

- (9.) (10 pts) Determine a , b , and c so that the graph of the function $f(x) = x^3 + ax^2 + bx + c$ has a local maximum at $x = -2$, a local minimum at $x = 1$, and passes through the point $(0, 2)$. [Show your work.]

Given:

$$f(x) = x^3 + ax^2 + bx + c.$$

Since $(0, 2)$ is on the graph,

$$f(0) = c = 2 \rightarrow$$

$$c = 2$$

Also, since f is a polynomial, f' is defined for all x . Thus, to have max/min behaviour, $f'(-2) = 0$ & $f'(1) = 0$.

$$\text{Note: } f'(x) = 3x^2 + 2ax + b$$

$$f'(-2) = 3(4) + 2a(-2) + b = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \textcircled{1} \begin{cases} 12 - 4a + b = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$f'(1) = 3 + 2a + b = 0 \rightarrow$$

$$\textcircled{2} \begin{cases} 3 + 2a + b = 0 \end{cases}$$

Subtracting $\textcircled{2}$ from $\textcircled{1}$ gives $9 - 6a = 0$,

$$\text{so } 9 = 6a \rightarrow a = \frac{3}{2}$$

Substituting $a = \frac{3}{2}$ into $\textcircled{2}$ gives

$$3 + 2\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) + b = 0,$$

$$3 + 3 + b = 0$$

$$b = -6$$

Note:

$$f''(x) = 6x + 3$$

$$f''(-2) = -12 + 3 = -9 < 0$$

\rightarrow loc. max!

$$f''(1) = 6 + 3 = 9 > 0$$

\rightarrow loc. min!

by 2nd deriv test.

$$\text{Thus, } f(x) = x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2 - 6x + 2$$

$$f(0) = 2$$