

Root solver to find alternate depth.

$$g(y) := y^3 - 12.5y^2 + 1.353 \quad \text{First guess: } y := .5 \quad (\text{units of feet})$$

$$h := \text{root}(g(y), y) \quad h = 0.3335$$

The first guess yields the original supercritical depth of .333 feet or 4 inches.

$$\text{Second guess: } y := 10$$

$$h := \text{root}(g(y), y) \quad h = 12.4913$$

The second guess yields the alternate depth of 12.5 feet. This is the subcritical flow depth.