

$c \in D$ is a maximum point of f (\Rightarrow) $f(x) \leq f(c)$ for all $x \in D$
 (strict) \Rightarrow and \Leftarrow $f(x) < f(c)$ for all $x \in D, x \neq c$
 point should be in the domain D generic

(\Rightarrow) characterization (if and only if statement)

$d \in D$ is a minimum point of $f \Leftrightarrow f(x) \geq f(d)$ for all $x \in D$

- No calculus involved.
- No assumption about f being continuous.
- No assumption about f being differentiable. \rightarrow first derivative exists and is well-defined.
- It does not tell you / does not give a recipe to find max/min.

(maximizer) $\begin{matrix} c \\ \text{maximum point} \end{matrix}$ vs $\begin{matrix} f(c) \\ \text{maximum value} \end{matrix}$
 (minimizer) $\begin{matrix} d \\ \text{minimum point} \end{matrix}$ vs $\begin{matrix} f(d) \\ \text{minimum value} \end{matrix}$
 optimal/extreme points

Example.

$$f(x) = 3$$

$x \in \mathbb{R}$ (the set of real numbers)
 \downarrow
 D

$x = 1$ is a maximum pt of f . $\text{Why? Because } \underline{3} = f(x) \leq f(1) = \underline{3}$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$

but

$x = 1$ is not a strict maximum point of f .
because $f(x)$ is not less than $f(1) = 3$
for all $x \neq 1$.

Example.

$$f(x) = x^2$$

Find minimum points of f .

$x = 0$ is a minimum point of f .

Convert into a maximization problem.

$$g(x) = -f(x) = -x^2 \Rightarrow x = 0 \text{ is a maximum point of } f.$$

Section 8.1 Example 1

You will see commonly used functions. If you know their behavior, you can choose not to use calculus to find extreme points.

$$-(x-2)^2$$

$$f(x) = 3 - (x-2)^2, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$x=2$ is a max pt of f .
no minimum pts of f

$$\begin{aligned} & (x-2)^2 \geq 0 \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R} \\ \Rightarrow & -1(x-2)^2 \leq 0 \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R} \quad (\text{algebra, applying properties of inequalities}) \\ \Rightarrow & \underbrace{-(x-2)^2 + 3}_{f(x)} \leq 3 \end{aligned}$$

$-4 + 3 = -1$
 $-(x-2)^2 \leq 0$
 $-(x-2)^2 + 3 \leq 0 + 3$

What we have shown is that $f(x) \leq 3$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

Go back to def of max:

$c \in D$ is a max pt of $f \Leftrightarrow f(x) \leq f(c)$ for all $x \in D$
 $2 \in \mathbb{R}$ is a max pt of $f \Leftrightarrow f(x) \leq 3$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$
 $f(2) = 3$

- How to write arguments / proofs
- Seeing many ways of doing the same thing

inequalities

$$a \leq b$$

$$a+c \leq b+c$$

$$-(x-2)^2 \leq 0$$

$$-(x-2)^2 + 3 \leq 0 + 3$$

$$f(x) = 3 - (x-2)^2$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = ?$$

$$\begin{aligned} x \rightarrow \infty & \Rightarrow (x-2)^2 \rightarrow \infty \\ & \Rightarrow -(x-2)^2 \rightarrow -\infty \\ & \Rightarrow 3 - (x-2)^2 \rightarrow -\infty \end{aligned}$$

