Numerical Solutions

M/J/2013/Q2

The sequence of values given by the iterative formula

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{x_n(x_n^3 + 100)}{2(x_n^3 + 25)},$$

with initial value $x_1 = 3.5$, converges to α .

(i) Use this formula to calculate α correct to 4 decimal places, showing the result of each iteration to 6 decimal places. [3]



The equation $x^3 - 2x - 2 = 0$ has one real root.

- (i) Show by calculation that this root lies between x = 1 and x = 2. [2]
- (ii) Prove that, if a sequence of values given by the iterative formula

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

converges, then it converges to this root.

(iii) Use this iterative formula to calculate the root correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]



The equation $x^3 - x^2 - 6 = 0$ has one real root, denoted by α .

- (i) Find by calculation the pair of consecutive integers between which α lies. [2]
- (ii) Show that, if a sequence of values given by the iterative formula

$$x_{n+1} = \sqrt{\left(x_n + \frac{6}{x_n}\right)}$$

converges, then it converges to α .

(iii) Use this iterative formula to determine α correct to 3 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 5 decimal places. [3]

[2]

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The equation $x^3 - 8x - 13 = 0$ has one real root.

- (i) Find the two consecutive integers between which this root lies.
- (ii) Use the iterative formula

$$x_{n+1} = (8x_n + 13)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

to determine this root correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]



The equation $x^3 - x - 3 = 0$ has one real root, α .

(i) Show that α lies between 1 and 2.

Two iterative formulae derived from this equation are as follows:

$$x_{n+1} = x_n^3 - 3, (A)$$

$$x_{n+1} = (x_n + 3)^{\frac{4}{3}}.$$
 (B)

Each formula is used with initial value $x_1 = 1.5$.

(ii) Show that one of these formulae produces a sequence which fails to converge, and use the other formula to calculate α correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [5]



O/N/2007/Q6

(i) By sketching a suitable pair of graphs, show that the equation

$$2 - x = \ln x$$

has only one root.

- (ii) Verify by calculation that this root lies between 1.4 and 1.7. [2]
- (iii) Show that this root also satisfies the equation

$$x = \frac{1}{3}(4 + x - 2\ln x).$$
 [1]

[2]

(iv) Use the iterative formula

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{3}(4 + x_n - 2\ln x_n),$$

with initial value $x_1 = 1.5$, to determine this root correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]



M/J/2005/Q7

(i) By sketching a suitable pair of graphs, show that the equation

$$\operatorname{cosec} x = \frac{1}{2}x + 1,$$

where *x* is in radians, has a root in the interval $0 < x < \frac{1}{2}\pi$. [2]

- (ii) Verify, by calculation, that this root lies between 0.5 and 1. [2]
- (iii) Show that this root also satisfies the equation

$$x = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{2}{x+2}\right).$$
 [1]

(iv) Use the iterative formula

$$x_{n+1} = \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{2}{x_n + 2} \right),$$

with initial value $x_1 = 0.75$, to determine this root correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]



M/J/2006/Q6

(i) By sketching a suitable pair of graphs, show that the equation

$$2\cot x = 1 + e^x$$

where x is in radians, has only one root in the interval $0 < x < \frac{1}{2}\pi$. [2]

- (ii) Verify by calculation that this root lies between 0.5 and 1.0. [2]
- (iii) Show that this root also satisfies the equation

$$x = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2}{1 + e^x} \right).$$
 [1]

(iv) Use the iterative formula

$$x_{n+1} = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{2}{1+e^{x_n}}\right),$$

with initial value $x_1 = 0.7$, to determine this root correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]



O/N/2010/Q4

(i) By sketching suitable graphs, show that the equation

$$4x^2 - 1 = \cot x$$

has only one root in the interval $0 < x < \frac{1}{2}\pi$.

