

CS 450: Numerical Analysis¹

Nonlinear Equations

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¹*These slides have been drafted by Edgar Solomonik as lecture templates and supplementary material for the book “Scientific Computing: An Introductory Survey” by Michael T. Heath ([slides](#)).*

Solving Nonlinear Equations

- ▶ Solving (systems of) nonlinear equations corresponds to root finding:
 - ▶ $f(x^*) = 0$
 - ▶ $f(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$
 - ▶ $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$
 - ▶ Algorithms for root-finding make it possible to solve systems of nonlinear equations and employ a similar methodology to finding minima in optimization.
- ▶ Main algorithmic approach: find successive roots of local linear approximations of f :

Conditions for Existence of Solution

▶ *Intermediate value theorem* for univariate problems:

▶ A function has a unique *fixed point* $g(x^*) = x^*$ in a given closed domain if it is *contractive* and contained in that domain,

$$\|g(x) - g(z)\| \leq \gamma \|x - z\|$$

Conditioning of Nonlinear Equations

- ▶ Generally, we take interest in the absolute rather than relative conditioning of solving $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}$:

- ▶ The *absolute condition number* of finding a root x^* of f is $1/|f'(x^*)|$ and for a root \mathbf{x}^* of \mathbf{f} it is $\|\mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{f}}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}^*)\|$:

Multiple Roots and Degeneracy

- ▶ If x^* is a root of f with *multiplicity* m , its $m - 1$ derivatives are also zero at x^* ,

$$f(x^*) = f'(x^*) = f''(x^*) = \dots = f^{(m-1)}(x^*) = 0.$$

- ▶ Increased multiplicity affects conditioning and convergence:

Bisection Algorithm

- ▶ Assume we know the desired root exists in a bracket $[a, b]$ and $\text{sign}(f(a)) \neq \text{sign}(f(b))$:

- ▶ Bisection subdivides the interval by a factor of two at each step by considering $f(c_k)$ at $c_k = (a_k + b_k)/2$:

Rates of Convergence

- ▶ Let \mathbf{x}_k be the k th iterate and $\mathbf{e}_k = \mathbf{x}_k - \mathbf{x}^*$ be the error, bisection obtains *linear convergence*, $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|\mathbf{e}_k\| / \|\mathbf{e}_{k-1}\| \leq C$:

- ▶ r th order convergence implies that $\|\mathbf{e}_k\| / \|\mathbf{e}_{k-1}\|^r \leq C$

Review

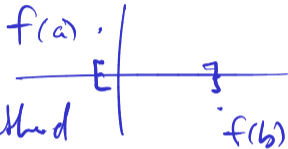
$$f(x) = 0$$

↑
vector?

vector?
vector-valued

Bisection (1D)

- starts with a bracket
- subdivides it in half



Newton's method

$$g(x) = x - f(x)/f'(x)$$

↑
fixed-point function

$$g(x^*) = x^* \Rightarrow f(x^*) = 0$$

$$|g'(x^*)| < 1 \Rightarrow \text{convergence}$$
$$= 0 \Rightarrow \text{quadratic conv.}$$

Convergence rates

linear: $O(1)$ digits/step

quadratic: double digits/step

superlinear (rate r): r times # $\frac{\text{digits}}{\text{step}}$

$r=2$

Convergence of Fixed Point Iteration

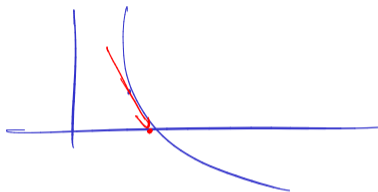
- ▶ Fixed point iteration: $x_{k+1} = g(x_k)$ is locally linearly convergent if for $x^* = g(x^*)$, we have $|g'(x^*)| < 1$:

- ▶ It is quadratically convergent if $g'(x^*) = 0$:

Newton's Method

Demo: Newton's Method
Demo: Convergence of Newton's Method

- ▶ Newton's method is derived from a *Taylor series* expansion of f at x_k :



$$g(x) = x - f(x) / f'(x)$$

- ▶ Newton's method is *quadratically convergent* if started sufficiently close to x^* so long as $f'(x^*) \neq 0$:

$$g'(x) = 1 - \underbrace{f'(x) / f'(x)}_1 + \underbrace{f(x)}_0 f''(x) / f'(x)^2$$

