

Recall: a critical point $\begin{cases} f'(x) = 0 \\ f'(x) \text{ does not exist} \end{cases}$

THEOREM: FIRST DERIVATIVE TEST FOR LOCAL EXTREMA

The following test applies to a continuous function $f(x)$.

At a critical point c :

1. If f' changes sign from positive to negative at c ($f' > 0$ for all $x < c$ and $f' < 0$ for all $x > c$), then f has a local maximum at c .

| $f'(c) = 0$ | $f'(c)$ does not exist |
|-------------|------------------------|
| | |

2. If f' changes sign from negative to positive at c ($f' < 0$ for all $x < c$ and $f' > 0$ for all $x > c$), then f has a local minimum at c .

| $f'(c) = 0$ | $f'(c)$ does not exist |
|-------------|------------------------|
| | |

3. If f' does not change sign at c (f' has the same sign on both sides of c), then f has no local extreme value at c .

| $f'(c) = 0$ | $f'(c)$ does not exist |
|-------------|------------------------|
| | |

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} = \pm \infty$$

➤ **At the left endpoint a:** if $f' < 0$ ($f' > 0$) for all $x > a$, then f has a local maximum (minimum) value at a .

| $f'(a) = 0$ | $f'(a)$ does not exist |
|-------------|------------------------|
| | |

➤ **At the right endpoint b:** if $f' < 0$ ($f' > 0$) for all $x < b$, then f has a local minimum (maximum) value at b .

| $f'(b) = 0$ | $f'(b)$ does not exist |
|-------------|------------------------|
| | |

Example: Use the first derivative test to identify all local extrema of $y = -x^3 + 12x - 5$

Note: y is a polynomial function that is continuous and differentiable on its entire domain. So the only critical points are those where y has a horizontal tangent.

Step 1: Find dy/dx and the points where it is zero. = critical points

Step 2: Use these points to split a number line into intervals. Within each interval identify whether the dy/dx is positive or negative.

Step 3: Identify whether the critical points yield a local maximum or minimum.

Step 4: Sketch the graph of y to check your work.

$$y' = -3x^2 + 12$$

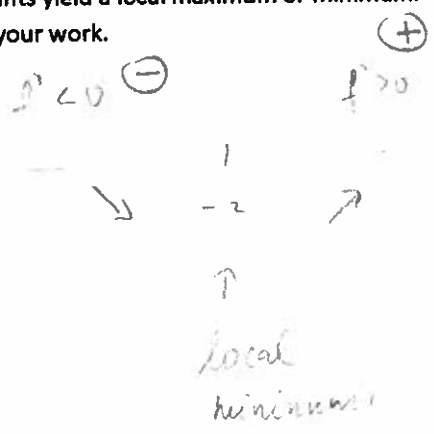
$$-0 = -3x^2 + 12$$

$$-12 = -3x^2$$

$$x^2 = 4$$

$$x = \pm\sqrt{4}$$

$$x = \pm 2$$



$$f'(-3) = -3(-3)^2 + 12$$

$$= -27 + 12 = \underline{-15}$$

$$f'(0) = \underline{12}$$

$$f'(3) = -3(3)^2 + 12$$

$$= \underline{-15}$$

CONCAVITY

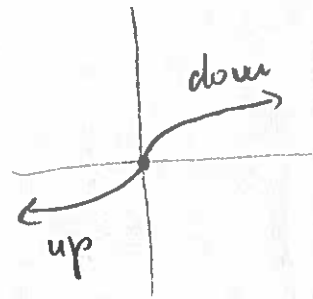
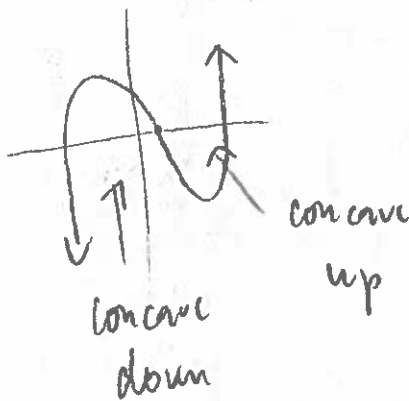
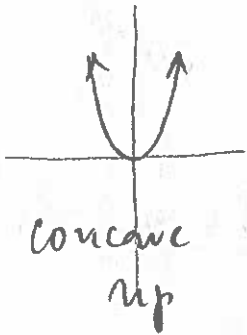
DEFINITION: CONCAVITY

The graph of a differentiable function $y = f(x)$ is

1. **Concave up** on an open interval I if y' is **increasing** on I .
2. **Concave down** on an open interval I if y' is **decreasing** on I .



