

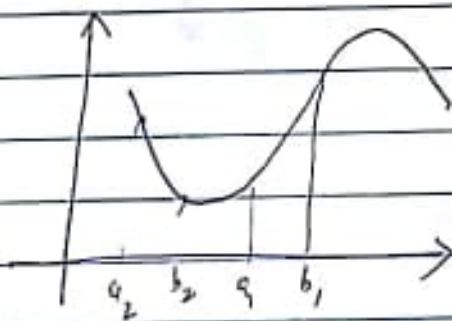
#### [4.1] Applications of the First Derivative

• A function  $f$  is increasing on an interval  $(a, b)$  if for every two numbers  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  in  $(a, b)$ ,

$$f(x_1) < f(x_2) \text{ whenever } x_1 < x_2.$$

• A function  $f$  is decreasing on an interval  $(a, b)$  if for every two numbers  $x_1$  &  $x_2$  in  $(a, b)$ ,

$$f(x_1) > f(x_2) \text{ whenever } x_1 < x_2.$$



•  $f$  is increasing on  $(a_1, b_1)$

•  $f$  is decreasing on  $(a_2, b_2)$

Recall that the derivative gives us rate of change of a function. This suggests, that if a function is differentiable, derivative should help ~~in~~ assessing intervals on which  $f$  is increasing/decreasing.

### Theorem 1.

(a) If  $f'(x) > 0$  for every  $x$  in  $(a, b)$ , then  $f$  is increasing on  $(a, b)$ .

(b) If  $f'(x) < 0$  for every  $x$  in  $(a, b)$ , then  $f$  is decreasing on  $(a, b)$ .

(c) If  $f'(x) = 0$  for every value  $x$  in  $(a, b)$ , then  $f$  is constant on  $(a, b)$ .

Here is an algorithm to figure where  $f$  is increasing/decreasing.

(1) ~~Solve~~ Solve  $f'(x) = 0$ . ~~also~~ Also, note where  $f'$  is discontinuous, and identify open intervals determined by these numbers.

(2) Select a test number  $c$  in each interval found in Step 1, and determine the sign of  $f'(c)$  in that interval. Associate that sign to the interval.

(a) If  $f'(c) > 0$ , then  $f$  is increasing on that interval.

(b) If  $f'(c) < 0$ , then  $f$  is decreasing on that interval.



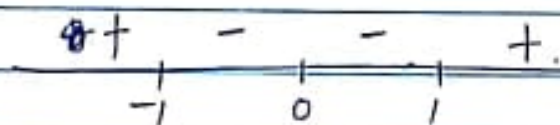
~~1~~  
[e.g.] Find the intervals where  $f(x) = x + \frac{1}{x}$  is increasing and where it is decreasing.

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

$f'(x) = 0$ . So,  $1 - \frac{1}{x^2} = 0$

$x = \pm 1$ .

Also,  $f'$  is discontinuous at 0.



Choose

The signs come from the following:

Let test points be  $-2, -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, 2$ .

$f'(-2) = \frac{4-1}{4} > 0$ .

$f'(-\frac{1}{2}) = 1 - 4 < 0$ .

$f'(\frac{1}{2}) = 1 - 4 < 0$ .

$f'(2) = \frac{4-1}{4} > 0$ .

Thus,  $f$  is increasing on  $(-\infty, -1)$ ,  $(1, \infty)$ ;

$f$  is decreasing on

$(-1, 0)$ ,  $(0, 1)$ .

Do NOT WRITE  $\circ [-1, 0) \cup (0, 1]$  to denote

interval where  $f$  is decreasing; use ' $,$ ' instead.

Recall

Why? The definition of increasing function which does not involve derivative at all! ( $f(x_1) < f(x_2)$  whenever  $x_1 < x_2$ ).

eg.  $f(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3 - 2x^2 + 3x$ , then  $f'(x) > 0$  on  $(-\infty, 1)$ ,  $(3, \infty)$

So,  $f$  is increasing on  $(-\infty, 1)$

$f$  is increasing on  $(3, \infty)$ .

