

Students should try to sketch the graph of each function in Questions 1 and 2 in order to have a feel for Curve Sketching. This will enable students to be aware of how to obtain necessary and useful information for curve sketching.

1. (i)  $f(x) = (x-3)(x-4)(x-5) = x^3 - 12x^2 + 47x - 60$ . Since  $f$  is a polynomial function,  $f$  is continuous and differentiable on  $\mathbf{R}$ .

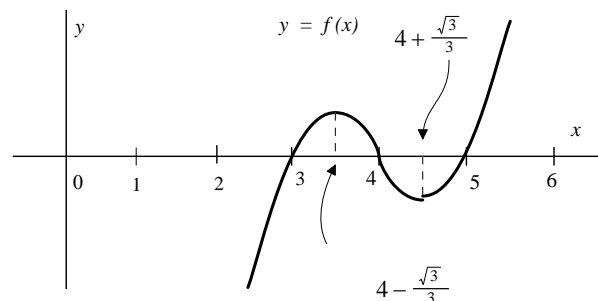
Note that  $f'(x) = 3x^2 - 24x + 47 = 3(x - 4 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3})(x - 4 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3})$  so that  $f'(x) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 4 \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$ .

Thus,  $f$  is increasing on the interval  $(-\infty, 4 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}]$  and on the interval  $[4 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}, \infty)$  and decreasing on  $[4 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}, 4 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}]$ .

By the first derivative test,  $f(4 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}) = \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{9}$  is a relative maximum and  $f(4 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}) = -\frac{2\sqrt{3}}{9}$  is a relative minimum.

Now we have  $f''(x) = 6x - 24$ . Thus,  $f''(x) = 6x - 24 > 0 \Leftrightarrow x > 4$ . and the graph of  $f$  is concave upward on  $(4, \infty)$ .

$f''(x) = 6x - 24 < 0 \Leftrightarrow x < 4$ . Thus the graph of  $f$  is concave downward on  $(-\infty, 4)$ .



$$(ii) . f(x) = \begin{cases} 3(x-3)^2, & x \leq 3 \\ (3-x)^3, & x > 3 \end{cases}$$

Note that  $f$  is **continuous** at  $x = 3$ . (Students should check this!)

Moreover,  $f$  is differentiable at  $x = 3$  and  $f'(3) = 0$ . (Students should check this via **definition of derivative!** Otherwise take caution, see the article on my Calculus site:

<http://www.math.nus.edu.sg/~matngtb/Calculus/Derivedfunction/Derivative.htm>) Therefore, we have

$$f'(x) = \begin{cases} 6(x-3), & x \leq 3 \\ -3(3-x)^2, & x > 3 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Thus,  $f'(x) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 3$ .

From (1),  $x < 3 \Rightarrow f'(x) < 0$ . Thus  $f$  is decreasing on the interval  $(-\infty, 3]$  since  $f$  is also continuous at 3.

Also from (1) we have  $x > 3 \Rightarrow f'(x) < 0$ . Hence this and the continuity of  $f$  at  $x = 3$  says that  $f$  is decreasing on  $[3, \infty)$ .

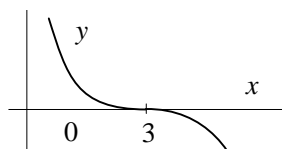
Therefore,  $f$  is decreasing on  $\mathbf{R}$  and so  $f$  does not have any relative extrema.

Note that  $f''(x) = \begin{cases} 6, & x < 3 \\ 6(3-x), & x > 3 \end{cases}$  and  $f''(3)$  does not exist.

Thus,  $f''(x) > 0$  for  $x < 3$  and the graph of  $f$  is concave upward on  $(-\infty, 3)$ .

When  $x > 3$ ,  $f''(x) < 0$  and the graph of  $f$  is concave downward on  $(3, \infty)$ .

There is a point of inflection at  $x = 3$ .



2. i. The domain of  $f$  is  $\mathbf{R} - \{4\}$ . For  $x \neq 4$ ,  $f'(x) = \frac{-8}{(x-4)^2} < 0$ . (1)

a. Thus  $f$  is decreasing on the interval  $(-\infty, 4)$  and also on  $(4, \infty)$ .

