

- Margaret and I will be available to help you with the problems. You should also ask your group members questions, and share your ideas with each other.
- Focus on **understanding** the solution each problem, and on being able to **explain** them to each other.

A **Critical Number** for a function $f(x)$ is a value in the domain of $f(x)$ such that either $f'(x)$ is undefined, or $f'(x) = 0$.

1. Find the critical numbers for $f(x) = x\sqrt{1-x}$.

2. Find the critical numbers for $f(x) = \frac{x^2 + 1}{x + 3}$.

Note: there is a subtle detail in the definition of “critical number” above that is relevant in this problem: to count as a critical number, the value of x should be in the domain of $f(x)$. Although you may find that $f'(-3)$ is undefined for the function above, $x = -3$ does not count as a critical number, since the original function is not defined there either ($x = -3$ is not in the domain of $f(x)$).

3. Find the critical numbers for $f(x) = x^{\frac{3}{4}} - 2x^{\frac{1}{4}}$

Closed Interval Method: Given a function f , continuous on a closed interval $[a, b]$, we can find the absolute maximum and minimum values of f on $[a, b]$ as follows:

1. Find the critical numbers for f in the interval.
2. Evaluate the function f at the critical numbers from Step 1, as well as at the endpoints a and b .
3. The largest and smallest of the values from Step 2 are the maximum and minimum values on the interval (respectively).

4. Find the maximum and minimum values of the function

$$F(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 \text{ on the interval } [-1, 1].$$

5. Find the maximum and minimum values of the function

$$G(x) = (x - 1)^2(x - 9)^2 \text{ on the interval } [0, 8].$$

6. Find the maximum and minimum values of the function

$$H(x) = \frac{10x}{x^2 + 1} \text{ on the interval } [0, 2].$$

7. Find the maximum and minimum values of the function

$$f(x) = x(x^2 - 5)^2 \text{ on the interval } [-2, 2].$$