

10. Applications of Derivatives – II

Ex. (1). Check the validity of the Rolle's theorem for the function $f(x) = x^3 - 4x + 1$. Find all values of c in the interval $(-2, 2)$ such that $f'(c) = 0$.

Solution : Given that $f(x) = x^3 - 4x + 1 \dots (I)$

$f(x)$ is a polynomial which is continuous on $[-2, 2]$ and it is differentiable on $(-2, 2)$

Let $a = -2$ and $b = 2$

For $x = a = -2$ from (I) we get,

$$f(a) = f(-2) = (-2)^3 - 4(-2) + 1 = -8 + 8 + 1 = 1$$

For $x = b = 2$ from (I) we get,

$$f(b) = f(2) = (2)^3 - 4(2) + 1 = 8 - 8 + 1 = 1$$

So, here $f(a) = f(b)$ i.e. $f(-2) = f(2) = 1$

Hence conditions of Rolle's theorem are satisfied. So, there exists $c \in (-2, 2)$ such that $f'(c) = 0$.

Differentiating (I) w. r. t. x .

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 4 \therefore f'(c) = 3c^2 - 4$$

$$\text{Now, } f'(c) = 0 \Rightarrow 3c^2 - 4 = 0 \Rightarrow c = \pm \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\therefore c_1 = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \quad \text{and } c_2 = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \text{ both belong to } (-2, 2).$$

Ex. (2). Determine the local extrema of the function $f(x) = \sin x - \cos x$ in $[0, 2\pi]$.

Solution : Given that $f(x) = \sin x - \cos x \dots (I)$

Differentiate w. r. t. x .

$$f'(x) = \cos x + \sin x \dots (II)$$

$f'(x) = 0$, for extreme values of $f(x)$

$$\text{i.e. } \cos x + \sin x = 0 \Rightarrow \tan x = -1$$

$$\text{we have } \tan\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) = -1 \text{ and } \tan\left(\frac{7\pi}{4}\right) = -1$$

$$\therefore x = \frac{3\pi}{4} \text{ and } x = \frac{7\pi}{4} \text{ are the values at which } f'(x) = 0 \text{ and}$$

$f(x)$ has its extreme values. Also, both $\frac{3\pi}{4}, \frac{7\pi}{4} \in [0, 2\pi]$

Differentiate (II) w. r. t. x .

$$f'''(x) = -\sin x + \cos x \dots\dots (III)$$

For $x = \frac{3\pi}{4}$, from (III) we get [angle $\frac{3\pi}{4}$ is in II quadrant]

$$\begin{aligned} f''\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) &= -\sin\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) + \cos\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{-2}{\sqrt{2}} \end{aligned}$$

$$f''\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) = -\sqrt{2} < 0$$

\therefore For $x = \frac{3\pi}{4}$, $f(x)$ has a maxima.

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\max} &= \sin\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} - \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore f_{\max} = \sqrt{2}$$

For $x = \frac{7\pi}{4}$, from (III) [$\frac{7\pi}{4}$ is in IV quadrant]

$$\begin{aligned} f''\left(\frac{7\pi}{4}\right) &= -\sin\left(\frac{7\pi}{4}\right) + \cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{4}\right) \\ &= -\left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \end{aligned}$$

$$f''\left(\frac{7\pi}{4}\right) = \sqrt{2} > 0$$

\therefore For $x = \frac{7\pi}{4}$, $f(x)$ has a minima.

$$f_{\min} = \sin\left(\frac{7\pi}{4}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{4}\right) = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\therefore f_{\min} = -\sqrt{2}$$

Ex. (3). Given the function $f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 1$. Find all points c satisfying the conditions of the Lagrange's Mean Value Theorem for the function on the interval $[-2, 2]$.

Solution : Given that $f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 1 \dots (I)$

$f(x)$ is a polynomial which is continuous on $[-2, 2]$ and it is differentiable on $[-2, 2]$. So, $f(x)$ satisfies the conditions of LMVT.

\therefore There exists a $c \in (-2, 2)$ such that $f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$

Let $a = -2$ and $b = 2$

For $x = a = -2$ from (I) we get,

$$f(a) = f(-2) = (-2)^3 - 2(-2)^2 - (-2) + 1 = -13$$

For $x = b = 2$ from (I) we get,

$$f(b) = f(2) = (2)^3 - 2(2)^2 - 2 + 1 = -1$$

Differentiate (I) w. r. t. x.

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 4x - 1 \therefore f'(c) = 3c^2 - 4c - 1$$

$$\text{Now, } f'(c) = \frac{-1 - (-13)}{2 - (-2)} = 3$$

$$\text{Thus, } 3c^2 - 4c - 1 = 3 \text{ i.e. } 3c^2 - 4c - 1 = 3$$

$$3c^2 - 4c - 3 = 0 \Rightarrow 3c^2 - (6c) + (2c) - 4 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3c(c-2) + 2(c-2) = 0 \text{ i.e. } (c-2)(3c+2) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow c-2 = 0 \text{ or } 3c+2 = 0. \Rightarrow c = 2 \text{ or } c = -\frac{2}{3}$$

$$\text{But } c = 2 \notin (-2, 2) \text{ and } c = -\frac{2}{3} \in (-2, 2)$$

Hence LMVT is verified.

Ex. (4). The sum of two positive numbers is 24. Find the numbers so that the sum of their squares is minimum.

