



MATH 122

FARMAN

4.1: LOCAL  
MAXIMA AND  
MINIMA

4.2:  
INFLECTION  
POINTS

# MATH 122

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Calculus for Business Administration and Social  
Sciences



# OUTLINE

MATH 122

FARMAN

4.1: LOCAL  
MAXIMA AND  
MINIMA

4.2:  
INFLECTION  
POINTS

## 1 4.1: LOCAL MAXIMA AND MINIMA



# OUTLINE

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4.1: LOCAL  
MAXIMA AND  
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4.2:  
INFLECTION  
POINTS

1 4.1: LOCAL MAXIMA AND MINIMA

2 4.2: INFLECTION POINTS



MATH 122

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4.1: LOCAL  
MAXIMA AND  
MINIMA

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### DEFINITION 1

Let  $p$  be a point in the domain of  $f$  and let  $(a, b)$  be an interval containing  $p$ .



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4.1: LOCAL  
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### DEFINITION 1

Let  $p$  be a point in the domain of  $f$  and let  $(a, b)$  be an interval containing  $p$ .

- If  $f(p) \leq f(x)$  for every  $x$  satisfying  $a < x < b$ , then  $p$  is a *local minimum*.



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### DEFINITION 1

Let  $p$  be a point in the domain of  $f$  and let  $(a, b)$  be an interval containing  $p$ .

- If  $f(p) \leq f(x)$  for every  $x$  satisfying  $a < x < b$ , then  $p$  is a *local minimum*.
- If  $f(x) \leq f(p)$  for every  $x$  satisfying  $a < x < b$ , then  $p$  is a *local maximum*.



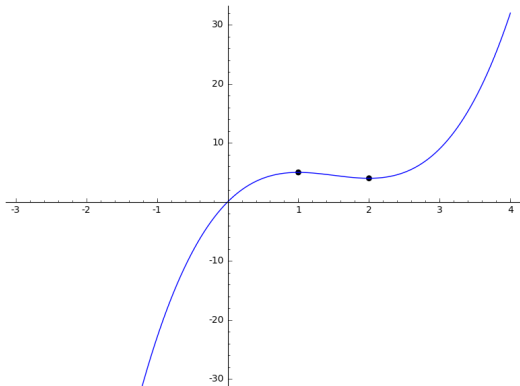
# EXAMPLE

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The point on the left is a local minimum, and the point on the right is a local maximum.



# DETECTING LOCAL MAXIMA

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Let  $f$  be continuous with continuous derivative, and let  $p$  be a local maximum.





# DETECTING LOCAL MAXIMA

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Let  $f$  be continuous with continuous derivative, and let  $p$  be a local maximum.

- To the left of  $p$ ,  $f$  is increasing, and to the right of  $p$ ,  $f$  is decreasing.



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Let  $f$  be continuous with continuous derivative, and let  $p$  be a local maximum.

- To the left of  $p$ ,  $f$  is increasing, and to the right of  $p$ ,  $f$  is decreasing.
- Equivalently:

$$0 < f'(x) \text{ for } x < p \quad \text{and} \quad f'(x) < 0 \text{ for } p < x.$$



# DETECTING LOCAL MAXIMA

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Let  $f$  be continuous with continuous derivative, and let  $p$  be a local maximum.

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- Equivalently:  
$$0 < f'(x) \text{ for } x < p \quad \text{and} \quad f'(x) < 0 \text{ for } p < x.$$
- Continuity of  $f'$  guarantees that  $f'(p) = 0$ .



# DETECTING LOCAL MINIMA

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Let  $f$  be continuous with continuous derivative, and let  $p$  be a local minimum.



# DETECTING LOCAL MINIMA

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# DETECTING LOCAL MINIMA

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- To the left of  $p$ ,  $f$  is decreasing, and to the right of  $p$ ,  $f$  is increasing.
- Equivalently:

$$f'(x) < 0 \text{ for } x < p \quad \text{and} \quad 0 < f'(x) \text{ for } p < x.$$



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It's not always true that local extrema occur at zeroes of the first derivative.





