

1. Consider  $f(x) = x^4 - 2x^2 + 4x$  on the interval  $[-2, 2]$ . Find all  $c$  satisfying the Mean Value Theorem.

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(2) - f(-2)}{2 - (-2)} = \frac{16}{4} = 4.$$

$$f' = 4x^3 - 4x + 4 = 4 \iff x(x^2 - 1) = 0$$
$$\iff x = 0, \pm 1.$$

2. Show  $f(x) = x^3 + 3x + \sin x$ , has at most 1 root.

Suppose  $f$  has 2 roots, i.e.  $a \neq b$  and  $f(a) = f(b) = 0$ .

Then there is  $c \in (a, b)$  so that

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} = 0$$

$$f' = 3x^2 + 3 + \cos x.$$

But  $f' > 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

So there is at most one root of  $f$ .

3. Let  $f(x) = x^2 - x^{-3}$  find the local minima and maxima and inflection points.

$$f' = 2x + 3x^{-4}$$

$$f'' = 2 - 12x^{-5}$$

$$f' = 0 \Leftrightarrow x^5 = -3/2 \Leftrightarrow x = -\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{1/5}$$

$$f'' = 0 \Leftrightarrow x^5 = \frac{1}{6} \Leftrightarrow x = 6^{-1/5}.$$

$$f' \begin{cases} > 0 & \text{on } x \in \left(-\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{1/5}, 0\right) \cup (0, \infty) \\ < 0 & \text{on } x \in \left(-\infty, -\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{1/5}\right) \end{cases}$$

$$f'' \begin{cases} > 0 & \text{on } x \in \left(-\infty, 0\right) \cup \left(6^{-1/5}, \infty\right) \\ < 0 & \text{on } x \in \left(0, 6^{-1/5}\right) \end{cases}$$

$$\text{local min: } x = -\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{1/5}$$

No local max.

$$\text{Inflection point: } x = 6^{-1/5}$$