

FIXED POINT ITERATION METHOD

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ABSTRACT

We discuss the problem of finding approximate solutions of the equation

$$f(x) = 0 \quad (1)$$

In some cases it is possible to find the exact roots of the equation (1) for example when $f(x)$ is a quadratic or cubic polynomial otherwise, in general, is interested in finding approximate solutions using some numerical methods. Here, we will discuss a method called fixed point iteration method and a particular case of this method called Newton's method.

INTRODUCTION

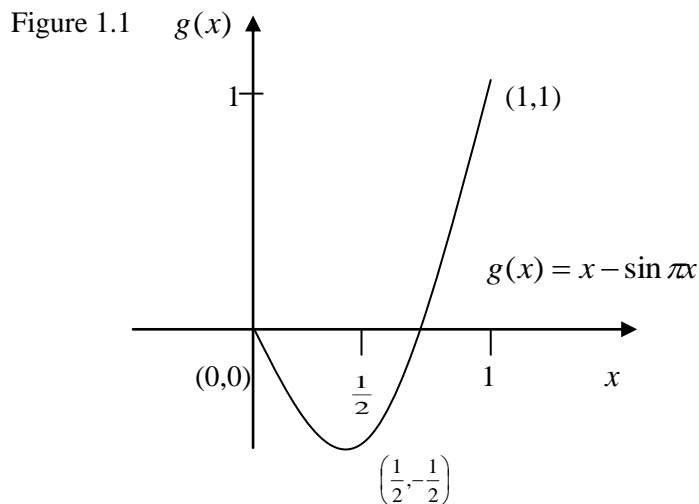
In this section we consider methods for determining the solution to an equation expressed, for some functions g in the form

$$g(x) = x \quad (2)$$

A solution to such an equation is said to be a fixed point of the function g . Let's we found a fixed point for any given g . Then every root finding problem could also be solved for example. The root finding problem $f(x) = 0$ has solutions that correspond precisely to the fixed points of $g(x) = x - f(x)$. The first task, then, is to decide when a function will have a fixed point and how the fixed points can be determined. (In numerical analysis, "determined" generally means approximated to a sufficient degree of accuracy.)

EXAMPLE 1

- (a) The function $g(x) = x$, $0 \leq x \leq 1$ has a fixed point at each x in $[0, 1]$.
- (b) The function $g(x) = x - \sin \pi x$ has exactly two fixed points in $[0, 1]$. $x = 0$ and $x = 1$. (see figure 1.1)



The following theorem gives sufficient conditions for the existence and uniqueness of a fixed point.

Theorem 1.1

If $g \in [a, b]$ and $g(x) \in [a, b]$. then g has a fixed point in $[a, b]$. Further, suppose $g'(x)$ exists on $[a, b]$ and then a positive constant $k < 1$ exists with

$$(1.1) \quad |g'(x)| \leq k < 1 \quad \text{for all } x \in (a, b).$$

Then g has a unique fixed point p in $[a, b]$. (see figure 1.1)

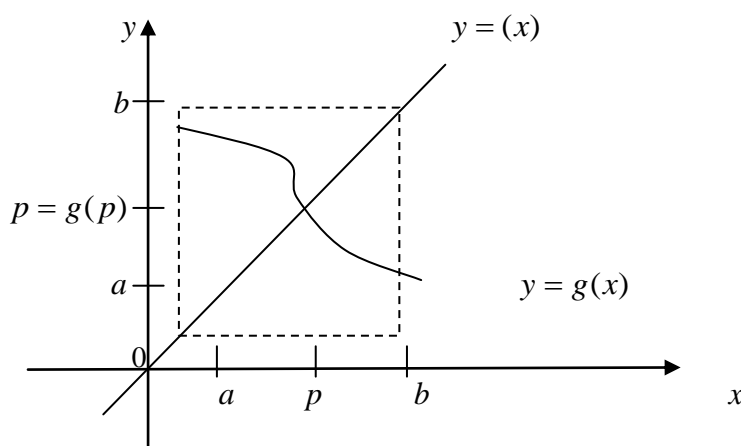


Figure 1.1

Proof: if $g(a) = a$ or $g(b) = b$, the existence of a fixed point is obvious. Suppose not; then it must be true that $g(a) > a$ and $g(b) < b$. Define $h(x) = g(x) - x$. Then h is continuous on $[a, b]$ and

$$h(a) = g(a) - a > 0, h(b) = g(b) - b < 0$$

The intermediate value theorem implies that there exists $p \in (a, b)$ for which $h(p) = 0$ thus, $g(p) - p = 0$ and p is a fixed point of g .

