Binomial expansion 4A

1 **a** i
$$(1+x)^{-4} = 1 + (-4)x + \frac{(-4)(-5)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{(-4)(-5)(-6)}{3!}x^3 + \dots$$

= $1 - 4x + 10x^2 - 20x^3 + \dots$

ii
$$|x| < 1$$

b i
$$(1+x)^{-6} = 1 + (-6)x + \frac{(-6)(-7)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{(-6)(-7)(-8)}{3!}x^3 + \dots$$

= $1 - 6x + 21x^2 - 56x^3 + \dots$

ii
$$|x| < 1$$

$$\mathbf{c} \quad \mathbf{i} \quad (1+x)^{\frac{1}{2}} = 1 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)x + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2} - 1\right)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2} - 1\right)\left(\frac{1}{2} - 2\right)}{3!}x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)x + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)}{2}x^2 + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)}{6}x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{8}x^2 + \frac{1}{16}x^3 + \dots$$

ii
$$|x| < 1$$

d i
$$(1+x)^{\frac{5}{3}} = 1 + \left(\frac{5}{3}\right)x + \frac{\left(\frac{5}{3}\right)\left(\frac{5}{3} - 1\right)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{\left(\frac{5}{3}\right)\left(\frac{5}{3} - 1\right)\left(\frac{5}{3} - 2\right)}{3!}x^3 + \dots$$

$$(1+x)^{\frac{5}{3}} = 1 + \left(\frac{5}{3}\right)x + \frac{\left(\frac{5}{3}\right)\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)}{2}x^2 + \frac{\left(\frac{5}{3}\right)\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)}{6}x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + \frac{5}{3}x + \frac{5}{9}x^2 - \frac{5}{81}x^3 + \dots$$

ii
$$|x| < 1$$

1 e i
$$(1+x)^{\frac{1}{4}} = 1 + \left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)x + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{4}-1\right)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{4}-1\right)\left(-\frac{1}{4}-2\right)}{3!}x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + \left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)x + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)\left(-\frac{5}{4}\right)}{2}x^2 + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)\left(-\frac{5}{4}\right)\left(-\frac{9}{4}\right)}{6}x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 - \frac{1}{4}x + \frac{5}{32}x^2 - \frac{15}{128}x^3 + \dots$$

ii
$$|x| < 1$$

$$\mathbf{f} \quad \mathbf{i} \quad (1+x)^{\frac{3}{2}} = 1 + \left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)x + \frac{\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{3}{2}-1\right)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{3}{2}-1\right)\left(-\frac{3}{2}-2\right)}{3!}x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + \left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)x + \frac{\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{5}{2}\right)}{2}x^2 + \frac{\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{5}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{7}{2}\right)}{6}x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 - \frac{3}{2}x + \frac{15}{8}x^2 - \frac{35}{16}x^3 + \dots$$

ii
$$|x| < 1$$

2 **a** i
$$(1+3x)^{-3} = 1 + (-3)(3x) + \frac{(-3)(-4)}{2!}(3x)^2 + \frac{(-3)(-4)(-5)}{3!}(3x)^3 + \dots$$

= $1 + (-3)(3x) + \frac{(-3)(-4)}{2}9x^2 + \frac{(-3)(-4)(-5)}{6}27x^3 + \dots$
= $1 - 9x + 54x^2 - 270x^3 + \dots$

$$|3x| < 1$$

$$|x| < \frac{1}{3}$$

b i
$$\left(1 + \frac{1}{2}x\right)^{-5} = 1 + (-5)\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right) + \frac{(-5)(-6)}{2!}\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right)^2 + \frac{(-5)(-6)(-7)}{3!}\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right)^3 + \dots$$

 $= 1 + (-5)\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right) + \frac{(-5)(-6)}{2}\frac{1}{4}x^2 + \frac{(-5)(-6)(-7)}{6}\frac{1}{8}x^3 + \dots$
 $= 1 - \frac{5}{2}x + \frac{15}{4}x^2 - \frac{35}{8}x^3 + \dots$

