

Chapter 6: Practice/review problems

The collection of problems listed below contains questions taken from previous MA123 exams.

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Extreme values problems on a closed interval

[1]. Suppose  $f(t) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{4-t} & \text{if } t < 4 \\ \sqrt{t-4} & \text{if } t \geq 4. \end{cases}$

Find the minimum of  $f(t)$  on the interval  $[0, 6]$ .

- (a) 0                      (b) 2                      (c) 4                      (d) 6                      (e) 8

[2]. Let  $g(s) = \frac{s-1}{s+1}$ . Find the maximum of  $g(s)$  on the interval  $[0, 2]$ .

- (a)  $-1/3$                       (b) 0                      (c)  $1/3$                       (d)  $2/3$   
 (e) Neither the maximum nor the minimum exists on the given interval.

[3]. Suppose  $f(t) = \begin{cases} t^2 - 2t + 2 & \text{if } t < 1 \\ t^3 & \text{if } t \geq 1. \end{cases}$

Find the minimum of  $f(t)$  on the interval  $[0, 2]$ .

- (a)  $-1$                       (b) 0                      (c) 1                      (d) 2                      (e) 8

[4]. Let  $f(x) = 3x^2 + 6x + 4$ . Find the maximum value of  $f(x)$  on the interval  $[-2, 1]$ .

- (a) 5                      (b) 7                      (c) 9                      (d) 13                      (e)  $-1$

[5]. Let  $G(x) = \begin{cases} (x-3) + 6 & \text{if } x \geq 3 \\ -(x-3) + 6 & \text{if } x < 3. \end{cases}$

Find the minimum of  $G(x)$  on the interval  $[-10, 10]$ .

- (a) 3                      (b) 1                      (c)  $-6$                       (d) 19                      (e) 6

[6]. Let  $g(s) = \frac{1}{s+1}$ . Find the maximum of  $g(s)$  on the interval  $[0, 2]$ .

- (a)  $-1$                       (b) 0                      (c) 1                      (d) 2  
 (e) Neither the maximum nor the minimum exists on the given interval.

[7]. Find the minimum value of  $f(x) = x^3 - 3x + 3$  on the interval  $[-2, 4]$ .

- (a) 2                      (b) 1                      (c) 0                      (d)  $-1$                       (e)  $-2$

[8]. Find the maximum of  $g(t) = |t + 4| + 10$  on the interval  $[-12, 12]$ .

- (a) 19            (b) 20            (c) 24             (d) 26            (e) 28

[9]. Find the minimum value of  $f(x) = \sqrt{x^2 - 2x + 16}$  on the interval  $[0, 5]$ .

- (a) 1            (b) 2             (c)  $\sqrt{15}$             (d)  $\sqrt{12}$             (e) 0

[10]. Let  $f(x) = |x^2 - 1| + 2$ . Find the minimum of  $f(x)$  on the interval  $[-3, 3]$ .

- (a) 3            (b) 0            (c) 1             (d) 2            (e) -1

[11]. Suppose  $f(t) = 2t^3 - 9t^2 + 12t + 31$ . Find the value of  $t$  in the interval  $[0, 3]$  where  $f(t)$  takes on its minimum.

- (a) 0            (b) 1            (c) 2            (d) 3  
(e) Neither the maximum nor the minimum exists on the given interval.

[12]. Let  $Q(t) = t^2$ . Find a value  $A$  such that the average rate of change of  $Q(t)$  from 1 to  $A$  equals the instantaneous rate of change of  $Q(t)$  at  $t = 2A$

- (a) 1             (b)  $\frac{1}{3}$             (c)  $\frac{1}{4}$             (d)  $\frac{1}{5}$             (e) Does not exist

**Mean Value Theorem problems**

[13]. Find the value of  $A$  such that the average rate of change of the function  $g(s) = s^3$  on the interval  $[0, A]$  is equal to the instantaneous rate of change of the function at  $s = 1$ .

- (a)  $\sqrt{2}$              (b)  $\sqrt{3}$             (c)  $\sqrt{5}$             (d)  $\sqrt{6}$             (e)  $\sqrt{12}$

[14]. Suppose  $k(s) = s^2 + 3s + 1$ . Find a value  $c$  in the interval  $[1, 3]$  such that  $k'(c)$  equals the average rate of change of  $k(s)$  on the interval  $[1, 3]$ .

- (a) -1            (b) 0            (c) 1             (d) 2            (e) 3

[15]. Let  $k(x) = x^3 + 2x$ . Find a value of  $c$  between 1 and 3 such that the average rate of change of  $k(x)$  from  $x = 1$  to  $x = 3$  is equal to the instantaneous rate of change of  $k(x)$  at  $x = c$ .

