

## 7. CURVE SKETCHING; ~~TAYLOR EXPANSION~~ (20/10/2023)

Goals.

- (1) Convexity
- (2) Curve sketching

Last Time. Implicit diff. If  $f(x,y) = g(x,y)$

along some curve, can diff this relation wrt  $x$   
~~and~~ + solve for  $y$  as fun of  $x, y$ .

Advice: use Leibnitz notation. Eg.  $\frac{d(\log y)}{dy} = \frac{1}{y}$   
 But  $\frac{d(\log y)}{dx} = \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx}$

Related Rates: Can also have  $x, y$  depending on variable  $s$ . Then can diff relation wrt  $s$ , get relation between  $x, y, \frac{dx}{ds}, \frac{dy}{ds}$ .

Inverse trig: ① defined arcsin, arccos, arctan  
 (needed to restrict domain of sin, cos, tan)  
 ② differentiated: memorize derivatives.

Math 100A - WORKSHEET 7  
CURVE SKETCHING

1. CONVEXITY AND CONCAVITY

(1) Consider the curve  $y = x^3 - x$ .

(a) ★ Find the line tangent to the curve at  $x = 1$ .

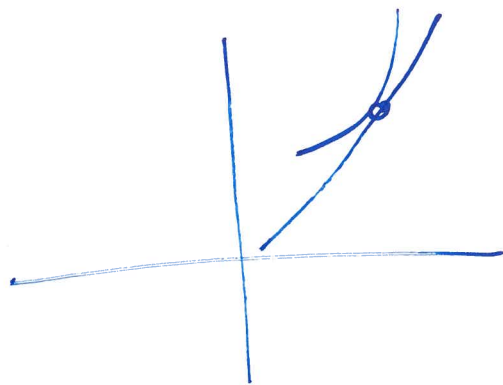
$$\frac{dy}{dx}\bigg|_{x=1} = [3x^2 - 1]_{x=1} = 2, \text{ point: } (1, 0) \text{ line:}$$

$$y = 2(x-1)$$

(b) ★★ Near  $x = 1$ , is the line above or below the curve? Hint: how does the slope of the curve behave to the right and left of the point?

slope  $3x^2 - 1$  is increasing near  $x=1$

so:



if  $x > 1$ , slope  $y' > 2$   
Curve moves above  
line

if  $x < 1$ , slope  $y' < 2$   
Curve moves above  
line

$$\text{or: } x^3 - x - 2(x-1) = (x-1)(x^2 + x - 2) = (x-1)^2(x+2)$$

Date: 18/10/2023, Worksheet by Lior Silberman. This instructional material is excluded from the terms of UBC Policy 81.

$$\text{so } x^3 - x = 2(x-1) + 3(x-1)^2 + (x-1)^3 \gg 2(x-1) \text{ if } x \text{ close}$$

$$\text{since } (x-1)^2 \gg (x-1)^3 \text{ as } x \rightarrow 1.$$

Conclusion:  $f'' > 0 \Rightarrow f'$  increasing  $\Leftrightarrow$  tangent lines  
under the graph  
 $f'' < 0 \Rightarrow f'$  decreasing  $\Leftrightarrow$  tangent lines  
above the graph

Def: In first ~~case~~ say  $f$  is concave up

In second case " " " " down.

If  $f$  is cts at  $x=a$ , concavity changes at  $\odot$ ,  $x=a$   
say that  $x=a$  is an inflection point.

(here  $f''(a) = 0$  or undef)

(But  $f(x) = x^4$  has  $f''(0) = 0$  but  $f''(x) = 12x^2$   
does not change sign there, so no inflection)

(2) For each curve find its domain; where is it concave up or down? Where are the inflection points.

(a)  $y = x \log x - \frac{1}{2}x^2$ .

$$y' = \log x + x \cdot \frac{1}{x} - x = \log x + 1 - x, \quad y'' = \frac{1}{x} - 1$$

Domain:  $x > 0$  (domain of  $\log x$ )

Concave up if  $\frac{1}{x} - 1 > 0 \Rightarrow x < 1$  i.e. on  $(0, 1)$

**not  $(-\infty, 1)$**  (if undefined) if  $x \leq 0$

Concave down if  $\dots x > 1$ , on  $(1, \infty)$

$\Rightarrow$  inflection point at  $x=1$  (or at  $(1, -\frac{1}{2})$ )

(a) Consider the curve  $y = \sqrt[3]{x}$ . Where is it continuous? Find where it is concave up and down.

domain  $(-\infty, \infty)$   $y' = -\frac{2}{9} x^{-5/3} = -\frac{2}{9} \frac{1}{(\sqrt[3]{x})^5}$

if  $x < 0$ ,  $y'' > 0$ , if  $x > 0$ ,  $y'' < 0$

so concave up on  $(-\infty, 0)$ , down on  $(0, \infty)$

inflection pt at  $(0, 0)$ .

