

7. Verify Mean Value Theorem of $f(x) = x^3 - 3x + 3$ for $[-1, 2]$.

Solution:

here,

$$f(x) = x^3 - 3x + 3 \quad \text{for } x \in [-1, 2].$$

- i. $f(x) = x^3 - 3x + 3$ is an polynomial function and polynomial functions are continuous on their domain. So, $f(x)$ is continuous $\forall x \in [-1, 2]$.
- ii. $f'(x) = 3x^2 - 3$ is defined $\forall x \in (-1, 2)$. So, $f(x)$ is differentiable $\forall x \in (-1, 2)$.
- iii. Thus, $f(x)$ satisfies both conditions of Mean Value Theorem so, by Mean Value Theorem there exists a point $c \in (-1, 2)$ such that,

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

or,

$$3c^2 - 3 = \frac{f(2) - f(-1)}{2 - (-1)}$$

or,

$$3(c^2 - 1) = \frac{5 - 5}{3}$$

or,

$$c^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$\therefore c = \pm 1 \in (-1, 2)$$

Hence, Mean Value Theorem is verified.

