

04.02 Min/Max Vals

Tuesday, October 20, 2020 12:37 PM



Lecture: Section 4.2: Minimum and Maximum Values

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Today's Goal: Minimum and Maximum Values

Logistics: We will start this section with an activity Tuesday and finish Wednesday. There is a check-in Friday, it's set to cover the topics we are covering this week: linear approximation, min/max problems, and extreme value theorem (Sections 3.9 & 4.2).

Warm-Up 1.1 (Activity is the warm-up - ask students with the ability to easily write on their screens to "raise hand" or something in the participants window to help create groups)

1.1 Local/Relative vs. Global/Absolute

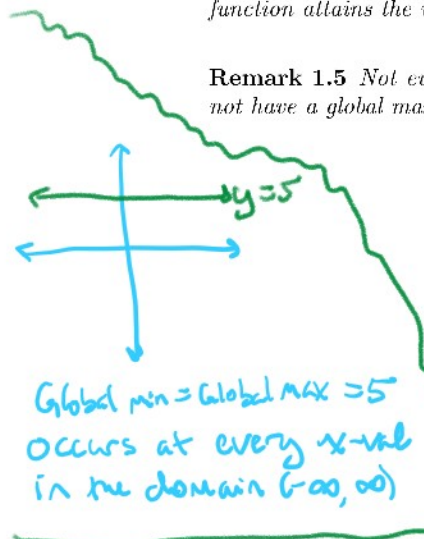
For the following definitions, let $f(x)$ be a function and let D denote the domain of that function.

Definition 1.2 (Local or Relative Minima and Maxima) The value $f(c)$ is a local minimum (resp. maximum) if $f(x) \geq f(c)$ (resp. $f(x) \leq f(c)$) for values of x near c .

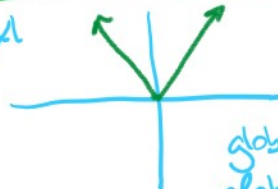
Definition 1.3 (Global or Absolute Minima and Maxima) The value $f(c)$ is an absolute minimum (resp. maximum) if $f(x) \geq f(c)$ (resp. $f(c) \leq f(x)$) for all values of x in the domain D of $f(x)$.

Remark 1.4 These minima/maxima are y -values, and we say they occur at the x -values at which the function attains the value. " $f(2) = -1$ is a local minimum occurring at $x = 2$ "

Remark 1.5 Not every function has these values. Sketch a function whose domain is $(-\infty, \infty)$ that does not have a global maximum or minimum, but it does have at least one local minimum and maximum.

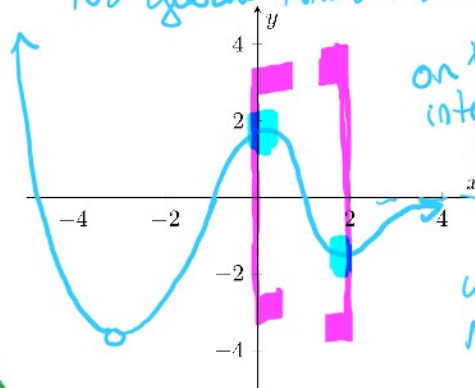


$y = |x|$



global max = none
 global min = 0, occurs at $x = 0$
 no other minima or maxima.

No global min's or max's.



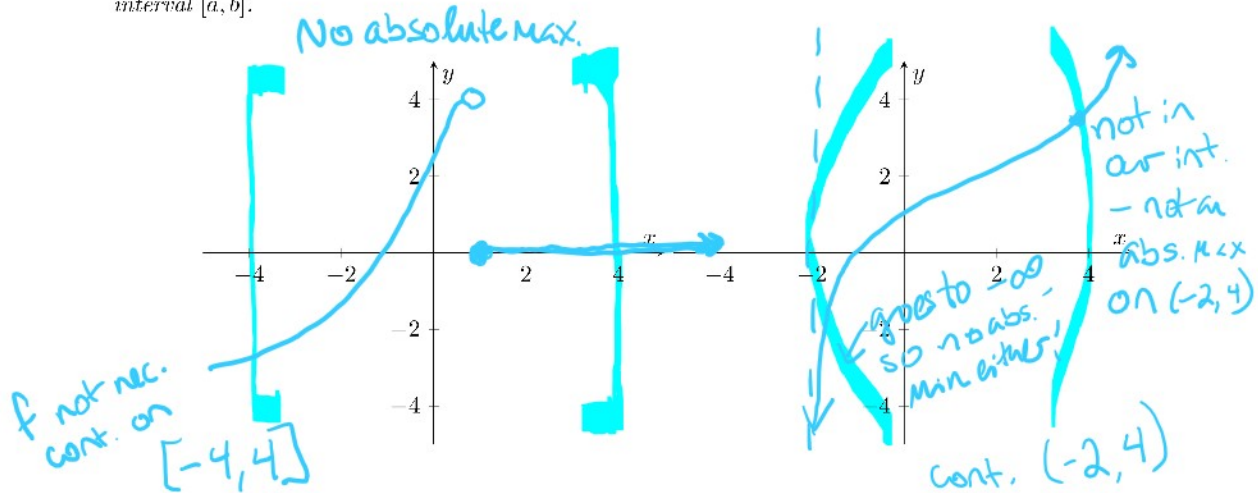
on the closed interval $[0, 2]$, since f is cont., the EVT guarantees we will have an abs. min and an abs. max.

When your domain is a closed interval then you will get abs. min + max on that closed interval domain

EVT $f(x)$

Theorem 1.6 (The Extreme Value Theorem) If f is continuous on a closed interval $[a, b]$, then f attains an absolute maximum value $f(c)$ and an absolute minimum value $f(d)$ at some x -values c and d in $[a, b]$.

Remark 1.7 Do we need both hypotheses (continuous, closed interval) of this theorem? Draw a counterexample to the theorem if we do not require f to be continuous, and another one if we do not use a closed interval $[a, b]$.



1.2 Where do minima/maxima occur?

Theorem 1.8 (Fermat) If $f(c)$ is a local minimum or maximum and $f'(c)$ exists, then $f'(c) = 0$.

Definition 1.9 (Critical number) $x = c$ is a critical value for $f(x)$ if c is in the domain of f and $f'(c) = 0$ or does not exist.

Example 1.10 Find the critical number(s) of the function $y = |2x - 1|$.

Example 1.11 Find the critical number(s) of the function $g(t) = \frac{t-1}{t^2+4}$.

1.3 The Closed Interval Method

We will be interested in finding the absolute minima/maxima of a function $f(x)$ on a closed interval $[a, b]$.

Example 1.12 Find the absolute minima and maxima of $f(x) = x - \ln(x)$ on $[0.5, 2]$.

- (1) Find the values of f at the critical numbers in (a, b) :

- (2) Find the values of f at the endpoints of the interval: $f(a), f(b)$

- (3) The largest value from the above two lists is the absolute maximum. The smallest is the absolute minimum.

Example 1.13 Find the absolute minima and maxima of $f(x) = x - 2 \arctan(x)$ on $[0, 4]$.

- (1) Find the values of f at the critical numbers in (a, b) :

- (2) Find the values of f at the endpoints of the interval: $f(a), f(b)$

- (3) The largest value from the above two lists is the absolute maximum. The smallest is the absolute minimum.