

# On the Roots of Lower Binomials

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- Quadratic formula
- Completing the Square

# Roots of a Trinomial

How do we find the roots of

$$f(x) = -0.142702 - 0.616906x^{10} + 0.773992x^{39}?$$

For small  $|x|$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}f(x) &= -0.142702 - 0.616906x^{10} + 0.773992x^{39} \\ &\approx -0.142702 - 0.616906x^{10}\end{aligned}$$

For large  $|x|$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}f(x) &= -0.142702 - 0.616906x^{10} + 0.773992x^{39} \\ &\approx -0.616906x^{10} + 0.773992x^{39}\end{aligned}$$

Instead of

$$f(x) = -0.142702 - 0.616906x^{10} + 0.773992x^{39}$$

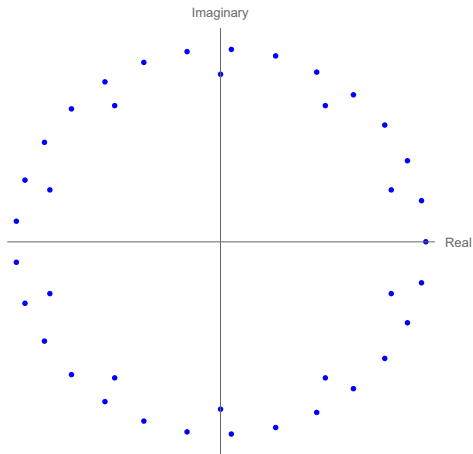
look at the *binomials*

$$f_1(x) = -0.142702 - 0.616906x^{10}$$

and

$$f_2(x) = -0.616906x^{10} + 0.773992x^{39}$$

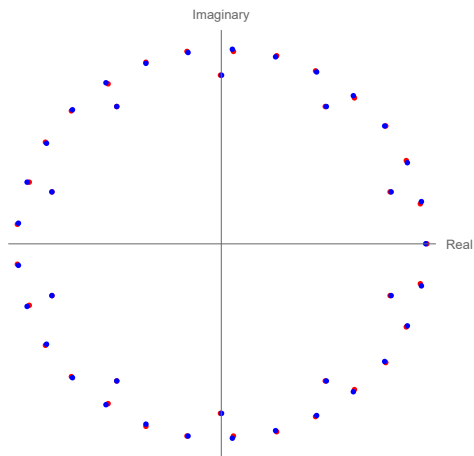
# Roots of the Binomials



Roots of  $f_1$  and  $f_2$

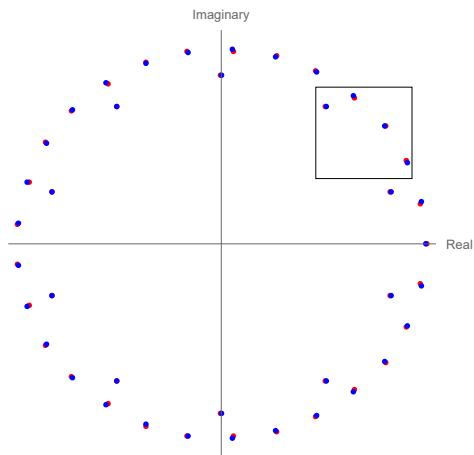


# Roots of $f$ and its binomials



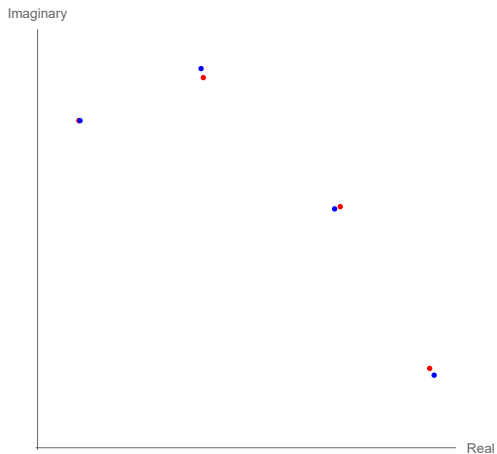
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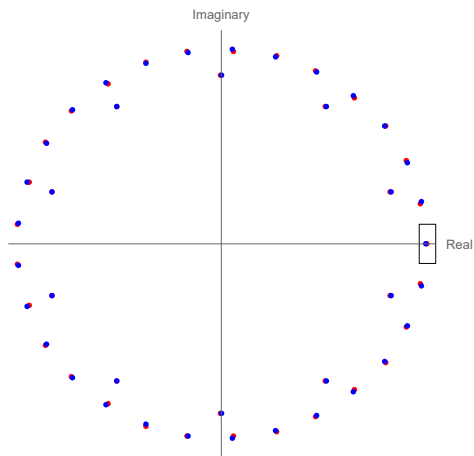
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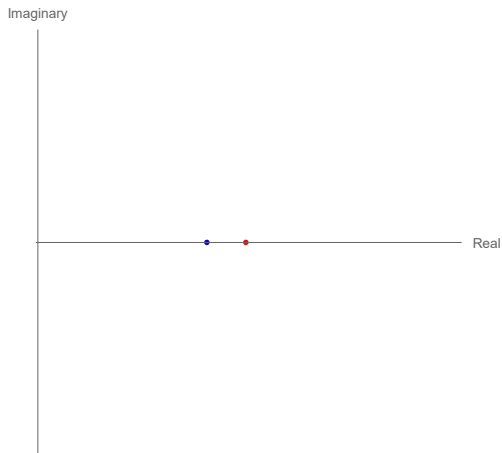