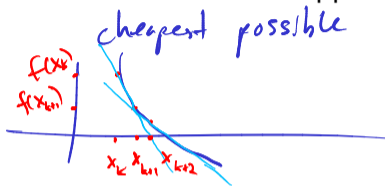
$$= 0 \Rightarrow \text{quadratic convergence}$$

Secant Method

Demo: Secant Method

Demo: Convergence of the Secant Method

- ▶ The *Secant method* approximates $f'(x_k) \approx \frac{f(x_k) - f(x_{k-1})}{x_k - x_{k-1}}$.



can instead consider
 x_k and $x_k + h$
and use

$$f'(x_k) \approx \frac{f(x_k + h) - f(x_k)}{h}$$

should not pick h too small ($> \epsilon_{mach}$)

- ▶ The convergence of the Secant method is *superlinear* but not quadratic:

roughly $e_k = x_k - x^*$

$$\Rightarrow e_k = e_{k-1} e_{k-2}$$

$\log(e_k) = \log(e_{k-1}) + \log(e_{k-2}) \Rightarrow$ grows at a rate of $(1 + \sqrt{5})/2$
Golden ratio ≈ 1.6

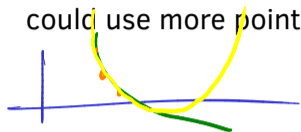
$-\log(\epsilon) \Rightarrow$ # digits of accuracy

Fibonacci sequence

$$O(\log_n(\log(1/\epsilon)))$$

Nonlinear Tangential Interpolants

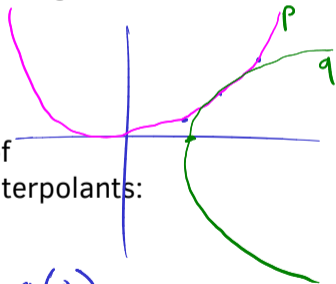
- ▶ Secant method uses a linear interpolant based on points $f(x_k), f(x_{k-1})$, could use more points and higher-order interpolant:



may not have a root
have multiple roots

- ▶ Quadratic interpolation (Muller's method) achieves convergence rate $r \approx 1.84$:

better than secant



- ▶ Inverse quadratic interpolation resolves the problem of nonexistence/nonuniqueness of roots of polynomial interpolants:

x	f
x_k	$f(x_k)$
x_{k-1}	$f(x_{k-1})$
x_{k-2}	$f(x_{k-2})$

y	q
y_k	x_k
y_{k-1}	x_{k-1}
y_{k-2}	x_{k-2}

$$q(y_k) = x_k$$

$$q(y_{k-1}) = x_{k-1}$$

$$q(y_{k-2}) = x_{k-2}$$

$$\text{so } x^* \approx q(0)$$

Achieving Global Convergence Safeguarding

- ▶ Hybrid bisection/Newton methods:

given a bracket, bisection is always reliable
but Newton is not

however, Newton converges faster

so run Newton steps only if they stay
within bracket, otherwise run bisection

- ▶ Bounded (damped) step-size:

use Newton as directional pointer

$$g(x) = x - \alpha \frac{f(x)}{f'(x)}$$

↑
 $\alpha < 1$

Systems of Nonlinear Equations

- ▶ Given $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = [f_1(\mathbf{x}) \ \cdots \ f_m(\mathbf{x})]^T$ for $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, seek \mathbf{x}^* so that $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^*) = \mathbf{0}$

if # equations = # unknowns, $m = n$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- ▶ At a particular point \mathbf{x} , the *Jacobian* of \mathbf{f} , describes how \mathbf{f} changes in a given direction of change in \mathbf{x} ,

$$\mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{df_1}{dx_1}(\mathbf{x}) & \cdots & \frac{df_1}{dx_n}(\mathbf{x}) \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \frac{df_m}{dx_1}(\mathbf{x}) & \cdots & \frac{df_m}{dx_n}(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$J_{ij}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial x_j}(\mathbf{x})$$

$$f(\mathbf{x} + \delta \mathbf{x}) \approx f(\mathbf{x}_k) + \mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}_k) \delta \mathbf{x}$$

