

**1** Let  $f$  be a continuous real function on  $\mathbb{R}$ . If  $f'(x)$  exists for all  $x \neq 0$  and  $f'(x) \rightarrow 3$  as  $x \rightarrow 0$ , does it follow that  $f'(0)$  exists?

pf.

$$f'(0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h) - f(0)}{h}$$

$$(f(h) - f(0))' = f'(h) \rightarrow 3 \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0$$

$$h' = 1 \rightarrow 1 \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0$$

$$\frac{(f(h) - f(0))'}{h'} \rightarrow \frac{3}{1} = 3, \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0$$

$$f(h) - f(0) \rightarrow 0, \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0$$

Then by L'Hospital's rule,

$$\frac{f(h) - f(0)}{h} \rightarrow 3, \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0.$$

So,  $f'(0) = 3$  ■

**2** Let  $f$  be a twice-differentiable real function on  $R$  and  $M_0$ ,  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  be the least upper bounds of  $|f(x)|$ ,  $|f'(x)|$  and  $|f''(x)|$ . Prove that

$$M_1^2 \leq 4M_0M_2$$

Hint: Use the Taylor's theorem with  $n = 2$ .

pf.  $\forall \alpha, \beta \in [a, b] : \exists x \in (\alpha, \beta)$  by Taylor's theorem,

$$f(\beta) = f(\alpha) + f'(\alpha)(\beta - \alpha) + \frac{f''(x)}{2}(\beta - \alpha)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(\alpha) = \frac{f(\beta) - f(\alpha)}{\beta - \alpha} - \frac{f''(x)}{2}(\beta - \alpha)$$

$$\Rightarrow |f'(\alpha)| = \left| \frac{f(\beta) - f(\alpha)}{\beta - \alpha} - \frac{f''(x)}{2}(\beta - \alpha) \right| \leq \left| \frac{f(\beta) - f(\alpha)}{\beta - \alpha} \right| + \left| \frac{f''(x)}{2}(\beta - \alpha) \right|$$

$$\Rightarrow |f'(\alpha)| \leq \frac{|f(\beta)| + |f(\alpha)|}{|\beta - \alpha|} + \left| \frac{f''(x)}{2} \right| |\beta - \alpha| \Rightarrow M_1 \leq \frac{2M_0}{|\beta - \alpha|} + \frac{M_2}{2} |\beta - \alpha|$$

$$\Rightarrow M_1 \leq \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{4M_0}{|\beta - \alpha|} + M_2 |\beta - \alpha| \right)$$

By the inequality of arithmetic geometric means,

$$\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{4M_0}{|\beta - \alpha|} + M_2 |\beta - \alpha| \right) > \sqrt{\frac{4M_0}{|\beta - \alpha|} \cdot M_2 |\beta - \alpha|} = 2\sqrt{M_0 M_2}$$

Since  $\frac{4M_0}{|\beta - \alpha|} + M_2 |\beta - \alpha|$  bounds  $M_1$  for arbitrary  $|\beta - \alpha|$ , it must be at least  $2\sqrt{M_0 M_2}$  by the inequality above. And  $M_1$  is the least upper bound the equation  $M_1 \leq 2\sqrt{M_0 M_2}$  still holds.

$$\Rightarrow M_1^2 \leq 4M_0 M_2 \quad \blacksquare$$

**3** Suppose  $f$  is defined in a neighborhood of  $x$  and suppose  $f''(x)$  exists. Show that

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) + f(x-h) - 2f(x)}{h^2} = f''(x)$$

pf.

$f''(y)$  exists. So,

$$f''(y) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f'(y+h) - f'(y)}{h} =$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{f(y+h+h) - f(y+h)}{h} - \frac{f(y+h) - f(y)}{h}}{h} =$$

$f$  is defined and differentiable on a neighborhood, so let  $y = x - h \in (x - \delta, x + \delta)$ .

$$f''(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{f(x-h+h+h) - f(x-h+h)}{h} - \frac{f(x-h+h) - f(x-h)}{h}}{h} =$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} - \frac{f(x) - f(x-h)}{h}}{h} =$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x) - (f(x) - f(x-h))}{h^2} =$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) + f(x-h) - 2f(x)}{h^2}$$

■

4 Recall that a continuous function  $f$  on  $(a, b)$  is convex if and only if for all  $x, y \in (a, b)$

$$f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \leq \frac{1}{2}(f(x) + f(y))$$

Let  $f$  be a differentiable real function on  $(a, b)$ . Prove that  $f$  is convex if and only if  $f'$  is monotonically increasing.

pf.

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Ass.  $f$  is convex,

$$f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \leq \frac{1}{2}(f(x) + f(y))$$

.

$$\Rightarrow f(x) = f\left(\frac{(x+h)+(x-h)}{2}\right) \leq \frac{1}{2}(f(x+h) + f(x-h)).$$

$$\Rightarrow 2f(x) \leq f(x+h) + f(x-h).$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = 2f(x) - 2f(x) \leq f(x+h) + f(x-h) - 2f(x).$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2f(x) - 2f(x)}{h^2} \leq \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) + f(x-h) - 2f(x)}{h^2} = f''(x), \text{ by 3.}$$

So, if  $f$  is convex and  $f''$  exists for all  $x \in (a, b)$ , then  $f'$  is increasing.

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Ass.  $f'$  is increasing. Let  $x, y \in (a, b)$ .

$$x < y \Rightarrow f'(x) \leq f'(y)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \leq \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(y+h) - f(y)}{h}$$

$$x-h < x \Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x-h+h) - f(x-h)}{h} \leq \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2f(x)}{h} \leq \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x-h) + f(x+h)}{h}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x)}{h} \leq \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x-h) + f(x+h)}{2h}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{f(x)}{\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} h} \leq \frac{f(x-h) + f(x+h)}{\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 2h}$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) \leq \frac{f(x-h) + f(x+h)}{\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 2h} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} h$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) \leq \frac{f(x-h) + f(x+h)}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow f\left(\frac{x+h+x-h}{2}\right) \leq \frac{f(x-h) + f(x+h)}{2}$$

Put  $x = x-h$  and  $y = x+h$ ,

$$\Rightarrow f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) \leq \frac{f(x) + f(y)}{2}$$

Now, letting  $x \in (a, b)$ ,  $0 < h < \min\{|a-x|, |b-x|\}$ , covers all of  $(a, b)$  ■

I still don't know what to do when  $f''$  doesn't exist.