# Chapter 1

# Linear Algebra

## **Definition 1.1**

A vector space (or linear space) V over a field  $\mathbb{F}$  consists of a set on which two operations (called addition and multiplication respectively here) are defined so that;

- (A) (V is Closed Under Addition) For all  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in V$ , there exists a unique element  $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y} \in V$ .
- (M) (V is Closed Under Scalar Multiplication) For all elements  $a \in \mathbb{F}$  and elements  $\mathbf{x} \in V$ , there exists a unique element  $a\mathbf{x} \in V$ .

Such that the following properties hold:

- (VS 1) (Commutativity of Addition) For all  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in V$ , we have  $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y} + \mathbf{x}$ .
- (VS 2) (Associativity of Addition) For all  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z} \in V$ , we have  $(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) + \mathbf{z} = \mathbf{x} + (\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{z})$ .
- (VS 3) (Existance of The Zero/Null Vector) There exists an element in V denoted by  $\mathbf{0}$ , such that  $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{x}$  for all  $\mathbf{x} \in V$ .
- (VS 4) (Existence of Additive Inverses) For all elements  $\mathbf{x} \in V$ , there exists an element  $\mathbf{y} \in V$  such that  $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$ .
- (VS 5) (Multiplicative Identity) For all elements  $x \in V$ , we have  $1\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}$ , where 1 denotes the multiplicative identity in  $\mathbb{F}$ .
- (VS 6) (Compatibility of Scalar Multiplication with Field Multiplication) For all elements  $a, b \in \mathbb{F}$  and elements  $\mathbf{x} \in V$ , we have  $(ab)\mathbf{x} = a(b\mathbf{x})$ .
- (VS 7) (Distributivity of Scalar Multiplication over Vector Addition) For all elements  $a \in \mathbb{F}$  and elements  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in V$ , we have  $a(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}) = a\mathbf{x} + a\mathbf{y}$ .
- (VS 8) (Distributivity of Scalar Multiplication over Field Addition) For all elements  $a, b \in \mathbb{F}$ , and elements  $\mathbf{x} \in V$ , we have  $(a + b)\mathbf{x} = a\mathbf{x} + b\mathbf{x}$ .

#### Theorem 1.2

Let V be a vector space and W a subset of V. Then W is a subspace of V iff the following 3 conditions hold for the operations defined in V.

- (a)  $\mathbf{0} \in W$
- (b)  $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y} \in W$  whenever  $\mathbf{x} \in W$  and  $\mathbf{y} \in W$ .
- (c)  $c\mathbf{x} \in W$  whenever  $c \in \mathbb{F}$  and  $\mathbf{x} \in W$ .

## **Definition 1.3**

A subset S of a vector space V generates (or spans) V iff span(S) = V. In this case, we also say that the vectors of S generate (or span) V.

## **Definition 1.4**

Let V be a vector space and S a nonempty subset of V. A vector  $v \in V$  is called a *linear combination* of vectors of S iff there exists a finite number of vectors  $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n$  in S and scalars  $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n$  in  $\mathbb{F}$  such that

$$v = \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i u_i.$$

In this case we also say that v is a linear combination of  $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n$  and call  $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n$  the coefficients of the linear combination

## **Definition 1.5**

A set subset S of a vector space V is called *linearly dependent* iff there exists a finite number of distinct vectors  $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n$  in S and scalars  $a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n$  not all zero, such that

$$a_1u_1 + a_2u_2 + a_nu_n = \mathbf{0}.$$

## **Definition 1.6**

A basis  $\beta$  for a vector space V is a linearly independent subset of V that generates V. If  $\beta$  is a basis for V, we also say that the vectors of  $\beta$  form a basis for V.

## Theorem 1.7: The Rank-Nullity Theorem.

For any vector spaces V and W, and a linear operator  $T: V \to W$ , it holds that

$$rank(T) + nullity(T) = dim(V).$$

### **General Information**

• Let **A** be an  $m \times n$  matrix, and  $\mathbf{a}_j$  its jth column. For any  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & \cdots & x_n \end{pmatrix}^\top$ ,

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \sum_{j=1}^{n} x_j \mathbf{a}_j.$$

• Let **A** and **B** be matrices having n rows. For any matrix **M** with n columns, we have

$$(\mathbf{A} \mid \mathbf{B}) = (\mathbf{M}\mathbf{A} \mid \mathbf{M}\mathbf{B}).$$

## **Definition 1.8**

A system  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is homogeneous iff  $\mathbf{b} = 0$ ; otherwise it is nonhomogeneous.