- (ii) Verify by calculation that this root lies between 0.6 and 1.
- (iii) Use the iterative formula

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{(1 + \cot x_n)}$$

to determine the root correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]



[2]

O/N/2011/Q5

(i) By sketching a suitable pair of graphs, show that the equation

$$\sec x = 3 - \frac{1}{2}x^2,$$

where *x* is in radians, has a root in the interval $0 < x < \frac{1}{2}\pi$. [2]

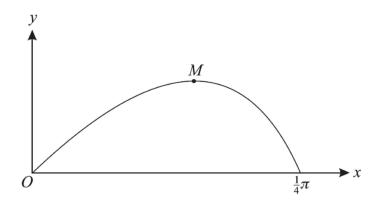
- (ii) Verify by calculation that this root lies between 1 and 1.4.
- (iii) Show that this root also satisfies the equation

$$x = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{2}{6-x^2}\right).$$
 [1]

[2]

(iv) Use an iterative formula based on the equation in part (iii) to determine the root correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]





The diagram shows the curve $y = x \cos 2x$ for $0 \le x \le \frac{1}{4}\pi$. The point *M* is a maximum point.

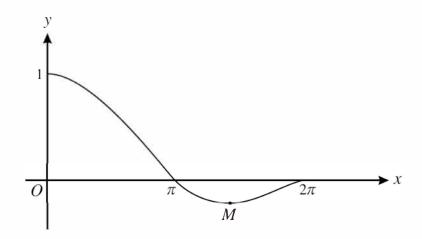
- (i) Show that the *x*-coordinate of *M* satisfies the equation $1 = 2x \tan 2x$. [3]
- (ii) The equation in part (i) can be rearranged in the form $x = \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{2x}\right)$. Use the iterative formula

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{2x_n} \right),$$

with initial value $x_1 = 0.4$, to calculate the *x*-coordinate of *M* correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]

(iii) Use integration by parts to find the exact area of the region enclosed between the curve and the x-axis from 0 to $\frac{1}{4}\pi$. [5]





The diagram shows the curve $y = \frac{\sin x}{x}$ for $0 < x \le 2\pi$, and its minimum point *M*.

(i) Show that the x-coordinate of M satisfies the equation

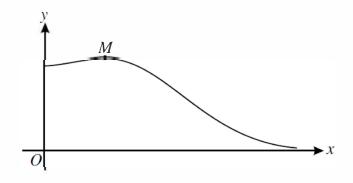
$$x = \tan x.$$
 [4]

(ii) The iterative formula

$$x_{n+1} = \tan^{-1}(x_n) + \pi$$

can be used to determine the *x*-coordinate of M. Use this formula to determine the *x*-coordinate of M correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]





The diagram shows the curve $y = e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2} \sqrt{(1+2x^2)}$ for $x \ge 0$, and its maximum point *M*.

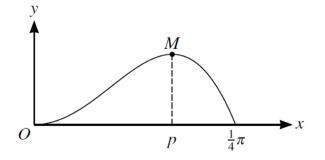
- (i) Find the exact value of the *x*-coordinate of *M*.
- (ii) The sequence of values given by the iterative formula

$$x_{n+1} = \sqrt{\left(\ln(4 + 8x_n^2)\right)},$$

with initial value $x_1 = 2$, converges to a certain value α . State an equation satisfied by α and hence show that α is the *x*-coordinate of a point on the curve where y = 0.5. [3]

(iii) Use the iterative formula to determine α correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]

[4]



The diagram shows the curve $y = x^2 \cos 2x$ for $0 \le x \le \frac{1}{4}\pi$. The curve has a maximum point at *M* where x = p.

- (i) Show that *p* satisfies the equation $p = \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{p}\right)$. [3]
- (ii) Use the iterative formula $p_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{p_n} \right)$ to determine the value of p correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]
- (iii) Find, showing all necessary working, the exact area of the region bounded by the curve and the *x*-axis.



O/N/2018/Q5

The equation of a curve is $y = x \ln(8 - x)$. The gradient of the curve is equal to 1 at only one point, when x = a.

- (i) Show that *a* satisfies the equation $x = 8 \frac{8}{\ln(8-x)}$. [3]
- (ii) Verify by calculation that *a* lies between 2.9 and 3.1.
- (iii) Use an iterative formula based on the equation in part (i) to determine *a* correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]



It is given that $\int_{1}^{a} \ln(2x) dx = 1$, where a > 1.

