

**Math 1210-1**  
**Quiz 6 SOLUTIONS**  
**February 26, 2016**

1a) (2 points) For  $y = \sqrt{x}$ , compute  $dy$  in terms of  $x$  and  $dx$ .

solution:

$$\begin{aligned} dy &= f'(x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} x^{-\frac{1}{2}} dx = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} dx. \end{aligned}$$

1b) (3 points) Use differentials to approximate  $\sqrt{24}$ , using the fact that  $\sqrt{25} = 5$ .

solution: for

$$x = 25, dx = -1, y = f(25) = 5$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} dy &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{25}} (-1) = -\frac{1}{10} \\ \sqrt{24} &\approx y + dy = 5 - \frac{1}{10} = 4.9. \end{aligned}$$

2) (5 points) Use critical point analysis to find the maximum and minimum values of

$f(x) = 2x^3 + 3x^2 - 12x$  on the interval  $[-2, 2]$ .

solution: Since we have a continuous function on a bounded closed interval the max and min values will occur at endpoints or stationary points.

$$f'(x) = 6x^2 + 6x - 12 = 6(x^2 + x - 2) = 6(x+2)(x-1).$$

So  $x = -2, x = 1$  are stationary points (although  $x = -2$  is already an endpoint).

$$f(-2) = -16 + 12 + 24 = 20$$

$$f(1) = 2 + 3 - 12 = -7$$

$$f(2) = 16 + 12 - 24 = 4.$$

So the maximum value of  $f$  on the interval  $[-2, 2]$  is 20 (and it occurs at  $x = -2$ ). The minimum value is -7 (and it occurs at  $x = 1$ ).