

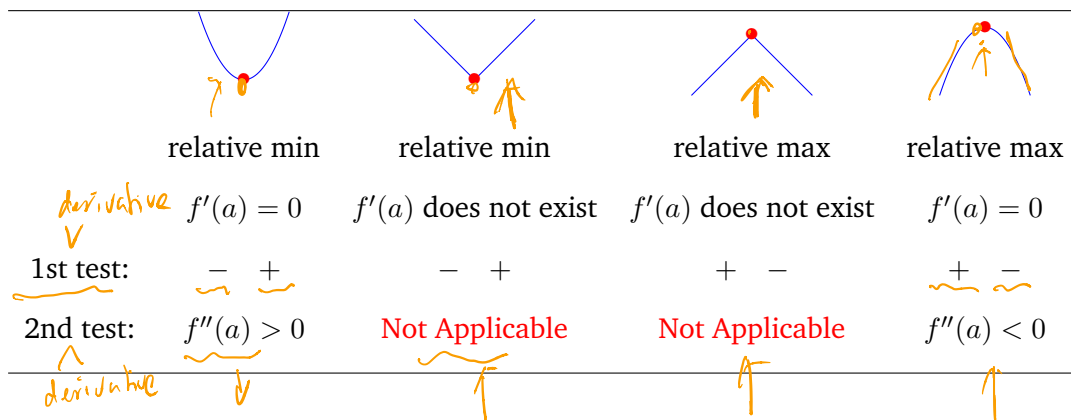
Remark.

- c is a critical point $\iff f'(c) = 0$ or $f'(c)$ does not exist
- c is a critical point $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \\ \rightarrow \\ \neq \end{array} \right\}$ f' changes sign at c
- $(c, f(c))$ is an inflection point $\iff f''$ changes sign at c
- $(c, f(c))$ is an inflection point $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \\ \neq \end{array} \right\}$ $f''(c) = 0$ or $f''(c)$ does not exist

Theorem 7.1.1 (The Second Derivative Test: Relative Extrema).

Suppose $f'(a) = 0$!

1. If $f''(a) < 0$, then f has a relative maximum at a .
2. If $f''(a) > 0$, then f has a relative minimum at a .
3. If $f''(x) = 0$, we have no conclusion.



Example 7.1.3.

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{30}x^6 - \frac{1}{12}x^4.$$

Use the first and second derivative test to study the relative extrema.

Solution.

$$f'(x) = \frac{6}{30}x^5 - \frac{4}{12}x^3 = \frac{1}{5}x^5 - \frac{1}{3}x^3 = \frac{1}{5}x^3(x + \sqrt{\frac{5}{3}})(x - \sqrt{\frac{5}{3}}) = 0 \Rightarrow x = -\sqrt{\frac{5}{3}}, 0, \sqrt{\frac{5}{3}}$$

critical points of f

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

x	$(-\infty, -\sqrt{\frac{5}{3}})$	$-\sqrt{\frac{5}{3}}$	$(-\sqrt{\frac{5}{3}}, 0)$	0	$(0, \sqrt{\frac{5}{3}})$	$\sqrt{\frac{5}{3}}$	$(\sqrt{\frac{5}{3}}, +\infty)$
$f'(x)$	$(-)(-)(-)$	0	$(-)(+)(-)$	0	$-$	0	$+$
$f''(x)$		$f'' > 0$		$f'' = 0$		$f'' > 0$	
1st test:		relative min		relative max		relative min	
2nd test:		relative min		inconclusive		relative min	

$f''(-\sqrt{\frac{5}{3}}) = (+)(-)(-) = (+)$
 $f''(0) = 0$
 $f''(\sqrt{\frac{5}{3}}) = (+)(+)(+) = (+)$

Exercise 7.1.1. Apply the first and second derivative test for $f(x) = x^3 - 3x$.

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

$\leadsto f'(x) = 0$ when $x = \pm 1$ \leftarrow critical points of f
 candidates for rel extrema

$$f''(x) = 6x \quad f''(1) = 6 > 0 \leadsto x=1 \text{ is a local min.}$$

$$f''(-1) = -6 < 0 \leadsto x=-1 \text{ is a local max.}$$

7.2 Curve sketching

Example 7.2.1. Sketch the graph of $y = f(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{x-1}$

Solution.

Step 1. Analyze $f(x)$.

