

Newton's Method and Taylor Polynomials

Exercise 1 Write the formula for Newton's method and use the given initial approximation to compute the approximations x_1 and x_2 .

a) $f(x) = x^2 - 2x - 3; x_0 = 2$

b) $f(x) = e^{-x} - x; x_0 = \ln 2$

Exercise 2 Use a calculator or program to compute the first 10 iterations of Newton's method when it is applied to the following functions with the given initial approximation. Make also a table with the values of n and x_n .

a) $f(x) = x^3 + x^2 + 1; x_0 = -2$

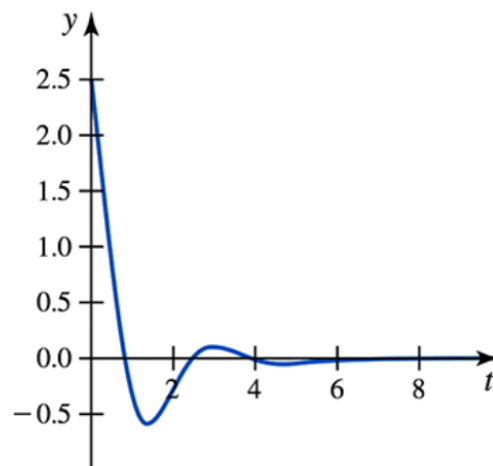
b) $f(x) = \sin x + x - 1; x_0 = 1.5$

c) $f(x) = \ln(x + 1) - 1; x_0 = 1.7$

Exercise 3 Where is the local extremum of $f(x) = \frac{e^x}{x}$ located? (Use Newton's method.)

Exercise 4 The functions $f(x) = (x - 1)^2$ and $g(x) = x^2 - 1$ both have a root at $x = 1$. Apply Newton's method to both functions with an initial approximation $x_0 = 2$. Compare the rate at which the method converges in each case and give an explanation.

Exercise 5 The displacement of a particular object as it bounces vertically up and down on a spring is given by $y(t) = 2.5e^{-t} \cos 2t$, where the initial displacement is $y(0) = 2.5$ and $y = 0$ corresponds to the rest position (see figure).



- a) Find the time at which the object first passes the rest position $y = 0$.
- b) Find the time and the displacement when the object reaches its lowest point.
- c) Find the time at which the object passes the rest position for the second time.
- d) Find the time and the displacement when the object reaches its high point for the second time.

Exercise 6 Find the n -th order Taylor polynomials of the given function centered at 0, for $n = 0, 1$, and 2. Graph the Taylor polynomials and the function.

- a) $f(x) = \cos x$
- b) $f(x) = \ln(1 - x)$
- c) $f(x) = (1 + x)^{-3}$

Exercise 7

- 1. Find the Taylor polynomials of order $n = 0, 1, 2$ and 3 for $f(x) = e^x$ centered at 0. Graph f and the polynomials.
- 2. Use the polynomials in part (a) to approximate $e^{0.1}$. Find the absolute error, $|f(x) - p_n(x)|$, in the approximation. Use calculator values for the exact values of f .

Exercise 8 Approximate $\sqrt{1.05}$ using $f(x) = \sqrt{1+x}$ and $p_2(x) = 1 + \frac{x}{2} - \frac{x^2}{8}$.

Compute the absolute error in the approximation assuming the exact value is given by a calculator.

Exercise 9 Find the n -th order Taylor polynomials for the following functions centered at the given point a , for $n = 0, 1$, and 2. Graph the Taylor polynomials and the function.

- a) $f(x) = x^3, a = 1$
- b) $f(x) = \sin x, a = \frac{\pi}{4}$
- c) $f(x) = \sqrt{x}, a = 9$
- d) $f(x) = \ln x, a = e$
- e) $f(x) = \tan^{-1} x + x^2 + 1, a = 1$

Exercise 10 Use the power series expansion of e^x to show that

$$e^{2x} = 1 + 2x + 2x^2 + \frac{4x^3}{3} + \dots$$