- (a) 30            (b) 15            (c)  $\sqrt{\frac{28}{3}}$              (d)  $\sqrt{\frac{13}{3}}$             (e) 60

**Increasing/decreasing problems**

[16]. Which function is always increasing on  $(0, 2)$

- (a)  $\sqrt{x} + x^2$             (b)  $x + (1/x)$             (c)  $x^3 - 3x$   
(d)  $7 - |x|$             (e)  $(x - 1)^4$

- [17]. Suppose that a function  $f(x)$  has derivative  $f'(x) = x^2 + 1$ . Which of the following statements is true about the graph of  $y = f(x)$ ?
- (a) The function is increasing on  $(-\infty, \infty)$   
 (b) The function is decreasing on  $(-\infty, \infty)$   
 (c) The function is increasing on  $(-\infty, -1)$  and  $(1, \infty)$ , and the function is decreasing on  $(-1, 1)$ .  
 (d) The function is increasing on  $(-\infty, 0)$ , and the function is decreasing on  $(0, \infty)$ .  
 (e) The function is decreasing on  $(-\infty, 0)$ , and the function is increasing on  $(0, \infty)$ .
- [18]. Find the largest value of  $A$  such that the function  $g(s) = s^3 - 3s^2 - 24s + 1$  is increasing on the interval  $(-5, A)$ .
- (a)  $-4$       (b)  $-2$       (c)  $0$       (d)  $2$       (e)  $4$
- [19]. Let  $f(x) = e^{-x^2}$ . Find the intervals where  $f(x)$  is decreasing.
- (a)  $(-\infty, 0)$       (b)  $(0, \infty)$       (c)  $(-\infty, -1)$   
 (d)  $(1, \infty)$       (e)  $(-1, 1)$
- [20]. Let  $f(x) = x \ln x$ . Find the intervals where  $f(x)$  is increasing.
- (a)  $(0, \infty)$       (b)  $(1, \infty)$       (c)  $(e, \infty)$   
 (d)  $(1/e, \infty)$       (e)  $(1/e, e)$
- [21]. Suppose the cost,  $C(q)$ , of stocking a quantity  $q$  of a product equals  $C(q) = \frac{100}{q} + q$ . The rate of change of the cost with respect to  $q$  is called the marginal cost. When is the marginal cost positive?
- (a)  $q > 10$       (b)  $q > 15$       (c)  $q < 20$       (d)  $q < 25$       (e)  $q = 30$
- [22]. For which values of  $t$  is the function  $t^3 - 2t + 1$  increasing?
- (a)  $t > \sqrt{2/3}$  or  $t < -\sqrt{2/3}$       (b)  $-\sqrt{2/3} < t < \sqrt{2/3}$       (c)  $0 < t < \sqrt{4/3}$   
 (d)  $-\sqrt{4/3} < t < 0$       (e) Never
- [23]. Suppose that  $g'(x) = x^2 - x - 6$ . Find the interval(s) where  $g(x)$  is increasing.
- (a)  $(-1, 2)$       (b)  $(-\infty, -2)$  and  $(3, \infty)$       (c)  $(-\infty, -1)$  and  $(2, \infty)$   
 (d)  $(-2, 3)$       (e) It cannot be determined from the information given
- [24]. Let  $f(x) = xe^{2x}$ . Then  $f$  is decreasing on the following interval.
- (a)  $(-\infty, -1/2)$       (b)  $(-1/2, \infty)$       (c)  $(-\infty, 1/2)$   
 (d)  $(1/2, \infty)$       (e)  $(-\infty, 0)$

[25]. Find the interval(s) where  $f(x) = -x^3 + 18x^2 - 105x + 4$  is increasing.

(Note that the coefficient of  $x^3$  is  $-1$ , so compute carefully.)

- (a)  $(-\infty, 5)$  and  $(7, \infty)$       **(b)**  $(5, 7)$       (c)  $(-\infty, -5)$  and  $(7, \infty)$   
(d)  $(-5, 7)$       (e)  $(-7, 5)$

[26]. Suppose that  $f(x) = xg(x)$ , and for all positive values of  $x$  the function  $g(x)$  is negative (i.e.,  $g(x) < 0$ ) and decreasing. Which of the following is true for the function  $f(x)$ ?

- (a)**  $f(x)$  is negative and decreasing for all positive values of  $x$ .  
(b)  $f(x)$  is positive and increasing for all positive values of  $x$ .  
(c)  $f(x)$  is negative and increasing for all positive values of  $x$ .  
(d)  $f(x)$  is positive and decreasing for all positive values of  $x$ .  
(e) None of the above.

[27]. Suppose the derivative of a function  $g(x)$  is given by  $g'(x) = x^2 - 1$ . Find all intervals on which  $g(x)$  is increasing.