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It's not always true that local extrema occur at zeroes of the first derivative. The absolute value function has a local minimum at  $(0, 0)$ :



# EXAMPLE

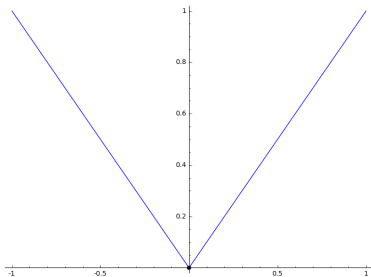
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It's not always true that local extrema occur at zeroes of the first derivative. The absolute value function has a local minimum at  $(0, 0)$ :





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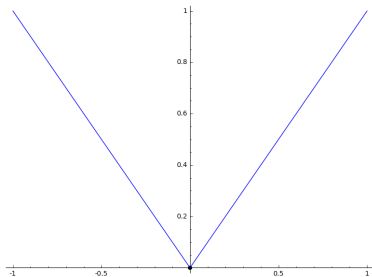
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It's not always true that local extrema occur at zeroes of the first derivative. The absolute value function has a local minimum at  $(0, 0)$ :



But the derivative is undefined at 0.



# CRITICAL POINTS

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## DEFINITION 2

For a function,  $f$ , a point  $p$  in the domain of  $f$  is called a *critical point* if either

- $f'(p) = 0$ , or



# CRITICAL POINTS

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## DEFINITION 2

For a function,  $f$ , a point  $p$  in the domain of  $f$  is called a *critical point* if either

- $f'(p) = 0$ , or
- $f'(p)$  is undefined.

A critical value of  $f$  is the function value,  $f(p)$ , at a critical point,  $p$ .



# DETECTING LOCAL EXTREMA

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## THEOREM 1

*If a continuous function,  $f$ , has a local minimum or local maximum at  $p$ , then  $p$  is a critical point of  $f$ , provided that the domain of  $f$  is not a closed interval.*



# DETECTING LOCAL EXTREMA

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## THEOREM 1

*If a continuous function,  $f$ , has a local minimum or local maximum at  $p$ , then  $p$  is a critical point of  $f$ , provided that the domain of  $f$  is not a closed interval.*

## REMARK 1

The converse is **FALSE**. The point  $x = 0$  is a critical point of  $f(x) = x^2$ , but neither a local minimum nor a local maximum.





# FIRST DERIVATIVE TEST

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Let  $f$  be a continuous function and let  $p$  be a critical point of  $f$ .



# FIRST DERIVATIVE TEST

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Let  $f$  be a continuous function and let  $p$  be a critical point of  $f$ .

- If  $f'(x) < 0$  for  $x < p$  and  $0 < f'(x)$  for  $p < x$ , then  $p$  is a local minimum.



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Let  $f$  be a continuous function and let  $p$  be a critical point of  $f$ .

- If  $f'(x) < 0$  for  $x < p$  and  $0 < f'(x)$  for  $p < x$ , then  $p$  is a local minimum.
- If  $0 < f'(x)$  for  $x < p$  and  $f'(x) < 0$  for  $p < x$ , then  $p$  is a local maximum.



# SECOND DERIVATIVE TEST

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Let  $f$  be a continuous function and let  $p$  be a point in the domain for which  $f'(p) = 0$ .



# SECOND DERIVATIVE TEST

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Let  $f$  be a continuous function and let  $p$  be a point in the domain for which  $f'(p) = 0$ .

- If  $f''(p) < 0$ , then  $p$  is a local maximum,



# SECOND DERIVATIVE TEST

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Let  $f$  be a continuous function and let  $p$  be a point in the domain for which  $f'(p) = 0$ .

- If  $f''(p) < 0$ , then  $p$  is a local maximum,
- If  $f''(p) > 0$ , then  $p$  is a local minimum,



# SECOND DERIVATIVE TEST

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Let  $f$  be a continuous function and let  $p$  be a point in the domain for which  $f'(p) = 0$ .

- If  $f''(p) < 0$ , then  $p$  is a local maximum,
- If  $f''(p) > 0$ , then  $p$  is a local minimum,
- If  $f''(p) = 0$ , then the test gives no information.



# EXAMPLE (QUADRATICS)

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Let  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ .





# EXAMPLE (QUADRATICS)

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Let  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ .

- $f'(x)$



# EXAMPLE (QUADRATICS)

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Let  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ .

- $f'(x) = 2ax + b$ ,



# EXAMPLE (QUADRATICS)

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Let  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ .

- $f'(x) = 2ax + b$ ,
- $f''(x)$



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# EXAMPLE (QUADRATICS)

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Let  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ .

- $f'(x) = 2ax + b$ ,
- $f''(x) = 2a$ ,
- There is one critical point:  $\frac{-b}{2a}$  (the vertex),



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Let  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ .

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- The vertex is a local maximum if  $a < 0$ ,



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Let  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ .

- $f'(x) = 2ax + b$ ,
- $f''(x) = 2a$ ,
- There is one critical point:  $\frac{-b}{2a}$  (the vertex),
- The vertex is a local maximum if  $a < 0$ ,
- The vertex is a local minimum if  $0 < a$ .



# EXAMPLE

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Find the local extrema of the function

$$f(x) = 2x^3 - 9x^2 + 12x.$$





# EXAMPLE

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Find the local extrema of the function

$$f(x) = 2x^3 - 9x^2 + 12x.$$

- $f'(x) =$



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Find the local extrema of the function

$$f(x) = 2x^3 - 9x^2 + 12x.$$

- $f'(x) = 6x^2 - 18x + 12$



# EXAMPLE

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Find the local extrema of the function

$$f(x) = 2x^3 - 9x^2 + 12x.$$

- $f'(x) = 6x^2 - 18x + 12 = 6(x^2 - 3x + 2)$



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Find the local extrema of the function

$$f(x) = 2x^3 - 9x^2 + 12x.$$

- $f'(x) = 6x^2 - 18x + 12 = 6(x^2 - 3x + 2) = 6(x - 1)(x - 2)$



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- $f'(x) = 6x^2 - 18x + 12 = 6(x^2 - 3x + 2) = 6(x - 1)(x - 2)$
- The critical points are  $x = 1$  and  $x = 2$ .



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- $f''(x) =$



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- The critical points are  $x = 1$  and  $x = 2$ .
- $f''(x) = 12x - 18$



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- The critical points are  $x = 1$  and  $x = 2$ .
- $f''(x) = 12x - 18 = 6(2x - 3)$
- $f''(1) =$





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- The critical points are  $x = 1$  and  $x = 2$ .
- $f''(x) = 12x - 18 = 6(2x - 3)$
- $f''(1) = 6(2(1) - 3) < 0$



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- The critical points are  $x = 1$  and  $x = 2$ .
- $f''(x) = 12x - 18 = 6(2x - 3)$
- $f''(1) = 6(2(1) - 3) < 0$
- $f''(2) = 6(2(2) - 3) > 0$
- $(1, 5)$  is a local maximum and  $(2, 4)$  is a local minimum.



# DEFINITION

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## DEFINITION 3

A point at which the graph of a function changes concavity is called an *inflection point*.



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## DEFINITION 3

A point at which the graph of a function changes concavity is called an *inflection point*.

- If  $f'$  is differentiable on an interval containing  $p$  and  $f''(p) = 0$  or  $f''$  is undefined, then  $p$  is a possible inflection point.





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## DEFINITION 3

A point at which the graph of a function changes concavity is called an *inflection point*.

- If  $f'$  is differentiable on an interval containing  $p$  and  $f''(p) = 0$  or  $f''$  is undefined, then  $p$  is a possible inflection point.
- If the signs of  $f''(x_1)$  and  $f''(x_2)$  are different for two points  $x_1 < p$  and  $p < x_2$ , then  $p$  is an inflection point.



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Find the inflection points of

$$f(x) = x^3 - 9x^2 - 48x + 52.$$



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Find the inflection points of

$$f(x) = x^3 - 9x^2 - 48x + 52.$$

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 18x - 48$$



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INFLECTION  
POINTS

Find the inflection points of

$$f(x) = x^3 - 9x^2 - 48x + 52.$$

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 18x - 48$$

$$f''(x) = 6x - 18 = 6(x - 3)$$



# EXAMPLE

MATH 122

FARMAN

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MAXIMA AND  
MINIMA

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$$\Rightarrow f''(3) = 0$$

$$f''(0) = 6(0 - 3) < 0$$

$$f''(4) = 6(4 - 1) > 0$$

Therefore  $x = 3$  is an inflection point of  $f$ .





# EXAMPLE

MATH 122

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4.2:  
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POINTS

The point  $x = 0$  is a root of the second derivative of  $f(x) = x^4$ , but it is **not** an inflection point because

$$f''(x) = 12x^2$$

never changes sign.