

Problem Seminar, Fall 2020
Mean Value Theorems

1. Let $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous function satisfying $\int_0^1 f(x) dx = 0$. Prove that there is some $c \in (0, 1)$ such that

$$(1 - c)f(c) = c \int_0^c f(x) dx.$$

2. Let $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be twice differentiable. Suppose that the line segment joining the points $(0, f(0))$ and $(1, f(1))$ intersects the graph of f at $(a, f(a))$ for some $a \in (0, 1)$. Show that there exists $c \in (0, 1)$ such that $f''(c) = 0$.

3. Let $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous on $[a, b]$ and differentiable on (a, b) . Show that there exist $c_1, c_2 \in (a, b)$ such that

$$\frac{f'(c_1)}{a + b} = \frac{f'(c_2)}{2c_2}.$$

4. Show that

$$1 - \frac{x^2}{2} < \cos x \text{ for } x \neq 0.$$

Hint: Use Cauchy's MVT.

5. Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ twice differentiable with $f''(x) > 0$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Show that

$$f(x + f'(x)) \geq f(x) \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Hint: Take three cases, $f'(x) = 0$, $f'(x) < 0$ and $f'(x) > 0$. For the last two cases use MVT.