

# Quick Summary :

Goal: Get info about the shape of a function  $f(x)$

From  $f(x)$

Domain  
intercepts  
Asymptotes  
(Next week)

From  $f'(x)$

Sign of  $f'$  is related to increase or decrease in  $f$ .

$f' \oplus$

$\Downarrow$   
 $f$  increasing

$f' \ominus$

$\Downarrow$   
 $f$  decreasing

local extrema

- 1<sup>st</sup> derivative test
- $f$  goes from  $\searrow$  to  $\nearrow$  or  $f' \text{ " " } \ominus$  to  $\oplus \Rightarrow$  local min
  - $f$  goes from  $\nearrow$  to  $\searrow$  or  $f' \text{ " " } \oplus$  to  $\ominus \Rightarrow$  local max

From  $f''(x)$

sign of  $f''$  is related to Concavity of  $f$ .

$\Downarrow$   
bending of the curve

$f'' \oplus$

$\Downarrow$   
Concave up

$f'' \ominus$

Concave down

inflection point

is where  $f''$  change sign.

Examples . Determine the intervals in which  $f$  decreases/increases.  
Find local extrema. Determine concavity and inflection point.

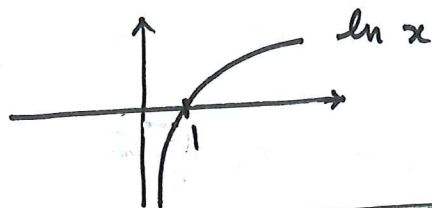
(1)

WW 2.6 .  $f(x) = x \ln x$

Domain .

Recall :  $\ln$  is defined when is positive

$$(\ln x)' = \frac{1}{x}$$



$$\ln 1 = 0$$

$$\ln e = 1$$

Domain:

$$x > 0$$

Critical numbers:

$$f'(x) = 1 \cdot \ln x + x \cdot \frac{1}{x} = \ln x + 1$$

For concavity  $f''(x) = \frac{1}{x}$

$$f'(x) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad f'(x) \text{ NOT defined.}$$

$$\ln x + 1 = 0$$

$$\ln x = -1$$

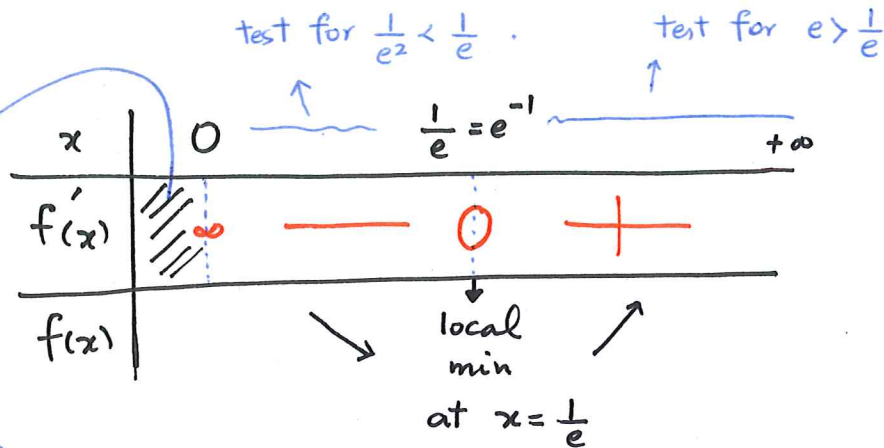
$$\downarrow \ln x = -1$$
$$e = e^{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = e^{-1} = \frac{1}{e}$$

when  $x$  is 0 or negative

Sign chart  
for  $f'$ :

$f$  and  $f'$  are NOT  
defined for  $x=0$   
and negative  $x$  values.



\* Note that  $\frac{1}{e} \approx \frac{1}{2.71...} \approx \frac{1}{3}$

so  $e > \frac{1}{e}$

and  $\frac{1}{e^2} \approx \frac{1}{9} < \frac{1}{e}$

test  $f'$

$$\begin{cases} f'(x) = \ln x + 1 \\ f'(e) = \ln e + 1 = 1 + 1 = 2 > 0 \\ f'(e^{-2}) = \ln e^{-2} + 1 = -2 + 1 = -1 < 0 \end{cases}$$

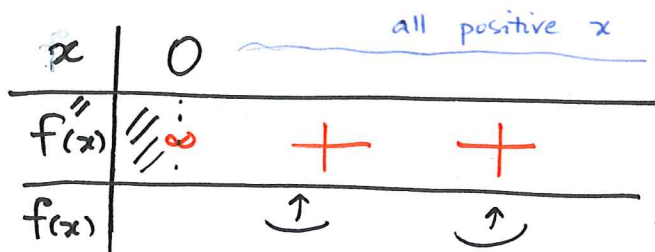
Summary from  $f'$ :

- $f$  is decreasing in  $(0, \frac{1}{e})$
- $f$  is increasing in  $(\frac{1}{e}, \infty)$
- $f$  has a local min at  $x = \frac{1}{e} = e^{-1}$

and the minimum value is  $f(\frac{1}{e}) = \frac{1}{e} \ln \frac{1}{e} \Rightarrow (\frac{1}{e}, -\frac{1}{e})$  local min point  
 $= \frac{1}{e} \ln e^{-1} = -\frac{1}{e}$

Sign Chart for  
 $f''$ :

$$f''(x) = \frac{1}{x} = 0 \text{ NEVER b/c } 1 \neq 0$$



$$\frac{1}{x} = \frac{+}{+} > 0$$

Summary from  $f''$ :

- $f$  is always concave up and it has no inflection point b/c  $f''$  does NOT change sign.

