

Application of Derivatives

Maxima and Minima values of a function
Second Derivative Test:—

1. If $f'(c) > 0$ then $f(x)$ is increasing at $x=c$ and if $f'(c) < 0$ " $f(x)$ " decreasing at $x=c$
2. A function $f(x)$ has a maximum value at $x=c$ if $f'(c)=0$, $f''(c) < 0$
3. A function $f(x)$ has a minimum value at $x=c$ if $f'(c)=0$, $f''(c) > 0$
4. If $f'(c)=0$, $f''(c)=0$ and $f'''(c) \neq 0$ then $f(x)$ has neither a maximum nor a minimum at $x=c$, In this case $x=c$ is a point of inflexion.

Example

1. Find the value of x for which for which the function is increasing or decreasing where $f(x) = 3 + 4x - 4x^2$

Soln:

$$f(x) = 3 + 4x - 4x^2$$

$$f'(x) = 4 - 2x$$

- i) If $f(x)$ is increasing function of x then we have

$$f'(x) > 0, \text{ or } 4 - 2x > 0 \text{ or } 2x < 4 \text{ or } x < 2$$

$$\text{or } 2x < 4$$

$$\text{or } x < 2$$

- ii) If $f(x)$ is decreasing function of x then we have

$$f'(x) < 0 \text{ or } 4 - 2x < 0$$

$$\text{or } 2x > 4$$

$$\text{or } x > 2$$

2. Examine $f(x) = x^3 - 9x^2 + 24x - 12$ for maximum or minimum values.

Soln:

$$f(x) = x^3 - 9x^2 + 24x - 12$$

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 18x + 24$$

For maximum and minimum values of $f(x)$, we must have

$$f'(x) = 0$$

$$\text{or } 3x^2 - 18x + 24 = 0$$

$$\text{or } 3(x-2)(x-4) = 0$$

$$\text{or } x = 2, \text{ or } 4.$$

$$\text{Again } f''(x) = 6x - 18$$

$$\text{At } x = 2, f''(x) = 6 \cdot 2 - 18 = -6 \text{ (-ve) } < 0$$

Thus the function is maximum at $x = 2$, the maximum value is

$$\begin{aligned} f(2) &= 2^3 - 9 \cdot 2^2 + 24 \cdot 2 - 12 \\ &= 8 - 36 + 48 - 12 \\ &= 8 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{At } x = 4, f''(x) = 6 \cdot 4 - 18 = 6 \text{ (+ve) } > 0.$$

Thus the function is minimum at $x = 4$, the minimum value is

$$\begin{aligned} f(4) &= 4^3 - 9 \cdot 4^2 + 24 \cdot 4 - 12 \\ &= 4. \end{aligned}$$

3. If $\frac{x}{2} + \frac{y}{3} = 1$, find the minimum value of $x^2 + y^2$

Soln:

$$\frac{x}{2} + \frac{y}{3} = 1$$

$$\text{or } 3x + 2y = 6$$

$$\text{or } 2y = 6 - 3x$$

$$\text{or } y = \frac{6 - 3x}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } z &= x^2 + y^2 = x^2 + \left(\frac{6 - 3x}{2}\right)^2 = x^2 + \left(3 - \frac{3}{2}x\right)^2 \\ &= x^2 + 9 - 9x + \frac{9}{4}x^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = 2x + \frac{9}{2}x - 9$$

For maximum and minimum, we have

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = 0$$

$$\text{or } 2x + \frac{9}{2}x - 9 = 0$$

$$\text{or } 13x = 18$$

$$\text{or } x = \frac{18}{13}$$

$$\frac{d^2z}{dx^2} = \frac{13}{2}$$

$$\text{If } x > \frac{18}{13} \quad \frac{d^2z}{dx^2} = \frac{13}{2} > 0$$

Hence, the function is minimum at $x = \frac{18}{13}$, the minimum value is

$$\begin{aligned} z &= \left(\frac{18}{13}\right)^2 + \left(3 - \frac{3}{2} \times \frac{18}{13}\right)^2 \\ &= \frac{36}{13} \end{aligned}$$

4. Show that $y = x^3 - 8$ has neither a maximum nor a minimum value. Does the curve has have a point-of inflexion?

Soln.

$$y = x^3 - 8$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 6x$$

For maximum and minimum value, we must have

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

$$\text{or } 3x^2 = 0$$

$$\text{or } x^2 = 0$$

$$\text{or } x = 0$$

$$\text{If } x = 0, \quad \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 6 \cdot 0 = 0$$

Hence the given function has neither maximum nor a minimum value

$$\text{But } \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0, \quad \frac{d^3y}{dx^3} = 6 \neq 0$$

So the given function has a point-of inflexion at $x = 0$

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N.B :- If any problems arises, please contact } 8250625880 }
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