

3.2 Notes & Examples

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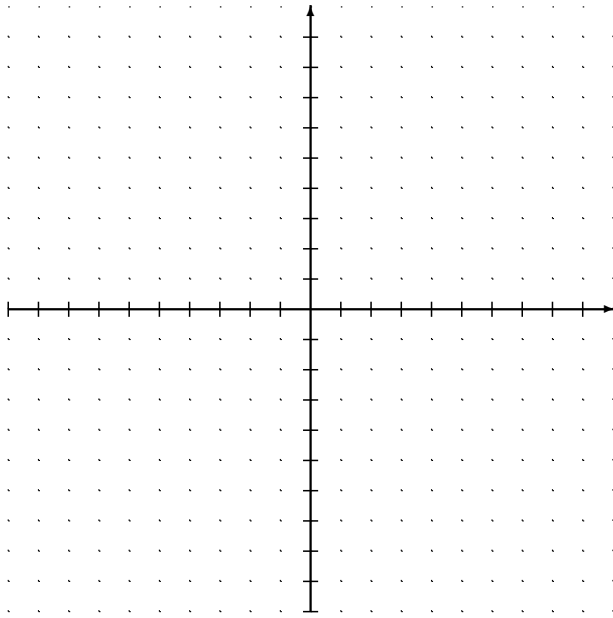
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Rolle's Theorem & the MVT

1. Do now as a warm Up:

1. Plot 2 points that have the same y value.
2. Connect those points with a graph that is continuous and differentiable. (Your graph should be smooth and have no jumps, breaks, holes, gaps, nor vertical asymptotes.)
3. Count the number of places between your original 2 points that would have a horizontal tangent line.
4. Repeat steps 1 to 3 until you think you could make a conjecture about what is always true in this situation.



Rolle's Theorem (circa 1691):

Let f be a function on $[a, b]$.

IF

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

THEN

there is at least one number $x = c$ in _____ where

2. Examples of Rolle's Thm

(a) Consider $f(x) = x^2 - 2x$ for the interval $[0, 2]$. Does Rolle's Thm. apply? Justify. If it applies, find a value of c where $f'(c) = 0$

(b) Consider $f(x) = x^2 - 2x$ for the interval $[-2, 2]$. Determine if Rolle's Theorem applies. If so, find the value(s) of c guaranteed by the theorem.

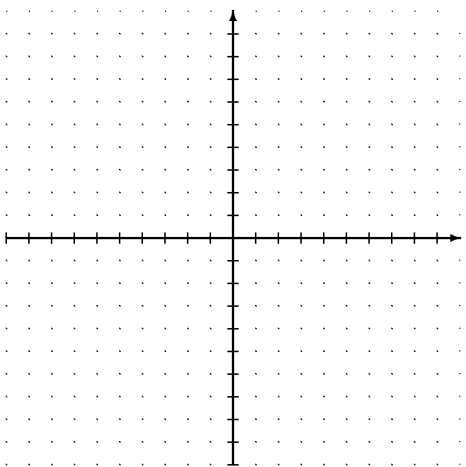
(c) Let $f(x) = x^2 - 3x + 2$ on $[1, 2]$. If Rolle's Theorem can be applied, find all the values of c guaranteed by the theorem.

(d) Consider the function $f(x) = |\sin x|$. $f(-1) = f(1)$, but there is no number c in $(-1, 1)$ where $f'(c) = 0$. Why does this not contradict Rolle's Thm?

Mean Value Theorem

3. Now try this:

1. Sketch a graph that is continuous and differentiable between any 2 points. (Your graph should be smooth and have no jumps, breaks, holes, gaps, nor vertical asymptotes.)
2. Connect your endpoints with a line
3. Count the number of places between your original 2 points that would have a tangent line parallel to the line you drew in step 2.
4. Repeat steps 1 to 3 until you think you could make a conjecture about what is always true in this situation.