Multivariate Newton Iteration

$$g(x^*) = x^*$$

- Fixed-point iteration $x_{k+1} = g(x_k)$ achieves local convergence so long as $|\lambda_{\max}(J_g(x^*))| < 1$ and quadratic convergence if $J_g(x^*) = O$:

$$e_{k+1} = \underline{x_{k+1}} - x^* = g(\underline{x_k}) - \cancel{g(x^*)}, \text{ then } g(x_k) = \text{Taylor at } x^* \\ = \cancel{g(x^*)} + \dots$$

$$= \underbrace{J_g(x^*)}_{O} (x_k - x^*) + \frac{1}{2} \left[H_g^{(1)}(x^*) (x_k - x^*) \dots H_g^{(n)}(x^*) (x_k - x^*) \right] (x_k - x^*)$$

$$\|e_{k+1}\|_2 = O\left(\max_i \|H_g^{(i)}(x^*)\|_2 \cdot \underbrace{\|x_k - x^*\|_2^2}_{e_k}\right)$$

$$= O(\|e_k\|_2^2)$$

Multidimensional Newton's Method

$$f(x) = f(x_k) + J_f(x_k)(x - x_k)$$

- Newton's method corresponds to the fixed-point iteration $f(x_k) = -J_f(x_k)(x - x_k)$

$$g(x) = x - J_f^{-1}(x)f(x)$$

$$x = x_k - J_f^{-1}(x_k)f(x_k)$$

$$g'(x) = I - \underbrace{J_f^{-1}(x)J_f(x)}_I - \sum_i \underbrace{f_i(x)}_0 H_f^{(i)}(x)$$

if $J_f(x^*)$ is singular
(quadratic) convergence is not guaranteed

$$g'(x^*) = I - I - 0$$

- Quadratic convergence is achieved when the Jacobian of a fixed-point iteration is zero at the solution, which is true for Newton's method:

Estimating the Jacobian using Finite Differences

- ▶ To obtain $\mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}_k)$ at iteration k , can use finite differences:

$$\mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}_k) = [\hat{j}_1 \ \dots \ \hat{j}_n]$$

$$\hat{j}_i = \frac{f(\mathbf{x}_k + h\mathbf{e}_i) - f(\mathbf{x}_k)}{h}$$

- ▶ $n + 1$ function evaluations are needed: $f(\mathbf{x})$ and $f(\mathbf{x} + h\mathbf{e}_i)$, $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, which correspond to $m(n + 1)$ scalar function evaluations if $\mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}_k) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$.

Cost of Multivariate Newton Iteration

- ▶ What is the cost of solving $\mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}_k)\mathbf{s}_k = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_k)$?

$$O(n^3)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \mathbf{x}_{k+1} - \mathbf{x}_k \end{array}$$

for k -steps

$$O(n^3 k)$$

- ▶ What is the cost of Newton's iteration overall?

$n^2 \cdot k$ function eval's to compute $\mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}_k)$
 $n \cdot k$ function eval's of f 's

Quasi-Newton Methods

In solving a nonlinear equation, seek approximate Jacobian $\mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}_k)$ for each \mathbf{x}_k

- Find $\mathbf{B}_{k+1} = \mathbf{B}_k + \delta\mathbf{B}_k \approx \mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}_{k+1})$, so as to approximate *secant equation*

$$\mathbf{B}_{k+1} \underbrace{(\mathbf{x}_{k+1} - \mathbf{x}_k)}_{\delta\mathbf{x}} = \underbrace{f(\mathbf{x}_{k+1}) - f(\mathbf{x}_k)}_{\delta\mathbf{f}}$$

\mathbf{B}_{k+1} is linear interpolant

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \mathbf{x}_k & f(\mathbf{x}_k) \\ \hline \mathbf{x}_{k+1} & f(\mathbf{x}_{k+1}) \end{array}$$

- *Broyden's method* solves the secant equation and minimizes $\|\delta\mathbf{B}_k\|_F$:

$$\delta\mathbf{B}_k = \frac{\delta\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{B}_k\delta\mathbf{x}}{\|\delta\mathbf{x}\|^2} \delta\mathbf{x}^T$$

least changes \mathbf{B}_k

$$\delta\mathbf{B}_k = \frac{\delta\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{B}_k\delta\mathbf{x}}{\|\delta\mathbf{x}\|^2} \delta\mathbf{x}^T$$

Safeguarding Methods

- ▶ Can dampen step-size to improve reliability of Newton or Broyden iteration:

$$g(x) = x - \alpha \frac{J'(x)^{-1} f(x)}{f}$$

$\alpha < 1$

- ▶ *Trust region methods* provide general step-size control:

