

Math Camp Calculus Day 2: Solutions for Selected Exercises

Optimization

Find the local minimum and local maximum of the function below, and check mathematically which is the minimum and which is the maximum:

$$x^3 - x^2 + 1$$

To find local minima and maxima, find the first derivative:

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

...then set it to 0 and solve for x :

$$\begin{aligned} 3x^2 - 2x &= 0 \\ x(3x - 2) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

which means $x = 0$

or

$$3x - 2 = 0 \implies x = \frac{2}{3}$$

So $x = 0$ and $x = \frac{2}{3}$ are local minima or maxima

Optimization (continued)

To check which is the maximum and which is the minimum, find the second derivative:

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

...and then plug in the x values where we suspect the maxima or minima to be:

$$f''(0) = 6 \cdot 0 - 2 = -2 \implies \text{a local maximum, because } f''(0) < 0$$

$$f''\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = 6 \cdot \frac{2}{3} - 2 = 2 \implies \text{a local minimum, because } f''\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) > 0$$

Partial derivatives

Find the partial derivatives of the function below with respect to each variable

$$g(p, q) = 8p^2q + 4pq - 7pq^2 + 18$$

First, the partial derivative with respect to p :

$$\frac{\partial[f(p, q)]}{\partial p} = 16pq + 4q - 7q^2$$

Now, the partial derivative with respect to q :

$$\frac{\partial[f(p, q)]}{\partial q} = 8p^2 + 4p - 14pq$$

Partial higher-order derivatives

Consider again $f(x, y) = 3x^3y^2$. Find:

- $\frac{\partial^3}{\partial x^2 \partial y}$
- $\frac{\partial^3}{\partial x \partial y^2}$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^3}{\partial x^2 \partial y}(3x^3y^2) &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}(2 \cdot 3x^3y^{2-1}) \\ &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}(6x^3y) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(3 \cdot 6x^{3-1}y) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(18x^2y) \\ &= 2 \cdot 18xy \\ &= 36xy\end{aligned}$$

Partial higher-order derivatives (cont.)

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^3}{\partial x \partial y^2}(3x^3y^2) &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y}(2 \cdot 3x^3y^{2-1}) \\ &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y}(6x^3y) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(6x^3y^{1-1}) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x}(6x^3) \\ &= 3 \cdot 6x^{3-1} \\ &= 18x^2\end{aligned}$$

Integrals

Find the indefinite integral of the function below, and calculate the area under the curve between 0 and 1:

$$\int (2x^3 - 3x^2 + 7x + 4) dx$$

First, let's find the indefinite integral by taking an antiderivative of this function:

$$\begin{aligned}\int (2x^3 - 3x^2 + 7x + 4) &= \int 2x^3 dx - \int 3x^2 dx + \int 7x + \int 4 \\&= 2 \int x^3 dx - 3 \int x^2 dx + 7 \int x + \int 4 \\&= \frac{2}{3+1} x^{3+1} - \frac{3}{2+1} x^{2+1} + \frac{7}{1+1} x^{1+1} + 4x + C \\&= \frac{1}{2} x^4 - x^3 + \frac{7}{2} x^2 + 4x + C\end{aligned}$$

Integrals (cont.)

Now, let's substitute $x = 0$ and $x = 1$ to find the area between 0 and 1:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^1 (2x^3 - 3x^2 + 7x + 4)dx &= \frac{1}{2}x^4 - x^3 + \frac{7}{2}x^2 + 4x \Big|_0^1 \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{2} \cdot 1^4 - 1^3 + \frac{7}{2} \cdot 1^2 + 4 \cdot 1 \right) \\ &\quad - \left(\frac{1}{2} \cdot 0^4 - 0^3 + \frac{7}{2} \cdot 0^2 + 4 \cdot 0 \right) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{2} - 1 + \frac{7}{2} + 4 \right) - (0 - 0 + 0 + 0) \\ &= 7\end{aligned}$$