

MA 8019: Numerical Analysis I

Solution of Nonlinear Equations



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Introduction

- **A nonlinear equation:**

Let $f : \emptyset \neq A \subseteq \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a nonlinear real-valued function in a single variable x . *We are interested in finding the roots (solutions) of the equation $f(x) = 0$, i.e., zeros of the function $f(x)$.*

- **A system of nonlinear equations:**

Let $F : \emptyset \neq A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a nonlinear vector-valued function in a vector variable $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^\top$. *We are interested in finding the roots (solutions) of the equation $F(X) = \mathbf{0}$, i.e., zeros of the vector-valued function $F(X)$.*

Example: zeros of polynomial

- Let us look at three functions (polynomials):
 - $f(x) = x^4 - 12x^3 + 47x^2 - 60x$
 - $f(x) = x^4 - 12x^3 + 47x^2 - 60x + 24$
 - $f(x) = x^4 - 12x^3 + 47x^2 - 60x + 24.1$
- Find the zeros of these polynomials is not an easy task.
 - The first function has *real zeros 0, 3, 4, and 5*.
 - The real zeros of the second function are *1 and 0.888...*
 - The third function *has no real zeros at all*.
 - MATLAB: see `polyzeros.m`
- The n roots of a polynomial of degree n depend continuously on the coefficients.* (see Complex Analysis)
 - This result implies that the eigenvalues of a matrix depend continuously on the matrix. (see Tyrtyshnikov's book).
 - However, the problem of approximating the roots given the coefficients is *ill-conditioned*, see Wilkinson's polynomial.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wilkinson%27s_polynomial

Objectives

Consider the nonlinear equation $f(x) = 0$ or $F(X) = \mathbf{0}$.

- The basic questions:
 - (1) Does the solution exist?
 - (2) Is the solution unique?
 - (3) *How to find it?*
- We will mainly focus on the third question and we always assume that the problem under considered has a solution x^* .
- *We will study iterative methods for finding the solution:* first find an initial guess x_0 , then a better guess x_1, \dots , in the end we hope that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x^*$.
- **Iterative methods:** bisection method; Newton's method; secant method; fixed-point method; continuation method; special methods for zeros of polynomials.

Bisection method (method of interval halving)

- **An observation:** *If $f(x)$ is a continuous function on an interval $[a, b]$, and $f(a)$ and $f(b)$ have different signs such that $f(a)f(b) < 0$, then $f(x)$ must have a zero in (a, b) , i.e., a root of the equation $f(x) = 0$.*

(ensured by the Intermediate-Value Theorem for continuous functions)

- **The basic idea:** assume that $f(a)f(b) < 0$.
 - (1) compute $c = \frac{1}{2}(a + b) = a + \frac{1}{2}(b - a)$.
 - (2) if $f(a)f(c) = 0$, then $f(c) = 0$ and c is a zero of $f(x)$.
 - (3) if $f(a)f(c) < 0$, then the zero is in $[a, c]$; otherwise the zero is in $[c, b]$. In either case, a new interval containing the root is produced, and the size of the new interval is half of the original one.
 - (4) repeat the process until the interval is very small then any point in the interval can be used as approximations of the zero.

What do we need?

- We need an initial interval $[a, b]$. This is often the hardest thing to find.
- We need some stopping criteria: given $\varepsilon > 0$ and $\delta > 0$ are tolerances, k is the number of iterations.
 - (1) if $|f(c)| < \varepsilon$, we stop.
 - (2) if $|b - a| < \delta$, we stop.
 - (3) if $k > M$, we stop to avoid infinite loop.

A pseudocode for the bisection algorithm

```
input  $a, b, M, \delta, \varepsilon$   
 $u \leftarrow f(a), \quad v \leftarrow f(b), \quad e \leftarrow b - a$   
output  $a, b, u, v$   
if  $\text{sign}(u) = \text{sign}(v)$  then stop  
for  $k = 1$  to  $M$  do  
     $e \leftarrow e/2, \quad c \leftarrow a + e, \quad w \leftarrow f(c)$   
    output  $k, c, w$   
    if  $|e| < \delta$  or (and)  $|w| < \varepsilon$  then stop  
    if  $\text{sign}(w) \neq \text{sign}(u)$  then  
         $b \leftarrow c, \quad v \leftarrow w$   
    else  
         $a \leftarrow c, \quad u \leftarrow w$   
    end if  
end do
```

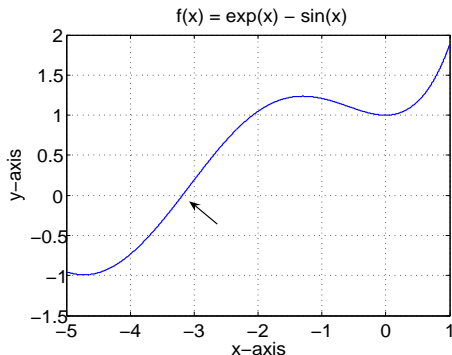
Note:

- $\text{sign}(w) \neq \text{sign}(u)$ is better than $wu < 0$. (why?)
- compute midpoint as $c = a + \frac{b-a}{2}$ rather than $c = \frac{a+b}{2}$. (why?)

An example

Use the bisection method to find the root of $e^x = \sin(x)$.

A rough plot of $f(x) = e^x - \sin(x)$ shows there are no positive zeros, and the first zero to the left of 0 is somewhere in the interval $[-4, -3]$.



see [functiongraph1.m](#)

Numerical results

The output obtained by bisection algorithm running a MATLAB M-file, `bisection.m`

Starting with $a = -4$ and $b = -3$:

k	c	$f(c)$
1	-3.500000000000000	-0.32058584426730
2	-3.250000000000000	-0.06942092669839
3	-3.125000000000000	0.06052882585276
4	-3.187500000000000	-0.00461629388698
\vdots	\vdots	\vdots
13	-3.18298339843750	0.00008284596304
14	-3.18304443359375	0.00001933261037
15	-3.18307495117188	-0.00001242395017
16	-3.18305969238281	0.00000345432045
\vdots	\vdots	\vdots

See the details of the M-file: `bisection.m`

Theorem (on bisection method)

Suppose that $[a_0, b_0] := [a, b], [a_1, b_1], \dots, [a_n, b_n], \dots$ are the intervals in the bisection method. Then

(1) $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n$ exist and the limits are equal.

