Example 5:

Sketch the graph of $f(x) = \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{x+1}}$.

A. Domain $= \{x \mid x+1>0\} = \{x \mid x>-1\} = (-1, \infty)$

B. The x- and y-intercepts are both 0.

C. Symmetry: None

D. Since

$$\lim_{x\to\infty} \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{x+1}} = \infty$$

there is no horizontal asymptote. Since $\sqrt{x+1} \to 0$ as $x \to -1^+$ and $f(x)$ is always positive, we have

$$\lim_{x\to -1^+} \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{x+1}} = \infty$$

and so the line $x = -1$ is a vertical asymptote.

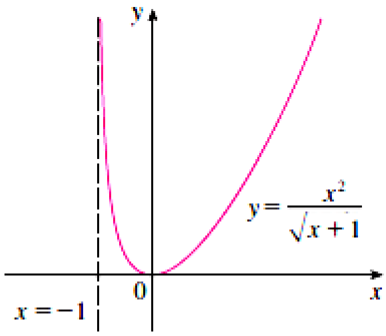
E. $$f'(x) = \frac{\sqrt{x+1}\,(2x) - x^2 \cdot 1/(2\sqrt{x+1})}{x+1} = \frac{3x^2+4x}{2(x+1)^{3/2}} = \frac{x(3x+4)}{2(x+1)^{3/2}}$$

We see that $f'(x) = 0$ when $x = 0$ (notice that $-\frac{4}{3}$ is not in the domain of f), so the only critical number is 0. Since $f'(x) < 0$ when $-1 < x < 0$ and $f'(x) > 0$ when $x > 0$, f is decreasing on $(-1, 0)$ and increasing on $(0, \infty)$.

F. Since $f'(0) = 0$ and f' changes from negative to positive at 0, $f(0) = 0$ is a local (and absolute) minimum by the First Derivative Test.

G. $$f''(x) = \frac{2(x+1)^{3/2}(6x+4) - (3x^2+4x)3(x+1)^{1/2}}{4(x+1)^3} = \frac{3x^2+8x+8}{4(x+1)^{5/2}}$$

Note that the denominator is always positive. The numerator is the quadratic $3x^2 + 8x + 8$, which is always positive because its discriminant is $b^2 - 4ac = -32$, which is negative, and the coefficient of x^2 is positive. Thus $f''(x) > 0$ for all x in the domain of f, which means that f is concave upward on $(-1, \infty)$ and there is no point of inflection.



Example 6:

Sketch the graph of $f(x) = \dfrac{\cos x}{2 + \sin x}$.

A. The domain is $\mathbb{R}$.

B. The y-intercept is $f(0) = \frac{1}{2}$. The x-intercepts occur when $\cos x = 0$, that is, $x = (\pi/2) + n\pi$, where n is an integer.

C. f is neither even nor odd, but $f(x + 2\pi) = f(x)$ for all x and so f is periodic and has period 2π. Thus, in what follows, we need to consider only $0 \leqslant x \leqslant 2\pi$ and then extend the curve by translation in part H.

D. Asymptotes: None

E.
$$f'(x) = \frac{(2 + \sin x)(-\sin x) - \cos x\,(\cos x)}{(2 + \sin x)^2} = -\frac{2\sin x + 1}{(2 + \sin x)^2}$$

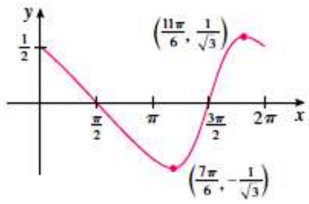
The denominator is always positive, so $f'(x) > 0$ when $2\sin x + 1 < 0 \iff \sin x < -\frac{1}{2} \iff 7\pi/6 < x < 11\pi/6$. So f is increasing on $(7\pi/6, 11\pi/6)$ and decreasing on $(0, 7\pi/6)$ and $(11\pi/6, 2\pi)$.

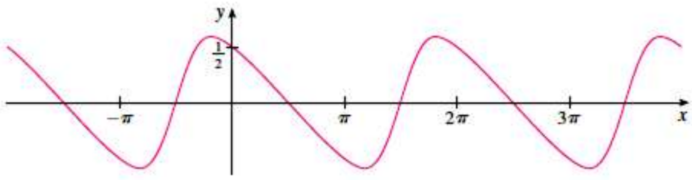
F. From part E and the First Derivative Test, we see that the local minimum value is $f(7\pi/6) = -1/\sqrt{3}$ and the local maximum value is $f(11\pi/6) = 1/\sqrt{3}$.

