

# Numerical Analysis homework week1

谭希 3220100027 \*

(数学与应用数学 2201), Zhejiang University

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**I. Consider the bisection method starting with the initial interval  $[1.5, 3.5]$ . In the following questions “the interval” refers to the bisection interval whose width changes across different loops.**

**I-a What is the width of the interval at the  $n$ th step?**

The initial interval is  $[1.5, 3.5]$ , and its width is:

$$b - a = 3.5 - 1.5 = 2$$

At each iteration, the width is halved. Therefore, at the  $n$ th step, the interval width is:

$$d = \frac{2}{2^{n-1}}$$

**I-b What is the supremum of the distance between the root  $r$  and the midpoint of the interval?**

At the  $n$ -th step, the current interval width is  $\frac{2}{2^{n-1}}$ , and the midpoint is located at the center of this interval.

The root  $r$  can be at any position within the interval, and the farthest distance from the midpoint is half of the current interval width. If the current interval width is  $\frac{2}{2^{n-1}}$ , the maximum distance is:

$$d_n = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{2}{2^n} = \frac{1}{2^n}$$

Therefore, at the  $n$ -th step, the supremum of the distance between the root  $r$  and the midpoint of the interval is  $\frac{1}{2^n}$ .

**II. In using the bisection algorithm with its initial interval as  $[a_0, b_0]$  with  $a_0 > 0$ , we want to determine the root with its relative error no greater than  $\epsilon$ . Prove that this goal of accuracy is guaranteed by the following choice of the number of steps,**

$$n \geq \frac{\log(b_0 - a_0) - \log \epsilon - \log a_0}{\log 2} - 1.$$

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\*Electronic address: 3220100027@zju.edu.cn

To ensure that the relative error of the root is no greater than  $\epsilon$  using the bisection method with an initial interval  $[a_0, b_0]$  where  $a_0 > 0$ , we need to choose the number of steps  $n$  appropriately.

The length of the interval after  $n$  steps is:

$$\frac{b_0 - a_0}{2^n}$$

We want this length to be at most  $\epsilon \cdot a_0$ , so :

$$\frac{b_0 - a_0}{2^n} \leq \epsilon \cdot a_0$$

Taking the logarithm of both sides:

$$\log\left(\frac{b_0 - a_0}{2^n}\right) \leq \log(\epsilon \cdot a_0)$$

$$\log(b_0 - a_0) - n \log 2 \leq \log \epsilon + \log a_0$$

$$-n \log 2 \leq \log \epsilon + \log a_0 - \log(b_0 - a_0)$$

$$n \geq \frac{\log(b_0 - a_0) - \log \epsilon - \log a_0}{\log 2}$$

steps must be integers, the final number of steps  $n$  should be:

$$n \geq \frac{\log(b_0 - a_0) - \log \epsilon - \log a_0}{\log 2} - 1$$

This ensures that the relative error of the root is no greater than  $\epsilon$ .

### III. Perform four iterations of Newton' s method for the polynomial equation $p(x) = 4x^3 - 2x^2 + 3 = 0$ with the starting point $x_0 = -1$ . Use a hand calculator and organize results of the iterations in a table.

Calculate the function  $p(x)$  and its derivative  $p'(x)$ , then use Newton's method iteration formula:

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{p(x_n)}{p'(x_n)}$$

$$p(x) = 4x^3 - 2x^2 + 3$$

$$p'(x) = 12x^2 - 4x$$

First Iteration:  $x_0 = -1$

$$p(-1) = 4(-1)^3 - 2(-1)^2 + 3 = -4 - 2 + 3 = -3$$

$$p'(-1) = 12(-1)^2 - 4(-1) = 12 + 4 = 16$$

$$x_1 = -1 - \frac{-3}{16} = -1 + \frac{3}{16} = -\frac{13}{16} \approx -0.8125$$

Second Iteration:  $x_1 = -0.8125$

$$p(-0.8125) = 4(-0.8125)^3 - 2(-0.8125)^2 + 3$$

so:

$$p(-0.8125) = -2.14453125 - 1.3125 + 3 = -0.4658$$

$$x_2 = -0.8125 - \frac{-0.45703125}{11.125} = -0.8125 + 0.041 \approx -0.7708$$

Similarly, other values can be calculated iteratively. Below is the table summarizing the results:

Iteration	$x_n$	$p(x_n)$	$p'(x_n)$
0	-1.0000	-3.0000	16
1	-0.8125	-0.4658	11.1719
2	-0.7708	-0.0201	10.2129
3	-0.7688	-4.3708e-05	10.1686
4	-0.7688	-2.0741e-10	10.1685

**IV. Consider a variation of Newton's method in which only the derivative at  $x_0$  is used,**

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_0)}.$$

**Find C and s such that  $e_{n+1} = Ce_n^s$ , where  $e_n$  is the error of Newton's method at step n, s is a constant, and C may depend on  $x_n$ , the true solution  $\alpha$ , and the derivative of the function f.**

Let the error at step  $n$  be defined as  $e_n = x_n - \alpha$ , where  $\alpha$  is the true root of  $f(x) = 0$ .