(2) Let $r = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n$. Then $f(r) = 0$.

(3) Let $c_n = a_n + \frac{1}{2}(b_n - a_n)$. Then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n = r$ and

$$|r - c_n| \leq 2^{-(n+1)}(b_0 - a_0).$$

Proof:

(1) Notice that $a_0 \leq a_1 \leq a_2 \leq \dots \leq b_0$ and $b_0 \geq b_1 \geq b_2 \geq \dots \geq a_0$.

$\therefore \{a_n\}$ is monotonically nondecreasing (i.e., increasing, but may not be strictly increasing) and bounded above by b_0 $\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ exists

$\therefore \{b_n\}$ is monotonically nonincreasing (i.e., decreasing, but may not be strictly decreasing) and bounded below by a_0 $\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n$ exists

$$\therefore b_{n+1} - a_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}(b_n - a_n) \quad \forall n \geq 0 \quad \therefore b_n - a_n = 2^{-n}(b_0 - a_0)$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (b_n - a_n) = (b_0 - a_0) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2^{-n} = 0$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n, \quad \text{say } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = r.$$

Proof of the theorem

(2)

$\because f(x)$ is continuous

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n) = f(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n) = f(r) \text{ and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(b_n) = f(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n) = f(r)$$

$$\therefore f(a_n)f(b_n) < 0$$

$$\therefore 0 \geq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n)f(b_n) = f(r)f(r)$$

$$\therefore f(r) = 0$$

(3)

$$\therefore r \in [a_n, b_n] \text{ and } c_n = \frac{1}{2}(a_n + b_n) = a_n + \frac{1}{2}(b_n - a_n)$$

$$\therefore |r - c_n| \leq \frac{1}{2}(b_n - a_n) = 2^{-(n+1)}(b_0 - a_0) \quad \square$$

Note: Is it true that $|c_0 - r| \geq |c_1 - r| \geq |c_2 - r| \geq \dots$?

Answer: No! \Rightarrow *not linear convergence!*

linear: if $\exists 0 < C < 1$ and $\exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $|x_{n+1} - x^*| \leq C|x_n - x^*|$, $\forall n \geq n_0$.

An example

If we start with the initial interval $[50, 63]$, how many steps do we need in order to have a relative accuracy less than or equal to 10^{-12} ?

This is what we want

$$\frac{|r - c_n|}{|r|} \leq 10^{-12}.$$

Since we know $r \geq 50$, thus it is sufficient to have

$$\frac{|r - c_n|}{50} \leq 10^{-12}.$$

Using the above estimate, all we need is

$$2^{-(n+1)} \frac{63 - 50}{50} \leq 10^{-12}.$$

That means $n \geq 37$.

Some major problems with the bisection method

- Finding the initial interval is not easy.
- Often slow.
- Doesn't work for higher dimensional problems: $F(X) = 0$.

Newton's method

- **Motivation:** we know how to solve $f(x) = 0$ if f is linear. For nonlinear f , we can always approximate it with a linear function.
- Let x^* be a root of $f(x) = 0$ and x an approximation of x^* . Let $x^* = x + h$. Using Taylor's expansion, we have

$$0 = f(x^*) = f(x + h) = f(x) + hf'(x) + O(h^2).$$

If h is small, then we can drop the $O(h^2)$ term, $0 \approx f(x) + hf'(x)$, which means

$$h \approx -\frac{f(x)}{f'(x)}, \quad \text{provided } f'(x) \neq 0.$$

Thus, if x is an approximation of $x^* = x + h$, then

$$x^* = x + h \approx x - \frac{f(x)}{f'(x)}, \quad \text{provided } f'(x) \neq 0.$$

- Newton's method can be defined as follows: for $n = 0, 1, \dots$

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}, \quad \text{provided } f'(x_n) \neq 0.$$

An example

Find the root of $f(x) = e^x - 1.5 - \tan^{-1}(x)$.

Note that $f(0) = -0.5$, $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \infty$, and $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) > 0.07$.

Therefore, $\exists c^+ \in (0, \infty)$ and $c^- \in (-\infty, 0)$ are zeros of f .

Suppose we start with $x_0 = -7.0$, then the results of Newton iterations are

$$x_0 = -7.0, \quad f(x_0) = -0.7 \times 10^{-1}$$

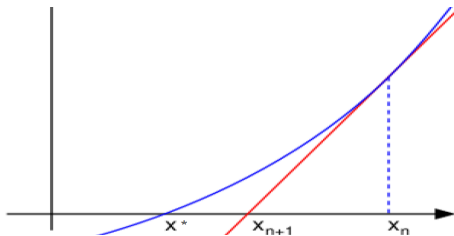
$$x_1 = -10.7, \quad f(x_1) = -0.2 \times 10^{-1}$$

$$x_3 = -14.0, \quad f(x_3) = -0.2 \times 10^{-3}$$

$$x_4 = -14.1, \quad f(x_4) = -0.8 \times 10^{-6}$$

The output shows rapid convergence of the iterations.

Geometrical interpretation



- This is an illustration of one iteration of Newton's method. The function f is shown in blue and the tangent line is in red. We see that x_{n+1} is a better approximation than x_n for the root x^* of the function f .
- What is the geometrical meaning of $f'(x_n) = 0$?

Some stopping criteria

- Using the residual information $f(x_n)$:
 - (1) if $|f(x_n)| < \varepsilon$ then stop (absolute residual criterion).
 - (2) if $|f(x_n)| < \varepsilon|f(x_0)|$ then stop (relative residual criterion).
- Using the step size information $|x_{n+1} - x_n|$:
 - (1) if $|x_{n+1} - x_n| < \delta$ then stop (approximate absolute error criterion).
 - (2) if $\frac{|x_{n+1} - x_n|}{|x_{n+1}|} < \delta$ then stop (approximate relative error criterion).
- Maximum number of iterations M .

