

SECTION 4-3: HOW DERIVATIVES AFFECT THE SHAPE OF A GRAPH, DAY 1

1. Consider $f(x) = \frac{2}{3}x^3 + x^2 - 12x + 7$, and observe $f'(x) = 2x^2 - 2x - 12 = 2(x-2)(x+3)$.

(a) What are the critical points of $f(x)$? (Where does $f'(x) = 0$?) $x = 2$ and $x = -3$

(b) Fill in the following table, by evaluating $f'(x)$ at "sample points" in the intervals:

x	$x < -3$	-3	$-3 < x < 2$	2	$x > 2$
sample point	-4	-3	0	2	5
sign or value of f'	$+$	0	$-$	0	$+$
Increasing/decreasing: f is \nearrow or \searrow	\nearrow		\searrow		\nearrow

$$f'(-4) = 2(-4-2)(-4+3) = 2(-6)(-1) = \text{positive}$$

$$f'(0) = 2(0-2)(0+3) = 2(-)(+) = -$$

$$f'(5) = 2(5-2)(5+3) = 2(+)(+) = +$$

(c) On what interval(s) is $f(x)$ increasing? $(-\infty, -3) \cup (2, \infty)$ decreasing? $(-3, 2)$

(d) Use the First Derivative Test to determine where f has a local max and local min (if any):

i. Local max at $x = \underline{-3}$ because f' goes from $+$ to $-$. Value of local max: $y = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

ii. Local min at $x = \underline{2}$ because f' goes from $-$ to $+$. Value of local min: $y = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

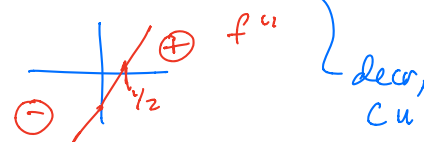
(e) It is a fact that $f''(x) = 4x - 2$, so $f''(x) = 0$ when $x = \underline{1/2}$. $0 = 4x - 2 \Rightarrow 4x = 2 \Rightarrow x = 1/2$

Fill in the expanded chart:

x	$x < -3$	-3	$-3 < x < 1/2$	$1/2$	$1/2 < x < 2$	2	$x > 2$
sample point	-4	-3	0	$1/2$	1	2	5
sign or value of f'	$+$	0	$-$	$-$	$-$	0	$+$
sign or value of f''	$-$	$-$	$-$	0	$+$	$+$	$+$
concavity: f is $\nearrow \searrow \nearrow \searrow$	\searrow		\searrow		\nearrow		\nearrow

increasing but CD

decr but CD



(f) Use the Second Derivative Test to determine where f has local maxima or minima:

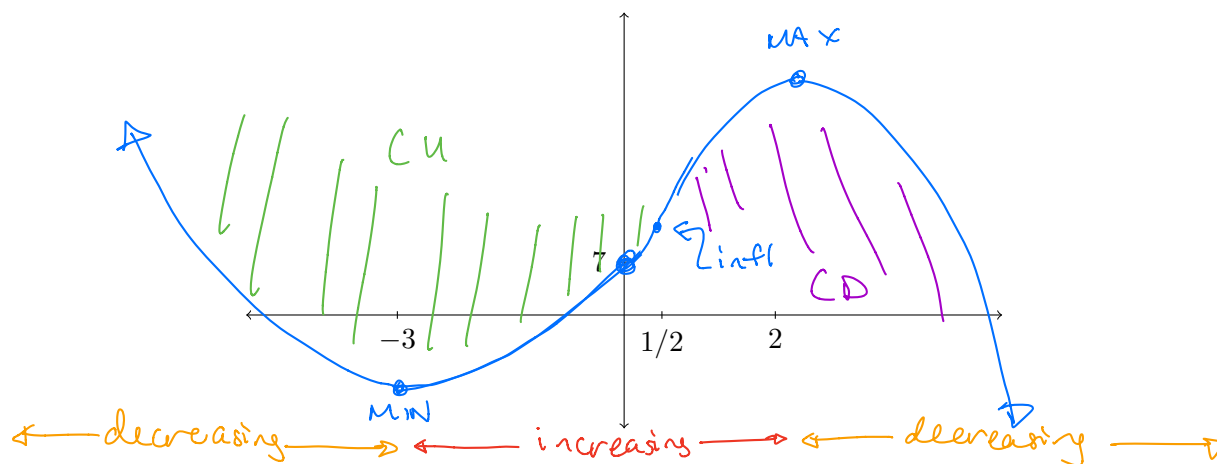
i. Local max at $x = \underline{-3}$ because $f'(-3) = \underline{0}$ and $f''(-3)$ is negative.

