

Numerical Analysis

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Reference : Elementary Numerical Analysis, Atkinson and Han

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1 TAYLOR POLYNOMIALS

1.1 THE TAYLOR POLYNOMIAL

- Most function $f(x)$ (e.g. $\cos x, e^x, \sqrt{x}$) cannot be evaluated exactly in simple way.
- The most common classes of approximating function $\hat{f}(x)$ are the polynomials and an efficient approximating polynomial is a [Taylor polynomial](#).
- A related form of function is the piecewise polynomial function.

Taylor Polynomial of degree n

for a function $f(x)$ about $x = a$:

- linear polynomial, $p_1(x) : p_1(a) = f(a)$ and $p_1'(a) = f'(a)$

$$p_1(x) = f(a) + (x - a)f'(a).$$

- quadratic polynomial, $p_2(x) : p_2(a) = f(a), p_2'(a) = f'(a)$ and $p_2''(a) = f''(a)$

$$p_2(x) = f(a) + (x - a)f'(a) + \frac{1}{2}(x - a)^2 f''(a).$$

- polynomial of degree n , $p_n(x) : p_n(a) = f(a), p_n'(a) = f'(a), \dots, p_n^{(n)}(a) = f^{(n)}(a)$
(i.e., $p_n^{(k)}(a) = f^{(k)}(a), k = 0, 1, \dots, n$)

$$p_n(x) = f(a) + (x - a)f'(a) + \frac{1}{2}(x - a)^2 f''(a) + \dots + \frac{(x - a)^n}{n!} f^{(n)}(a) = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(x - a)^k}{k!} f^{(k)}(a).$$

Example (1). Find the Taylor polynomial of degree n , $p_n(x; a)$, for $f(x) = e^x$ about $x = a$.

Matlab Code: To compare the three graphs $f(x)$, $p_1(x)$ and $p_2(x)$ around $x = 0$

```

z = -1:0.05:1;           % z = (x-a) = x
fx = exp(z);             % function value of f(x)
Dkfzero = ones(1,length(z)); % function value of f^(k)(x) at x=0
p1 = Dkfzero + Dkfzero.*z; % linear polynomial
p2 = p1 + (1/2)*Dkfzero.*(z.^2); % quadratic polynomial
plot(z,fx,z,p1,z,p2,':')

```

1.2 THE ERROR IN TAYLOR'S POLYNOMIAL

Theorem 1.1 (Taylor's Remainder). Assume that $f(x)$ has $n + 1$ continuous derivatives on an interval $[\alpha, \beta]$, and let $a \in [\alpha, \beta]$. For the Taylor polynomial $p_n(x)$ of $f(x)$, let $R_n(x) := f(x) - p_n(x)$ denote the remainder in approximating $f(x)$ by $p_n(x)$. Then

$$R_n(x) = \frac{(x-a)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} f^{(n+1)}(c_x), \quad \alpha \leq x \leq \beta$$

with c_x an unknown point between a and x .

Example (2). The approximation error of $f(x) = e^x$ and its Taylor polynomial $p_n(x)$ with $a = 0$ is given by

$$e^x - p_n(x) = R_n(x) = \frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} e^c \quad (n \geq 0) \quad \text{with } c \text{ between } 0 \text{ and } x.$$

For each fixed x ,

$$e^x - p_n(x) = R_n(x) = \frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} e^c \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \longrightarrow \infty \quad \text{because } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|x|^n}{n!} = 0.$$

Let us take the degree n so that $p_n(x)$ approximates $f(x)$ on an interval $[-1, 1]$ with the accuracy

$$|R_n(x)| \leq 10^{-9}.$$

Using the upper bound of $|R_n(x)|$

$$|R_n(x)| = \frac{|x|^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} e^c \leq \frac{e}{(n+1)!} < \frac{3}{(n+1)!} \leq 10^{-9},$$

we can find the sufficient degree n so that the approximation error is bounded by the tolerance 10^{-9} :

$$|R_n(x)| \leq 10^{-9} \quad \text{when } n \geq 12.$$

Some Taylor polynomials :

