
EE254 Project 4: Root Finding Methods - Connor McGarty, cmcgarty

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The purpose of this project is to compare the iteration number and accuracy of different numerical methods for finding roots. The methods are the following:

Closed Methods:

- Bisection
- False Position

Open Methods:

- Fixed Point
- Newton Raphson
- Secant

Below are the functions used for test:

$$y1 = (x - 1) * (x - \frac{3}{2}) * (x - \frac{7}{4}) * (x - \frac{15}{8}) * (x - \frac{31}{16})$$

$$y2 = x^2 - 1$$

$$y3 = x^6 - 1$$

$$y4 = 20 \cos \frac{x\pi}{2}$$

Solution

```
format compact;clear;clc;
syms x;
y1 = (x-1)*(x-(3/2))*(x-(7/4))*(x-(15/8))*(x-(31/16));
y2 = x^2 - 1;
y3 = x^6 - 1;
y4 = 20*cos((x*pi)/2);
y5 = -exp(x+1);

threshold = 0.001;
xmin = 0;
```

```
xmax = 2;
n_max = 1000;

fprintf("Method\tFxn\t\tIdeal\tApprox\tf(x)\t|e_a|\tIterations\n");
fprintf("-----\n");

%for i = [1:5]
for i = [1:4]
    switch i
        case 1
            f = y1;
            name = 'Poly';
        case 2
            f = y2;
            name = 'x^2 - 1';
        case 3
            f = y3;
            name = 'x^6 - 1';
        case 4
            f = y4;
            name = 'cosine';
        case 5
            f = y5;
            name = '-e^(x+1)';
    end

    % bisection
    method = "Bisect";
    [approx, e_a, actual, y, iter] = ...
        Bisection_by_symbolic(f, x, xmin, xmax, threshold, n_max);
    fprintf("%s\t%s\t%0.4f\t%0.4f\t%0.4f\t%0.4f\t%.0f\n", method,
        name, actual(1), approx, y, e_a(1), iter);

    fprintf("-----\n");

    % false position
    method = "FaPos";
    [approx, e_a, actual, y, iter] = False_Position_by_symbolic(f, x,
        xmin, xmax, threshold, n_max);
    fprintf("%s\t%s\t%0.4f\t%0.4f\t%0.4f\t%0.4f\t%.0f\n", method,
        name, actual(1), approx, y, e_a(1), iter);

    fprintf("-----\n");

    % fixed point
    method = "FixPnt";
    [approx, e_a, actual, y, iter] = ...
        Fixed_point_by_symbolic(f,x,threshold,n_max);
    fprintf("%s\t%s\t%0.4f\t%0.4f\t%0.4f\t%0.4f\t%.0f\n", method,
        name, actual(1), approx, y, e_a(1), iter);

    fprintf("-----\n");
    fprintf("\n");
```

```

% newton-raphson
method = "NR";
[approx, e_a, actual, y, iter] = ...
    Newton_Raphson_by_symbolic(f,.1,threshold,n_max);
fprintf("%s\t\t%s\t%0.4f\t%0.4f\t%0.4f\t%0.4f\t%0.0f\n", method,
name, actual(1), approx, y, e_a(1), iter);

fprintf("-----
\n");
% secant
method = "Sec";
[approx, e_a, actual, y, iter] = ...
    Secant_by_symbolic(f,2*rand(1),.01,threshold,n_max);
fprintf("%s\t\t%s\t%0.4f\t%0.4f\t%0.4f\t%0.4f\t%0.0f\n", method,
name, actual(1), approx, y, e_a(1), iter);

fprintf("-----
\n");
end

```

Method	Fxn	Ideal	Approx	$f(x)$	$ e_a $	Iterations
Bisect	Poly	1.0000	1.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1
FaPos	Poly	1.0000	1.9482	0.0001	0.9482	1000
FixPnt	Poly	1.0000	1.5000	0.0000	0.5000	1000
NR	Poly	1.0000	0.9997	-0.0001	0.0003	7
Sec	Poly	1.0000	0.9998	-0.0001	0.0002	2
Bisect	$x^2 - 1$	1.0000	1.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1
FaPos	$x^2 - 1$	1.0000	0.9991	-0.0018	0.0009	7
FixPnt	$x^2 - 1$	1.0000	-1.0163	0.0328	2.0163	1000
NR	$x^2 - 1$	1.0000	1.0000	0.0000	0.0000	6
Sec	$x^2 - 1$	1.0000	1.0000	0.0000	0.0000	3
Bisect	$x^6 - 1$	1.0000	1.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1
FaPos	$x^6 - 1$	1.0000	0.9990	-0.0058	0.0010	91
FixPnt	$x^6 - 1$	1.0000	Inf	Inf	Inf	1000
NR	$x^6 - 1$	1.0000	1.0000	0.0001	0.0000	57
Sec	$x^6 - 1$	1.0000	1.0003	0.0017	0.0003	5
Bisect	cosine	1.0000	1.0000	0.0000	0.0000	1

```
FaPos cosine 1.0000 1.0000 0.0000 0.0000 1
-----
FixPnt cosine 1.0000 -19650.0000 -20.0000 19651.0000 1000
-----
NR cosine 1.0000 7.0000 -0.0000 6.0000 1000
-----
Sec cosine 1.0000 0.9998 0.0062 0.0002 1
-----
```

Results and Observations

OBSERVATIONS: I will address each method one by one.

Bisection appears as if it appears the best, but this is just dumb luck, since the root of all these functions is located at $x = 1$. Since the search interval is $x = 0$ to 2 and bisection approximates its root by using the midpoint of the bracket (which would be 1), we get lucky and “find” the root first try every time.

False Position: False position is a very good method for some functions and not for others. As we saw in class and is described in the text, when a function has significant curvature one of the bracket points will stay fixed which leads to slow convergence (as in seen for $x^6 - 1$). It does not converge at all for the polynomial because there are two roots in the interval.

Fixed Point: Unfortunately fixed point iteration does not converge for any of these functions. The book states that if the absolute value of the 1st derivative of $g(x)$ evaluated at the root is greater than 1 , then the error will grow with each iteration. Unfortunately, this is the case for all of these functions, when $g(x)$ is determined by just adding x to both sides. I read that if you manipulate the functions in another way it is possible to get a convergent solution however, even if both are algebraically identical.

Newton Raphson: NR requires a good guess to converge quickly, but can take a while with a bad one. I could not get NR to converge at all with the initial guess at $x = x_{min}$ (0), so I substituted the guess with a random number in the interval.

Secant: I used the modified secant method with a random guess in the interval and a perturbation fraction of $.01$. Good performance (or convergence at all) is reliant on a proper value for the perturbation fraction and also other parameters, such as the size of the interval, and whether or not $f' = 0$ on the interval (in this case it may not converge).

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