But  $f$  is not increasing on  $(-\infty, 1) \cup (3, \infty)$ .

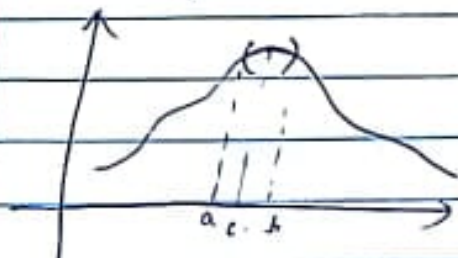
because  $f(0.9) > f(3.1)$  inspite of  $0.9 < 3.1$ .



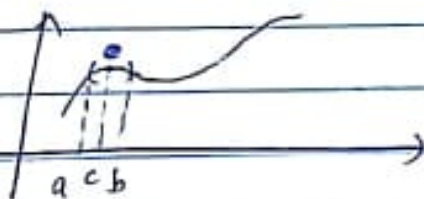
## Relative Extrema

### • Relative Maximum

A function  $f$  has a relative maximum at  $x=c$  if there exists an open interval  $(a, b)$  containing  $c$  such that  $f(x) \leq f(c)$  for all  $x$  in  $(a, b)$

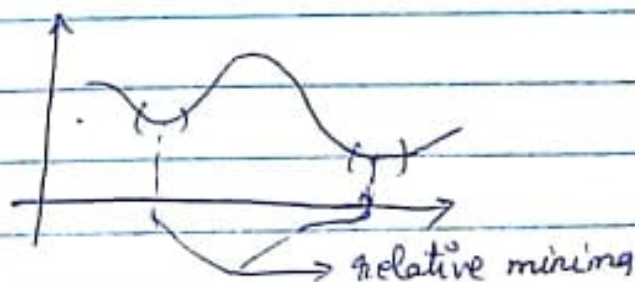


$$f(c) \geq f(x) \text{ for all } x \text{ in } (a, b)$$



$$f(c) \geq f(x) \text{ for all } x \text{ in } (a, b)$$

• Relative Minimum: A function  $f$  has a relative minimum at  $x=c$  if there exists an open interval  $(a, b)$  containing  $c$  such that  $f(x) \geq f(c)$  for all  $x$  in  $(a, b)$ .



Derivatives are again going to be crucial to figure out relative max/min. ~~What about the~~

~~figure out~~

Definition: Critical Number/Point of  $f$ .

The values of  $x$  in the domain of  $f$  where either  $f'(x) = 0$  or where  $f'(x)$  DNE, are called the critical points of  $f$ .

Algorithm to find Relative Extrema of a continuous function.

- ① Determine critical points of  $f$ .
- ② Determine the sign of  $f'(x)$  to the left and right of each critical number.
  - (a) If  $f'(x)$  changes sign from positive to negative as we move across a crit. no.  $c$ , then  $f$  has a relative maximum at  $x=c$ .
  - (b) If  $f'(x)$  changes sign from negative to positive as we move across a crit. pt.  $c$ , then  $f$  has a relative min at  $x=c$ .
  - (c) If  $f'(x)$  does not change sign as we move ...,  $f$  does not have a relative extremum at  $x=c$ .



Note: This is essentially doing the same thing as

before (drawing sign chart & ..., except that we are taking into account the point where  $f'(x)$  DNE instead of  $f'$  being discontinuous).

We are using the following:

~~(e.g.)  $f(x) = x^3 + 2$ . Find critical points.~~

Thm. If  $f$  is continuous on  $(a, b)$ ,  $c \in (a, b)$  and  $f(c)$  is a local <sup>(relative)</sup> extremum, then either  $f'(c) = 0$  or  $f'(c)$  DNE.

Thus, relative extrema can occur only at critical points.

(IMPORTANT For True/False)

However, being a critical point does not always give a local extremum.

e.g.  $f(x) = x^3 + 2$ .

