

### locate critical points

Critical points:  $c \in (a, b)$  is called a critical point

if  $f'(c) = 0$  (or)  $f'(c)$  does not exist.

- Calculate the values of  $f$  at critical points.
- If  $f$  is defined at  $a$  or  $b$ , then calculate  $f(a), f(b)$
- Compare to find the absolute maximum and minimum

$$\underline{\text{Ex:}} \quad f(x) = \frac{2x}{x^2+4} \quad x \in (-\infty, +\infty)$$

- Find critical points:

$$f'(x) = \frac{2 \cdot (x^2+4) - \cancel{2x} \cdot 2x}{(x^2+4)^2} = \frac{8 - 2x^2}{(x^2+4)^2} = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 8 - 2x^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x^2 = 4 \Leftrightarrow x = \pm 2.$$

- $f(2) = \frac{2 \cdot 2}{2^2+4} = \frac{4}{8} = \frac{1}{2}$ .

$$f(-2) = \frac{2 \cdot (-2)}{(-2)^2+4} = \frac{-4}{8} = -\frac{1}{2}$$

- $f(-\infty) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{2x}{x^2+4} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{2}{x}}{1 + \frac{4}{x^2}} = 0$ .

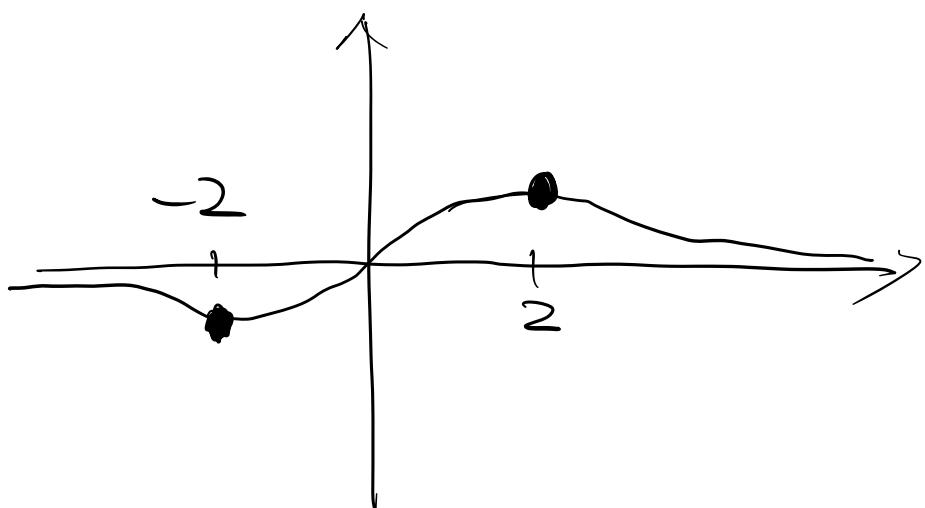
$$f(+\infty) = 0$$

- absolute minimum is  $f(-2) = -\frac{1}{2}$

maximum is  $f(2) = \frac{1}{2}$

- $f'(x) = \frac{2(4-x^2)}{(x^2+4)^2}$

$$\begin{cases} > 0 & |x| < 2 \\ = 0 & |x| = 2 \\ < 0 & |x| > 2 \end{cases}$$



Ex:  $f(x) = x \cdot \sqrt{9-x^2}$

domain:  $[-3, 3]$

$9-x^2 \geq 0$   
 $\uparrow$   
 $x^2 \leq 9$   
 $\Downarrow$

$|x| = \sqrt{x^2} \leq \sqrt{9} = 3$

- Find critical points.

$$\underline{fg' = f \cdot g + g'}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f' &= \sqrt{9-x^2} + \cancel{x} \frac{1}{2} (9-x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \cancel{\frac{d}{dx}(9-x^2)} = 0 \\
 &= \sqrt{9-x^2} - \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{9-x^2}} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{9-x^2}} (9-x^2 - x^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{9-x^2}} (9-2x^2)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f' = 0 \Leftrightarrow 9-2x^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x^2 = \frac{9}{2} \\
 \Leftrightarrow x = \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$f\left(\frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = x \cdot \sqrt{9-x^2} \Big|_{x=\frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}}$$

$$= \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \sqrt{9-\frac{9}{2}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{9}{2}$$

$$f\left(-\frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = -\frac{9}{2}$$

- $f(3) = 3 \cdot \sqrt{9-3^2} = 0$
- $f(-3) = -3 \cdot \sqrt{9-(-3)^2} = 0$

- $f\left(\frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = \frac{9}{2}$  Absolute maximum

- $f\left(-\frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = -\frac{9}{2}$  ... minimum

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Ex:  $f(x) = x^{\frac{1}{3}} - x^2$  on  $[-8, 8]$

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- critical points:

$$f'(x) = \left( \frac{1}{3} \cdot x^{-\frac{2}{3}} - 2x \right) = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{x^{\frac{2}{3}}} = 2x \Rightarrow 2x \cdot 3 \cdot x^{\frac{2}{3}} = 1$$

$$6 \cdot x^{\frac{5}{3}} = 1$$

$$x = \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{\frac{3}{5}} \Leftarrow x^{\frac{5}{3}} = \frac{1}{6}$$

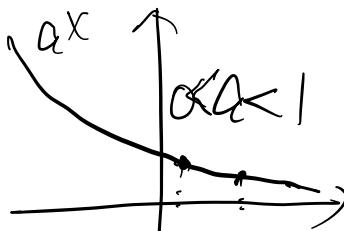
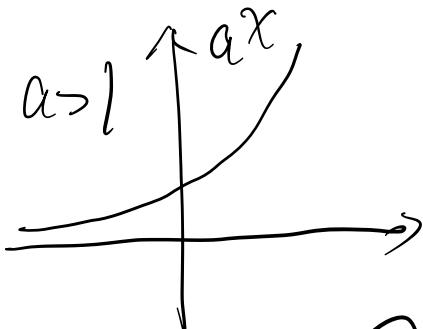
Critical points are:

$$\frac{1}{6^{\frac{3}{5}}} \text{ and } 0$$

$$(32)^{\frac{3}{5}} = ((32)^{\frac{1}{5}})^3 \\ = 2^3 = 8$$

$$f\left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{\frac{3}{5}} = \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{\frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{3}} - \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{\frac{3}{5} \cdot 2}$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{\frac{1}{5}} - \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{\frac{6}{5}} > 0$$



$$f(0) = 0 < f\left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{\frac{3}{5}}$$

$$\underline{f(-8)} = (-8)^{\frac{1}{3}} - (-8)^2 = -2 - 64 = \underline{-66}$$

$$\underline{f(8)} = 8^{\frac{1}{3}} - 8^2 = 2 - 64 = \underline{-62}$$

- Absolute maximum  $f\left(\left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{\frac{3}{5}}\right) > 0$

$$\left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{\frac{1}{5}} - \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{\frac{6}{5}}$$

- Absolute minimum:  $f(-8) = -66$

Fact: Let  $f$  be a function

defined on a closed interval.

If  $f$  is continuous, then

there exist absolute maximum  
and absolute minimum.

