

Section 5.3 Derivatives and the shapes of curves.

**The mean value theorem** If  $f$  is a differentiable function on the interval  $[a, b]$ , then there exist a number  $c$ ,  $a < c < b$ , such that

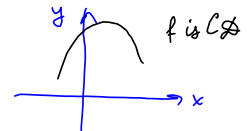
$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} \text{ or } f(b) - f(a) = f'(c)(b - a)$$

**Increasing/decreasing test**

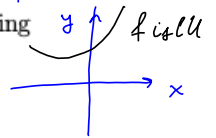
1. If  $f'(x) > 0$  on an interval, then  $f$  is **increasing** on that interval
2. If  $f'(x) < 0$  on an interval, then  $f$  is **decreasing** on that interval

**The first derivative test** Suppose that  $c$  is a critical number of a continuous function  $f$ .

1. If  $f'$  changes from positive to negative at  $c$ , then  $f$  has a **local max** at  $c$ .
2. If  $f'$  changes from negative to positive at  $c$ , then  $f$  has a **local min** at  $c$ .
3. If  $f'$  does not change sign at  $c$ , then  $f$  has a **no local max or min** at  $c$ .



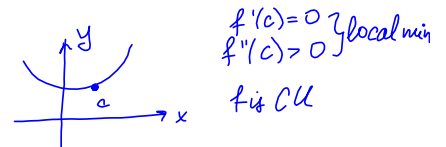
**Definition.** A function is called **concave upward (CU)** on an interval  $I$  if  $f'$  is an increasing function on  $I$ . It is called **concave downward (CD)** on  $I$  if  $f'$  is a decreasing function on  $I$ .



A point where a curve changes its direction of concavity is called an **inflection point**.

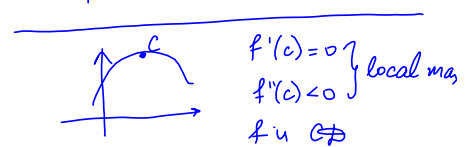
**Concavity test**

1. If  $f''(x) > 0$  on an interval, then  $f$  is **CU** on this interval.
2. If  $f''(x) < 0$  on an interval, then  $f$  is **CD** on this interval.



**The second derivative test** Suppose  $f''$  is continuous near  $c$ .

1. If  $f'(c) = 0$  and  $f''(c) > 0$ , then  $f$  has a **local min** at  $c$ .
2. If  $f'(c) = 0$  and  $f''(c) < 0$ , then  $f$  has a **local max** at  $c$ .



**Example 1.** Sketch the graph of the function

(a.)  $f(x) = e^{-\frac{1}{x+1}}$

1.  $x$ -,  $y$ -intercept.

$e^{-\frac{1}{x+1}} \neq 0$  (never intercepts the  $x$ -axis)

$y$ -intercept:  $x=0$      $f(0) = e^{-\frac{1}{0+1}} = e^{-1} \approx 0.37$      $\boxed{(0, 0.37)}$   $y$ -intercept

2. Asymptotes.

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} e^{-\frac{1}{x+1}} = \lim_{y \rightarrow \infty} e^y = \infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^-} \left(-\frac{1}{x+1}\right) = \infty$$

$x = -1.01$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} e^{-\frac{1}{x+1}} = \lim_{y \rightarrow -\infty} e^y = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -1^+} \left(-\frac{1}{x+1}\right) = -\infty$$

$$\boxed{x = -1 \text{ V.A.}}$$

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

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

$$\boxed{y = 1 \text{ H.A.}}$$

3. Continuity.

$x = -1$  infinite discontinuity.  
continuous on  $(-\infty, -1) \cup (-1, \infty)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 4. f'(x) &= \left( e^{-\frac{1}{x+1}} \right)' = e^{-\frac{1}{x+1}} \left( -\frac{1}{x+1} \right)' \\
 &= e^{-\frac{1}{x+1}} \left( - \left( -\frac{1}{(x+1)^2} \right) \right) \\
 &= \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{x+1}}}{(x+1)^2} > 0, \text{ if } x \neq -1
 \end{aligned}$$

$f$  is increasing on  $(-\infty, -1) \cup (-1, \infty)$   
 no local min/local max.

$$\begin{aligned}
 5. f''(x) &= \left( \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{x+1}}}{(x+1)^2} \right)' = \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{x+1}} \left( +\frac{1}{(x+1)^3} \right) - 2(x+1) e^{-\frac{1}{x+1}}}{(x+1)^4} \\
 &= \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{x+1}} (+1 - 2(x+1))}{(x+1)^4} = \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{x+1}} (-2x-1)}{(x+1)^4} = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$-2x-1=0 \text{ or } x = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$f\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = e^{-\frac{1}{-\frac{1}{2}+1}} = e^{-2} \approx 0.135$$