Using the modified Newton's method formula, we get:

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_0)}.$$

$$x_{n+1} - \alpha = x_n - \alpha - \frac{f'(\xi_n)(x_n - \alpha)}{f'(x_0)}$$

$$x_{n+1} - \alpha = \left(1 - \frac{f'(\xi_n)}{f'(x_0)}\right)(x_n - \alpha)$$

$$e_{n+1} \approx \left(1 - \frac{f'(x_n)}{f'(x_0)}\right)e_n$$

Thus:

$$s = 1, C = 1 - \frac{f'(\alpha)}{f'(x_0)}$$

## V. Within $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$ , will the iteration $x_{n+1} = \tan^{-1} x_n$ converge?

Within the interval  $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$ ,  $f(x)$  is continuous and monotonically increasing.

We need to analyze the convergence of the iteration  $x_{n+1} = f(x_n)$ . To check for convergence, we can find the fixed point of the function, which satisfies the equation:

$$x = \tan^{-1} x$$

Let  $x^* = \tan^{-1} x^*$ . By analyzing this equation, we find that the solution is  $x^* = 0$ , since  $\tan^{-1}(0) = 0$ .

Next, we analyze the convergence of the iteration. According to the fixed-point convergence theorem, if  $f$  is a contraction mapping near the fixed point, the iterative sequence will converge.

We compute  $f'(x)$  to check its behavior near the fixed point  $x^* = 0$ :

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

Within the interval  $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$ ,  $f'(x)$  is always positive and less than 1. Specifically, we have:

$$f'(0) = 1$$

To ensure that  $f$  is a contraction near the fixed point, we note that:

$$f'(x) < 1 \quad \text{for } x \neq 0$$

Since  $f$  is monotonically increasing and the slope near the fixed point is less than 1, we conclude that the iteration  $x_{n+1} = \tan^{-1} x_n$  will converge to the fixed point  $x^* = 0$ .

The iteration  $x_{n+1} = \tan^{-1} x_n$  converges within the interval  $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$ .

## VI. Let $p > 1$ . What is the value of the following continued fraction?

$$x = \frac{1}{p + \frac{1}{p + \frac{1}{p + \dots}}}$$

**Prove that the sequence of values converges. (Hint: this can be interpreted as  $x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n$ , where  $x_1 = \frac{1}{p}$ ,  $x_2 = \frac{1}{p + \frac{1}{p}}$ ,  $x_3 = \frac{1}{p + \frac{1}{p + \frac{1}{p}}}$ , and so forth. Formulate  $x$  as a fixed point of some function.)**

$$x_1 = \frac{1}{p}, \quad x_2 = \frac{1}{p + x_1}, \quad x_3 = \frac{1}{p + x_2}, \quad \dots$$

express the general term  $x_n$  as:

$$x_n = \frac{1}{p + x_{n-1}}$$

Assuming the limit

$$x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n$$

exists, substituting  $x$  into the recurrence gives:

$$x = \frac{1}{p + x}$$

multiply both sides by  $p + x$ :

$$x(p + x) = 1$$

$$px + x^2 = 1$$

$$x^2 + px - 1 = 0$$

then:

$$x = \frac{-p \pm \sqrt{p^2 + 4}}{2}$$

Since  $p > 1$ :

$$x = \frac{-p + \sqrt{p^2 + 4}}{2}$$

Next, we need to prove that the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  converges.

**Boundedness:**

To proof  $x_n > 0$ . By induction: - For  $n = 1$ ,  $x_1 = \frac{1}{p} > 0$  since  $p > 1$ . - Suppose  $x_n > 0$ . Then  $x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{p+x_n} > 0$  because  $p + x_n > p > 0$ .

Therefore, by induction,  $x_n > 0$  for all  $n$ .

