

Project 1

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Finding zero points of polynomial $w_n(x)$ using Halley's method

Given the polynomial

$$w_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k T_k(x) T_{n-k}(x)$$

where $x \in \mathbb{R}$, T_0, T_1, \dots, T_n - 1'st type Chebyshev polynomials ($T_k(x) = \cos(k \arccos(x))$), defined for $x \in [-1, 1]$ and $n = 0, 1, \dots$, $a_k \in \mathbb{R}$, $n \in \mathbb{N}$ - known constants, we'll be looking for zero points of $w_n(x)$ using Halley's method.

1. Definition of Halley's method

Let $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ - function of class $C^2(\mathbb{R})$ (so it has continuous second derivative), and $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ - given starting approximation for f zero point. Using Taylor series of function f for the area of point x_k (where $x_k \in \mathbb{R}$ and $k \in \mathbb{N}$) we get p - the approximation of function f :

$$p(x) = f(x_k) + f'(x_k)(x - x_k) + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_k)(x - x_k)^2$$

Assuming $f(x_{k+1}) = 0$ we get

$$f(x_k) + f'(x_k)(x_{k+1} - x_k) + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_k)(x_{k+1} - x_k)^2 = 0$$

Therefore

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{f(x_k)}{f'(x_k) + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_k)(x_{k+1} - x_k)}$$

Furthermore, values on the right side of this equation we can approximate with the Newton's method (so $x = x - \frac{f(x_k)}{f'(x_k)}$). This gives us the final formula:

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{2f(x_k)f'(x_k)}{2(f'(x_k))^2 - f(x_k)f''(x_k)}$$

By creating a sequence $(x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots)$ of real points fulfilling upper formula we might be able to create a sequence that is convergent to zero point of f .

So the Halley's method for next approximation takes a point $x_k \in \mathbb{R}$ which is a zero point of a hyperbole that approximates f at point x_k .

2. Computation Limitation

For obvious reasons computers are unable to calculate this limit, therefore some convergence criteria must be introduced. In this work's implementation we're using below condition to stop computation:

$$|x_{k+1} - x_k| < \epsilon \wedge |f(x_{k+1})| < \epsilon$$

for some $\epsilon > 0$. Therefore, this ϵ is maximum error we can get from this computation, which leaves nearly no space for analysing this method errors.

3. Implementation details

Alongside some utility functions to create below plots, implementation in Matlab consists of the following functions:

```

function root = halley(F, x0, tolerance, max_iterations)
    % Halley's method for finding a root of the function F
    % it will be the last element of root return variable
    % earlier entries are how x values in (i-1)th iteration

    % F: function of one parameter x that returns [F(x), F'(x), F''(x)]
    % x0: starting approximation
    % tolerance: convergence tolerance
    % max_iterations: maximum number of iterations

function [Wx, Wdx, Wddx] = W(a, n, x)
    % calculates value of a function W given in task at points x,
    % its first and second derevative

    % a: vector coefficients of the chebyshev polynomial (a_0, a_1, ..., a_n)
    % n: degree of the chebyshev polynomial
    % x: vector of points where the function should be evaluated

function W_func = create_W_func(a)
    % Creates W_n function according to halley function requirements,
    % so the function of just one parameter x that returns W_n(x), W'_n(x), W''_n(x)

```

halley is responsible for conducting the Halley algorithm until it coverages or exceeds maximum allowed iteration count. w is our $w_n(x)$ polynomial implementation. For performance reasons, w returns all $w_n(x)$, $w'_n(x)$, $w''_n(x)$ at one and calculates the Chebyshev polynomials using dynamic programming and recursive relationship fulfilled by Chebyshev polynomials which goes as follows:

- $T_0(x) = 1$
- $T_1(x) = x$
- $T_k(x) = 2xT_{k-1}(x) - T_{k-2}(x)$ for $k = 2, 3, \dots$

w_func allows easier calls on w with already set sequence $a = (a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n)$ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Let us see example execution call:

```

% example 1

% define an a sequence
a = 1:10;
fprintf("\na=[" + num2str(a) + "]\n");

% Create W_n of one parameter x
W_func = create_W_func(a);

% retrieve x sequence for starting point of 0.5 and tolerance of 10^-12
z = halley(W_func, 0.5, 10^-12, 10^3);
% print final zero point
fprintf("Final zero point: %.20f \n", z(length(z)));

% calculate error
expected = fzero(W_func, 0.5);
error = calculate_error(expected, z(length(z)));
fprintf("Relative error: " + error + ". Expected zero point is %.20f\n", expected);

% test if method in fact approched it with correct tolerance
assert(abs(error) < 10^-12);

```

Which outputs:

