




Lecture XIII: §9.1 Increasing and Decreasing Functions; max & min.

§1. Max and min Problems. Growth of Functions

GOAL: Use  $f'$  & higher order derivatives to sketch the graph of  $f$

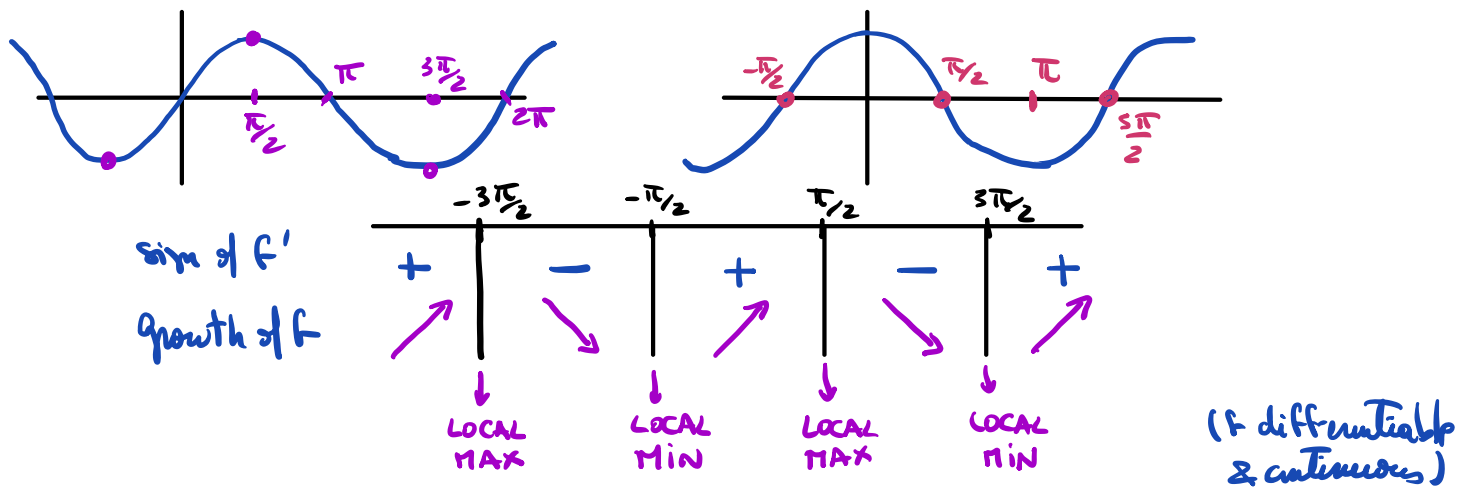
Q: Assume  $f$  is differentiable. What does  $f'$  tell us about  $f$ ?

- $f'(x) > 0$ , then  $f$  is strictly increasing at  $x$  
- $f'(x) < 0$ , \_\_\_\_\_ decreasing at  $x$  
- $f'(x) = 0$ , —  $f$  has a horizontal tangent line at  $(x, f(x))$ . 

Upside: The sign of  $f'$  determines a lot!

→ We should look for regions where the sign of  $f'$  is constant.

EXAMPLE 1  $f(x) = \sin(x) \Rightarrow f'(x) = \cos(x)$

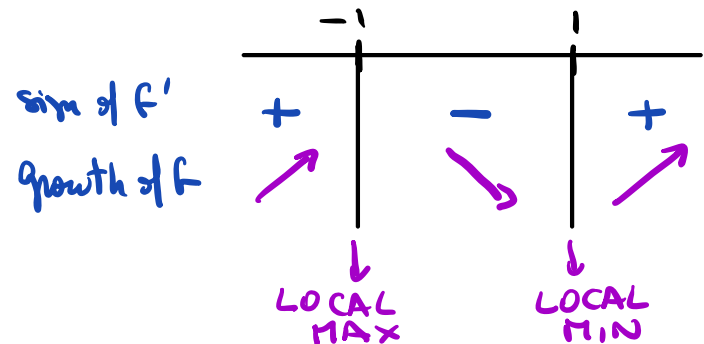


EXAMPLE 2  $f(t) = t^5 - 5t + 1 \Rightarrow f'(t) = 5t^4 - 5 = 5(t^4 - 1)$

$$= 5(t^2 + 1)(t^2 - 1)$$

$$= 5(t^2 + 1)(t - 1)(t + 1)$$

Breaking points:  $f'(t) = 0 \Rightarrow t = \pm 1$

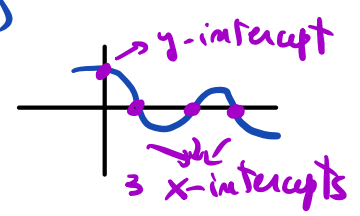


→ always  $> 0$

→ get the sign by evaluating  $f'$  at convenient points (Eg  $x = -2, 0, 2$ )

