

**EX.1.5.6, Sauer3**

If the Secant Method converges to  $r$ ,  $f'(r) \neq 0$ , and  $f''(r) \neq 0$ , then the approximate error relationship  $e_{i+1} \approx |f''(r)/(2f'(r))|e_i e_{i-1}$  can be shown to hold. Prove that if in addition  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} e_{i+1}/e_i^\alpha$  exists and is nonzero for some  $\alpha > 0$ , then  $\alpha = (1 + \sqrt{5})/2$  and  $e_{i+1} \approx |(f''(r)/2f'(r))|^{\alpha-1} e_i^\alpha$ .