Suppose in addition that inequality (1.1) holds and that p and q are both fixed points in $[a, b]$ with $p \neq q$. By the mean value theorem a number ξ exists between p and q . And hence in $[a, b]$ with.

$$|p - q| = |g(p) - g(q)| = |g'(\xi)| |p - q| \leq k |p - q| < |p - q|$$

Which is a contradiction this contradiction must come from the only supposition $p \neq q$. Hence $p = q$ and the fixed point in $[a, b]$ is unique

EXAMPLE 2

(a) Let $g(x) = (x^2 - 1)/3$ on $[-1, 1]$ using the extreme value theorem, it is easy to show that the absolute minimum of g occurs at $x = 0$ and $g(0) = -1/3$. Similarly. The absolute

maximum of g occurs at $x = \pm 1$ and has the value $g(\pm 1) = 0$. moreover, g is continuous and

$$|g'(x)| = \left| \frac{2x}{3} \right| \leq \frac{2}{3} \quad \text{for all } x \in [-1, 1].$$

So g satisfies the hypotheses of theorem 1.1 and has a unique fixed in $[-1, 1]$.

In this example the unique fixed point p in the interval $[-1, 1]$ can be determined exactly. If

$$p = g(p) = \frac{p^2 - 1}{3}, \text{ then } p^2 - 3p - 1 = 0$$

Which by the quadratic Formula implies that?

$$p = \frac{3 - \sqrt{13}}{2}.$$

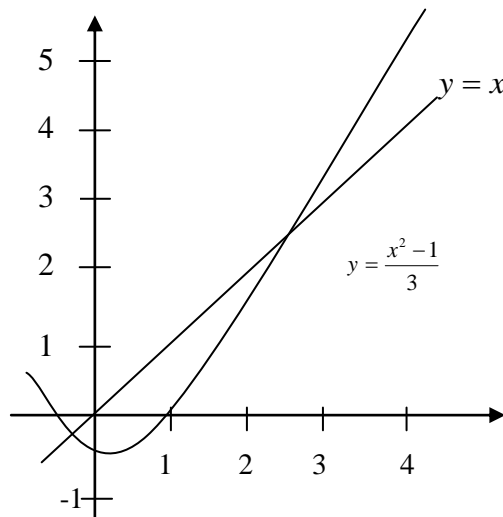


Figure 1.2

That g also has a unique fixed point $p = (3 + \sqrt{13})/2$ for interval $[3, 4]$ forever $g(4) = 5$ and $g'(4) = \frac{1}{3} > 1$: so g does not satisfy their hypotheses of theorem 1.1 this shows that the hypotheses of theorem 1.1 sufficient guarantee a unique fixed point, but are not necessary. (see figure 1.2).

$G(x) = 3^{-x}$. since $g'(x) = -3^{-x} \ln 3 < 0$ on $[0, 1]$, the function is decreasing $[0, 1]$ hence $g(1) = \frac{1}{3} \leq g(x) \leq 1 = g(0)$ for $0 \leq x \leq 1$. this for $x \in [0, 1]$ $g(x) \in [0, 1]$ therefore, g has a fixed point in $[0, 1]$ since

$$g'(0) = -\ln 3 = -1.098612289$$

$f(x) \not\leq 1$ on $[0, 1]$ theorem 1.1 cannot be used determinant unequation forever g is decreasing so it is clear that the fixed point must be unique (see figure 1.3)

