

Assignment 5 of Computational Astrophysics in NTHU

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April 13, 2021

1 Programming Assignments

Q1 : Solve $x^3 + 1.5x^2 - 5.75x + 4.37$

I first try to search *Wolfram*¹ to find out the approximately solution of this equation, the root is in range -3 and -4.(Fig.1)

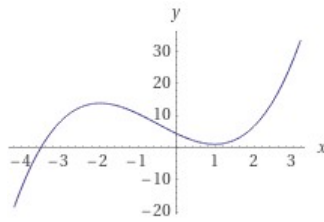


Figure 1: The prediction of *Wolfram*

In Fig.2 we can see Newton's method has the fastest performance of those methods. But if we given a wider range (as Fig.3 of 0 to -4), Newton's method will first go to the right side and has poorer performance.(because the concavity is down and tendency is to right) So we can say that: if we can first know the tendency of solution, the Newton's and secant method will be better, but if we don't, they may won't be the best choice.

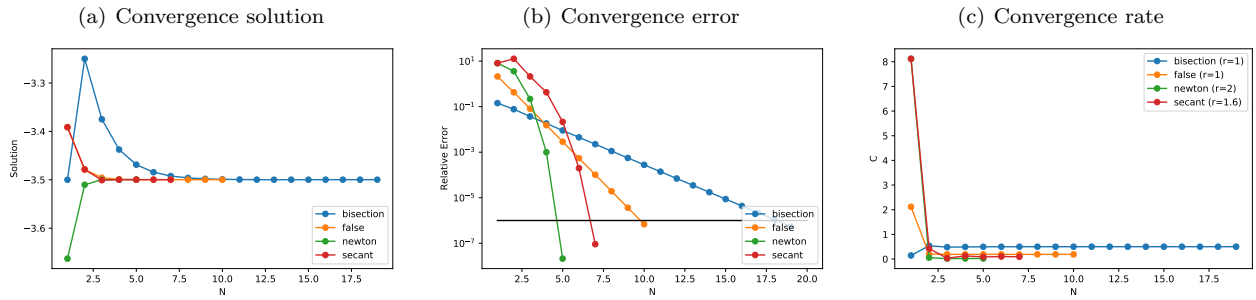


Figure 2: Compared the performance of given a closer(-3 - 4) range of initial value

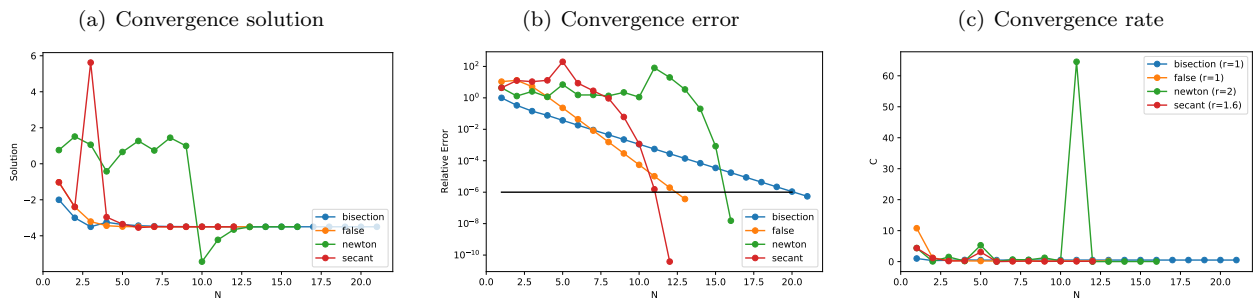


Figure 3: Compared the performance of given a wider(0 - 4) range of initial value

¹Wolfram:www.wolframalpha.com

Q2 : Doing the open integral

$$I = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^4 + x^2 + 1} dx \quad (1)$$

Now we can decompose the Eq.1 into a simple form to do integral:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{x^4 + x^2 + 1} &= \frac{1}{(x^2 + x + 1)(x^2 - x + 1)} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{(x+1)}{(x^2 + x + 1)} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{(x-1)}{(x^2 - x + 1)} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \frac{(2x+1)}{(x^2 + x + 1)} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{(2x-1)}{(x^2 - x + 1)} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{(x^2 + x + 1)} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{-1}{(x^2 - x + 1)} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

So we can integral the front two elements as **ln**; the last two elements as **atan**.

