local maximum or minimum. The second derivative is

$$f''(x) = -\frac{x^2 e^{1/x}(-1/x^2) - e^{1/x}(2x)}{x^4} = \frac{e^{1/x}(2x + 1)}{x^4}$$

Since $e^{1/x} > 0$ and $x^4 > 0$, we have $f''(x) > 0$ when $x > -\frac{1}{2}$ $(x \neq 0)$ and $f''(x) < 0$ when $x < -\frac{1}{2}$. So the curve is concave downward on $\left(-\infty, -\frac{1}{2}\right)$ and concave upward on $\left(-\frac{1}{2}, 0\right)$ and on $(0, \infty)$. The inflection point is $\left(-\frac{1}{2}, e^{-2}\right)$.

To sketch the graph of f we first draw the horizontal asymptote $y = 1$ (as a dashed line), together with the parts of the curve near the asymptotes in a preliminary sketch [Figure 13(a)]. These parts reflect the information concerning limits and the fact that f is decreasing on both $(-\infty, 0)$ and $(0, \infty)$. Notice that we have indicated that $f(x) \to 0$ as $x \to 0^-$ even though $f(0)$ does not exist. In Figure 13(b) we finish the sketch by incorporating the information concerning concavity and the inflection point. In Figure 13(c) we check our work with a graphing device.

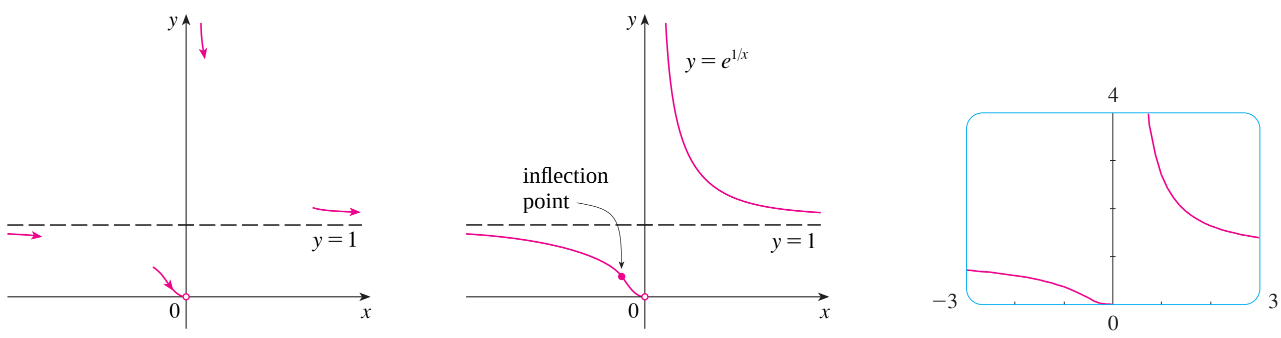


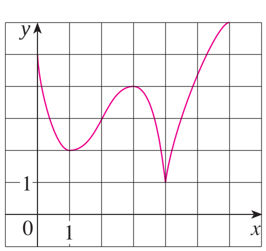
FIGURE 13

4.3 Exercises

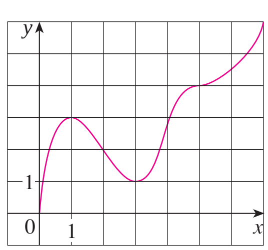
1–2 Use the given graph of f to find the following.

(a) The open intervals on which f is increasing.
(b) The open intervals on which f is decreasing.
(c) The open intervals on which f is concave upward.
(d) The open intervals on which f is concave downward.
(e) The coordinates of the points of inflection.

1.



2.

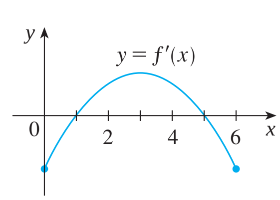


3. Suppose you are given a formula for a function f.
(a) How do you determine where f is increasing or decreasing?
(b) How do you determine where the graph of f is concave upward or concave downward?
(c) How do you locate inflection points?

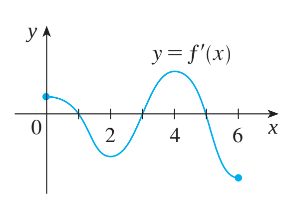
4. (a) State the First Derivative Test.
(b) State the Second Derivative Test. Under what circumstances is it inconclusive? What do you do if it fails?

5–6 The graph of the *derivative* f' of a function f is shown.
(a) On what intervals is f increasing or decreasing?
(b) At what values of x does f have a local maximum or minimum?