$$\begin{aligned} e^x &= 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \cdots + \frac{x^n}{n!} + \frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} e^c, \\ \sin x &= x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \cdots + (-1)^{n-1} \frac{x^{2n-1}}{(2n-1)!} + (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} \cos c, \\ \cos x &= 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \cdots + (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n}}{(2n)!} + (-1)^{n+1} \frac{x^{2n+2}}{(2n+2)!} \sin c, \\ \frac{1}{1-x} &= 1 + x + x^2 + \cdots + x^n + \frac{x^{n+1}}{1-x}, \quad (x \neq 1), \\ (1+x)^\alpha &= 1 + \binom{\alpha}{1}x + \binom{\alpha}{2}x^2 + \cdots + \binom{\alpha}{n}x^n + \binom{\alpha}{n+1}x^{n+1}(1+c)^{\alpha-n-1}, \end{aligned}$$

where the binomial coefficients are defined by

$$\binom{\alpha}{k} = \frac{\alpha(\alpha-1)\cdots(\alpha-k+1)}{k!}, \quad k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Assume that $f(x)$ is infinitely many differentiable at $x = a$ and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} [f(x) - p_n(x)] = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n(x) = 0,$$

the infinite series

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(x-a)^k}{k!} f^{(k)}(a)$$

is called the **Taylor series expansion** of the function $f(x)$ about $x = a$.

2 ERROR AND COMPUTER ARITHMETIC

2.1 FLOATING-POINT NUMBERS

- Numbers must be stored in computers and arithmetic operations must be performed on these numbers.
- Most computers have two ways of storing numbers, in integer format and in floating-point format.

Floating-Point Representation in the Decimal system

: more intuitive

$$x = \sigma \cdot \bar{x} \cdot 10^e$$

where $\sigma = +1$ or -1 (sign), e is an integer (exponent), and $1 \leq \bar{x} < 10$ (significant or mantissa).

For an example,

$$124.62 = +1 \cdot (1.2462) \cdot 10^2$$

with the sign $\sigma = +1$, the exponent $e = 2$, and the significant $\bar{x} = 1.2462$.

- The above example is a five-digit decimal floating-point arithmetic.
- The last digit may need to be changed by rounding.

Floating-Point Representation in the Binary system

$$x = \sigma \cdot \bar{x} \cdot 10^e$$

where $\sigma = +1$ or -1 (sign), e is an integer (exponent), and $(1)_2 \leq \bar{x} < (10)_2$ is a binary fraction.

For an example,

$$(11011.0111)_2 = (1.10110111)_2 \cdot 2^{(100)_2} \quad \text{with } \sigma = +1, e = (100)_2 = 4, \text{ and } \bar{x} = (1.10110111)_2.$$

- The allowable number of binary digits in \bar{x} is called the **precision** of the binary floating-point representation.

Single Precision Floating-Point Representation of x

has a precision of **24 binary digits** and uses 4 bytes (32 bits):

$$x = \sigma \cdot (1.b_{10} b_{11} \cdots b_{32}) \cdot 2^e \quad (\text{mantissa of decimal digits is 7 or 8}) \text{ in normalized format } \bar{x}$$

with the exponent e limited by

$$-126 = -(1111110)_2 \leq e \leq (1111111)_2 = 127.$$

σ	E	\bar{x}
b_1	$b_2 b_3 \cdots b_9$	$b_{10} b_{11} \cdots b_{32}$

$$-126 \leq e(= E - 127) \leq 127 \quad \text{with} \quad 0 \leq E = (b_2 b_3 \cdots b_9)_2 \leq 255$$

- But, if $E = (00 \cdots 0)_2 = 0$, then $e = -126$ and $\bar{x} = (0.b_{10} b_{11} \cdots b_{32})_2$ with **unnormalized format** \bar{x}
- if $E = (11 \cdots 1)_2 = 255$ and $b_{10} = \cdots = b_{32} = 0$, then $\bar{x} = \pm\infty$,
- if $E = (11 \cdots 1)_2 = 255$ and $\sim(b_{10} = \cdots = b_{32} = 0)$ then $\bar{x} = NaN$.

Double Precision Floating-Point Representation of x

has a precision of 53 binary digits and uses 8 bytes (64 bits):

$$\bar{x} = \sigma \cdot (1.b_{13} b_{14} \cdots b_{64}) \cdot 2^e \quad \text{with } -1022 \leq e \leq 1023 \quad (\text{mantissa of decimal digits is 15 or 16})$$

σ	$E(:= e + 1023)$	\bar{x}
b_1	$b_2 b_3 \cdots b_{12}$	$b_{13} b_{14} \cdots b_{64}$

2.2 ACCURACY OF FLOATING-POINT REPRESENTATION

Machine epsilon

is the difference between 1 and the next larger number that can be stored in the floating-point format.

