

MAT 136 (Calculus I) Prof. Swift
In-class worksheet: Critical points and Global Extrema

Consider the function $f(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3 + x^2 - 3x + 4$, with the domain $[0, 3]$.

1. Find all of the critical points of f in the interval $0 < x < 3$.

$$f'(x) = x^2 + 2x - 3 \stackrel{\text{set}}{=} 0 \quad \text{The only such critical point is } c = 1.$$
$$(x+3)(x-1) = 0$$

~~$x = -3$~~ , or $x = 1$

2. Evaluate f at its critical point(s) and the endpoints of its domain.

$$f(1) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot 1^3 + 1^2 - 3 \cdot 1 + 4 = \frac{1}{3} + 1 - 3 + 4 = 2 + \frac{1}{3} = 2.\bar{3}$$

$$f(0) = 4$$

$$f(3) = \frac{1}{3} \cdot 3^3 + 3^2 - 3 \cdot 3 + 4 = 3^2 + 3^2 - 3^2 + 4 = 9 + 4 = 13$$

3. What are the global maximum and minimum values of f ?

f_{\max} is the largest of $2.\bar{3}$, 4 , and 13 .

f_{\min} " " smallest of " "

$$\therefore \boxed{f_{\max} = 13}, \text{ and } \boxed{f_{\min} = 2.\bar{3}}$$