

## Chapter 8

**ROLL'S AND MEAN VALUE THEOREMS****STRICTLY INCREASING FUNCTIONS:**

A function  $f$  is said to be strictly increasing on a set  $S$  subset  $\mathbb{R}$  if

$$f(x_1) < f(x_2) \text{ for all } x_1, x_2 \in S \text{ such that } x_1 < x_2$$

The value of a strictly increasing function  $f(x)$  continue increases on increasing the value of  $x$ .

The graph of an strictly increasing function  $f(x)$  rises up as  $x$  moves to the right, as shown in the

figure 8.1.

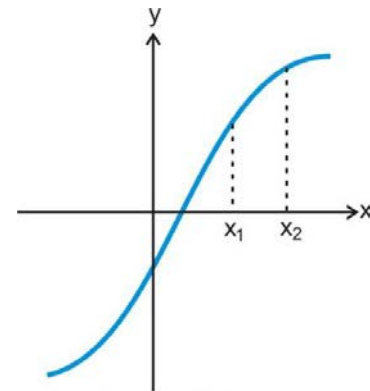


Figure 8.1

**Examples 8.1:**

(i)  $f(x) = 5x$  is a strictly increasing function on the set of real numbers, because

$$\begin{aligned} f(1) < f(2) & \text{ for } 1 < 2 \\ f(2) < f(3) & \text{ for } 2 < 3 \\ f(x_1) < f(x_2) & \text{ for all } x_1 < x_2 \end{aligned}$$

figure 8.2.

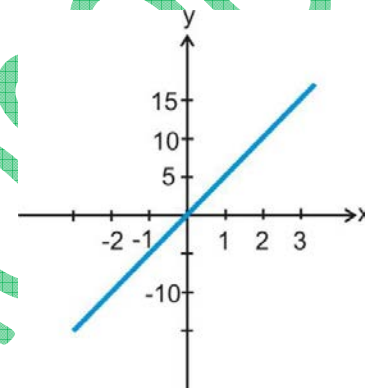


Figure 8.2

**STEADILY INCREASING FUNCTIONS:**

A function  $f$  is said to be steadily increasing on a set  $S$  subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  if

$$f(x_1) \leq f(x_2) \text{ for all } x_1, x_2 \in S \text{ such that } x_1 < x_2$$

The value of a steadily increasing function  $f(x)$  increase or remain unchanged on increasing the value of  $x$  as shown in

figure 8.3.

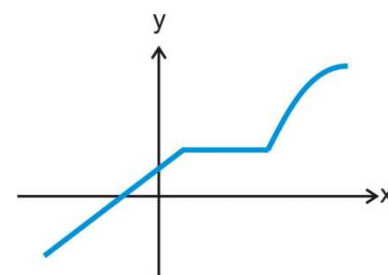


Figure 8.3

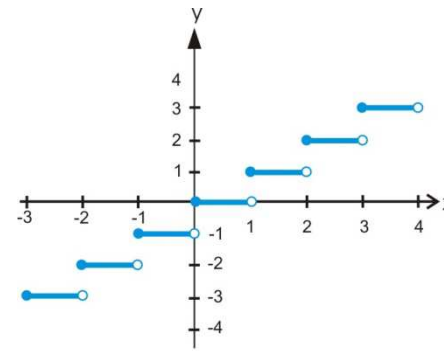
**Examples 8.2:**

$f(x) = [x]$  is steadily increasing function on the set of real numbers.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{for } -1 \leq x < 0 \\ 0 & \text{for } 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 1 & \text{for } 1 \leq x < 2 \\ 2 & \text{for } 2 \leq x < 3 \\ 3 & \text{for } 3 \leq x < 4 \end{cases}$$

Since  $f(0) < f(1)$  for  $0 < 1$   
 $f(0) = f(0.5)$  for  $0 < 0.5$   
 $\therefore f$  is steadily increasing.

**Figure 8.4**



**Figure 8.4**

**STRICTLY DECREASING FUNCTIONS:**

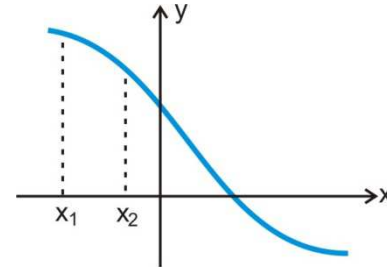
A function  $f$  is said to be strictly decreasing on a set  $S$  subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  if

$$f(x_1) > f(x_2) \text{ for all } x_1, x_2 \in S \text{ such that } x_1 < x_2.$$

The value of strictly decreasing function  $f(x)$  continue decreases on increasing the value of  $x$ .