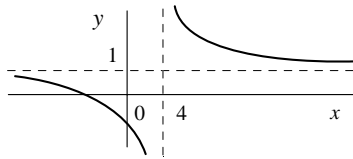
b. Differentiating  $f$  twice gives  $f''(x) = \frac{16}{(x-4)^3}$  for  $x \neq 4$ . (2)

Therefore,  $x > 4 \Rightarrow f''(x) > 0$ . Thus the graph of  $f$  is concave upward on the interval  $(4, \infty)$ . Also from (2),  $x < 4 \Rightarrow f''(x) < 0 \Rightarrow$  the graph of  $f$  is concave downward on the interval  $(-\infty, 4)$ .

c. Now  $f$  is decreasing and *differentiable* on its domain of definition and so  $f$  does not have any relative extrema. From (2)  $f''(x) \neq 0$ . Hence  $f$  does not have any point of inflection.

$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \frac{x+4}{x-4} = 1$ . And so the line  $y = 1$  is a horizontal asymptote.

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} \frac{x+4}{x-4} = -\infty$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 4^+} \frac{x+4}{x-4} = \infty$ . Thus the line  $x = 4$  is a vertical asymptote.



ii.  $f(x) = \begin{cases} 2 - x^3 + 3x, & x \leq 0 \\ \sqrt[3]{x+8}, & x > 0 \end{cases}$ . Observe  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} 2 - x^3 + 3x = 2$  and also

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \sqrt[3]{x+8} = 2$  so that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} f(x) = 2 = f(0)$ . Hence  $f$  is continuous at  $x = 0$ .

$f$  is not differentiable at  $x = 0$ . This is seen as follows.

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{f(x) - f(0)}{x - 0} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{2 - x^3 + 3x - 2}{x - 0} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} (-x^2 + 3) = 3$  whereas

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(x) - f(0)}{x - 0} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sqrt[3]{x+8} - 2}{x} = \frac{1}{12}$  and they are not the same.

Therefore  $f$  is not differentiable at  $x = 1$  and hence  $f'(0)$  does not exist. Now,

$$f'(x) = \begin{cases} 3 - 3x^2, & x < 0 \\ \frac{1}{3}(x+8)^{-\frac{2}{3}}, & x > 0 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

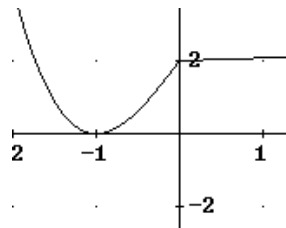
and

$$f''(x) = \begin{cases} -6x, & x < 0 \\ -\frac{2}{9}(x+8)^{-\frac{5}{3}}, & x > 0 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

a. From (1), when  $x < -1$ ,  $f'(x) < 0$  and when  $-1 < x < 0$ ,  $f'(x) > 0$ . Also when  $x > 0$ ,  $f'(x) > 0$ . Therefore,  $f$  is decreasing on  $(-\infty, -1]$  and  $f$  is increasing on  $[-1, 0]$  and on  $[0, \infty)$ .

b. From (2),  $x < 0 \Rightarrow f''(x) > 0$ . Therefore, the graph of  $f$  is concave upward on  $(-\infty, 0)$ . Now  $x > 0 \Rightarrow f''(x) < 0$ . Therefore, the graph of  $f$  is concave downward on  $(0, \infty)$ .

c. From part a, by the first derivative test,  $f(-1) = 0$  is a relative minimum and from part b, the point  $(0, f(0)) = (0, 2)$  is a point of inflection.



**Now sketch the graph and use Derive to check whether your sketch is correct.**

3.  $f'(x) = x(x-1)(x+2) = x^3 + x^2 - 2x$  Since  $f$  is differentiable,  $f$  is continuous on  $\mathbf{R}$ . At  $x = -2, 0$  and  $1$   $f(x) = 0$ .

Note that  $f'(x) > 0 \Leftrightarrow -2 < x < 0, x > 1$ . Thus  $f$  is increasing on  $[-2, 0]$  and on  $[1, \infty)$ .

And  $f$  is decreasing on  $(-\infty, -2]$  and  $[0, 1]$ .

