

## Section 1: Solving equations numerically

### Section test

- How many of roots of the equation  $3x^3 - 12x^2 + 8x - 1 = 0$  are there in the range  $0 \leq x \leq 5$ ?
- There is a root of  $x^3 + 3x - 2 = 0$  between 0 and 1. Give an interval of width 0.1 in which the root lies.
- The equation  $y = x^3 - 4x - 1$  has three roots:  $\alpha$ , which is in the interval  $(-2, -1)$ ;  $\beta$ , which is in the interval  $(-1, 0)$ ; and  $\gamma$ , which is in the interval  $(2, 3)$ . The equation is to be solved using the method of iteration.

The first rearrangement used is  $x = g(x) = \frac{x^3 - 1}{4}$ .

Using first approximation  $x = -1$ , the iterations

- |                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (a) diverge                   | (b) converge to root $\alpha$ |
| (c) converge to root $\gamma$ | (d) converge to root $\beta$  |

Using first approximation  $x = 3$ , the iterations

- |                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (a) diverge                   | (b) converge to root $\alpha$ |
| (c) converge to root $\gamma$ | (d) converge to root $\beta$  |

Another rearrangement used is  $x = \sqrt[3]{4x + 1}$ .

Using first approximation  $x = -1$ , the iterations

- |                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (a) diverge                   | (b) converge to root $\alpha$ |
| (c) converge to root $\gamma$ | (d) converge to root $\beta$  |

Using first approximation  $x = 3$ , the iterations

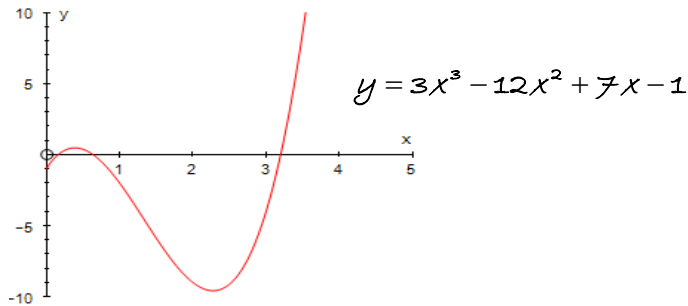
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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (a) diverge                   | (b) converge to root $\alpha$ |
| (c) converge to root $\gamma$ | (d) converge to root $\beta$  |

- The equation  $e^x = 3x + 2$  has two roots. The equation can be rearranged into the forms  $x = \frac{e^x - 2}{3}$  or  $x = \ln(3x + 2)$ . Use the iteration method to find the two roots, correct to 4 decimal places.
- The equation  $x^3 + x^2 + 1 = 0$  has a root in the interval  $(-2, -1)$ . Using a first approximation of  $x = -1.5$ , use the Newton-Raphson method to find a second and third approximation to 6 d.p., and give the value of the root correct to 4 d.p.
- The equation  $e^x - x - 2 = 0$  has a root in the interval  $(1, 2)$ . Using a first approximation of  $x = 1$ , use the Newton-Raphson method to find a second and third approximation to 6 d.p., and give the value of the root correct to 4 d.p.

# Edexcel A level Num methods 1 section test solns

## Solutions to section test

1.



From the graph, the equation  $3x^3 - 12x^2 + 7x - 1 = 0$  has three roots.

2. Let  $f(x) = x^3 + 3x - 2$

$$f(0.5) = 0.5^3 + 3 \times 0.5 - 2 = -0.375$$

$$f(0.6) = 0.6^3 + 3 \times 0.6 - 2 = 0.016$$

There is a change of sign, and therefore a root, between 0.5 and 0.6.

3.  $g(x) = \frac{x^3 - 1}{4}$

$$x_0 = -1$$

$$g(x_0) = -0.5$$

$$x_1 = -0.5$$

$$g(x_1) = -0.28125$$

$$x_2 = -0.28125$$

$$g(x_2) = -0.255562$$

$$x_3 = -0.255562$$

$$g(x_3) = -0.254173$$

$$x_4 = -0.254173$$

$$g(x_4) = -0.254105$$

$$x_5 = -0.254105$$

$$g(x_5) = -0.254102$$

$$x_6 = -0.254102$$

$$g(x_6) = -0.254102$$

The iterations are converging towards the root in the interval  $(-1, 0)$ , which is the root  $\beta$ .

$g(x) = \frac{x^3 - 1}{4}$

$$x_0 = 3$$

$$g(x_0) = 6.5$$

$$x_1 = 6.5$$

$$g(x_1) = 68.40625$$

$$x_2 = 68.40625$$

$$g(x_2) = 80025.06$$

The iterations are diverging.