Newton's algorithm including stopping criteria

```
input  $x_0, M, \varepsilon, \delta$   
 $v \leftarrow f(x_0)$   
if  $|v| < \varepsilon$  then stop  
for  $k = 1$  to  $M$  do  
     $x_1 = x_0 - v/f'(x_0)$   
     $v \leftarrow f(x_1)$   
    if  $|x_1 - x_0| < \delta$  or  $|v| < \varepsilon$  then stop  
     $x_0 \leftarrow x_1$   
end do
```

See the details of the M-file `newton.m` for $f(x) = e^x - \sin(x)$

Note: if $f'(x_0)$ is too small, then $1/f'(x_0)$ may overflow.

Convergence analysis

Assume that f'' is continuous and x^* is a simple zero of f , i.e., $f(x^*) = 0$ and $f'(x^*) \neq 0$. Define the error as $e_n = x_n - x^*$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}e_{n+1} &= x_{n+1} - x^* = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)} - x^* \\&= e_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)} = \frac{e_n f'(x_n) - f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}.\end{aligned}$$

Using Taylor's expansion,

$$0 = f(x^*) = f(x_n - e_n) = f(x_n) - e_n f'(x_n) + \frac{1}{2} e_n^2 f''(\xi_n),$$

for some ξ_n between x_n and x^* . Therefore, we have

$$(\star) \quad e_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{f''(\xi_n)}{f'(x_n)} e_n^2 \quad \left(\approx \frac{1}{2} \frac{f''(x^*)}{f'(x^*)} e_n^2 := C e_n^2, \text{ provided } x_n \approx x^* \right).$$

Define a quantity c_δ for $\delta > 0$ by

$$c_\delta := \frac{1}{2} \left(\max_{|x-x^*| \leq \delta} |f''(x)| \right) / \left(\min_{|x-x^*| \leq \delta} |f'(x)| \right) \geq 0.$$

We can select $\delta > 0$ such that $\rho := \delta c_\delta < 1$. (why?)

Theorem on Newton's method

Assume that $|e_0| = |x_0 - x^*| < \delta$. Then $|\xi_0 - x^*| < \delta$ and we have $\frac{1}{2}|f''(\xi_0)/f'(x_0)| \leq c_\delta$. Therefore,

$$|x_1 - x^*| = |e_1| \leq e_0^2 c_\delta = |e_0||e_0|c_\delta < |e_0|\delta c_\delta = |e_0|\rho < |e_0| < \delta.$$

Repeating this argument, we have

$$|e_1| < \rho|e_0|, |e_2| < \rho|e_1| < \rho^2|e_0|, \dots, |e_n| < \rho^n|e_0|.$$

Since $0 \leq \rho < 1$, we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho^n = 0$ which implies that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e_n = 0$.

Finally, since $|e_n| = |x_n - x^*| < \delta$ and $|\xi_n - x^*| < \delta$, we have from (\star) that

$$|e_{n+1}| = \frac{1}{2} \frac{|f''(\xi_n)|}{|f'(x_n)|} |e_n|^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} c_\delta |e_n|^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} (c_\delta + 1) |e_n|^2 := C |e_n|^2,$$

which implies the quadratic convergence. \square

Theorem on Newton's method

Theorem on Newton's method: *Let f'' be continuous and let x^* be a simple zero of f . Then there exist $\delta > 0$ and $C > 0$ such that if the initial guess $x_0 \in N(x^*, \delta)$ (i.e., $|x_0 - x^*| < \delta$) then Newton's method converges and satisfies*

$$|x_{n+1} - x^*| \leq C|x_n - x^*|^2 \quad (\forall n \geq 0).$$

Good: *the convergence is quadratic.*

Bad: *the initial guess x_0 has to be close to the solution x^* .*

Example

Find the root of $f(x) = \alpha - 1/x$, for any given $\alpha > 0$ (we know the exact solution is $x^* = 1/\alpha$). Using Newton's method, we have

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{\alpha - \frac{1}{x_n}}{1/x_n^2},$$

which is same as

$$x_{n+1} = 2x_n - \alpha x_n^2, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Questions:

- Does the sequence x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots converge? ($\iff 0 < x_0 < \frac{2}{\alpha}$)
- How fast? (quadratic)
- Does the convergence depend on the initial guess x_0 ? (Yes)

Example (cont'd)

Let us define the error $e_n = x^* - x_n = \frac{1}{\alpha} - x_n$. Then

$$e_{n+1} = \frac{1}{\alpha} - x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{\alpha} - 2x_n + \alpha x_n^2 = \alpha \left(\frac{1}{\alpha} - x_n \right)^2 = \alpha e_n^2.$$

Thus, if it converges, then the rate is quadratic. We now have

$$\begin{aligned} e_{n+1} &= \alpha e_n^2 = \alpha (\alpha e_{n-1}^2)^2 = \alpha^3 (e_{n-1}^2)^2 = \frac{1}{\alpha} (\alpha^2 e_{n-1}^2)^2 = \frac{1}{\alpha} (\alpha e_{n-1})^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha} (\alpha \alpha e_{n-2}^2)^2 = \frac{1}{\alpha} (\alpha^2 e_{n-2}^2)^2 = \frac{1}{\alpha} (\alpha e_{n-2})^2 = \dots = \frac{1}{\alpha} (\alpha e_0)^{2^{n+1}}, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that

$$\begin{aligned} x_n \text{ converges to } x^* &\iff \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e_n = 0 \iff |\alpha e_0| < 1 \iff |e_0| < \frac{1}{\alpha} \\ &\iff \left| \frac{1}{\alpha} - x_0 \right| < \frac{1}{\alpha} \iff -\frac{1}{\alpha} < \frac{1}{\alpha} - x_0 < \frac{1}{\alpha} \\ &\iff 0 < x_0 < \frac{2}{\alpha}. \end{aligned}$$

Some remarks on Newton's method

Advantages:

- The convergence is **quadratic**.
- Newton's method works for higher dimensional problems.