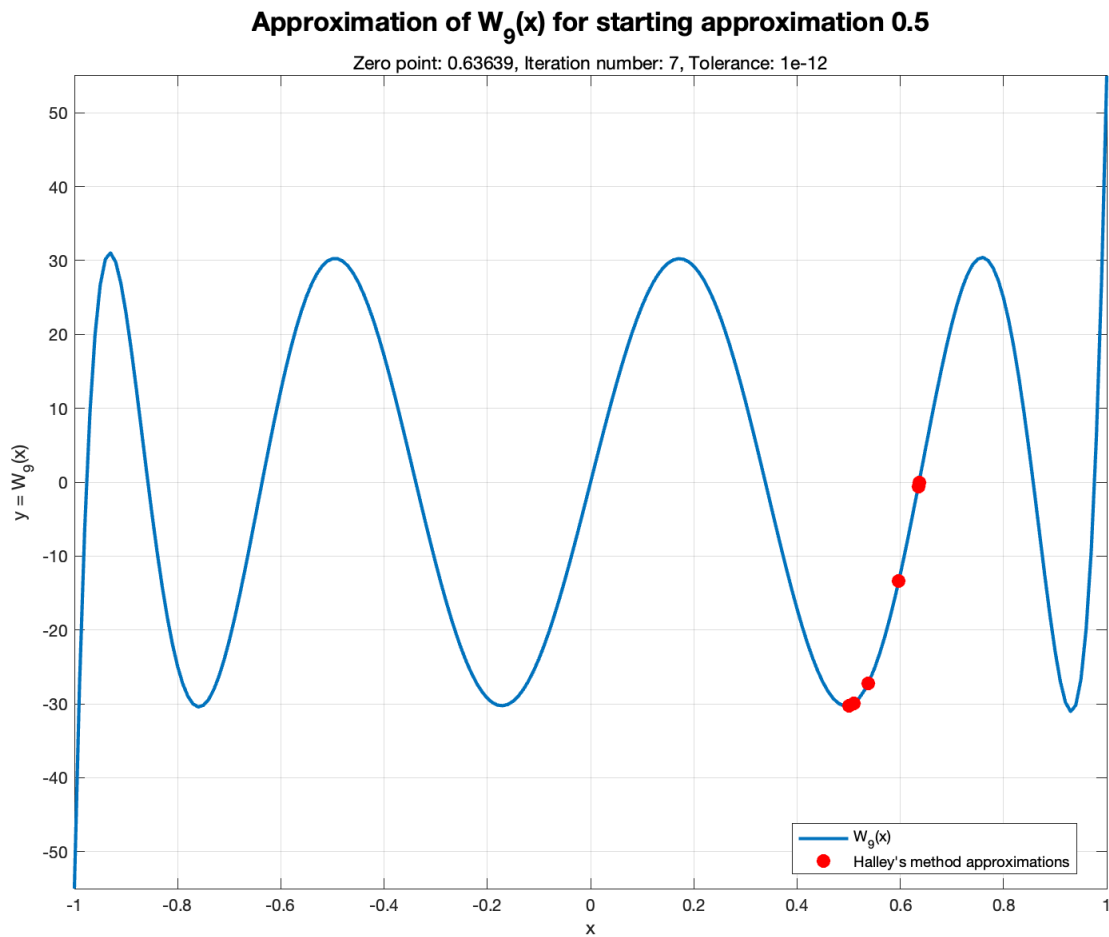
```

a=[1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10]
Final zero point: 0.63639349519183574522
Relative error: 0. Expected zero point is 0.63639349519183574522