- (a)  $(-\infty, \infty)$       (b)  $(-1, 1)$       **(c)**  $(-\infty, -1)$  and  $(1, \infty)$   
(d)  $(0, \infty)$       (e)  $(-\infty, 0)$

**Extreme values problems using the first derivative**

[28]. Suppose the derivative of the function  $h(x)$  is given by  $h'(x) = 1 - |x|$ . Find the value of  $x$  in the interval  $[-1, 1]$  where  $h(x)$  takes on its minimum value.

- (a)  $-1/2$       **(b)**  $-1$       (c)  $0$       (d)  $1/2$       (e)  $1$

[29]. Suppose the total cost,  $C(q)$ , of producing a quantity  $q$  of a product equals

$$C(q) = 1000 + q + \frac{1}{10}q^2.$$

The average cost,  $A(q)$ , equals the total cost divided by the quantity produced. What is the minimum average cost? (Assume  $q > 0$ )

- (a)  $20$       **(b)**  $21$       (c)  $26$       (d)  $30$       (e)  $31$

[30]. Suppose that a function  $h(x)$  has derivative  $h'(x) = x^2 + 4$ . Find the  $x$  value in the interval  $[-1, 3]$  where  $h(x)$  takes its minimum.

- (a)**  $-1$       (b)  $3$       (c)  $5$       (d)  $13$       (e)  $29$

[31]. Suppose the cost,  $C(q)$ , of stocking a quantity  $q$  of a product equals  $C(q) = \frac{100}{q} + q$ . Which positive value of  $q$  gives the minimum cost?

- (a) 10      (b) 15      (c) 20      (d) 25      (e) 30

[32]. Find a local extreme point of  $f(x) = \frac{\ln x}{x}$ .

- (a)  $(1, 0)$  is a local maximum point.      (b)  $(1, 0)$  is a local minimum point.  
(c)  $(e, 1/e)$  is a local minimum point.      (d)  $(e, 1/e)$  is a local maximum point.  
(e)  $f(x)$  has no local extreme points.

[33]. Suppose the derivative of  $G(q)$  is given by  $G'(q) = q^2(q+1)^2(q+2)^2$ . Find the value of  $q$  in the interval  $[-5, 5]$  where  $G(q)$  takes on its maximum.

- (a) -5      (b) -2      (c) -1      (d) 0      (e) 5

[34]. Suppose the derivative of  $H(s)$  is given by  $H'(s) = s^2(s+1)$ . Find the value of  $s$  in the interval  $[-100, 100]$  where  $H(s)$  takes on its minimum.

- (a) -100      (b) -1      (c) 0      (d) 1      (e) 100

**Concavity problems**

[35]. Find the intervals where  $f(x) = x^4 - 12x^3 + 48x^2 + 10x - 8$  is concave downward.

- (a)  $(-\infty, \infty)$       (b)  $(1, \infty)$       (c)  $(-\infty, -4)$  and  $(-2, \infty)$   
(d)  $(-\infty, 2)$  and  $(4, \infty)$       (e)  $(2, 4)$

[36]. Let  $f(x) = e^{-x^2}$ . Find the intervals where  $f(x)$  is concave upward.

- (a)  $(1, \infty)$       (b)  $(-e, e)$       (c)  $(-\infty, -\sqrt{1/2})$  and  $(\sqrt{1/2}, \infty)$   
(d)  $(-\sqrt{1/2}, \sqrt{1/2})$       (e)  $(-\infty, -e)$  and  $(e, \infty)$

[37]. Let  $f(x) = x \ln x$ . Find the intervals where  $f(x)$  is concave downward.

- (a)  $(0, 1)$       (b)  $(0, \infty)$       (c)  $(0, 1/e)$   
(d)  $(1/e, \infty)$       (e)  $f(x)$  is not concave downward anywhere

[38]. Suppose that the derivative of  $f(x)$  is given by  $f'(x) = x^2 - 5x + 6$ . Then the graph of  $f(x)$  is concave downward on the following interval(s).

- (a)  $(-\infty, 2)$  and  $(3, \infty)$       (b)  $(2, 3)$       (c)  $(-\infty, 2.5)$   
(d)  $(2.5, \infty)$       (e)  $f(x)$  is not concave downward on any interval

[39]. Find the interval(s) where the graph of  $f(x) = x^4 + 18x^3 + 120x^2 + 10x + 50$  is concave downward.

- (a)  $(-5, 4)$       (b)  $(4, 5)$       (c)  $(-\infty, 4)$  and  $(5, \infty)$   
(d)  $(-5, -4)$       (e)  $(-\infty, -5)$  and  $(-4, \infty)$