$\left(-\frac{1}{2}, e^{-2}\right) \approx (-0.5, 0.135)$  inflection point

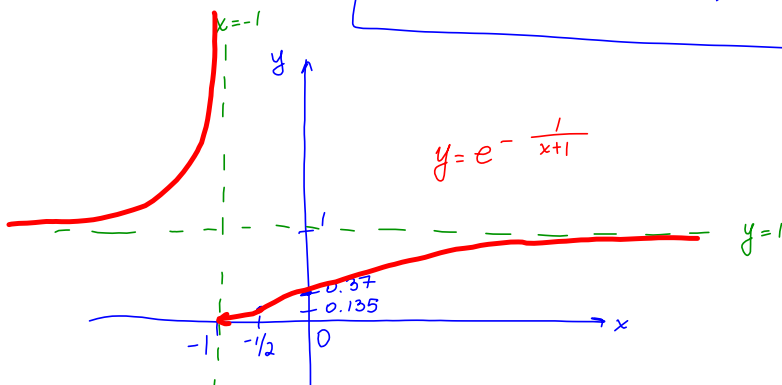
$$f''(x) > 0, \quad f''(x) = \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{x+1}} (-2x-1)}{(x+1)^4} > 0$$

$$\frac{e^{-\frac{1}{x+1}}}{(x+1)^4} > 0 \text{ when } x \neq -1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 -2x-1 &> 0 \\
 x &< -\frac{1}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$f$  is CU on  $(-\infty, -1) \cup (-1, -\frac{1}{2})$

$f$  is CD on  $(-\frac{1}{2}, \infty)$



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

1.  $x, y$ - intercepts.

$$\frac{x}{(x-1)^2} = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$$

$(0, 0)$  point of intersection.

2. Asymptotes.

$$x = 1 \text{ V.A.}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} \frac{x}{(x-1)^2} = \infty$$

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

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x}{(x-1)^2} = 0$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = 0$$

$$y = 0 \text{ H.A.}$$

3. Continuity.  $x=1$  infinite discontinuity.  
continuous on  $(-\infty, 1) \cup (1, \infty)$

$$4. f'(x) = \frac{(x-1)^2 - x \cdot 2(x-1)}{(x-1)^4} = \frac{x-1-2x}{(x-1)^3} = \frac{-1-x}{(x-1)^3} = 0 \quad x = -1 \text{ critical number}$$

$$f'(x) > 0 \text{ or } \frac{-1-x}{(x-1)^3} > 0$$

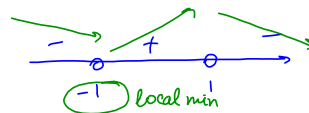
$$f'(0) = \frac{-1}{(-1)^3} > 0$$

$$f'(2) = \frac{-1-2}{(2-1)^3} < 0$$

$$f'(-2) = \frac{-1+2}{(-1-2)^3} < 0$$

$$f(-1) = -\frac{1}{(-1-1)^2} = -\frac{1}{4}$$

$$(-1, -\frac{1}{4}) \text{ - local min}$$



$f$  is increasing on  $(-1, 1)$

$f$  is decreasing on  $(-\infty, -1) \cup (1, \infty)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 5. \quad f''(x) &= \left( -\frac{x+1}{(x-1)^3} \right)' \\
 &= -\frac{(x-1)^3 - 3(x-1)^2(x+1)}{(x-1)^6} = -\frac{x-1-3(x+1)}{(x-1)^4} = -\frac{x-1-3x-3}{(x-1)^4} \\
 &= -\frac{-2x-4}{(x-1)^4} = \frac{2x+4}{(x-1)^4} = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$x = -2$$

$f''(x) > 0$  when

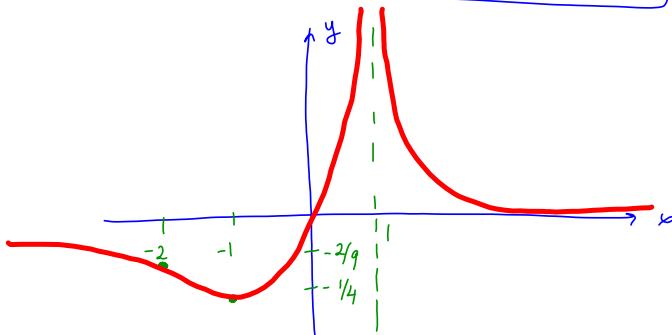
$x > -2$   $f$  is CU

$f''(x) < 0$  when

$x < -2$   $f$  is ~~CU~~

$$f(-2) = \frac{-2}{(-2-1)^2} = -\frac{2}{9}$$

$(-2, -2/9)$  - inflection point



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