

3.3.2

Suppose $x_n \rightarrow q$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. By rearranging the secant method, we have $f(x_n) = (x_n - x_{n+1}) \left[\frac{f(x_n) - f(x_{n-1})}{x_n - x_{n-1}} \right]$. Taking the limit of this expression gives $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (x_n - x_{n+1}) \left[\frac{f(x_n) - f(x_{n-1})}{x_n - x_{n-1}} \right]$. By the Mean Value Theorem, we know $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[\frac{f(x_n) - f(x_{n-1})}{x_n - x_{n-1}} \right] = f'(q)$. From the problem, we know $f'(q) \neq 0$, so we arrive at $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(x_n) = f(q) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (x_n - x_{n+1}) * f'(q) = (q - q) * f'(q) = 0$. Thus, q is a zero.

3.3.3

Let us begin by finding the Taylor expansions of $f(x + h)$ and $f(x + k)$. We find $f(x + h) \approx f(x) + f'(x) * h + \frac{1}{2} f''(x) h^2$. Likewise, $f(x + k) \approx f(x) + f'(x) * k + \frac{1}{2} f''(x) k^2$. Rearranging the second expansion gives $\frac{f(x+k) - f(x) - f'(x)k}{k^2} \approx \frac{1}{2} f''(x)$. We plug this in to the first expansion to find $f(x + h) \approx f(x) + f'(x) * h + \left[\frac{f(x+k) - f(x) - f'(x)k}{k^2} \right] * h^2$. Rearranging this gives $f(x + h) * k^2 - f(x) * k^2 - f'(x) * h k^2 - f(x + k) h^2 + f(x) h^2 + f'(x) * h^2 k = 0$.