

Section 5.2 The Second Derivative

Notation:

$$f'' = (f')'$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right) = y''.$$

Example

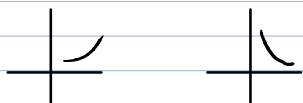
1. if $f(x) = x^2 \ln(x)$, find $f''(x)$

$$f'(x) = 2x \ln(x) + x^2 \cdot \frac{1}{x} = 2x \ln(x) + x$$

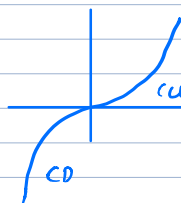
$$f''(x) = \frac{d}{dx}(2x \ln(x) + x) = 2 \ln(x) + 2x \cdot \frac{1}{x} + 1 = 2 \ln(x) + 3.$$

Properties of the 2nd Derivative:

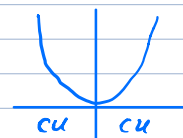
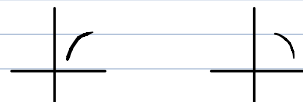
Concave up (CU):



Example



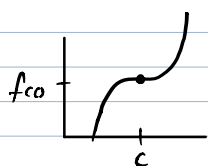
Concave down (CD):



f concave up $\iff f''(x) > 0 \iff f'(x)$ increasing

f concave down $\iff f''(x) < 0 \iff f'(x)$ decreasing

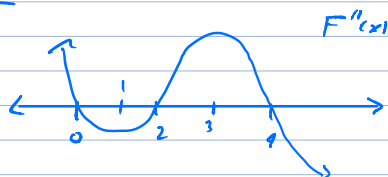
Inflection point: where f changes concavity:



inf. pt: $(c, f(c))$

Problem

(1)



a) F is concave up: when $F'' > 0 \Rightarrow (-\infty, 0) \cup (2, 4)$

b) F is concave down: when $F'' < 0 \Rightarrow (0, 2) \cup (4, +\infty)$

c) x -coord. for inf. pts: when F'' changes sign $\Rightarrow x = 0, 2, 4$.

2nd Derivative Test:

$$f'(c)=0, f''(c)>0 \Rightarrow f(c) \text{ a rel. min}$$

$$f'(c)=0, f''(c)<0 \Rightarrow f(c) \text{ a rel. max}$$

$$f'(c)=0, f''(c)=0 \Rightarrow \text{can't use 2nd Der. Test}$$

Problems

1) $f(x) = x^2 e^{-x}$.

Find where f is incr., decr., CU, CD, inf. pts, rel. ext.

$$1. f'(x) = 2xe^{-x} - x^2 e^{-x} = xe^{-x}(2-x)$$

$$f'(x)=0 \rightarrow xe^{-x}(2-x)=0 \rightarrow x=0 \text{ or } e^{-x}=0 \text{ or } 2-x=0 \\ \rightarrow x=0 \quad \text{DNE} \quad \text{or} \quad x=2$$

	$\xleftarrow{-1}$	$\xrightarrow{1}$	$\xrightarrow{3}$		
	$(-\infty, 0)$	0	$(0, 2)$	2	$(2, +\infty)$
$f'(x)$	$-$	$+$	$-$	$f'(-1) = -3e < 0$	
$f(x)$	$\searrow$	$\nearrow$	$\searrow$	$f'(1) = e^{-1} > 0$	
				$f'(3) = -3e^{-3} < 0$	

incr.: $(0, 2)$

decr.: $(-\infty, 0) \cup (2, +\infty)$

rel. min.: $f(0) = 0$

rel. max.: $f(2) = 4e^{-2}$ } by 1st Der. test.

$$2. f''(x) = \frac{d}{dx} xe^{-x}(2-x) = e^{-x}(x^2 - 4x + 2)$$

$$f''(x)=0 \rightarrow e^{-x}(x^2 - 4x + 2)=0 \rightarrow e^{-x}=0 \text{ or } x^2 - 4x + 2=0 \\ \text{DNE} \quad x = 2 \pm \sqrt{2}$$

	$\xleftarrow{0} \quad \xrightarrow{2} \quad \xrightarrow{5}$					
	$(-\infty, 2-\sqrt{2})$	$2-\sqrt{2}$	$(2-\sqrt{2}, 2+\sqrt{2})$	$2+\sqrt{2}$	$(2+\sqrt{2}, +\infty)$	
$f''(x)$	$+$		$-$		$+$	$f''(0) = 2 > 0$
$f(x)$	$\cup$		$\cap$		$\cup$	$f''(2) = -2e^{-2} < 0$
						$f''(5) = 7e^{-5} > 0$

CU: $(-\infty, 2-\sqrt{2}) \cup (2+\sqrt{2}, +\infty)$

CD: $(2-\sqrt{2}, 2+\sqrt{2})$

infl. pt at $x = 2-\sqrt{2}, 2+\sqrt{2}$

2) Find rel. ext. of $f(x) = x^2 \ln x$ using 2nd Der. test.

1. $f'(x) = 2x \ln x + x = x(2 \ln x + 1) = 0$

$\hookrightarrow x=0$ or $2 \ln x + 1 = 0$
 But $f(0)$ DNE $\ln x = -\frac{1}{2}$
 $\hookrightarrow$ exclude $x = e^{-\frac{1}{2}}$

2. $f''(x) = 2 \ln x + 1 + 2 = 2 \ln x + 3$

$f''(e^{-\frac{1}{2}}) = 2 \ln e^{-\frac{1}{2}} + 3 = -\frac{1}{2} \cdot 2 + 3 = 2 > 0$

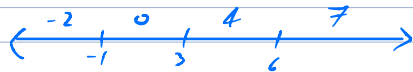
3. $f''(e^{-\frac{1}{2}}) > 0 \Rightarrow f(e^{-\frac{1}{2}}) = -\frac{1}{2} e^{-1} = \text{rel. min.}$

2) $g(x)$ has domain = all real x but $x=6$.

$g''(x) = \frac{(x-3)(x+1)}{(x-6)^2}$

Find concavity and x -coord of inf. pts. of $g(x)$.

$g''(x) = 0$ when $x=3, x=-1$
 $g''(x)$ DNE when $x=6$.



$g''(x)$	-	+	-	+
$g(x)$	$\cap$	$\cup$	$\cap$	$\cup$

$g''(-2) < 0$
 $g''(0) > 0$
 $g''(4) < 0$
 $g''(7) > 0$

$g(x)$ cu on $(-1, 3) \cup (6, +\infty)$
 $g(x)$ cd on $(-\infty, -1) \cup (3, 6)$

x -coord of inf. pts. : $x = -1, 3$. Note $g''(6)$ DNE $\Rightarrow$ not inf. pt.