

HWRS 505: Vadose Zone Hydrology

Lecture 11

9/26/2023

Today:

Steady-state unsaturated flow and numerical solution

Review of Lecture 10

HWRS 505
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Fall 2023

❖ Steady-state unsaturated flow

- Negative water pressure; flow driven by capillary pressure and gravity
- Relative permeability is a nonlinear function of water saturation
- At heterogeneous interfaces, water saturation does not need to be continuous, but capillary pressure and water pressure have to be continuous.
- Numerical solution of steady-state unsaturated flow.

Acting like (nonlinear) **diffusion** for transporting water (i.e., θ_w or S_w)

Acting like (nonlinear) **advection** for transporting water (i.e., θ_w or S_w)

$$\frac{\partial K_{unsat}}{\partial z} = \left(\frac{\partial K_{unsat}}{\partial S_w} \right) \frac{\partial S_w}{\partial z}$$

wave velocity
(nonlinear function of S_w)

Key idea: Divide the domain into many boxes and convert the **differential equation** to a system of (nonlinear) **algebraic equations**.

Technique: Use **finite difference** to approximate **derivatives**.

Note: There are other techniques available, but we will only discuss finite difference in this class. “*HWRS 504 Numerical Methods for Environmental Transport Problems*” will cover other more advanced topics.

Steady-State Unsaturated Flow: Numerical Soln.

Slide from Lecture 10

$$\cancel{\frac{\partial \theta_w}{\partial t}} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left(K \frac{\partial \psi_w}{\partial z} \right) - \frac{\partial K}{\partial z} = 0 \quad \xrightarrow{\text{Steady-state}} \quad \textcircled{1} \frac{d}{dz} \left(K \frac{d\psi_w}{dz} \right) + \textcircled{2} \frac{dK}{dz} = 0 \quad (1)$$

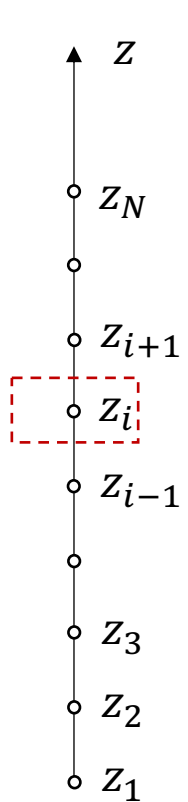


Diagram of a vertical column with nodes $z_1, z_2, z_3, z_{i-1}, z_i, z_{i+1}, z_N$. A red dashed box highlights the node z_i .

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} \frac{d}{dz} \left(K \frac{d\psi_w}{dz} \right) \Big|_{z_i} &\approx \frac{\left(K \frac{d\psi_w}{dz} \right)_{i+1/2} - \left(K \frac{d\psi_w}{dz} \right)_{i-1/2}}{\Delta z} \approx \frac{K_{i+1/2} \frac{\psi_{w,i+1} - \psi_{w,i}}{\Delta z} - K_{i-1/2} \frac{\psi_{w,i} - \psi_{w,i-1}}{\Delta z}}{\Delta z} \\ &= \frac{K_{i+1/2}(\psi_{w,i+1} - \psi_{w,i}) - K_{i-1/2}(\psi_{w,i} - \psi_{w,i-1})}{\Delta z^2} \\ \textcircled{2} \frac{dK}{dz} \Big|_{z_i} &\approx \frac{K_{i+1/2} - K_{i-1/2}}{\Delta z} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{K_{i+1/2}}{\Delta z^2} (\psi_{w,i+1} - \psi_{w,i}) - \frac{K_{i-1/2}}{\Delta z^2} (\psi_{w,i} - \psi_{w,i-1}) + K_{i+1/2} \frac{1}{\Delta z} - K_{i-1/2} \frac{1}{\Delta z} &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow \frac{K_{i+1/2}}{\Delta z^2} \psi_{w,i+1} - \left(\frac{K_{i+1/2}}{\Delta z^2} + \frac{K_{i-1/2}}{\Delta z^2} \right) \psi_{w,i} + \frac{K_{i-1/2}}{\Delta z^2} \psi_{w,i-1} + K_{i+1/2} \frac{1}{\Delta z} - K_{i-1/2} \frac{1}{\Delta z} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

This is an algebraic equation with 3 unknowns. We can write such an algebraic equation for each node or box and we can get N algebraic equations for the N unknowns $(\psi_{w,1}, \psi_{w,2}, \dots, \psi_{w,N})$

Steady-State Unsaturated Flow: Numerical Soln.