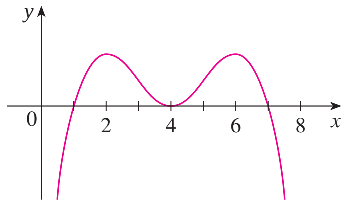
5.



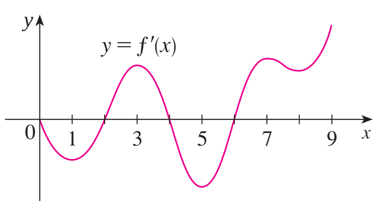
6.



7. In each part state the x-coordinates of the inflection points of f. Give reasons for your answers.
(a) The curve is the graph of f.
(b) The curve is the graph of f'.
(c) The curve is the graph of f''.



8. The graph of the first derivative f' of a function f is shown.
(a) On what intervals is f increasing? Explain.
(b) At what values of x does f have a local maximum or minimum? Explain.
(c) On what intervals is f concave upward or concave downward? Explain.
(d) What are the x-coordinates of the inflection points of f? Why?



9–18
(a) Find the intervals on which f is increasing or decreasing.
(b) Find the local maximum and minimum values of f.
(c) Find the intervals of concavity and the inflection points.

9. $f(x) = 2x^3 + 3x^2 - 36x$

10. $f(x) = 4x^3 + 3x^2 - 6x + 1$

11. $f(x) = x^4 - 2x^2 + 3$

12. $f(x) = \dfrac{x}{x^2 + 1}$

13. $f(x) = \sin x + \cos x, \quad 0 \leqslant x \leqslant 2\pi$

14. $f(x) = \cos^2 x - 2\sin x, \quad 0 \leqslant x \leqslant 2\pi$

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

16. $f(x) = x^2 \ln x$

17. $f(x) = x^2 - x - \ln x$

18. $f(x) = x^4 e^{-x}$

19–21 Find the local maximum and minimum values of f using both the First and Second Derivative Tests. Which method do you prefer?

19. $f(x) = 1 + 3x^2 - 2x^3$

20. $f(x) = \dfrac{x^2}{x - 1}$

21. $f(x) = \sqrt{x} - \sqrt[4]{x}$

22. (a) Find the critical numbers of $f(x) = x^4(x - 1)^3$.
(b) What does the Second Derivative Test tell you about the behavior of f at these critical numbers?
(c) What does the First Derivative Test tell you?

23. Suppose f'' is continuous on $(-\infty, \infty)$.
(a) If $f'(2) = 0$ and $f''(2) = -5$, what can you say about f?
(b) If $f'(6) = 0$ and $f''(6) = 0$, what can you say about f?

24–29 Sketch the graph of a function that satisfies all of the given conditions.

24. Vertical asymptote $x = 0$, $\quad f'(x) > 0$ if $x < -2$,
$f'(x) < 0$ if $x > -2$ $(x \neq 0)$,
$f''(x) < 0$ if $x < 0$, $\quad f''(x) > 0$ if $x > 0$

25. $f'(0) = f'(2) = f'(4) = 0$,
$f'(x) > 0$ if $x < 0$ or $2 < x < 4$,
$f'(x) < 0$ if $0 < x < 2$ or $x > 4$,
$f''(x) > 0$ if $1 < x < 3$, $\quad f''(x) < 0$ if $x < 1$ or $x > 3$

26. $f'(1) = f'(-1) = 0$, $\quad f'(x) < 0$ if $|x| < 1$,
$f'(x) > 0$ if $1 < |x| < 2$, $\quad f'(x) = -1$ if $|x| > 2$,
$f''(x) < 0$ if $-2 < x < 0$, $\quad$ inflection point $(0, 1)$

27. $f'(x) > 0$ if $|x| < 2$, $\quad f'(x) < 0$ if $|x| > 2$,
$f'(-2) = 0$, $\quad \lim_{x \to 2} |f'(x)| = \infty$, $\quad f''(x) > 0$ if $x \neq 2$

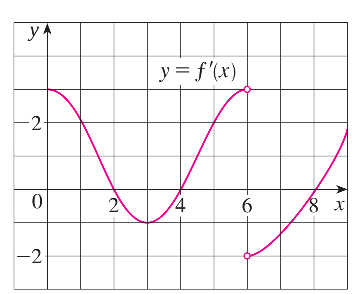
28. $f'(x) > 0$ if $|x| < 2$, $\quad f'(x) < 0$ if $|x| > 2$,
$f'(2) = 0$, $\quad \lim_{x \to \infty} f(x) = 1$, $\quad f(-x) = -f(x)$,
$f''(x) < 0$ if $0 < x < 3$, $\quad f''(x) > 0$ if $x > 3$