$$\begin{aligned} &\int \frac{1}{4} \frac{(2x+1)}{(x^2 + x + 1)} dx - \int \frac{1}{4} \frac{(2x-1)}{(x^2 - x + 1)} dx + \int \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{(x^2 + x + 1)} dx + \int \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{(x^2 - x + 1)} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \ln |x^2 + x + 1| - \frac{1}{4} \ln |x^2 - x + 1| + \frac{1}{4} \int \frac{1}{(x + \frac{1}{2})^2 + (\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2})^2} dx + \frac{1}{4} \int \frac{1}{(x - \frac{1}{2})^2 + (\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2})^2} dx + c \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \ln |x^2 + x + 1| - \frac{1}{4} \ln |x^2 - x + 1| + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2x+1}{\sqrt{3}} \right) + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2x-1}{\sqrt{3}} \right) + c \\ I_{finite} &= \int \frac{1}{x^4 + x^2 + 1} dx = \frac{1}{4} \ln \left| \frac{x^2+x+1}{x^2-x+1} \right| + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}x}{1-x^2} \right) + c \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

I divide the Eq.1 into two parts with 2, so integral become 0~2 & 2~∞:

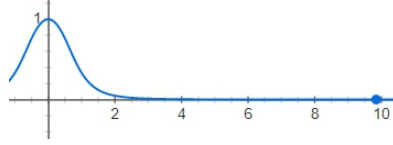


Figure 4: The shape of $\frac{1}{x^4+x^2+1}$

The first part is closed interval, so the value can be easily calculated (see Fig.4), I used the Simpson's rule to do integral, and get the result 0.8713...

$$\text{Simpson's rule } \int_a^b f(x) dx \sim \frac{(b-a)}{6} (f(a) + 4f(\frac{a+b}{2}) + f(b)) \quad (4)$$

But the second part need to use the Eq.3 to do calculation.

$$x \rightarrow \infty, \quad \ln \frac{\infty}{\infty} \rightarrow 0; \quad \text{atan} \frac{1}{-\infty} \rightarrow 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad I_{finite} \Big|_{\infty} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\int_2^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^4 + x^2 + 1} dx = I_{finite} \Big|_{\infty} - I_{finite} \Big|_2 = -I_{finite} \Big|_2 = 0.03559$$

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Result of the integral 0-2:
0.87130878256498123
Result of the integral 2-infinite:
3.558999999999997E-002
Result of doing step integral 0-infinite:
0.90689878256498124
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Figure 5: The result of integral $\frac{1}{x^4+x^2+1}$ from 0 to ∞

Q3 : Stefan-Boltzmann constant

3a.

$$\frac{\sigma_B T^4}{\pi} = \int_0^{\infty} B_{\nu}(T) d\nu \quad \text{where} \quad B_{\nu}(T) = \frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2} \frac{1}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{kT}} - 1} \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{\sigma_B T^4}{\pi} = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2} \frac{1}{e^{\frac{h\nu}{kT}} - 1} d\nu \quad (6)$$

Then, we let $x \equiv \frac{h\nu}{kT}$, so $\nu = \frac{kT}{h}x$, the differential of ν by dx become $d\nu = \frac{kT}{h}dx$ and substitute it into Eq.6.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\sigma_B T^4}{\pi} &= \int_0^\infty \frac{2hk^3 T^3}{h^3 c^2} \frac{x^3}{e^x - 1} \frac{kT}{h} dx \\ \Rightarrow \sigma_B &= \int_0^\infty \frac{2\pi k^4}{h^3 c^2} \frac{x^3}{e^x - 1} dx\end{aligned}\quad (7)$$

So the main problem will be doing the integral of $\frac{x^3}{e^x - 1}$. Google give us the shape of the function.(Fig.6)

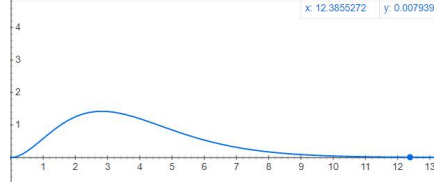


Figure 6: The shape of $\frac{x^3}{e^x - 1}dx$

In my program(Fig.7), I make the boundary of MC integral in region : $x[0-2]$; $y[0-1000]$, and record the number of points which values are lower than the function $\frac{x^3}{e^x - 1}$.

Set the number of $N = 10^8$, and we know the Stefan-Boltzmann constant= $5.670367 \times 10^{-8} \text{ kg s}^{-3} \text{ K}^{-4}$, the error of this program compare to the real constant value is 0.28%.

