

# LECTURE NOTES: 4-5 CURVE SKETCHING (PART 2)

**WARM UP PROBLEM** Find your copy of the Graphing Guidelines!

**PRACTICE PROBLEMS**

- Sketch the curve  $y = x - 2 \sin x$  on  $[-2\pi, 2\pi]$ .

(a) Find the domain.

$\mathbb{R}$

(b) Find the  $x$  and  $y$ -intercepts.

when  $x=0$ ,  $y=0$ .

when  $y=0$ , ... solve  $2 \sin x = x$ ? hard. let it go.

(c) Find the symmetries/ periodicity of the curve.

$x, \sin x$  both odd.

So I expect the function to be odd.

(d) Determine the asymptotes.

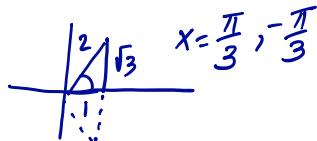
none.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x - 2 \sin x = \infty, \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} x - 2 \sin x = -\infty.$$

(e,f) Determine where the function is increasing/ decreasing and find the local maximum/ minimum values

$$y' = 1 - 2 \cos x = 0$$

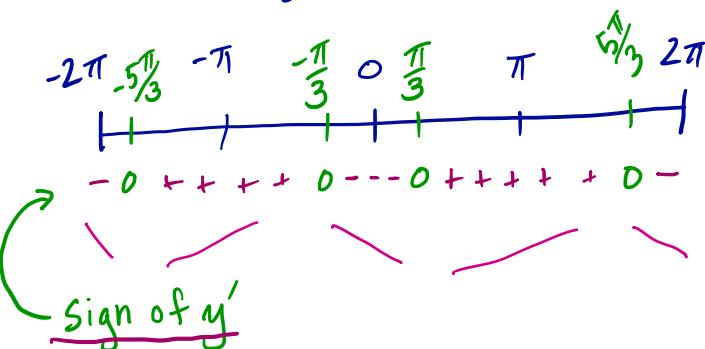
$$\cos x = \frac{1}{2}$$



critical points in  $[-2\pi, 2\pi]$

are:

$$x = -\frac{5\pi}{3}, -\frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{5\pi}{3}$$



ANS:

$y$  is increasing on  $(-\frac{5\pi}{3}, -\frac{\pi}{3}) \cup (\frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{5\pi}{3})$

and decreasing on  $(-\frac{5\pi}{3}, -\frac{\pi}{3}) \cup (-\frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{\pi}{3}) \cup (\frac{\pi}{3}, \frac{5\pi}{3})$ .

local minimums at  $x = -\frac{5\pi}{3}$ , min value  $-\frac{5\pi}{3} + \sqrt{3}$

at  $x = \frac{\pi}{3}$ , min value  $\frac{\pi}{3} - \sqrt{3}$

at  $x = 2\pi$ , min value  $2\pi$

local maximums at  $x = -2\pi$ , max value  $-2\pi$

at  $x = -\frac{\pi}{3}$ , max value  $-\frac{\pi}{3} + \sqrt{3}$

at  $x = \frac{5\pi}{3}$ , max value  $\frac{5\pi}{3} - \sqrt{3}$

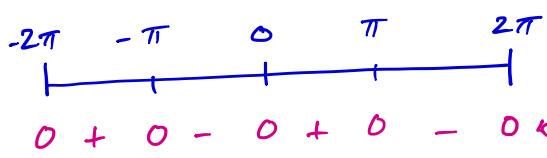
(g) Find the intervals of concavity/inflection points.

$$y' = 1 - 2\cos x$$

$$\text{So } y'' = 2\sin x.$$

$$\text{So } y'' = 0 \text{ in } [-2\pi, 2\pi]$$

$$\text{when } x = -2\pi, -\pi, 0, \pi, 2\pi$$



answer:

$y$  is concave up on  $(-\pi, \pi) \cup (0, \pi)$  and  
concave down on  $(-\pi, 0) \cup (\pi, 2\pi)$ .

inflection points:

$x$	$-\pi$	$0$	$\pi$
$y$	$-\pi$	$0$	$\pi$

✓      ✓      ✓

(h) Sketch the curve.