$y(0) = 0$ , but  $y'(0)$  undef  
 $y''(0)$  " "

**Singular point**

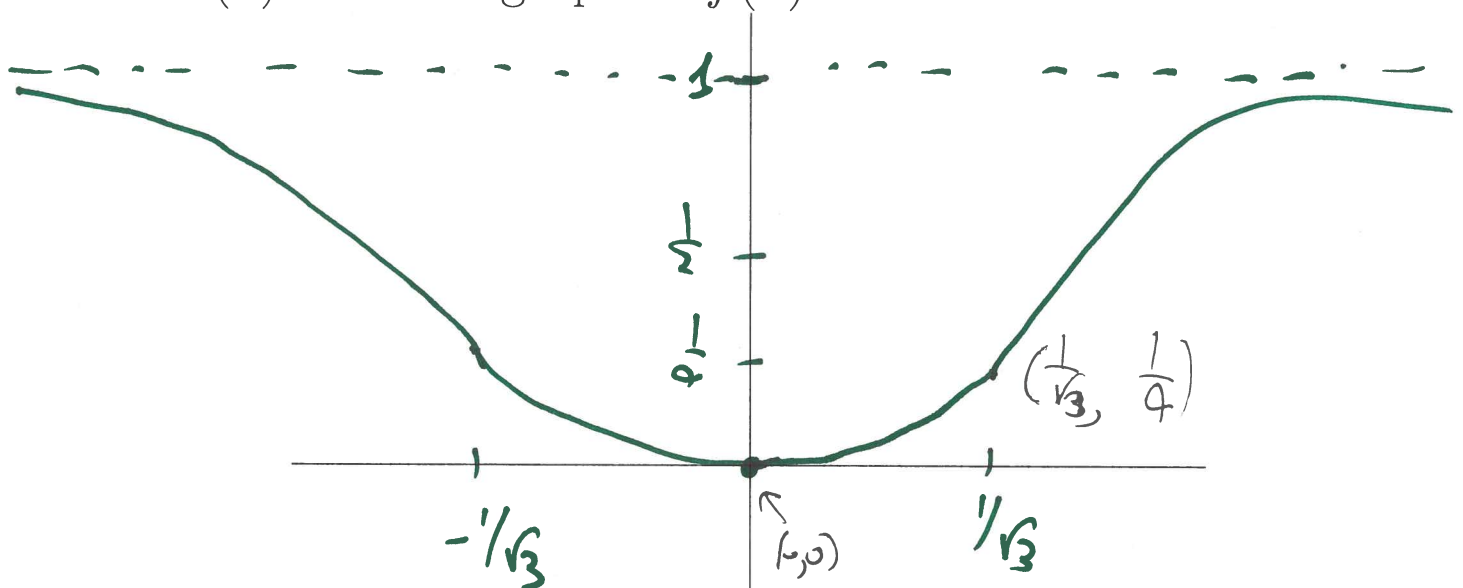
(c) What are the intervals of concavity? Any inflection points?

Since  $\frac{2}{(x^2+1)^3} > 0$  always,  $f''(x)$  has same sign as  $1-3x^2$ .

so  $f$  is concave down on  $(-\infty, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}})$ , and on  $(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \infty)$   
" up on  $(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}})$ .

Has inflection pts at  $x = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$ ,  $(\pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1/3}{1+1/3}) = (\pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \frac{1}{4})$

(d) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$ .



(only believe aspects  
we put in deliberately)

(4) \*\* Let  $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$ .

(a) What are the domain and intercepts of  $f$ ? What are the asymptotics at  $\pm\infty$ ? Are there any vertical asymptotes? What are the asymptotics there?

domain is  $(-\infty, \infty)$ ,  $f(x) > 0$  for all  $x$ ,  $f(0) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{\mu^2}{2\sigma^2}}$   
 as  $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$ ,  $-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \sim -\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}$  so  $f(x)$  will decay rapidly to 0  
 so have horiz. asymptote  $y=0$

(b) What are the intervals of increase/decrease? The local and global extrema?

$f'(x) = -\frac{(x-\mu)}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$  has same sign as  $-(x-\mu)$

so  $f$  is increasing when  $x < \mu$   
 $f$  " decreasing where  $x > \mu$

Have a critical pt at  $(\mu, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}})$ , is global maximum

## 2. CURVE SKETCHING

(3) \*\* Let  $f(x) = \frac{x^2}{x^2+1}$  for which  $f'(x) = \frac{2x}{(x^2+1)^2}$  and

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

(a) What are the domain and intercepts of  $f$ ? What are the asymptotics at  $\pm\infty$ ? Are there any vertical asymptotes? What are the asymptotics there?

$f$  defined on  $(-\infty, \infty)$  (since  $x^2+1$  so for all  $x$ ).

$f(0) = 0$  & if  $f(x) = 0$  then  $x^2 = 0$  so  $x = 0$

As  $x \rightarrow \pm\infty$ ,  $\frac{x^2}{x^2+1} \sim \frac{x^2}{x^2} = 1$ , Horiz asymptote  $y = 1$   
as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ , as  $x \rightarrow -\infty$

no vertical asymptote

(b) What are the intervals of increase/decrease? The local and global extrema?

