

Mean Value & Rolle's Theorem

If the function $f(x)$ is continuous on $[a, b]$ and the first derivative exists on the interval (a, b) , then there exists a number $x = c$ on (a, b) such

$$\text{that } f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$$

if $f(a) = f(b)$, then $f'(c) = 0$.

Mean Value Theorem

If the function $f(x)$ is continuous on $[a, b]$, AND the first derivative exists on the interval (a, b) , then there is at least one number $x = c$ in (a, b) such that

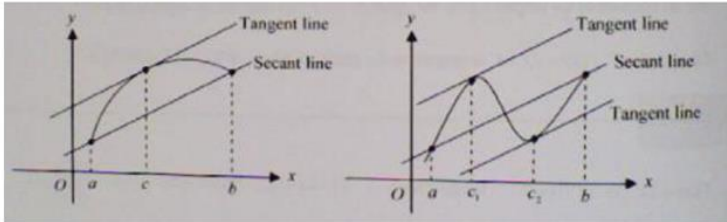
$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}.$$

* Rolle's Theorem: $f'(c) = 0$.

Mean Value Theorem for Derivatives

If the function f is continuous on the close interval $[a, b]$ and differentiable on the open interval (a, b) , then there exists at least one number c between a and b such that

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a} \quad \text{The slope of the tangent line is equal to the slope of the secant line.}$$



Mean Value Theorem:

If f is continuous on $[a, b]$ and differentiable on (a, b) , then there exists a number c on (a, b) such that $f'(c) = \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{b-a}$.

Note : Rolle's Theorem is a special case of The Mean Value Theorem

$$\text{If } f(a) = f(b) \text{ then } f'(c) = \frac{f(a)-f(b)}{b-a} = \frac{f(a)-f(a)}{b-a} = 0.$$