

GRAPHICAL SOLUTIONS OF EQUATIONS

Use DESMOS for the following problems:

1 By drawing graphs of the given functions, determine how many solutions exist for the given equation.

(a) $y = x^2, y = 2x - 1$

Equation: $x^2 - 2x + 1 = 0$

1 solution

(b) $y = x^2, y = 3x + 1$

Equation: $x^2 - 3x - 1 = 0$

2 solutions

(c) $y = x^2, y = x - 4$

Equation: $x^2 - x + 4 = 0$

no solutions

(d) $y = x^3, y = 2x$

Equation: $x^3 - 2x = 0$

3 solutions

(e) $y = x^3 - x, y = x^2$

Equation: $x^3 - x^2 - x = 0$

3 solutions

(f) $y = e^x, y = x + 2$

Equation: $e^x - x - 2 = 0$

2 solutions.

(a) $y = \sin x, y = \frac{x}{2}$

Domain: $-2\pi \leq x \leq 2\pi$

Equation: $\sin x - \frac{x}{2} = 0$

3 solutions

(b) $y = \log_e x, y = x - 2$

Domain: $0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$

Equation: $\log_e x - x + 2 = 0$

2 solutions

(c) $y = 2 \cos x, y = \log_e x$.

Domain: $0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$

Equation: $2 \cos x - \log_e x = 0$

3 solutions

(d) $y = e^x, y = \sin x$

Domain: $-2\pi < x < 2\pi$

Equation: $e^x - \sin x = 0$

2 solutions

(e) $y = e^{-x}, y = \sin x$

Domain: $-2\pi \leq x \leq 2\pi$

Equation: $e^{-x} - \sin x = 0$

3 solutions

(f) $y = e^{-x}, y = \tan x$

Domain: $-\frac{\pi}{2} < x < \frac{3\pi}{2}$

Equation: $e^{-x} - \tan x = 0$.

2 solutions.

3 Show graphically that the equation $8 \log_{10}(0.1x + 0.5) = 2 - x$ has a solution between $x = 2$ and $x = 4$. Find this solution correct to 2 decimal places.

1 solution.

$x \approx 2.844$