

## Lecture 23: Concavity.

Thm: Suppose  $f''$  is continuous near  $c$ .

(a) If  $f'(c) = 0$  and  $f''(c) > 0$ , then  $f$  has a local minimum at  $c$ .

(b) If  $f'(c) = 0$  and  $f''(c) < 0$ , then  $f$  has a local maximum at  $c$ .

Note: If  $f'(c) = 0$  and  $f''(c) = 0$ , then  $c$  may or may not be a minimizer/maximizer.

Ex: Find the local maximum and minimum of  $f$  using both first and second derivative tests.

(a)  $f(x) = 1 + 3x^2 - 2x^3$   
 $f'(x) = 6x - 6x^2 = 6x(1-x) = 0$

$x = 0, x = 1$

first derivative test:

| $x$     | $f'$ |
|---------|------|
| $x < 0$ | $-$  |
| $0$     | $+$  |
| $x > 1$ | $-$  |

So  $c=0$  is a local minimizer  
 $c=1$  is a local maximizer

or

Second derivative test:  $f''(x) = 6 - 12x$

$f''(0) = 6 > 0 \Rightarrow$  local minimizer  
 $f''(1) = -6 < 0 \Rightarrow$  local maximizer

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

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

$$\text{So } f'(x) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0, x = 2$$

First Derivative test

|                |      |                                 |
|----------------|------|---------------------------------|
|                | $f'$ |                                 |
| $(-\infty, 0)$ | +    | So $c = 0$ is a local maximizer |
| $(0, 2)$       | -    | $c = 2$ is a local minimizer    |
| $(2, \infty)$  | +    |                                 |

Second Derivative Test:

$$f''(x) = (x-1)^2 \frac{d}{dx}(x^2 - 2x) - \left( \frac{d}{dx}(x-1)^2 \right) (x^2 - 2x)$$

$$= \frac{(x-1)^2(2x-2) - 2(x-1)(x^2-2x)}{(x-1)^4}$$

$$f''(0) = \frac{-2 - 0}{(-1)^4} = -2 < 0$$

$$f''(2) = \frac{(1)^2(2) - 2(1)(0)}{(1)^4} = 2 > 0$$

$\Rightarrow c = 0$  is a local maximizer.  $c = 2$  is a local minimizer.