The graph of a strictly decreasing function falls as  $x$  moves right, as shown in

**figure 8.5.**



**Figure 8.5**

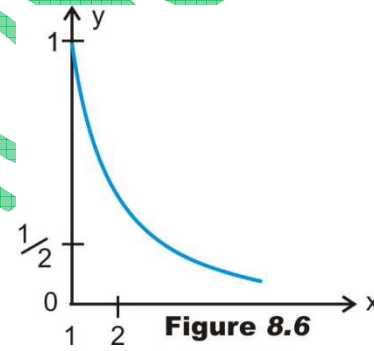
**Examples 8.3:**

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$$

is a strictly decreasing function on the set of positive integers.

Since  $f(1) > f(2)$  for  $1 < 2$   
 $f(2) > f(3)$  for  $2 < 3$   
 $f(x_1) > f(x_2)$  for all  $x_1 < x_2$

**figure 8.6.**



**Figure 8.6**

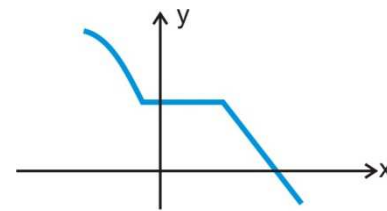
**STEADILY DECREASING FUNCTIONS:**

A function  $f$  is said to be steadily decreasing on a set  $S$  subset of  $\mathbb{R}$  if

$$f(x_1) \geq f(x_2) \text{ for all } x_1, x_2 \in S \text{ such that } x_1 < x_2$$

The value of a steadily decreasing function  $f(x)$  decrease or remain unchanged on increasing the value of  $x$  as shown in

**figure 8.7.**



**Figure 8.7**

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Thus  $f$  is strictly increases in the neighbourhood of  $a$ ,  
Conversely,  $f$  is strictly increasing in an open interval  
 $(a, a + \delta)$ .

$$\Rightarrow f(x) > f(a) \text{ for } x > a, \quad x \in (a, a + \delta)$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) - f(a) > 0 \text{ for } x - a > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(a) > 0 \quad \rightarrow (i)$$

$f$  is strictly increasing on an open interval  $(a - \delta, a)$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) < f(a) \text{ for } x < a; \quad x \in (a - \delta, a)$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) - f(a) < 0 \text{ for } x - a < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(a) > 0 \quad \rightarrow (ii)$$

Combining above two results we can say that  $f'(a) > 0$   
if and only if  $f$  is strictly increasing in some  
neighbourhood of  $a$  i.e  $(a - \delta, a + \delta)$ .

Figure 8.9.

(ii) The proof is left for the reader. **Figure 8.10.**

**Example 8.4:**

Show that the value of  $f$  is strictly increasing for all  
 $x \in (-\infty, -2)$  and for all  $x \in (3, \infty)$  but strictly  
decreasing for all  $x \in (-2, 3)$ .

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{2}x^2 - 6x + 5$$

**Solution:**

$$f'(x) = x^2 - x - 6 = (x - 3)(x + 2)$$

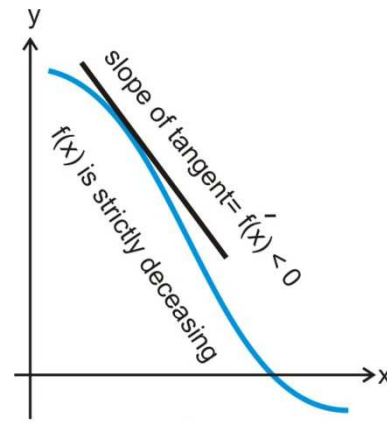


Figure 8.10

$f$  is strictly increasing when

$$f'(x) > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x-3)(x+2) > 0$$

It is possible when both factors have same signs.

