

LECTURE 21-23

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1. Maximum and Minimum Values

Let $f(x)$ be a function.

Definition:

A function f has an *absolute maximum* (or global maximum) at c if $f(c) \geq f(x)$ for all x in D , where D is the domain of f , and the number $f(c)$ is called the maximum value of f .

Similarly, f has an *absolute minimum* (global minimum) at c if $f(c) \leq f(x)$ for all x in D , and the number $f(c)$ is called the minimum value of f .

The maximum and the minimum value of f are called the extreme values of f .

Definition:

A function f has a local maximum (or *relative maximum*) at c if $f(c) \geq f(x)$ when x is near c (for x sufficiently close to c on both sides of c , or for all x in some open interval containing c).

Similarly, f has an local minimum (or *relative minimum*) at c if $f(c) \leq f(x)$ when x is near c (for x sufficiently close to d on both sides of c , or for all x in some open interval containing c).

The Extreme Value Theorem:

If f is continuous on a closed interval $[a, b]$, then f attains an absolute maximum value $f(c)$ and an absolute minimum value $f(d)$ at some numbers c and d in $[a, b]$.

Fermat's Theorem:

If f has a local maximum or minimum at c , and if $f'(c)$ exists, then $f'(c) = 0$.

Definition:

A critical number (or critical point) of a function f is a number c in the domain of f such that either $f'(c) = 0$ or $f'(c)$ does not exist.

2. Find Extreme Values of a continuous function on a closed interval $[a, b]$

If f is a continuous function on a closed interval $[a, b]$, then f attains an absolute maximum value $f(c)$ and an absolute minimum value $f(d)$ at some numbers c and d in $[a, b]$.

To find the absolute maximum and minimum values of a continuous function f on a closed interval $[a, b]$:

- (1) Find the values of f at the critical numbers of f in (a, b) .
- (2) Find the value of f at the endpoints of the interval, i.e., evaluate $f(a)$ and $f(b)$.
- (3) The largest of the values from step 1 and 2 is the absolute maximum value, the smallest of these values is the absolute minimum value.

Rolle's Theorem:

Let f be a function that satisfies the following three hypothesis:

- (1.) f is continuous on the closed interval $[a, b]$;
- (2.) f is differentiable on the open interval (a, b) ;
- (3.) $f(a) = f(b)$

Then there is a number c in (a, b) such that $f'(c) = 0$.

The intermediate Value Theorem:

Suppose that f is continuous on the closed interval $[a, b]$ and let N be any number between $f(a)$ and $f(b)$, where $f(a) \neq f(b)$. Then there exists a number c in (a, b) such that $f(c) = N$.

The Mean Value Theorem:

Let f be a function that satisfies the following three hypothesis:

(1.) f is continuous on the closed interval $[a, b]$;

(2.) f is differentiable on the open interval (a, b) ;

Then there is a number c in (a, b) such that

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$$

or equivalently,

$$f(b) - f(a) = f'(c)(b - a)$$

Theorem:

If $f'(x) = 0$ for all x in an interval (a, b) , then f is constant on (a, b) .

Corollary:

If $f'(x) = g'(x)$ for all x in an interval (a, b) , then $f - g$ is constant on (a, b) ; that is, $f(x) = g(x) + c$ where c is a constant.

Definition:

Let f be a function defined on an interval I , and x_1, x_2 in I .

(●) f is said to be increasing on an interval I if $f(x_1) \leq f(x_2)$ whenever $x_1 < x_2$;

(*) f is said to be decreasing on an interval I if $f(x_1) \geq f(x_2)$ whenever $x_1 < x_2$;

Increasing and Decreasing Test:

(a.) If $f'(x) > 0$ on an interval, then f is increasing on that interval.

(b.) If $f'(x) < 0$ on an interval, then f is decreasing on that interval.

The First Derivative Test

Let c be a critical number of a continuous function f .

(1) If $f'(x)$ changes from positive to negative at c , i.e.,

$$\text{If } \begin{cases} f'(x) > 0 \text{ for } x \in (a, c) \\ f'(x) < 0 \text{ for } x \in (c, b) \end{cases}$$

then $f(x)$ has a local maximum value at c .

(2) If $f'(x)$ changes from negative to positive at c , i.e.,

$$\text{If } \begin{cases} f'(x) < 0 \text{ for } x \in (a, c) \\ f'(x) > 0 \text{ for } x \in (c, b) \end{cases}$$

then $f(x)$ has a local minimum value at c .

(3) If $f'(x)$ does not change sign at c , then $f(x)$ has neither local maximum or local minimum value at c .

Definition:

IF the graph of f lies above all of its tangents on an interval I , then it is called concave upward on I . If the graph of f lies below all of its tangents on I , it is called concave downward on I .

Definition:

A point P on a curve is called an inflection point if the curve changes from concave up to concave down, or vice versa, from concave down to concave up at P .

To locate possible points of inflection, we need only determine the values of x for which $f''(x) = 0$, or for which $f''(x)$ is undefined.

Second Derivative Test For Concavity

Let $f(x)$ be a function that has second derivative in an interval I

(1) If $f''(x) > 0$ on I , then $f(x)$ is *concave up* on I .

(2) If $f''(x) < 0$ on I , then $f(x)$ is *concave down* on I .

Second Derivative Test For Local Extrema

Suppose that $f''(x)$ is continuous near c .

- (1) If $f'(c) = 0$ and $f''(c) > 0$, then f has a local minimum at c ;
- (2) If $f'(c) = 0$ and $f''(c) < 0$, then f has a local maximum at c ;
- (3) If $f'(c) = 0$ and $f''(c) = 0$, then test does not work.