

Today: Section 4.2 The Mean Value Theorem (MVT)

First: Rolle's Theorem

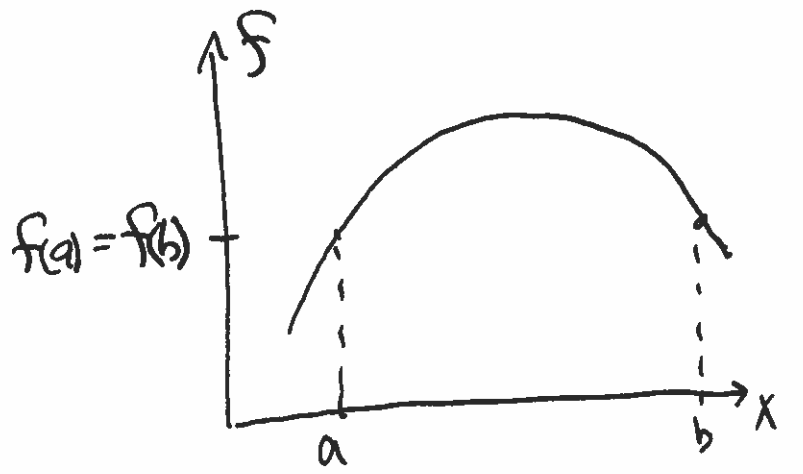
If  $f$  satisfies these three requirements (the hypotheses)

- (1)  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$
- (2)  $f$  is differentiable on the open interval  $(a, b)$
- (3)  $f(a) = f(b)$



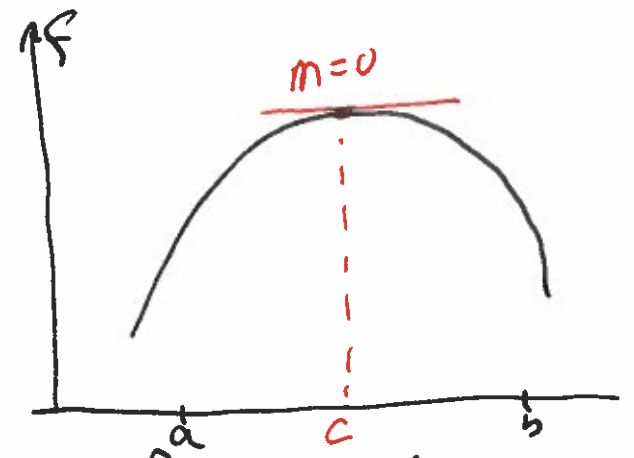
Then there is a number  $x=c$  with  $a < c < b$  such that  $f'(c) = 0$

the conclusion



Picture of the hypotheses

Rollé's Theorem



Picture of the conclusion

Example ~~4.3#3~~ 4.2#3 Let  $f(x) = \sqrt{x} - \frac{1}{3}x$  on the interval  $[0, 9]$  (2)

(a) Verify that  $f$  satisfies the hypotheses of Rolle's theorem

$a=0$   $b=9$

Solution

✓  $f$  is continuous on  $[0, 9]$

( $f$  is actually continuous on whole interval  $[0, \infty)$ )

$$\text{Find } f'(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \sqrt{x} - \frac{1}{3}x \right) = \frac{d}{dx} \left( x^{1/2} - \frac{1}{3}x \right) = \frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2} - \frac{1}{3} =$$

✓  $f'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} - \frac{1}{3}$   $f'$  is continuous on  $(0, \infty)$

So it is certainly continuous on  $(0, 9)$

✓  $f(a) = f(0) = \sqrt{0} - \frac{1}{3} \cdot 0 = 0$

$f(b) = f(9) = \sqrt{9} - \frac{1}{3} \cdot 9 = 3 - 3 = 0$

← these match →

So Rolle's theorem tells us that there exists  $x=c$  with

$$0 < c < 9 \quad \text{such that } f'(c) = 0$$

(But Rolle's theorem doesn't tell us where  $c$  is!)

(b) Find ~~the value~~ a value  $x=c$  that satisfies  $f'(c)=0$

(3)

Solution

$$0 = f'(c) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} - \frac{1}{3}$$

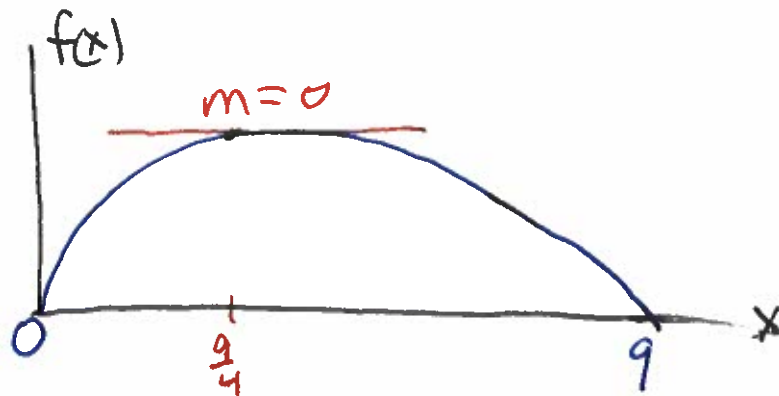
$$\frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

$$3 = 2\sqrt{x}$$

$$\frac{3}{2} = \sqrt{x}$$

$$\frac{9}{4} = x$$

$$x = 2.25$$



Example 2 Illustrating that all three hypotheses must be satisfied in order to guarantee the the conclusion is true.