G. If we use the Quotient Rule again and simplify, we get

$$f''(x) = -\frac{2\cos x\,(1 - \sin x)}{(2 + \sin x)^3}$$

Because $(2 + \sin x)^3 > 0$ and $1 - \sin x \geqslant 0$ for all x, we know that $f''(x) > 0$ when $\cos x < 0$, that is, $\pi/2 < x < 3\pi/2$. So f is concave upward on $(\pi/2, 3\pi/2)$ and concave downward on $(0, \pi/2)$ and $(3\pi/2, 2\pi)$. The inflection points are $(\pi/2, 0)$ and $(3\pi/2, 0)$.





Example 7:

Sketch the graph of $y = \ln(4 - x^2)$.

A. The domain is

$$\{x \mid 4 - x^2 > 0\} = \{x \mid x^2 < 4\} = \{x \mid |x| < 2\} = (-2, 2)$$

B. The y-intercept is $f(0) = \ln 4$. To find the x-intercept we set

$$y = \ln(4 - x^2) = 0$$

We know that $\ln 1 = 0$, so we have $4 - x^2 = 1 \Rightarrow x^2 = 3$ and therefore the x-intercepts are $\pm\sqrt{3}$.

C. Since $f(-x) = f(x)$, f is even and the curve is symmetric about the y-axis.

D. We look for vertical asymptotes at the endpoints of the domain. Since $4 - x^2 \to 0^+$ as $x \to 2^-$ and also as $x \to -2^+$, we have

$$\lim_{x\to 2^-} \ln(4 - x^2) = -\infty \qquad \lim_{x\to -2^+} \ln(4 - x^2) = -\infty$$

Thus the lines $x = 2$ and $x = -2$ are vertical asymptotes.

E.

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

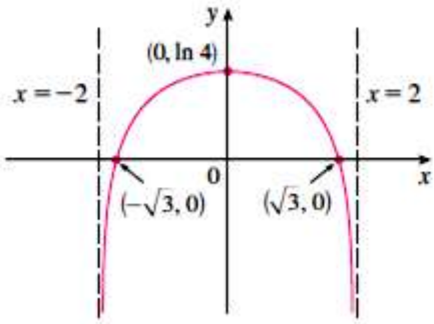
Since $f'(x) > 0$ when $-2 < x < 0$ and $f'(x) < 0$ when $0 < x < 2$, f is increasing on $(-2, 0)$ and decreasing on $(0, 2)$.

F. The only critical number is $x = 0$. Since f' changes from positive to negative at 0, $f(0) = \ln 4$ is a local maximum by the First Derivative Test.

G.

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

Since $f''(x) < 0$ for all x, the curve is concave downward on $(-2, 2)$ and has no inflection point.



EX-6 – Sketch the curve : $y = \frac{1}{6}(x^3 - 6x^2 + 9x + 6)$.

Sol. -

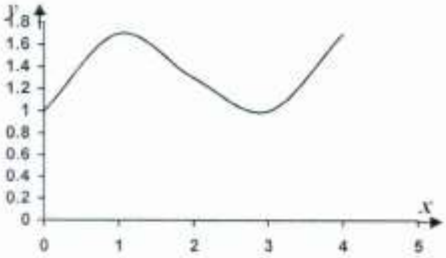
$y' = \frac{1}{2}x^2 - 2x + \frac{3}{2} = 0 \Rightarrow x^2 - 4x + 3 = 0 \Rightarrow (x-1)(x-3) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1,3$

$y'' = x - 2 \Rightarrow at\ x = 1 \Rightarrow y'' = 1 - 2 = -1 < 0$ *concave down .*

$\Rightarrow at\ x = 3 \Rightarrow y'' = 3 - 2 > 0$ *concave up .*

$\Rightarrow at\ y'' = 0 \Rightarrow x - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 2$ *point of inflection .*

x	0	1	2	3	4
y	1	1.7	1.3	1	1.7



EX-7 – What value of a makes the function :

$f(x) = x^2 + \frac{a}{x}$, have :

i) a local minimum at $x = 2$?
ii) a local minimum at $x = -3$?
iii) a point of inflection at $x = 1$?
iv) show that the function can't have a local maximum for any value of a .

