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INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GUWAHATI

MA 423: Matrix Computations Lab

Lab 04

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Question 1.

$$p(z) = p_1 z^n + p_2 z^{n-1} + \dots + p_n z + p_{n+1}$$

- Horner's method utilizes the following trick to calculate $p(z)$ in $O(n)$ time.

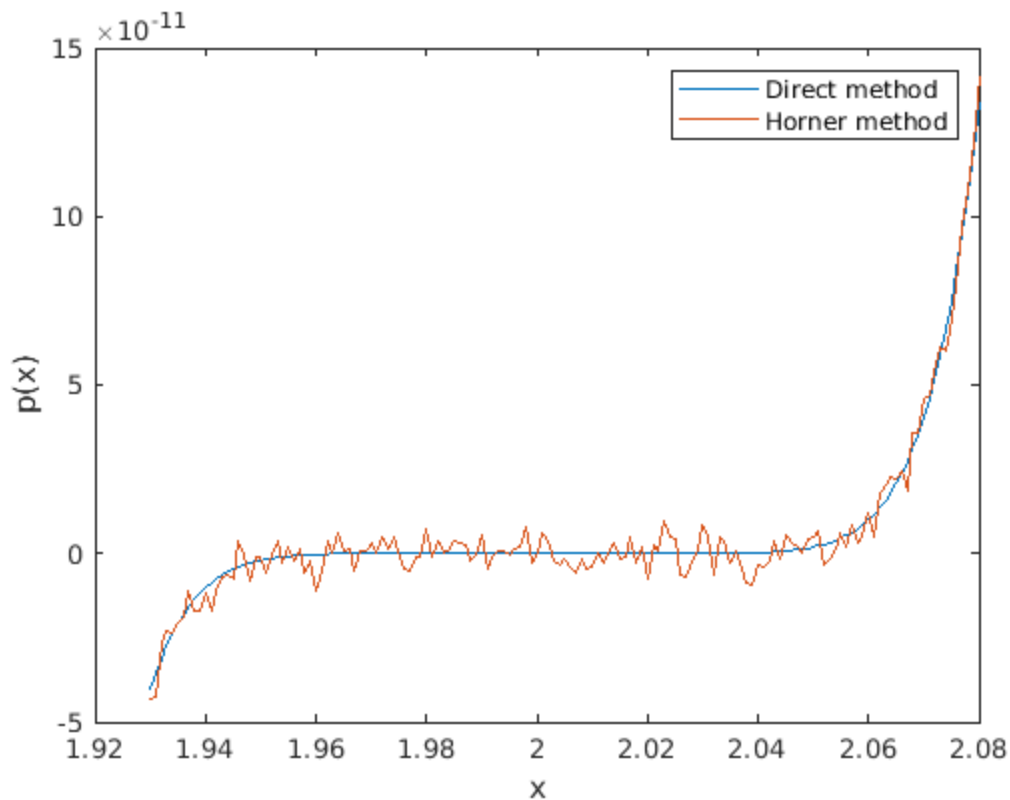
$$p(x) = p_{n+1} + x(p_n + \dots + x(p_3 + x(p_2 + p_1 x)))$$


- The function program $y = \text{Horner}(p, x)$ has been written which uses Horner's rule to evaluate $p(z)$ at $z=x$.

Question 2.

Different intervals were taken in $[1.95, 2.05]$. Roots were obtained with a tolerance of 10^{-8} and were never equal to 2.

Question 3.





Yes, the plots differ from each other. The reason for question 2 is as follows:

During the evaluation of $p(x)$ using Horner's method, rounding errors were committed, and they are pushing small negative $p(x)$ values to be positive and other positive values to negative ones in the neighborhood of 2.

This is causing the graph to cross the x-axis in many places other than 2 computationally. So although theoretically, there are 9 roots at 2, computationally there will be others in small neighborhoods of 2; some even in intervals near 2, but not containing 2.