

**Math 180, Exam 2, Fall 2013**  
**Problem 1 Solution**

1. Compute each derivative below.

(a)  $\frac{d}{dx} (2^x \cdot \arcsin(x^3))$  [Note:  $\arcsin(x) = \sin^{-1}(x)$ ]

(b)  $\frac{d}{dx} (\sin(x))^x$  [Hint: Logarithmic differentiation may be useful.]

**Solution:**

(a) Using the Product Rule and the derivative rules for  $\arcsin(x)$  and  $b^x$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx} (2^x \cdot \arcsin(x^3)) &= 2^x \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \arcsin(x^3) + \arcsin(x^3) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} 2^x \\ \frac{d}{dx} (2^x \cdot \arcsin(x^3)) &= 2^x \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (x^3)^2}} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} x^3 + \arcsin(x^3) \cdot \ln(2) \cdot 2^x\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} (2^x \cdot \arcsin(x^3)) = 2^x \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - (x^3)^2}} \cdot 3x^2 + \arcsin(x^3) \cdot \ln(2) \cdot 2^x$$

(b) Let  $y = (\sin(x))^x$ . Then  $\ln(y) = \ln(\sin(x))^x = x \cdot \ln(\sin(x))$ . Differentiating both sides of this equation with respect to  $x$  yields

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx} [\ln(y)] &= \frac{d}{dx} [x \cdot \ln(\sin(x))] \\ \frac{1}{y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} &= x \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \ln(\sin(x)) + \ln(\sin(x)) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} x \\ \frac{1}{y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} &= x \cdot \frac{1}{\sin(x)} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \sin(x) + \ln(\sin(x)) \cdot 1 \\ \frac{1}{y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} &= x \cdot \frac{1}{\sin(x)} \cdot \cos(x) + \ln(\sin(x)) \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= y \left( x \cdot \frac{\cos(x)}{\sin(x)} + \ln(\sin(x)) \right)\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = (\sin(x))^x \left( x \cdot \frac{\cos(x)}{\sin(x)} + \ln(\sin(x)) \right)$$

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**Problem 2 Solution**

2. Consider the function  $g(x) = x\sqrt{x+1}$ .

(a) State the domain of  $g$ .

(b) State the intervals where  $g$  is increasing and those where  $g$  is decreasing.

**Solution:** The domain of  $g$  is  $x \geq -1$ . **Solution:** We begin by finding the critical points of  $g$ . The derivative  $g'(x)$  is found using the Product Rule:

$$\begin{aligned} g'(x) &= x \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x+1} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} x \\ g'(x) &= x \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x+1}} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} (x+1) + \sqrt{x+1} \cdot 1 \\ g'(x) &= x \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x+1}} \cdot 1 + \sqrt{x+1} \\ g'(x) &= \frac{x}{2\sqrt{x+1}} + \sqrt{x+1} \end{aligned}$$

The critical points of  $g$  are solutions to  $g'(x) = 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} g'(x) &= 0 \\ \frac{x}{2\sqrt{x+1}} + \sqrt{x+1} &= 0 \\ x + 2\sqrt{x+1} \cdot \sqrt{x+1} &= 0 \\ x + 2(x+1) &= 0 \\ 3x + 2 &= 0 \\ x &= -\frac{2}{3} \end{aligned}$$

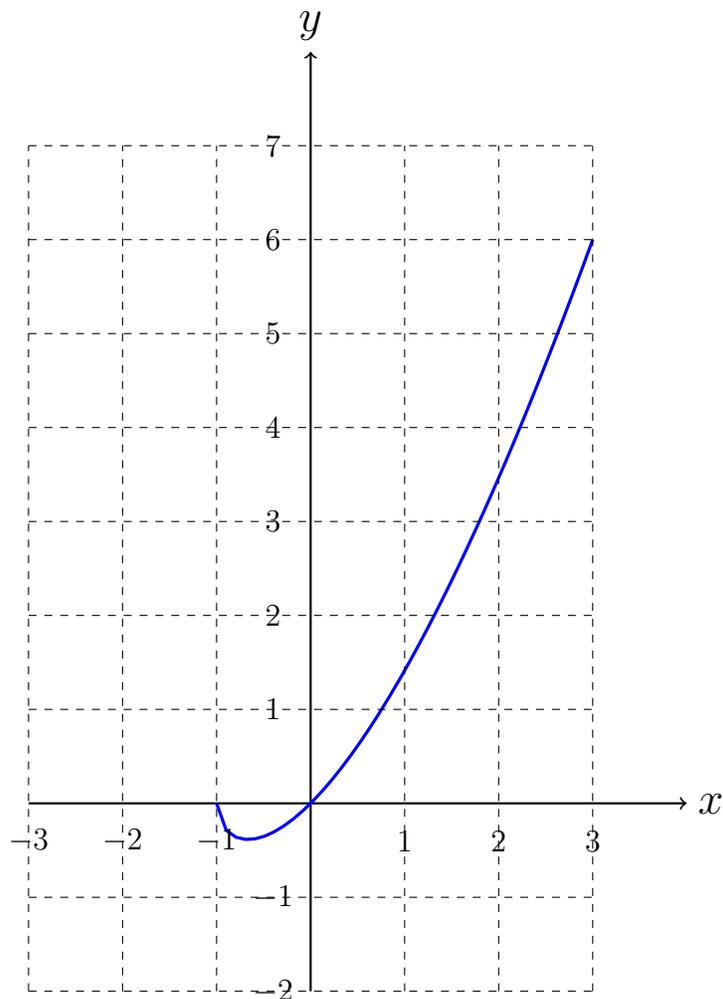
Summarize your results in the table below. **Note: It may not be necessary to use every row in the table.**

Interval	Test #, $c$	$f'(c)$	Sign of $f'(c)$	Conclusion
$(-1, -2/3)$	$-3/4$	$-1/4$	$-$	decreasing
$(-2/3, \infty)$	$0$	$1$	$+$	increasing

Find all local extrema of  $g$ , or state that none exist.