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# Roots of $f$ and its binomials



Roots of  $f$  and binomials  $f_1$  and  $f_2$

# Roots of $f$ and its binomials



Positive roots of  $f$  and binomials  $f_1$  and  $f_2$

# Why Binomials?

$$g(x) = c_0x^{a_0} + c_1x^{a_1}, \quad \text{for } 0 \leq a_0 < a_1$$

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- We can find their roots explicitly! For  $0 \leq k < a_1 - a_0$ ,

$$x = \sqrt[a_1 - a_0]{\left| \frac{c_0}{c_1} \right|} \left( \cos \left( \frac{2\pi k}{a_1 - a_0} \right) + i \sin \left( \frac{2\pi k}{a_1 - a_0} \right) \right).$$

# Archimedean Newton Polygon

For  $f(x) = c_0x^{a_0} + c_1x^{a_1} + c_2x^{a_2}$  we define

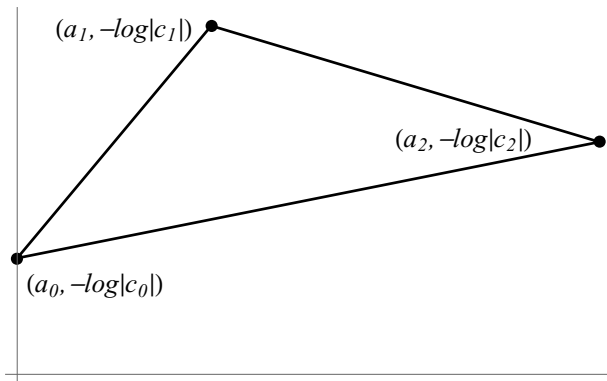
$$\text{ArchNewt}(f) = \text{Conv}\{(a_i, -\log |c_i|) \mid i \in \{0, 1, 2\}\}.$$



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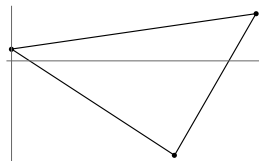
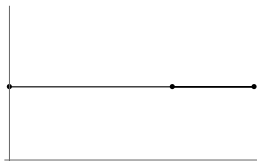
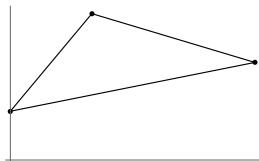
For  $f(x) = c_0x^{a_0} + c_1x^{a_1} + c_2x^{a_2}$  we define

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# Forms of ArchNewt( $f$ )

Since  $f$  is a trinomial, ArchNewt( $f$ ) looks like one of the following triangles.