Parmeshwara Nambudiri (1380-1460, Kerala India) and Michel Rolle (1652-1719, Amberg France) proposed this idea as well, but in a less generalized form. Years after Rolle, French mathematician Joseph-Louis Lagrange (1736 - 1813) loosened up the qualifications of Rolle's hypothesis, and came up with a much broader and useful result. Later, another French mathematician Augustin-Louis Cauchy (1789-1857) generalized the theorem for 2 functions.

Mean Value Theorem (MVT):

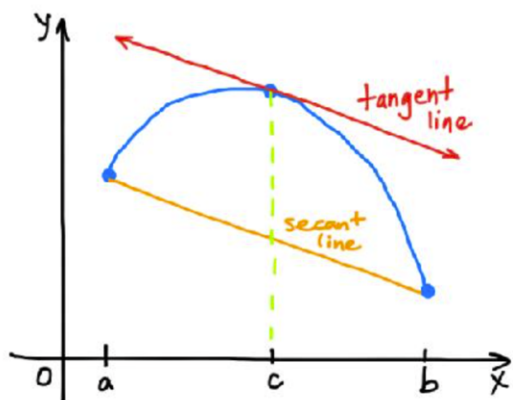
Let f be a function on $[a, b]$.

IF

1. _____
2. _____

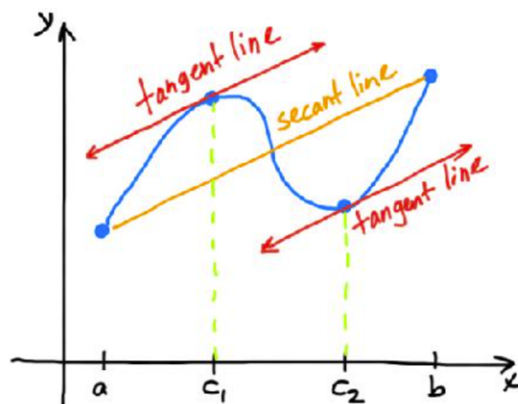
THEN there is at least one number $x = c$ in _____ where (4 ways to say the conclusion)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

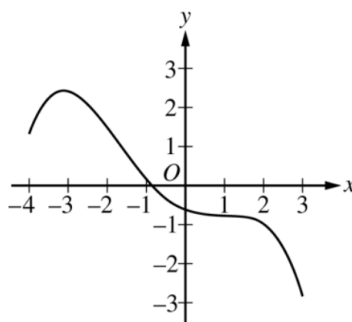
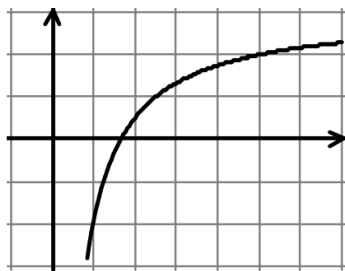


$f(x) = 3 - \frac{5}{x}$ on $[1, 5]$ below

The graph of f on $[-4, 3]$



Given



Graph of f

4. Determine if the MVT applies to $f(x) = x^3 - x$ on $[0, 2]$. If so, find the value(s) guaranteed by the theorem.

5. With the help of your calculator's ability to graphically find zeros, determine all the numbers c which satisfy the conclusion of the Mean Value Theorem for the function $f(x) = x^3 + 2x^2 - x$ on $[-1, 2]$. (*It's important to remember the interval in which you're working. Remember that both Rolle's Theorem and the MVT guarantee at least one value strictly on the OPEN interval.*)

6. Determine if the MVT applies to $f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 + 2x$ on $[0, 3]$. If so, find the value(s) guaranteed by the theorem.

7. For the following functions, determine if the MVT applies. If so, find the value of c guaranteed by the theorem. If not, specifically state why the theorem does not apply.
 - (a) $f(x) = \frac{x+5}{x-1}$ on $[-3, 5]$

 - (b) $g(x) = x^{2/3}$ on $[-3, 3]$