Disadvantages:

- Newton's method converges only **locally**; i.e., the initial guess x_0 has to be close enough to the solution x^* .
- It needs the first derivative of $f(x)$.

Newton's method for systems of nonlinear equations

- We wish to solve

$$\begin{cases} f_1(x_1, x_2) = 0, \\ f_2(x_1, x_2) = 0, \end{cases}$$

where f_1 and f_2 are nonlinear functions of x_1 and x_2 .

- Assume that $(x_1 + h_1, x_2 + h_2)$ is a solution of the nonlinear system of equations. Applying Taylor's expansion in two variables around (x_1, x_2) , we obtain

$$\begin{cases} 0 = f_1(x_1 + h_1, x_2 + h_2) \approx f_1(x_1, x_2) + h_1 \frac{\partial f_1(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_1} + h_2 \frac{\partial f_1(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_2}, \\ 0 = f_2(x_1 + h_1, x_2 + h_2) \approx f_2(x_1, x_2) + h_1 \frac{\partial f_2(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_1} + h_2 \frac{\partial f_2(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_2}. \end{cases}$$

- Putting it into the matrix form, we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} f_1(x_1, x_2) \\ f_2(x_1, x_2) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_1(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_2} \\ \frac{\partial f_2(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_2(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} h_1 \\ h_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Newton's method for systems of nonlinear equations (cont'd)

- To simplify the notation we introduce the **Jacobian matrix**:

$$J(x_1, x_2) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_1(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_2} \\ \frac{\partial f_2(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_2(x_1, x_2)}{\partial x_2} \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Then we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} f_1(x_1, x_2) \\ f_2(x_1, x_2) \end{bmatrix} + J(x_1, x_2) \begin{bmatrix} h_1 \\ h_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- If $J(x_1, x_2)$ is nonsingular then we can solve for $[h_1, h_2]^\top$:

$$J(x_1, x_2) \begin{bmatrix} h_1 \\ h_2 \end{bmatrix} \approx - \begin{bmatrix} f_1(x_1, x_2) \\ f_2(x_1, x_2) \end{bmatrix}.$$

Newton's method for systems of nonlinear equations (cont'd)

- Newton's method for the system of nonlinear equations is defined as follows: for $k = 0, 1, \dots$,

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1^{(k+1)} \\ x_2^{(k+1)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1^{(k)} \\ x_2^{(k)} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} h_1^{(k)} \\ h_2^{(k)} \end{bmatrix}$$

with

$$J(x_1^{(k)}, x_2^{(k)}) \begin{bmatrix} h_1^{(k)} \\ h_2^{(k)} \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} f_1(x_1^{(k)}, x_2^{(k)}) \\ f_2(x_1^{(k)}, x_2^{(k)}) \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Exercise:**

Solve the following nonlinear system by using Newton's method with the initial guess $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} = (x_1^{(0)}, x_2^{(0)})^\top = (0, 1)^\top$. Perform two iterations.

$$\begin{cases} 4x_1^2 - x_2^2 &= 0, \\ 4x_1x_2^2 - x_1 &= 1. \end{cases}$$

Newton's method for higher dimensional problems

- In general, we can use Newton's method for $F(X) = \mathbf{0}$, where $X = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^\top$ and $F = (f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n)^\top$.
- For higher dimensional problem, the first derivative is defined as a matrix (the Jacobian matrix)

$$DF(X) := \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1(X)}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_1(X)}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_1(X)}{\partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial f_2(X)}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_2(X)}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_2(X)}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_n(X)}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_n(X)}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_n(X)}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Newton's method: given $X^{(0)} = [x_1^{(0)}, \dots, x_n^{(0)}]^\top$, define

$$X^{(k+1)} = X^{(k)} + H^{(k)},$$

where

$$DF(X^{(k)})H^{(k)} = -F(X^{(k)}),$$

which requires the solving of a large linear system of equations at every iteration.

Operations involved in Newton's method

- vector operations: not expensive.
- function evaluations: can be expensive.
- compute the Jacobian: can be expensive.
- solving matrix equations (linear system): very expensive – **topic of the next chapter!**

Methods without using derivatives

- “Finite difference Newton’s method” and “secant method.”
- **Basic idea:**

$$x \leftarrow x - \frac{f(x)}{f'(x)}.$$

If $f'(x)$ is too hard or too expensive to compute, we can use an approximation.

- **Questions:** how to obtain an approximation? Do we lose the fast convergence?

Finite difference Newton's method

- Let h be a small nonzero parameter, then

$$a := \frac{f(x_n + h) - f(x_n)}{h}$$

can be a good approximation of $f'(x_n)$.

- FD-Newton's method:**

- compute $a = \frac{f(x_n + h) - f(x_n)}{h}$.
- compute $x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{a}$.

- Remarks:**

- the method needs **an extra parameter h** . What shall we use?
- the method needs **two function evaluations** per iteration.
- what is the convergence rate?

Secant method

- Since h can be any small number in the FD-Newton's method, why don't we simply use $h = x_n - x_{n-1}$, which may be positive or negative, but usually not zero.

- **Secant method:**

(1) compute $a = \frac{f(x_n) - f(x_{n-1})}{x_n - x_{n-1}}$.

(2) compute $x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{a}$.

- **Remarks:**

- (1) now we need **only one function evaluation** per iteration.
- (2) x_{n+1} depends on two previous iterations. For example, to compute x_2 , we need both x_1 and x_0 .
- (3) how do we obtain x_1 ? We need to use FD-Newton: pick a small parameter h , compute $a_0 = (f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0))/h$, then $x_1 = x_0 - f(x_0)/a_0$.

Which of the three methods is better?

An example: $f(x) = x^2 - 1$, and we take $x_0 = 2.0$.

