

IIIT Vadodara  
WINTER 2019-20  
MA202 Numerical Techniques  
LAB#7 Solution of non-linear equations<sup>1</sup>

**1. Method 1: Bisection method** The bisection method can be applied for solving non-linear equations like  $f(x) = 0$ , only in the case where we know some interval  $[a, b]$  on which  $f(x)$  is continuous and the solution uniquely exists and, most importantly,  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  have the opposite signs. The procedure toward the solution of  $f(x) = 0$  is described as follows

Step 1 Initialize the iteration number  $k = 0$ .

Step 2 Let  $m = \frac{(a+b)}{2}$ . If  $f(m) \approx 0$  or  $\frac{(b-a)}{2} \approx 0$ ,

step 3 If  $f(a)f(m) > 0$ , then let  $b \leftarrow m$ . Go back to step 2.

**Method 2: Fixed point iteration method** Suppose a function  $g(x)$  is defined and its first derivative  $g'(x)$  exists continuously on some interval  $I = [x^o - r, x^o + r]$  around the fixed point  $x^o$  of  $g(x)$  such that  $g(x^o) = x^o$

$$g(x^o) = x^o \quad (1)$$

Then, if the absolute value of  $g'(x)$  is less than or equal to a positive number  $\alpha$  that is strictly less than one, that is,

$$|g'(x)| \leq \alpha < 1 \quad (2)$$

the iteration starting from any point  $x_0 \in I$

$$x_{k+1} = g(x_k) \text{ with } x_0 \in I \quad (3)$$

converges to the (unique) fixed point  $x^o$  of  $g(x)$ .

**Method 3: NEWTON(-RAPHSON) METHOD**

Consider the problem of finding numerically one of the solutions,  $x^o$ , for a nonlinear equation

$$f(x) = (x - x^o)^m g(x) = 0 \quad (4)$$

where  $f(x)$  has  $(x - x^o)^m$  ( $m$  is an even number) as a factor and so its curve is tangential to the x-axis without crossing it at  $x = x^o$ . In this case, the signs of  $f(x^o)$  and  $f(x^o+)$  are the same and we cannot find any interval  $[a, b]$  containing only  $x^o$  as a solution such that  $f(a)f(b) < 0$ . Consequently, bracketing methods such as the bisection or false position ones are not applicable to this problem. Neither can the MATLAB built-in routine `fzero()` be applied to solve as simple an equation as  $x^2 = 0$ , which you would not believe until you try it for yourself. Then, how do we solve it? The Newton(-Raphson) method can be used for this kind of problem as well as general nonlinear equation problems, only if the first derivative of  $f(x)$  exists and is continuous around the solution. The strategy behind the Newton(-Raphson) method is to approximate the curve of  $f(x)$  by its tangential line at some estimate  $x_k$

$$y - f(x_k) = f'(x_k)(x - x_k) \quad (5)$$

and set the zero (crossing the x-axis) of the tangent line to the next estimate  $x_{k+1}$ .

$$0 - f(x_k) = f'(x_k)(x_{k+1} - x_k) \quad (6)$$

---

<sup>1</sup>submission deadline : 8<sup>th</sup> March 11 PM

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{f(x_k)}{f'(x_k)} \tag{7}$$

Q. 1: Consider the nonlinear equations

a.  $f(x) = 2.0 - x + \ln(x) = 0$

b.  $f(x) = x^2 - 3x + 1 = 0$

Write a MATLAB function to solve the non-linear equations using Bisection method, Fixed point iteration method, Newton-Raphson method. Use `fzero()` and `fsolve()` MATLAB functions to verify your answers.