

Lesson 20: Sections 4.2, 4.3 (Part 1)

• Rolle's Theorem: If $f(x)$ is continuous on $[a, b]$, ~~and~~ differentiable on (a, b) , and $f(a) = f(b)$, then there is at least one value of x , call it c , $a < c < b$, where $f'(c) = 0$.

• Mean Value Theorem: If $f(x)$ is continuous on $[a, b]$, differentiable on (a, b) , then there is at least one value c , $a < c < b$, such that

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}.$$

• MVT says: Somewhere between a and b the tangent line is parallel to the secant line through $(a, f(a))$, $(b, f(b))$.

• If $f(a) = f(b)$, then the MVT becomes Rolle's Theorem.

Test for Intervals of Increase/Decrease

If f is continuous and differentiable on an interval I :

- $f'(x) > 0$ on $I \Rightarrow f$ is increasing on I
- $f'(x) < 0$ on $I \Rightarrow f$ is decreasing on I

First Derivative Test

If c is a critical point of f :

- f has a local max at c if f' changes from $+$ to $-$ at c
- f has a local min at c if f' changes from $-$ to $+$ at c
- f has no extreme value at c if f' doesn't change signs at c

Fact:

- Suppose f is continuous on an interval I that contains exactly one local extreme at c .
 - If a local max occurs at c , then $f(c)$ is the absolute max on I .
 - If a local min occurs at c , then $f(c)$ is the absolute min on I .

Practice Problems.

1. Determine whether the Mean Value Theorem applies to $f(x) = \ln(2x)$ on $[1, e]$. If so, find all points c guaranteed by the MVT.
2. Find the intervals on which $f(x) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{x^2+3}\right)$ is increasing and decreasing. Classify the critical points of f .