

3.2: Maximum and Minimum Values on an Interval (i.e. Extreme Values)

Date: _____

The extreme values of a function f on an interval $[a, b]$ occur where:

→ $f'(x) = 0$ provided that $x \in (a, b)$ or

→ when $x = a$ or $x = b$.

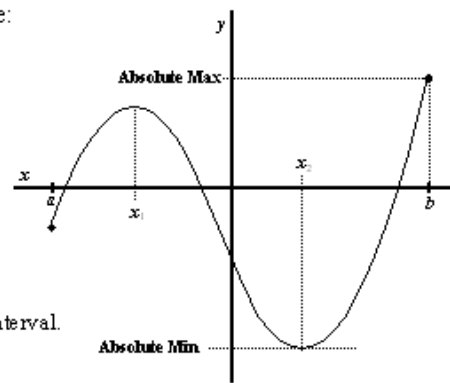
This is only the case when $f(x)$ is continuous on the interval $[a, b]$.

Note:

$f(x_1)$ is a **local maximum**.

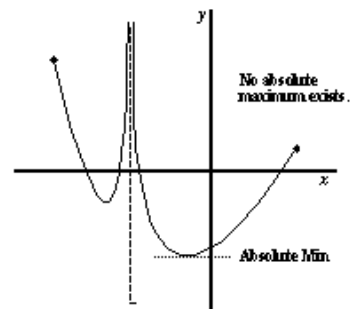
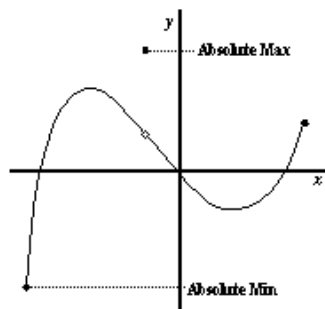
$f(x_1)$ is a **local minimum** and the **absolute minimum** value of the function on the interval.

$f(b)$ is the **absolute maximum** value of the function on the interval.



If the function $f(x)$ is NOT continuous on the interval,

then those areas of discontinuity must also be checked for potential extreme values.



Ex1. Find the extreme values of the following functions and provide a quick sketch on the given interval.