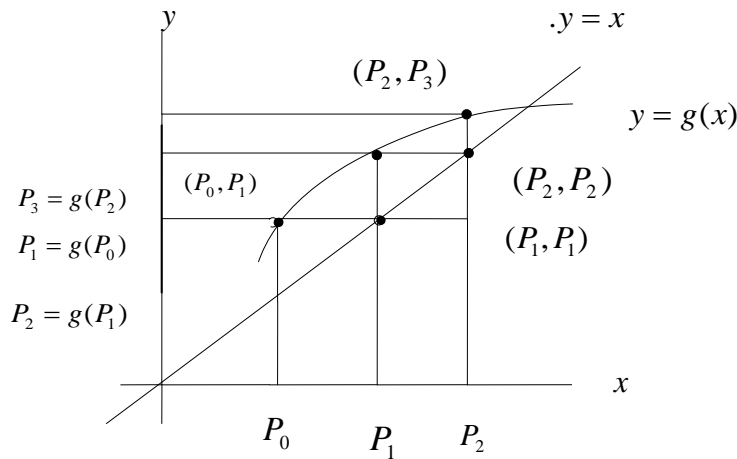


Figure 1.5

FIXED – POINT ALGORITHM 1

To find a solution to $p = g(p)$ given an initial approximation p_0 : INPUT initial approximation p_0 ; tolerance TOL; maximum number of iterations no: OUTPUT approximate solution p or message failure.

Step 1 set $i = 1$.

Step 2 while $i \leq N_0$

Step 3 set $p = g(p_0)$. (compare p .)

Step 4 if $|p - p_0| < TOL$ then

OUTPUT (P), (Procedure completed successfully.)
STOP.

Step 5 set $i = i + 1$.

Step 6 set $p_0 = p$. (Update p_0)

Step 7 OUTPUT (Method failed after N_0 iterations $N_0 = N_0$;
(Procedure completed unsuccessfully.)
STOP.

To illustrate the technique of functional iteration consider the following example.

Example:

a) Let us take the problem given where $g(x) = \frac{1}{7}(x^3 + 2)$. Then $g : [0,1] \rightarrow [0,1]$ and

$|g'(x)| < \frac{3}{7}$ for all $x \in [0,1]$. Hence by the previous theorem sequence P_n defined by the

process $P_{n+1} = \frac{1}{7}(P_n^3 + 2)$ converges to a root of $x^3 - 7x + 2 = 0$

b) Consider $f : [0,2] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = (1+x)^{\frac{1}{5}}$. Observe that f maps $[0,2]$ onto itself. Moreover $|f'(x)| \leq \frac{1}{5} < 1$ for $x \in [0,2]$. By the previous theorem the sequence (P_n) defined by $P_{n+1} = (1 + P_n)^{1/5}$ converges to a root of $x^5 - x - 1 = 0$ in the interval $[0,2]$. In practice, it is often difficult to check the condition $f([a,b] \subseteq [a,b])$ given in the previous theorem. We now present a variant of theorem.

Theorem 1.2 (Fixed point theorem) let $g \in [a,b]$ and suppose that $g(x) \in [a,b]$ for all x in $[a,b]$. further,

Suppose g' exists on $[a,b]$ with

$$|g'(x)| \leq k < 1 \quad \text{for all } x \in (a,b)$$

If p_0 is any number in $[a,b]$ then the sequence defined by

$$p_n = g(p_{n-1}) \quad n \geq 1.$$

Converges to the unique fixed point p in $[a,b]$

Proof by theorem 1.1 a unique fixed point exist in $[a,b]$ since g maps $[a,b]$ into itself the sequence $\{p_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is defined for all $n \geq 0$ and $p_n \in [a,b]$ for all n . Using inequality and the mean value theorem.

$$|p_n - p| = |g(p_{n-1}) - g(p)| = |g'(\xi)| |p_{n-1} - p| \leq k |p_{n-1} - p|.$$

Where $\xi \in (a,b)$ applying inequality (1.3) inductively gives:

$$|p_n - p| \leq k |p_{n-1} - p| \leq k^2 |p_{n-2} - p| \leq \dots \leq k^n |p_0 - p|.$$

Since $k < 1$,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |p_n - p| \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} k^n |p_0 - p| = 0$$

and $\{p_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ converges to p .