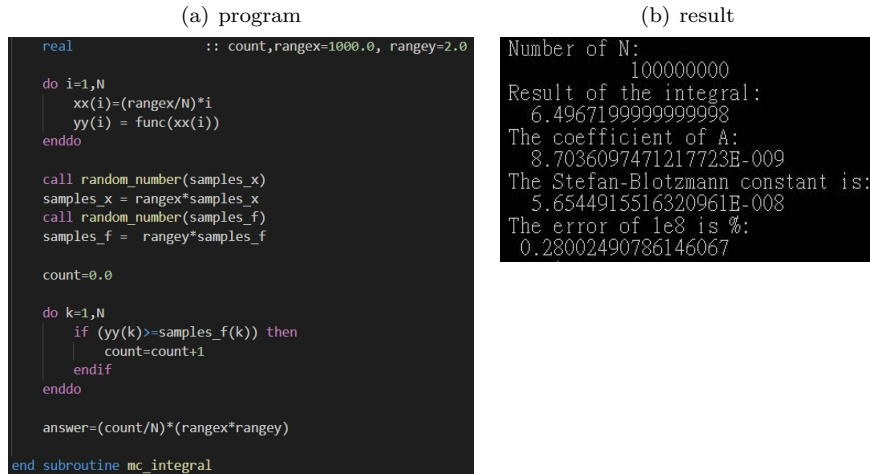


Figure 7: The program and result in fortran

3b. $\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$ law of MC integral

Then, I try different numbers of N(from $1e8$ to $1e3$)(Fig.11.), and make a form in EXCEL to plot the relation(Fig.8.) between error and number of N.

The result of $\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$ and error is a highly positive correlation, the Pearson's $r=0.9554$, proof the $\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$ law.

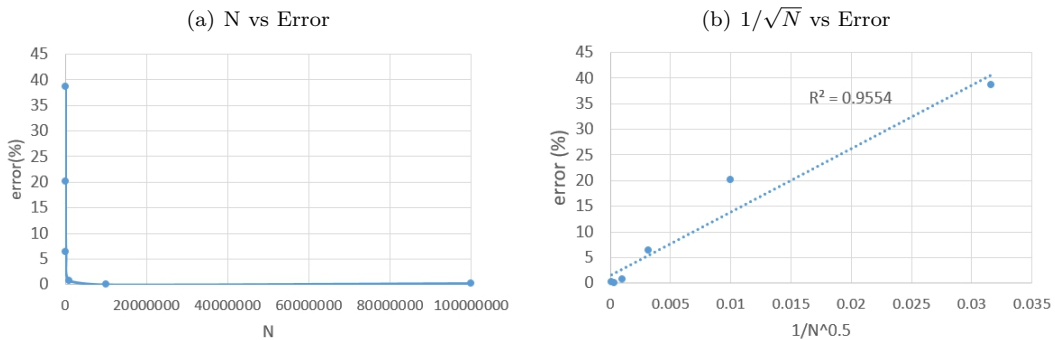


Figure 8: Compared the accuracy of given different number of N (Plot by EXCEL)

Q4 : N-dimension of Newton's method

$$f(x+s) \approx f(x) + J_f(x)s \quad (8)$$

Where $J_f(x)$ is the Jacobian matrix of f and $\{J_f(x)\}_{ij} = \frac{\partial f_i(x)}{\partial x_j}$, and if s satisfies the linear system $J_f(x)s = -f(x)$, then $x+s$ is taken as an approximate zero of f .

So we can say Jacobian matrix increase the dimensions of the original matrix but also make a nonlinear system become a linear system at the same time.

$$f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + 2x_2 - 2 \\ x_1^2 + 4x_2^2 - 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (9)$$

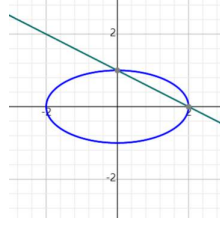


Figure 9: The shape of Eq.9

Fig.9 say there are two solutions in this nonlinear system, so I set the initial condition to (0,2)(Fig.10(a)) & (1,0)(Fig.10(b)) to find the solutions (0,1) & (2,0). Although the results still have some error, but the order of magnitude is small enough to ignore.(1e-17 to (0,1) & 1e-18 to (2,0))

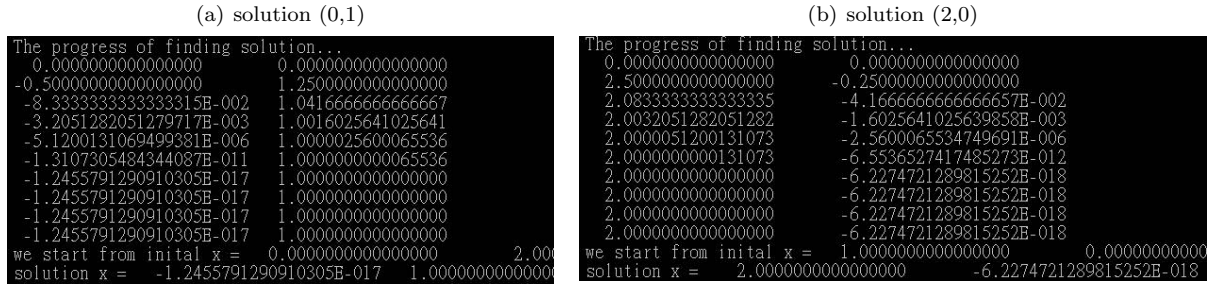


Figure 10: Solution of $f(x)$ by using n-dimension Newton's method



Figure 11: Running the MC integral in different N size