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Slide from Lecture 10

In matrix form:

$$\begin{bmatrix}
 1 & 0 & 0 \\
 \frac{K_{3/2}}{\Delta z^2} & -\frac{(K_{3/2} + K_{5/2})}{\Delta z^2} & \frac{K_{5/2}}{\Delta z^2} \\
 & \frac{K_{5/2}}{\Delta z^2} & -\frac{(K_{5/2} + K_{7/2})}{\Delta z^2} & \frac{K_{7/2}}{\Delta z^2} \\
 & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\
 & & \frac{K_{i-1/2}}{\Delta z^2} & -\frac{(K_{i-1/2} + K_{i+1/2})}{\Delta z^2} & \frac{K_{i+1/2}}{\Delta z^2} \\
 & & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\
 & & & \frac{K_{n-1-1/2}}{\Delta z^2} & -\frac{(K_{n-1-1/2} + K_{n-1+1/2})}{\Delta z^2} & \frac{K_{n-1+1/2}}{\Delta z^2} \\
 0 & 0 & 1
 \end{bmatrix}
 \begin{bmatrix}
 \psi_{w,1} \\
 \psi_{w,2} \\
 \psi_{w,3} \\
 \vdots \\
 \psi_{w,i} \\
 \vdots \\
 \psi_{w,n-1} \\
 \psi_{w,n}
 \end{bmatrix}
 =
 \begin{bmatrix}
 B.C. \\
 \frac{K_{3/2} - K_{5/2}}{\Delta z} \\
 \frac{K_{5/2} - K_{7/2}}{\Delta z} \\
 \vdots \\
 \frac{K_{i-1/2} - K_{i+1/2}}{\Delta z} \\
 \vdots \\
 \frac{K_{n-1-1/2} - K_{n-1+1/2}}{\Delta z} \\
 B.C.
 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow \mathbf{F}(\boldsymbol{\psi}_w) \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi}_w = \mathbf{R}$ How to solve this nonlinear system of algebraic equations?
 \Rightarrow Employ an iterative methods

Solution to Nonlinear Equations

□ Example: Determine $\sqrt[3]{25}$

✓ First write the problem in a more easily-evaluated form:

If $x = \sqrt[3]{25}$, then $x^3 = 25$, or

$$F(x) = x^3 - 25$$

In general, we wish to find roots, or zeros, of the general nonlinear equation

$$F(x) = 0, \text{ (find } x\text{)}$$

For our example, $F(x) = x^3 - 25$

Solution to Nonlinear Equations

□ Newton-Raphson method

- ✓ A systematic and very popular method based on truncated Taylor series.

Assume $F(x) \in C^2[a, b]$, and let the problem given by $F(x) = 0$. Let $x_0 \in [a, b]$.

Then:

$$F(x) = F(x_0) + (x - x_0) \frac{dF}{dx} \Big|_{x_0} + \frac{(x - x_0)^2}{2} \frac{d^2F}{dx^2} \Big|_{\xi} + \dots = 0 \quad \xi \in [x, x_0]$$

If the last term $O((\Delta x)^2)$ is neglected, then:

$$F(x_0) + (x - x_0) \frac{dF}{dx} \Big|_{x_0} \approx 0$$

If this is set equal to zero, then an approximation to the true solution x may be solved for.

Denote it by x_1 , and set:

$$F(x_0) + (x_1 - x_0) \frac{dF}{dx} \Big|_{x_0} \approx 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = x_0 - \frac{F(x_0)}{\frac{dF}{dx} \Big|_{x_0}}, \text{ which is a better (updated) estimate of the root.}$$

Then expand about x_1 to obtain: $x_2 = x_1 - \frac{F(x_1)}{\frac{dF}{dx} \Big|_{x_1}}$

Solution to Nonlinear Equations

□ Newton-Raphson method

✓ In general:

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{F(x_n)}{\frac{dF}{dx}|_{x_n}} \quad \text{“Newton-Raphson” Approximation}$$

✓ Criteria for stopping the iteration:

(a) $|x_{n+1} - x_n| < \epsilon$

(b) $\left| \frac{x_{n+1} - x_n}{x_{n+1}} \right| < \epsilon \quad (x_{n+1} \neq 0)$

