proj1_b

September 15, 2016

0.0.1 Part 2

For the second part of the project we had to compute the forward difference estimates of the derivative f'(3) of the function $f(x) = x^{-3}$ with the sequence of increments $h = 2^{-n}$, where n is in [1,52]. We then had to compute both the relative error r in the approximation for each of the increments, as well as the upper bound on the relative error R from a derivation that was previously provided.

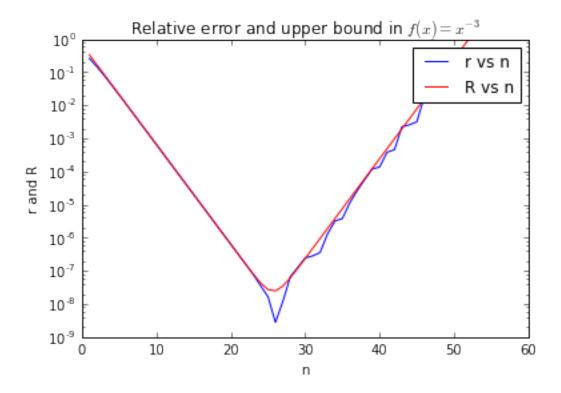
The code used implemented the provided derivations, with separate functions for each part of the equations, making use of std::vector, the math.h library, as well as the provided Matrix class to write to a text file.

```
In [35]: %pylab inline
    n= loadtxt("n.txt")
    h= loadtxt("h.txt")
    r = loadtxt("r.txt")
    R = loadtxt("R.txt")

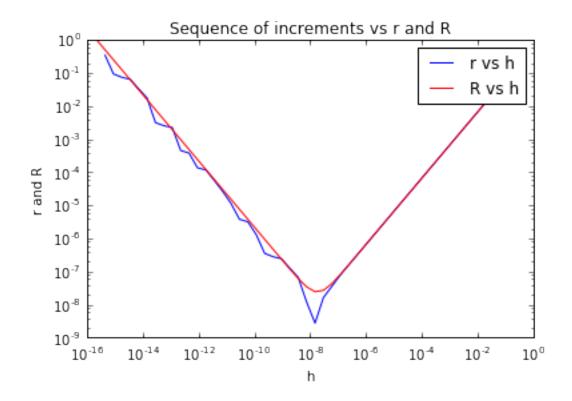
Populating the interactive namespace from numpy and matplotlib

In [36]: semilogy(n, r, label= 'r vs n', color = 'blue')
    semilogy(n, R, label= 'R vs n', color = 'red')
    xlabel('n')
    ylabel('r and R')
    title('Relative error and upper bound in $f(x) = x^{-3}$')
    legend()

Out [36]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x7fa3ebe0c7f0>
```



Out[37]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x7fa3ebd15908>



Based on the above computations and plots, we can see that r and R decrease as h decreases. The same happens with r and R when plotted against n. We can also notice that the closest approximations come for n < 24 and $h > 10^{-7}$. These derivations show consistency, since a larger n would result in a smaller h, and the plots clearly show that, with the ranges in which r and R are closest together.