#### Theorem 1.9

For any matrix, its row space, column space, and rank are identical.

#### Theorem 1.10

A system  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  of m linear equations in n unknowns has a solution space of dimension n-rank(A).

## **Definition 1.11**

A system  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  of linear equations is *consistent* iff its solution set is nonempty; otherwise it is *inconsistent*.

## Theorem 1.12: The Rouché-Capelli Theorem.

A system  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is consistent iff  $\operatorname{rank}(\mathbf{A}) = \operatorname{rank}(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{b})$ .

## **Definition 1.13**

A matrix is said to be in reduced row echelon form iff

- Any row containing a nonzero entry precedes any row in which all the entries are zero (if any).
- The first nonzero entry in each row is the only nonzero entry in its column.
- The first nonzero entry in each row is 1 and it occurs in a column to the right of the first nonzero entry in the preceding row.
- Gaussian elimination.
  - In the forward pass, the augmented matrix is transformed into an upper triangular matrix in which the first nonzero entry of each row is 1 and it occurs in a column to the right of the first nonzero entry of each preceding row.
  - In the backward pass, the upper triangular matrix is transformed into reduced row echelon form by making the first nonzero entry of each row the only nonzero entry of its column.
- Gaussian elimination always reduces a matrix to its rref form.
- Let **A** be an invertible  $n \times n$  matrix. Then, for some elementary row matrices  $\mathbf{E}_1$  to  $\mathbf{E}_p$ ,

$$\mathbf{E}_{p}\mathbf{E}_{p-1}\dots\mathbf{E}_{1}(\mathbf{A}\,|\,\mathbf{I}_{n})=\mathbf{A}^{-1}(\mathbf{A}\,|\,\mathbf{I}_{n})=(\mathbf{I}_{n}\,|\,\mathbf{A}^{-1}).$$

In other words, we can perform Gaussian elimination, so that  $(\mathbf{A} \mid \mathbf{I}_n) \to (\mathbf{I}_n \mid \mathbf{A}^{-1})$ .

- Let  $\mathbf{A} := (\mathbf{a}_1 \ \mathbf{a}_2 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{a}_n)$  be  $m \times n$  matrix, and  $\mathbf{A}' := (\mathbf{a}'_1 \ \mathbf{a}'_2 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{a}'_n)$  its ref. Then,  $\{\mathbf{a}_{k_1}, \mathbf{a}_{k_2}, \dots, \mathbf{a}_{k_m}\}$  is linearly independent iff  $\{\mathbf{a}'_{k_1}, \mathbf{a}'_{k_2}, \dots, \mathbf{a}'_{k_m}\}$  is. Moreover, the row space of  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{A}'$  are clearly identical.
- Finding a basis for an intersection of subspaces. Let V and W be subspaces of  $\mathbb{F}^n$  generated by the columns of the  $n \times m$  matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $n \times k$  matrix  $\mathbf{B}$ , respectively. Find a basis for the subspace  $V \cap W$ .
  - 1. First notice that  $\mathbf{v} \in V \cap W$  iff

$$\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{x}_2$$

for some  $\mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{F}^m$  and  $\mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathbb{F}^k$ . That is,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x_1} \\ -\mathbf{x_2} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{0}.$$

So, equivalently, we write

$$(A \ B) y = 0.$$

for some  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{F}^{m+k}$ . As such, by row reducing  $(\mathbf{A} \quad \mathbf{B})$ , we find a basis

$$\beta \coloneqq \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u_1} \\ \mathbf{u'_1} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u_2} \\ \mathbf{u'_2} \end{pmatrix}, \dots, \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u_r} \\ \mathbf{u'_r} \end{pmatrix} \right\},\,$$

where  $\mathbf{u}_i \in \mathbb{F}^m$  and  $\mathbf{u}_i \in \mathbb{F}^k$ . Now, a generating set for  $V \cap W$  is

$$\Gamma := \{\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}_r\}.$$

Alternatively, another generating set for  $V \cap W$  is

$$\Delta := \{\mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_1', \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_2', \dots, \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}_r'\}$$
.

