

Applications of derivatives and integrals

Finite Variations Inequalities

and their applications on sequences

1. Finite Variations Inequalities :

1. General form : If a function  $f$  is differentiable on  $[a;b]$  and such that for any  $x \in [a;b]$ ,  $m \leq f'(x) \leq M$ , then for any interval  $[u;v] \subseteq [a;b]$   $m \leq \frac{f(v) - f(u)}{v - u} \leq M$
2. Particular form :  $m(b-a) \leq f(b) - f(a) \leq M(b-a)$
3. Reduced form :  $|f'(x)| \leq M \Rightarrow |f(b) - f(a)| \leq M|b - a|$

**Proof** : from the MVT we know that there is one  $c \in [u;v]$  such that  $f'(c) = \frac{f(v) - f(u)}{v - u}$   
 Then the initial conditions on  $f'(x)$  give the result.

2. Application to prove the convergence of some recursive sequences :

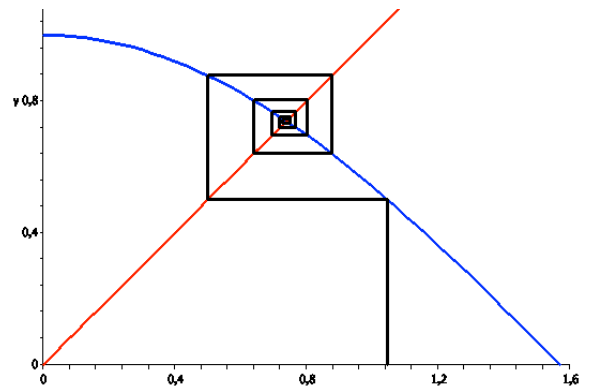
1. General case : Let  $(u_n)$  be defined by  $u_{n+1} = f(u_n)$  and  $u_0$  fixed, with  $f$  defined on  $[a;b]$ , such that :
  - i. for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $a \leq u_n \leq b$
  - ii. There is a fixed point  $\alpha = f(\alpha)$ ,  $\alpha \in [a;b]$
  - iii.  $|f'(x)| \leq k$  for any  $x$  on  $[a;b]$  with  $0 < k < 1$ . Then for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$|u_{n+1} - \alpha| = |f(u_n) - f(\alpha)| \leq k \cdot |u_n - \alpha|$$

Therefore, by immediate recurrence we have ,

$$|u_n - \alpha| \leq k^n \cdot |u_0 - \alpha|$$

Since  $\lim k^n = 0$ , then  $\lim |u_n - \alpha| = 0$  which means that  $\lim u_n = \alpha$  (fixed point of  $f$ ).



2. Example :  $f = \text{cosine}$ ,  $a=0$ ,  $b=\pi/3$ ,  $u_0 = \pi/3$ ,  $f'(x) = -\sin(x) \Rightarrow |f'(x)| \leq \sqrt{3}/2$

there is obviously a fixed point  $\alpha$ , such that  $\alpha = \cos(\alpha)$  (Inerception of the first bisector ( $y=x$ ) with the curve of Cosine on the interval  $[0 ; \pi/3]$ ).

Then we have  $|u_n - \alpha| \leq k^n \cdot |u_0 - \alpha|$  with  $k = \sqrt{3}/2 \therefore |k| < 1$ .

Hence we may obtain an approximate value of  $\alpha$  by majoring  $|u_0 - \alpha| = |\pi/3 - \alpha|$

by  $\pi/6$  and then for  $n = 10$  we would have  $|u_{10} - \alpha| \leq (\sqrt{3}/2)^{10} \cdot \pi/6 = 0.12$

which means that  $\alpha = \cos(\cos(\cos(\cos(\cos(\cos(\cos(\cos(\cos(\cos(\pi/3))))))))))$  with an error less than  $10^{-2}$ . A calculator gives  $\alpha \approx 0.75$  radians or approximately  $43^\circ$ .