Examples:



> **Concavity Test:** The graph of a twice-differentiable function $y = f(x)$ is

1. concave up on any interval where $y'' > 0$
2. concave down on any interval where $y'' < 0$

Example: Identify intervals on which $y = 2x^3 - x^2 - 5x$ is concave up and concave down.

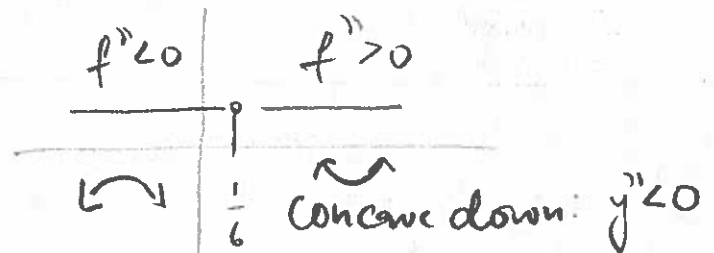
$$y' = 6x^2 - 2x - 5$$

$$y'' = 12x - 2$$

Concave up $y'' > 0$ when $12x - 2 > 0$

$$12x > 2$$

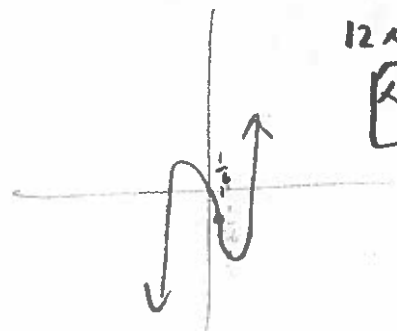
$$x > \frac{1}{6}$$



$$12x - 2 < 0$$

$$12x < 2$$

$$x < \frac{1}{6}$$



\therefore y is concave up on $(\frac{1}{6}, \infty)$

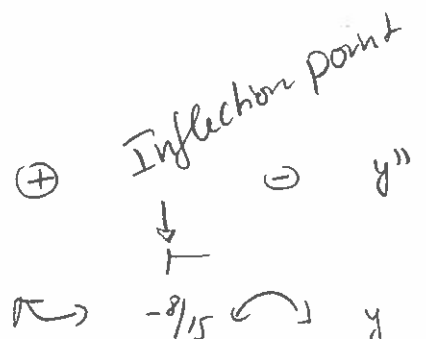
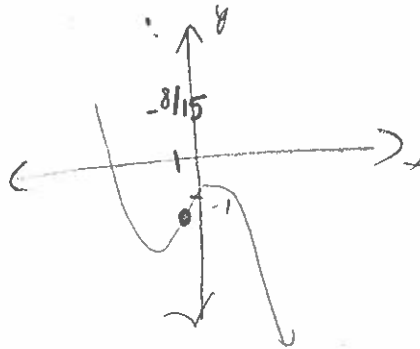
\therefore y is concave down on $(-\infty, \frac{1}{6})$

POINTS OF INFLECTION

DEFINITION: a point where the graph of a function has a tangent line and where the concavity changes, is a point of inflection.

- A point of inflection can be either at the point where the second derivative zero or at the point where the second derivative does not exist.
- Not all points that have a zero second derivative are inflection points.
- An inflection point implies the change in the sign of the second derivative.

Examples:



$f'(0) = DNE$
 $f''(0) = DNE$
 but inflection
 point exists
 as concavity
 changes
 from concave up to down

$$y = -5x^3 - 8x^2 - 1$$

$$y' = -15x^2 - 16x$$

$$y'' = -30x - 16$$

• concave up: $y'' > 0$
 $-30x - 16 > 0$
 $x < \frac{16}{30} = -\frac{8}{15}$

• concave down: $y'' < 0$
 $-30x - 16 < 0$
 $x > -\frac{8}{15}$

SECOND DERIVATIVE TEST FOR LOCAL EXTREMA

1. If $f'(c) = 0$ and $f''(c) < 0$, then f has a local maximum at $x = c$.
2. If $f'(c) = 0$ and $f''(c) > 0$, then f has a local minimum at $x = c$.

Note: this test fails if $f''(c) = 0$ or when $f''(c)$ fails to exist and the first derivative test must be used instead.

$$f(x) = 2x^3 - 18x + 5$$

$$f'(x) = 6x^2 - 18$$

$$f''(x) = 12x$$

$$f'(x) = 0 = 6x^2 - 18$$

$$18 = 6x^2$$

$$x^2 = 3$$

$$x = \pm\sqrt{3}$$

$$f''(\sqrt{3}) > 0$$

$$f''(-\sqrt{3}) < 0$$

local max
 $\sqrt{3}$
 $-\sqrt{3}$
 local min

Copy the chart from p 213:

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