From here, it is simple to choose bases  $\gamma \subseteq \Gamma$  and  $\delta \subseteq \Delta$  for  $V \cap W$ . (Naturally, it holds that  $\mathbf{Au_i} + \mathbf{Bu'_i} = 0$ .)

2. An alternative method. By row reduction, we can calculate

$$\begin{split} r \coloneqq \dim(V \cap W) &= \dim(U) + \dim(V) - \dim(U + V), \\ &= \operatorname{rank}(\mathbf{A}) + \operatorname{rank}(\mathbf{B}) - \operatorname{rank}\left(\mathbf{A} \quad \mathbf{B}\right), \\ &= \operatorname{rank}\left(\mathbf{A}^{\top}\right) + \operatorname{rank}\left(\mathbf{B}^{\top}\right) - \operatorname{rank}\left(\begin{matrix} \mathbf{A}^{\top} \\ \mathbf{B}^{\top} \end{matrix}\right). \end{split}$$

Then, a basis for  $V \cap W$  can be formed by choosing r linearly independent columns of  $\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} \end{pmatrix}$ , or rows of  $\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}^{\top} \\ \mathbf{B}^{\top} \end{pmatrix}$ .

3. Another alternative, probably the best option! Skip the row reduction of **A** and **B** in the above method. We just reduce

$$(\mathbf{A} \quad \mathbf{B}) o (\mathbf{A}' \quad \mathbf{B}')$$
.

Let  $\mathbf{c_i}$  and  $\mathbf{c_i'}$  be the *i*th column of  $(\mathbf{A} \ \mathbf{B})$  and  $(\mathbf{A'} \ \mathbf{B'})$ , respectively. We compare the columns of A' and B' to find (with relative ease) a basis  $\beta' \coloneqq \{\mathbf{c_{i_1}'}, \mathbf{c_{i_2}'}, \dots, \mathbf{c_{i_r}'}\}$  for the intersection of the column spaces of A' and B'. Then,  $\beta \coloneqq \{\mathbf{c_{i_1}, c_{i_2}, \dots, c_{i_r}}\}$  is a basis for  $V \cap W$  (the intersection of the column spaces of A and B).

4. A fourth method for when I learn about orthogonal complements.

# **Definition 1.14**

Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathrm{M}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{F})$ . If n = 1, so that  $A = (a_1 1)$ , we define  $\det(\mathbf{A}) := a_1 1$ . For  $n \geq 2$ , we define  $\det(\mathbf{A})$  recursively as

$$\det(\mathbf{A}) := \sum_{i=1}^{n} (-1)^{1+j} \mathbf{A}_{1j} \cdot \det(\widetilde{\mathbf{A}}_{1j}).$$

THe scalar  $\det(\mathbf{A})$  is called the *determinant* of  $\mathbf{A}$  and is also denoted by  $|\mathbf{A}|$ . The scalar

$$(-1)^{i+j} \det(\widetilde{\mathbf{A}}_{1j})$$

is called the cofactor of the entry of **A** in row i, column j.

• A matrix **A** is invertible iff its determinant is nonzero.

#### Theorem 1.15

The determinant det:  $M_{n\times n}(\mathbb{F}) \to \mathbb{F}$  is an alternating *n*-linear function. The former (alternating) means that for  $\mathbf{A} \in M_{n\times n}(\mathbb{F})$  and any  $\mathbf{B}$  obtained from  $\mathbf{A}$  by interchanging any two rows of  $\mathbf{A}$ ,

$$\det(\mathbf{B}) = -\det(\mathbf{A}).$$

The latter (n-linearity) means that, for any scalar  $k \in \mathbb{F}$  and vectors  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{a}_i \in \mathbb{F}^n$ ,

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 \\ \mathbf{a}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}_{r-1}\mathbf{u} + k\mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{a}_{r+1} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}_n \end{pmatrix} = \det \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 \\ \mathbf{a}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}_{r-1}\mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{a}_{r+1} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}_n \end{pmatrix} + k \det \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 \\ \mathbf{a}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}_{r-1}\mathbf{v} \\ \mathbf{a}_{r+1} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{a}_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

(In fact, it can be shown that det:  $M_{n\times n}(\mathbb{F}) \to \mathbb{F}$  is the *unique* alternating *n*-linear function, such that  $\det(\mathbf{I}) = 1$ .)