## Definition

Consider a univariate trinomial  $f \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ .

$$f(x) = c_0 + c_1x^{a_1} + c_2x^{a_2}.$$

The *lower binomials* of  $f$  are the binomial summands that correspond to the lower edges of the  $\text{ArchNewt}(f)$ .

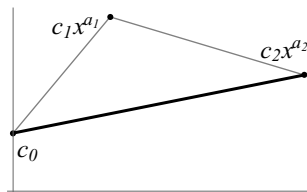
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$$\text{Lower Binomial } f_1(x) = c_0 + c_2x^{a_2}$$

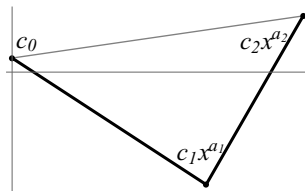
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Lower Binomials  $f_1(x) = c_0 + c_1x^{a_1}$  and  $f_2(x) = c_1x^{a_1} + c_2x^{a_2}$

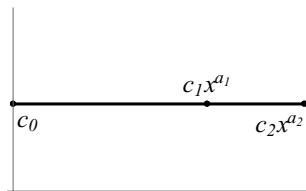
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No Lower Binomial

## Lemma

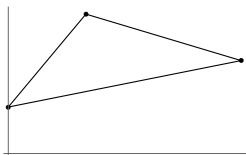
For a given trinomial  $f(x) = c_0 + c_1x^{a_1} + c_2x^{a_2}$ , define the *Flatness Condition*

$$F = \frac{-\log |c_1| + \log |c_0|}{a_1} - \frac{-\log |c_2| + \log |c_0|}{a_2}.$$

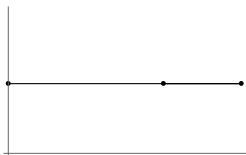
If  $F > 0$ , the trinomial  $f$  has one lower binomial. If  $F < 0$ , the trinomial  $f$  has two lower binomials.

# Flatness Condition

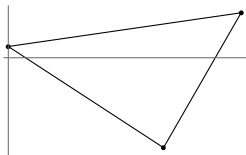
If  $F > 0$ ,



If  $F = 0$ ,



If  $F < 0$ ,





## Definition

Given a univariate trinomial  $f \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ ,

$$f(x) = c_0 + c_1x^{a_1} + c_2x^{a_2}.$$

- 1 If  $f$  has one lower edge ( $F > 0$ ), then  $c_0 + c_2x^{a_2}$  is the lower binomial of  $f$ .
- 2 If  $f$  has two lower edges ( $F < 0$ ), then  $c_0 + c_1x^{a_1}$  and  $c_1x^{a_1} + c_2x^{a_2}$  are the lower binomials of  $f$ .

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The lower binomials of

$$f(x) = -0.142702 - 0.616906x^{10} + 0.773992x^{39}$$

are

$$f_1(x) = -0.142702 - 0.616906x^{10}$$

and

$$f_2(x) = -0.616906x^{10} + 0.773992x^{39}.$$

# Roots of Lower Binomials

## Question 1

How can we approximate the roots of a trinomial using the roots of its correspondent lower binomials?

## Question 2

How often does a trinomial have as many positive roots as its lower binomials?

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How can we use the roots of lower binomials to approximate the roots of the trinomial?

# Newton's Method

Let  $f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a polynomial. Define,

$$N(f, z_0) = \begin{cases} z_0 - f(z_0)/f'(z_0) & \text{if } f'(z_0) \neq 0 \\ z_0 & \text{if } f'(z_0) = 0 \end{cases},$$

and

$$N^{(k)}(f, z_0) = \underbrace{(N \circ N \circ \cdots \circ N)}_{k \text{ times}}(f, z_0).$$

Newton's method is used to approximate roots of a function.

