

## Newton-Raphson Method:

Newton-Raphson-Method, based on the principle that if the initial guess of the root of  $f(x)=0$  is at  $x_i$ , then if one draws the tangent to the curve at  $f(x_i)$ , the point  $x_{i+1}$  where the tangent crosses the  $x$ -axis is an improved estimate of the root

$$x_{i+1} = x_i - \frac{f(x_i)}{f'(x_i)}$$

The Newton Raphson method of finding roots of nonlinear equations falls under the category of open methods.

Algorithm:

equation  $f(x)=0$ , find root;

1. Evaluate  $f'(x)$  symbolically

2. Use an initial guess of the root,  $x_i$ , to estimate the new value of the root,  $x_{i+1}$ , as,  
$$x_{i+1} = x_i - \frac{f(x_i)}{f'(x_i)}$$

3. Find the absolute relative approximate error  $| \epsilon_a |$  as,  
$$| \epsilon_a | = \left| \frac{x_{i+1} - x_i}{x_{i+1}} \right| \times 100$$

4. Compare the absolute relative approximate error with the pre-specified relative error tolerance,  $\epsilon_s$ . If  $| \epsilon_a | > \epsilon_s$ , then go to Step 2, else stop the algorithm.

Drawbacks:

1. Divergence at inflection points:

If the selection of the initial guess or an iterated value of the root turns out to be close to the inflection point of the function  $f(x)$  in the equation  $f(x) = 0$ , Newton-Raphson method may start diverging away from the root.

2. Division by zero:

for the equation,

$$f(x) = x^3 - 0.03x^2 + 2.4 \times 10^{-6} = 0$$

the Newton-Raphson method reduces to

$$x_{i+1} = x_i - \frac{x_i^3 - 0.03x_i^2 + 2.4 \times 10^{-6}}{3x_i^2 - 0.06x_i}$$

for  $x_0 = 0$  or  $x_0 = 0.02$ , division by zero occurs.

for an initial guess close to 0.02 such as  $x_0 = 0.01999$ , one may avoid division by zero, but then the denominator in the formula is a small number.

### 3. Oscillations near local maximum and minimum:

Results obtained from the Newton-Raphson method may oscillate about the local maximum or minimum without converging on a root but converging on the local maximum or minimum.

### 4. Root jumping:

In some case where the function  $f(x)$  is oscillating and has a number of roots, one may choose an initial guess close to a root. However, the guesses may jump and ~~converge~~ converge to some other root.

### Advantages:

1. It converges at faster than a linear rate, so that it is more rapidly convergent than the bisection method.
2. Requires only one guess of point to find the root.