

2. [13 points] The U-value of a wall of a building is a positive number related to the rate of energy transfer through the wall. Walls with a lower U-value keep more heat in during the winter than ones with a higher U-value. Consider a wall which consists of two materials, material A with U-value  $a$  and material B with U-value  $b$ . The U-value of the wall  $w$  is given by

$$w = \frac{ab}{b+a}.$$

Considering  $a$  as a constant, we can think of  $w$  as a function of  $b$ ,  $w = u(b)$ .

- a. [4 points] Write the limit definition of the derivative of  $u(b)$ .
- b. [4 points] Calculate  $u'(b)$ . (You do **not** need to use the limit definition of the derivative for your calculation.)
- c. [5 points] Find the  $x$ - and  $y$ -coordinates of the global minimum and maximum of  $u(b)$  for  $b$  in the interval  $[1, 2]$ . Your answer may involve the parameter  $a$ . [Recall that  $a, b > 0$ .]

Global minimum on  $[1, 2]$ : \_\_\_\_\_

Global maximum on  $[1, 2]$ : \_\_\_\_\_