2 c i
$$(1+2x)^{\frac{3}{4}} = 1 + \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)(2x) + \frac{\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)\left(\frac{3}{4}-1\right)}{2!}(2x)^2 + \frac{\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)\left(\frac{3}{4}-1\right)\left(\frac{3}{4}-2\right)}{3!}(2x)^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)(2x) + \frac{\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)}{2}4x^2 + \frac{\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)\left(-\frac{5}{4}\right)}{6}8x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + \frac{3}{2}x - \frac{3}{8}x^2 + \frac{5}{16}x^3 + \dots$$

ii
$$|2x| < 1$$
 $|x| < \frac{1}{2}$

$$\mathbf{d} \quad \mathbf{i} \quad (1-5x)^{\frac{7}{3}} = 1 + \left(\frac{7}{3}\right)(-5x) + \frac{\left(\frac{7}{3}\right)\left(\frac{7}{3} - 1\right)}{2!}(-5x)^2 + \frac{\left(\frac{7}{3}\right)\left(\frac{7}{3} - 1\right)\left(\frac{7}{3} - 2\right)}{3!}(-5x)^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 - \left(\frac{7}{3}\right)5x + \frac{\left(\frac{7}{3}\right)\left(\frac{4}{3}\right)}{2}25x^2 - \frac{\left(\frac{7}{3}\right)\left(\frac{4}{3}\right)\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)}{6}125x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 - \frac{35}{3}x + \frac{350}{9}x^2 - \frac{1750}{81}x^3 + \dots$$

$$|x| < \frac{1}{5}$$

e i
$$(1+6x)^{\frac{2}{3}} = 1 + \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)(6x) + \frac{\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{2}{3}-1\right)}{2!}(6x)^2 + \frac{\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{2}{3}-1\right)\left(-\frac{2}{3}-2\right)}{3!}(6x)^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)(6x) + \frac{\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{5}{3}\right)}{2}36x^2 + \frac{\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{5}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{8}{3}\right)}{6}216x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 - 4x + 20x^2 - \frac{320}{3}x^3 + \dots$$

$$ii \quad |6x| < 1$$

$$|x| < \frac{1}{6}$$

2 f i

$$\left(1 - \frac{3}{4}x\right)^{\frac{5}{3}} = 1 + \left(-\frac{5}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{3}{4}x\right) + \frac{\left(-\frac{5}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{5}{3} - 1\right)}{2!}\left(-\frac{3}{4}x\right)^{2} + \frac{\left(-\frac{5}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{5}{3} - 1\right)\left(-\frac{5}{3} - 2\right)}{3!}\left(-\frac{3}{4}x\right)^{3} + \dots \\
= 1 + \left(-\frac{5}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{3}{4}x\right) + \frac{\left(-\frac{5}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{8}{3}\right)}{2}\frac{9}{16}x^{2} - \frac{\left(-\frac{5}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{8}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{11}{3}\right)}{6}\frac{27}{64}x^{3} + \dots \\
= 1 + \frac{5}{4}x + \frac{5}{4}x^{2} + \frac{55}{48}x^{3} + \dots$$

$$ii \left| -\frac{3}{4}x \right| < 1$$

$$|x| < \frac{4}{3}$$

3 **a** i
$$\frac{1}{(1+x)^2} = (1+x)^{-2} = 1 + (-2)x + \frac{(-2)(-3)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{(-2)(-3)(-4)}{3!}x^3 + \dots$$

= $1 - 2x + 3x^2 - 4x^3 + \dots$

ii
$$|x| < 1$$

b i
$$\frac{1}{(1+3x)^4} = (1+3x)^{-4} = 1 + (-4)(3x) + \frac{(-4)(-5)}{2!}(3x)^2 + \frac{(-4)(-5)(-6)}{3!}(3x)^3 + \dots$$

= $1 + (-4)(3x) + \frac{(-4)(-5)}{2}9x^2 + \frac{(-4)(-5)(-6)}{6}27x^3 + \dots$
= $1 - 12x + 90x^2 - 540x^3 + \dots$

ii
$$|3x| < 1$$

 $|x| < \frac{1}{3}$

3 **c** i
$$\sqrt{1-x} = (1-x)^{\frac{1}{2}} = 1 + (\frac{1}{2})(-x) + \frac{(\frac{1}{2})(\frac{1}{2}-1)}{2!}(-x)^2 + \frac{(\frac{1}{2})(\frac{1}{2}-1)(\frac{1}{2}-2)}{3!}(-x)^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 - (\frac{1}{2})x + \frac{(\frac{1}{2})(-\frac{1}{2})}{2}x^2 - \frac{(\frac{1}{2})(-\frac{1}{2})(-\frac{3}{2})}{6}x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 - \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{8}x^2 - \frac{1}{16}x^3 + \dots$$

$$|-x| < 1$$

$$|x| < 1$$

$$3 d i \frac{\sqrt[3]{1-3x}}{\sqrt[3]{1-3x}} = (1-3x)^{\frac{1}{3}} = 1 + \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)(-3x) + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)\left(\frac{1}{3}-1\right)}{2!}(-3x)^2 + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)\left(\frac{1}{3}-1\right)\left(\frac{1}{3}-2\right)}{3!}(-3x)^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 - \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)3x + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)}{2}9x^2 - \frac{\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{5}{3}\right)}{6}27x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 - x - x^2 - \frac{5}{3}x^3 + \dots$$