```

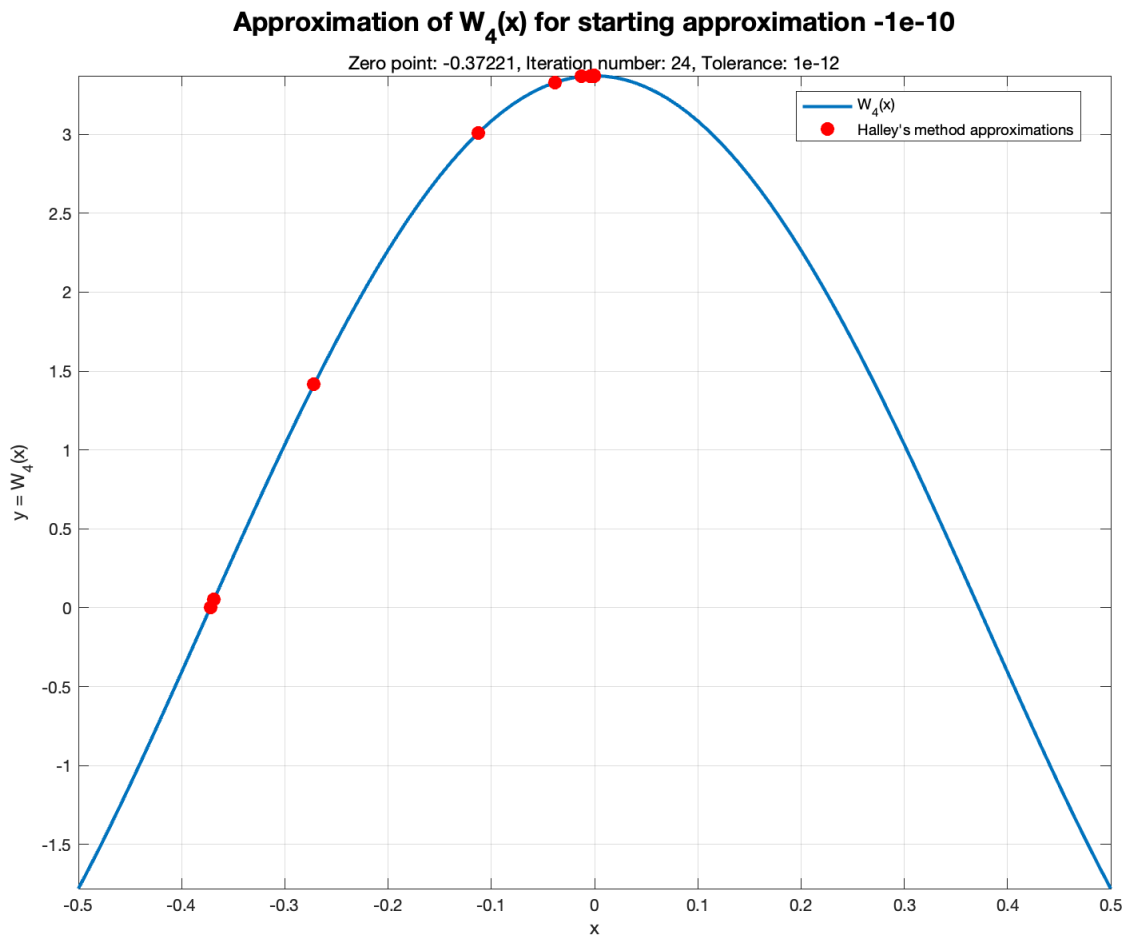
4. Computation examples and analysis

Lets begin with some visual examples:



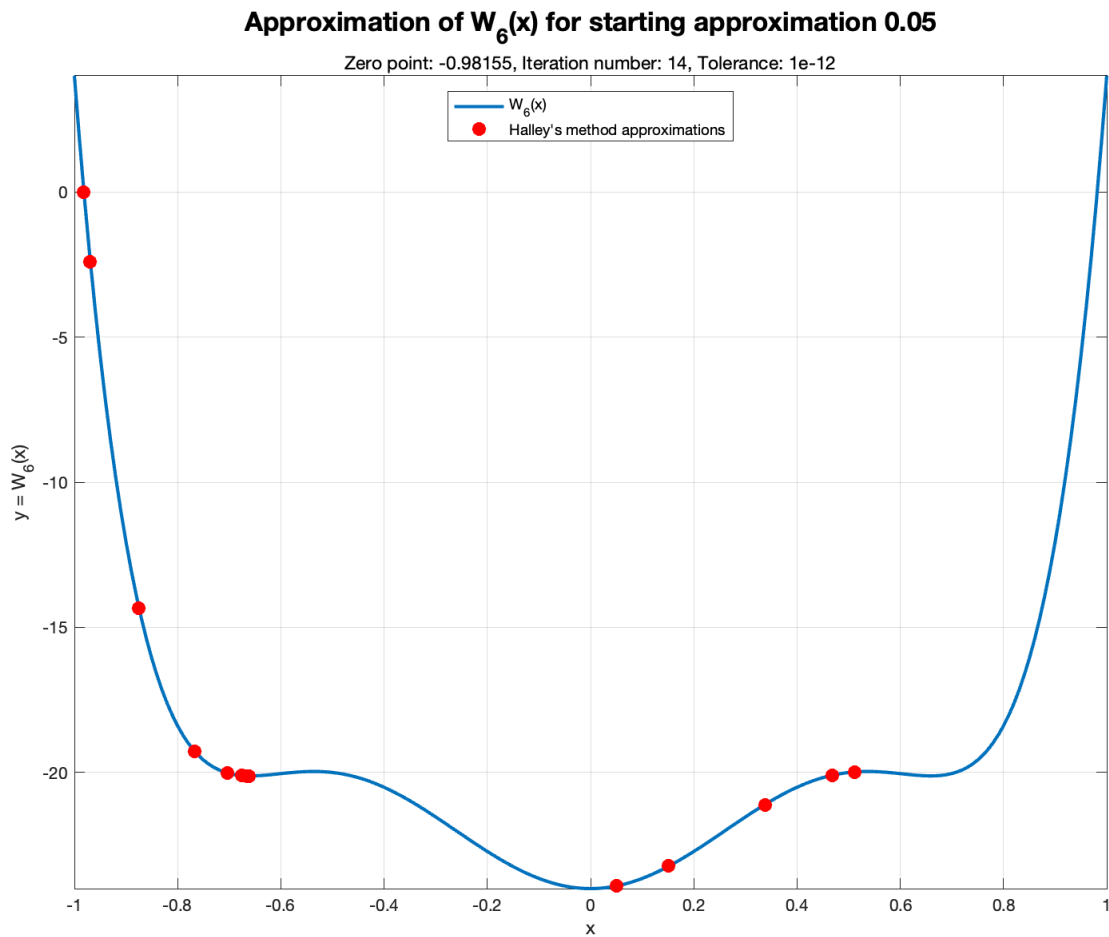
Example 1. Here we begin a little bit to right from the middle of the curve. Algorithm decides to approach towards right and manages to coverage in 7 iterations.

a='1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10'



Example 2. Here we begin a little bit to left from the center. Note that for center this method will not converage, it'll get stuck there.

