

10 The function $f(x)$ is defined by $f(x) = x^4 + x^3 - 2x^2 - 4x - 2$.

(a) Show that $x = -1$ is a root of $f(x) = 0$. **[1]**

(b) Show that another root of $f(x) = 0$ lies between $x = 1$ and $x = 2$. **[2]**

(c) Show that $f(x) = (x+1)g(x)$, where $g(x) = x^3 + ax + b$ and a and b are integers to be determined. **[3]**

(d) Without further calculation, explain why $g(x) = 0$ has a root between $x = 1$ and $x = 2$. **[1]**

(e) Use the Newton-Raphson formula to show that an iteration formula for finding roots of $g(x) = 0$ may be written

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{2x_n^3 + 2}{3x_n^2 - 2}.$$

Determine the root of $g(x) = 0$ which lies between $x = 1$ and $x = 2$ correct to 4 significant figures. **[3]**