(c) $|F(x_{n+1})| < \epsilon$

Solution to Nonlinear Equations

□ Newton-Raphson method: Examples

✓ Example 1a:

$$F(x) = x^3 - 25$$

$$\frac{dF}{dx} = 3x^2$$

Let $x_0 = 2$

$$x_1 = 2 - \frac{-17}{12} = 3.417$$

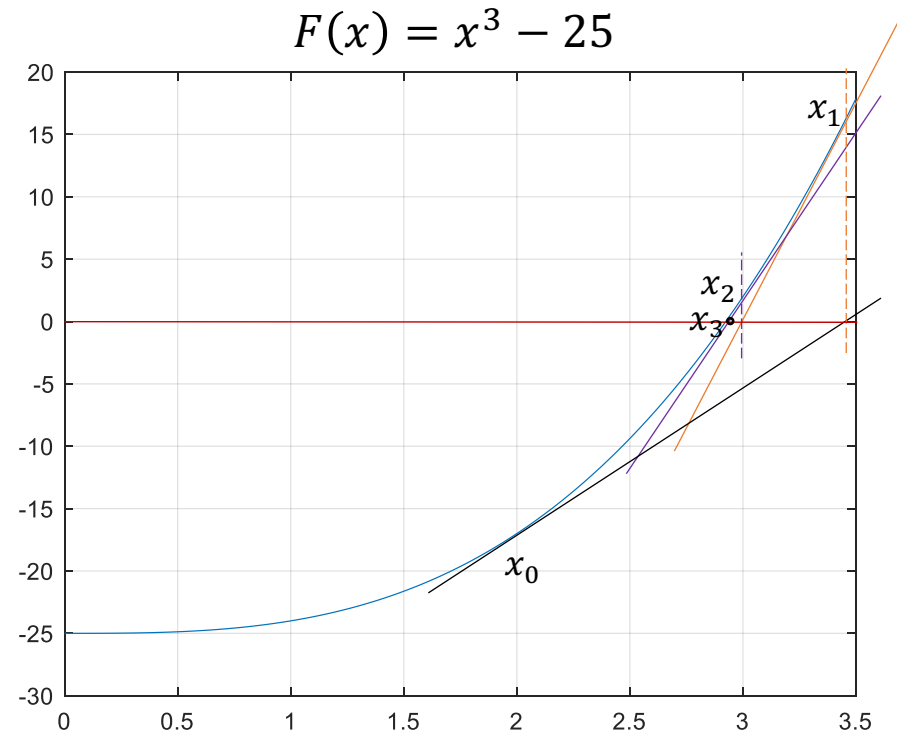
$$x_2 = 3.417 - 0.425 = 2.992$$

$$x_3 = 2.992 - 0.066 = 2.926$$

$$x_4 = 2.926 - 0.002 = 2.9240$$

$$x_5 = 2.9240 - 0.0000 = 2.9240 \quad (\text{correct to 4 figures, actually correct to } \sim 7 \text{ figures})$$

So, in 4 iterations we arrive at a solution that is accurate to > 4 figures.



Solution to Nonlinear Equations

□ Newton-Raphson method: Examples

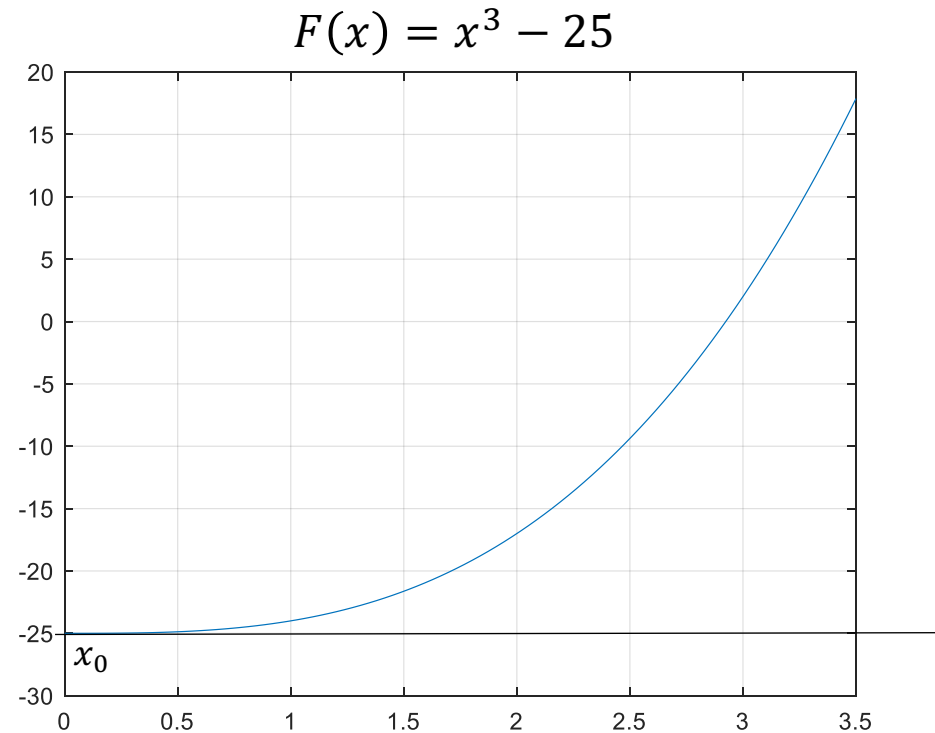
✓ Example 1b:

$$F(x) = x^3 - 25$$

$$\frac{dF}{dx} = 3x^2$$

Let $x_0 = 0$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} F(x_0) = -25 \\ \frac{dF}{dx} \Big|_{x_0} = 0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow x_1 = 0 - \frac{-25}{0} \quad \text{(Undefined!)}$$



- Use slope of curve to project linearly to the $F=0$ axis
- Initial guess must be a “good” one

Note: When using the N-R method to solve PDEs, there is a natural “good” initial guess—solution from the previous time step.

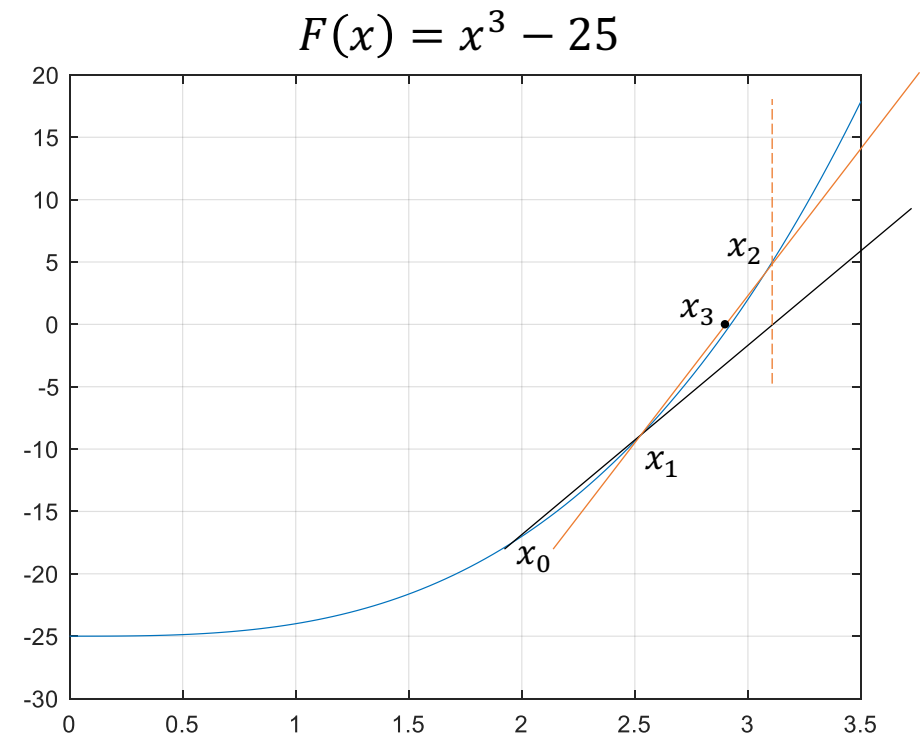
Solution to Nonlinear Equations

□ An Variant of N-R: Secant Method

✓ Instead of evaluating $\frac{dF}{dx}|_{x_n}$, estimate this by FDA $\frac{F(x_n) - F(x_{n-1})}{x_n - x_{n-1}}$

$$\Rightarrow x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{F(x_n)}{\left(\frac{F(x_n) - F(x_{n-1})}{x_n - x_{n-1}}\right)}$$

$$\Rightarrow x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{F(x_n)(x_n - x_{n-1})}{F(x_n) - F(x_{n-1})}$$



□ Systems of Nonlinear Equations

✓ Consider the general system of nonlinear equations:

$$F_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N) = 0$$

$$F_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N) = 0$$

...

$$F_N(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N) = 0$$

How to solve?

