





c is a critical point if f'(c) = 0.















c is a singular point if f'(c) does not exist.











This function as shown has no global maximum.









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- Suppose f(x) has domain  $(-\infty, \infty)$ . If f'(5) = 0, then:
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Draw a continuous function f(x) with a local maximum at x = 3 and a local minimum at x = -1.

Draw a continuous function f(x) with a local maximum at x = 3 and a local minimum at x = -1, but f(3) < f(-1).

Draw a function f(x) with a singular point at x = 2 that is NOT a local maximum, or a local minimum.

Suppose  $f'(x) = (x + 5)^2(x - 5)$ . Then f has no singular points, and its critical points are  $\pm 5$ . Identify whether the critical points are local maxima, local minima, or neither.

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We see that, when we are close to -5, whether x is less than or greater than -5, still f'(x) is negative. So, f(x) is decreasing before x-=5 and also after it. So, -5 is not a local max or a local min.

Now consider x = 5. When x is a little less, f'(x) is negative; when x is a little more than 5, f'(x) is positive. So, f is decreasing till 5, then increasing after: so 5 is a local min. Indeed, x = 5 is the site of a global min.

# Endpoints



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**Theorems 3.5.10, 3.5.11:** A function that is continuous on the interval [a, b] (where a and b are real numbers-not infinite) has a global max and min, and they occur at endpoints, critical points, or singular points.

# Determining Extrema

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To find local extrema:

- Could be at critical points (f'(x) = 0)
- Could be at singular points (f'(x) DNE)
- At these points, check whether there is some interval around x where f(x) is no larger than the other numbers, or no smaller. (A sketch helps. The signs of the derivatives on either side of x are also a clue.)

To find global extrema:

- Could be at critical points (f'(x) = 0)
- Could be at singular points (f'(x) DNE)
- Could be at endpoints; also check the limit as the function goes to  $\pm\infty.$
- Check the value of the function at all of these, and compare.

Find All Extrema<sup>1</sup>:

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Since there are no endpoints, we only need to find critical points and singular points.

 $f'(x) = 3x^2 - 3 = 3(x^2 - 1) = 3(x + 1)(x - 1)$ . So there are no singular points, and the critical points are  $\pm 1$ .

We know that cubic functions grow hugely positive in one direction, and hugely negative in the other. So, there's no global max or min. We need only decide whether x = 1 and x = -1 are local extrema.

We can easily graph f'(x), and we see it is an upwards-pointing parabola. It is positive to the left of x = -1 and positive to its right, so f is increasing up till x = -1, then decreasing after; so x = 1 is a local max.

Likewise, f'(x) is negative to the left of x = 1 and positive to the right of it; so it's decreasing till x = 1 and increasing after. Thus x = 1 is a local min.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Extrema: local and global maxima and minima

Find All Extrema

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The endpoints are -1 and 10. We differentiate to identify critical points and singular points:  $f'(x) = \frac{1}{3}(x^2 - 64)^{-2/3}(2x) = \frac{2}{3}x(x^2 - 64)^{-2/3}$ . So the critical point is x = 0 and the singular points are  $x = \pm 8$ ; but since x = -8 is not our domain, we don't have to worry about it. The global extrema are found by simply comparing the value of the function at the various interesting points.  $f(0) = \sqrt[3]{-64} = -4$ ; f(8) = 0;  $f(-1) = -\sqrt[3]{63}$ ; and  $f(10) = \sqrt[3]{100 - 64} = \sqrt[3]{36}$ . Of these, -4 is the smallest and  $\sqrt[3]{36}$  is the largest, so the global max is  $\sqrt[3]{36}$  at x = 10, and the global min is -4 at x = 0. Then it's pretty clear that x = 0 is a local min. Since -1 and 10 are endpoints, they can't be local mins. So, what of x = 8?

When x is slightly smaller than 8, or slightly larger than 8, f'(x) is positive; so f(x) is increasing to the left of 8 and also to the right of 8. Then 8 is neither a local max nor a local min.

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There are no endpoints given, so we take the domain to be the domain of the function, which is all real numbers. As x goes to infinity or negative infinity, f(x) goes to infinity, so there is no global max, hence no largest value.

To find the global min, we differentiate:  $f'(x) = 4x^3 - 36x = 4x(x^2 - 9)$ . So the critical points are 0 and  $\pm 3$ , and there are no singular points.

f(0) = 0, and f(3) = f(-3) = -81, so the smallest value (and global min) is -81, and it occurs twice (which is fine): at 3 and -3.

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Since this function is periodic, we can restrict our search to x values in  $[0, 2\pi)$ .  $f'(x) = 2 \sin x \cos x + \sin x = \sin x (2 \cos x + 1)$ . So our critical points occur when  $\sin x = 0$  and when  $\cos x = -1/2$ . That is, when x is  $0, \pi, 2\pi/3$ , or  $4\pi/3$ . We plug these in to find f(0) = -1,  $f(\pi) = 1$ , and  $f(2\pi/3) = f(4\pi/3) = \frac{5}{4}$ . So the biggest this function gets is 1.25, and this occurs at  $x = (2 + 6n)\pi/3$  and  $(4 + 6n)\pi/3$  for any integer *n*. The smallest f(x) gets is -1, and this occurs at  $x = 2\pi n$ , for any integer *n*.