1. **domain:** $\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \neq 1\}$

2. **x, y intercepts:**

Let $x = 0$, then $y = 0$;

Let $y = 0$, then $x = 0$.

\Rightarrow only one intercept: $(0, 0)$

3. **vertical and horizontal asymptotes:**

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = +\infty, \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = -\infty &\Rightarrow \text{vertical asymptote: } x = 1 \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x) = 1, \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = 1 &\Rightarrow \text{horizontal asymptote: } y = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Step 2. Analyze $f'(x)$.

$$f'(x) = -\frac{1}{(x-1)^2}, x \neq 1.$$

1. **interval where f is strictly increasing:** none ($f'(x) < 0$ in the domain)

interval where f is strictly decreasing: $(-\infty, 1), (1, +\infty)$

2. **critical points of f :** none ($x = 1$ is not in the domain)

3. **relative extrema of f :** none

Step 3. Analyze $f''(x)$.

$$f''(x) = \frac{2}{(x-1)^3}, x \neq 1.$$

1. **interval where f is strictly convex:** $(1, +\infty)$ ($f'' > 0$)

interval where f is strictly concave: $(-\infty, 1)$ ($f'' < 0$)

2. **inflection points on the graph:** none ($x = 1$ is not in the domain)

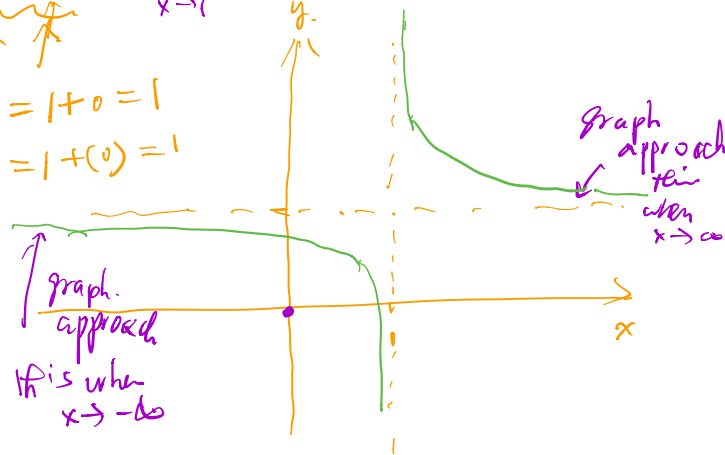
$f'' \neq 0$ on its domain

undefined when $= 1$
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{0^+} = +\infty$
 $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{0^-} = -\infty$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) &= 1 + 0 = 1 \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) &= 1 + 0 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

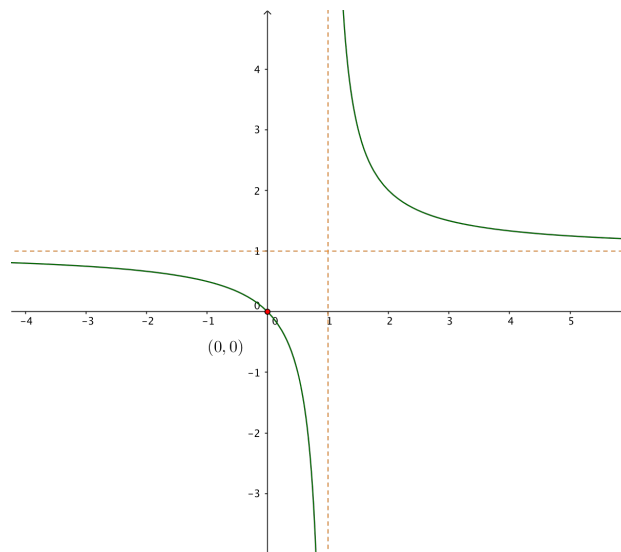
$$y = 1 + \frac{1}{-1} = 0$$

$$-1 = \frac{1}{x-1}$$



f is strictly decreasing in its natural domain
 wrap going down

Step 4. Sketch.



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Definition 7.2.1 (Asymptotes).

the line $x = c$ is a **vertical asymptote** of the graph of $f(x)$

$$\text{if } \lim_{x \rightarrow c^-} f(x) \text{ or } \lim_{x \rightarrow c^+} f(x) \text{ is } +\infty \text{ or } -\infty;$$

the line $y = b$ is called a **horizontal asymptote** of the graph of $f(x)$

$$\text{if } \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) \text{ or } \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x) \text{ is } b.$$

Note: It may happen that both $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x)$ exist, but they are not the same.