## Corollary 1.16

Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathrm{M}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{F})$ . Then, for any matrix  $\mathbf{B}$  obtained by adding a scalar multiple of one row/column of  $\mathbf{A}$  to another,  $\det(\mathbf{B}) = \det(\mathbf{A})$ .

## Theorem 1.17

The determinant of a square matrix can be evaluated by cofactor expansion along any row. That is, if  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathrm{M}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{F})$ , then for any integer  $1 \le i \le n$ ,

$$\det(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_{j=1}^{n} (-1)^{i+j} \mathbf{A}_{ij} \cdot \det(\widetilde{\mathbf{A}}_{ij}).$$

Here,  $\widetilde{\mathbf{A}}_{ij}$  is the  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$  matrix obtained from  $\mathbf{A}$  by deleting its *i*th row and *j*th column.

## Corollary 1.18

The determinant of any triangular matrix is the product of its diagonals.

## Theorem 1.19

Let A be an  $n \times n$  matrix. Then,

$$\det(\mathbf{A}) = \det(\mathbf{A}^{\top}).$$

So, the determinant of a square matrix can also be evaluated by cofactor expansion along any column.

## Theorem 1.20

Let **A** be an invertible  $n \times n$  matrix. Then,

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(\mathbf{A})} \operatorname{adj}(A),$$

where  $\operatorname{adj}(\mathbf{A})$  is the adjugate/classical adjoint of  $\mathbf{A}$ . That is, the matrix whose (i, j)th entry is the (j, i)th cofactor  $(-1)^{j+i} \det(\widetilde{\mathbf{A}}_{ji})$ 

## Theorem 1.21

For any  $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{F})$ , we have  $\det(\mathbf{AB}) = \det(\mathbf{A}) \cdot \det(\mathbf{B})$ .

#### **Definition 1.22**

A linear operator T on a finite-dimensional vector space V is called *diagonalisable* iff there is an ordered basis  $\beta$  for V such that  $[T]_{\beta}$  is a diagonal matrix. A square matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is called diagonalisable iff  $L_{\mathbf{A}}$  is diagonalisable.

#### **Definition 1.23**

Let T be a linear operator on a vector space V. A nonzero vector  $\mathbf{v} \in V$  is called an *eigenvector* of T iff there exists a scalar  $\lambda$  such that  $T(\mathbf{v}) = \lambda \mathbf{v}$ . The scalar  $\lambda$  is called the *eigenvalue* corresponding to the eigenvector  $\mathbf{v}$ .

Let **A** be in  $M_{n\times n}(\mathbb{F})$ . A nonzero vector  $v\in\mathbb{F}^n$  is called an *eigenvector* of **A** iff v is an eigenvector of  $L_{\mathbf{A}}$ ; that is, iff  $\mathbf{A}v=\lambda v$  for some scalar  $\lambda$ . The scalar  $\lambda$  is called the eigenvalue of **A** corresponding to the eigenvector v.

## **Definition 1.24**

Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathrm{M}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{F})$ . The polynomial  $f(t) = \det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}_n)$  is called the *characteristic polynomial* of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

- A matrix  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{M}_{n \times n}(\mathbb{F})$  is diagonalizable iff there exists an ordered basis  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  for  $\mathbb{F}^n$  consisting of eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{A}$ , i.e. a eigenbasis. Furthermore, if  $\mathbf{Q}$  is the  $n \times n$  matrix whose jth column is  $\mathbf{v}_j$ , then  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q}^{-1}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{Q}$  is a diagonal matrix such that  $d_{jj}$  is the eigenvalue of A corresponding to  $\mathbf{v}_j$ . The matrix  $\mathbf{Q}$  is said to diagonalise  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- Hence, we obtain the following procedure to diagonalise a  $3 \times 3$  matrix **A** with three distinct eigenvalues.
  - 1. Find the eigenvalues  $\lambda_1$ ,  $\lambda_2$ , and  $\lambda_3$  of **A**. They are just the roots of the characteristic polynomial of **A**. This can be done using the GC.
  - 2. Find an eigenvector  $\mathbf{v}_j$  corresponding to each eigenvalue  $\lambda_j$  by finding the nullspace of  $\mathbf{A} \lambda_j \mathbf{I}$ .
  - 3. Let  $\mathbf{Q} = (\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3)$ . Then,

