

AP Calculus – Spot Check 2

Distance x (cm)	0	1	5	6	8
Temperature $T(x)$ ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	100	93	70	62	55

1. A metal wire of length 8 centimeters is heated at one end. The table above gives selected values of the temperature $T(x)$, in degrees Celsius ($^{\circ}\text{C}$), of the wire x cm from the heated end. The function T is decreasing and twice differentiable.

a. Estimate $T'(7)$. Show the work that lead to your answer. Indicate units of measure.

$$T'(7) = \frac{T(8) - T(6)}{8 - 6} = \frac{55 - 62}{8 - 6} = -\frac{7}{2} \text{ } ^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{cm}$$

b. Are the data in the table consistent with the assertion that $T''(x) > 0$ for every x in the interval $0 < x < 8$? Explain your answer.

$T'(.5) = -\frac{7}{2}$ $T'(3) = -\frac{23}{4}$
 T'' not greater than 0 $T'(5.5) = -8$ $T'(7) = -\frac{7}{2}$
 because slopes steeper in negative direction.

2. Consider the function given by $y = \frac{1}{x^2 - 6x + 13}$ and the coordinate of $\left(3, \frac{1}{4}\right)$ located on that function.

a. Show that $\frac{dy}{dx} = y^2(6 - 2x)$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -1(x^2 - 6x + 13)^{-2}(2x - 6)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-2x + 6}{(x^2 - 6x + 13)^2}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = y^2(6 - 2x)$$

↑

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \left(\frac{1}{x^2 - 6x + 13}\right)^2(6 - 2x)$$

b. Find $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$ and evaluate it at the coordinate $\left(3, \frac{1}{4}\right)$.

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -2y^2 + 2y(6 - 2x)\frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$= -2\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2 + 2\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)(6 - 2(3))\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2(6 - 2(3))$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -\frac{1}{8}$$

c. If $\frac{dy}{dx}$ is velocity and $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$ is acceleration, then at the coordinate $\left(3, \frac{1}{4}\right)$ is the object speeding up, slowing down, or neither?

$$\frac{dy}{dx}\bigg|_{(3, \frac{1}{4})} = 0$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}\bigg|_{(3, \frac{1}{4})} = -\frac{1}{8}$$