$f'(x) = 3x^2$ . So,  $f'$  always exists.

and 0 is the only critical point. But  $f(0)$  is not a local max/min.

The algorithm we just described is called

### First - derivative Test for Local Extrema

Ex. 9 Find relative max/min of the function

$$f(x) = x^{2/3}$$

Sol<sup>n</sup>:

Soln:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ .  $f$  is defined everywhere

•  $f'(x) = \frac{2}{3} x^{-1/3}$  So,  $f'(x) = 0$  has no sol'n

However,  $f'$  does not exist at  $x = 0$ .

Thus,  $0$  is the only critical point.



$$f'(-1) = -\frac{2}{3} < 0$$

$\therefore$  at  $x=0$ , there is a relative minimum of  $f$ .

The relative minimum value is  $f(0) = 0$  in answer

Both steps  
are required  
in answer



Important

[e.g]  $f(x) = \frac{9}{x} + x$ . Find critical points & locate min/max

Soln:  $f'(x) = -\frac{9}{x^2} + 1$ .

$f'$  is not defined at 0 but 0 is not in the domain of  $f$ . So,  $x=0$  is not a critical point.

$$f'(x) = 0 \Rightarrow -\frac{9}{x^2} + 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = \frac{9}{x^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \pm 3$$

Thus, critical points are  $x = 3, -3$ .



$$f'(-4) = -\frac{9}{16} + 1 > 0.$$

$$f'(1) = -9 + 1 < 0$$

$$f'(4) = -\frac{9}{16} + 1 > 0.$$

Thus, from sign chart, we have.. at  $x = -3$ ,  $f$  has a relative max.  
at  $x = 3$ ,  $f$  has a relative min.

$$f(-3) = \frac{9}{-3} + 3 = -6 \text{ is a relative max value.}$$

$$f(3) = \frac{9}{3} + 3 = 6 \text{ is a " min. value.}$$

[e.g.]  $f(x) = x^3 - 12x^2 + 36x$ . Find relative max/min.

Exercise

## 4.2 Applications of 2nd derivative

Note that provided  $f'$  is friendly, we can talk about  $f''$ . Hence ~~being~~ ~~at~~ we can apply same treatment to  $f'$  now as we did to  $f$  to figure out where  $f'$  is increasing/decreasing etc. etc.

Definition: Given a function  $f(x)$ , we say the graph of  $f$  is concave up (respectively, concave down)

on the interval  $(a, b)$  if  $f'(x)$  ~~is~~ is increasing.

i.e.  $f''(x) > 0$  on  $(a, b)$  (resp.  $f'(x)$  is decreasing, i.e.  $f''(x) < 0$  on  $(a, b)$ ).

$f''(x)$	$f'(x)$	Graph of $f$
+	increasing	concave up
-	decreasing	concave down



### Definition

An inflection point  $(a, f(a))$  of  $f$  is a point in the graph of  $f$  where concavity changes.

What happens ~~at~~ at an inflection point?

### Theorem

If  $y = f(x)$  is continuous on  $(a, b)$  and has an inflection point at  $x = c \in (a, b)$ , then either

$$f''(c) = 0 \text{ or } f''(c) \text{ DNE.}$$

~~It is not a point of relative max~~

Note  $f''(c) = 0$  does not imply that  $c$  is an inflection point. We have to check concavity change.

So, here's an algorithm:

## Finding Inflection Points.

① Compute  $f''(x)$ .

② Solve  $f''(x) = 0$  and also find  $x$  such that  $f''(x)$  DNE.

③ ~~Determine sign of  $f''(x)$~~  <sup>Draw</sup> Sign Chart for  $f''(x)$ :

⊗ if there is a change in sign as we move across a particular point  $c$ , then ~~this is an~~  $(c, f(c))$  is an inflection point.

e.g Find inflection point for  $g(x) = \frac{1}{x-3}$

$$g'(x) = -\frac{1}{(x-3)^2} ; g''(x) = -\frac{2}{(x-3)^3}$$

$g''(x) \neq 0$  for all  $x$  in the domain of  $g$ .

$g''$  is not defined at  $x=3$ . but  $x=3$  is not in the domain of  $g$ . So, 3 can't be included in our discussion.

So,  $g$  has no inflection point.

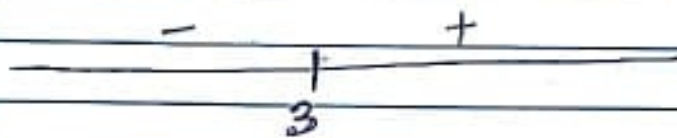


[e.g.] Find inflection points for  $f(x) = x^3 - 9x^2 + 24x - 10$ .

Ans:  $\cdot f'(x) = 3x^2 - 18x + 24$

$\cdot f''(x) = 6x - 18$ .

So,  $f''(x) = 0$  when  $x = 3$ . ;  $f''$  exists everywhere.  
(Thus 3 is the only candidate for checking)



$f''(2) = 12 - 18 < 0$   
 $f''(4) > 0$ .

Thus,  $(3, f(3))$  is an I.P. (inflection point).

### Second-derivative Test for local Max/Min.

① Compute  $f'(x)$ ,  $f''(x)$ .

② Compute all critical numbers of  $f$  at which  ~~$f'(x) = 0$~~

$f'(x) = 0$ .

③ Compute  $f''(c)$  for such critical number  $c$ .

① If  $f''(c) < 0$ , then  $f$  has a relative maximum at  $c$ .

② If  $f''(c) > 0$ , then  $f$  has a relative minimum at  $c$ .

③ If  $f''(c) = 0$  or  $f''(c)$  DNE, then Test is inconclusive.

(e.g.) Find relative max/min of the function:

$$f(x) = \frac{9}{x} + x.$$

Soln:  $f'(x) = -\frac{9}{x^2} + 1$ . So,  $f'(x) = 0$  at  $x = 3, -3$ .

$f''(x) = \frac{18}{x^3}$  ;  $f''(3) > 0$  at  $x = 3$   $f$  has a local min with value  $f(3) = 6$ .

$f''(-3) < 0$ . So, at  $x = -3$   $f$  has a local max with value  $-6$ .

First-Derivative Test is stronger than 2nd derivative Test.

e.g.  $f(x) = x^{2/3}$ . 2nd-derivative test can't be applied!!



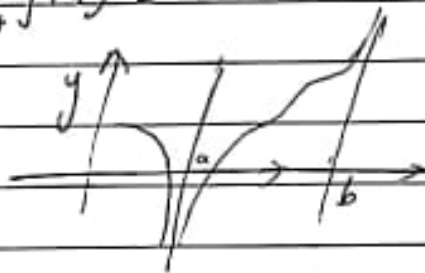
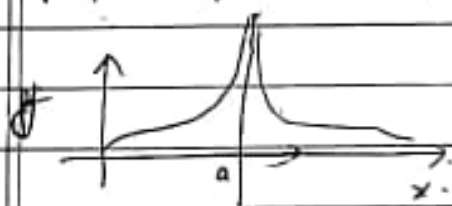
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Curve-Sketching

We'll use the tools we've developed so far to graph functions now.

We need two more tools:

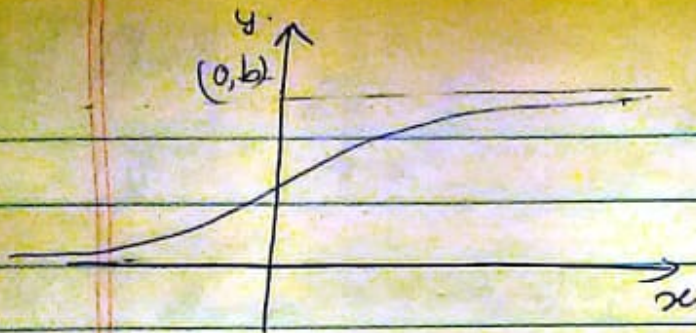
**Defn** The vertical line  $x=a$  is a vertical asymptote for the graph of  $y=f(x)$  if  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = \pm\infty$  or  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = \pm\infty$ .



