

11.

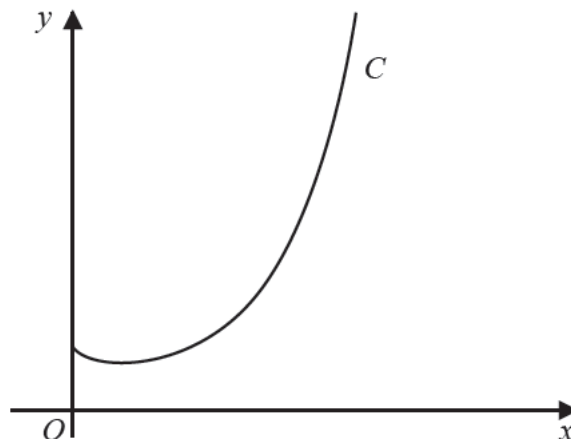


Figure 8

Figure 8 shows a sketch of the curve C with equation $y = x^x$, $x > 0$

- (a) Find, by firstly taking logarithms, the x coordinate of the turning point of C .
(Solutions based entirely on graphical or numerical methods are not acceptable.)

(5)

The point $P(\alpha, 2)$ lies on C .

- (b) Show that $1.5 < \alpha < 1.6$

(2)

A possible iteration formula that could be used in an attempt to find α is

$$x_{n+1} = 2x_n^{1-x_n}$$

Using this formula with $x_1 = 1.5$

- (c) find x_4 to 3 decimal places,

(2)

- (d) describe the long-term behaviour of x_n

(2)