(i) Show that
$$a = \frac{1}{2} \exp\left(1 + \frac{\ln 2}{a}\right)$$
, where $\exp(x)$ denotes e^x . [6]

(ii) Use the iterative formula

$$a_{\bar{n}+1} = \frac{1}{2} \exp\left(1 + \frac{\ln 2}{a_{\bar{n}}}\right)$$

to determine the value of a correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]



O/N/2019/Q9

It is given that $\int_0^a x \cos \frac{1}{3}x \, dx = 3$, where the constant *a* is such that $0 < a < \frac{3}{2}\pi$.

(i) Show that *a* satisfies the equation

$$a = \frac{4 - 3\cos\frac{1}{3}a}{\sin\frac{1}{3}a}.$$
 [5]

(ii) Verify by calculation that *a* lies between 2.5 and 3.

(iii) Use an iterative formula based on the equation in part (i) to calculate *a* correct to 3 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 5 decimal places. [3]



O/N/2008/Q9

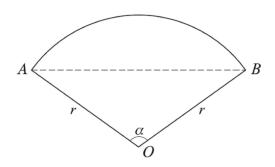
The constant *a* is such that $\int_0^a x e^{\frac{1}{2}x} dx = 6.$

(i) Show that *a* satisfies the equation

$$x = 2 + e^{-\frac{1}{2}x}.$$
 [5]

- (ii) By sketching a suitable pair of graphs, show that this equation has only one root. [2]
- (iii) Verify by calculation that this root lies between 2 and 2.5. [2]
- (iv) Use an iterative formula based on the equation in part (i) to calculate the value of *a* correct to 2 decimal place⁸. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal place⁸.





The diagram shows a sector *AOB* of a circle with centre *O* and radius *r*. The angle *AOB* is α radians, where $0 < \alpha < \pi$. The area of triangle *AOB* is half the area of the sector.

(i) Show that α satisfies the equation

$$x = 2\sin x.$$
 [2]

[2]

- (ii) Verify by calculation that α lies between $\frac{1}{2}\pi$ and $\frac{2}{3}\pi$.
- (iii) Show that, if a sequence of values given by the iterative formula

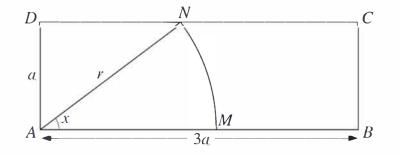
$$x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{3}(x_n + 4\sin x_n)$$

converges, then it converges to a root of the equation in part (i). [2]

(iv) Use this iterative formula, with initial value $x_1 = 1.8$, to find α correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]



M/J/2008/Q3



In the diagram, ABCD is a rectangle with AB = 3a and AD = a. A circular arc, with centre A and radius r, joins points M and N on AB and CD respectively. The angle MAN is x radians. The perimeter of the sector AMN is equal to half the perimeter of the rectangle.

(i) Show that x satisfies the equation

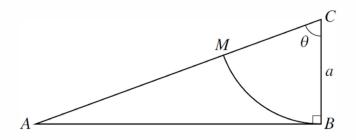
$$\sin x = \frac{1}{4}(2+x).$$
 [3]

(ii) This equation has only one root in the interval $0 < x < \frac{1}{2}\pi$. Use the iterative formula

$$x_{n+1} = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{2+x_n}{4}\right),\,$$

with initial value $x_1 = 0.8$, to determine the root correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]





In the diagram, *ABC* is a triangle in which angle *ABC* is a right angle and *BC* = a. A circular arc, with centre *C* and radius a, joins *B* and the point *M* on *AC*. The angle *ACB* is θ radians. The area of the sector *CMB* is equal to one third of the area of the triangle *ABC*.

(i) Show that θ satisfies the equation

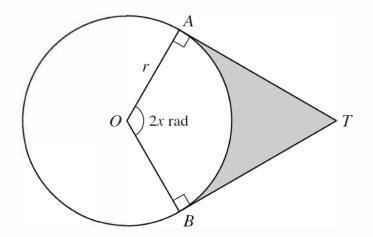
$$\tan \theta = 3\theta.$$
 [2]

(ii) This equation has one root in the interval $0 < \theta < \frac{1}{2}\pi$. Use the iterative formula

$$\theta_{n+1} = \tan^{-1}(3\theta_n)$$

to determine the root correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]





The diagram shows a circle with centre O and radius r. The tangents to the circle at the points A and B meet at T, and the angle AOB is 2x radians. The shaded region is bounded by the tangents AT and BT, and by the minor arc AB. The perimeter of the shaded region is equal to the circumference of the circle.