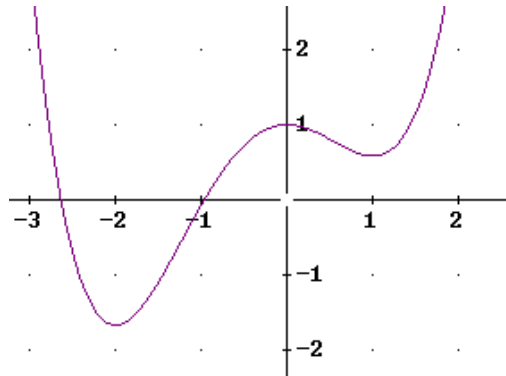
By the first derivative test, we have a relative minimum at  $x = -2$  and  $x = 1$ , and relative maximum at  $x = 0$ .

$$f''(x) = 3x^2 + 2x - 2 > 0 \Leftrightarrow x < -\frac{1}{3}(1 + \sqrt{7}) \text{ or } x > -\frac{1}{3}(1 - \sqrt{7})$$

Thus, graph of  $f$  is concave upward on the intervals  $(-\infty, -\frac{1}{3}(1 + \sqrt{7}))$  and  $(-\frac{1}{3}(1 - \sqrt{7}), \infty)$  and concave downward on the interval  $(-\frac{1}{3}(1 + \sqrt{7}), -\frac{1}{3}(1 - \sqrt{7}))$

Points of inflection occur at  $x = -\frac{1}{3}(1 + \sqrt{7})$  and at  $x = -\frac{1}{3}(1 - \sqrt{7})$ .

**Using the above information, give a rough sketch of the graph. The shape of the graph is like that of  $g(x) = \frac{1}{4}x^4 + \frac{1}{3}x^3 - x^2 + 1$ . (check with Derive.)**



4.  $f(x) = x^7 + rx + 7$ . Then,  $f'(x) = 7x^6 + r = 7(x^6 + \frac{r}{7})$ . (1)

If  $r < 0$ , then we can write  $f'(x) = 7(x^3 - \frac{\sqrt{|r|}}{\sqrt{7}})(x^3 + \frac{\sqrt{|r|}}{\sqrt{7}})$ . Then the stationary points of  $f$  are

$$-\sqrt[3]{\frac{|r|}{7}} \text{ and } \sqrt[3]{\frac{|r|}{7}}.$$

Differentiating  $f'(x)$ :  $f''(x) = 42x^5$ . (2)

Therefore, by (2),  $f''(-\sqrt[3]{\frac{|r|}{7}}) < 0$  and  $f''(\sqrt[3]{\frac{|r|}{7}}) > 0$ .

Thus by the second derivative test,  $f(-\sqrt[3]{\frac{|r|}{7}})$  is a relative maximum and  $f(\sqrt[3]{\frac{|r|}{7}})$  is a relative minimum. (We may use the first derivative test here.)

**If  $r > 0$** , then we deduced from (1)  $f'(x) > 0$  since  $(x^6 + \frac{r}{7}) \geq \frac{r}{7} > 0$ . Note that  $f$  is differentiable on the whole of  $\mathbf{R}$ . Therefore,  $f$  has **no relative extrema** for if  $f$  were to have a relative extrema at  $c$ , then we can conclude that  $f'(c) = 0$  giving us a contradiction.

5. (a)  $\frac{107}{10}x^{10} + \frac{5}{6}x^6 - \frac{51}{4}x^4 - \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 29x + C$

(b)  $\frac{1}{2}(2x + 5)^{3/2} - \frac{15}{2}\sqrt{2x + 5} + C$ .

(c)  $\frac{7}{8}x^{8/7} + \frac{81}{8}x^{8/9} + C$

(d)  $\frac{2}{45}(7 - x)^{3/2}(5x^3 + 30x^2 + 168x + 784) + C$

(Suggestion : (b) use  $u = 2x + 5$  (d) use  $u = 7 - x$ )

6. Note that  $F(x) = \begin{cases} 3x - 9/2, & x < 3 \\ x^2 - 3x + 9/2, & x \geq 3 \end{cases}$  is a continuous function on  $\mathbf{R}$ . **(Students should check this.)**

Differentiating we get  $F'(x) = \begin{cases} 3, & x < 3 \\ 2x - 3, & x > 3 \end{cases}$ . At  $x = 3$  we have

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3^-} \frac{F(x) - F(3)}{x - 3} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3^+} \frac{F(x) - F(3)}{x - 3} = 3.$$

Thus,  $F$  is differentiable at  $x = 3$  and  $F'(3) = 3$ .

Therefore  $F'(x) = \begin{cases} 3, & x \leq 3 \\ 2x - 3, & x > 3 \end{cases} = f(x)$ . That is,  $F$  is an antiderivative of  $f$ .