29. $f'(x) < 0$ and $f''(x) < 0$ for all x

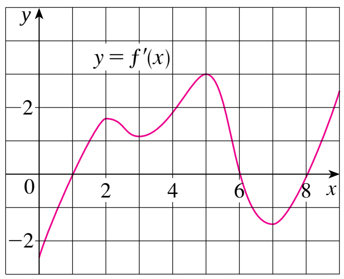
30. Suppose $f(3) = 2$, $f'(3) = \frac{1}{2}$, and $f'(x) > 0$ and $f''(x) < 0$ for all x.
(a) Sketch a possible graph for f.
(b) How many solutions does the equation $f(x) = 0$ have? Why?
(c) Is it possible that $f'(2) = \frac{1}{3}$? Why?

31–32 The graph of the derivative f' of a continuous function f is shown.
(a) On what intervals is f increasing? Decreasing?
(b) At what values of x does f have a local maximum? Local minimum?
(c) On what intervals is f concave upward? Concave downward?
(d) State the x-coordinate(s) of the point(s) of inflection.
(e) Assuming that $f(0) = 0$, sketch a graph of f.

31.



32.



33–44
(a) Find the intervals of increase or decrease.
(b) Find the local maximum and minimum values.
(c) Find the intervals of concavity and the inflection points.
(d) Use the information from parts (a)–(c) to sketch the graph. Check your work with a graphing device if you have one.

33. $f(x) = x^3 - 12x + 2$

34. $f(x) = 36x + 3x^2 - 2x^3$

35. $f(x) = 2 + 2x^2 - x^4$

36. $g(x) = 200 + 8x^3 + x^4$

37. $h(x) = (x + 1)^5 - 5x - 2$

38. $h(x) = 5x^3 - 3x^5$

39. $F(x) = x\sqrt{6 - x}$

40. $G(x) = 5x^{2/3} - 2x^{5/3}$

41. $C(x) = x^{1/3}(x + 4)$

42. $f(x) = \ln(x^4 + 27)$

43. $f(\theta) = 2\cos\theta + \cos^2\theta, \quad 0 \leqslant \theta \leqslant 2\pi$

44. $S(x) = x - \sin x, \quad 0 \leqslant x \leqslant 4\pi$

45–52
(a) Find the vertical and horizontal asymptotes.
(b) Find the intervals of increase or decrease.
(c) Find the local maximum and minimum values.
(d) Find the intervals of concavity and the inflection points.
(e) Use the information from parts (a)–(d) to sketch the graph of f.

45. $f(x) = 1 + \dfrac{1}{x} - \dfrac{1}{x^2}$

46. $f(x) = \dfrac{x^2 - 4}{x^2 + 4}$

47. $f(x) = \sqrt{x^2 + 1} - x$

48. $f(x) = \dfrac{e^x}{1 - e^x}$

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

50. $f(x) = x - \frac{1}{6}x^2 - \frac{2}{3}\ln x$

51. $f(x) = \ln(1 - \ln x)$

52. $f(x) = e^{\arctan x}$

53. Suppose the derivative of a function f is $f'(x) = (x + 1)^2(x - 3)^5(x - 6)^4$. On what interval is f increasing?

54. Use the methods of this section to sketch the curve $y = x^3 - 3a^2x + 2a^3$, where a is a positive constant. What do the members of this family of curves have in common? How do they differ from each other?

55–56
(a) Use a graph of f to estimate the maximum and minimum values. Then find the exact values.
(b) Estimate the value of x at which f increases most rapidly. Then find the exact value.

55. $f(x) = \dfrac{x + 1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}$

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

57–58
(a) Use a graph of f to give a rough estimate of the intervals of concavity and the coordinates of the points of inflection.
(b) Use a graph of f'' to give better estimates.