(i) Show that *x* satisfies the equation

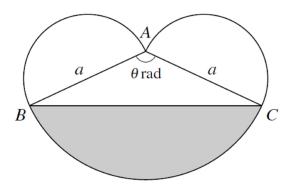
$$\tan x = \pi - x.$$
^[3]

- (ii) This equation has one root in the interval $0 < x < \frac{1}{2}\pi$. Verify by calculation that this root lies between 1 and 1.3. [2]
- (iii) Use the iterative formula

$$x_{n+1} = \tan^{-1}(\pi - x_n)$$

to determine the root correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]

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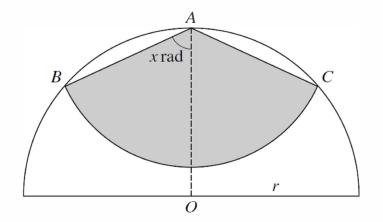


The diagram shows a triangle *ABC* in which AB = AC = a and angle $BAC = \theta$ radians. Semicircles are drawn outside the triangle with *AB* and *AC* as diameters. A circular arc with centre *A* joins *B* and *C*. The area of the shaded segment is equal to the sum of the areas of the semicircles.

(i) Show that
$$\theta = \frac{1}{2}\pi + \sin \theta$$
. [3]

- (ii) Verify by calculation that θ lies between 2.2 and 2.4.
- (iii) Use an iterative formula based on the equation in part (i) to determine θ correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]





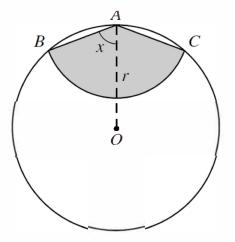
In the diagram, A is the mid-point of the semicircle with centre O and radius r. A circular arc with centre A meets the semicircle at B and C. The angle OAB is equal to x radians. The area of the shaded region bounded by AB, AC and the arc with centre A is equal to half the area of the semicircle.

(i) Use triangle *OAB* to show that $AB = 2r \cos x$. [1]

(ii) Hence show that
$$x = \cos^{-1} \sqrt{\left(\frac{\pi}{16x}\right)}$$
. [2]

- (iii) Verify by calculation that x lies between 1 and 1.5.
- (iv) Use an iterative formula based on the equation in part (ii) to determine x correct to 3 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 5 decimal places. [3]





In the diagram, A is a point on the circumference of a circle with centre O and radius r. A circular arc with centre A meets the circumference at B and C. The angle OAB is equal to x radians. The shaded region is bounded by AB, AC and the circular arc with centre A joining B and C. The perimeter of the shaded region is equal to half the circumference of the circle.

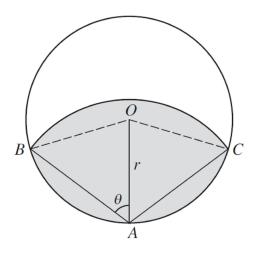
(i) Show that
$$x = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{\pi}{4+4x}\right)$$
. [3]

- (ii) Verify by calculation that *x* lies between 1 and 1.5.
- (iii) Use the iterative formula

$$x_{n+1} = \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{\pi}{4+4x_n}\right)$$

to determine the value of x correct to 2 decimal places. Give the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]

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In the diagram, A is a point on the circumference of a circle with centre O and radius r. A circular arc with centre A meets the circumference at B and C. The angle OAB is θ radians. The shaded region is bounded by the circumference of the circle and the arc with centre A joining B and C. The area of the shaded region is equal to half the area of the circle.

(i) Show that
$$\cos 2\theta = \frac{2\sin 2\theta - \pi}{4\theta}$$
. [5]

(ii) Use the iterative formula

$$\theta_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}\cos^{-1}\left(\frac{2\sin 2\theta_n - \pi}{4\theta_n}\right),\,$$

with initial value $\theta_1 = 1$, to determine θ correct to 2 decimal places, showing the result of each iteration to 4 decimal places. [3]