In single precision IEEE format, the next larger binary number is

$$1.000000000000000000000001$$

with the final binary digit 1 in position 23 to the right of the binary point.

The machine epsilon in single precision format is $2^{-23} \approx 1.19 \cdot 10^{-7}$.

In a similar fashion,

The machine epsilon in double precision format is $2^{-52} \approx 2.22 \cdot 10^{-16}$.

- In Matlab, it uses the double precision format so that the machine epsilon is $\text{eps} \approx 2.22 \cdot 10^{-16}$.

Largest integer M

that any integer x ($0 \leq x \leq M$) can be stored or represented **exactly** in floating-point form :

- In the single precision format (24 binary digits) :

$$M = (1.00 \cdots 0)_2 \cdot 2^{24} = 2^{24} = 16777216 \approx 1.67^7.$$

- In the double precision format (53 binary digits) :

$$M = (1.00 \cdots 0)_2 \cdot 2^{53} = 2^{53} \approx 9.0^{15}.$$

2.2.1 ROUNDING AND CHOPPING

Let the significant in the floating-point representation contain n binary digits.

If the number x has a significant \bar{x} that requires more than n binary bits, then it must be shortened when x is stored in the computer.

- The simplest method is to simply truncate or **chop** \bar{x} to n binary digits ignoring the remaining digits.
- The second method is to **round** \bar{x} to n digits based on the size of the part of \bar{x} following digit n .

Denote the **machine floating-point version** of a number x by $\text{fl}(x)$.

Then $\text{fl}(x)$ can be written in the form

$$\text{fl}(x) = x \cdot (1 + \epsilon) \quad \text{with a small number } \epsilon.$$

$$\text{Chopping} : -2^{-n+1} \leq \epsilon \leq 0$$

Rounding : $-2^{-n} \leq \epsilon \leq 2^{-n}$: much better

- The IEEE standard is using the rounding :

Single precision : $-2^{-24} \leq \epsilon \leq 2^{-24}$

Double precision : $-2^{-53} \leq \epsilon \leq 2^{-53}$

2.2.2 ERRORS

Denote by x_T the true value and x_A an approximate value.

Error : $\text{Error}(x_A) = x_T - x_A$

Relative Error : $\text{Rel}(x_A) = \frac{x_T - x_A}{x_T}$

2.2.3 SOURCES OF ERROR

Modelling Errors

Blunders and Mistakes

Physical Measurement Errors

Machine Representation and Arithmetic Errors

Mathematical Approximation Errors

2.2.4 LOSS-OF-SIGNIFICANCE ERRORS

Compare the followings :

$$f(x) = x(\sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x}) \quad f(x) = \frac{x}{\sqrt{x+1} + \sqrt{x}}$$

To avoid the loss of significant digits, use another formulation for $f(x)$, avoiding the subtraction of nearly equal quantities.

2.2.5 NOISE IN FUNCTION EVALUATION

Using floating-point arithmetic with rounding or chopping, arithmetic operations (e.g., additions and multiplications) cause errors in the evaluation of $f(x)$, generally quite small ones.

2.3 UNDERFLOW AND OVERFLOW ERRORS

Underflow

: Attempts to create numbers that are too small lead to what are called underflow errors.

For example, consider an evaluation

$$f(x) = x^{10} \quad \text{for } x \text{ near } 0.$$

In the single precision arithmetic, the smallest nonzero positive number expressible in *normalized* floating-point format (using the form of significant $\bar{x} = (1.a_1 \cdots a_{23})_2$) is

$$m = (1.0 \cdots 0)_2 \cdot 2^{-126} = 2^{-126} \approx 1.18 \times 10^{-38}.$$

Thus $f(x)$ will be **set to zero** if

$$x^{10} < m \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad |x| < \sqrt[10]{m} \approx 1.61 \times 10^{-4} \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad -0.000161 < x < 0.000161$$

- If the use of *unnormalized* floating-point numbers (using the form of significant $\bar{x} = (0.a_1 \cdots a_{23})_2$) allows to represent the smaller number.

$$m = (0.0 \cdots 1)_2 \cdot 2^{-126} = 2^{-149} \approx 1.4 \times 10^{-45}.$$

- Matlab uses the double precision unnormalized floating-point numbers.