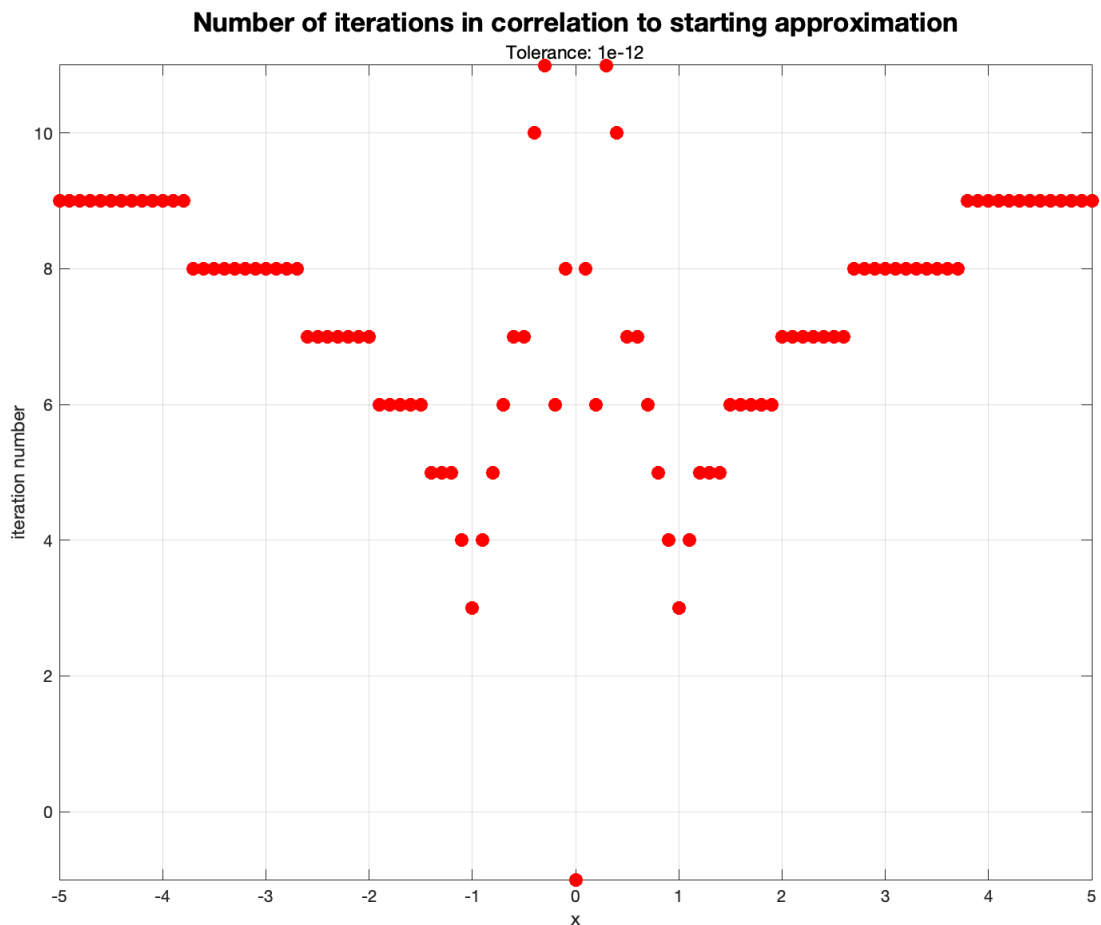
$a = [-0.45055 \ 1.9936 \ 2.8743 \ 2.5057 \ 0.94723]$



Example 3. Here we begin at 0.05, and algorithm scans both to right and the left before reaching coverage at around -1 (interestingly it's further away than coverage point around 0.95).

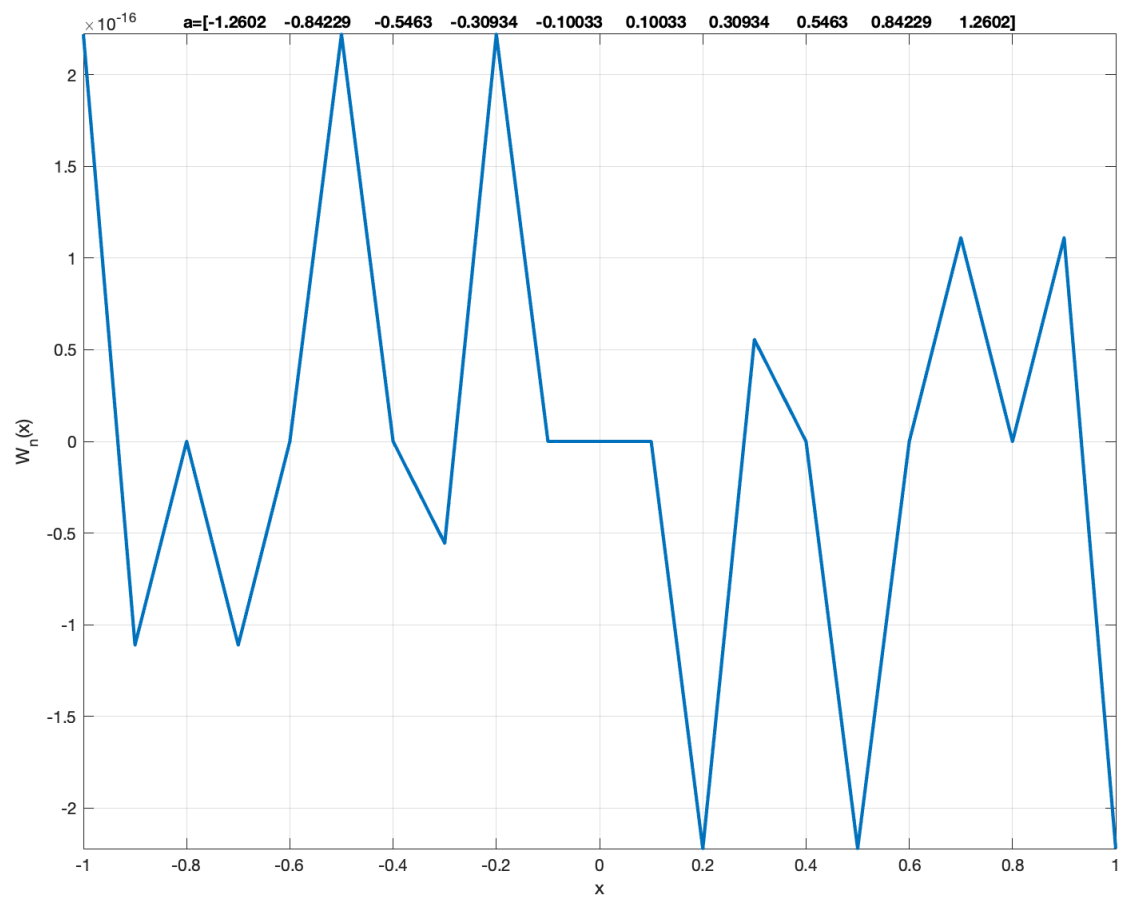
$$a = [-0.45055 \ 1.9936 \ 2.8743 \ 2.5057 \ 0.94723]$$

