

Goals

- First derivative test
- Concavity & inflection points
- Second derivative test

Recall Cor 3 of MVT:

$f' > 0$  on  $I \Rightarrow f$  increasing on  $I$

$f' < 0$  on  $I \Rightarrow f$  decreasing on  $I$



$$f' > 0$$

$f$  increasing  
note:  $f'$  also increasing



$$f' < 0$$

dec



$$f' > 0$$

but dec

still  $f$  increasing



$$f' < 0$$

inc  
 $f$  decreasing

First derivative test Suppose  $f$  cts over interval  $I$

containing a critical point  $c$ . If  $f$  is diff'l over  $I$  except possibly at  $c$ , then  $f(c)$  satisfies one of the following descriptions:

(i) if  $f'$  changes sign from positive (for  $x < c$ ) to

negative (for  $x > c$ ), then  $f(c)$  is a local max  
of  $f$



(ii) if  $f'$  changes sign from negative (for  $x < c$ ) to

positive (for  $x > c$ ), then  $f(c)$  is a local min



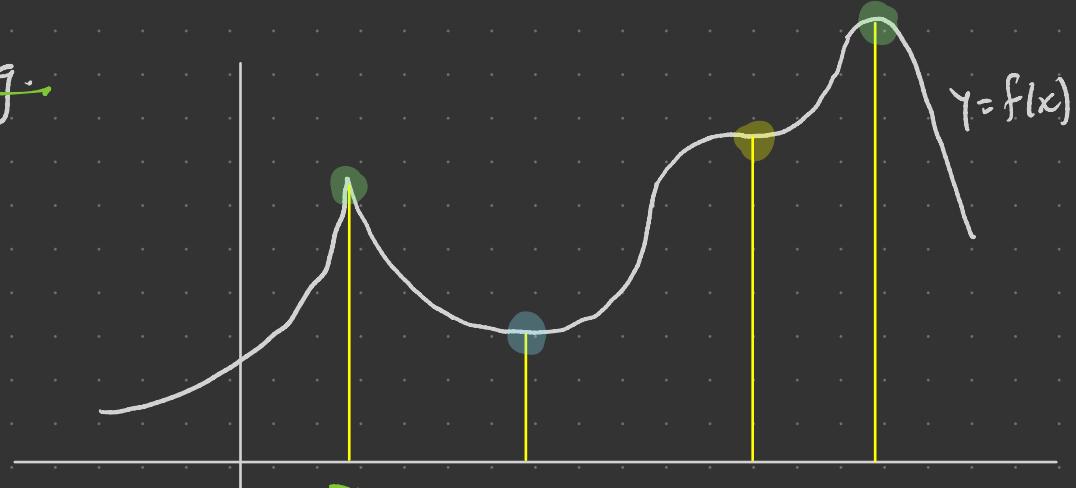
of  $f$



(iii) if  $f'$  has the same sign left and right of  $c$ , then  
 $f(c)$  is not a local extremum.



E.g.



$$y = f(x)$$

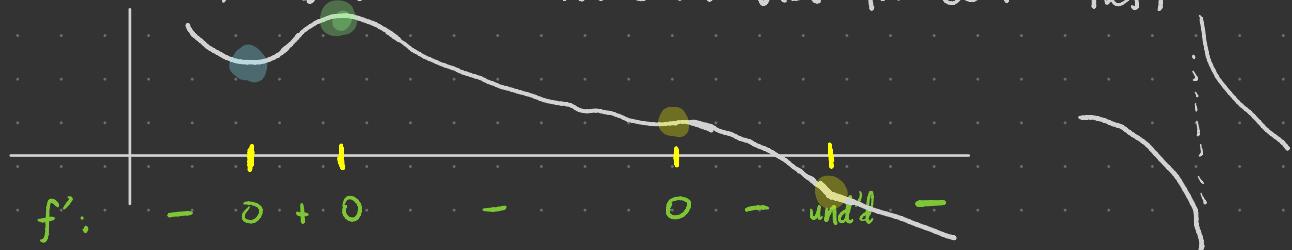
local max

local min

not a local  
extremum

$$f': \quad + \quad \underset{\text{undefined}}{-} \quad 0 \quad + \quad 0 \quad + \quad 0 \quad -$$

Problem Draw a graph with the following "signature":  
and label local extrema via 1st deriv test



$$f': \quad - \quad 0 \quad + \quad 0 \quad - \quad - \quad 0 \quad - \quad \text{und} \quad -$$

E.g. Let's use the first derivative test to find all local extrema

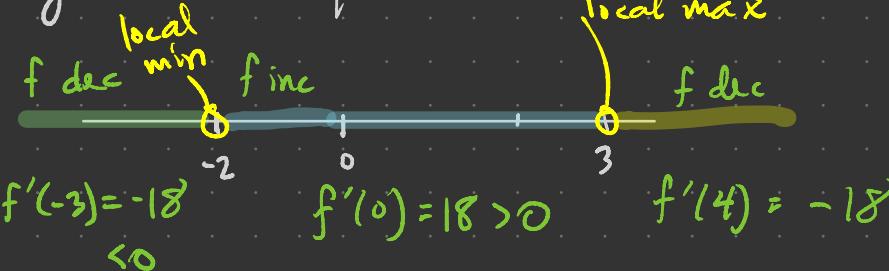
of  $f(x) = -x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 18x$ .