□ Systems of Nonlinear Equations

✓ Newton-Raphson

- Now we need a multidimensional Taylor series
- Choose point $\mathbf{x}^0 = (x_1^0, x_2^0, \dots, x_N^0)$

$$\begin{aligned} F_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N) &= F_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ &= F_1(\mathbf{x}_0) + (x_1 - x_1^0) \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_1} \Big|_{\mathbf{x}^0} + (x_2 - x_2^0) \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_2} \Big|_{\mathbf{x}^0} + \dots + (x_N - x_N^0) \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_N} \Big|_{\mathbf{x}^0} + O(\Delta x^2) \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$F_2(\mathbf{x}) = F_2(\mathbf{x}_0) + (x_1 - x_1^0) \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x_1} \Big|_{\mathbf{x}^0} + (x_2 - x_2^0) \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x_2} \Big|_{\mathbf{x}^0} + \dots + (x_N - x_N^0) \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x_N} \Big|_{\mathbf{x}^0} + O(\Delta x^2)$$

...

$$F_i(\mathbf{x}) = F_i(\mathbf{x}_0) + \sum_{j=1}^N (x_j - x_j^0) \frac{\partial F_i}{\partial x_j} \Big|_{\mathbf{x}^0} + O(\Delta x^2)$$

...

□ Systems of Nonlinear Equations

✓ Newton-Raphson

- Now we have a set of algebraic equations:

$$\begin{aligned}(x_1 - x_1^0) \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_1} \Big|_{x^0} + (x_2 - x_2^0) \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_2} \Big|_{x^0} + \cdots + (x_N - x_N^0) \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_N} \Big|_{x^0} + O(\Delta x^2) &= F_1(\mathbf{x}) - F_1(\mathbf{x}^0) \\ &= 0 - F_1(\mathbf{x}^0) \\ &= -F_1(\mathbf{x}^0)\end{aligned}$$

...

$$(x_1 - x_1^0) \frac{\partial F_i}{\partial x_1} \Big|_{x^0} + (x_2 - x_2^0) \frac{\partial F_i}{\partial x_2} \Big|_{x^0} + \cdots + (x_N - x_N^0) \frac{\partial F_i}{\partial x_N} \Big|_{x^0} + O(\Delta x^2) = -F_i(\mathbf{x}^0)$$

...

If we neglect the $O(\Delta x^2)$ terms and replace \mathbf{x} on LHS by approximating value \mathbf{x}^1 , then this is a system of linear algebraic equation for the variables $(x_j^1 - x_j^0), j = 1, 2, \dots, N$. That is,

Solution to Nonlinear Equations

□ Systems of Nonlinear Equations

✓ Newton-Raphson

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_1} \Big|_{x^0} & \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_2} \Big|_{x^0} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_N} \Big|_{x^0} \\ \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x_1} \Big|_{x^0} & \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x_2} \Big|_{x^0} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x_N} \Big|_{x^0} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial F_N}{\partial x_1} \Big|_{x^0} & \frac{\partial F_N}{\partial x_2} \Big|_{x^0} & \cdots & \frac{\partial F_N}{\partial x_N} \Big|_{x^0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} (x_1^1 - x_1^0) \\ (x_2^1 - x_2^0) \\ \vdots \\ (x_N^1 - x_N^0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -F_1(x^0) \\ -F_2(x^0) \\ \vdots \\ -F_N(x^0) \end{bmatrix}$$

OR

$$J^0 \cdot \delta x^1 = -F^0$$

The matrix J is often referred to as the Jacobian matrix.

□ Systems of Nonlinear Equations

✓ Newton-Raphson

- The general iteration is then of the form:

$$\mathbf{J}^n \cdot \delta \mathbf{x}^{n+1} = -\mathbf{F}^n$$

- This is of the form:

$$\mathbf{J}^n \cdot (\mathbf{x}^{n+1} - \mathbf{x}^n) = -\mathbf{F}^n$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{n+1} = \mathbf{x}^n - (\mathbf{J}^n)^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{F}^n$$

- Can also define “quasi-Newton” methods (such as the secant method) by approximating the derivatives in \mathbf{J} using FDA