(Using the form of significant $\bar{x} = (0.a_1 \cdots a_{52})_2$)

$$m = (0.0 \cdots 1)_2 \cdot 2^{-1022} = 2^{-1074} \approx 4.94 \times 10^{-324} \quad \text{but} \quad 2^{-1075} = 0 = 10^{-324}.$$

Overflow : Attempts to create numbers that are too large lead to what are called overflow errors (more fatal errors).

In the **double precision arithmetic**, the largest positive number expressible in floating-point format

$$\begin{aligned} M &= (1.1 \cdots 1)_2 \cdot 2^{1023} = (1.1 \cdots 1)_2 \cdot 2^{52} \cdot 2^{971} \\ &= (11 \cdots 1)_2 \cdot 2^{971} = (2^{53} - 1) \cdot 2^{971} \approx 1.80 \times 10^{308}. \end{aligned}$$

It is possible to eliminate an overflow error by just reformulating the expression being evaluated.

For example, with very large x and y (e.g., $x = 10^{200}$ and $y = 10^{150}$), compare the followings

$$z = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \quad \text{and} \quad z = \begin{cases} |x| \sqrt{1 + (y/x)^2}, & 0 \leq |y| \leq |x| \\ |y| \sqrt{1 + (x/y)^2}, & 0 \leq |x| \leq |y|. \end{cases}$$

Summation Add S from smallest to largest terms for the sum

$$S = a_1 + a_2 + \cdots + a_n = \sum_{j=1}^n a_j$$

A Loop Error Keep away from successive repeated rounding errors in operations.

The following loop

```
for j = 1:n
    x = a + j*h
end
```

is better than

```
x = a;
for j = 1:n
    x = x + h
end
```

in general.

3 ROOTFINDING

Calculating the roots of an equation $f(x) = 0$

3.1 THE BISECTION METHOD

Suppose that $f(x)$ is continuous on an interval $a \leq x \leq b$ and that

$$f(a)f(b) < 0.$$

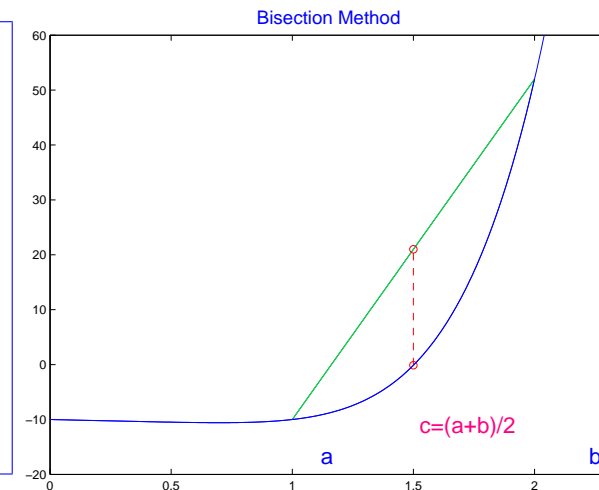
Algorithm (Bisection Method)

: To find a root to $f(x) = 0$

Input Arguments : function f , Initial guess a and b , Tolerance tol

Output Argument : approximated root c

1. Define $c = (a + b)/2$.
2. If $b - c \leq tol$, then accept c as the root and stop.
3. If $\text{sign}[f(b)] \cdot \text{sign}[f(c)] \leq 0$, then set $a = c$.
Otherwise, set $b = c$.
4. Return to step 1.



Error Bounds

Let a_n , b_n and c_n denote the n th computed values of a , b and c , respectively. Then

$$b_{n+1} - a_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}(b_n - a_n) = \frac{1}{2^n}(b - a), \quad n \geq 1$$

Since a root α is in either the interval $[a_n, c_n]$ or $[c_n, b_n]$,

$$|\alpha - c_n| \leq c_n - a_n = b_n - c_n = \frac{1}{2}(b_n - a_n) = \frac{1}{2^n}(b - a). \quad \Leftarrow \text{linear convergence}$$

Hence,

the iterates c_n converge to α as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

How many iterations?

From

$$|\alpha - c_n| \leq \frac{1}{2^n}(b - a) \leq \epsilon,$$

we have

$$n \geq \frac{\log\left(\frac{b-a}{\epsilon}\right)}{\log 2}.$$

Advantages

- This method guarantees to converge.
- This method generally converges more slowly than most other methods (e.g., for smooth functions).

