

Week 4: NUMERICAL ANALYSIS  
Solutions of Equations in One Variable

# The Bisection Method

## The Bisection Method

- Suppose  $f$  continuous on  $[a, b]$ , and  $f(a), f(b)$  opposite signs
- There exists an  $x$  in  $(a, b)$  with  $f(x) = 0$
- Divide the interval  $[a, b]$  by computing the midpoint

$$p = (a + b)/2$$

- If  $f(p)$  has same sign as  $f(a)$ , consider new interval  $[p, b]$
- If  $f(p)$  has same sign as  $f(b)$ , consider new interval  $[a, p]$
- Repeat until interval small enough to approximate  $x$  well

# The Bisection Method – Implementation

## MATLAB Code

```
function p=bisection(f,a,b,tol)

while 1
    p=(a+b)/2;
    if p-a<tol, break; end
    if f(a)*f(p)>0
        a=p;
    else
        b=p;
    end
end
```

## Termination Criteria

- Many ways to decide when to stop:

$$|p_N - p_{N-1}| < \varepsilon$$

$$\frac{|p_N - p_{N-1}|}{|p_N|} < \varepsilon$$

$$|f(p_N)| < \varepsilon$$

- None is perfect, use a combination in real software

# Convergence

## Theorem

*Suppose that  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $f(a) \cdot f(b) < 0$ . The Bisection method generates a sequence  $\{p_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  approximating a zero  $p$  of  $f$  with*

$$|p_n - p| \leq \frac{b - a}{2^n}, \quad \text{when } n \geq 1.$$

## Convergence Rate

- The sequence  $\{p_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  converges to  $p$  with rate of convergence  $O(1/2^n)$ :

$$p_n = p + O\left(\frac{1}{2^n}\right).$$

## Fixed Points and Root-Finding

- A number  $p$  is a *fixed point* for a given function  $g$  if  $g(p) = p$
- Given a root-finding problem  $f(p) = 0$ , there are many  $g$  with fixed points at  $p$ :

$$g(x) = x - f(x)$$

$$g(x) = x + 3f(x)$$

...

- If  $g$  has fixed point at  $p$ , then  $f(x) = x - g(x)$  has a zero at  $p$

# Existence and Uniqueness of Fixed Points

## Theorem

- a.** *If  $g \in C[a, b]$  and  $g(x) \in [a, b]$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ , then  $g$  has a fixed point in  $[a, b]$*
- b.** *If, in addition,  $g'(x)$  exists on  $(a, b)$  and a positive constant  $k < 1$  exists with*

$$|g'(x)| \leq k, \quad \text{for all } x \in (a, b),$$

*then the fixed point in  $[a, b]$  is unique.*

# Fixed-Point Iteration

## Fixed-Point Iteration

- For initial  $p_0$ , generate sequence  $\{p_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  by  $p_n = g(p_{n-1})$ .
- If the sequence converges to  $p$ , then

$$p = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g(p_{n-1}) = g\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} p_{n-1}\right) = g(p).$$

## MATLAB Implementation

```
function p=fixedpoint(g,p0,tol)
```

```
while 1  
    p=g(p0);  
    if abs(p-p0)<tol, break; end  
    p0=p;  
end
```



# Convergence of Fixed-Point Iteration

## Theorem Fixed-Point Theorem

*Let  $g \in C[a, b]$  be such that  $g(x) \in [a, b]$ , for all  $x$  in  $[a, b]$ . Suppose, in addition, that  $g'$  exists on  $(a, b)$  and that a constant  $0 < k < 1$  exists with*

$$|g'(x)| \leq k, \quad \text{for all } x \in (a, b).$$

*Then, for any number  $p_0$  in  $[a, b]$ , the sequence defined by  $p_n = g(p_{n-1})$  converges to the unique fixed point  $p$  in  $[a, b]$ .*

