

Newton's method

Tsung-Ming Huang

Department of Mathematics
National Taiwan Normal University, Taiwan

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Suppose that $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $f \in C^2[a, b]$, i.e., f'' exists and is continuous. If $f(x^*) = 0$ and $x^* = x + h$ where h is small, then by Taylor's theorem

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = f(x^*) &= f(x + h) \\ &= f(x) + f'(x)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x)h^2 + \frac{1}{3!}f'''(x)h^3 + \dots \\ &= f(x) + f'(x)h + O(h^2). \end{aligned}$$

Since h is small, $O(h^2)$ is negligible. It is reasonable to drop $O(h^2)$ terms. This implies

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

Hence

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

is a better approximation to x^* .



This sets the stage for the **Newton-Rapbson's** method, which starts with an initial approximation x_0 and generates the sequence $\{x_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ defined by

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

Since the Taylor's expansion of $f(x)$ at x_k is given by

$$f(x) = f(x_k) + f'(x_k)(x - x_k) + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_k)(x - x_k)^2 + \cdots .$$

At x_k , one uses the **tangent line**

$$y = \ell(x) = f(x_k) + f'(x_k)(x - x_k)$$

to **approximate the curve** of $f(x)$ and uses the zero of the tangent line to approximate the zero of $f(x)$.



Newton's Method

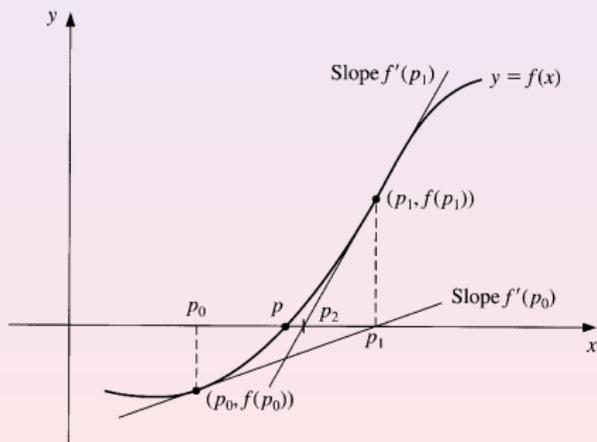
Given x_0 , tolerance TOL , maximum number of iteration M .

Set $i = 1$ and $x = x_0 - f(x_0)/f'(x_0)$.

While $i \leq M$ and $|x - x_0| \geq TOL$

Set $i = i + 1$, $x_0 = x$ and $x = x_0 - f(x_0)/f'(x_0)$.

End While



Problem

The equation $f(x) \equiv x^2 - 10 \cos x = 0$ has two solutions ± 1.3793646 . Use Newton's method to approximate the solutions with initial values ± 25 .

Requirements

- 1 Write two MATLAB functions, said `fun_f` and `fun_df`, to compute the values of f and f' , respectively.
- 2 Implement the Newton's algorithm as a MATLAB function:
 - ▶ Input arguments: `fun_f`, `fun_df`, initial value
 - ▶ Output arguments: approximated solution of the equation