Since  $\frac{2}{(x^2+1)^2} > 0$  always,  $f'(x) > 0$  when  $x > 0$   
 $f'(x) < 0$  "  $x < 0$

So  $f$  increasing on  $(0, \infty)$ , decreasing on  $(-\infty, 0)$

Critical point  $(0, 0)$  at  $x = 0$ , is a minimum

(c) What are the intervals of concavity? Any inflection points?

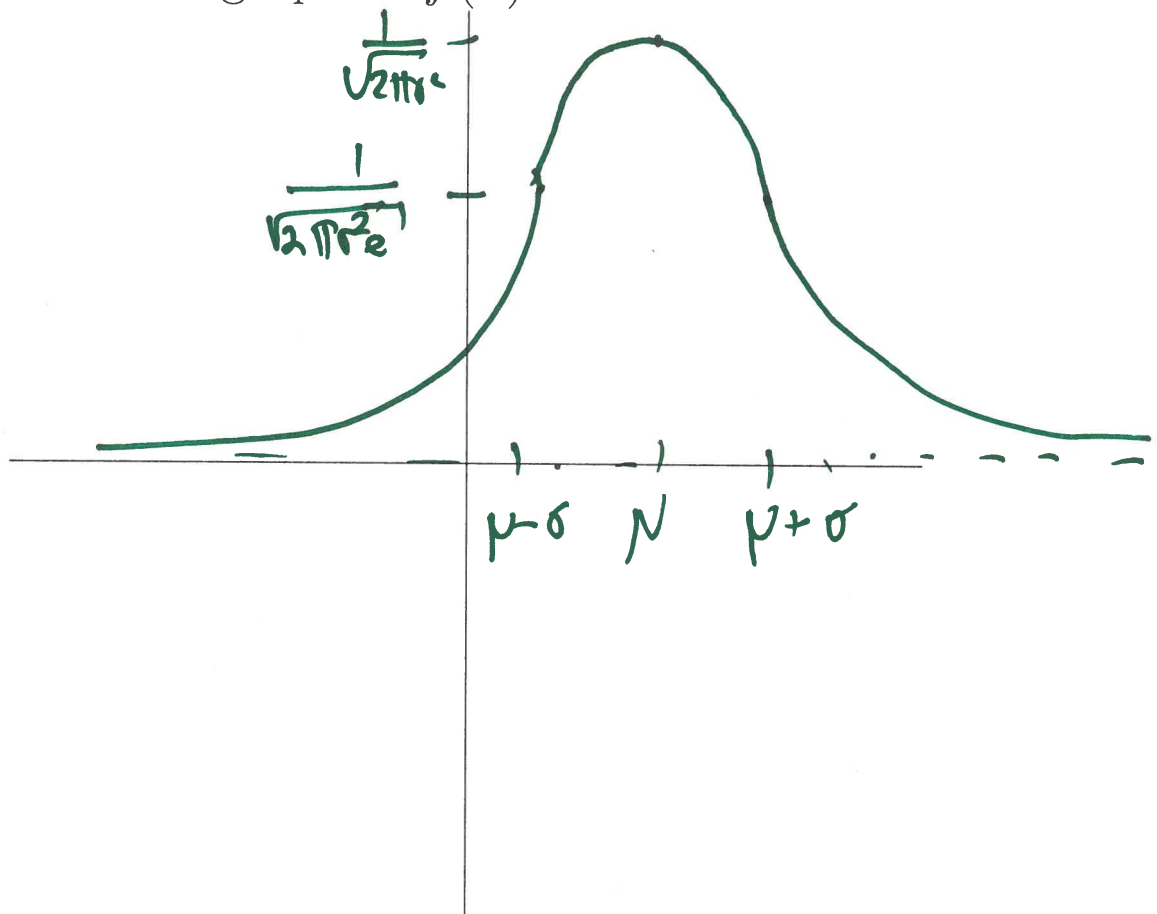
$$f''(x) = (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{\sigma^2} - 1\right)$$

So  $f'' > 0$  if  $(x-\mu)^2 > \sigma^2$  on  $(-\infty, \mu-\sigma)$

$f'' < 0$  if  $(x-\mu)^2 < \sigma^2$ , on  $(\mu+\sigma, \infty)$

Have inflection pts at  $(\mu \pm \sigma, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}})$

(d) Sketch a graph of  $f(x)$ .





(5) (Final, December 2007) \*\* Let  $f(x) = x\sqrt{3-x}$ .

(a) Find its domain, intercepts, and asymptotics at the endpoints.

(b) What are the intervals of increase/decrease? The local and global extrema?

$$f'(x) = \sqrt{3-x} - \frac{x}{2\sqrt{3-x}} \quad \leftarrow \text{not pdt}$$
$$= \frac{2(3-x) - x}{2\sqrt{3-x}} = \frac{6x - 2x}{2\sqrt{3-x}} = \frac{3x - 1}{\sqrt{3-x}} \quad \leftarrow \text{is pdt}$$