Corollary 1.3 If g satisfies the hypotheses of theorem 1.2 a bound for the error involve in using p_n to apporoximate p is given by.

$$|p_n - p| \leq k^n \max\{p_0 - a, b - p_0\} \quad \text{for all } n \geq 1.$$

Proof from inequality,

$$|p_n - p| \leq k^n |p_0 - p| \leq k^n \max\{p_0 - a, b - p_0\},$$

Since $p \in [a,b]$

Corollary 1.4 If g satisfies the hypotheses of theorem 1.2, then

$$|p_n - p| \leq \frac{k^n}{1-k} |p_0 - p_1| \quad \text{for all } n \geq 1$$

Proof for $n \geq 1$ the procedure used in the proof of theorem 1.2 implies that

$$|p_{n+1} - p_n| = |g(p_n) - g(p_{n-1})| \leq k |p_n - p_{n-1}| \leq \dots \leq k^n |p_1 - p_0|$$

Thus, for $m > n \geq 1$

$$\begin{aligned} |p_m - p_n| &= |p_m - p_{m-1} + p_{m-1} - \dots + p_{n+1} - p_n| \\ &\leq |p_m - p_{m-1}| + |p_{m-1} - p_{m-2}| + \dots + |p_{n+1} - p_n| \\ &\leq k^{m-1}|p_1 - p_0| + k^{m-2}|p_1 - p_0| + \dots + k^n|p_1 - p_0| \\ &= k^n(1 + k + k^2 + \dots + k^{m-n-1})|p_1 - p_0| \end{aligned}$$

By theorem 1.2, $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p_m = p$ so

$$\begin{aligned} |p - p_n| &= \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} |p_m - p_n| \leq k^n |p_1 - p_0| \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} k^p = \frac{k^n}{1-k} |p_1 - p_0| \end{aligned}$$

Both corollaries relate the rate of convergence to the bound k on the first derivate it is clear that the rate of convergence depends on the factor $k^n(1-k)$ and that the smaller k can be made the faster the convergence the convergence may be very slow if k is close to 1. In the following example the fixed-point methods in example 3 are reconsidered in light of the results described in theorem 1.2.

EXAMPLE 4

- (a) When $g_1(x) = x - x^3 - 4x^2 + 10$, $g'_1(x) = 1 - 3x^2 - 8x$. Then is no interval $[a, b]$ containing p for which $|g'_1(x)| < 1$ though theorem (1.2) does not guarantee that the method must fail for this choice of g , there is no reason to expect convergence.
- (b) With $g_2(x) = [(10/x) - 4x]^{1/2}$, we can see that p_2 does not map $[1, 5]$ into $[1, 2]$ and the sequence $\{p_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is not defined with $p = 1.5$ moreover there is no interval containing such that

$$|g'_2(x)| < 1, \quad \text{since } |g'_2(p)| \approx 3.4$$

- (c) for the function $g_3(x) = \frac{1}{2}(10 - x^3)^{1/2}$

$$g_3(x) = -\frac{3}{4}x^2(10 - x^3)^{-1/2} < 0 \quad \text{on } [1, 2],$$

So g is strictly decreasing on $[1, 2]$ however, $|g'_3(2)| \approx 2.12$, so inequality (1.2) does not hold on $[1, 2]$. A closer examination of the sequence $\{p_0\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ starting with $p_0 = 1.5$ will show $g'_3(x) < 0$ and g is strictly decreasing but additionally,

$$1 < 1.28 \approx g_3(1.5) \leq g_3(x) \leq g_3(1) = 1.5$$

For all $x \in [1, 1.5]$ this shows that g_3 maps the interval $[1, 1.5]$ into itself. Since it is also true that $|g'_3(x)| \leq |g'_3(1.5)| \approx 0.66$ on this interval, theorem 1.2 configures the convergence which we were already aware

$$(c) \text{ for } g_4(x) = \left(\frac{10}{4+x} \right)^{1/2},$$

$$|g'_4(x)| = \left| \frac{-5}{\sqrt{10}(4+x)^{3/2}} \right| < \frac{5}{\sqrt{10}(5)^{3/2}} < 0.15 \quad \text{for all } [1.2]$$

The bound on the magnitude $g'_4(x)$ is much smaller than the bound on the magnitude of $g'_3(x)$ which explains the more rapid convergence using g_4 the other part of example 3 can be handled in a similar manner.

Remark: If g is invertible then P is a fixed point of g if and only if q is a fixed point of g^{-1} , in view of this fact, sometimes we can apply the fixed point iteration method for g^{-1} instead of g . For understanding, consider $g(x) = 3x - 21$ then $|g'(x)| = 3$ for all x . So the fixed point iteration method may not work. However, $g^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{3}x + 7$ and in this case $|(g^{-1})'(x)| = \frac{1}{3}$ for all x .

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