

9. [9 points] Consider the function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} -2e^{2x-2} & x \leq 1 \\ x^3 - 3x^2 & x > 1. \end{cases}$$

a. [5 points] Find all critical point(s) of  $f(x)$ . Write NONE if there are none.

*Solution:* The derivative of  $y = -2e^{2x-2}$  is  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -4e^{2x-2}$ . So there are no critical points for  $x < 1$ . Also, at  $x = 1$ , this piece has a slope of  $-4$ .

The derivative of  $y = x^3 - 3x^2$  is  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2 - 6x = 3x(x - 2)$  which is zero at  $x = 0$  and  $x = 2$ . Only  $x = 2$  is on the domain of this piece, so  $x = 2$  is a critical point and  $x = 0$  is not. Also, at  $x = 1$ , this piece has a slope of  $-3$ .

Since the slopes aren't equal on the left and right sides of  $x = 1$ , the function  $f(x)$  can't be differentiable there. So  $x = 1$  is also a critical point.

**Answer:** Critical point(s) at  $x =$  1 and 2

b. [4 points] Find the  $x$ -coordinate of all global maxima and global minima of  $f(x)$  on the interval  $(-\infty, 4]$ . For each, write NONE if there are none.

*Solution:* Since  $f(x)$  is continuous (because both pieces equal  $-2$  when  $x = 1$ ), we can compare the value of  $f(x)$  at the critical points  $x = 1$  and  $x = 2$  along with the end point  $x = 4$ , and we need to consider the end behavior as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$f(1) = -2e^{2(1)-2} = -2e^0 = -2$$

$$f(2) = (2)^3 - 3(2)^2 = 8 - 12 = -4$$

$$f(4) = (4)^3 - 3(4)^2 = 64 - 48 = 12$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} -2e^{2x-2} = 0$$

So,  $f(x)$  has a global maximum at  $x = 4$  and a global minimum at  $x = 2$ .

**Answer:** global max(es) at  $x =$  4

**Answer:** global min(s) at  $x =$  2