Matlab Code

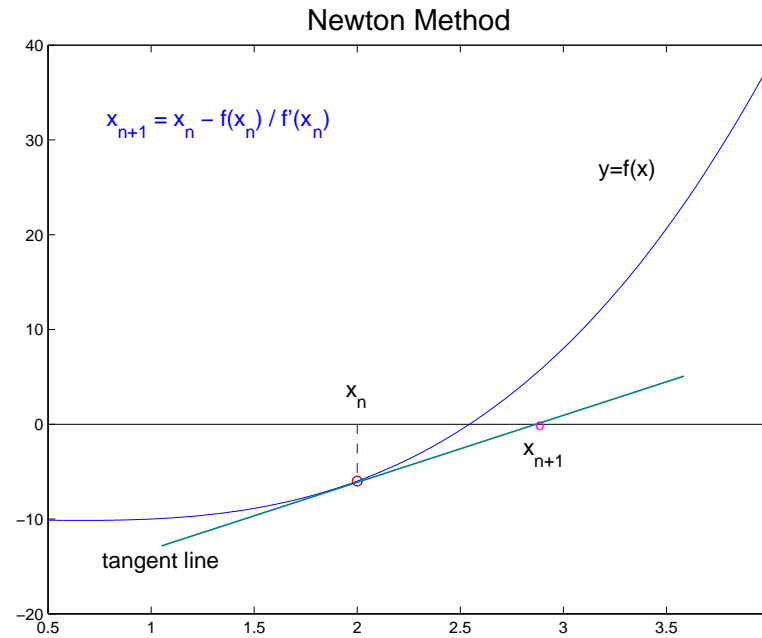
: (Bisection Method)

```

%-----%
function [rt, err] = bisect(a,b,tol,maxitr)
%-----%
% function [rt, err] = bisect(a,b,tol,maxitr)
if sign(f(a))*sign(f(b)) > 0
    disp(' f(a) and f(b) are of the same sign.  Stop! '); return
end
if a >= b
    tmp = b;  b = a;  a = tmp;  % Make a < b
end
c = (a+b)/2;  itr = 0;
fprintf('\n  itr      a      b      root      f(c)      error      \n')
while (b-c > tol) & (itr < maxitr)
    itr = itr + 1;
    if sign(f(b))*sign(f(c)) <= 0, a = c;
    else b = c;
    end
    c = (a+b)/2;
    fprintf(' %4.0f  %10.7f  %10.7f  %10.7f  %12.4e  %12.4e \n', ...
            itr, a, b, c, f(c), b-c);
end
    rt = c;  err = b - c;
%-----%
function y = f(x)
    y = x.^6 - x - 1;

```

3.2 NEWTON'S METHOD



Let $y = p_1(x)$ be the linear Taylor polynomial (the tangent line passing through $(x_0, f(x_0))$) of $y = f(x)$ at $x = x_0$:

$$p_1(x) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0).$$

If x_1 is a root of $p_1(x)$, then

$$x_1 = x_0 - \frac{f(x_0)}{f'(x_0)}.$$

Algorithm (Newton's Iteration): To find a root of $f(x)$ With an initial guess x_0

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Error Bounds

Assume that $f \in C^2$ in some interval about the root α and $f'(\alpha) \neq 0$.

Using Taylor's theorem yields

$$0 = f(\alpha) = f(x_n) + (\alpha - x_n)f'(x_n) + \frac{1}{2}(\alpha - x_n)^2 f''(c_n)$$

with c_n an unknown point between α and x_n .

$$0 = \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)} + \alpha - x_n + (\alpha - x_n)^2 \frac{f''(c_n)}{2f'(x_n)}$$

Using Newton's iteration $\frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)} = x_n - x_{n+1}$,

$$0 = x_n - x_{n+1} + \alpha - x_n + (\alpha - x_n)^2 \frac{f''(c_n)}{2f'(x_n)} \quad \text{or} \quad \alpha - x_{n+1} = (\alpha - x_n)^2 \left[-\frac{f''(c_n)}{2f'(x_n)} \right].$$

Thus, we have the second order error estimates (quadratic convergence):

$$M|\alpha - x_n| \leq |M(\alpha - x_{n-1})|^2 = \dots = |M(\alpha - x_0)|^{2^n} \quad \text{where} \quad \left| \frac{f''(c_n)}{2f'(x_n)} \right| \leq M.$$

- If the initial error is sufficiently small, then the error in the succeeding iterate will decrease very rapidly.