Also  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} f(t) = \infty$  ,  $\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} f(t) = -\infty$  , so  $f$  has no extreme values on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Useful Things to determine the graph of  $f$ :

- ① critical points : either  $f'(x) = 0$  or  $f$  is not differentiable at  $x$   
(eg  $x=0$  for  $f(x) = |x|$ )
- ② critical Values:  $= f(x)$  for  $x$  a critical pt.
- ③ Sign of  $f'(x)$  between critical points & between points where  $f$  is not defined (Eg for  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x(x+1)}$  near  $x=0, -1$ )
- ④ Intercepts:  $\begin{cases} x\text{-intercept} : f(x) = 0 \\ y\text{-intercept} : f(0) \end{cases}$  
- ⑤  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$  &  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x)$  near potential asymptotes
- ⑥ Behavior of  $f$  near the points where  $f$  is not defined  
(Eg:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  near  $x=0$  :  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x)$  &  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x)$ )
- ⑦ Parity / Periodicity (if trig functions are involved)

Back to example 2:

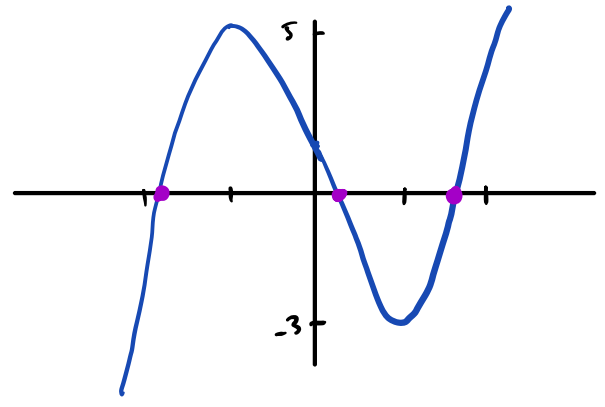
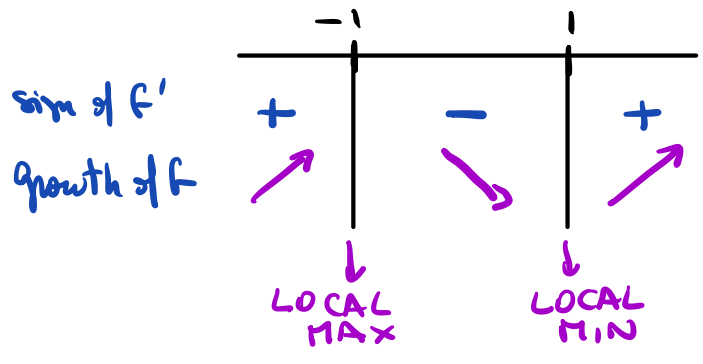
$f(t) = t^5 - 5t + 1$  near  $t$ -intercepts:  $t^5 - 5t + 1 = 0$  < solve for  $t$   
They are hard to find!

We guess the location of the  $t$ -intercepts using the Intermediate Value Theorem (IVT)

- Q: How?
- $f(0) = 1 > 0$ ,  $f(1) = -3 < 0$  &  $f$  continuous  
 $\Rightarrow$  so we have a zero in the interval  $(0, 1)$ .
  - $f(-1) = 5 > 0$ ,  $f(-2) = -21 < 0$  &  $f$  continuous  
 $\Rightarrow$  we have another zero in the interval  $(-2, -1)$ .

•  $f(1) = -3 < 0$ ,  $f(2) = 23 > 0$  &  $f$  continuous  
 $\rightarrow$  we have another zero in the interval  $(1, 2)$ .

We found the approximate location of 3  $t$ -intercepts.  
 Growth pattern of  $f$  says we cannot have more!



