

Question 1

Question 0.1 State and prove Rolles Theorem

(*Rolles Theorem*) Let f be a continuous real valued function defined on some interval $[a, b]$ & differentiable on all (a, b) . If $f(a) = f(b) = 0$ then \exists some $s \in [a, b]$ s.t. $f'(s) = 0$.

f is continuous on $[a, b]$ therefore assumes absolute max and min values on $[a, b]$. These can only occur at :

1. Points on $[a, b]$ where $f'(x)$ doesn't exist.
 2. The end points a & b .
 3. Some internal point s where $f'(s) = 0$
1. Void by hypothesis (f is continuous).
 2. If either the end points a & b are a max or min then f is a constant function and s can be taken anywhere in $[a, b]$.
 3. If a max or min occurs at some internal point s in $[a, b]$ then $f'(s) = 0$ and we have a point for the theorem. ■

Question 0.2 Let $f : \mathcal{R} \implies \mathcal{R}$ be a function which is $2k + 1$ times differentiable, for some non-negative integer k . Let a & b ($a < b$) & $(a, b \in \mathcal{R})$. Suppose that $f^{(j)}(a) = 0$ and $f^{(j)}(b) = 0$ for $j = 0, 1, \dots, k$. Prove that \exists some $\xi \in \mathcal{R}$ s.t. $a < \xi < b$ for which $f^{(2k+1)}(\xi) = 0$.

Suppose $0 \leq j \leq k$ & $f^{(j)}(x) = 0$ for $x = a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{j+1}$ & $a = a_0 < a_1 < \dots < a_{j+1} = b$

Applying Rolles Theorem to $f^{(j)}$ on $[a_{i-1}, a_i]$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, j+1 \exists b_i$ s.t. $a_{i-1} < b_i < a_i$ and s.t. $f^{(j+1)}(b_i) = 0$

Also $\exists f^{(j+1)}(b_{j+2})$ where $b_{j+2} = b$

Repeatedly applying this result for $j = 0, 1, \dots, k - 1$ we see that $\exists c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{k+1}$ where $a = c_0 < c_1 < \dots < c_{k+1} = b$ s.t. $f^{(k)}(x) = 0$ when $x = c_i$ ($i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, k + 1$)

So $f^{(k)} = 0$ for $k + 2$ values in $[a, b]$.

Applying Rolles Theorem to $f^{(k)}$ on the relevant subintervals in $[a, b]$

$f^{(k+1)} = 0$ for $k + 1$ values in $[a, b]$

$f^{(k+j)} = 0$ for $k + 2$ values in $[a, b]$ for $j = 0, 1, \dots, k + 1$

In particular $f^{(2k+1)}(\xi) = 0$ for some $\xi \in [a, b]$ ■

Question 0.3 State the Mean Value Theorem, and show how it may be deduced as a corollary of Rolle's Theorem.

(Mean Value Theorem) Let f be a continuous real valued function defined on some interval $[a, b]$ & differentiable on all (a, b) . Then \exists some $s \in [a, b]$ s.t. $a < s < b$ & $\frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a} = f'(s)$
Let $g(x) : [a, b] \Rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by

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

Applying Rolle's Theorem to g on $[a, b]$ \exists some $s \in [a, b]$ s.t. $g'(s) = 0$

$$\Rightarrow g'(s) = f'(s) - \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} = f'(s)$$

as required ■