Let's now try to analyze how many iterations this method require for such an easy example as the last upper one.

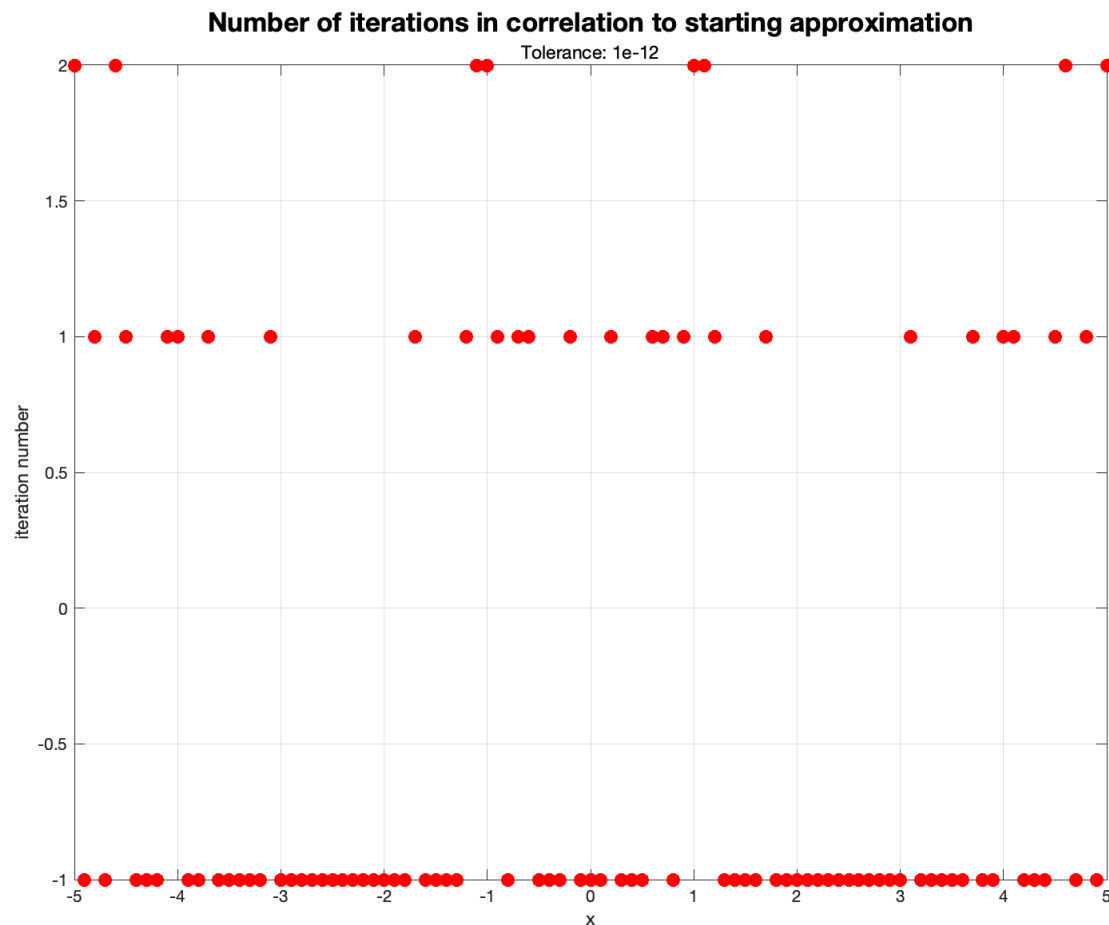


Number of iterations equals to -1 represents that for given maximum iterations (10^3) Halley's method didn't manage to find the zero point

From above image we can easily tell, which of course checks with the math, that when function derivative is 0 Halley's algorithm gets trapped forever, therefore it exceeds any possible iteration limit and we cannot use it to approximate the zero points. For clarity let's look at this again:

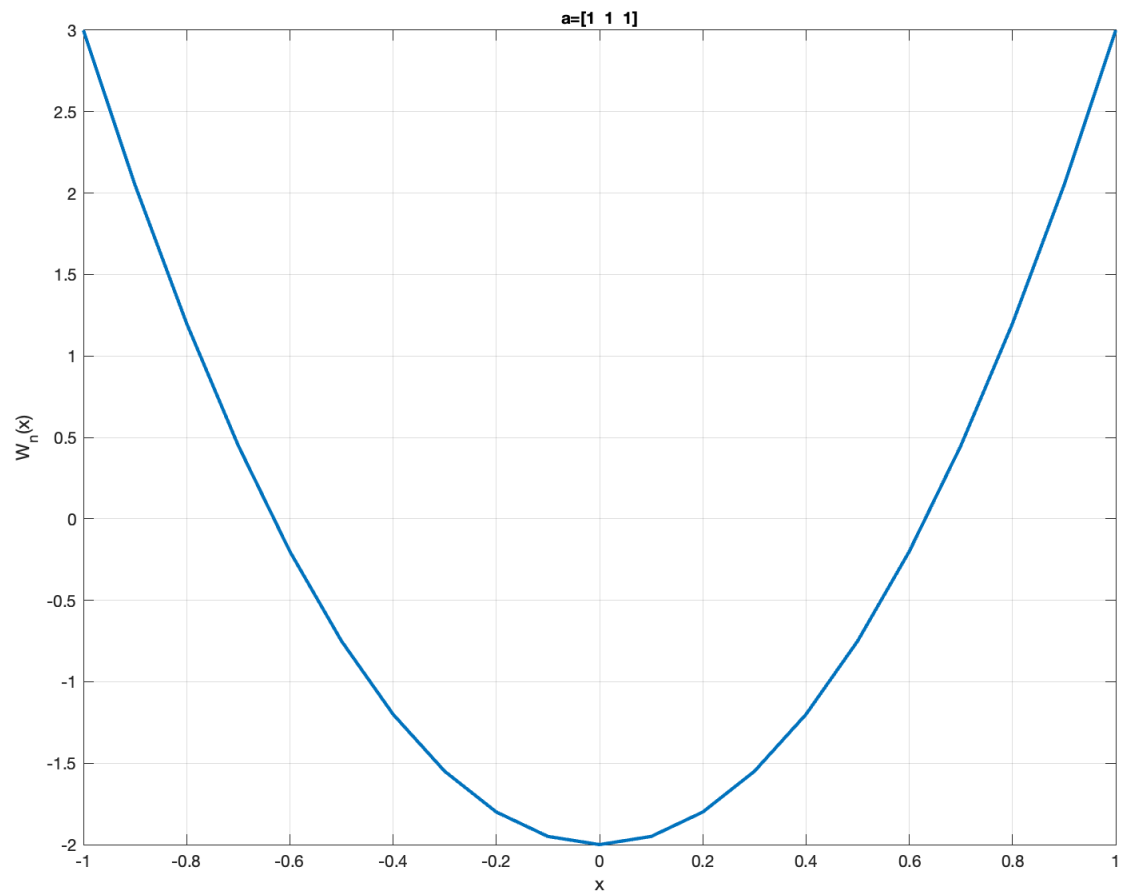


Example 4. Function we'll try to approximate with Halley's method. It has many points where its derivative is equal to 0 and many points where its value is close to 0.