Stopping parameters: $\delta = 10^{-10}$, $\varepsilon = 10^{-10}$.

$h = 10^{-7}$ in FD-Newton method.

Iter.	Newton	FD-Newton	Secant
x_0	2.0	2.0	2.0
x_1	1.2500000000000000	1.25000001709125	1.25000001709125
x_2	1.0250000000000000	1.02500001222170	1.07692308177740
x_3	1.00030487804878	1.00030487955710	1.00826446381851
x_4	1.00000004646115	1.00000004647732	1.00030487810437
x_5	1.0000000000000000	1.0000000000000000	1.00000125445212
x_6			1.00000000019120
x_7			1.0000000000000000

See the details of the M-files: [comparisonnewton.m](#),
[comparisonFDnewton.m](#), [comparisonsecant.m](#)

Convergence rates

- If $|h_n| \leq C|x_n - x^*|$, then the convergence of FD-Newton is **quadratic**.
- *The convergence of secant method is superlinear (i.e., better than linear).* More precisely, we have (see Textbook, pp. 96-97)

$$|e_{n+1}| \leq C|e_n|^{(1+\sqrt{5})/2}, \quad (1 + \sqrt{5})/2 \approx 1.62 < 2.$$

- **Remark:** when selecting algorithms for a particular problem, one should consider not only the rate (order) of convergence, but also the cost of computing $f(x_n)$ and $f'(x_n)$.

An informal convergence analysis of the secant method

Let $e_n := x_n - x^*$. Under suitable assumptions, it can be shown that $e_{n+1} \approx Ce_n e_{n-1}$ (Textbook, p. 96) and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e_n = 0$ (cf. analysis for Newton's method).

To discover the order of convergence, we assume that for large n , $|e_{n+1}| \approx \lambda |e_n|^\alpha$. Thus, $|e_n| \approx \lambda |e_{n-1}|^\alpha \Rightarrow |e_{n-1}| \approx \lambda^{-1/\alpha} |e_n|^{1/\alpha}$.

$$\therefore \lambda |e_n|^\alpha \approx |e_{n+1}| \approx |C| |e_n| \lambda^{-1/\alpha} |e_n|^{1/\alpha}$$

$$\therefore |e_n|^\alpha \approx |C| \lambda^{-1/\alpha-1} |e_n|^{1+1/\alpha}$$

$$\therefore |e_n|^{\alpha-1-1/\alpha} \approx |C| \lambda^{-1/\alpha-1}$$

\therefore the right side of this relation is a nonzero constant while $e_n \rightarrow 0$

$$\therefore \alpha - 1 - 1/\alpha = 0$$

$$\therefore \alpha^2 - \alpha - 1 = 0$$

$$\therefore \alpha = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \approx 1.62 > 0 \quad \square$$

Steffensen's method – method without using derivative

Steffensen's method:

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{g(x_n)}, \text{ where } g(x_n) := \frac{f(x_n + f(x_n)) - f(x_n)}{f(x_n)}.$$

Under suitable hypotheses, the method is **quadratically** convergent (p. 90, # 4).

An informal convergence analysis: Assume that $f \in C^2$. By Taylor expansion, we have

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

for some ξ between x and $x + f(x)$. Therefore,

$$g(x) := \frac{1}{f(x)} \{f(x + f(x)) - f(x)\} = f'(x) + \frac{f(x)}{2}f''(\xi) \approx f'(x), \text{ if } f(x) \approx 0.$$

$$\text{Let } e_n := x_n - x^*. \text{ Then, } e_{n+1} = e_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{g(x_n)} = \frac{1}{g(x_n)} \{e_n g(x_n) - f(x_n)\}.$$

Steffensen's method (cont'd)

$$\therefore 0 = f(x^*) = f(x_n - e_n) = f(x_n) - e_n f'(x_n) + \frac{e_n^2}{2} f''(\xi_n),$$

for some ξ_n between x_n and $x_n - e_n$

$$\therefore f(x_n) - e_n f'(x_n) \approx -\frac{e_n^2}{2} f''(\xi_n)$$

$$\therefore e_{n+1} \approx \frac{e_n^2 f''(\xi_n)}{2 f'(x_n)} \left(\approx \frac{f''(x^*)}{2 f'(x^*)} e_n^2, \text{ provided } x_n \approx x^* \right)$$

(cf. analysis of Newton's method). \square

Remarks:

- Bisection algorithm is **global**, and all the other Newton-type algorithms are **local**.
- Local algorithms are often **fast**, and global algorithms are often **slow**.

Fixed points

- A function $F : x \mapsto F(x)$ is often called a mapping from x to $F(x)$ (F takes an input value x and generates an output value $F(x)$).

If there is a point p , at which the output is the same as the input, then that point is called a fixed point of F , i.e., $p = F(p)$.

- Finding the fixed points of F has many applications. For example, if

$$F(x) := x - \frac{f(x)}{f'(x)},$$

then the fixed point of F is simply the root of $f(x) = 0$.

“root-finding problem” \implies “fixed point problem”

Fixed point iterations

- Fixed point iterations:

$$x_{n+1} = F(x_n), \quad n = 0, 1, \dots$$

Assume that F is continuous and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = p$. Then

$$F(p) = F(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F(x_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_{n+1} = p.$$

Therefore, p is a fixed point of the function F .

- The following three fixed point iterations can be considered for solving $x^3 - x - 5 = 0$:

$x_{n+1} = F(x_n)$, $n = 0, 1, \dots$, where

(1) $F(x) = x^3 - 5$.

(2) $F(x) = (x + 5)^{1/3}$.

(3) $F(x) = \frac{5}{x^2 - 1}$.

Do the iterations converge?

