2017 Oral Exam: Probability and Statistics Overall

Problem 1. Let $\epsilon_1, ..., \epsilon_n, ...$ be a sequence of i.i.d. random variables with mean 0 and finite variance σ^2 . Let x_1 be a constant, and

$$y_n = m(x_n) + \epsilon_n; \quad x_{n+1} = x_n - cy_n/n, \quad \forall n \ge 1,$$

where c is a positive constant. Suppose that m(x) is smooth and strictly increasing and $m(x^*) = 0$. Show that x_n converges to x^* in probability.