## Definition

Let  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ , then the sequence of Newtons iterates is the sequence  $(z_0, z_1, \dots, z_n)$  defined by  $z_{n+1} := N(f, z_n)$ . Also, if this sequence satisfies

$$|z_n - \zeta| \leq \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{2^n - 1} |z_0 - \zeta|$$

for some true root  $\zeta$  of  $f$  then we call  $z_0$  an **approximate root** of  $f$ .



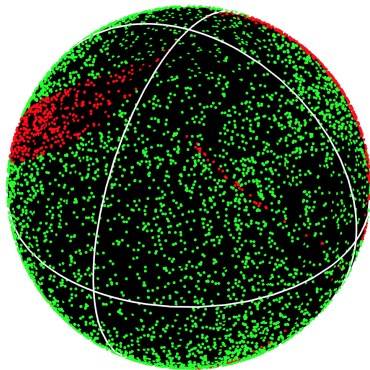
## Theorem

If  $f$  is a polynomial and  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  such that

$$\alpha(f, z) \leq \frac{13 - 3\sqrt{17}}{4} \approx 0.157671$$

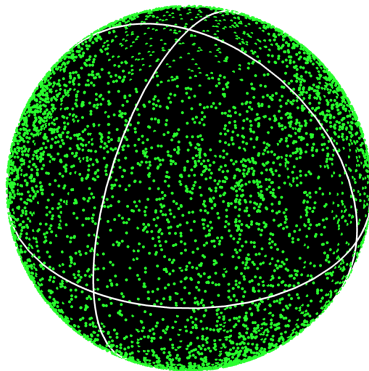
then  $z$  is an **approximate solution** to  $f$ .

Input:  $f(x) = c_0 + c_1x^2 + c_2x^3$



At least one root satisfy  $\alpha$ -invariant: Green(Yes) & Red (No)

# After 1 Newton iteration



At least one root satisfies  $\alpha$ -invariant: Green(Yes) & Red (No)

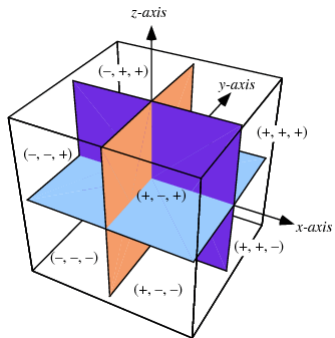
## Conjecture 1

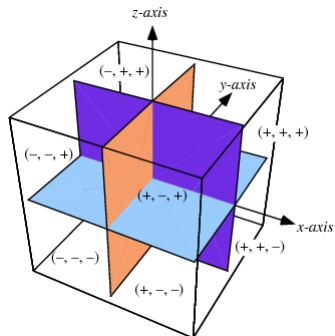
After two iterations of Newton's method at least one root of the lower binomials of  $f(x)$  will satisfy the  $\alpha$  condition.

## Question 2

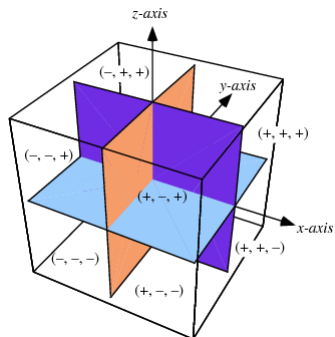
How often  $\#$  of positive roots of lower binomials equal to  $\#$  of positive roots of  $f$ ?

# Notation





- “good polynomials” vs “bad polynomials”



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- Octants are denoted by  $\mathcal{O}_{number}$



# Descartes' Rule of Sign

## Theorem

The number of positive roots of a polynomial is either equal to the number of sign differences between consecutive coefficients, or is less than it by an even number. Multiple roots of the same value are counted separately.

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This is the simplified version of Descartes' rule for positive roots.