**Case-I:**

**For strictly increasing:**

Suppose both factors are non-negative.

$$x-3 > 0 \text{ and } x+2 > 0$$

$$x > 3 \text{ and } x > -2$$

$$x \in (3, \infty) \text{ and } x \in (-2, \infty)$$

$$x \in (-2, \infty) \cap (3, \infty) \Rightarrow x \in (3, \infty)$$

**Case II:** Suppose both factors are negative.

$$x-3 < 0 \text{ and } x+2 < 0$$

$$x < 3 \text{ and } x < -2$$

$$x \in (-\infty, 3) \text{ and } x \in (-\infty, -2)$$

$$x \in (-\infty, 3) \cap (-\infty, -2)$$

$$x \in (-\infty, -2)$$

Hence  $f$  is strictly increasing for all  $x \in (-\infty, -2)$  and for all  $x \in (3, \infty)$ .

**For strictly decreasing:**

$f$  is strictly decreasing when

$$f'(x) < 0.$$

$$(x-3)(x+2) < 0.$$

It is possible when both the factors have opposite signs.

**Case-I:**

Suppose  $(x-3)$  is negative and  $(x+2)$  is positive

$$x-3 < 0 \text{ and } x+2 > 0$$

$$x < 3 \text{ and } x > -2$$

$$x \in (-\infty, 3) \text{ and } x \in (-2, \infty)$$

$$x \in (-\infty, 3) \cap (-2, \infty)$$

$$\Rightarrow x \in (-2, 3)$$

**Case-II:**

Suppose  $(x-3)$  is positive and  $(x+2)$  is negative.

$$x-3 > 0 \text{ and } x+2 < 0$$

$$x > 3 \text{ and } x < -2$$

$$x \in (3, \infty) \text{ and } x \in (-\infty, -2)$$

$$x \in (3, \infty) \cap (-\infty, -2)$$

$\Rightarrow x \in \{ \}$  Hence according to case 1 and 2,  $f$  is strictly decreasing for  $x \in (-2, 3)$ .

### ROLLE'S THEOREM

**Statement:**  $f$  is a function with domain  $[a, b]$ , if

- (i)  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$
  - (ii)  $f$  is derivable in  $(a, b)$
  - (iii)  $f(a) = f(b)$
- then there exists at least one real number  $c \in (a, b)$  such that  $f'(c) = 0$ .

**Proof:**

$f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$

$f$  is bounded and attains its bounds {by theorem A-2}

Let  $M$  and  $m$  be the least upper bound and greatest lower bound of  $f(x)$ .

We have two values  $c, d \in [a, b]$  such that  $f(c) = M$  and  $f(d) = m$

Thus we have two case

**Case-I:**

$f(x)$  is equal to  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$ .

$$f(x) = f(a) = f(b), \quad x \in [a, b]$$

Figure 8.11

In this case  $f$  is a constant function in the interval  $[a, b]$ . The derivative of a constant function must be equal to zero.

$$f'(x) = 0 \text{ for all } x \in [a, b]$$

The theorem is true in this case.

**Case-II:**

$f(x)$  is a variable function.

$\Rightarrow m \neq M$  but  $f(a) = f(b)$

$\Rightarrow$  At least one of  $M$  and  $m$  must be different from  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$ , then there are following three cases arises.

- (i)  $m = f(a) = f(b)$  but  $M \neq f(a) = f(b)$

Figure 8.12a

- (ii)  $m \neq f(a) = f(b)$  but  $M = f(a) = f(b)$

Figure 8.12b

- (iii)  $m \neq f(a) = f(b)$  and  $M \neq f(a) = f(b)$

Figure 8.12c

Consider the case  $M \neq f(a) = f(b)$

Since  $f(c) = M \geq f(x)$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$

$\Rightarrow$  At  $x = c$  the point is a critical point.

$\Rightarrow f$  is neither strictly increasing nor strictly decreasing at  $x = c$ .