**Solution:**  $g(-2/3)$  is a local minimum of  $g$  because the derivative of  $g$  changes from negative to positive across  $x = -2/3$ . There is no local maximum.

Using the information in parts (a)-(c), sketch  $g$ .



Consider the function  $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x}$ . Find the best linear approximation to  $f$  at  $x = 8$ .

**Solution:** The linear approximation is given by

$$L(x) = f(8) + f'(8)(x - 8)$$

The derivative  $f'(x)$  is

$$f'(x) = \frac{d}{dx}x^{1/3} = \frac{1}{3}x^{-2/3}$$

At  $x = 8$  we have

$$f'(8) = \frac{1}{3}8^{-2/3} = \frac{1}{12}, \quad f(8) = 8^{1/3} = 2$$

. Therefore, the linear approximation is

$$L(x) = 2 + \frac{1}{12}(x - 8)$$

Use part (a) to estimate  $\sqrt[3]{7.7}$ . Write your answer in the form  $\frac{a}{b}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers.

**Solution:** An estimate for  $\sqrt[3]{7.7}$  is

$$\sqrt[3]{7.7} \approx L(7.7) = 2 + \frac{1}{12}(7.7 - 8)$$

$$\sqrt[3]{7.7} = 2 + \frac{1}{12} \cdot (-0.3)$$

$$\sqrt[3]{7.7} = 2 + \frac{1}{12} \left( -\frac{3}{10} \right)$$

$$\sqrt[3]{7.7} = 2 - \frac{1}{40}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{7.7} = \frac{79}{40}$$

Is your answer in part (b) an underestimate or an overestimate? Justify your answer.

**Solution:** To determine whether the estimate is an overestimate or an underestimate, we determine whether  $f$  is concave up or concave down at  $x = 8$ . The second derivative  $f''(x)$  is

$$f''(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \frac{1}{3}x^{-2/3} = -\frac{2}{9}x^{-5/3}$$

At  $x = 8$  we have

$$f''(8) = -\frac{2}{9}8^{-5/3} < 0$$

Therefore,  $f$  is concave down at  $x = 8$  and the tangent line lies above the graph of  $f$  near  $x = 8$ . Thus, the estimate in part (b) is an **overestimate**.

Consider the line  $y = -\frac{7}{3}x + 10$ . Find the  $x$ -coordinate of the point  $(x, y)$  on the given line such that the sum of the squares of both coordinates (i.e.  $x^2 + y^2$ ) is minimized.

**Solution:** We want to minimize the function  $x^2 + y^2$  given the constraint  $y = -\frac{7}{3}x + 10$ . Thus, we have

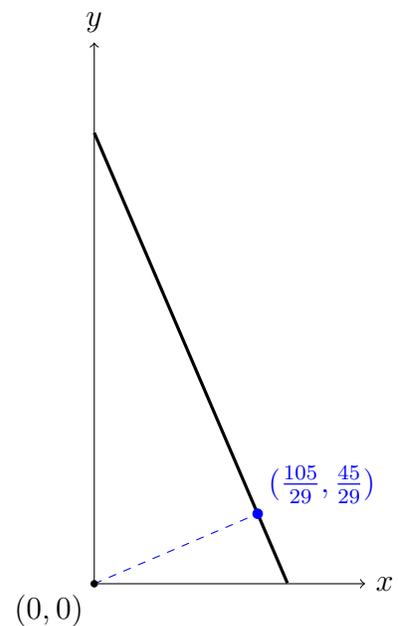
$$f(x) = x^2 + \left(-\frac{7}{3}x + 10\right)^2$$
$$f(x) = x^2 + \frac{49}{9}x^2 - \frac{140}{3}x + 100$$

$$f(x) = \frac{58}{9}x^2 - \frac{140}{3}x + 100$$

The critical points of  $f$  are solutions to  $f'(x) = 0$ :

$$f'(x) = 0$$
$$\frac{116}{9}x - \frac{140}{3} = 0$$
$$\frac{116}{9}x = \frac{140}{3}$$
$$x = \frac{105}{29}$$

The second derivative of  $f$  is  $f''(x) = \frac{116}{9} > 0$ . Thus,  $f$  is concave up for all  $x$  and  $x = \frac{105}{29}$  must correspond to an absolute minimum of  $f$ .



Let  $f(x) = xe^{4x}$  and consider the interval  $[-3, 0]$ . Find the absolute maximum and absolute minimum values of the function on the interval.

**Solution:** To find the absolute extrema we evaluate  $f$  at the critical points in  $(-3, 0)$  and at the endpoints  $-3, 0$ . The critical points of  $f$  are solutions to  $f'(x) = 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned}f'(x) &= 0 \\x \cdot \frac{d}{dx}e^{4x} + e^{4x} \cdot \frac{d}{dx}x &= 0 \\x \cdot 4e^{4x} + e^{4x} \cdot 1 &= 0 \\e^{4x}(4x + 1) &= 0 \\4x + 1 &= 0 \\x &= -\frac{1}{4}\end{aligned}$$

The value of  $f$  at  $x = -3, -\frac{1}{4}, 0$  are:

$$f(-3) = -3e^{-12}, \quad f(-1/4) = (-1/4)e^{-1}, \quad f(0) = 0$$

The largest of the above values is 0 (absolute maximum) and the smallest is  $(-1/4)e^{-1}$  (absolute minimum).