## Corollary

*If  $g$  satisfies the hypotheses above, then bounds for the error are given by*

$$|p_n - p| \leq k^n \max\{p_0 - a, b - p_0\}$$

$$|p_n - p| \leq \frac{k^n}{1 - k} |p_1 - p_0|$$

## Taylor Polynomial Derivation

Suppose  $f \in C^2[a, b]$  and  $p_0 \in [a, b]$  approximates solution  $p$  of  $f(x) = 0$  with  $f'(p_0) \neq 0$ . Expand  $f(x)$  about  $p_0$ :

$$f(p) = f(p_0) + (p - p_0)f'(p_0) + \frac{(p - p_0)^2}{2}f''(\xi(p))$$

Set  $f(p) = 0$ , assume  $(p - p_0)^2$  negligible:

$$p \approx p_1 = p_0 - \frac{f(p_0)}{f'(p_0)}$$

This gives the sequence  $\{p_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ :

$$p_n = p_{n-1} - \frac{f(p_{n-1})}{f'(p_{n-1})}$$

# Newton's Method

## MATLAB Implementation

```
function p=newton(f,df,p0,tol)

while 1
    p=p0-f(p0)/df(p0);
    if abs(p-p0)<tol, break; end
    p0=p;
end
```

# Newton's Method – Convergence

## Fixed Point Formulation

Newton's method is fixed point iteration  $p_n = g(p_{n-1})$  with

$$g(x) = x - \frac{f(x)}{f'(x)}$$

## Theorem

*Let  $f \in C^2[a, b]$ . If  $p \in [a, b]$  is such that  $f(p) = 0$  and  $f'(p) \neq 0$ , then there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that Newton's method generates a sequence  $\{p_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  converging to  $p$  for any initial approximation  $p_0 \in [p - \delta, p + \delta]$ .*

# Variations without Derivatives

## The Secant Method

Replace the derivative in Newton's method by

$$f'(p_{n-1}) \approx \frac{f(p_{n-2}) - f(p_{n-1})}{p_{n-2} - p_{n-1}}$$

to get

$$p_n = p_{n-1} - \frac{f(p_{n-1})(p_{n-1} - p_{n-2})}{f(p_{n-1}) - f(p_{n-2})}$$

## The Method of False Position (Regula Falsi)

Like the Secant method, but with a test to ensure the root is bracketed between iterations.

# Order of Convergence

## Definition

Suppose  $\{p_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  is a sequence that converges to  $p$ , with  $p_n \neq p$  for all  $n$ . If positive constants  $\lambda$  and  $\alpha$  exist with

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|p_{n+1} - p|}{|p_n - p|^\alpha} = \lambda,$$

then  $\{p_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  converges to  $p$  of order  $\alpha$ , with asymptotic error constant  $\lambda$ .

An iterative technique  $p_n = g(p_{n-1})$  is said to be of order  $\alpha$  if the sequence  $\{p_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  converges to the solution  $p = g(p)$  of order  $\alpha$ .

## Special cases

- If  $\alpha = 1$  (and  $\lambda < 1$ ), the sequence is *linearly convergent*
- If  $\alpha = 2$ , the sequence is *quadratically convergent*

# Fixed Point Convergence

## Theorem

*Let  $g \in C[a, b]$  be such that  $g(x) \in [a, b]$ , for all  $x \in [a, b]$ . Suppose  $g'$  is continuous on  $(a, b)$  and that  $0 < k < 1$  exists with  $|g'(x)| \leq k$  for all  $x \in (a, b)$ . If  $g'(p) \neq 0$ , then for any number  $p_0$  in  $[a, b]$ , the sequence  $p_n = g(p_{n-1})$  converges only linearly to the unique fixed point  $p$  in  $[a, b]$ .*

## Theorem

*Let  $p$  be solution of  $x = g(x)$ . Suppose  $g'(p) = 0$  and  $g''$  continuous with  $|g''(x)| < M$  on open interval  $I$  containing  $p$ . Then there exists  $\delta > 0$  s.t. for  $p_0 \in [p - \delta, p + \delta]$ , the sequence defined by  $p_n = g(p_{n-1})$  converges at least quadratically to  $p$ , and*

$$|p_{n+1} - p| < \frac{M}{2} |p_n - p|^2.$$

# Newton's Method as Fixed-Point Problem

## Derivation

Seek  $g$  of the form

$$g(x) = x - \phi(x)f(x).$$

Find differentiable  $\phi$  giving  $g'(p) = 0$  when  $f(p) = 0$ :