Similarly for $x \rightarrow -\infty$

\Rightarrow no minimum pt of f

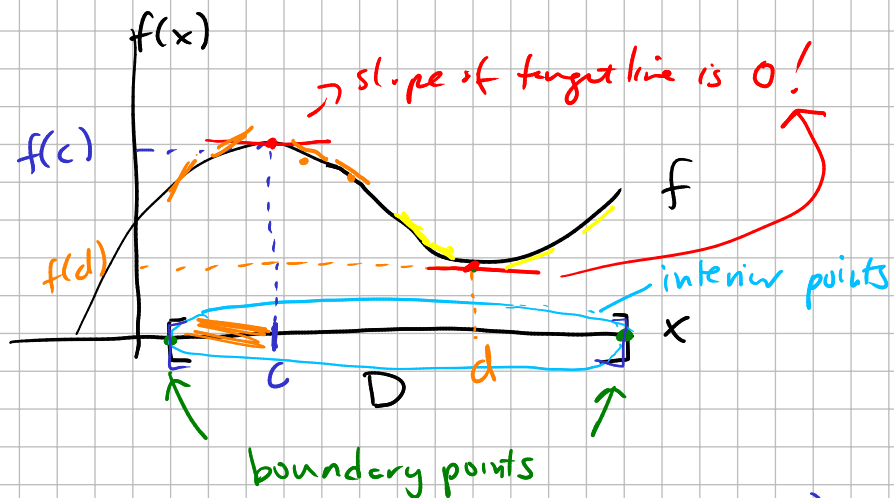
$$c(t) = \frac{t}{t^2 + 4}$$

(b) $D = [5, \infty)$ not a number

f differentiable (means that first derivative of f exists and is well-defined)
 c is an interior point of D ("inside" D , not at the boundaries)
 c is a max/min pt of f

\Rightarrow $f'(c) = 0$

Geometry behind \uparrow



Here c is a max point of f (interior of D)
 Here d is a min point of f (interior of D)

- Finding candidates for extreme points (interior of D)
 solving $f'(x) = 0$ FOC

- Use First Derivative Test to determine whether you have max/min.

Section 8.2 Example 1

$c(t) = \frac{t}{t^2+4}$

Find max/min pts of $c(t)$

or what values of t will maximize/minimize the function $c(t)$?

Step 1 $c'(t) = \frac{(t^2+4) \frac{d}{dt}[t] - t \frac{d}{dt}[t^2+4]}{(t^2+4)^2}$
 $= \frac{(t^2+4)(1) - t(2t)}{(t^2+4)^2}$
 $= \frac{t^2+4 - 2t^2}{(t^2+4)^2}$
 $= \frac{-t^2+4}{(t^2+4)^2}$

$\frac{\text{numerator (function of } t)}{\text{denominator (function of } t)}$

\hookrightarrow pattern of quotient/ratio
 Apply quotient rule.

$\frac{d}{dx} \left[\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right] = \frac{g(x)f'(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{[g(x)]^2}$
 $L_0 \text{ d hi} - \text{hi d } L_0$
 L_0^2

$$\frac{d}{dx}[c] = 0$$

c is a constant

$$\frac{d}{dx}[x^n] = nx^{n-1}$$

power rule
 n is a constant

$$\frac{d}{dt}[t]$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}[t^2+4] = \frac{d}{dt}[t^2] + \frac{d}{dt}[4]$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(x)+g(x)] = \frac{d}{dx}[f(x)] + \frac{d}{dx}[g(x)]$$

Step 2 $c'(t) = 0$

What values of t will make $\frac{-t^2+4}{(t^2+4)^2} = 0 \Rightarrow$ when $-t^2+4 = 0$.

$$\Rightarrow -(t^2-4) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -(t-2)(t+2) = 0$$

either $t-2=0$ or $t+2=0$
 $t=2$ or $t=-2$

So, $t=-2, t=2$ are stationary points of $c(t)$.

NOTE The example states $t \geq 0$, so we can already rule out $t=-2$.

Step 3 Apply first derivative test. (signs of $c'(t)$)
When is it positive?
When is it negative?

Number line: t with points 0 and 2 . The interval $0 \leq t < 2$ is shaded blue.

$$c'(t) = \frac{-(t-2)(t+2)}{(t^2+4)^2}$$

When $0 \leq t < 2$, $\frac{(-)(+)}{(\text{always positive})} > 0$

When $0 \leq t < 2$, $\frac{(-)(+)}{(\text{always positive})} > 0$

When $0 \leq t < 2$, $c'(t) > 0$

Complete the argument here... When $t > 2$, $c'(t) < 0$

$\Rightarrow t=2$ is a maximum point of $c(t)$ by the first deriv test.