A fixed point theorem

- If $F \in C[a, b]$ and $F(x) \in [a, b], \forall x \in [a, b]$, then F has a fixed point in $[a, b]$.
- If, in addition, F' exists on (a, b) and $\exists 0 < k < 1$ such that $|F'(x)| \leq k, \forall x \in (a, b)$, then the fixed point is unique in $[a, b]$.
- Then, for any $x_0 \in [a, b]$ and $x_{n+1} := F(x_n), n \geq 0$, the sequence converges to the unique fixed point $p \in [a, b]$ and
 - (1) $|x_n - p| \leq k^n \max\{x_0 - a, b - x_0\}, \forall n \geq 1;$
 - (2) $|x_n - p| \leq \frac{k^n}{1-k} |x_1 - x_0|, \forall n \geq 1.$

Proof.

- If $F(a) = a$ or $F(b) = b$ then F has a fixed point in $[a, b]$. Suppose not, then $a < F(a) \leq b$ and $a \leq F(b) < b$. Define $H(x) := F(x) - x$. Then H is continuous on $[a, b]$ and $H(a) > 0, H(b) < 0$. By the Intermediate Value Theorem, $\exists p \in (a, b)$ such that $H(p) = 0$, i.e., $F(p) = p$. \square
- Suppose that $\exists p < q \in [a, b]$ are fixed points of F . Then $F(p) = p$ and $F(q) = q$. By the Mean Value Theorem, $\exists \xi \in (p, q)$ such that $\frac{F(q) - F(p)}{q - p} = F'(\xi) \implies \frac{|F(q) - F(p)|}{|q - p|} = |F'(\xi)| \leq k < 1 \implies 1 = \frac{|q - p|}{|q - p|} \leq k < 1$. This is a contradiction. Therefore, the fixed point is unique. \square

Proof of the fixed point theorem (cont'd)

- For $n \geq 1$, by the Mean Value Theorem, $\exists \xi \in (a, b)$ such that
$$0 \leq |x_n - p| = |F(x_{n-1}) - F(p)| = |F'(\xi)| |x_{n-1} - p| \leq k |x_{n-1} - p|.$$
$$\implies 0 \leq |x_n - p| \leq k |x_{n-1} - p| \leq k^2 |x_{n-2} - p| \leq \cdots \leq k^n |x_0 - p|.$$
$$\implies \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |x_n - p| = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n - p = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = p.$$

(1) $\because |x_n - p| \leq k^n |x_0 - p|$ and $p \in [a, b]$
 $\therefore |x_n - p| \leq k^n \max\{x_0 - a, b - x_0\}, \forall n \geq 1$

(2) For $n \geq 1$,
 $|x_{n+1} - x_n| = |F(x_n) - F(x_{n-1})| \leq k |x_n - x_{n-1}| \leq \cdots \leq k^n |x_1 - x_0|.$
 \therefore For $m > n \geq 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |x_m - x_n| &= |x_m - x_{m-1} + x_{m-1} - x_{m-2} + \cdots + x_{n+1} - x_n| \\ &\leq |x_m - x_{m-1}| + |x_{m-1} - x_{m-2}| + \cdots + |x_{n+1} - x_n| \\ &\leq k^{m-1} |x_1 - x_0| + k^{m-2} |x_1 - x_0| + \cdots + k^n |x_1 - x_0| \\ &= k^n (1 + k + \cdots + k^{m-n-1}) |x_1 - x_0|. \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = p$$

$$\therefore |p - x_n| = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} |x_m - x_n| \leq k^n |x_1 - x_0| \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} k^i = k^n |x_1 - x_0| \frac{1}{1-k}$$

(\because geometric series with $0 < k < 1$)

$$\therefore |p - x_n| \leq \frac{k^n}{1-k} |x_1 - x_0| \quad \square$$

Contractive mappings

- **Definition:** A mapping (function) F is said to be contractive if $\exists 0 < \lambda < 1$ such that $|F(x) - F(y)| \leq \lambda|x - y|$, for all x, y in the domain of F .
- **Note:** In the above theorem, F is contractive on $[a, b]$.
- **Example:** $F(x) = 4 + \frac{1}{3} \sin(2x)$ is contractive on \mathbb{R} .

$$\begin{aligned}|F(x) - F(y)| &= \frac{1}{3} |\sin(2x) - \sin(2y)| \\ &= \frac{2}{3} |\cos(2\xi)| |x - y| \\ &\leq \frac{2}{3} |x - y|.\end{aligned}$$

Contraction mapping principle

Let F be a contractive mapping from a complete metric space $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ into itself. Then F has a unique fixed point p and the sequence $\{x_n\}$ generated by $x_{n+1} := F(x_n)$, $n \geq 0$, converges to p for any $x_0 \in X$.

Proof:

- show that $\{x_n\}$ converges;
- let $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n = p$. Then $F(p) = p$;
- show that p is unique. \square

Note: *Let X be a closed subset of \mathbb{R} . Then X is a complete metric space.*

Example: closed subsets of \mathbb{R} : $[a, b]$, \mathbb{R} , etc.

Error analysis

- Assume that F' exists and continuous. Consider the fixed point iterations,

$$x_{n+1} = F(x_n), \quad n \geq 0.$$

Assume that $\{x_n\}$ converges to p (p is a fixed point). Let $e_n := x_n - p$. Then, by MVT, we have

$$e_{n+1} = x_{n+1} - p = F(x_n) - F(p) = F'(\xi_n)(x_n - p) = F'(\xi_n)e_n,$$

for some ξ_n between x_n and p . The condition $|F'(x)| < 1$ for all x ensures that the errors decrease in magnitude. If e_n is small then ξ_n is near p , and $F'(\xi_n) \approx F'(p)$.

- One would expect rapid convergence if $F'(p)$ is small. Ideally, $F'(p) = 0$.

