

Applied Calculus — Quiz 6 — Key

(Attach a sheet of paper showing your work if needed.)

1. Find all relative extrema of $f(x) = x^3 + 15x^2$. Use the first or second derivative test to determine the nature of each extremum.

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 + 30x = 3x(x + 10) \implies \text{critical values are } 0, -10.$$

$$f''(x) = 6x + 30 \implies f''(0) = 30 > 0, f''(-10) = -60 + 30 < 0.$$

By the second derivative test,

$f(0) = 0$ is a relative minimum value of f at $x = 0$.

$f(-10) = (-10)^3 + 15(-10)^2 = 500$ is a relative maximum value of f at $x = -10$.

2. Sketch a graph of $y = f(x)$, a polynomial function satisfying all of the following:

$$f(-4) = 3, f'(-4) = 0, f''(-4) < 0,$$

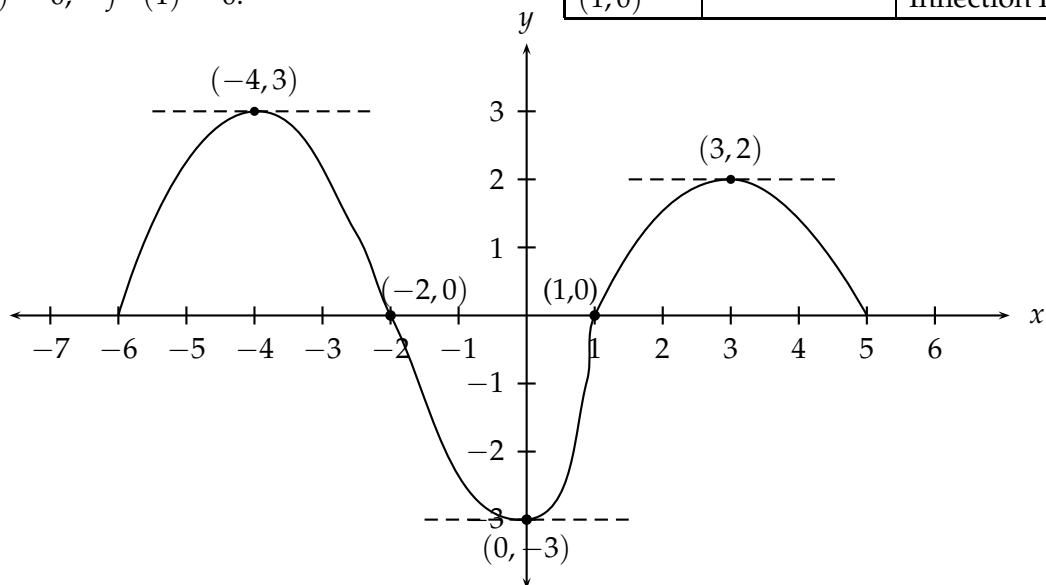
$$f(0) = -3, f'(0) = 0, f''(0) > 0,$$

$$f(3) = 2, f'(3) = 0, f''(3) < 0,$$

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

$$f(1) = 0, f''(1) = 0.$$

$(x, f(x))$	f'	f''
Point	Tangent Line	Concavity
$(-4, 3)$	Horizontal	Down
$(0, -3)$	Horizontal	Up
$(3, 2)$	Horizontal	Down
$(-2, 0)$		Inflection Point
$(1, 0)$		Inflection Point



3. Find each of the following limits, if it exists.

$$(a) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{5 - 3x^2}{1 + 2x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-3x^2}{2x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-3}{2} = \frac{-3}{2}$$

$$(b) \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + 4x - x^2}{x^3 - 5} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-x^2}{x^3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-1}{x} = 0$$

4. Suppose $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 - 4}$. Find the following:

(a) vertical asymptote(s) for the graph of $y = f(x)$

$$\text{Denominator} = 0 \implies x^2 - 4 = 0 \implies (x + 2)(x - 2) = 0 \implies x = 2; x = -2$$

Both lines $x = 2$ and $x = -2$ are vertical asymptotes.

(b) horizontal asymptote for the graph of $y = f(x)$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x^2 - 4} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{x^2} = 0.$$

Thus $y = 0$ is the horizontal asymptote.

(c) interval(s) where $f(x)$ is increasing

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

Critical values are 0, 2, -2.

	•	•	•	
	-2	0	2	
Test Value	-3	-1	1	3
Sign of $f'(x) = \frac{-2x}{(x - 2)^2(x + 2)^2}$	+	+	-	-
f is increasing/decreasing	↗	↗	↘	↘

Therefore f is increasing over the intervals $(-\infty, -2)$ and $(-2, 0)$.

(d) interval(s) where $f(x)$ is concave up.

$$f''(x) = \frac{-2(x^2 - 4)^2 - (-2x)2(x^2 - 4)(2x)}{(x^2 - 4)^4} = \frac{2(x^2 - 4)[-x^2 + 4 + 4x^2]}{(x^2 - 4)^4} = \frac{2(3x^2 + 4)}{(x^2 - 4)^3}$$

Inflection Points: $x = -2; x = 2$.

	•	•	
	-2	2	
Test Value	-3	1	3
Sign of $f''(x) = \frac{2(3x^2 + 4)}{(x - 2)^3(x + 2)^3}$	+	-	+
Concavity	Up	Down	Up

Therefore f is concave up over the intervals $(-\infty, -2)$ and $(2, \infty)$.

(e) Graph $y = f(x)$.

