

# Assignment 2

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### Question 5(b)

Verify Rolle's theorem for the following function:

$f(x) = e^{-x} \sin x$  on  $[0, \pi]$

**Solution:** Given,  $f(x) = e^{-x} \sin x$  on  $[0, \pi]$

For the function to satisfy the Rolle's theorem, the following conditions should be satisfied:

- 1)  $f(x)$  should be continuous in  $[0, \pi]$
- 2)  $f(0) = f(\pi) = 0$
- 3)  $f(x)$  should be differentiable in  $(0, \pi)$

Here,  $e^{-x}$  is an exponential and continuous function and  $\sin x$  is a trigonometric and continuous function  $\therefore f(x) = e^{-x} \sin x$  is continuous on  $[0, \pi]$ .

Also,

$$f(0) = e^0 \sin 0 = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$f(\pi) = e^\pi \sin \pi = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$\therefore f(0) = f(\pi) = 0 \quad (3)$$

$f(x)$  is differentiable on  $(0, \pi)$  if Left hand derivative(LHD) and right hand derivative(RHD) exists and equal for every  $x \in (0, \pi)$  as we already know  $f(x)$  is continuous.

If  $c \in (0, \pi)$ , then

$$\text{LHD} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{f(c+h) - f(c)}{h} \quad (4)$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{e^{-(c+h)} \sin(c+h) - e^{-c} \sin c}{h} \quad (5)$$

$$= e^{-c} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \left( \frac{e^{-h} \sin(c+h) - \sin c}{h} \right) \quad (6)$$

Similarly,

$$\text{RHD} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(c+h) - f(c)}{h} \quad (7)$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{e^{-(c+h)} \sin(c+h) - e^{-c} \sin c}{h} \quad (8)$$

$$= e^{-c} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \left( \frac{e^{-h} \sin(c+h) - \sin c}{h} \right) \quad (9)$$

We know that,

$$\sin(x+h) = \sin x \cos h + \cos x \sin h \quad (10)$$

$$\text{Also, } \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{\sin h}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\sin h}{h} = 1, \quad (11)$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \cos h = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \cos h = 1, \quad (12)$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} e^{-h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} e^{-h} = 1 \quad (13)$$

From equations (10) (11) (12) (13), equation (6) becomes

$$\text{LHD} = e^{-c} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \left( e^{-h} \cos c + \frac{e^{-h} \sin c - \sin c}{h} \right) \quad (14)$$

$$= e^{-c} \left( \cos c + \sin c \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{e^{-h} - 1}{h} \right) \quad (15)$$

Similarly, from equations (10) (11) (12) (13), equation (9) becomes

$$\text{RHD} = e^{-c} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \left( e^{-h} \cos c + \frac{e^{-h} \sin c - \sin c}{h} \right) \quad (16)$$

$$= e^{-c} \left( \cos c + \sin c \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{e^{-h} - 1}{h} \right) \quad (17)$$

We know that,  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{1-e^{-h}}{h}$  and  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{1-e^{-h}}{h}$  exist.

$\Rightarrow$  both LHD and RHD exists.

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{1-e^{-h}}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{1-e^{-h}}{h} = 1, \quad (18)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{LHD} = \text{RHD} = e^{-x} (\cos x - \sin x) \quad (19)$$

$\therefore$  LHD and RHD exists and equal, we can say that  $f(x)$  is differentiable.

$\Rightarrow f(x)$  is differentiable in  $(0, \pi)$ .

Thus, all the conditions of the Rolle's theorem are satisfied.

$\therefore \exists c \in (0, \pi)$  such that  $f'(c) = 0$ .

By differentiating  $f(x)$ ,

$$f'(x) = e^{-x} (\cos x - \sin x) \quad (20)$$

$\therefore f'(c) = 0$ , substituing  $f'(x)$  at  $x = c$  from equation (20),

$$e^{-c}(\cos c - \sin c) = 0 \quad (21)$$

$$\implies \cos c - \sin c = 0 \quad (22)$$

$$\implies c = \frac{\pi}{4} \quad (23)$$

Clearly,  $\frac{\pi}{4} \in (0, \pi)$

Hence, Rolle's theorem is verified.

Also, we can see from the graph clearly that all the necessary conditions for Rolle's theorem are satisfied and  $f'(\frac{\pi}{4}) = 0$

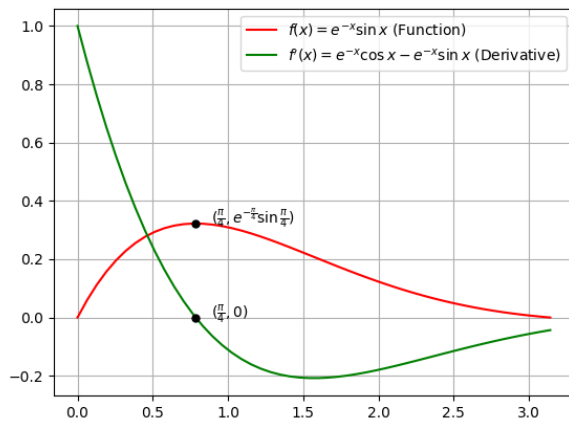


Fig. 1. Graph of  $f(x)$  and  $f'(x)$  in  $[0, \pi]$