points to plot:

$$(-2\pi, -2\pi) \checkmark$$

$$(-\frac{5\pi}{3}, \approx -3.5) \checkmark$$

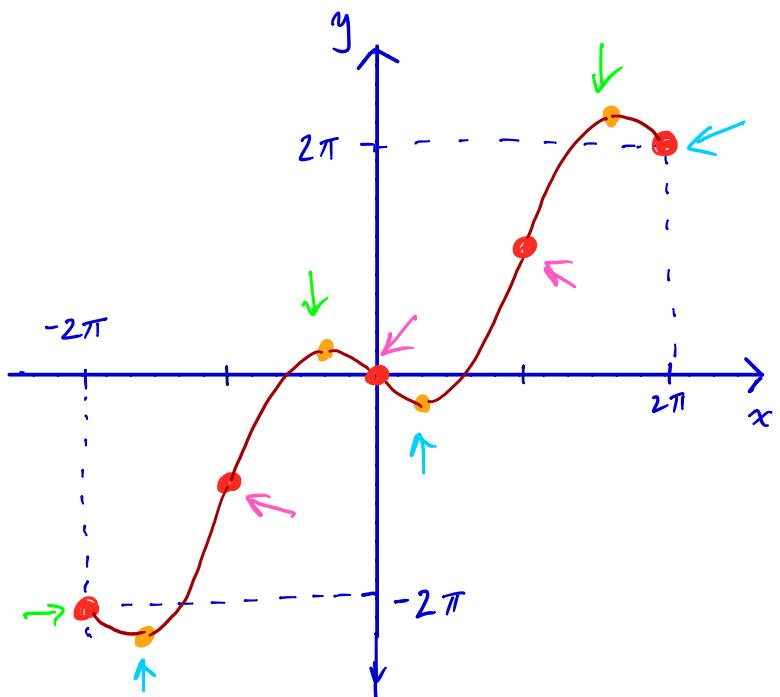
$$(-\frac{\pi}{3}, \approx 0.69) \checkmark$$

$$(0, 0) \checkmark$$

$$(\frac{\pi}{3}, \approx -0.69) \checkmark$$

$$(\frac{5\pi}{3}, \approx 3.5) \checkmark$$

$$(2\pi, 2\pi) \checkmark$$



• local max pts

• inflection pts

• local min pts

2. Sketch the graph of  $f(x) = \frac{3x^2}{x^2 + 4}$

(a) Find the domain.  $\mathbb{R}$  (denominator never zero!)

(b) Find the  $x$  and  $y$ -intercepts.

$$x=0, y=0.$$

(c) Find the symmetries/ periodicity of the curve.

all terms are even.  $f(x)$  is even.

(d) Determine the asymptotes.

$y=3$  since  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} f(x) = 3$ . No vertical.

(e,f) Determine where the function is increasing/ decreasing and find the local maximum/ minimum values

$$f'(x) = \frac{24x}{(x^2+4)^2}$$

\* details on  
added page!

answer:

$f$  is increasing on  $(0, \infty)$  and decreasing on  $(-\infty, 0)$ .

$f$  has a local minimum at  $x=0$  with minimum value  $f(0)=0$ .

$f$  has no local maximums.

(g) Find the intervals of concavity/inflection points.

$$f''(x) = \frac{24(4-3x^2)}{(x^2+4)^3}$$

\* details on  
added page

answer

$f$  is concave up on  $(-\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}})$  and concave down on  $(-\infty, -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}) \cup (\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}, \infty)$ .

Inflection points  $(-\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{3}{4})$  and  $(\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{3}{4})$

$f''=0$  when  $x = \pm \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$   
 $f''$  never undefined.

