

And now for something completely different... Well, not really.

How derivatives affect the shape of a graph.

Please allow me to offer some explanation as to why the first couple parts of this worksheet are important and not just work to keep you busy for an hour: One of our new goals is for me to give you a graph of the *derivative* and have you sketch a possible graph of the function. This skill will hint at the second of our two main goals: undoing derivatives (i.e. I give you the equation of the derivative and you give me the equation of the function).

### Section 1: The First Derivative Test

**Ex.1** From the following graph, estimate where the function is increasing or decreasing. (i.e. state the interval(s) of x-values where  $f(x)$  is “going-up,” then state the interval(s) of x-values where  $f(x)$  is “going-down.”)

increasing:

decreasing:

**Theorem:** Increasing/Decreasing Test.

Use your work from (Ex.1) to fill in the blanks in the theorem using “increasing” or “decreasing”.

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

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

**Ex.2** Find where the function  $f(x) = (x^2 - 1)^2$  is increasing or decreasing. Hint: Make a table like the one I will put on the board. Remember you only care about  $f'(x) > 0$  or  $f'(x) < 0$ . (Use Chain rule)

Recall from Section 4.1 that if  $f$  has a local max/min at  $c$ , then  $c$  is a critical number of  $f$  (Fermat's Thrm.), but not every critical number gives rise to a local max/min. It would be wonderful if we had a theorem (the next one) that tells us when a critical number gives a local max/min.

**Theorem:** First Derivative Test

Fill in the blanks of the theorem with "maximum," "minimum," or "neither."

Suppose that  $c$  is a critical number of a continuous function  $f$ . Then:

(a) If  $f'$  changes from positive to negative at  $c$ , then  $f$  has a local \_\_\_\_\_ at  $c$ .

(b) If  $f'$  changes from negative to positive at  $c$ , then  $f$  has a local \_\_\_\_\_ at  $c$ .

(c) If  $f'$  does not change sign at  $c$  (i.e.  $f'$  is positive on both sides of  $c$  or negative on both sides), then  $f$  has \_\_\_\_\_ a local max nor min at  $c$ .

The proof of the First Derivative Test is simply in the reasoning of how you decided to place max, min, or neither. Hopefully you somehow used the Increasing/Decreasing Test.

**Ex.2** continued. Find the local min and max values of the function  $f$  from Ex.2.

**Ex.3** Find the local max and min value of  $f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 + 5$ .

## Section 2: Concavity and The Second Derivative Test

**Ex.4** Consider the following graphs of  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$ . Notice that both are increasing functions on  $(a, b)$ , but they *bend* in different directions. This bending is called concavity. Label the graphs either “concave up” (I think but don’t write: “bowl-shaped up”) or “concave down” (“bowl-shaped down”).

Now draw 2 or 3 tangent lines on the above graphs. The book offers the following definition. You are to fill in the blanks with either “concave up” or “concave down.”

**Definition** If the graph of  $f$  lies above all of its tangents on an interval  $I$ , then it is called \_\_\_\_\_ on  $I$ . If the graph of  $f$  lies below all of its tangents on an interval  $I$ , then it is called \_\_\_\_\_ on  $I$ .

**Ex.5** Draw the graphs of  $f(x) = x^2$  and  $g(x) = -x^4$ . Label them “concave up” or “concave down.” Next, compute the second derivatives of each. What do you notice about the sign of the second derivative and the concavity of each?

**Theorem** Concavity Test

Fill in the blanks in the theorem using “concave up” or “concave down”.

(a) If  $f''(x) > 0$  for all  $x$  in  $I$ , then the graph of  $f$  is \_\_\_\_\_ on  $I$ .

(b) If  $f''(x) < 0$  for all  $x$  in  $I$ , then the graph of  $f$  is \_\_\_\_\_ on  $I$ .

You can use the observation about the slopes of the tangent lines from Ex.4 and 5. and notice that  $f'$  is increasing when  $f$  is concave up and use the Increasing/Decreasing Test applied to  $f'$ . (Similar for concave down.)

**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 at  $P$ . For an example, draw  $f(x) = x^3$ .

**Ex.6** Sketch the graph of a function that satisfies all of the following conditions:  $f'(-1) = f'(1) = 0$ ,  $f'(x) < 0$  if  $|x| < 1$ ,  $f'(x) > 0$  if  $|x| > 1$ ,  $f(-1) = 4$ ,  $f(1) = 0$ ,  $f''(x) < 0$  if  $x < 0$ ,  $f''(x) > 0$  if  $x > 0$ .

**Theorem** The Second Derivative Test

Fill in the blanks with either “maximum” or “minimum.” Hint: Ex. 5.

Suppose  $f''$  is continuous “near”  $c$ .

(a) If  $f'(c) = 0$  and  $f''(c) > 0$ , then  $f$  has a local \_\_\_\_\_ at  $c$ .

(b) If  $f'(c) = 0$  and  $f''(c) < 0$ , then  $f$  has a local \_\_\_\_\_ at  $c$ .

### Section 3: Exercises

For problems 1, do the following:

- (a) Find the intervals on which  $f$  is increasing or decreasing.
- (b) Find the local max and min values of  $f$ .
- (c) Find the intervals of concavity and the inflection points.
- (d) Use the above info to sketch a graph of the curve.

1.  $f(x) = x^4 - 4x^3 + 4$

For problems 2-3, you are given the graph of the *derivative*  $f'$  of a function  $f$ . Do the following:

(a) Find the intervals on which  $f$  is increasing or decreasing.

(b) On what intervals is  $f$  concave up/down?

(c) Sketch a rough graph for  $f$ . (Note that everyone should get the same shape of the graph, but different people might place the graph vertical shifts from others' graphs.)

2. .

3. .