$$ii \quad \left| -3x \right| < 1$$

$$\left| x \right| < \frac{1}{3}$$

e i

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\frac{1}{2}x}} = \left(1+\frac{1}{2}x\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = 1+\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right) + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2}-1\right)}{2!}\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right)^{2} + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2}-1\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2}-2\right)}{3!}\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right)^{3} + \dots$$

$$= 1+\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}x\right) + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)}{2}\frac{1}{4}x^{2} + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{5}{2}\right)}{6}\frac{1}{8}x^{3} + \dots$$

$$= 1-\frac{1}{4}x + \frac{3}{32}x^{2} - \frac{5}{128}x^{3} + \dots$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{ii} & \left| \frac{1}{2} x \right| < 1 \\ |x| < 2$$

3 f i

$$\frac{\sqrt[3]{1-2x}}{1-2x} = (1-2x)^{-\frac{2}{3}} = 1 + \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)(-2x) + \frac{\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{2}{3}-1\right)}{2!}(-2x)^2 + \frac{\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{2}{3}-1\right)\left(-\frac{2}{3}-2\right)}{3!}(-2x)^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 - \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)2x + \frac{\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{5}{3}\right)}{2}4x^2 - \frac{\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{5}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{8}{3}\right)}{6}8x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + \frac{4}{3}x + \frac{20}{9}x^2 + \frac{320}{81}x^3 + \dots$$

ii
$$|-2x| < 1$$

 $|x| < \frac{1}{2}$

4 a
$$\frac{1+x}{1-2x} = (1+x)(1-2x)^{-1}$$
 Expand $(1-2x)^{-1}$ using binomial expansion
$$= (1+x)\left(1+(-1)(-2x)+\frac{(-1)(-2)(-2x)^2}{2!}+\frac{(-1)(-2)(-3)(-2x)^3}{3!}+\ldots\right)$$

$$= (1+x)(1+2x+4x^2+8x^3+\ldots)$$
 Multiply out
$$= 1+2x+4x^2+8x^3+\ldots+x+2x^2+4x^3+8x^4+\ldots$$
 Add like terms
$$= 1+3x+6x^2+12x^3+\ldots$$

- **b** $(1-2x)^{-1}$ is only valid when $|-2x| < 1 \Rightarrow |x| < \frac{1}{2}$ So expansion of $\frac{1+x}{1-2x}$ is only valid when $|x| < \frac{1}{2}$
- 5 **a** $f(x) = (1+3x)^{\frac{1}{2}} = 1 + (\frac{1}{2})(3x) + \frac{(\frac{1}{2})(\frac{1}{2}-1)}{2!}(3x)^2 + \frac{(\frac{1}{2})(\frac{1}{2}-1)(\frac{1}{2}-2)}{3!}(3x)^3 + \dots$ $= 1 + (\frac{1}{2})(3x) + \frac{(\frac{1}{2})(-\frac{1}{2})}{2}9x^2 + \frac{(\frac{1}{2})(-\frac{1}{2})(-\frac{3}{2})}{6}27x^3 + \dots$ $= 1 + \frac{3x}{2} - \frac{9x^2}{8} + \frac{27x^3}{16} + \dots$

b When
$$x = \frac{1}{100}$$
, $f(x) = \sqrt{1 + 3\left(\frac{1}{100}\right)} = \sqrt{\frac{103}{100}} = \frac{\sqrt{103}}{10}$

c Using the expansion:

$$f(0.01) \approx 1 + \frac{3(0.01)}{2} - \frac{9(0.01)^2}{8} + \frac{27(0.01)^3}{16}$$

= 1.014889188...

Percentage error =
$$\frac{1.014889188 - \frac{\sqrt{103}}{10}}{\frac{\sqrt{103}}{10}} \times 100 = 0.0000031\%$$

6 a
$$(1+ax)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = 1 + \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)(ax) + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2}-1\right)}{2!}(ax)^2 + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2}-1\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2}-2\right)}{3!}(ax)^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)(ax) + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)}{2}a^2x^2 + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{5}{2}\right)}{6}a^3x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 - \frac{ax}{2} + \frac{3a^2x^2}{8} - \frac{5a^3x^3}{16} + \dots$$

$$\frac{3a^2}{8} = 24$$

$$a^2 = 64$$

$$a = \pm 8$$

b When
$$a = 8$$
, $-\frac{5(8)^3}{16} = -160$
When $a = -8$, $-\frac{5(-8)^3}{16} = 160$