EXAMPLE 3:  $f(x) = \sec(x) = \frac{1}{\cos x}$   $\rightarrow$  ⑦ • Periodic with period  $2\pi$

•  $\frac{1}{\cos(-x)} = \frac{1}{\cos x}$ , so EVEN function

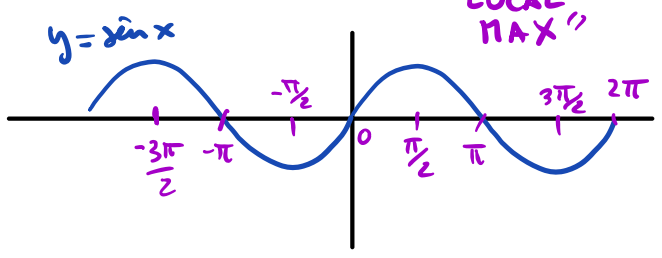
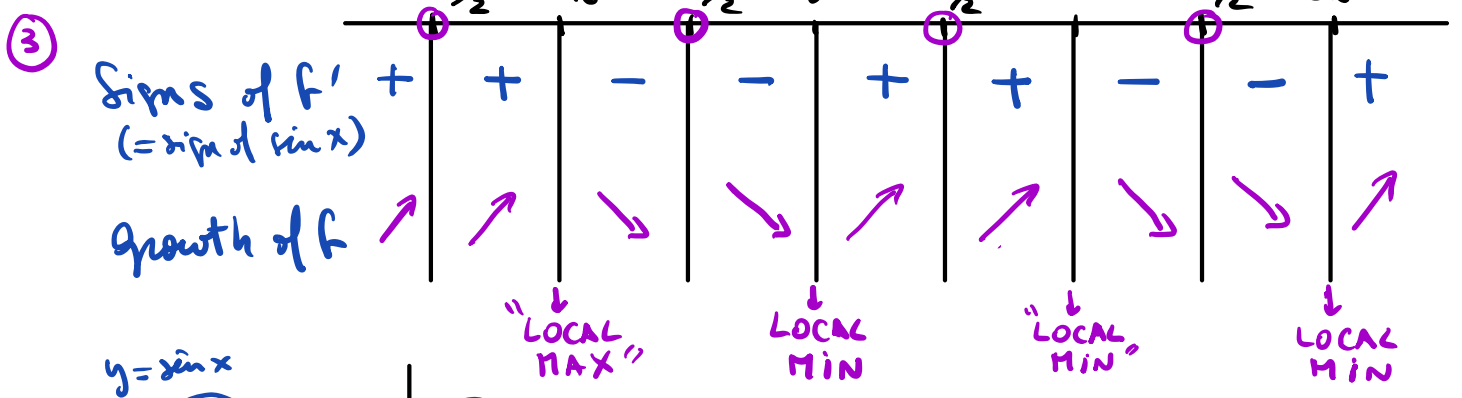
•  $f$  is not defined at  $x = \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}, \dots$   
 $-\frac{\pi}{2}, -\frac{3\pi}{2}, \dots$

① Critical Points:

$f'(x) = -\frac{-\sin x}{\cos^2 x} = \frac{\sin x}{\cos^2 x}$   $\rightarrow$  undefined at  $x = \pm\frac{\pi}{2}, \pm\frac{3\pi}{2}$   
 vanishes at  $x = 0, \pm\pi, \pm 2\pi, \dots$

$\rightarrow$  Crit. pts :  $0, \pm\frac{\pi}{2}, \pm\pi, \pm\frac{3\pi}{2}, \pm 2\pi$ .

② Critical Values:  $f(0) = \frac{1}{1} = 1$ ,  $f(\pi) = \frac{1}{-1} = -1$  & repeats periodically



④ Intercepts:

• Zeros of  $f = \text{none}$ , so no  $x$ -intercepts

•  $y$ -intercept  $f(0) = \frac{1}{\cos(0)} = 1$ .

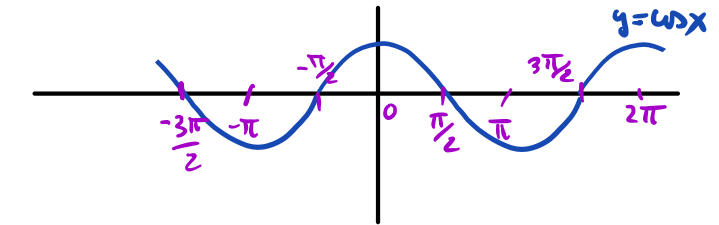
⑤ Behavior at  $\infty$  &  $-\infty$ : we have no limits because  $f$  is periodic!

⑥ Behavior around points outside the domain of  $f$ :

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \frac{\pi}{2}^-} \frac{1}{\cos x} = +\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow (\frac{\pi}{2})^+} \frac{1}{\cos x} = -\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow (\frac{3\pi}{2})^-} \frac{1}{\cos x} = -\infty$$



$$\lim_{x \rightarrow (\frac{3\pi}{2})^+} \frac{1}{\cos x} = +\infty$$

These give vertical asymptotes!

Graph of  $\frac{1}{\cos x}$ :