(7)

Let  $f(x) = x^{2/3}$  on interval  $[-8, 8]$

Observe:  $\checkmark$   $f$  is continuous on  $[-8, 8]$

$\times$   $f$  is not differentiable on  $[-8, 8]$

$$f'(x) = \frac{d}{dx} x^{2/3} = \frac{2}{3} x^{-1/3} = \frac{2}{3} x^{1/3}$$

~~$f'(0)$~~  does not exist

$\checkmark$   $f(-8) = (-8)^{2/3} = ((-8)^{1/3})^2 = (-2)^2 = 4$   
 $f(8) = (8)^{2/3} = 4$

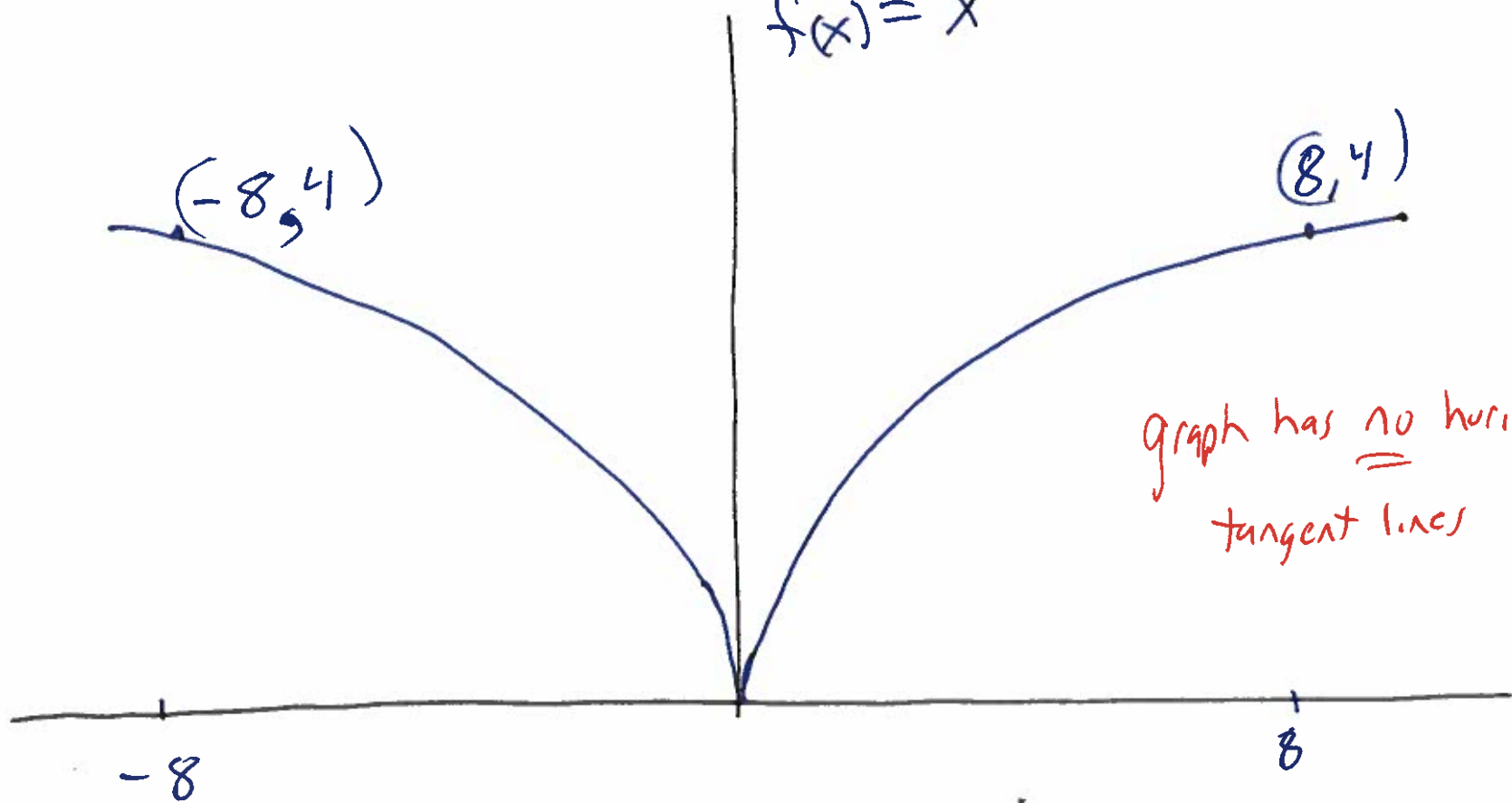
these match

Not all hypotheses are satisfied

~~Observe~~ Also observe that the conclusion is not true, because  $f'(x) = \frac{2}{3} x^{1/3}$  will never equal zero! because its numerator will never be zero

(5)

$$f(x) = x^{2/3}$$



# The Mean Value Theorem (MVT)

(6)

If function  $f$  satisfies these hypotheses

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

$f$  differentiable on  $(a, b)$

Then there exists an  $x=c$  such that  $a < c < b$

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

slope  $m$  of  
line tangent  
at  $x=c$

secant line  
slope

Example 4.2 #13 Consider  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$  on interval  $[0, 4]$

(7)

(a) Show that hypotheses of MVT are satisfied

✓  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$  is actually continuous on interval  $[0, \infty)$ ,  
So it is continuous on interval  $[0, 4]$

✓  $f'(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \sqrt{x} = \frac{d}{dx} x^{1/2} = \dots = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$  is continuous on  $(0, \infty)$

So it is continuous on  $(0, 4)$

So MVT says there exists an  $x=c$  with  $0 < c < 4$

$$\text{Such that } f'(c) = \frac{f(4) - f(0)}{4 - 0} = \frac{\sqrt{4} - \sqrt{0}}{4 - 0} = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$$

(b) Find the  $x=c$  that works

$$f'(c) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{c}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$2\sqrt{c} = 2$$

$$\sqrt{c} = 1$$

$$c = 1$$

check:  $f'(c) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1}} = \frac{1}{2}$  ✓