7 For small values of x, ignore terms in x^3 and higher.

For small values of
$$x$$
, ignore terms in x^3 and higher.
$$\sqrt{\frac{1+x}{1-x}} = (1+x)^{\frac{1}{2}}(1-x)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$(1+x)^{\frac{1}{2}} = 1 + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)x + \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}-1\right)}{2!}x^2$$

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

$$= 1 + \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{8}x^2$$

$$(1-x)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = 1 + \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)(-x) + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2}-1\right)}{2!}(-x)^2$$

$$= 1 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)}{2}x^2$$

$$= 1 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{3}{8}x^2$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{1+x}{1-x}} = (1+x)^{\frac{1}{2}}(1-x)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \left(1 + \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{8}x^2\right)\left(1 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{3}{8}x^2\right)$$

$$= 1 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{3}{8}x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{4}x^2 - \frac{1}{8}x^2$$

$$= 1 + x + \frac{1}{2}x^2$$

8 a
$$h(x) = \frac{6}{1+5x} - \frac{4}{1-3x} = 6(1+5x)^{-1} - 4(1-3x)^{-1}$$

 $(1+5x)^{-1} = 1 + (-1)(5x) + \frac{(-1)(-2)}{2!}(5x)^2 + \dots$
 $= 1 + (-1)(5x) + \frac{(-1)(-2)}{2}25x^2 + \dots$
 $= 1 - 5x + 25x^2 + \dots$
 $(1-3x)^{-1} = 1 + (-1)(-3x) + \frac{(-1)(-2)}{2!}(-3x)^2 + \dots$
 $= 1 + (-1)(-3x) + \frac{(-1)(-2)}{2}9x^2 + \dots$
 $= 1 + 3x + 9x^2 + \dots$
 $h(x) = 6(1+5x)^{-1} - 4(1-3x)^{-1}$
 $= 6(1-5x+25x^2+\dots) - 4(1+3x+9x^2+\dots)$
 $= 6-30x+150x^2-4-12x-36x^2+\dots$
 $= 2-42x+114x^2+\dots$

b
$$h(0.01) = \frac{6}{1+5(0.01)} - \frac{4}{1-3(0.01)} = 1.590574374$$

 $h(0.01) = 2-42(0.01) + 114(0.01)^2 = 1.5914$
 $\frac{1.5914 - 1.590574374}{1.590574374} \times 100 = 0.052\%$

c The expansion is only valid for $|x| < \frac{1}{5}$. |0.5| is not less than $\frac{1}{5}$

9 **a**
$$(1-3x)^{\frac{3}{2}} = 1 + \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)(-3x) + \frac{\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)\left(\frac{3}{2}-1\right)}{2!}(-3x)^2 + \frac{\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)\left(\frac{3}{2}-1\right)\left(\frac{3}{2}-2\right)}{3!}(-3x)^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)(-3x) + \frac{\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{2}9x^2 - \frac{\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)}{6}27x^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 - \frac{9x}{2} + \frac{27x^2}{8} + \frac{27x^3}{16} + \dots$$

b When
$$x = \frac{1}{100}$$
, $\left(1 - 3\left(\frac{1}{100}\right)\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} = \left(\frac{97}{100}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}} = \left(\frac{\sqrt{97}}{10}\right)^{3} = \frac{97\sqrt{97}}{1000}$

$$\mathbf{c} \quad \left(\sqrt{0.97}\right)^3 = 1 - \frac{9(0.01)}{2} + \frac{27(0.01)^2}{8} + \frac{27(0.01)^3}{16} = 0.955339...$$

$$\sqrt{0.97} = \sqrt[3]{0.955339...} = 0.984886$$

$$\sqrt{97} = \sqrt{0.97 \times 100} = 0.984886 \times 10 = 9.84886$$

d To improve the accuracy of this approximation, use more terms from the binomial expansion of $(1-3x)^{\frac{3}{2}}$

Challenge

$$\mathbf{a} \quad \left(1 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = 1 + \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{2} - 1\right)}{2!}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^2 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) + \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)}{2} \frac{1}{x^2} + \dots$$

$$= 1 - \frac{1}{2x} + \frac{3}{8x^2} + \dots$$

b
$$h(9) = \left(1 + \frac{1}{9}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \left(\frac{10}{9}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \left(\frac{9}{10}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{10}} = \frac{3\sqrt{10}}{10}$$

c
$$h(9) = \frac{3\sqrt{10}}{10}$$

 $\frac{10}{3}h(9) = \sqrt{10}$
So $\sqrt{10} = \frac{10}{3}\left(1 - \frac{1}{2(9)} + \frac{3}{8(9)^2}\right)$
 $= \frac{10}{3}\left(1 - \frac{1}{18} + \frac{3}{648}\right)$
 $= 3\frac{52}{324} = 3.16$