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

$$x^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$x^2 = 1$$

$$\Downarrow \\ x=1, x=-1$$

Domain: where  $x^2 - 1 \neq 0$

$$(x-1)(x+1) = 0 \Rightarrow x=1, x=-1$$

$$\boxed{\text{Domain: } x \neq 1, x \neq -1}$$

$f'$ :

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

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

$\downarrow$   
 $f'(x)$  is 0 when

$$-x^2-1 = 0$$

$$-x^2 = 1$$

$$x^2 = -1$$

NEVER

$\downarrow$   
 $f'(x)$  is NOT defined

$$(x^2-1)^2 = 0$$

$$x^2-1 = 0$$

$\Downarrow$

$$\boxed{x=1, x=-1}$$

NOT in the domain

$\Rightarrow$  NOT critical numbers

But they come in sign chart.

Sign chart  
for  $f'$ :

|         |           |              |          |              |          |              |           |
|---------|-----------|--------------|----------|--------------|----------|--------------|-----------|
| $x$     | $-\infty$ | $\uparrow$   | $-1$     | $\uparrow$   | $1$      | $\uparrow$   | $+\infty$ |
| $f'(x)$ | $-$       |              | $\infty$ |              | $\infty$ |              | $-$       |
| $f(x)$  |           | $\downarrow$ |          | $\downarrow$ |          | $\downarrow$ |           |

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

everywhere decreasing

$\downarrow$   
NO local min/max

$$f' = \frac{-}{+} < 0$$

Intervals:  $(-\infty, -1)$ ,  $(-1, 1)$ ,  $(1, \infty)$   
 $\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{\text{decreasing}}$

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

$$f''(x) = \frac{-\cancel{2x}(x^2 - 1)^2 - (-x^2 - 1) \cdot 2 \cdot \overbrace{\cancel{2x}(x^2 - 1)}^{\text{chain rule}}}{(x^2 - 1)^4}$$

Do NOT expand  
Do NOT distribute  
LOOK For Factoring

$$f''(x) = \frac{2x \cancel{(x^2 - 1)} \left( \overbrace{-\cancel{(x^2 - 1)} + 2(x^2 + 1)}^{-x^2 + 1 + 2x^2 + 2} \right)}{(x^2 - 1)^{\cancel{4}^3}}$$

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

Exercise: Sign chart for  $f''$ .



Sign chart  
for  $f''$ :

$$2x(x^2 + 3) = 0$$

$$f''(x) = 0$$

$$\boxed{x = 0}$$

$$x^2 + 3 = 0$$

$\Downarrow$

$$x^2 = -3 \text{ NEVER}$$

$f''$  is Not defined at  $x = 1$  &  $x = -1$

|          |           |                                                                                     |          |                                                                                     |     |                                                                                     |          |                                                                                       |           |
|----------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
|          |           | $x = -2$                                                                            |          | $x = -1/2$                                                                          |     | $x = 1/2$                                                                           |          | $x = 2$                                                                               |           |
| $x$      | $-\infty$ | $\uparrow$                                                                          | $-1$     | $\uparrow$                                                                          | $0$ | $\uparrow$                                                                          | $1$      | $\uparrow$                                                                            | $+\infty$ |
| $f''(x)$ |           | —                                                                                   | $\infty$ | +                                                                                   | 0   | —                                                                                   | $\infty$ | +                                                                                     |           |
| $f(x)$   |           |  |          |  |     |  |          |  |           |

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

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

$$f''\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot +}{\left(\frac{1}{4} - 1\right)^3} = \frac{+}{-}$$

$$f''\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{2 \cdot -\frac{1}{2} \cdot +}{\left(\frac{1}{4} - 1\right)^3} = \frac{-}{-}$$

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

Summary from  $f''$ :

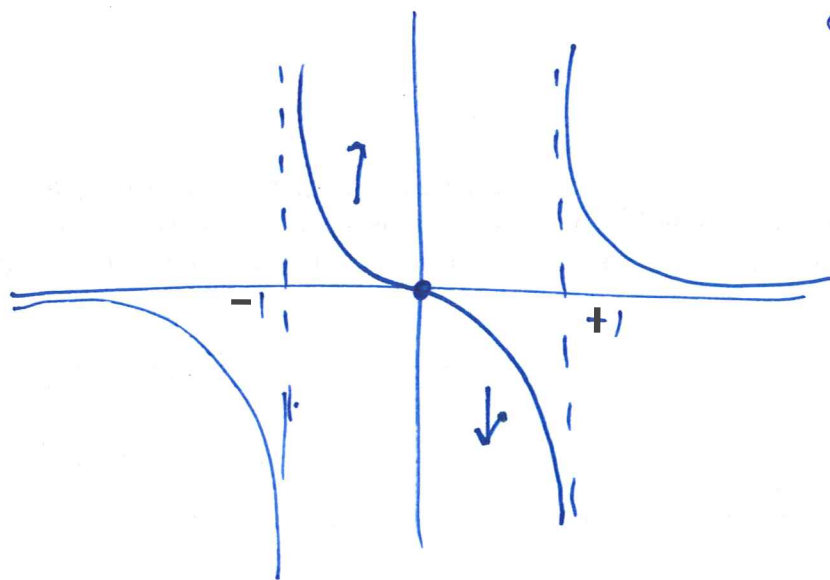
$$\begin{cases} f \text{ is concave up in } (-1, 0) \text{ and } (1, \infty) \\ \text{" " " down in } (-\infty, -1) \text{ and } (0, 1) \\ \text{inflection point: } f'' \text{ changes sign} \end{cases}$$

around  $\cancel{x = -1}$ ,  $x = 0$ ,  $\cancel{x = 1}$

$f$  is NOT defined at  $x = 1, x = -1$

$f$  has an inflection point only at  $x = 0$

y-coordinate:  $f(0) = 0 \Rightarrow (0, 0)$



everywhere decreasing