A General Procedure for Sketching the Graph of $f(x)$

Step 1. Analyze $f(x)$: *the graph does not intersect vertical lines $x=a$ when a is not in the domain*

- (1) domain, (2) x, y intercepts, (3) vertical / horizontal asymptotes of the graph.

Step 2. Analyze $f'(x)$:

- (1) intervals where f is increasing / decreasing, (2) critical points of f (3) relative extrema of f

Step 3. Analyze $f''(x)$:

- (1) intervals of where f is convex/concave, (2) inflection points on the graph

$$\uparrow \\ f'' < 0 / > 0$$

$$f'' = 0 \text{ and changes sign nearby}$$

Step 4. Sketch:

First label all asymptotes, intercepts, critical points, inflection points, then sketch the graph.

Example 7.2.2. Sketch the graph of

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

Solution.

Step 1. Analyze $f(x)$.

- domain:** $\{x \in \mathbb{R} \mid x \neq -1\}$
- x, y intercepts:**
Let $x = 0$, then $y = 0$;
Let $y = 0$, then $x = 0$.
 \Rightarrow only one intercept: $(0, 0)$
- vertical and horizontal asymptotes:**

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} f(x) = -\infty &\Rightarrow \text{vertical asymptote: } x = -1 \\ \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = 0 &\Rightarrow \text{horizontal asymptote: } y = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Step 2. Analyze $f'(x)$.

$$f'(x) = \frac{1-x}{(x+1)^3} = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1.$$

x	$(-\infty, -1)$	$(-1, 1)$	1	$(1, +\infty)$
$f'(x)$	-	+	0	-
$f(x)$	↓	↑	max: 1	↓

only one critical point: 1 (with corresponding critical value $\frac{1}{4}$), at which a relative maximum occurs. ($x = -1$ is not in the domain.)

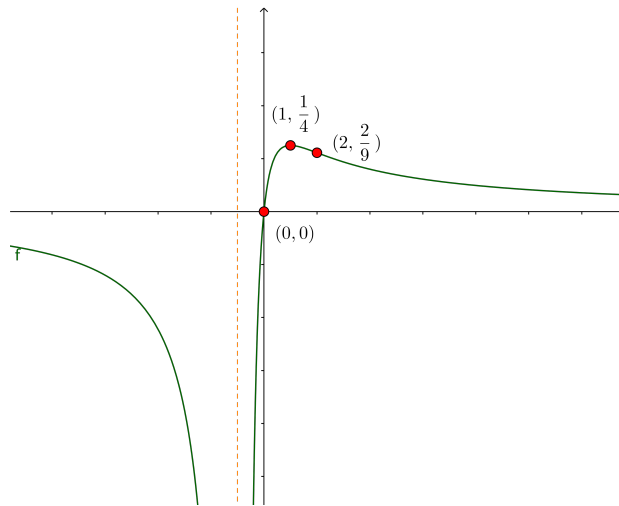
Step 3. Analyze $f''(x)$.

$$f''(x) = \frac{2(x-2)}{(x+1)^4} = 0 \Rightarrow x = 2.$$

x	$(-\infty, -1)$	$(-1, 2)$	2	$(2, +\infty)$
$f''(x)$	$-$	$-$	0	$+$
graph of $f(x)$	\frown	\frown	inflection point	\smile