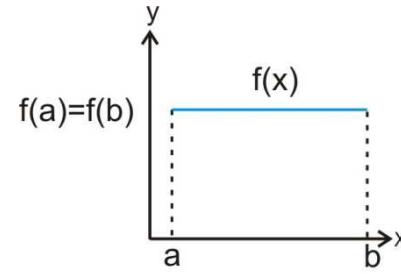


Figure 8.11

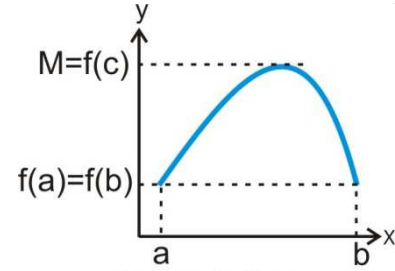


Figure 8.12 a

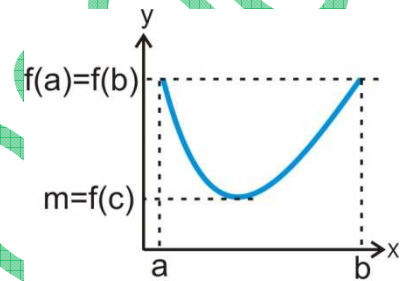


Figure 8.12 b

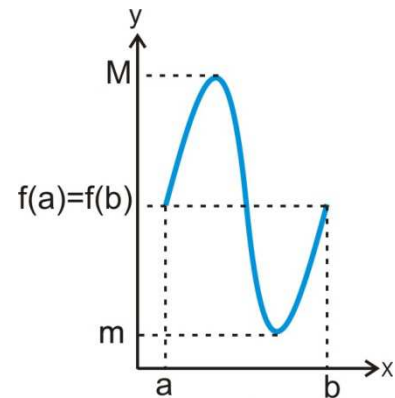


Figure 8.12 c



If we suppose  $f$  is strictly increasing at  $x = c$ , then we can prove it wrong by taking two points  $c$  and  $c + \epsilon$  in  $[a, b]$ .

Since  $M$  is least upper bound of  $f$ .

$$\Rightarrow M = f(c) > f(c + \epsilon) \text{ for } c < c + \epsilon$$

$\Rightarrow f$  is not strictly increasing at  $x = c$

$\Rightarrow$  If we suppose  $f$  is strictly decreasing at  $x = c$ , then we can also prove it is wrong by taking two points  $c - \epsilon$  and  $c$  in  $[a, b]$

Since  $M$  is least upper bound of  $f$ .

$$M = f(c) > f(c - \epsilon) \text{ for } c > c - \epsilon$$

$\Rightarrow f$  is not strictly decreasing at  $x = c$ ,

Hence  $f$  is neither strictly increasing nor strictly decreasing at  $x = c$ .

$$\Rightarrow f'(c) \neq 0 \text{ and } f'(c) = 0 \text{ \{by theorem A - 7\}}$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(c) = 0 \text{ for } c \in (a, b)$$

Similarly we can prove for  $m \neq f(a) = f(b)$

**GEOMETRICAL INTERPRETATION:**

If a function  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$  and derivable on  $(a, b)$  and  $f(a) = f(b)$ , then there exists at least one real number  $c \in (a, b)$  where the tangent is parallel to  $x$ -axis or slope of the tangent is equal to zero.

(i) **Figure 8.13a:** At least one real number  $c \in (a, b)$  where the tangent is parallel to  $x$ -axis or slope of the tangent is equal to zero.

(ii) **Figure 8.13b:** More than one real numbers  $c, d \in (a, b)$  where the tangents are parallel to  $x$ -axis or slope of the tangents is equal to zero.

**Algebraically:**

If  $a$  and  $b$  are two real roots of  $f(x) = 0$ , then there exists at least one real root of the polynomial  $f'(x) = 0$  lies between  $a$  and  $b$

**Example 8.5:**

Verify Rolle's theorem for the following function

$$f(x) = \sin x ; x \in (0, \pi)$$

**Solution:**

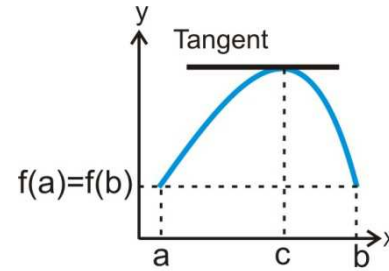
$$f(x) = \sin x ; x \in [0, \pi]$$

$$f(0) = 0 \text{ and } f(\pi) = 0$$

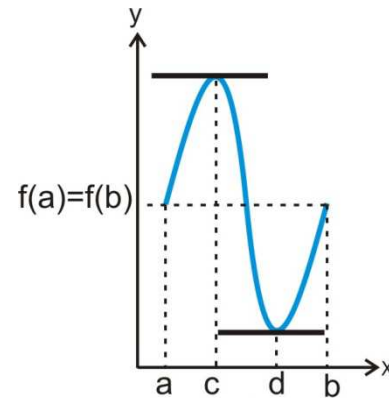
$f(x)$  is continuous on  $[0, \pi]$  and derivable in  $(0, \pi)$  and

$$f(0) = f(\pi).$$

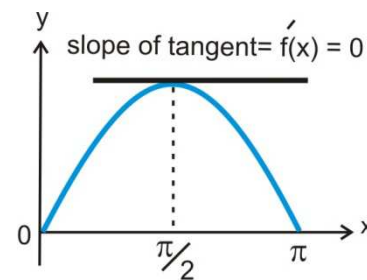
So that the conditions of Rolle's theorem are satisfied.



