

Mean Value Theorem §4.2

1. Consider the function $f(x) = \cos 2x$ with a domain of $[\pi/8, 15\pi/8]$.

(a) Verify the three hypotheses of Rolle's Theorem.

(b) Find all numbers c that satisfy the conclusion of Rolle's Theorem.

2. Exhibit the Mean Value Theorem for $y = x^3 + x - 1$ on the interval $[1, 2]$.

Notice $y = x^3 + x - 1$ is a cubic polynomial which are known to be continuous.

2) $y' = 3x^2 + 1$ so $y = x^3 + x - 1$ is differentiable.

The mean value theorem implies there exists a c between 1 and 2

so that
$$f'(c) = \frac{f(2) - f(1)}{2 - 1}$$

where $f(x) = x^3 + x - 1$.

So that means there exists a c

so that
$$3 \cdot c^2 + 1 = \frac{[2^3 + 2 - 1] - [1^3 + 1 - 1]}{2 - 1}$$

$$3c^2 + 1 = \frac{9 - 1}{1}$$

$$3c^2 + 1 = 8$$

$$3c^2 = 7$$

$$\Rightarrow c^2 = \frac{7}{3}$$

$$c = \pm \sqrt{\frac{7}{3}}$$

for c to be between 1 and 2

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{7}{3}}$$