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When the number of positive roots of the lower binomials is equal to the number of positive roots of the trinomial?

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General case:  $f(x) = c_0 + c_1x^{a_1} + c_2x^{a_2}$  where  $a_1 < a_2$

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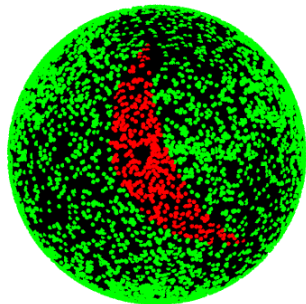
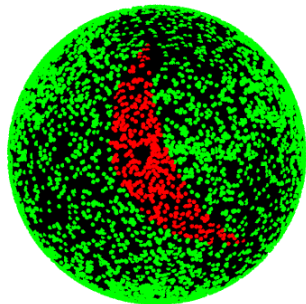


Figure:  $a_1 = 10$  and  $a_2 = 39$

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Successful cases: 94%!!

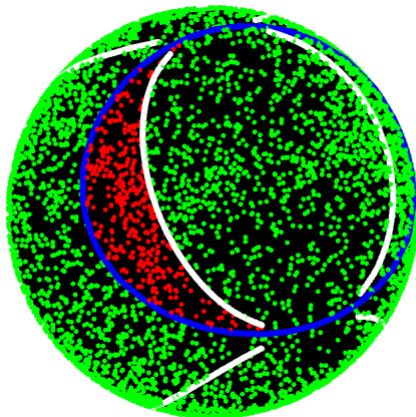
Figure:  $a_1 = 10$  and  $a_2 = 39$

# Probabilities

Can we estimate what are the chances to “hit” a trinomial with as many positive roots as its lower binomials?

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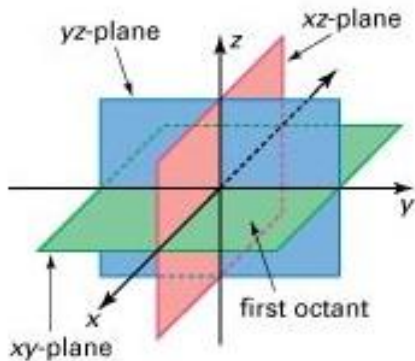
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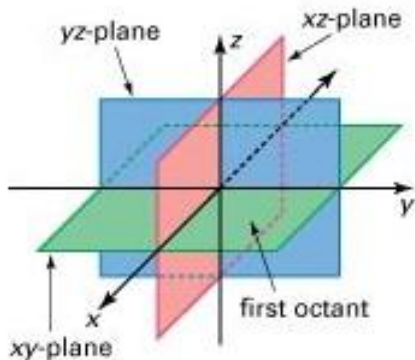
# Location, Location, Location

What can we say about the location of the “bad” cases?



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$$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}x^{10} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}x^{39}$$

# Clearing octants

x	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+
y	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-
z	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-

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X	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+
Y	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-
Z	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-

- $-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}x^{10} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}x^{39}$

# Clearing octants

X	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+
Y	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-
Z	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-

- $-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}x^{10} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}x^{39}$
- One sign change - Good

# Clearing octants

X	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+
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- One sign change - Good
- Two sign changes - Not so good

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X	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	+
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- $-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}x^{10} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}x^{39}$
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- The trouble octants are  $\mathcal{O}_{IV}$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{VIII}$

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- One sign change - Good
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- The trouble octants are  $\mathcal{O}_{IV}$  and  $\mathcal{O}_{VIII}$
- The probability is, at least, 75%.



## Conjecture 2

The probability of choosing a randomly generated polynomial with as many positive roots as its lower binomials is, at least, 91.7%.

# Upcoming Goals

- Prove **Conjecture 1** and **Conjecture 2**.

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- Prove **Conjecture 1** and **Conjecture 2**.
- Use different distributions to generate the coefficients.

# Acknowledgments

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- Dr. Terrence Blackman