$g(x) = \sqrt[3]{4x+1}$

$$x_0 = -1$$

$$g(x_0) = -1.442250$$

$$x_1 = -1.442250$$

$$g(x_1) = -1.683226$$

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$x_2 = -1.683226$	$g(x_2) = -1.789747$
$x_3 = -1.789747$	$g(x_3) = -1.833031$
$x_4 = -1.833031$	$g(x_4) = -1.850048$
$x_5 = -1.850048$	$g(x_5) = -1.856654$
$x_6 = -1.856654$	$g(x_6) = -1.859206$
$x_7 = -1.859206$	$g(x_7) = -1.860190$
$x_8 = -1.860190$	$g(x_8) = -1.860569$

The iterations are converging towards the root in the interval  $(-2, -1)$ , which is the root  $\alpha$ .

$$g(x) = \sqrt[3]{4x+1}$$

$x_0 = 3$	$g(x_0) = 2.351335$
$x_1 = 2.351335$	$g(x_1) = 2.183159$
$x_2 = 2.183159$	$g(x_2) = 2.135060$
$x_3 = 2.135060$	$g(x_3) = 2.120898$
$x_4 = 2.120898$	$g(x_4) = 2.116692$
$x_5 = 2.116692$	$g(x_5) = 2.115439$
$x_6 = 2.115439$	$g(x_6) = 2.115066$
$x_7 = 2.115066$	$g(x_7) = 2.114955$

The iterations are converging towards the root in the interval  $(2, 3)$ , which is the root  $\gamma$ .

4. Let  $f(x) = e^x - 3x - 2$

$$f(-1) = 1.36$$

$$f(0) = -1$$

$$f(1) = -2.28$$

$$f(2) = -0.61$$

$$f(3) = 9.09$$

The smaller root is between  $-1$  and  $0$ , and the larger root is between  $2$  and  $3$ .

using the rearrangement  $x = \frac{e^x - 2}{3}$

$$g(x) = \frac{e^x - 2}{3}$$

$x_0 = 0$	$g(x_0) = -0.666667$
$x_1 = -0.666667$	$g(x_1) = -0.495528$
$x_2 = -0.495528$	$g(x_2) = -0.463584$
$x_3 = -0.463584$	$g(x_3) = -0.456992$
$x_4 = -0.456992$	$g(x_4) = -0.455605$
$x_5 = -0.455605$	$g(x_5) = -0.455311$

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$$\begin{aligned}x_6 &= -0.455311 & g(x_6) &= -0.455250 \\x_7 &= -0.455250 & g(x_7) &= -0.455237\end{aligned}$$

The root appears to be  $-0.4552$  correct to 4 decimal places.

$$\text{Check: } f(-0.45515) = -0.000197$$

$$f(-0.45525) = 0.000039$$

so the root is  $-0.4552$  correct to 4 decimal places.

Using the rearrangement  $x = \ln(3x + 2)$

$$g(x) = \ln(3x + 2)$$

$$\begin{aligned}x_0 &= 2 & g(x_0) &= 2.079442 \\x_1 &= 2.079442 & g(x_1) &= 2.108797 \\x_2 &= 2.108797 & g(x_2) &= 2.119430 \\x_3 &= 2.119430 & g(x_3) &= 2.123254 \\x_4 &= 2.123254 & g(x_4) &= 2.124625 \\x_5 &= 2.124625 & g(x_5) &= 2.125117 \\x_6 &= 2.125117 & g(x_6) &= 2.125293 \\x_7 &= 2.125293 & g(x_7) &= 2.125356 \\x_8 &= 2.125356 & g(x_8) &= 2.125379\end{aligned}$$

The root appears to be  $2.1254$  correct to 4 decimal places.

$$\text{Check: } f(2.12535) = -0.00022$$

$$f(2.12545) = 0.00032$$

so the root is  $2.1254$  correct to 4 decimal places.

5.  $f(x) = x^3 + x^2 + 1$

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 + 2x$$

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{x^3 + x^2 + 1}{3x^2 + 2x}$$

$$x_1 = -1.5$$

$$x_2 = -1.466667$$

$$x_3 = -1.465572$$

Repeating the iterations suggests that the root is  $-1.4656$  to 4 d.p.

$$\text{Check: } f(-1.4655) > 0$$

$$f(-1.46565) < 0$$

so the root is  $-1.4656$  to 4 d.p.

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$$6. f(x) = e^x - x - 2$$

$$f'(x) = e^x - 1$$

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{e^x - x - 2}{e^x - 1}$$

$$x_1 = 1$$

$$x_2 = 1.163953$$

$$x_3 = 1.146421$$

Repeating the iterations suggests that the root is 1.1462 to 4 d.p.

$$\text{Check: } f(1.14615) < 0$$

$$f(1.14625) > 0$$

so the root is 1.1462 to 4 d.p.