Example. Find a root $f(x) = x^6 - x - 1$ with an initial guess $x_0 = 1.5$ and then compare this with the results for the bisection method.

Example (How to compute $\frac{1}{b}$ without the division?).

Assume $b > 0$. Let $f(x) = b - \frac{1}{x}$. Then the root is $\alpha = \frac{1}{b}$.

Using the derivative $f'(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$, we have the Newton Method given by

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{b - \frac{1}{x_n}}{\frac{1}{x_n^2}} \quad \text{or} \quad x_{n+1} = x_n(2 - bx_n).$$

This involves only multiplication and subtraction.

For the error, using $\alpha = \frac{1}{b}$ yields

$$Rel(x_n) = [Rel(x_{n-1})]^2 = \cdots = [Rel(x_0)]^{2^n} \quad (n \geq 0).$$

The Newton iteration converges to $\alpha = \frac{1}{b}$ with the second order if and only if

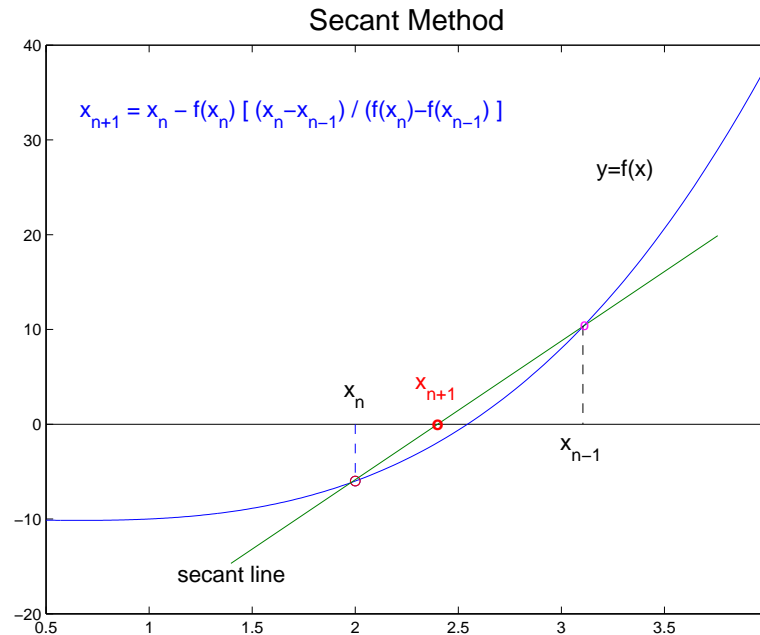
$$|Rel(x_0)| < 1 \iff -1 < \frac{\frac{1}{b} - x_0}{\frac{1}{b}} < 1 \iff 0 < x_0 < \frac{2}{b}.$$

If $|Rel(x_0)| = 0.1$, then $|Rel(x_n)| = 10^{-2^n}$. (e.g., $|Rel(x_4)| = 10^{-16}$)

What is the first order error?

$$|e_n| = \gamma |e_{n-1}| = \cdots = \gamma^n |e_0| \quad \text{with some } 0 < \gamma < 1.$$

3.3 SECANT METHOD



Let $y = p(x)$ be the linear polynomial (the secant line) passing through $(x_0, f(x_0))$ and $(x_1, f(x_1))$:

$$p(x) = f(x_1) + \frac{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}{x_1 - x_0}(x - x_1).$$

If x_2 is the root of $p(x)$, then $x_2 = x_1 - f(x_1) \frac{x_1 - x_0}{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}$.

Algorithm (Secant Method)

: To find a root of $f(x)$

With two initial guesses x_0 and x_1

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - f(x_n) \cdot \frac{x_n - x_{n-1}}{f(x_n) - f(x_{n-1})}, \quad n \geq 1.$$

Lagrange Interpolation Polynomial Approximation

If $f \in C^{n+1}$ in some interval $[a, b]$ and $\{x_k\}_{k=0}^n \subset [a, b]$, then there exists a number $\xi(x) \in (a, b)$ such that

$$f(x) = P_n(x) + \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\xi)}{(n+1)!}(x-x_0) \cdots (x-x_n)$$

with the Lagrange interpolation and the k -th Lagrange shape polynomial of degree n :

$$P_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n f(x_k) L_{n,k}(x) \quad \text{and} \quad L_{n,k}(x) = \prod_{i=0, i \neq k}^n \frac{(x-x_i)}{(x_k-x_i)} = \frac{(x-x_0)}{(x_k-x_0)} \cdots \frac{(x-x_n)}{(x_k-x_n)}.$$

Error Bounds

Assume that $f \in C^2$ in some interval about the root α and $f'(\alpha) \neq 0$.

