

## Answer to the Question #89436 – Math – Calculus

### Question

Determine whether Rolle's theorem can be applied to  $f$  on the close interval  $[a,b]$ . if it can be applied, find the values of  $c$  in open interval  $(a, b)$  such that  $f'(c)=0$ .  $f(x)=(x^2-2x-3)/(x+2)$ ,  $[-1,3]$

### Solution

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

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

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

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

$f(x)$  is defined for all values of  $x$  except  $-2$ .

Given interval is  $[-1, 3]$  and  $x \notin [-1, 3]$ .

$\therefore f(x)$  is a rational function and continuous for  $[-1, 3]$ .

Also,  $f(x)$  is a differentiable function in  $(-1, 3)$

Now,  $f(a) = f(b)$

$$f(-1) = f(3)$$

$$\frac{(-1-3)(-1+1)}{-1+2} = \frac{(3-3)(3+1)}{3+2}$$

$$0=0$$

It is true.

Then, there exists a  $c \in (-1, 3)$  such that  $f'(c)=0$ .

$$\text{Now, } f'(x) = \frac{(x+2)(x^2-2x-3)' - (x^2-2x-3)(x+2)'}{(x+2)^2} \quad [\because \text{ quotient's rule}]$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{(x+2)(2x-2) - (x^2-2x-3)(1)}{(x+2)^2} = \frac{2x^2+4x-2x-4-x^2+2x+3}{(x+2)^2}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{x^2+4x-1}{(x+2)^2}$$

$$\text{Now, } f'(c) = 0$$

$$\frac{c^2+4c-1}{(c+2)^2} = 0$$

$$c^2+4c-1=0$$

$$c = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{4^2 - 4(1)(-1)}}{2(1)}$$

$$c = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{16+4}}{2} = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{20}}{2}$$

$$c = \frac{-4 \pm 2\sqrt{5}}{2} = -2 \pm \sqrt{5}$$

$$\therefore \quad 3)$$

we take  $c = -2 + \sqrt{5} \in (-1, 3)$

Thus,  $c = -2 + \sqrt{5}$ .

**Answer:**  $c = -2 + \sqrt{5}$ .