if

...an **ABSOLUTE/GLOBAL MINIMUM AT**

The value  $f(c)$  is called the...

**GLOBAL MAXIMUM VALUE** of  $f$ .

**GLOBAL MINIMUM VALUE** of  $f$ .

- ◇ The max/min values of  $f$  are called **EXTREME VALUES**.
- ◇ A function  $f$  can attain global max/min values at many numbers.

- ◇ Some functions do not have max and/or min values.

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## LOCAL VS. GLOBAL EXTREME VALUES

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A function  $y = f(x)$  has...

...a **LOCAL MAXIMUM AT  $x = c$**  if

...a **LOCAL MINIMUM AT  $x = c$**  if



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- ◇ Some local max/min are also absolute extreme points.

- ◇ Not every local max/min is an absolute max/min.

- ◇ Not every absolute max/min is a local max/min.

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## EXTREME VALUE THEOREM

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### Theorem 18.1. (Extreme Value Theorem)

If  $y = f(x)$  is continuous on the closed interval  $[a, b]$ , then, restricted to the interval  $[a, b]$ ,  $f$  has an absolute maximum and an absolute minimum on  $[a, b]$ .

**Note.** If  $f$  is not continuous on  $[a, b]$ , then the Extreme Value Theorem is not applicable. Even if  $f$  is continuous, if the interval is not closed, then the Extreme Value Theorem is not applicable.

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## CRITICAL NUMBERS AND HOW TO FIND EXTREME VALUES

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The Extreme Value Theorem tells us of a situation in which absolute extreme values must exist, but it does not tell us how to find them. For that, we need Fermat's Theorem.

### Theorem 18.2. (Fermat's Theorem)

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A number  $x$  is called a **CRITICAL NUMBER** of a function  $f(x)$  if either

- $x$  is in the domain of  $f$  and  $f'(x) = 0$  (type 1)
- or  $x$  is in the domain of  $f$  but  $x$  is **not** in the domain of  $f'$ . (type 2)

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Graphically, these two types of critical numbers correspond to numbers  $x$  such that

- $f(x)$  has a horizontal tangent at  $x$  (type 1)
- $f(x)$  has a corner, jump discontinuity, or vertical tangent line at  $x$  (type 2)

**Example 18.3.** Find all the critical numbers of  $h(x) = x^{2/3}(x - 2)^2$ .

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### The Closed Interval Method

Follow these steps to find the absolute extrema of a continuous function  $f(x)$  on a closed interval  $[a, b]$

1. Find the critical numbers of  $f$ .
  2. For each critical number  $c$  such that  $c \in [a, b]$ , compute its value  $f(c)$ .
  3. For the endpoints  $x = a$  and  $x = b$  of  $[a, b]$ , compute the values  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$ .
  4. The absolute maximum value of  $f$  on  $[a, b]$  is largest value computed in steps 2 and 3.
  5. The absolute minimum value of  $f$  on  $[a, b]$  is smallest value computed in steps 2 and 3.
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**Example 18.4.** Find the absolute/global extreme points of  $h(x) = x^{2/3}(x - 2)^2$  on the closed interval  $[-1, 1]$  (the function from Ex. 18.3)

**Example 18.5.** After an antibiotic tablet is taken, the concentration of the antibiotic in the bloodstream is modelled by the function

$$C(t) = 8(e^{-0.4t} - e^{-0.6t})$$

where the time  $t$  is measured in hours and  $C$  is measured in  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ . What is the maximum concentration of the antibiotic during the first 12 hours?

**Example 18.6.** Find the absolute maximum and absolute minimum of  $f(x) = \sin(x) \cos(x)$  on the interval  $[-\pi, \pi]$ .

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## MEAN VALUE THEOREM

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**Theorem 18.7. (Mean Value Theorem)** If  $f(x)$  is continuous on the closed interval  $[a, b]$ , and differentiable on the open interval  $(a, b)$ , then there exists a number  $c \in (a, b)$  such that

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**Example 18.8.** Consider  $f(x) = x^3$  on the closed interval  $[0, 1]$ . Calculate the slope of the secant line joining the endpoints of this interval. What does the Mean Value Theorem guarantee? Verify that it holds for this particular function.

**Example 18.9.** Try to find the critical numbers of  $f(x) = \sin(x) \ln(x)$ .

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**Example 18.10.** Using the Mean Value Theorem, explain why  $f(x) = \sin(x) \ln(x)$  has at least one critical number on the interval  $[1, \pi]$ .

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**Theorem 18.11. (Rolle's Theorem)**

If  $f(x)$  is continuous on the closed interval  $[a, b]$ , differentiable on  $(a, b)$ , and  $f(a) = f(b)$ , then there exists a number  $c \in (a, b)$  such that  $f'(c) = 0$ .

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◇ Rolle's Theorem can be viewed as a special case of the Mean Value Theorem:

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STUDY GUIDE

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- **absolute/global minimum**      **absolute/global maximum**
- **relative/local minimum**      **relative/local maximum**
- **critical numbers** and how to find them (type 1 and type 2).
- **Extreme Value Theorem** and how to find absolute extrema of a continuous function on a closed interval