ii. Local min at $x = \underline{2}$ because $f'(2) = \underline{0}$ and $f''(2)$ is positive.

(g) Where does f have an inflection point? $x = \underline{1/2}$

How do you know? f'' changes sign $\Rightarrow f$ changes concavity

- (h) Use the information you collected to sketch the graph of $f(x)$. You don't have to be accurate with the y -values, but they should be correct relative to each other. Because $f(0) = 7$, you can use that to "nail down" the position of your curve on the graph. Note that



2. Consider $g(x) = xe^x$, and note $g'(x) = xe^x + e^x = e^x(x+1)$ and $g''(x) = e^x(x+2)$.

- (a) What are the critical point(s) of $g(x)$? $x = -1$
 (b) Where is g increasing? $x > -1$
 (c) Use the First Derivative Test to determine whether g has a local max or min at its critical point.

x	$x < -1$	-1	$x > -1$
test	-2	-1	0
g'	$-$	0	$+$
incr/decr	\searrow		\nearrow

$$g'(-2) = e^{-2}(-2+1) = +(-) = -$$

$$g'(0) = 1(1) = +$$

So g has a local min at $x = -1$.

- (d) Use the Second Derivative Test to determine whether g has a local max or min at its critical point.

$$g''(-1) = e^{-1}(-1+2) = \frac{2}{e} > 0$$

so by 2nd derivative test because $g'(-1) = 0$ and $g''(-1) > 0$,
 $x = -1$ is a local min.

3. Consider the function $h(x) = x^3$ and observe $h'(x) = 3x^2$ and $h''(x) = 6x$.

(a) What are the critical point(s) of $h(x)$?

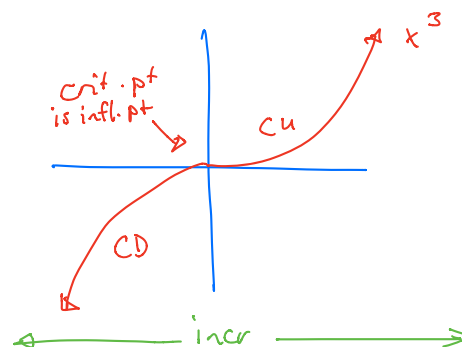
$x = 0$ is the only critical point

(b) What happens when you try to use the Second Derivative Test to determine whether h has a local max or min at its critical point?

Test fails! $h'(0) = 0$ and $h''(0) = 0$ so we can't make a conclusion.

(c) Make a table of first and second derivatives to determine where h is increasing, decreasing, concave up, and/or concave down. Then sketch h .

x	$x < 0$	0	$x > 0$
Sample	-1	0	1
Sign of h'	+	0	+
incr/decr	↗		↗
Sign of h''	-	0	+
concavity	↘		↗



4. Consider the function $j(x) = x^4$ and observe $j'(x) = 4x^3$ and $j''(x) = 12x^2$.

(a) What are the critical point(s) of $j(x)$?

$x = 0$

(b) What happens when you try to use the Second Derivative Test to determine whether j has a local max or min at its critical point?

Failure! $j'(0) = 0$ and $j''(0) = 0$. Second Deriv. Test gives no info.

(c) Make a table of first and second derivatives to determine where j is increasing, decreasing, concave up, and/or concave down. Then sketch j .

x	$x < 0$	0	$x > 0$
Sample	-1	0	1
Sign of j'	-	0	+
incr/decr	↘		↗
Sign of j''	+	0	+
concavity	↘		↗