$$\mathbf{D} \coloneqq \mathbf{Q}^{-1} A \mathbf{Q}$$

is a diagonal matrix.

#### Note

Let **A** be a  $3 \times 3$  real matrix with the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . Then, the cross product of two nonzero rows/columns of  $\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}$  is an eigenvector of **A**.

## Theorem 1.25: The Cayley-Hamiliton Theorem.

Let T be a linear operator on a finite dimensional vector space V, and let f(t) be the characteristic polynomial of T. Then  $f(T) = T_0$ , the zero transformation. That is, T "satisfies" its characteristic equation.

#### Corollary 1.26: The Cayley-Hamiliton Theorem for Matrices.

Let A be an  $n \times n$  matrix, and let  $f(\overline{t})$  be the characteristic polynomial of A. Then, f(A) = O, the  $n \times n$  zero matrix.

## G.C. Skills

Finding eigenvalues of a matrix **A** using the GC.

- 1. 2nd  $\Longrightarrow x^{-1}$  (matrix)  $\Longrightarrow$  Key in the matrix A tI, e.g. into [A].
- 2. Plot  $Y_1 = \det([A])$ .
- 3. 2nd  $\Longrightarrow$  trace  $\Longrightarrow$  2:zero  $\Longrightarrow$  Find the roots.

# Chapter 2

# **Numerical Methods**

## **General Information**

- The parity of the degree of a real polynomial is the same as that of its number of real roots.
- Let the real polynomial p given by  $p(x) = a_{2n}x^{2n} + a_{2n-1}x^{2n-1} + \cdots + a_0$  have coefficients  $a_n > 0$  and  $a_0 < 0$ . Then, it has at least one positive and one negative root.
- Suppose we have some function  $f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  with a root  $\alpha$ , whose value we want to approximate. There are three ways to obtain this approximation.
  - 1. Linear interpolation on an interval [a, b] containing  $\alpha$ . We let  $x_0 := b$  and

$$x_{n+1} := \frac{a|f(x_n)| + x_n|f(a)|}{|f(x_n)| + |f(a)|}.$$

- The sequence  $\{x_n\}$  of approximations always converges to  $\alpha$ .
- The smaller f''(x) is (i.e. the slower the gradient f'(x) changes) near  $\alpha$ , the faster the rate of convergence.
- Error:

Concave/Gradient	Positive	Negative
Upwards $\bigcup$	underestimation	overestimation
Downwards \( \)	overestimation	underestimation

**Table 2.1:** Approximation errors when using linear interpolation.

- See Figure 2.1 for an illustration.
- 2. Fixed-point Iteration. First select a function  $F: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ , such that  $F(\alpha) = \alpha$ , and choose some initial approximation  $x_0$  to  $\alpha$ . Then, we recursively define  $x_{n+1} := F(x_n)$ . The desired convergence behavior is for  $x_n$  to approach  $\alpha$ .
  - Convergence behavior

Behvaior of $ F'(x) $	Converges?	Rate of convergence
$ F'(x)  < 1$ and is small near $\alpha$	<b>√</b>	fast
$ F'(x)  < 1$ but is close to 1 near $\alpha$	✓	slow
$ F'(x)  \ge 1 \text{ near } \alpha$	×	-

Table 2.2: Convergence behavior of fixed-point iterations.

- See Figure 2.2 for an illustration.