(h) Sketch the curve.

points to plot

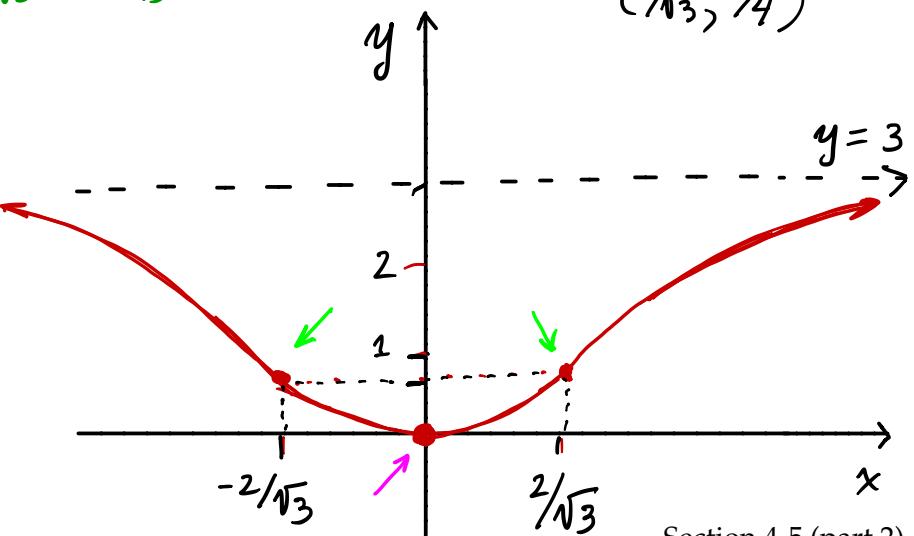
$$(0, 0)$$

$$\left(-\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{3}{4}\right)$$

$$\left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{3}{4}\right)$$

• inflection points

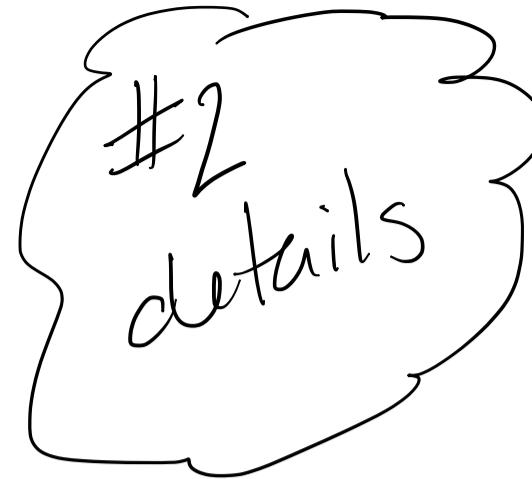
• local min. pt.



\* details

$$f(x) = \frac{3x^2}{x^2 + 4}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \frac{(x^2+4)(6x) - (3x^2)(2x)}{(x^2+4)^2} = \frac{6x^3 + 24x - 6x^3}{(x^2+4)^2} \\ &= \frac{24x}{(x^2+4)^2} \end{aligned}$$



\* details

$$\begin{aligned} f''(x) &= \frac{(x^2+4)^2(24) - (24x)(2(x^2+4)(2x))}{(x^2+4)^4} \\ &= \frac{24(x^2+4)[(x^2+4) - (x)(2)(2x)]}{(x^2+4)^4} = \frac{24[x^2+4 - 4x^2]}{(x^2+4)^3} = \frac{24(4 - 3x^2)}{(x^2+4)^3} \end{aligned}$$

inflection points

$$f\left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}\right) = \frac{\frac{3}{3} \cdot \frac{4}{3}}{\frac{4}{3} + 4} \cdot \frac{3}{3} = \frac{12}{4+12} = \frac{12}{16} = \frac{3}{4}$$

3. Sketch the graph of  $f(x) = x\sqrt{4-x^2}$

(a) Find the domain.

need  $4-x^2 \geq 0$ . So  $-2 \leq x \leq 2$ . ANS:  $[-2, 2]$

(b) Find the  $x$  and  $y$ -intercepts.

If  $x=0$ ,  $y=0$ .

If  $y=0$ ,  $x=0, +2, -2$ .

(c) Find the symmetries/ periodicity of the curve.

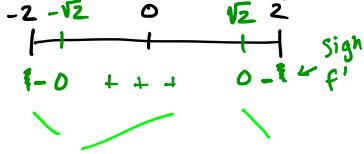
even  $\sqrt{4-x^2}$  multiplied by odd  $x$  gives odd.  $f(x)$  is odd.

