

BA: 4.2

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Definition

Let $S \subset \mathbb{R}$ be a set. A function $f: S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ has a *relative maximum* at $c \in S$ if there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that for all $x \in S$ where $|x - c| < \delta$, we have $f(x) \leq f(c)$.

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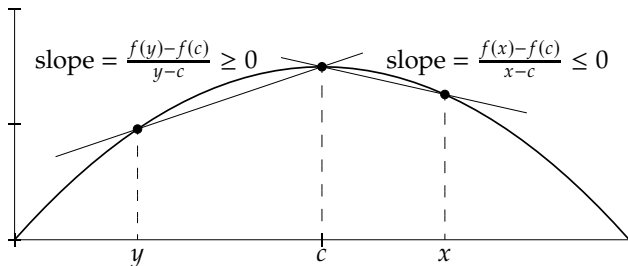
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Idea of proof:



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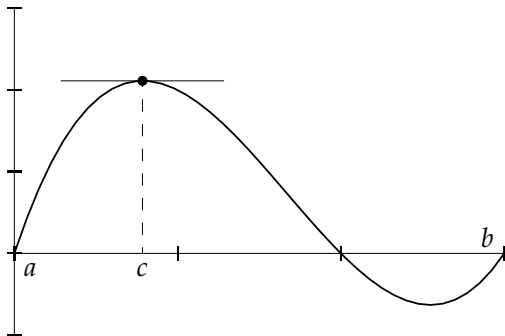


Theorem (Rolle)

Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous and differentiable on (a, b) such that $f(a) = f(b)$. Then there exists a $c \in (a, b)$ such that $f'(c) = 0$.

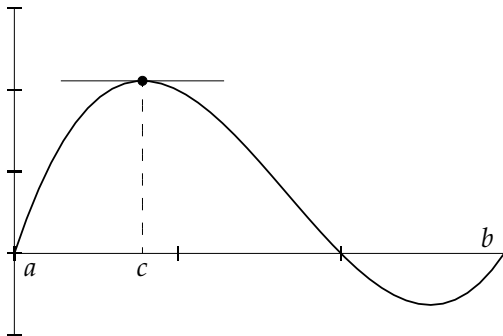
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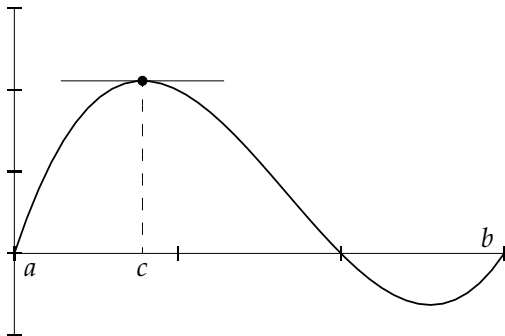
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Consider $f(x) := |x|$ on $[-1, 1]$. $f(-1) = f(1)$, but at no c does $f'(c) = 0$.

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In any case, the lemma applies, and $f'(c) = 0$.

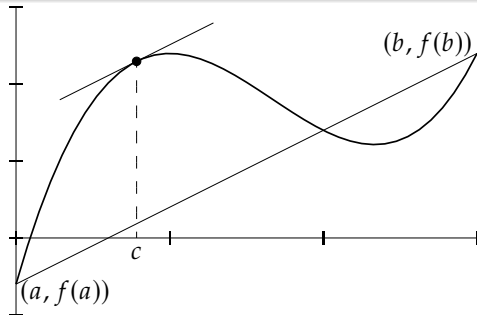


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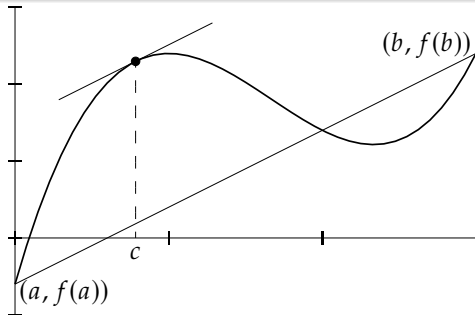
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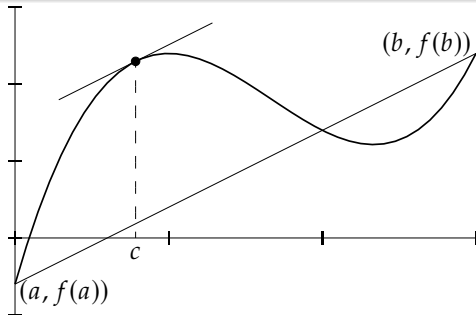