inflection point: $(2, \frac{2}{9})$

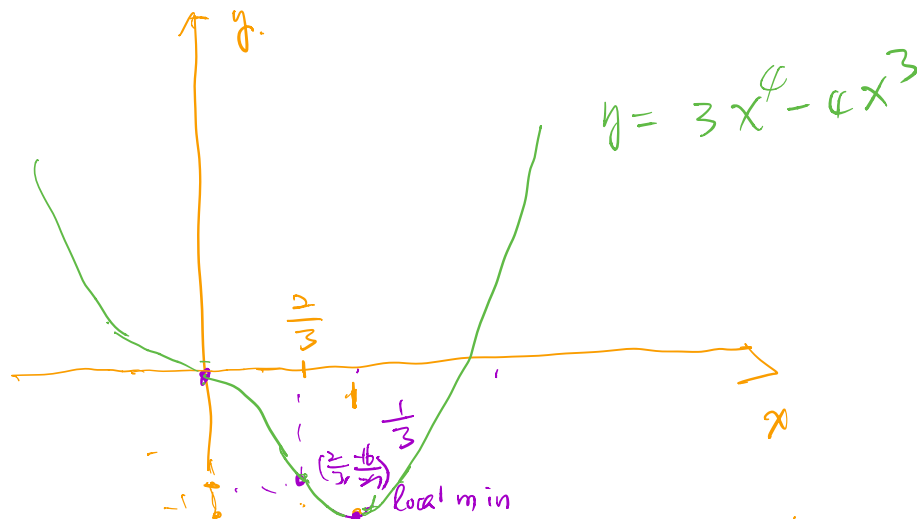
Step 4. Sketch.



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Exercise 7.2.1. Sketch the graph of $3x^4 - 4x^3$.

$$f(x) = 3x^4 - 4x^3 = x^3(3x-4) \quad \text{well defined on } \mathbb{R}$$



- the graph $y = x^3(3x-4)$ intersects the x -axis when $y=0 = x^3(3x-4)$
 $\leadsto x=0$ or $\frac{4}{3}$

intersects the y -axis when $x=0$

$$\rightarrow y = x^3(3x-4) = 0$$

horizontal asymptotes

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} (x^3(3x-4)) = +\infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} (x^3(3x-4)) = -\infty$$

no horizontal asymptotes.

vertical asymptotes:

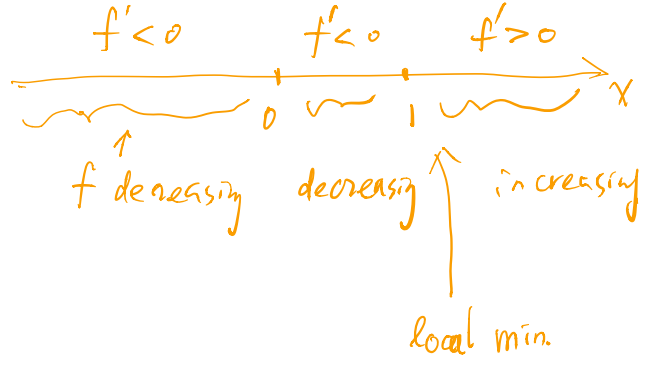
are there finite a such that $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} f(x) = \pm \infty$

or $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} f(x) = \pm \infty$

No! so there are no vertical asymptotes

$$f'(x) = (3x^4 - 4x^3)' = 12x^3 - 12x^2 = 12x^2(x-1)$$

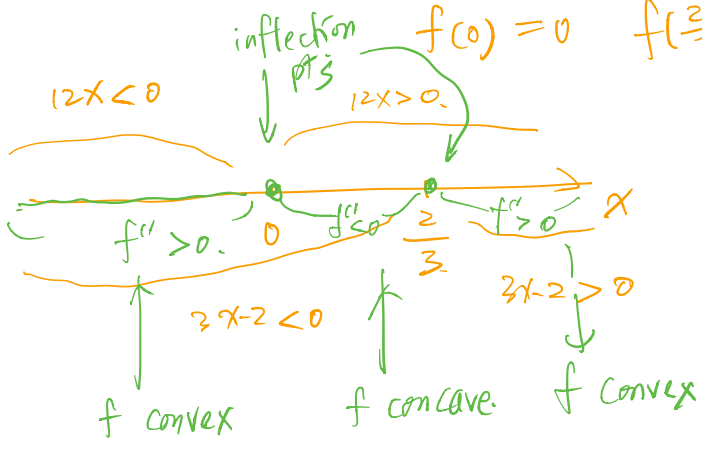
$f' = 0$ when $x = 0, 1$. (critical points potential local extrema)



$$f(1) = 3 \cdot 1 - 4 \cdot 1 = -1$$

$$f''(x) = 36x^2 - 24x = 12x(3x-2)$$

$f'' = 0$ when $x = 0$ or $\frac{2}{3}$ (potential inflection points)



$$f(0) = 0$$

$$f\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) = 3 \cdot \frac{2^4}{3^4} - 4 \cdot \frac{2^3}{3^3} = \frac{2^4 - 2^5}{3^3}$$

$$= \frac{-16}{27}$$