Error analysis (cont'd)

- Assume that $F^{(k)}(p) = 0$ for $1 \leq k < r$ but $F^{(r)}(p) \neq 0$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}e_{n+1} &= x_{n+1} - p = F(x_n) - F(p) = F(p + e_n) - F(p) \\&= \left\{ F(p) + e_n F'(p) + \frac{e_n^2}{2} F''(p) + \cdots + \frac{1}{r!} e_n^r F^{(r)}(\xi_n) \right\} - F(p) \\&= e_n F'(p) + \frac{e_n^2}{2} F''(p) + \cdots + \frac{e_n^{r-1}}{(r-1)!} F^{(r-1)}(p) + \frac{e_n^r}{r!} F^{(r)}(\xi_n) \\&= \frac{e_n^r}{r!} F^{(r)}(\xi_n).\end{aligned}$$

- If we know that the method converges and $F^{(r)}$ is continuous then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|e_{n+1}|}{|e_n|^r} = \frac{1}{r!} |F^{(r)}(p)|$$

and the method converges with order r .

Newton' method

Newton' method: $F(x) = x - \frac{f(x)}{f'(x)}$, $f(p) = 0$ and $f'(p) \neq 0$, $F(p) = p$.

$$\therefore F'(x) = 1 - \frac{f'(x)f'(x) - f(x)f''(x)}{(f'(x))^2} = \frac{f(x)f''(x)}{(f'(x))^2}$$

$$\therefore F'(p) = 0$$

$$\therefore F''(x) = \frac{(f'(x))^2 \{f(x)f'''(x) + f''(x)f'(x)\} - (f(x)f''(x))(2f'(x)f''(x))}{(f'(x))^4}$$

$$\therefore \text{we usually have } F''(p) = \frac{f''(p)}{f'(p)} \neq 0$$

\therefore under suitable assumptions,
the order (rate) of convergence of Newton's method is 2

Roots of polynomials

- A general polynomial:
 $p(z) = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \cdots + a_2 z^2 + a_1 z^1 + a_0$, where coefficients $a_i \in \mathbb{C}$, $i = 0, 1, \cdots, n$. If $a_n \neq 0$ then we say *degree*(p) = n .
- **Fundamental Theorem of Algebra:** *Every nonconstant polynomial has at least one root in \mathbb{C} .*
(\iff A polynomial of degree n has exactly n roots in \mathbb{C}).
- If p is a polynomial whose coefficients are all real, $a_i \in \mathbb{R} \forall i$, then its roots may be complex and if $w = w_1 + iw_2$ is a complex root then its conjugate $\bar{w} := w_1 - iw_2$ is also a root.

In what follows, we consider polynomials with real coefficients.

Horner's algorithm

Newton's method: $z_{k+1} := z_k - \frac{p(z_k)}{p'(z_k)}, k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

We need function evaluations $p(z_k)$ and $p'(z_k)$ in Newton's method.

- Given a polynomial $p(z) = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 z^1 + a_0$ and $z_0 \in \mathbb{R}$. **Horner's algorithm** will produce the number $p(z_0)$ and the polynomial $q(z)$ such that $p(z) = (z - z_0)q(z) + p(z_0)$.
- Assume that $q(z) = b_{n-1} z^{n-1} + b_{n-2} z^{n-2} + \dots + b_1 z^1 + b_0$. Then we have $b_{n-1} = a_n$, $b_{n-2} = a_{n-1} + z_0 b_{n-1}$, \dots , $b_0 = a_1 + z_0 b_1$, $p(z_0) = p(z) - (z - z_0)q(z) = a_0 + z_0 b_0$.
- Synthetic division:** (綜合除法)

	a_n	a_{n-1}	a_{n-2}	\dots	a_0	
z_0		$z_0 b_{n-1}$	$z_0 b_{n-2}$	\dots	$z_0 b_0$	
	b_{n-1}	b_{n-2}	b_{n-3}	\dots	b_{-1}	$\leftarrow p(z_0)$

We have $p(z_0) = b_{-1}$.

Example

Let $p(z) = z^4 - 4z^3 + 7z^2 - 5z - 2$. Evaluate $p(3)$.

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 3 & 1 & -4 & 7 & -5 & -2 \\ & & 3 & -3 & 12 & 21 \\ \hline & 1 & -1 & 4 & 7 & \color{red}{19} & \leftarrow p(3) \end{array}$$

$\therefore p(3) = 19, q(z) = z^3 - z^2 + 4z + 7$, and

$$p(z) = (z - 3)(z^3 - z^2 + 4z + 7) + 19.$$

Complete Horner's algorithm

Given $p(z) = a_n z^n + a_{n-1} z^{n-1} + \cdots + a_2 z^2 + a_1 z^1 + a_0$ and $z_0 \in \mathbb{R}$.

We wish to find $c_i, i = 0, 1, \cdots, n$ such that

$$p(z) = c_n(z - z_0)^n + c_{n-1}(z - z_0)^{n-1} + \cdots + c_1(z - z_0)^1 + c_0.$$

If so, by Taylor Theorem, we know that $c_k = \frac{p^{(k)}(z_0)}{k!}$.

$$\therefore p(z_0) = c_0 \text{ and } p'(z_0) = c_1 = q(z_0)$$

\therefore We can apply Horner's algorithm again to $q(z)$ with point z_0

Repeat this process, we can obtain $c_i, i = 0, 1, \cdots, n$.

Example

Let $p(z) = z^4 - 4z^3 + 7z^2 - 5z - 2$ and $z_0 = 3$.

3	1	-4	7	-5	-2	
		3	-3	12	21	
3	1	-1	4	7	19	$\leftarrow p(3)$
		3	6	30		
3	1	2	10	37	$\leftarrow p'(3)$	
		3	15			
3	1	5	25			
		3				
	1	8				

$\therefore p(3) = 19, p'(3) = 37$ and

$$p(z) = 1(z-3)^4 + 8(z-3)^3 + 25(z-3)^2 + 37(z-3)^1 + 19$$

Newton's method with Horner's algorithm

```
program horner( $n, (a_i : 0 \leq i \leq n), z_0, \alpha, \beta$ )  
   $\alpha \leftarrow a_n$   
   $\beta \leftarrow 0$   
  for  $k = n - 1 : -1 : 0$  do  
     $\beta \leftarrow \alpha + z_0 \beta$   
     $\alpha \leftarrow a_k + z_0 \alpha$   
  end do  
output  $\alpha (= p(z_0)), \beta (= p'(z_0))$ 
```

```
program newton ( $n, (a_i : 0 \leq i \leq n), z_0, M, \delta$ )  
for  $k = 1 : 1 : M$  do  
  call horner( $n, (a_i : 0 \leq i \leq n), z_0, \alpha, \beta$ )  
   $z_1 \leftarrow z_0 - \alpha / \beta$   
  output  $\alpha, \beta, z_1$   
  if  $|z_1 - z_0| < \delta$  then stop  
   $z_0 \leftarrow z_1$   
end do
```

Basic idea of continuation method (延拓法)

The basic idea of the continuation method is to embed the given problem in a one-parameter family of problems, using a parameter t that runs over $[0, 1]$, such that for $t = 1$ we have the original problem, while for $t = 0$ we have another problem with known solution.