$$g'(x) = 1 - \phi'(x)f(x) - f'(x)\phi(x)$$

$$g'(p) = 1 - \phi'(p) \cdot 0 - f'(p)\phi(p)$$

and  $g'(p) = 0$  if and only if  $\phi(p) = 1/f'(p)$ . This gives Newton's method

$$p_n = g(p_{n-1}) = p_{n-1} - \frac{f(p_{n-1})}{f'(p_{n-1})}$$



# Multiplicity of Zeros

## Definition

A solution  $p$  of  $f(x) = 0$  is a *zero of multiplicity  $m$*  of  $f$  if for  $x \neq p$ , we can write  $f(x) = (x - p)^m q(x)$ , where  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} q(x) \neq 0$ .

## Theorem

$f \in C^1[a, b]$  has a *simple zero* at  $p$  in  $(a, b)$  if and only if  $f(p) = 0$ , but  $f'(p) \neq 0$ .

## Theorem

The function  $f \in C^m[a, b]$  has a *zero of multiplicity  $m$*  at point  $p$  in  $(a, b)$  if and only if

$$0 = f(p) = f'(p) = f''(p) = \cdots = f^{(m-1)}(p), \text{ but } f^{(m)}(p) \neq 0.$$

# Variants for Multiple Roots

## Newton's Method for Multiple Roots

Define  $\mu(x) = f(x)/f'(x)$ . If  $p$  is a zero of  $f$  of multiplicity  $m$  and  $f(x) = (x - p)^m q(x)$ , then

$$\mu(x) = (x - p) \frac{q(x)}{mq(x) + (x - p)q'(x)}$$

also has a zero at  $p$ . But  $q(p) \neq 0$ , so

$$\frac{q(p)}{mq(p) + (p - p)q'(p)} = \frac{1}{m} \neq 0,$$

and  $p$  is a simple zero of  $\mu$ . Newton's method can then be applied to  $\mu$  to give

$$g(x) = x - \frac{f(x)f'(x)}{[f'(x)]^2 - f(x)f''(x)}$$

## Accelerating linearly convergent sequences

- Suppose  $\{p_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  linearly convergent with limit  $p$
- Assume that

$$\frac{p_{n+1} - p}{p_n - p} \approx \frac{p_{n+2} - p}{p_{n+1} - p}$$

- Solving for  $p$  gives

$$p \approx \frac{p_{n+2}p_n - p_{n+1}^2}{p_{n+2} - 2p_{n+1} + p_n} = \dots = p_n - \frac{(p_{n+1} - p_n)^2}{p_{n+2} - 2p_{n+1} + p_n}$$

- Use this for new more rapidly converging sequence  $\{\hat{p}_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ :

$$\hat{p}_n = p_n - \frac{(p_{n+1} - p_n)^2}{p_{n+2} - 2p_{n+1} + p_n}$$

# Delta Notation

## Definition

For a given sequence  $\{p_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ , the *forward difference*  $\Delta p_n$  is defined by

$$\Delta p_n = p_{n+1} - p_n, \quad \text{for } n \geq 0$$

Higher powers of the operator  $\Delta$  are defined recursively by

$$\Delta^k p_n = \Delta(\Delta^{k-1} p_n), \quad \text{for } k \geq 2$$

## Aitken's $\Delta^2$ method using delta notation

Since  $\Delta^2 p_n = p_{n+2} - 2p_{n+1} + p_n$ , we can write

$$\hat{p}_n = p_n - \frac{(\Delta p_n)^2}{\Delta^2 p_n}, \quad \text{for } n \geq 0$$

# Convergence of Aitken's $\Delta^2$ Method

## Theorem

*Suppose that  $\{p_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  converges linearly to  $p$  and that*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{p_{n+1} - p}{p_n - p} < 1$$

*Then  $\{\hat{p}_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  converges to  $p$  faster than  $\{p_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$  in the sense that*

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\hat{p}_n - p}{p_n - p} = 0$$

