

Fermat's Theorem

If $f(c)$ is local max & $f'(c)$ exists, then $f'(c) = 0$

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$f(c)$ is a local max & h is "small"

Then $f(c+h) \leq f(c)$

$\Rightarrow f(c+h) - f(c) \leq 0$ Assume $h > 0 \Rightarrow$

$\Rightarrow \frac{f(c+h) - f(c)}{h} \leq 0$

$$f'(c) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(c+h) - f(c)}{h} \leq 0$$

Assume $h < 0$.

Then $f(c+h) - f(c) \leq 0$, again, but now $h < 0$.

$$\frac{f(c+h) - f(c)}{h} \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(c) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{f(c+h) - f(c)}{h} \geq 0$$

$$0 \leq f'(c) \leq 0 \Rightarrow f'(c) = 0$$