(d) Determine the asymptotes.

none

(e,f) Determine where the function is increasing/ decreasing and find the local maximum/ minimum values

$$f'(x) = \frac{2(2-x^2)}{\sqrt{4-x^2}}$$



$f'=0$  when  $x=\pm\sqrt{2}$ ,

$f''$  undefined at  $x=\pm 2$

answer:

$f$  increasing on  $(-\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2})$  and decreasing on  $(-2, -\sqrt{2}) \cup (\sqrt{2}, 2)$ .

$f$  has local min at  $x=-\sqrt{2}$ , min value  $-2$  and at  $x=2$ , min value  $0$ .

$f$  has local max at  $x=\sqrt{2}$ , max value  $2$  and at  $x=-2$ , max value  $0$ .

(g) Find the intervals of concavity/inflection points.

$$f''(x) = \frac{2x(6-x^2)}{(4-x^2)^{3/2}}$$

answer:  $f$  is concave up on  $(0, 2)$  and concave down on  $(-2, 0)$ .

The point  $(0, 0)$  is an inflection point.

$f''=0$  when  $x=0, \sqrt{6}, -\sqrt{6}$  not in  $[-2, 2]$

$f''$  undefined at  $x=-2, 2$

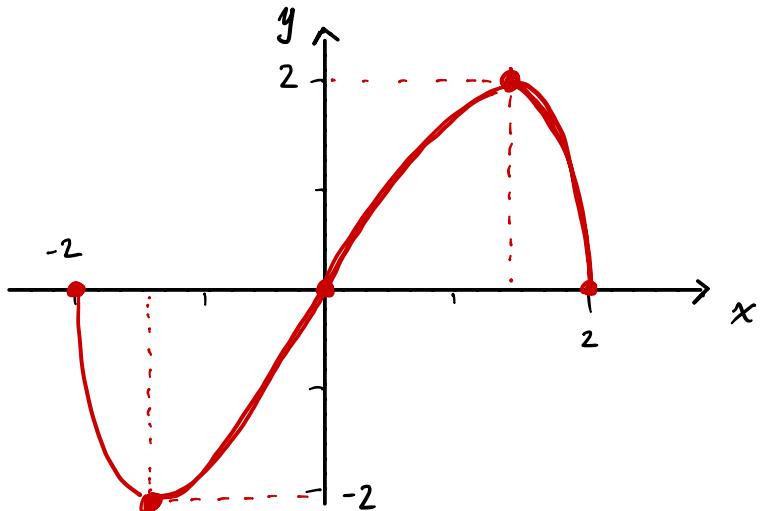
$f'' < 0$  when  $x < 0$  and  $f'' > 0$  when  $x > 0$ .

(h) Sketch the curve.

points to plot

$(-2, 0), (0, 0), (2, 0)$

$(-\sqrt{2}, -2), (\sqrt{2}, 2)$



details for example #3

$$f(x) = x(4-x^2)^{1/2}$$

$$f'(x) = 1 \cdot (4-x^2)^{1/2} + x \cdot \frac{1}{2}(4-x^2)^{-1/2} \cdot (-2x)$$

$$= (4-x^2)^{1/2} - \frac{x^2}{(4-x^2)^{1/2}} = \frac{4-x^2-x^2}{(4-x^2)^{1/2}} = \frac{2(2-x^2)}{(4-x^2)^{1/2}}$$

↑  
get  
common denominator.

$$f''(x) = \frac{(4-x^2)^{1/2} \cdot 2 \cdot (-2x) - 2(2-x^2) \cdot \frac{1}{2}(4-x^2)^{-1/2}(-2x)}{(4-x^2)^1} = \frac{-4x \left[ (4-x^2)^{1/2} - \frac{2-x^2}{2(4-x^2)^{1/2}} \right]}{4-x^2} \cdot \frac{2(4-x^2)^{1/2}}{2(4-x^2)^{1/2}}$$
$$= \frac{-4x \left[ 2(4-x^2)^{1/2} - (2-x^2) \right]}{2(4-x^2)^{3/2}} = \frac{-2x(6-x^2)}{(4-x^2)^{3/2}}$$

$8 - 2x^2 - 2 + x^2 = 6 - x^2$

4. Sketch the curve  $y = \frac{x}{\sqrt{9+x^2}}$

(a) Find the domain.