57. $f(x) = \cos x + \frac{1}{2}\cos 2x, \quad 0 \leqslant x \leqslant 2\pi$

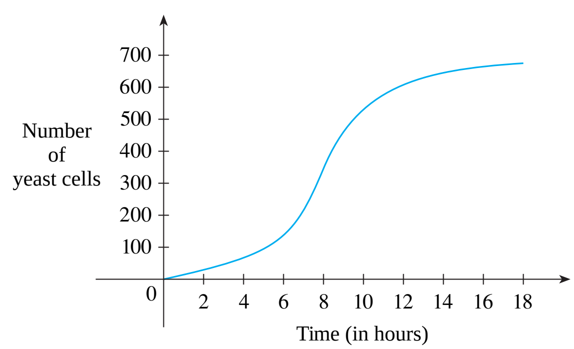
58. $f(x) = x^3(x - 2)^4$

CAS **59–60** Estimate the intervals of concavity to one decimal place by using a computer algebra system to compute and graph f''.

59. $f(x) = \dfrac{x^4 + x^3 + 1}{\sqrt{x^2 + x + 1}}$

60. $f(x) = \dfrac{x^2\tan^{-1}x}{1 + x^3}$

61. A graph of a population of yeast cells in a new laboratory culture as a function of time is shown.
(a) Describe how the rate of population increase varies.
(b) When is this rate highest?
(c) On what intervals is the population function concave upward or downward?
(d) Estimate the coordinates of the inflection point.



62. Let $f(t)$ be the temperature at time t where you live and suppose that at time $t = 3$ you feel uncomfortably hot. How do you feel about the given data in each case?
(a) $f'(3) = 2, \quad f''(3) = 4$
(b) $f'(3) = 2, \quad f''(3) = -4$
(c) $f'(3) = -2, \quad f''(3) = 4$
(d) $f'(3) = -2, \quad f''(3) = -4$

63. Let $K(t)$ be a measure of the knowledge you gain by studying for a test for t hours. Which do you think is larger, $K(8) - K(7)$ or $K(3) - K(2)$? Is the graph of K concave upward or concave downward? Why?

64. Coffee is being poured into the mug shown in the figure at a constant rate (measured in volume per unit time). Sketch a rough graph of the depth of the coffee in the mug as a function of time. Account for the shape of the graph in terms of concavity. What is the significance of the inflection point?

65. A *drug response curve* describes the level of medication in the bloodstream after a drug is administered. A surge function $S(t) = At^p e^{-kt}$ is often used to model the response curve, reflecting an initial surge in the drug level and then a more gradual decline. If, for a particular drug, $A = 0.01$, $p = 4$, $k = 0.07$, and t is measured in minutes, estimate the times corresponding to the inflection points and explain their significance. If you have a graphing device, use it to graph the drug response curve.

66. The family of bell-shaped curves

$$y = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-(x-\mu)^2/(2\sigma^2)}$$

occurs in probability and statistics, where it is called the *normal density function*. The constant μ is called the *mean* and the positive constant σ is called the *standard deviation*. For simplicity, let's scale the function so as to remove the factor $1/(\sigma\sqrt{2\pi})$ and let's analyze the special case where $\mu = 0$. So we study the function

$$f(x) = e^{-x^2/(2\sigma^2)}$$

(a) Find the asymptote, maximum value, and inflection points of f.
(b) What role does σ play in the shape of the curve?
(c) Illustrate by graphing four members of this family on the same screen.

67. Find a cubic function $f(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ that has a local maximum value of 3 at $x = -2$ and a local minimum value of 0 at $x = 1$.

68. For what values of the numbers a and b does the function

$$f(x) = axe^{bx^2}$$

have the maximum value $f(2) = 1$?

69. (a) If the function $f(x) = x^3 + ax^2 + bx$ has the local minimum value $-\frac{2}{9}\sqrt{3}$ at $x = 1/\sqrt{3}$, what are the values of a and b?
(b) Which of the tangent lines to the curve in part (a) has the smallest slope?

70. For what values of a and b is $(2, 2.5)$ an inflection point of the curve $x^2y + ax + by = 0$? What additional inflection points does the curve have?

71. Show that the curve $y = (1 + x)/(1 + x^2)$ has three points of inflection and they all lie on one straight line.

72. Show that the curves $y = e^{-x}$ and $y = -e^{-x}$ touch the curve $y = e^{-x}\sin x$ at its inflection points.

73. Show that the inflection points of the curve $y = x\sin x$ lie on the curve $y^2(x^2 + 4) = 4x^2$.

74–76 Assume that all of the functions are twice differentiable and the second derivatives are never 0.

74. (a) If f and g are concave upward on I, show that $f + g$ is concave upward on I.
(b) If f is positive and concave upward on I, show that the function $g(x) = [f(x)]^2$ is concave upward on I.