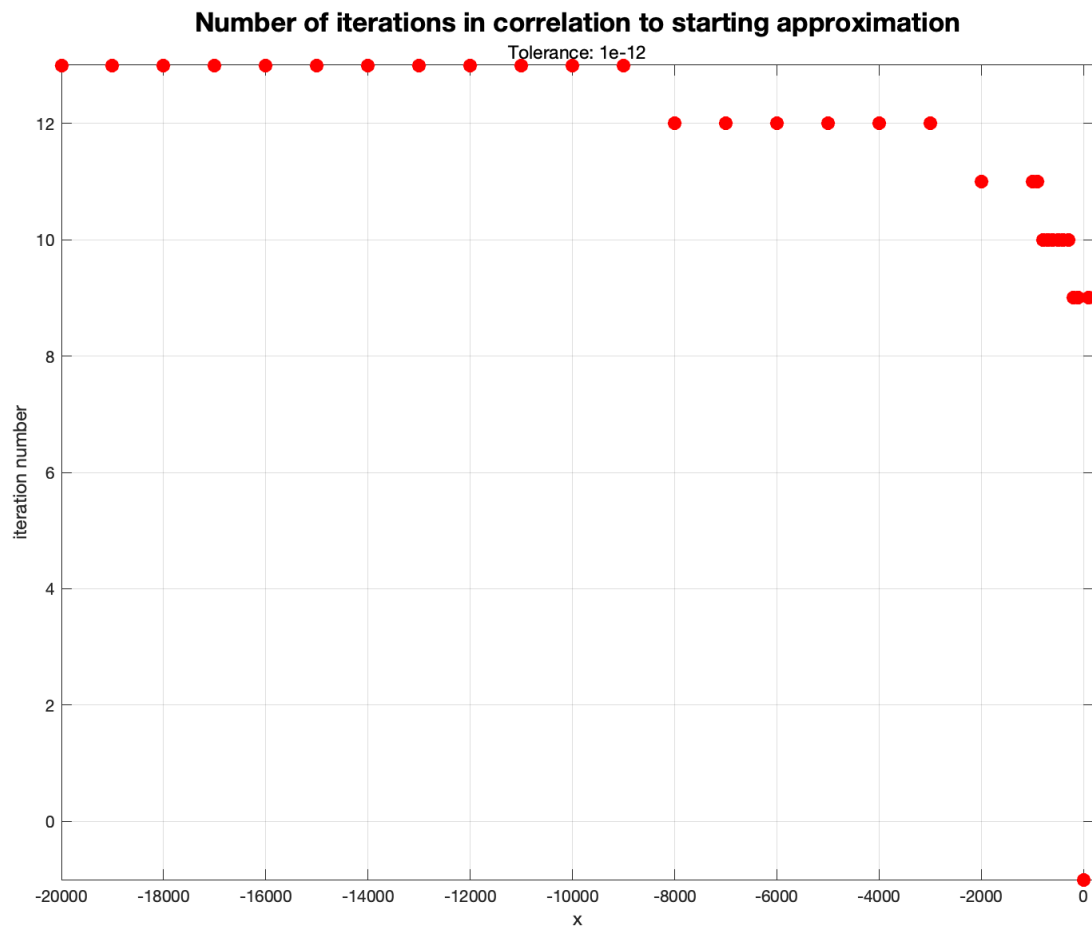


As we've expected, Halley's method either finds optimal solution in couple of iterations or gets stuck.

The only remaining question is how fast can it approach (if it is possible) the desired optimum while being relatively far away from it. To answer this question let's look at next 2 charts that tackle this problem using very simple function:

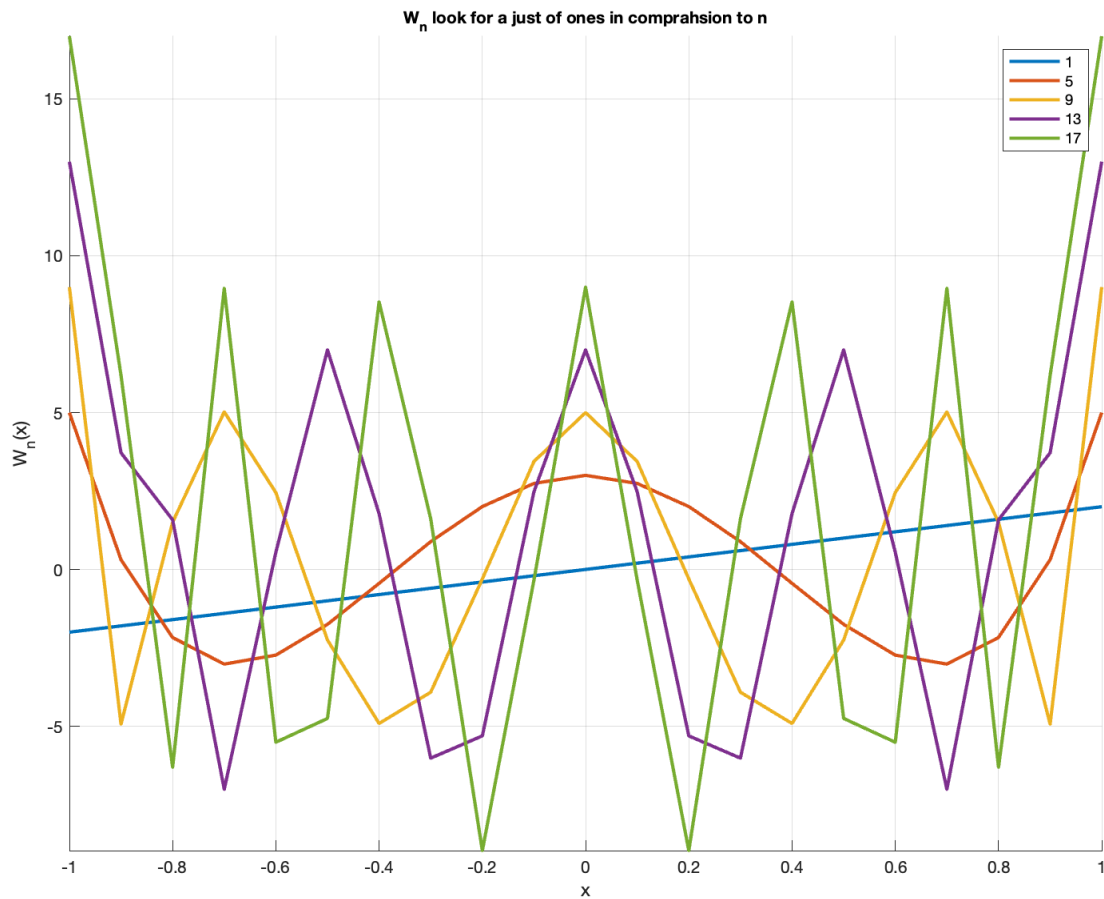


Example 5. Function graphical representation for small x . As we can see, it raises pretty quickly yet it's extremely simple and smooth.



