

$$f(x) = \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\log(x)}{x}\right)}{x}$$

The zeros of the function $f(x)$ are where

$$\frac{\log(x)}{x} = i\pi \quad \text{where} \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

We want to find all of the zeros in the interval $(0, 1)$

① Plot the function using Wolfram alpha so you can see what it looks like.

② I notice that there appears to be a zero at $x=1$ and then increasingly more zeros as x approaches 0

Check if $x=1$ is a zero $f(1) = \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\log(1)}{1}\right)}{1} = \sin(0) = 0$ ✓

There appears to be no zeros after $x=1$. This can be checked by taking the derivative etc.

The question is then, where does

$$\frac{\sin\left(\frac{\log(x)}{x}\right)}{x} = 0 \Rightarrow \sin\left(\frac{\log(x)}{x}\right) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\log(x)}{x} = i\pi$$

$i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

and how do I efficiently find those using MATLAB.

There are several ways that you could consider using the `fzero` command to do this.

Here is the way that is outlined in the assignment with more steps to make it easier to follow the algebra. Note that i here is an index and NOT the imaginary constant $\sqrt{-1}$

We want to solve

This is because $\log(a_i) < 0$ when $0 < a_i < 1$ and a_i is positive

$$\frac{\log(a_i)}{a_i} = -i\pi$$

where a_1 is the value that makes this expression true when $i=1$ and a_2 is the value that makes this expression true when $i=2$ etc.

$$\text{Then } \frac{\log(a_i)}{a_i} + i\pi = 0$$

$$\text{given } \begin{aligned} e^{\log(a_i)} &= a_i \\ e^{-\log(a_i)} &= \frac{1}{a_i} \end{aligned}$$

$$\log(a_i) \cdot e^{-\log(a_i)} + i\pi = 0$$

$$\text{Let } b_i = -\log(a_i) \quad \text{Then } a_i = e^{-b_i}$$

$$\text{And } -b_i \cdot e^{b_i} + i\pi = 0 \quad \text{or}$$

$$b_i e^{b_i} - i\pi = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad a_i = e^{-b_i}$$