## Accelerating fixed-point iteration

Aitken's  $\Delta^2$  method for fixed-point iteration gives

$$\begin{aligned} p_0, p_1 &= g(p_0), p_2 = g(p_1), \hat{p}_0 = \{\Delta^2\}(p_0), \\ p_3 &= g(p_2), \hat{p}_1 = \{\Delta^2\}(p_1), \dots \end{aligned}$$

Steffensen's method assumes  $\hat{p}_0$  is better than  $p_2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} p_0^{(0)}, p_1^{(0)} &= g(p_0^{(0)}), p_2^{(0)} = g(p_1^{(0)}), p_0^{(1)} = \{\Delta^2\}(p_0^{(0)}), \\ p_1^{(1)} &= g(p_0^{(1)}), \dots \end{aligned}$$

## Theorem

*Suppose  $x = g(x)$  has solution  $p$  with  $g'(p) \neq 1$ . If exists  $\delta > 0$  s.t.  $g \in C^3[p - \delta, p + \delta]$ , then Steffensen's method gives quadratic convergence for  $p_0 \in [p - \delta, p + \delta]$ .*

## MATLAB Implementation

```
function p=steffensen(g,p0,tol)

while 1
    p1=g(p0);
    p2=g(p1);
    p=p0-(p1-p0)^2/(p2-2*p1+p0);
    if abs(p-p0)<tol, break; end
    p0=p;
end
```

# Zeros of Polynomials

## Polynomial

A *polynomial of degree  $n$*  has the form  $P(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 x + a_0$  with *coefficients  $a_i$*  and  $a_n \neq 0$ .

## Theorem Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

*If  $P(x)$  polynomial of degree  $n \geq 1$ , with real or complex coefficients,  $P(x) = 0$  has at least one root.*

## Corollary

*Exists unique  $x_1, \dots, x_k$  and  $m_1, \dots, m_k$ , with  $\sum_{i=1}^k m_i = n$  and*

$$P(x) = a_n (x - x_1)^{m_1} (x - x_2)^{m_2} \cdots (x - x_k)^{m_k}.$$

## Corollary

*$P(x), Q(x)$  polynomials of degree at most  $n$ . If  $P(x_i) = Q(x_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ , with  $k > n$ , then  $P(x) = Q(x)$ .*



# Horner's Method

## Theorem Horner's Method

Let  $P(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 x + a_0$ . If  $b_n = a_n$  and

$$b_k = a_k + b_{k+1}x_0, \quad \text{for } k = n-1, n-2, \dots, 1, 0,$$

then  $b_0 = P(x_0)$ . Moreover, if

$$Q(x) = b_n x^{n-1} + b_{n-1} x^{n-2} + \cdots + b_2 x + b_1,$$

then  $P(x) = (x - x_0)Q(x) + b_0$ .

## Computing Derivatives

Differentiation gives

$$P'(x) = Q(x) + (x - x_0)Q'(x) \quad \text{and} \quad P'(x_0) = Q(x_0).$$

# Horner's Method

## MATLAB Implementation

```
function [y,z]=horner(a,x)

n=length(a)-1;
y=a(1);
z=a(1);
for j=2:n
    y=x*y+a(j);
    z=x*z+y;
end
y=x*y+a(n+1);
```

## Deflation

- Compute approximate root  $\hat{x}_1$  using Newton. Then

$$P(x) \approx (x - \hat{x}_1)Q_1(x).$$

- Apply recursively on  $Q_1(x)$  until the quadratic factor  $Q_{n-2}(x)$  can be solved directly.
- Improve accuracy with Newton's method on original  $P(x)$ .

## Müller's Method

- Similar to the Secant method, but parabola instead of line
- Fit quadratic polynomial  $P(x) = a(x - p_2)^2 + b(x - p_2) + c$  that passes through  $(p_0, f(p_0)), (p_1, f(p_1)), (p_2, f(p_2))$ .
- Solve  $P(x) = 0$  for  $p_3$ , choose root closest to  $p_2$ :

$$p_3 = p_2 - \frac{2c}{b + \operatorname{sgn}(b)\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}.$$

- Repeat until convergence
- Relatively insensitive to initial  $p_0, p_1, p_2$ , but e.g.  $f(p_i) = f(p_{i+1}) = f(p_{i+2}) \neq 0$  gives problems