Hence  $\int f(x) dx = F(x) + C = \begin{cases} 3x - 9/2 + C, & x < 3 \\ x^2 - 3x + 9/2 + C, & x \geq 3 \end{cases}$ .

7. a.  $\int (x^9 - 5x^4)\sqrt{x^5 + 5} dx$ . Let  $u = x^5 + 5$ . Then  $\frac{du}{dx} = 5x^4$  and  $x^5 = u - 5$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \int (x^9 - 5x^4)\sqrt{x^5 + 5} dx &= \int \frac{1}{5}(x^5 - 5)\sqrt{x^5 + 5} 5x^4 dx = \int \frac{1}{5}(x^5 - 5)\sqrt{x^5 + 5} \frac{du}{dx} dx \\ &= \int \frac{1}{5}(u - 5 - 5)\sqrt{u} du = \frac{1}{5} \int (u^{\frac{3}{2}} - 10u^{\frac{1}{2}}) du = \frac{1}{5} \left( \frac{2}{5} u^{\frac{5}{2}} - 10 \cdot \frac{2}{3} u^{\frac{3}{2}} \right) + C \\ &= \frac{2}{25}(x^5 + 5)^{\frac{5}{2}} - \frac{4}{3}(x^5 + 5)^{\frac{3}{2}} + C. \end{aligned}$$

b.  $\int \frac{\tan^2(\sqrt{t})}{\sqrt{t}} dt$ . The domain of the integrand is the set of positive real numbers.

Let  $u = \sqrt{t}$ . Then  $\frac{du}{dt} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t}}$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{\tan^2(\sqrt{t})}{\sqrt{t}} dt &= 2 \int \tan^2(\sqrt{t}) \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t}} dt = 2 \int \tan^2(\sqrt{t}) \frac{du}{dt} dt = 2 \int \tan^2(u) du \\ &= 2 \int (\sec^2(u) - 1) + C = 2 \tan(u) - 2u + C = 2 \tan(\sqrt{t}) - 2\sqrt{t} + C \end{aligned}$$

8. We shall use the identities  $1 + \tan^2(\theta) = \sec^2(\theta)$  and  $1 + \cot^2(\theta) = \csc^2(\theta)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \int (7 \cot^2(\theta) - 6 \tan^2(\theta) + \theta) d\theta &= \int [7(\csc^2(\theta) - 1) - 6(\sec^2(\theta) - 1) + \theta] d\theta \\ &= \int [-1 + 7 \csc^2(\theta) - 6 \sec^2(\theta) + \theta] d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \theta^2 - \theta + 7 \int \csc^2(\theta) d\theta - 6 \int \sec^2(\theta) d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \theta^2 - \theta - 7 \cot(\theta) - 6 \tan(\theta) + C. \end{aligned}$$

9. Let  $c$  be any fixed point in the interval  $(a, b)$ . Then since  $f$  is differentiable, the tangent line to the graph of  $f$  at  $(c, f(c))$  is given by the equation  $y = f(c) + (x - c)f'(c)$ . We need to show that for any  $x \neq c$  in a suitable open interval containing  $c$ ,  $f(x) > y = f(c) + (x - c)f'(c)$ . Now for any  $x < c$  and  $x$  in  $(a, b)$ , by the Mean Value Theorem, there exists  $d$  such that  $x < d < c$  with  $\frac{f(c) - f(x)}{c - x} = f'(d)$ . But since  $d < c$  and  $f'$  is increasing,  $f'(d) < f'(c)$  and so  $\frac{f(c) - f(x)}{c - x} = f'(d) < f'(c)$ . Now multiply the last inequality by  $(c - x)$  and noting that  $(c - x) > 0$ , we get  $f(c) - f(x) < f'(c)(c - x)$  and so  $f(x) > f(c) + (x - c)f'(c)$ . It now remains to check if this is also the case for any  $x > c$ . Again by the Mean Value Theorem, there exists  $e$  such that  $x > e > c$  with  $\frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} = f'(e) > f'(c)$ . The last inequality is because  $f'$  is increasing. Therefore multiplying by  $(x - c) > 0$  we obtain again  $f(x) - f(c) > f'(c)(x - c)$  and it follows once more that  $f(x) > f(c) + (x - c)f'(c)$ . Hence the graph of  $f$  is concave upward at  $(c, f(c))$  for any  $c$  in  $(a, b)$ . This completes the proof.