Sol. –

$$f(x) = x^2 + \frac{a}{x} \Rightarrow \frac{df}{dx} = 2x - \frac{a}{x^2} = 0 \Rightarrow a = 2x^3 \text{ and } \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 2 + \frac{2a}{x^3}$$

i) at $x = 2 \Rightarrow a = 2 * 8 = 16$ and $\frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} = 2 + \frac{2 * 16}{2^3} = 6 > 0$ Mini.

ii) at $x = -3 \Rightarrow a = 2(-3)^3 = -54$ and $\frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} = 2 + \frac{2(-54)}{(-3)^3} = 6 > 0$ Mini.

iii) at $x = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} = 2 + \frac{2a}{1} = 0 \Rightarrow a = -1$

iv) $a = 2x^3 \Rightarrow \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} = 2 + \frac{2(2x^3)}{x^3} = 6 > 0$

Since $\frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} > 0$ for all value of x in $a = 2x^3$.

Hence the function don't have a local maximum .

The Mean Value Theorem

The Mean Value Theorem Let f be a function that satisfies the following hypotheses:

1. f is continuous on the closed interval $[a, b]$.

2. f is differentiable on the open interval (a, b).

Then there is a number c in (a, b) such that

1
$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$$

or, equivalently,

2
$$f(b) - f(a) = f'(c)(b - a)$$

Before proving this theorem, we can see that it is reasonable by interpreting it geometrically. Figures 3 and 4 show the points $A(a, f(a))$ and $B(b, f(b))$ on the graphs of two differentiable functions. The slope of the secant line AB is

3
$$m_{AB} = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$$

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3
$$m_{AB} = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$$

which is the same expression as on the right side of Equation 1. Since $f'(c)$ is the slope of the tangent line at the point $(c, f(c))$, the Mean Value Theorem, in the form given by Equation 1, says that there is at least one point $P(c, f(c))$ on the graph where the slope of the tangent line is the same as the slope of the secant line AB. In other words, there is a point P where the tangent line is parallel to the secant line AB. (Imagine a line far away that stays parallel to AB while moving toward AB until it touches the graph for the first time.)

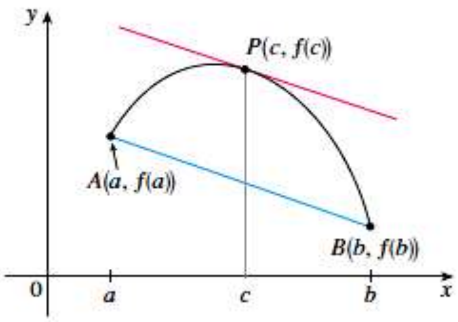

FIGURE 3

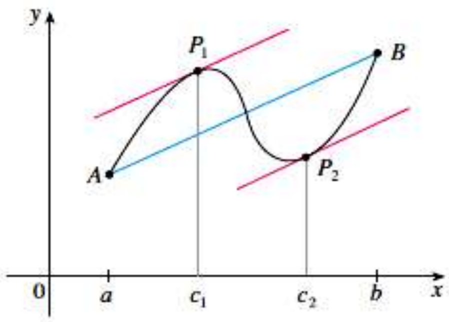

FIGURE 4

To illustrate the Mean Value Theorem with a specific function, let's consider $f(x) = x^3 - x$, $a = 0$, $b = 2$. Since f is a polynomial, it is continuous and differentiable for all x, so it is certainly continuous on $[0, 2]$ and differentiable on $(0, 2)$. Therefore, by the Mean Value Theorem, there is a number c in $(0, 2)$ such that

$$f(2) - f(0) = f'(c)(2 - 0)$$

Now $f(2) = 6$, $f(0) = 0$, and $f'(x) = 3x^2 - 1$, so this equation becomes

$$6 = (3c^2 - 1)2 = 6c^2 - 2$$

which gives $c^2 = \frac{4}{3}$, that is, $c = \pm 2/\sqrt{3}$. But c must lie in $(0, 2)$, so $c = 2/\sqrt{3}$.