Using Lagrange interpolation yields

$$f(x) = \frac{x-x_{n-1}}{x_n-x_{n-1}} f(x_n) + \frac{x-x_n}{x_{n-1}-x_n} f(x_{n-1}) + \frac{1}{2}(x-x_{n-1})(x-x_n) f''(\xi)$$

and then

$$0 = f(\alpha) = \frac{\alpha-x_{n-1}}{x_n-x_{n-1}} f(x_n) + \frac{\alpha-x_n}{x_{n-1}-x_n} f(x_{n-1}) + \frac{1}{2}(\alpha-x_{n-1})(\alpha-x_n) f''(\xi_n)$$

with ξ_n an unknown point between $\min\{\alpha, x_{n-1}, x_n\}$ and $\max\{\alpha, x_{n-1}, x_n\}$.

Also, we have from the Mean Value theorem that

$$f(x_{n-1}) = f(x_n) - (x_n - x_{n-1}) f'(\zeta_n)$$

with ζ_n an unknown point between x_{n-1} and x_n .

From the last two equations, we have

$$0 = f(x_n) + (\alpha - x_n)f'(\zeta_n) + \frac{1}{2}(\alpha - x_{n-1})(\alpha - x_n)f''(\xi_n)$$

or

$$0 = \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(\zeta_n)} + (\alpha - x_n) + (\alpha - x_{n-1})(\alpha - x_n)\frac{f''(\xi_n)}{2f'(\zeta_n)}.$$

Now, using the secant iteration

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - f(x_n) \cdot \frac{x_n - x_{n-1}}{f(x_n) - f(x_{n-1})} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(\zeta_n)},$$

$$0 = (\alpha - x_{n+1}) + (\alpha - x_{n-1})(\alpha - x_n)\frac{f''(\xi_n)}{2f'(\zeta_n)}$$

so that

$$\alpha - x_{n+1} = (\alpha - x_{n-1})(\alpha - x_n) \left[\frac{-f''(\xi_n)}{2f'(\zeta_n)} \right].$$

Let us consider the following identity

$$|e_{n+1}| = |e_n| \cdot |e_{n-1}| M \quad \text{with} \quad M \approx \left| \frac{-f''(\alpha)}{2f'(\alpha)} \right| \approx \left| \frac{-f''(\xi_n)}{2f'(\zeta_n)} \right|, \quad \forall n.$$

Then

$$\frac{|e_{n+1}|}{|e_n|^\gamma} = M \cdot \left(\frac{|e_n|}{|e_{n-1}|^\gamma} \right)^\alpha \quad \text{with} \quad \gamma = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}, \quad \alpha = \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2}, \quad (\text{i.e., } \alpha + \gamma = 1, \alpha\gamma = -1)$$

so that

$$M^\beta \frac{|e_{n+1}|}{|e_n|^\gamma} = \left(M^\beta \frac{|e_n|}{|e_{n-1}|^\gamma} \right)^\alpha = \left(M^\beta \frac{|e_1|}{|e_0|^\gamma} \right)^{\alpha^n} \quad \text{with} \quad \beta = \frac{1}{\alpha - 1}.$$

Taking the limit

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|e_{n+1}|}{|e_n|^\gamma} = M^{-\beta} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(M^\beta \frac{|e_1|}{|e_0|^\gamma} \right)^{\alpha^n} = M^{-\beta} = M^{\gamma-1} \quad \text{because} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha^n = 0,$$

we have the following approximate error estimates:

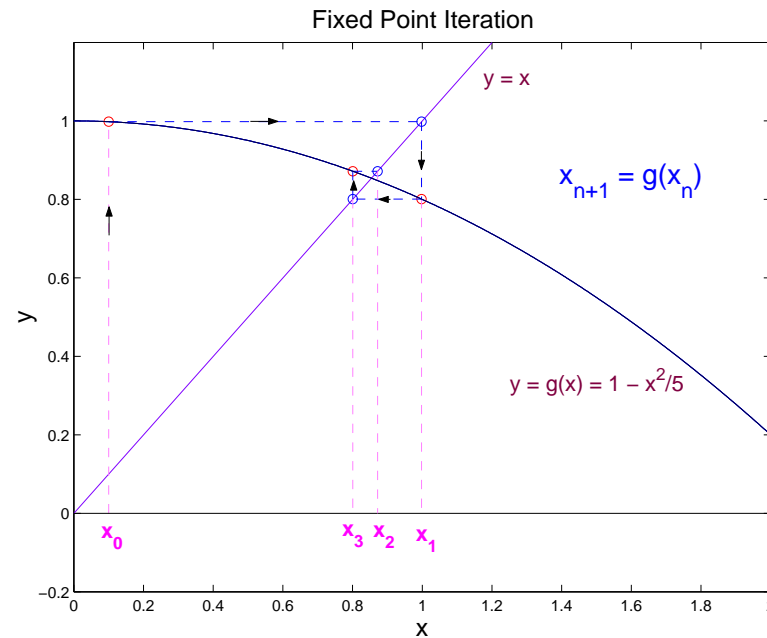
$$|e_{n+1}| = |\alpha - x_{n+1}| \approx c |\alpha - x_n|^\gamma = c |e_n|^\gamma \quad \text{with} \quad \gamma = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \approx 1.62.$$

- If the initial error is sufficiently small, then the error in the succeeding iterate will decrease very rapidly.
- Newton method converges more rapidly than the secant method but it requires two function evaluations per iteration, that of $f(x_n)$ and $f'(x_n)$.
- And the secant method requires only one evaluation $f(x_n)$.
- For many problems with a complicated $f'(x)$, the secant method will probably be faster in actual running time on a computer.

Example. Find a root $f(x) = x^6 - x - 1$ with an initial guess $x_0 = 1.5$ and then compare this with the results for the Newton method.

3.4 FIXED POINT ITERATION

To find a fixed-point α of $g(x)$: $\alpha = g(\alpha)$



Algorithm (Fixed-Point Iteration)

: To find a root α of $x = g(x)$

With an initial guess x_0

$$x_{n+1} = g(x_n), \quad n \geq 0.$$

- If the sequence x_n converges, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = \alpha$.

Lemma 3.1. *Let $g(x)$ be a continuous function and suppose g satisfies*

$$a \leq g(x) \leq b \quad \text{for} \quad a \leq x \leq b.$$

Then, the equation $x = g(x)$ has at least one solution $\alpha \in [a, b]$.

Theorem 3.2 (Contraction Mapping Theorem). *Assume $g(x)$ and $g'(x)$ are continuous on $[a, b]$, and assume $a \leq g(x) \leq b$ for $a \leq x \leq b$. Further assume that*

$$\lambda := \max_{a \leq x \leq b} |g'(x)| < 1.$$

Then

1. *There is a unique solution α of $x = g(x)$ in the interval $[a, b]$.*
2. *For any initial guess $x_0 \in [a, b]$, x_n converges to α .*
3. $|\alpha - x_n| \leq \frac{\lambda^n}{1 - \lambda} |x_1 - x_0|, \quad (n \geq 0).$
4. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha - x_{n+1}}{\alpha - x_n} = g'(\alpha) \quad \text{so that} \quad \alpha - x_{n+1} \approx g'(\alpha)(\alpha - x_n).$

Corollary 3.3. *Assume $\alpha \in (c, d)$. If $g(x)$ and $g'(x)$ are continuous in (c, d) , and if*

$$|g'(\alpha)| < 1,$$

then, there is an interval $[a, b]$ around α for which the conclusions of the above theorem are true.

Error Bounds

We have the linear convergence error bound :

$$|\alpha - x_{n+1}| = \lambda |\alpha - x_n| \quad \text{so that} \quad |\alpha - x_n| = \lambda^n |\alpha - x_0|.$$

Aitken Error Estimation

: to estimate the error

Denote by $\lambda = g'(\alpha)$. Then

$$\alpha - x_n \approx \lambda(\alpha - x_{n-1})$$

or

$$\alpha \approx x_n + \frac{\lambda}{1 - \lambda}(x_n - x_{n-1})$$

Denote by

$$\lambda_n := \frac{x_n - x_{n-1}}{x_{n-1} - x_{n-2}}.$$

Then we have the [Aitken's extrapolation formula](#) :

$$\alpha - x_n \approx \frac{\lambda_n}{1 - \lambda_n}(x_n - x_{n-1}).$$