3. The Newton-Raphson Method. For a function  $f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  with a root  $\alpha$ , the Newton-Raphson formula is

$$x_{n+1} \coloneqq x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}.$$

- The Newton-Raphson method fails in the following cases.
  - (a) The gradient at  $x_0$  is too gentle.
  - (b) The gradient changes too rapidly.
  - (c) The initial approximation  $x_0$  is too far from the root  $\alpha$ .
  - (d) There is a turning point between the initial approximation  $x_0$  and the root  $\alpha$ .
  - (e) There is a point of inflection where the concavity changes/the sign of f''(x) changes.
- Error:

Concave/Gradient	Positive	Negative
Upwards U	overestimation	underestimation
Downwards \( \)	underestimation	overestimation

Table 2.3: Approximation errors when using the Newton-Raphson method.

- See Figure 2.3 for an illustration.

Screw trying to make nice diagonal cells. Pain. Suffering.

#### Note

At every iteration of linear interpolation, we must ensure that  $\alpha \in [a, x_n]$ . Otherwise  $x_n$  may not approximate  $\alpha$ . If  $\alpha \notin [a, x_n]$ , simply consider  $\alpha \in [x_n, b]$  (or any other suitable interval) instead.

## Note

If the question asks for the approximation of a root to k significant figures/k decimal places, then our iterative process must be continued until two consecutive iterations agree up to k+2 significant figures/k+2 decimal places.

#### G.C. Skills

Linear interpolation: finding an approximation to a root in [a, b] up to n decimal places.

- 1.  $Y_1 = f(x)$ ,
- 2.  $a \to A$  and  $b \to B$ ,
- 3.  $\frac{B|Y_1(A)| + A|Y_1(B)|}{|Y_1(A)| + |Y_1(B)|},$
- 4. Ans  $\rightarrow A$  or B (choose the one that has the opposite sign to Ans),
- 5. Repeat steps 4 to 5,
- 6. Terminate this process when the approximations are consistent up to n decimal places.

You can freely enter any function and shift the initial values in the Desmos graphs below!

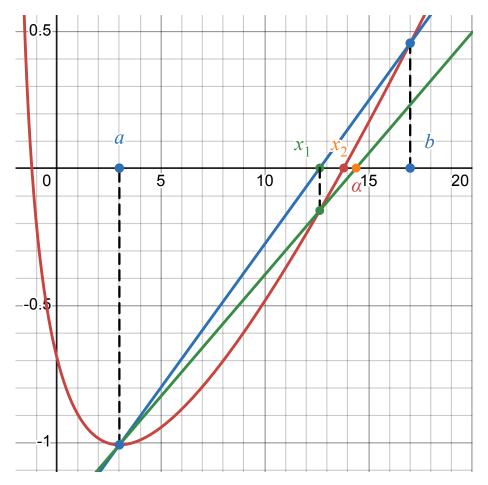


Figure 2.1: An illustration of linear interpolation (Desmos).

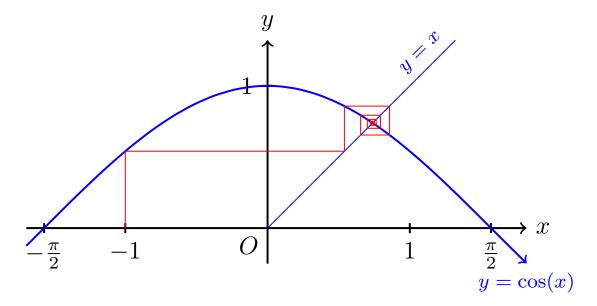


Figure 2.2: An illustration of fixed-point iteration.

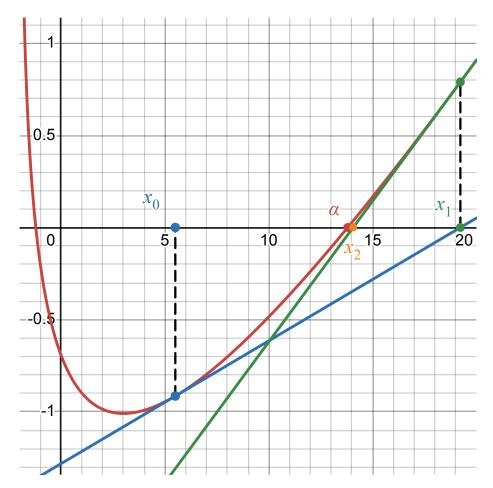


Figure 2.3: An illustration of Newton's Method (Desmos).