

(1) 解:

由题意得: $f'(\frac{1}{2}) = 0$

而 $f'(x) = 3x^2 + b$

故 $f'(\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{3}{4} + b = 0$

$\Rightarrow b = -\frac{3}{4}$

(2) 证明:(法一)

由题意, $\exists x_0 \in [-1, 1]$, 使 $f(x_0) = x_0^3 - \frac{3}{4}x_0 + c = 0$

则 $c = -x_0^3 + \frac{3}{4}x_0$

则 $f(x) = x^3 - x_0^3 - \frac{3}{4}x + \frac{3}{4}x_0$

$$= (x - x_0)(x^2 + x_0x + x_0^2) - \frac{3}{4}(x - x_0)$$

$$= (x - x_0)(x^2 + x_0x + x_0^2 - \frac{3}{4})$$

则 $f(x)$ 的其他零点必为方程 $x^2 + x_0x + x_0^2 - \frac{3}{4} = 0$ 的根

$$x = \frac{-x_0 \pm \sqrt{x_0^2 - 4(x_0^2 - \frac{3}{4})}}{2} = \frac{-x_0 \pm \sqrt{3 - 3x_0^2}}{2}$$

不妨设 $x_0 = \sin \theta (\theta \in [-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}])$,

则 $x = -\frac{1}{2} \sin \theta \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cos \theta$

$$= -\sin(\theta \pm \frac{\pi}{3})$$

故 $|x| \leq 1$

故 $f(x)$ 所有零点的绝对值都不大于 1

法二:

$$f'(x) = 0 \Rightarrow 3x^2 - \frac{3}{4} = 0 \Rightarrow x = \pm \frac{1}{2}$$

故 $x \in (-\infty, -\frac{1}{2}]$, $f(x)$ 单调递增, $x \in (-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$, $f(x)$ 单调递减, $x \in$

$[-\frac{1}{2}, \infty)$, $f(x)$ 单调递增

$$f(-1) = c - \frac{1}{4}, f(-\frac{1}{2}) = c + \frac{1}{4}, f(\frac{1}{2}) = c - \frac{1}{4}, f(1) = c + \frac{1}{4}$$

若有一个零点 $\in [-1, 1]$, 则 $c - \frac{1}{4} \leq 0, c + \frac{1}{4} \geq 0$

故 $x \in (-\infty, -1), x < f(-1) = c - \frac{1}{4} < 0$

$x \in (1, \infty), x > f(1) = c + \frac{1}{4} > 0$

故 $f(x)$ 所有零点均在 $[-1, 1]$ 中, 即 $f(x)$ 所有零点的绝对值都不大于 1