

Higher order test of maxima & minima

(*) How to test maxima & minima using higher order derivative

(i) find $f'(x)$

equating $f'(x) = 0$ $x = p, q, r$

(ii) find $f''(x)$

at $x = p, q, r$ If $f''(x) < 0$ (point of maxima)

$f''(x) > 0$ (point of minima)

If $f''(x) = 0$ find $f'''(x)$

(iii) If $f'''(x) \neq 0$ it is point of inflection

If $f'''(x) = 0$ find $f^{(4)}(x)$

(iv) If $f^{(4)}(x) < 0$ (point of maxima)

$f^{(4)}(x) > 0$ (point of minima)

$f^{(4)}(x) = 0$ find $f^{(5)}(x)$

and so on ...

OR
If the even order derivative is $\neq 0$

it is maxima if it is +ve it is minima if it is -ve

provided the odd order before

the even order should be zero

and so on ...