

Practice Quiz No. 6

Show all of your work, label your answers clearly, and do not use a calculator.

**Problem 1** Given the function  $f(x) = 2x^3 + 3x^2 + 5$

a Find all critical points of  $f(x)$ .

$f'(x) = 6x^2 + 6x$  , polynomial  $\Rightarrow$  always exists  
 $\Rightarrow$  Set  $f'(x) = 0 \Rightarrow 0 = 6x(x+1) \Rightarrow x = 0, -1$   
are the only critical points.

b Find the minimum and maximum of  $f(x)$  on the interval  $[-2, 1]$

Check critical points and endpoints:

$x$	$f(x)$
-2	$2(-2)^3 + 3(-2)^2 + 5 = -16 + 12 + 5 = 1 = \min_{x \in [-2, 1]} f(x)$
-1	$2(-1)^3 + 3(-1)^2 + 5 = -2 + 3 + 5 = 6$
0	$2(0)^3 + 3(0)^2 + 5 = 5$
1	$2(1)^3 + 3(1)^2 + 5 = 10 = \max_{x \in [-2, 1]} f(x)$

**Problem 2** Given the function  $f(x) = x^2|x - 2|$

a Find all critical points of  $f(x)$ .

When  $x > 2$ ,  $f(x) = x^2(x - 2) \Rightarrow f'(x) = 3x^2 - 4x$   
 $\Rightarrow x = 0, \frac{4}{3}$  would be critical points, but neither is  $> 2$

When  $x < 2$ ,  $f(x) = x^2(-(x - 2)) = -x^3 + 2x^2 \Rightarrow f'(x) = -3x^2 + 4x$   
 $\Rightarrow f'(x) = x(-3x + 4) \Rightarrow x = 0, \frac{4}{3}$ , are critical points  
because both are  $> 2$ .

When  $x = 2$ , the left and right derivatives are not equal, so the derivative does not exist. So  $x = 2$  is a critical point.

b Find the minimum and maximum of  $f(x)$  on the interval  $[1, 3]$

Check endpoints and critical points:

$x$	$f(x)$
1	$(1)^2  1 - 2  = 1$
$\frac{4}{3}$	$(\frac{4}{3})^2  \frac{4}{3} - 2  = (\frac{16}{9})  \frac{4}{3} - \frac{6}{3}  = \frac{16}{9} (\frac{2}{3}) = \frac{32}{9} < 9$
2	$(2)^2  2 - 2  = 0 = \min_{x \in [1, 3]} (f(x))$
3	$(3)^2  3 - 2  = 9 = \max_{x \in [1, 3]} (f(x))$

(0 is not in  $[1, 3]$ )

**Problem 3** Given the function  $f(x) = \sqrt{1+x^2}$

a Find all critical points of  $f(x)$ .

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

$1+x^2 \geq 1 > 0$ , so  $f'(x)$  always exists

$$\Rightarrow \text{Set } f'(x) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0$$

is the only critical point.

b Find the minimum and maximum of  $f(x)$  on the interval  $[-1, 1]$

Check endpoints and critical points:

$x$	$f(x)$
-1	$\sqrt{1+(-1)^2} = \sqrt{2} = \max_{x \in [-1, 1]}(f(x))$
0	$\sqrt{1+(0)^2} = 1 = \min_{x \in [-1, 1]}(f(x))$
1	$\sqrt{1+(1)^2} = \sqrt{2}$

This function has two values of  $\arg \max_{x \in [-1, 1]}(f(x))$

**Problem 4** Given the function  $f(x) = x^{2/3} - 2x^2$

a Find all critical points of  $f(x)$ .

$$f'(x) = \frac{2}{3}x^{-1/3} - 4x = \frac{2}{3x^{1/3}} - 4x$$

$f'(x)$  does not exist when  $x=0$ , so  $x=0$  is a critical point.

Set  $f'(x) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{2}{3x^{1/3}} - 4x = 0$ , assuming  $x \neq 0$ .

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2}{3x^{1/3}} = 4x \Rightarrow \frac{2}{12} = x^{4/3} \Rightarrow x = \pm \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{3/4}$$

So the critical points are  $x = 0, \pm \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{3/4}$

b Find the minimum and maximum of  $f(x)$  on the interval  $[-1, 1]$

Check endpoints and critical points:

$x$	$f(x)$
$-\left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{3/4}$	$\approx .260847 = \max_{x \in [-1, 1]} (f(x))$
0	0 = $\min_{x \in [-1, 1]} (f(x))$
$\left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{3/4}$	$\approx .260847$