**Figure 8.13 a**



**Figure 8.13 b**



**Figure 8.14**



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**LAGRANGE'S MEAN VALUE THEOREM**

**Statement:** Let  $f$  is a function with domain  $[a, b]$ , if

(i)  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$  and

(ii)  $f$  is derivable on  $(a, b)$

Then there exists at least one real number  $c \in (a, b)$  such that

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

**Proof:**

Let  $\phi$  is a function defined as

$$\phi(x) = Af(x) + Bx \rightarrow (1)$$

where A and B are constants we choose A and B such that

$$\phi(a) = \phi(b)$$

From(1)  $Af(a) + Ba = Af(b) + Bb$

$$Af(a) - Af(b) = Bb - Ba$$

$$-A\{f(b) - f(a)\} = B(b - a)$$

$$\frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} = -\frac{B}{A} \rightarrow (2)$$

Since  $f(x)$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$  and derivable on  $(a, b)$  so  $\phi(x)$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$  and derivable on  $(a, b)$  and  $\phi(a) = \phi(b)$ , then by Rolle's theorem there exists at least one real number  $c \in (a, b)$  such that

From(1)  $\phi'(x) = Af'(x) + B$

$$\phi'(c) = Af'(c) + B$$

$$0 = Af'(c) + B$$

$$f'(c) = -\frac{B}{A} \rightarrow (3)$$

On equating (2) and (3), we get

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

which prove the theorem.

**ANOTHER FORM OF THE THEOREM:**

Suppose that  $b = a + h, h > 0 \Rightarrow [a, b] = [a, a + h]$

Let  $\theta$  be positive number less than 1 so  $0 < \theta < 1$ .

$$\Rightarrow \theta h < h \Rightarrow a + \theta h < a + h$$

$$\Rightarrow a + \theta h \in (a, a + h)$$

Let  $c = a + \theta h \in (a, a + h)$

Substituting these values in equation (4) we get

$$f'(a + \theta h) = \frac{f(a + h) - f(a)}{h}, \quad 0 < \theta < 1$$

**GEOMETRICAL INTERPRETATION:**

If  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$  and derivable on  $(a, b)$ , then there exists at least one real number  $c \in (a, b)$ , where the tangent is parallel to the chord which join the points  $(a, f(a))$  and  $(b, f(b))$ .

Figure 8.17

Slope of the chord joining the points  $(a, f(a))$  and  $(b, f(b))$  is equal to the slope of tangent at  $c \in (a, b)$ .

$$\text{Slope of the chord} = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$$

$$\text{Slope of the tangent} = f'(c)$$

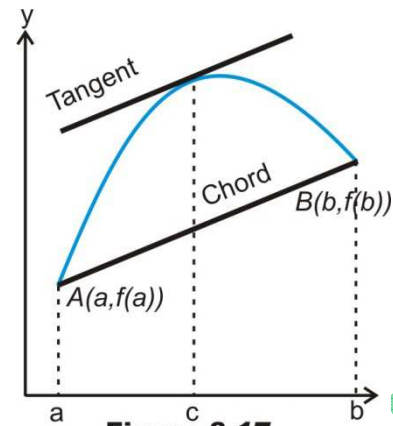


Figure 8.17

**Example 8.8:**

Apply mean value theorem to find  $c \in (-1, 1)$  when

$$f(x) = 5x^3 - 3x^2 + 9x + 2, \quad a = -1, b = 1$$

**Solution:**

$$f(x) = 5x^3 - 3x^2 + 9x + 2 \rightarrow (1)$$

$$f'(x) = 15x^2 - 6x + 9$$

$$f'(c) = 15c^2 - 6c + 9$$

$$f(a) = f(-1) = -15$$

$$f(b) = f(1) = 13$$

By mean value of theorem

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

$$15c^2 - 6c + 9 = \frac{13 + 15}{2}$$

$$15c^2 - 6c - 5 = 0$$

$$c = \frac{3 \pm 2\sqrt{21}}{15} \in (-1, 1)$$

**CAUCHY'S MEAN VALUE THEOREM****Statement:**

If two functions  $f$  and  $g$  with domain  $[a, b]$  are continuous on  $[a, b]$  and derivable on  $(a, b)$  and if  $f'(x)$  and  $g'(x)$  do not both vanish for the same value of  $x \in (a, b)$  then there exists at least one number  $c \in (a, b)$  such that

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

**Proof:**

Suppose that  $\Psi$  is a function defined as

$$\Psi(x) = A f(x) + B g(x) \quad \rightarrow (1)$$

where  $A$  and  $B$  are constants.