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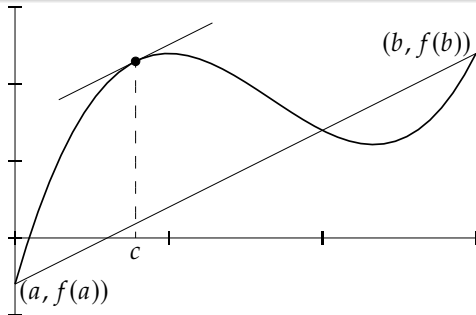
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So the average derivative is attained at c :

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



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\Rightarrow (by Rolle) $\exists c \in (a, b)$ such that $g'(c) = 0$.

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Proof: Define $g: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$g(x) := f(x) - f(b) - \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}(x - b).$$

g is differentiable on (a, b) ,
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and $g(a) = 0, g(b) = 0$.

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Example: Converse not true: $f(x) := x^3$ is strictly increasing, but $f'(0) = 0$.

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Proof: (i) Take $x \in (a, c)$ and $\{y_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ such that $x < y_n < c \forall n$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = c$.

f is decreasing on (a, c) so $f(x) \geq f(y_n) \forall n$.

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(ii) left as exercise.



Proposition (First derivative test)

Let $f: (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous. Let $c \in (a, b)$ and suppose f is differentiable on (a, c) and (c, b) .

(i) If $f'(x) \leq 0$ whenever $x \in (a, c)$ and at c .

(ii) If $f'(x) \geq 0$ whenever $x \in (a, c)$ and at c .

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The converse of the proposition does not hold (example later).

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Proof: Exercise.

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Let $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be differentiable. Suppose $y \in \mathbb{R}$ is such that $f'(a) < y < f'(b)$ or $f'(a) > y > f'(b)$.

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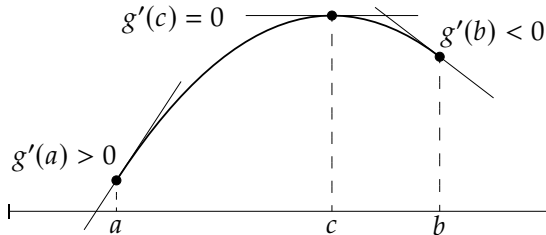
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If $f'(a) > y > f'(b)$, consider $g(x) := f(x) - yx$.



Example: Define $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

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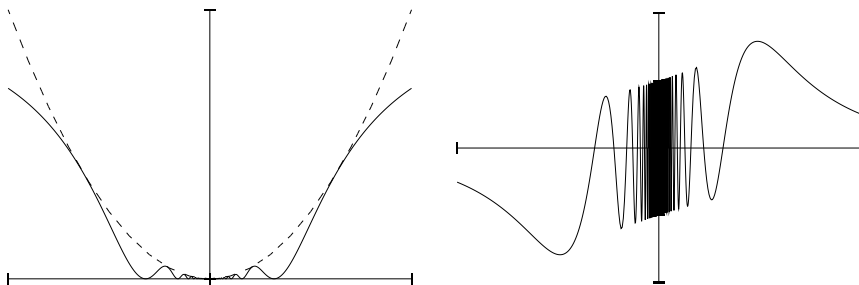
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The graph of f and f' . The dashed line represents $f(x) \leq x^2$.

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$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}.$$

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I.e., between any two consecutive roots of f' is at most one root of f .