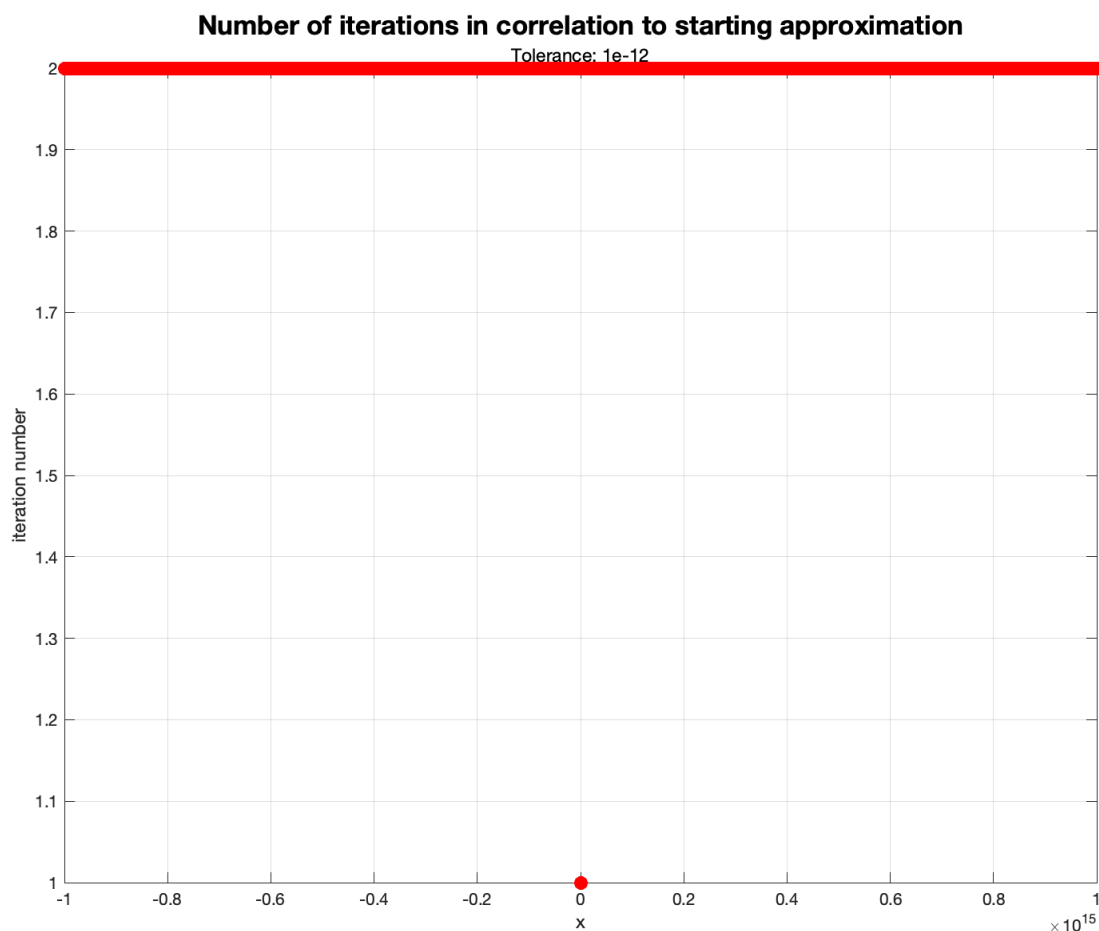
We can see that the higher the function value is - thus in our case the further we are from zero point - the longer it takes to reach it. Note however, that the iterations gain is slow, looking alike logarithmic / square root function.

At the end let's look how does the W_n function look when $a = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$ in comparison to $n \in \mathbb{N}$:



Example 6. As we can see higher n leads to more bumps in area of 0, however regardless to it's value (except 1) all of these functions begin rappidly growing around -1 and 1

Using what've found out for $a = (1)$, let's look for number of iterations for Halley's method for very large values:



It's nearly constant

Please note that $W_1(10^{15}) = 2000000000000000$ and final zero point for 10^{15} is 0.0000000000000000000, so it's far away - but it's not shocking for us, since it's linear function so after first iteration we'll have a point $x_k \in \mathbb{R}$ which is a zero point of a hyperbole that approximates W_n at point x_k , and from linearity of W_n it's exactly equivalent to 0 regardless of how far away we are from that point.

5. Accuracy analysis

Let's now spend a little more time and look what are the actual errors for zero points found for first three examples. We have

Example num	Wolfram zero point	Halley's zero point (tol=10^-12)	error
1	0.636393495191836	0.63639349519183574522	-3.4891e-16

Example num	Wolfram zero point	Halley's zero point (tol= 10^{-12})	error
2	-0.372210564161923	-0.37221056416192388472	2.3862e-15
3	0.981548363136206	0.98154836313620497101	-1.018e-15

Although relatively small Wolfram accuracy all of the errors are lower than set tolerance of 10^{-12} .

Please note that all of upper examples zero points are checked with zero points returned by `fzero` function from Matlab, however such testing for our implementation was impossible to be automated thus `fzero` can return another zero points even if provided with the same starting approximation.

However, for examples 1-3 and 6 both Wolfram and `fzero` returns zero points that are enough close to our custom Halley's method zero point to meet set tolerance, which concludes correctness of our implementation based on this 4 test cases.