$\mathbb{R}$

(b) Find the  $x$  and  $y$ -intercepts.

$(0, 0)$

(c) Find the symmetries/ periodicity of the curve.

odd

(d) Determine the asymptotes. no vertical asymptotes.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{9+x^2}} = 1. \text{ So } y=1 \text{ is a horizontal asymptote.}$$

tricky!

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{x}{\sqrt{9+x^2}} = -1. \text{ So } y=-1 \text{ is a horizontal asymptote.}$$

(e,f) Determine where the function is increasing/ decreasing and find the local maximum/ minimum values

$$y' = 9(x^2+9)^{-3/2}$$

So  $y' > 0$  always.

answer:  $y$  is always increasing.  
 $y$  has no local max's or mins.

(g) Find the intervals of concavity/inflection points.

$$y'' = \frac{-27x}{(x^2+9)^{5/2}}$$

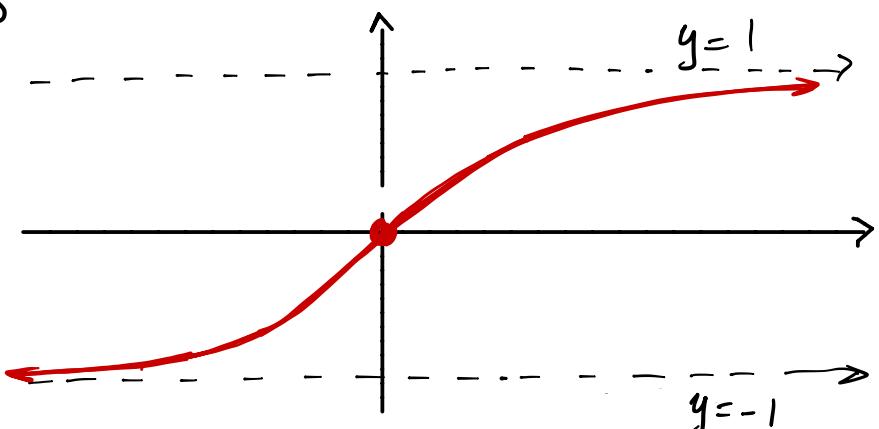
answer:  $y$  is concave up on  $(-\infty, 0)$  and concave down on  $(0, \infty)$ .

The point  $(0, 0)$  is an inflection point.

$y'' = 0$  when  $x=0$ .

$y'' > 0$  when  $x < 0$ ;  $y'' < 0$  when  $x > 0$

(h) Sketch the curve.



5. Sketch the curve  $y = \frac{x^3 + 4}{x^2}$

(a) Find the domain.  $(-\infty, 0) \cup (0, \infty)$

(b) Find the  $x$  and  $y$ -intercepts.

no  $y$ -intercept

Set  $y=0$ . Then  $x = \sqrt[3]{-4} \approx -1.587$

(c) Find the symmetries/ periodicity of the curve. none

the  $x^3+4$  destroys all hope

- (d) Determine the asymptotes. (Try to find the slant asymptote. That is, what line does this function approach as  $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$ ?)

$x=0$  vertical asymptote.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^3 + 4}{x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} x + \frac{4}{x^2} \text{ which should get closer and closer to } y=x.$$

Slant asymptote:  $y=x$

- (e,f) Determine where the function is increasing/ decreasing and find the local maximum/ minimum values

$$y' = 1 - \frac{8}{x^3}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} + \\ \leftarrow \quad \rightarrow \\ 0 \quad - \quad 2 \end{array}$$

$$y' = 0 \text{ when } x=2$$

ans:  $y$  is increasing on  $(-\infty, 0) \cup (2, \infty)$  and decreasing on  $(0, 2)$

$$y' \text{ undefined when } x=0$$

$y$  has a local min at  $x=2$  with min value 3

- (g) Find the intervals of concavity/inflection points.

$$y'' = 24x^{-4} = \frac{24}{x^4}, \text{ which is positive where it is defined.}$$

Ans:  $y$  is concave up on  $(-\infty, 0) \cup (0, \infty)$  with no inflection points.

- (h) Sketch the curve.