Solution : Let one of the numbers be x so the other number is $24-x$

Let S be the sum of the squares of the numbers.

$$\therefore S = (24-x)^2 + (x)^2 = x^2 + 576 - 48x + x^2$$

$$S = 2x^2 - 48x + 576 \dots (I)$$

Differentiate (I) w. r. t. x.

$$\frac{dS}{dx} = 4x - 48 \dots (II)$$

For extreme values of S, we have $\frac{dS}{dx} = 0$

$$\therefore 4x - 48 = 0 \therefore x = 12$$

Therefore at $x = 12$ either there is a maxima or minima.

Differentiate (II) w. r. t. x.

$$\frac{d^2S}{dx^2} = 4 \dots (III)$$

Substituting $x = 12$ in (III), we get,

$$\left(\frac{d^2S}{dx^2} \right)_{x=12} = 4 > 0$$

Therefore S has a minima at $x = 12$

Therefore the required numbers are 12 and $24 - 12 = 12$

Ex. (5). Find the volume of the largest box that can be made by cutting equal squares out of the corners of a piece of cardboard of dimensions 15 cm by 24 cm, and then turning up the sides.

Solution :

Let the side of square be x cm
 \therefore Length of box $= (24 - 2x)$ cm
 breadth of box $= (15 - 2x)$ cm

$$\text{Volume} = V = l \times b \times h$$

$$V = (24 - 2x)x(15 - 2x)$$

$$V = (24x - 2x^2)(15 - 2x)$$

$$= 360x - 48x^2$$

$$= 30x^2 + 4x^3$$

$$\therefore V = 4x^3 - 78x^2 + 360x$$

diff w.r.to x

$$\frac{dV}{dx} = 12x^2 - 156x + 360$$

diff w.r.to x

$$\frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = 24x - 156$$

$$\text{For max volume } \frac{dV}{dx} = 0 \text{ \& } \frac{d^2V}{dx^2} < 0$$

Ex. (6). Examine the function $f(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 + 8x - 4$ for maxima and minima.

Solution:

$$f(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 + 8x - 4 \quad \text{--- I}$$

diff w.r.to x

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 10x + 8 \quad \text{--- II}$$

diff w.r.to x

$$f''(x) = 6x - 10 \quad \text{--- III}$$

$$\text{Let } f'(x) = 0$$

$$\therefore 3x^2 - 10x + 8 = 0 \quad \text{from II}$$

on solving

$$x = 2, \text{ or } x = \frac{4}{3}$$

Put $x = 2$ in III

$$f''(2) = 6 \times 2 - 10 = 2 > 0$$

function is min. at $x = 2$

$$\text{Let } \frac{dV}{dx} = 0$$

$$\therefore 12x^2 - 156x + 360 = 0$$

$$x^2 - 13x + 30 = 0 \quad \text{solving}$$

$$\therefore x = 10 \text{ or } x = 3$$

$$\frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = 24 \times 10 - 156 = 84 > 0$$

$$\frac{d^2V}{dx^2} = 24 \times 3 - 156 = -84 < 0$$

Volume is max for $x = 3$

Put $x = 3$ in V

$$V = 4(3)^3 - 78(3)^2 + 360 \times 3$$

$$= 108 - 702 + 1080$$

$$V = 486 \text{ cu. cm.}$$

min value of function

$$f(2) = 2^3 - 5(2)^2 + 8 \times 2 - 4 = 0$$

Now put $x = \frac{4}{3}$ in (III)

$$f''\left(\frac{4}{3}\right) = 6\left(\frac{4}{3}\right) - 10 = -2 < 0$$

$\therefore f(x)$ is max at $x = \frac{4}{3}$

\therefore max value of function is

$$f\left(\frac{4}{3}\right) = \left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^3 - 5\left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^2 + 8\left(\frac{4}{3}\right) - 4$$

$$= \frac{64}{27} - \frac{80}{9} + \frac{32}{3} - 4$$

$$= \frac{4}{27}$$

$$\therefore \text{maxima} = \frac{4}{27} \text{ and minima} = 0$$

Ex. (7). Find two positive numbers x and y , such that $x + y = 60$ and xy^3 is maximum.

Solution:

$$x + y = 60$$

$$x = 60 - y$$

$$xy^3 = (60 - y)y^3$$

$$\therefore xy^3 = 60y^3 - y^4$$

$$\text{Let } f(y) = 60y^3 - y^4 \text{ --- (I)}$$

diff w.r.to y

$$f'(y) = 180y^2 - 4y^3 \text{ --- (II)}$$

diff w.r.to y

$$f''(y) = 360y - 12y^2 \text{ --- (III)}$$

$f(y)$ is maximum if

$$f'(y) = 0 \text{ and } f''(y) < 0$$

$$\text{Let } f'(y) = 0$$

$$\therefore 180y^2 - 4y^3 = 0$$

$$\therefore 4y^2(45 - y) = 0$$

$$\therefore 4y^2 = 0 \text{ or } 45 - y = 0$$

$$\therefore y = 0 \text{ or } y = 45$$

since y is a positive

$\therefore y = 0$ is not possible

put $y = 45$ in (III)

$$f''(45) = 360 \times 45 - 12(45)^2$$

$$f''(45) = 16200 - 24300$$

$$\therefore f''(45) = -8100 < 0$$

for $y = 45$, $f'(y) = 0$, $f''(y) < 0$

$$\therefore f(y) = (60 - y)y^3$$

$$= xy^3 \text{ is max}$$

for $y = 45$ and

$$x = 60 - y$$

$$= 60 - 45$$

$$= 15$$

$\therefore x = 15$ and $y = 45$ are

two required positive numbers such that

$$x + y = 60$$

and xy^3 is maximum.

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