a. $f(x) = -x^3 + 6x^2 + 5$ on $x \in [-3, 5]$

Check

$$f'(x) = -3x^2 + 12x$$

$$= -3x(x-4)$$

∴ $f'(x) = 0$ when

$$x = 0 \text{ or } 4$$

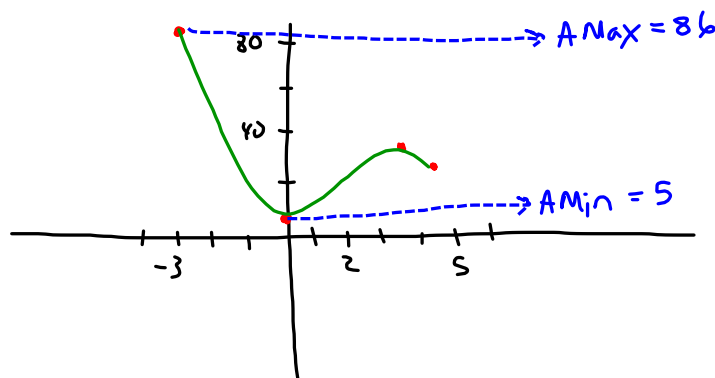
$$f(-3) = 86 \leftarrow \text{A Max}$$

$$f(0) = 5 \leftarrow \text{A Min}$$

$$f(4) = 37$$

$$f(5) = 30$$

$$\therefore \text{A Max} = 86, \text{A Min} = 5$$



b. $C(t) = -t^3 + t^2 + 21t$, $0 \leq t \leq 5$

$$C'(t) = -3t^2 + 2t + 21$$

$$= -(3t^2 - 2t - 21)$$

$$= -\frac{(3t-9)(3t+7)}{3}$$

$$= -(t-3)(3t+7)$$

Check

$$C(0) = 0$$

$$C(3) = 45$$

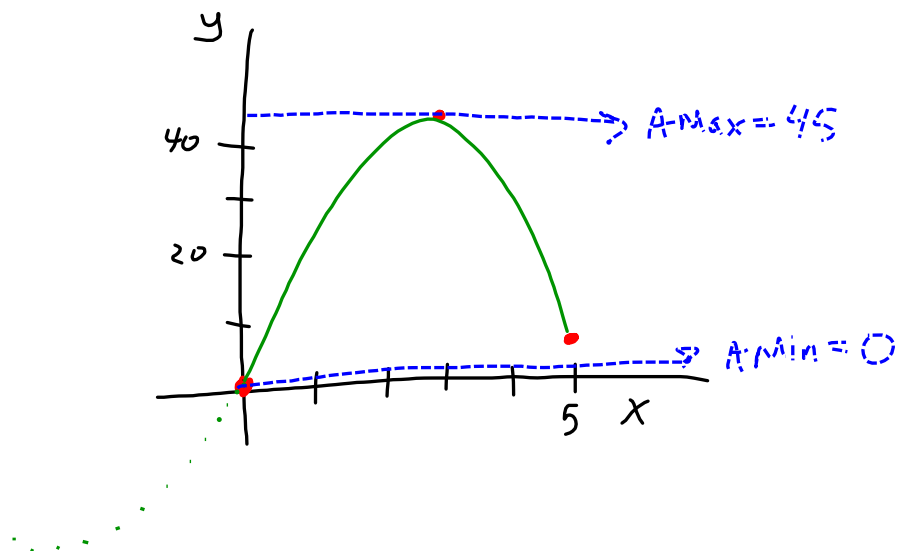
$$C(5) = 5$$

$$C'(t) = 0 \text{ when}$$

$$t = 3 \text{ or } t = -\frac{7}{3}$$

$$\therefore A_{\text{Max}} = 45$$

$$A_{\text{Min}} = 0$$



c. $I(t) = \frac{t^2 + 2t + 16}{t + 2}$, $t \in [-10, 6]$

$$I'(t) = \frac{(2t+2)(t+2) - (t^2+2t+16)(1)}{(t+2)^2}$$

$$= \frac{2t^2 + 6t + 4 - t^2 - 2t - 16}{(t+2)^2}$$

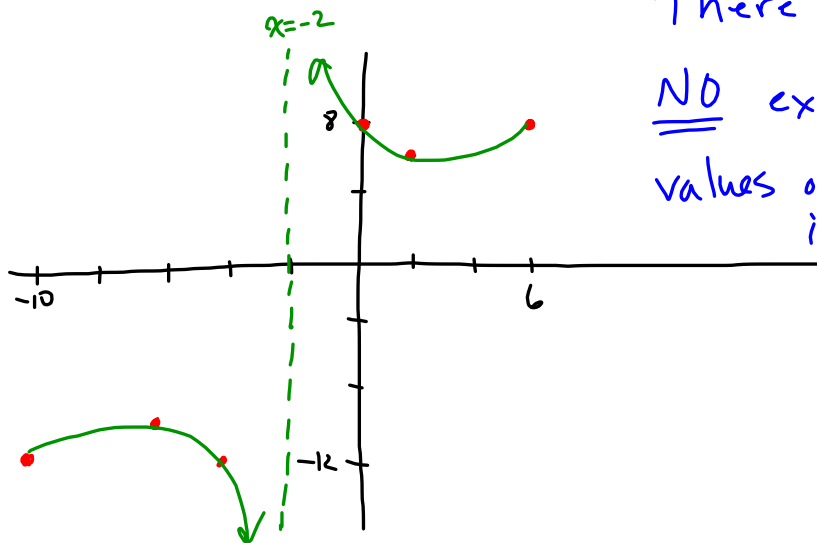
$$= \frac{t^2 + 4t - 12}{(t+2)^2}$$

$$= \frac{(t+6)(t-2)}{(t+2)^2}$$

t	I
-10	-12
-6	-10
-4	-12
-2	X
0	8
2	6
6	8

$I'(t) = 0$ when $t = -6, 2$

VA @ $x = -2$



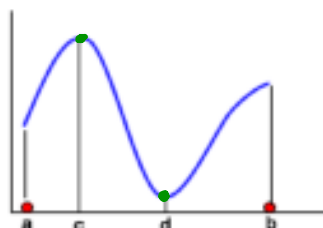
There are
NO extreme
values on this
interval.

Ex2.

Extreme Value Theorem:

If f is continuous over a closed interval, then f has a maximum and minimum value over that interval.

Identify where the absolute minimum and maximum values are located in each of the three cases above.

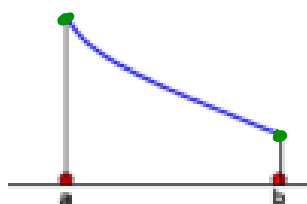


Where?

A_{Max} is at $(c, f(c))$
A_{Min} is at $(d, f(d))$

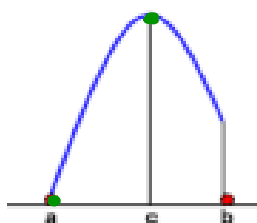
Don't usually care about "where"

When?



A_{Max} when $x=a$
A_{Min} when $x=b$

What?



A_{Max} is $f(b)$
A_{Min} is $f(a)$