We have  $f'(x) = -3x^2 + 3x + 18$

$$= -3(x^2 - x - 6)$$

$$= -3(x-3)(x+2)$$

so the only critical points are  $x = -2, 3$ .



By the 1st deriv test,  $f(-2) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  is a local min &  $f(3) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$  is a local max.

## Concavity

Defn Let  $f$  be a function that is diff'l on an open interval  $I$ .

If  $f'$  is increasing over  $I$ , we say  $f$  is concave up on  $I$ ;

If  $f'$  is decreasing over  $I$ , we say  $f$  is concave down on  $I$ .

E.g.

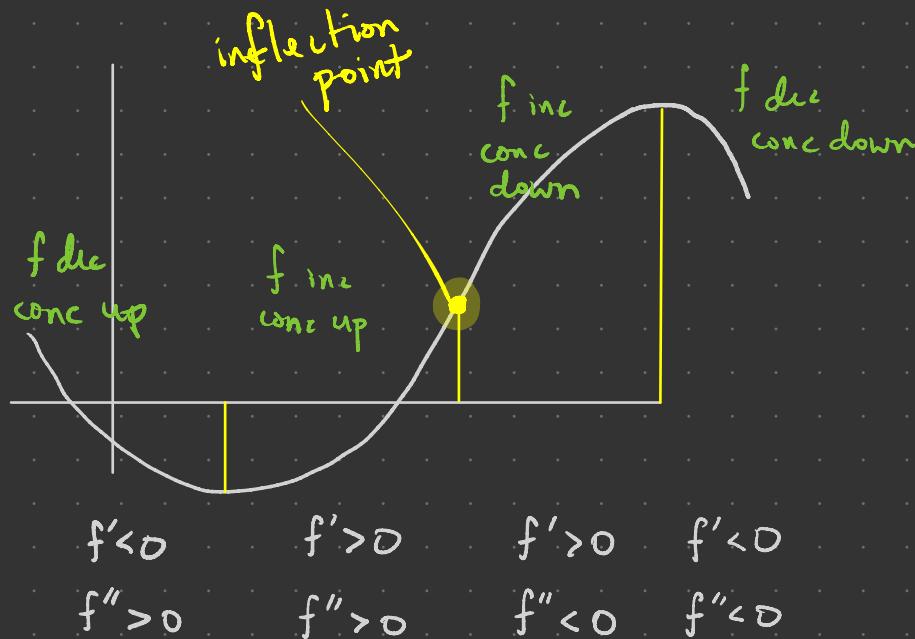


Concavity test Let  $f$  be twice diff'l on an interval  $I$ .

(i) If  $f''(x) > 0$  for all  $x \in I$ , then  $f$  is concave up on  $I$ .

(ii) If  $f''(x) < 0$  for all  $x \in I$ , then  $f$  is concave down on  $I$ .

Defn If  $f$  is cts at  $a$  and  $f$  changes concavity at  $a$ ,  
then point  $(a, f(a))$  is an inflection point of  $f$



## inflection point noun

1 : a moment when significant change occurs or may occur : **TURNING POINT**

At 18, Bobby is at an *inflection point* that will largely determine the course of his life.

— Stacy Perman

... the gradual move away from big-iron machines toward work stations and personal computers has been going on for years in corporate America—but the *inflection point* came suddenly.

— Steve Lohr

It depends on us, on the choices we make, particularly at certain *inflection points* in history; particularly when big changes are happening and everything seems up for grabs.

— Barack Obama

2 : mathematics : a point on a curve that separates an arc concave upward from one concave downward and vice versa

## Second derivative test

Suppose  $f'(c) = 0$ ,  $f''$  is continuous over an interval containing  $c$ .

(i) If  $f''(c) > 0$ , then  $f$  has a local min at  $c$ .

(ii) If  $f''(c) < 0$ , then  $f$  has a local max at  $c$ .

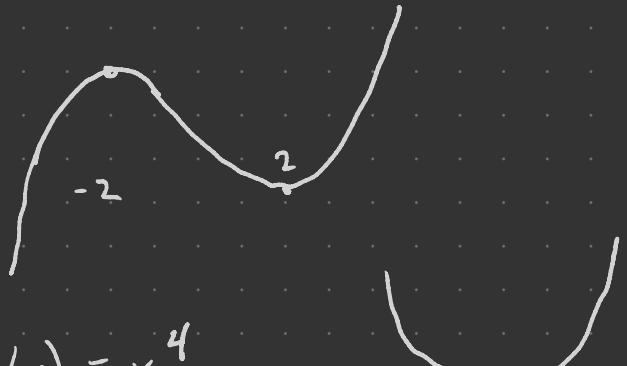
(iii) If  $f''(c) = 0$ , then the test is inconclusive.

E.g. If  $f(x) = x^3 - 12x + 5$  then  $f'(x) = 3x^2 - 12 = 3(x^2 - 4) = 3(x+2)(x-2)$ .

Thus  $f'(x) = 0$  for  $x = \pm 2$ . Now  $f''(x) = 6x$  and

$f''(-2) = -12 \Rightarrow x = -2$  is a local max

$f''(2) = 12 \Rightarrow x = 2$  is a local min.



E.g.  $f(x) = x^4$

$$f'(x) = 4x^3 = 0 \text{ iff } x=0$$

$$f''(x) = 12x^2 \Rightarrow f''(0) = 0 \quad \begin{matrix} \text{second deriv test} \\ \text{inconclusive} \end{matrix}$$

Multivariable



saddle