

Mean Value Theorem

Suppose $f(x)$ is a function that satisfies both of the following.

- $f(x)$ is continuous on the closed interval $[a, b]$.
- $f(x)$ is differentiable on the open interval (a, b) .

Then there is a number c such that $a < c < b$ and

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$$

- Simple definition: If a and b (variables) exist on a graph with either defined points or undefined points, then c should exist too :)

Steps

- Take the derivative of x
- Using equation above, solve for $f'(c)$ by plugging in given (a, b) values
- Set $f(x)$ and $f'(c)$ equal to each other
- Use the **quadratic formula** to find c
- From the two c answers you obtain, choose the one within the interval

Example

Determine all the numbers of c that will satisfy the mean value theorem of the following function.

$$f(x) = x^3 + 2x^2 - x \quad \text{on} \quad [-1, 2]$$

- Find $f'(x)$

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 + 4x - 1$$

- Find $f'(c)$

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(2) - f(-1)}{2 - (-1)}$$

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$$

- $f(x) = f'(c)$

$$3c^2 + 4c - 1 = \frac{14 - 2}{3} = \frac{12}{3} = 4$$

- Quadratic Formula

$$3c^2 + 4c - 5 = 0$$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$c = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 4(3)(-5)}}{6} = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{76}}{6}$$

$$c = \frac{-4 + \sqrt{76}}{6} = 0.7863 \quad c = \frac{-4 - \sqrt{76}}{6} = -2.1196$$

- Find C

- The two answer choices we get are 0.7863 and -2.1196
- Since -2.1196 is out of our interval $[-1, 2]$, the answer is 0.7863

Maximum and Minimum Values

- The turning points on a graph
- Can be classified as local (min or max) or absolute (min or max)
- Turns make concave shapes meaning that the graph turns inward

Concavity

- Can be either upward (increasing) or downward (decreasing)

Local/ Absolute Min and Max

- The x value at which the function has a max or min is called a critical value

Practice Problems

Example: Find the absolute maxima and minima for the following function

$$y = 5x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x$$

$$1) y'(x) = 15x^2 + 4x - 3$$

$$2) \text{ Quadratic Formula}$$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 4(5)(-3)}}{2(5)}$$

$$x = -3/5$$

$$x = 1/3$$

$$3) y''$$

$$y = 5x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x$$

$$y' = 15x^2 + 4x - 3$$

$$y'' = 30x + 4$$

$$4) \text{ Plug in both } x \text{ values into } y''$$

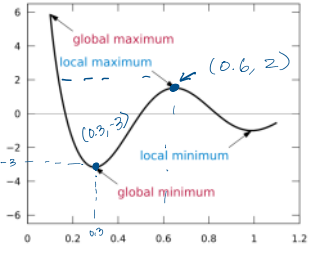
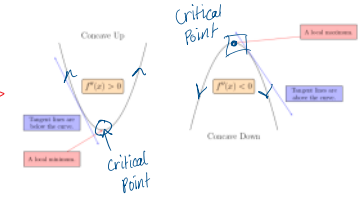
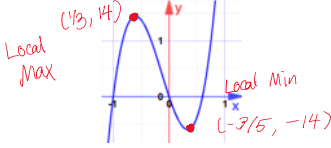
$$y'' = 30(-3/5) + 4 = -14$$

$$y'' = 30(1/3) + 4 = 14$$

$$5) \text{ Plug in } x \text{ values given and found}$$

$$\text{Since the answer } (-14) \text{ is } < 0 \rightarrow \text{local min}$$

$$\text{Since the answer } (14) \text{ is } > 0 \rightarrow \text{local max}$$



Horizontal Asymptote

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2 + 2}{x^2 - 1} = \frac{\# 4^a}{\# 6^b} \quad a = b$$

$$\frac{x^2 + 2}{x^2 - 1} = \frac{x^2}{x^2} = \frac{\# x^2}{\# x^2} = 1$$

Notes:

- top deg < bottom deg \rightarrow answer is $y = 0$
- top deg = bottom deg $\rightarrow y = \frac{n}{m}$ (n and m are coefficients)
- top deg > bottom deg \rightarrow No horiz. asymp.

Vertical Asymptote

$$f(x) = \frac{x+1}{x^2-1} \quad \leftarrow b(x)$$

$$b(x) = 0$$

$$x^2 - 1 = 0$$

Faster

$$x^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$x^2 = 1$$

$$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{1}$$

$$x = \pm 1$$

Easier

$$x^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$(x-1)(x+1)$$

$$x-1 = 0 \quad x+1 = 0$$

$$x = 1 \quad x = -1$$

$$x = 1 \text{ and } -1$$

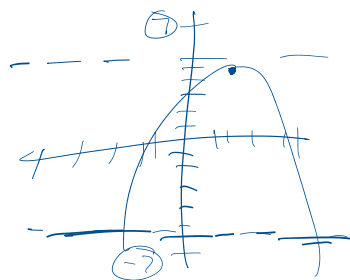
Notes:

$$f(x) = \frac{a(x)}{b(x)}$$

$$b(x) \neq 0$$

$$b(x) = 0 \leftarrow \text{Find the zeros}$$

Graphing Example



Known:

$$V_{\text{asym}} = \pm \infty$$

$h_{\text{asym}} = \text{none}$

Interval

$$[-2, 1]$$

$$f(x) = -x^2 + 1$$

Quadratic

V or \wedge

Increase by 1

$$f(x) = (-2)^2 + 1$$

$$= 4 + 1$$

$$y = 5$$

$$x = -2$$

$$\rightarrow (-2, 5)$$