Next, we show that  $x_n < \frac{1}{p-1}$ : - For  $n = 1$ :

$$x_1 = \frac{1}{p} < \frac{1}{p-1} \quad (\text{since } p > 1)$$

- Assume  $x_n < \frac{1}{p-1}$ . Then:

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{p+x_n} > \frac{1}{p+\frac{1}{p-1}} = \frac{1}{\frac{p(p-1)+1}{p-1}} = \frac{p-1}{p^2-p+1}$$

because  $p^2 - 2p + 1 > 0$ ,  $\frac{1}{p+\frac{1}{p-1}} < \frac{1}{p-1}$ . This is true for  $p > 1$ .

Thus,  $x_n$  is bounded above by  $\frac{1}{p-1}$ .

**Monotonicity:**

To prove that  $x_n$  is decreasing, we show  $x_{n+1} < x_n$ :

$$\frac{1}{p+x_n} < x_n \implies 1 < x_n(p+x_n) \implies 1 < px_n + x_n^2$$

This will hold true if we can show that  $x_n^2 + px_n - 1 > 0$ .

Given the roots of  $x^2 + px - 1 = 0$  are  $\frac{-p \pm \sqrt{p^2 + 4}}{2}$  and knowing that  $x_n > 0$  for sufficiently large  $n$ , the quadratic  $x^2 + px - 1$  is positive for  $x > \frac{-p + \sqrt{p^2 + 4}}{2}$ , which is valid for large  $n$ .

Thus,  $x_n$  is decreasing and bounded below by 0. Therefore, by the Monotone Convergence Theorem, the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  converges.

In conclusion, the value of the continued fraction is:

$$x = \frac{-p + \sqrt{p^2 + 4}}{2}$$

**VII. What happens in problem II if  $a_0 < 0 < b_0$ ? Derive an inequality of the number of steps similar to that in II. In this case, is the relative error still an appropriate measure?**

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According to Problem II:

$$\frac{b_n - a_n}{2^n} \leq \epsilon |r|$$

$$n \geq \frac{\log(b_0 - a_0) - \log \epsilon - \log a_0}{\log 2} - 1.$$

If the root is 0 or so close to 0, the relative error may become too large or undefined so, the relative error isn't an appropriate measure, absolute error is better.

**VIII. (\*) Consider solving  $f(x) = 0$  (where  $f \in C^{k+1}$ ) by Newton's method with the starting point  $x_0$  close to a root of multiplicity  $k$ . Note that  $\alpha$  is a zero of multiplicity  $k$  of the function  $f$  if and only if  $f^{(k)}(\alpha) \neq 0$  and  $f^{(i)}(\alpha) = 0$  for all  $i < k$ .**

**VIII-a How can a multiple zero be detected by examining the behavior of the points  $(x_n, f(x_n))$ ?**

The standard Newton's iteration is

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}$$

As  $x_n$  approaches to a multiple zero,  $f(x_n)$  may be always near to zero for several iterations and the iterates  $x_n$  remain very close together.

**VIII-b Prove that if  $r$  is a zero of multiplicity  $k$  of the function  $f$ , then quadratic convergence in Newton's iteration will be restored by making this modification:**

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}$$

In the case of a multiple root, can modify it to:

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{kf(x_n)}{f^{(k)}(x_n)}$$

Since  $r$  is a multiple root of  $k$ , we can represent  $f(x)$  near  $r$  as:

$$f(x) = (x - r)^k g(x)$$

where  $g(r) \neq 0$  (since  $f^{(k)}(r) \neq 0$ ).

$$f'(x) = k(x - r)^{k-1}g(x) + (x - r)^k g'(x)$$

substitute  $x_n$  close to  $r$ :

$$f(x_n) = (x_n - r)^k g(x_n)$$

and

$$f'(x_n) \approx k(x_n - r)^{k-1}g(r)$$

when  $x_n$  is close to  $r$ , and  $g(x_n) \approx g(r)$ . So:

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{k f(x_n)}{f^{(k)}(x_n)} = x_n - \frac{k(x_n - r)^k g(x_n)}{g(r)}$$

Suppose  $x_n$  is close enough to  $r$ :

$$x_{n+1} - r = x_n - r - \frac{k(x_n - r)^k g(r)}{g(r)} = x_n - r - (x_n - r)^k$$

As  $n$  becomes large enough,  $(x_n - r)^k$  will become very small. The quadratic term will yield:

$$|x_{n+1} - r| \approx C|x_n - r|^2$$

where  $C$  is a constant, thus confirming that  $x_n$  converges to  $r$  at a quadratic rate.