

(1) 由题意  $f(x) = (x-a)^3, f(4) = (4-a)^3 = 8 \Rightarrow a = 2$

(2) 由题意  $f(x) = (x-a)(x-b)^2$

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

故  $\frac{2a+b}{3}$  则  $a, b$  只能为  $-3$  和  $3$

若  $a = -3, b = 3$  时  $\frac{2a+b}{3} = -1$  (舍去)

若  $a = 3, b = -3$  时  $\frac{2a+b}{3} = 1$  (符合题意)

$$\text{故 } f(x) = (x-3)(x+3)^2, f'(x) = (x+3)(3x-3)$$

$$x < -3, f'(x) > 0; -3 \leq x \leq 1, f'(x) \leq 0; x > 1, f'(x) > 0;$$

故在  $x = 1$  处取得极小值  $f(1) = -2 * 16 = -32$

(3) 由题意  $f(x) = x(x-b)(x-1) = (x^2-x)(x-b) = x^3 - (b+1)x^2 + bx$

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

$$f'(x) = 0 \text{ 时 } 3x^2 - 2(b+1)x + b = 0$$

易知  $f(x)$  在  $x_0 = \frac{2(b+1) - \sqrt{4(b+1)^2 - 4 \cdot 3b}}{6} = \frac{b+1 - \sqrt{b^2 - b + 1}}{3}$  处取得极大值

$$x_0^2 = \frac{2b^2 + b + 2 - 2(b+1)\sqrt{b^2 - b + 1}}{9}, x_0^3 = \frac{4b^3 + 3b^2 + 3b + 4 - (4b^2 + 5b + 4)\sqrt{b^2 - b + 1}}{27}$$

$$f(x_0) = \frac{-2b^3 + 3b^2 + 3b - 2 + (2b^2 - 2b + 2)\sqrt{b^2 - b + 1}}{27} \text{ 难解}$$

注意到  $f(x) = x(x-b)(x-1)$  为零点式, 过定点  $(0, 0), (1, 0)$  动点  $(b, 0)$

易知  $0 < x_0 < b \leq 1$  猜想  $b = 1$  时  $f(x_0)$  最大

$$\text{验证: } x_0(x_0-1)(x_0-1) - x_0(x_0-1)(x_0-b) = x_0(x_0-1)(b-1) \geq 0$$

猜想成立, 此时  $x_0 = \frac{1}{3}, f(x_0) = \frac{4}{27}$