Below is an example:

- Consider a root-finding problem: $f(x) = 0$. We extend the problem to a one-parameter family of problems:

$$h(t, x) = tf(x) + (1 - t)g(x),$$

where $t \in [0, 1]$ and $g(x)$ is given and have a known zero, say x_0 .

- Select points $0 = t_0 < t_1 < \cdots < t_{m-1} < t_m = 1$. We then solve each equation $h(t_i, x) = 0, i = 0, 1, \cdots, m$. We say each solution $x_i, i = 0, 1, \cdots, m$.
- Assume that some iterative method such as Newton's method is used to solve $h(t_i, x) = 0$, we use the solution x_{i-1} of $h(t_{i-1}, x) = 0$ as the starting point.

Homotopy (同倫)

Definition: Let X and Y be two topological spaces and $f, g : X \rightarrow Y$ be two continuous functions. A homotopy between f and g is defined to be a continuous function $h : [0, 1] \times X \rightarrow Y$ such that, for all points $x \in X$, $h(0, x) = g(x)$ and $h(1, x) = f(x)$. If such a map exists, we say that f is homotopic to g .

A simple example that is often used in continuation method is

$$h(t, x) = tf(x) + (1 - t) \underbrace{(f(x) - f(x_0))}_{:=g(x)},$$

where x_0 can be any point in X .

Homotopy continuation method

- If $h(t, x) = 0$ has a unique solution for each $t \in [0, 1]$, then the solution is a function of t , and we write $x(t) \in X$. The set $\{x(t) : 0 \leq t \leq 1\}$ can be interpreted as a curve in X . *The continuation method attempts to determine this curve by computing points on it, $x(t_0), x(t_1), \dots, x(t_m)$.*
- **Homotopy continuation method:** Assume that $x(t)$ and $h(t, x)$ are differentiable functions. Then

$$0 = h(t, x(t)) \implies 0 = h_t(t, x(t)) + h_x(t, x(t))x'(t)$$

$$\implies x'(t) = -\left(h_x(t, x(t))\right)^{-1} h_t(t, x(t)).$$

This is an **ODE with a known initial value $x(0)$** , it can be solved using numerical methods (cf. Chapter 8).

- If necessary, we can apply **Newton's iteration** starting at the point produced by the homotopy method to approximate the solution of $h(1, x) = 0$ one more time.

Example

Let $X = Y = \mathbb{R}^2$ and define

$$f(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} x^2 - 3y^2 + 3 \\ xy + 6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2.$$

A homotopy is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} h(t, (x, y)) &= tf(x, y) + (1 - t)(f(x, y) - f(1, 1)) \\ &= f(x, y) + tf(1, 1) - f(1, 1), \quad t \in [0, 1], (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2, \end{aligned}$$

$$h_x(t, (x, y)) = Df(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x}(x, y) & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial y}(x, y) \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x}(x, y) & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial y}(x, y) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2x & -6y \\ y & x \end{bmatrix},$$

$$h_t(t, (x, y)) = f(1, 1) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Example (cont'd)

$$h_x^{-1}(t, (x, y)) = [Df(x, y)]^{-1} = \frac{1}{2x^2 + 6y^2} \begin{bmatrix} x & 6y \\ -y & 2x \end{bmatrix}.$$

The ODE is

$$\begin{bmatrix} x'(t) \\ y'(t) \end{bmatrix} = -\frac{1}{2x^2 + 6y^2} \begin{bmatrix} x & 6y \\ -y & 2x \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix} = -\frac{1}{2x^2 + 6y^2} \begin{bmatrix} x + 42y \\ 14x - y \end{bmatrix}.$$

with initial condition $(x(0), y(0))^{\top} = (1, 1)^{\top}$. By the numerical method for initial-value problem, we have an approximation solution $(-2.961, 1.978)^{\top}$ of $(x(1), y(1))^{\top}$. We can use this approximation as the initial guess in the Newton method:

k	$(x^{(k)}, y^{(k)})$	$\ f(x^{(k)}, y^{(k)})\ _2$
0	$(-2.96100000000000, 1.97800000000000)$	0.14626611680427
1	$(-3.00025328131376, 2.00012057060499)$	0.00087135657948
2	$(-3.00000001019155, 2.00000000338437)$	0.00000003679978
3	$(-3.00000000000000, 2.00000000000000)$	0.00000000000000

See the details of the M-file: [homotopynewton.m](#)

Theorem on continuously differentiable solution

[Ortega and Rheinboldt, 1970]

If $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ is continuously differentiable and if $\|[Df(x)]^{-1}\| \leq M$ on \mathbb{R}^n , then for any $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$ there is a unique curve $\{x(t) : 0 \leq t \leq 1\}$ in \mathbb{R}^n such that $f(x(t)) + (t-1)f(x_0) = 0$, $0 \leq t \leq 1$. The function $t \rightarrow x(t)$ is a continuously differentiable solution of the initial-value problem $x'(t) = -[Df(x)]^{-1}f(x_0)$, where $x(0) = x_0$.

Note: $tf(x(t)) + (1-t) \underbrace{(f(x(t)) - f(x_0))}_{:=g(x(t))} = f(x(t)) + (t-1)f(x_0).$