75. (a) If f and g are positive, increasing, concave upward functions on I, show that the product function fg is concave upward on I.
(b) Show that part (a) remains true if f and g are both decreasing.
(c) Suppose f is increasing and g is decreasing. Show, by giving three examples, that fg may be concave upward, concave downward, or linear. Why doesn't the argument in parts (a) and (b) work in this case?

76. Suppose f and g are both concave upward on $(-\infty, \infty)$. Under what condition on f will the composite function $h(x) = f(g(x))$ be concave upward?

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77. Show that $\tan x > x$ for $0 < x < \pi/2$. [*Hint:* Show that $f(x) = \tan x - x$ is increasing on $(0, \pi/2)$.]

78. (a) Show that $e^x \geqslant 1 + x$ for $x \geqslant 0$.
(b) Deduce that $e^x \geqslant 1 + x + \frac{1}{2}x^2$ for $x \geqslant 0$.
(c) Use mathematical induction to prove that for $x \geqslant 0$ and any positive integer n,

$$e^x \geqslant 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \cdots + \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

79. Show that a cubic function (a third-degree polynomial) always has exactly one point of inflection. If its graph has three x-intercepts x_1, x_2, and x_3, show that the x-coordinate of the inflection point is $(x_1 + x_2 + x_3)/3$.

80. For what values of c does the polynomial $P(x) = x^4 + cx^3 + x^2$ have two inflection points? One inflection point? None? Illustrate by graphing P for several values of c. How does the graph change as c decreases?

81. Prove that if $(c, f(c))$ is a point of inflection of the graph of f and f'' exists in an open interval that contains c, then $f''(c) = 0$. [*Hint:* Apply the First Derivative Test and Fermat's Theorem to the function $g = f'$.]

82. Show that if $f(x) = x^4$, then $f''(0) = 0$, but $(0, 0)$ is not an inflection point of the graph of f.

83. Show that the function $g(x) = x|x|$ has an inflection point at $(0, 0)$ but $g''(0)$ does not exist.

84. Suppose that f''' is continuous and $f'(c) = f''(c) = 0$, but $f'''(c) > 0$. Does f have a local maximum or minimum at c? Does f have a point of inflection at c?

85. Suppose f is differentiable on an interval I and $f'(x) > 0$ for all numbers x in I except for a single number c. Prove that f is increasing on the entire interval I.

86. For what values of c is the function

$$f(x) = cx + \frac{1}{x^2 + 3}$$

increasing on $(-\infty, \infty)$?

87. The three cases in the First Derivative Test cover the situations one commonly encounters but do not exhaust all possibilities. Consider the functions f, g, and h whose values at 0 are all 0 and, for $x \neq 0$,

$$f(x) = x^4 \sin \frac{1}{x} \qquad g(x) = x^4\left(2 + \sin \frac{1}{x}\right)$$

$$h(x) = x^4\left(-2 + \sin \frac{1}{x}\right)$$

(a) Show that 0 is a critical number of all three functions but their derivatives change sign infinitely often on both sides of 0.

(b) Show that f has neither a local maximum nor a local minimum at 0, g has a local minimum, and h has a local maximum.

4.4 Indeterminate Forms and l'Hospital's Rule

Suppose we are trying to analyze the behavior of the function

$$F(x) = \frac{\ln x}{x - 1}$$

Although F is not defined when $x = 1$, we need to know how F behaves *near* 1. In particular, we would like to know the value of the limit

$$\boxed{1} \qquad \lim_{x \to 1} \frac{\ln x}{x - 1}$$

In computing this limit we can't apply Law 5 of limits (the limit of a quotient is the quotient of the limits, see Section 2.3) because the limit of the denominator is 0. In fact, although the limit in $\boxed{1}$ exists, its value is not obvious because both numerator and denominator approach 0 and $\frac{0}{0}$ is not defined.

In general, if we have a limit of the form

$$\lim_{x \to a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$$

where both $f(x) \to 0$ and $g(x) \to 0$ as $x \to a$, then this limit may or may not exist and is called an **indeterminate form of type $\frac{0}{0}$**. We met some limits of this type in Chapter 2. For rational functions, we can cancel common factors:

$$\lim_{x \to 1} \frac{x^2 - x}{x^2 - 1} = \lim_{x \to 1} \frac{x(x - 1)}{(x + 1)(x - 1)} = \lim_{x \to 1} \frac{x}{x + 1} = \frac{1}{2}$$

We used a geometric argument to show that

$$\lim_{x \to 0} \frac{\sin x}{x} = 1$$