Substituting  $x = a$  and  $x = b$  in (1) we get

$$\Psi(a) = A f(a) + B g(a)$$

$$\Psi(b) = A f(b) + B g(b)$$

Choose  $A$  and  $B$  such that

$$\Psi(a) = \Psi(b)$$

$$A f(a) + B g(a) = A f(b) + B g(b)$$

$$A \{f(b) - f(a)\} = -B \{g(b) - g(a)\}$$

$$\frac{f(b) - f(a)}{g(b) - g(a)} = -\frac{B}{A} \quad \rightarrow (2)$$

Since  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous on  $[a, b]$  and derivable on  $(a, b)$  so also  $\Psi(x)$ .

$$\Psi'(x) = A f'(x) + B g'(x)$$

$\Psi$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$ , derivable on  $(a, b)$  and  $\Psi(a) = \Psi(b)$ , by Rolle's theorem there is at least one number  $c \in (a, b)$  such that

$$\Psi'(c) = 0$$

$$A f'(c) + B g'(c) = 0$$

$$\frac{f'(c)}{g'(c)} = -\frac{B}{A} \quad \rightarrow (3)$$

According to (2) and (3)

$$\frac{f(b) - f(a)}{g(b) - g(a)} = \frac{f'(c)}{g'(c)}, \quad c \in (a, b)$$

**EXERCISE**

(1) Show that the value of  $f$  is strictly increasing for all  $x \in (-\infty, -3)$  and for all  $x \in (2, \infty)$  but strictly decreasing for all  $x \in (-3, -2)$ .

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 - 6x + 3$$

(2) Show that

$$x < \sin x < -\frac{1}{6}x^3$$

Verify Rolle's theorem for the following

(3)  $f(x) = \frac{\cos x}{e^x}$  in  $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$

(4)  $f(x) = \log \frac{x^2 + 4}{5x}$  in  $(1, 4)$

(5)  $f(x) = \sin x + \cos x$  in  $(0, \pi/2)$

(6)  $f(x) = e^{x^2}$  in  $(-1, 1)$

Show that Rolle's theorem is not valid for the following

(7)  $f(x) = (x - a)^{2/3}$  in  $(0, 2a)$

(8)  $f(x) = x^{4/5}$  in  $(-1, 1)$

(9)  $f(x) = \log[\sec x + \tan x]$  in  $(0, \pi)$

(10)  $f(x) = \sin x$  in  $(0, \pi/2)$

Show that following equations has at least one root in the given interval.

(11)  $2\cos 2x + \sin x = 0$ ;  $(\pi/2, \pi/2)$

(12)  $9x^8 + 10x^4 - 3x^2 + 8x - 6 = 0$ ;  $(0, 1)$

(13) If  $f(x) = (5 - x^2) \log x$  then show that the equation  $\log x = (5 - x)/2x$  is satisfied by at least one value of  $x$  lying between 1 and 5.

(14) Find  $c$  in the law of mean if  $f(x) = \tan^{-1} x$ ,  $a = 1$  and  $b = \sqrt{3}$  and show that it lies in the required interval.

(15) Find  $c$  in the mean value theorem for the function  $e^x$  in the interval  $(2, 3)$ .

(16) Whether the mean value theorem is applicable or not for the function  $f(x) = (x^2 + 1)x$  in the interval  $(-1, 1)$ .

(17) Find the value of  $c$  in the main value if

$$f(x) = x^4 - 5x; a = 0, b = \frac{1}{2}$$

(18) If  $f(x) = x^3 + 1$  and  $g(x) = x^2$  in the interval  $[0, 1]$  determine the constant  $c$  in Cauchy's mean value theorem.

(19) If  $f(x) = \sin x$  and  $g(x) = \cos x$  in the interval  $[-\pi/4, \pi/4]$  determine the constant  $c$  in Cauchy's mean value theorem.