## **Nonlinear Equations**



How can we solve these equations?

• Spring force: F = k x

What is the displacement when F = 2N?

• Drag force:  $F = 0.5 C_d \rho A v^2 = \mu_d v^2$ 

What is the velocity when F = 20N?





• Drag force:  $f(v) = \mu_d \ v^2 - F = 0$ 

Find the root (zero) of the nonlinear equation f(v)



#### Nonlinear Equations in 1D

**Goal:** Solve f(x) = 0 for  $f: \mathcal{R} \to \mathcal{R}$ 

Often called Root Finding



## Convergence

• The bisection method does not estimate  $x_k$ , the approximation of the desired root x. It instead finds an interval smaller than a given tolerance that contains the root.

#### Convergence

An iterative method **converges with rate** *r* if:

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} \frac{||e_{k+1}||}{||e_k||^r} = C, \qquad 0 < C < \infty$$

- r = 1: linear convergence r > 1: superlinear convergence
- r = 2: quadratic convergence

Linear convergence gains a constant number of accurate digits each step (and C < 1 matters!

Quadratic convergence doubles the number of accurate digits in each step (however it only starts making sense once  $||e_k||$  is small (and C does not matter much)

### Example:

Consider the nonlinear equation

$$f(x) = 0.5x^2 - 2$$

and solving f(x) = 0 using the Bisection Method. For each of the initial intervals below, how many iterations are required to ensure the root is accurate within  $2^{-4}$ ?

*A)* [−10, −1.8] *B)* [−3, −2.1] *C)* [−4, 1.9]

# Bisection Method - summary

Mark the incorrect statement about the Bisection Method:

- $\Box$  The function must be continuous with a root in the interval [a, b]
- Requires only one function evaluations for each iteration!
  The first iteration requires two function evaluations.
- Given the initial internal [a, b], the length of the interval after k iterations is  $\frac{b-a}{2^k}$
- **H**as linear convergence

Demo: "Bisection Method"

#### Newton's method

- Recall we want to solve f(x) = 0 for  $f: \mathcal{R} \to \mathcal{R}$
- The Taylor expansion:

#### $f(x_k + h) \approx f(x_k) + f'(x_k)h$

gives a linear approximation for the nonlinear function f near  $x_k$ .



# Iclicker question

Consider solving the nonlinear equation

$$5 = 2.0 e^x + x^2$$

What is the result of applying one iteration of Newton's method for solving nonlinear equations with initial starting guess  $x_0 = 0$ , i.e. what is  $x_1$ ?

A) -2 B) 0.75 C) -1.5 D) 1.5 E) 3.0

# Newton's Method - summary

- Must be started with initial guess close enough to root (convergence is only local). Otherwise it may not converge at all.
- Requires function and first derivative evaluation at each iteration (think about two function evaluations)
- What can we do when the derivative evaluation is too costly (or difficult to evaluate)?

Typically has quadratic convergence  $\lim_{k \to \infty} \frac{||e_{k+1}||}{||e_k||^2} = C,$ 

 $0 < C < \infty$ 

Demo: "Newton's Method" and "Convergence of Newton's Method"

#### Secant method

Also derived from Taylor expansion, but instead of using  $f'(x_k)$ , it approximates the tangent with the secant line:



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Also derived from Taylor expansion, but instead of using  $f'(x_k)$ , it approximates the tangent with the secant line:

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - f(x_k)/f'(x_k)$$

Secant line:

$$f'(x_k) \approx \frac{f(x_k) - f(x_{k-1})}{(x_k - x_{k-1})}$$

• Algorithm:

#### Secant Method - summary

□ Still local convergence

Requires only one function evaluation per iteration (only the first iteration requires two function evaluations)

 $\Box$  Needs two starting guesses

Has slower convergence than Newton's Method – superlinear convergence

$$\lim_{k \to \infty} \frac{||e_{k+1}||}{||e_k||^r} = C, \qquad 1 < r < 2$$

Demo: "Secant Method" Demo: "Convergence of Secant Method"

## Nonlinear system of equations

**Goal:** Solve 
$$f(x) = 0$$
 for  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$ 

In other words, f(x) is a vector-valued function

$$\boldsymbol{f}(\boldsymbol{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\boldsymbol{x}) \\ \vdots \\ f_n(\boldsymbol{x}) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n) \\ \vdots \\ f_n(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n) \end{bmatrix}$$

If looking for a solution to f(x) = y, then instead solve

$$f(x) = f(x) - y = 0$$

#### Newton's method

Approximate the nonlinear function f(x) by a linear function using Taylor expansion:

$$f(x+s) \approx f(x) + J(x) s$$

where J(x) is the Jacobian matrix of the function f:

$$\boldsymbol{J}(\boldsymbol{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1(\boldsymbol{x})}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1(\boldsymbol{x})}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_n(\boldsymbol{x})}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_n(\boldsymbol{x})}{\partial x_n} \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } [\boldsymbol{J}(\boldsymbol{x})]_{ij} = \frac{\partial f_i(\boldsymbol{x})}{\partial x_j}$$

# Newton's method

#### Algorithm:

#### **Convergence:**

- Typically has quadratic convergence
- Drawback: Still only locally convergent

#### Cost:

• Main cost associated with computing the Jacobian matrix and solving the Newton step.

### Newton's method - summary

- ☐ Typically quadratic convergence (local convergence)
- Computing the Jacobian matrix requires the equivalent of  $n^2$  function evaluations for a dense problem (where every function of f(x) depends on every component of x).
- Computation of the Jacobian may be cheaper if the matrix is sparse.
- The cost of calculating the step s is  $O(n^3)$  for a dense Jacobian matrix (Factorization + Solve)
- If the same Jacobian matrix  $J(x_k)$  is reused for several consecutive iterations, the convergence rate will suffer accordingly (trade-off between cost per iteration and number of iterations needed for convergence)

## Example

Consider solving the nonlinear system of equations

$$2 = 2y + x$$
$$4 = x^2 + 4y^2$$

What is the result of applying one iteration of Newton's method with the following initial guess?

$$\boldsymbol{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Finite Difference

Find an approximate for the Jacobian matrix:

$$\boldsymbol{J}(\boldsymbol{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1(\boldsymbol{x})}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1(\boldsymbol{x})}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_n(\boldsymbol{x})}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_n(\boldsymbol{x})}{\partial x_n} \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } [\boldsymbol{J}(\boldsymbol{x})]_{ij} = \frac{\partial f_i(\boldsymbol{x})}{\partial x_j}$$

In 1D:

$$\frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x} \approx \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

In ND:

$$[\boldsymbol{J}(\boldsymbol{x})]_{ij} = \frac{\partial f_i(\boldsymbol{x})}{\partial x_j} \approx \frac{f_i(\boldsymbol{x}+h\,\boldsymbol{\delta}_j) - f_i(\boldsymbol{x})}{h}$$