**Theorem** If  $f(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$  is a rational function,

and if  $q(c)=0$ ,  $p(c) \neq 0$ , then  $x=c$  is a vertical asymptote of  $f$ .

**Defn** The horizontal line  $y=b$  is a horizontal asymptote of  $f$  for the graph of  $f$  if  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = b$  or  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = b$ .



$y=b$  &  $y=0$  are  
horiz. asymp...

Facts: Polynomials of degree 1 or greater never have

horizontal asymptotes as they go to  $-\infty$  or  $\infty$  as  $x$  blows up or becomes extremely small.



- A rational function can have only one horizontal asymptote.

Graphing Strategy

- The graph of a polynomial function never has a vertical or horizontal asymptote.



## Graphing Technique.

- ① Determine domain of  $f$ .
- ② Find  $x$  &  $y$  intercepts of  $f$ .
- ③ Determine the horizontal and vertical asymptotes of  $f$ .
- ④ Analyze  $f'(x)$ : find intervals where  $f$  is increasing, decreasing; find critical points; find relative extrema.
- ⑤ Analyze  $f''(x)$ : Find concavity; inflection points.
- ⑥ Sketch the graph:
  - a) Draw asymptotes
  - b) Locate intercepts, local extrema & inflection points.
  - c) Fill in gaps using info from Steps 1-4.  
Whenever unsure, compute values at some points & connect dots.

Ex-9 Sketch

$$g(x) = \frac{2x^2 + 5}{4 - x^2}$$

Soln: • Domain =  $(-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, 2) \cup (2, \infty)$ .

•  $2x^2 + 5 \neq 0$  anywhere. So, there is no  $x$ -intercept;

•  $g(0) = \frac{5}{4}$ . Thus  $(0, \frac{5}{4})$  is the  $y$ -intercept.

• Now,  $4 - x^2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \pm 2$  and  $2x^2 + 5 \neq 0$ . Thus,

$x = 2$  and  $x = -2$  are vertical asymptotes of  $g$ .  $\left[ \begin{array}{l} \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^-} f(x) = \infty \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow 2^+} f(x) = -\infty \end{array} \right]$

•  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2x^2 + 5}{4 - x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2 + \frac{5}{x^2}}{\frac{4}{x^2} - 1} = -2$ ; Thus,  $y = -2$  is the horizontal asymptote.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{2x^2 + 5}{4 - x^2} = -2;$$

•  $g'(x) = \frac{(4 - x^2)4x + 2(2x^2 + 5)x}{(4 - x^2)^2}$

$$= \frac{16x - 4x^3 + 4x^3 + 10x}{(4 - x^2)^2} = \frac{26x}{(4 - x^2)^2}$$

$g'(x) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0$ .  $[2, -2 \text{ are not in domain}]$

Thus,  $x = 0$  is the critical point.

$$\begin{array}{c} - \quad + \\ \hline 0 \end{array}$$

$$g'(-1) < 0$$

$$g'(1) > 0$$



Thus, at  $x=0$ , there is a relative minimum.

$$g''(x) = \frac{(4-x^2)^2 \cdot 26 - 26x(2(4-x)(-2x))}{(4-x^2)^4}$$

$$= \frac{(4-x^2)(26)[4-x^2+4x^2]}{(4-x^2)^4} = \frac{26(3x^2+4)}{(4-x^2)^3}$$

•  $g''(x) > 0$  for all  $x \neq \pm 2$ . (not in the domain).

No inflection points; always concave up for  $x \in (-2, 2)$   
concave down for  $x \in (2, \infty)$   
 $x \in (-\infty, -2)$



