



## PROBLEM SET 9

1 A sequence  $\{\mathbf{x}^{(k)}\}$  from an iterative method is said to converge to  $\mathbf{x}$  with rate/order  $p > 1$  in a norm  $\|\cdot\|$  if

$$\frac{\|\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} - \mathbf{x}\|}{\|\mathbf{x}^{(k)} - \mathbf{x}\|^p} \rightarrow \mu \geq 0 \quad \text{as} \quad k \rightarrow \infty.$$

We write  $x_k$  instead of  $\mathbf{x}^{(k)}$  when  $x$  is a scalar. Also, when  $p = 1$ , we say that  $\{\mathbf{x}^{(k)}\}$  converges to  $\mathbf{x}$

- ★ linearly if  $\mu \in (0, 1)$ ;
- ★ superlinearly, that is, asymptotically faster than linear, if  $\mu = 0$ ;
- ★ or sublinearly, that is, asymptotically slower than linear, if  $\mu = 1$  but still  $\mathbf{x}^{(k)} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}$ <sup>1</sup>.

Suggestively, convergence is called quadratic when  $p = 2$ , cubic when  $p = 3$ , and so on. Note, however, that convergence rates can be nonintegral—for example, the classical secant method for root-finding is locally convergent with order equal to the golden ratio.

What is the best (largest) order of convergence for the following sequences?

- a)  $x_k = 3^{-k}$ .                      b)  $x_k = (-1)^k (k + 1)^{-2}$ .                      c)  $x_k = \pi^{-5^k}$ .

*Solution.* a) Since

$$\frac{|x_{k+1}|}{|x_k|^p} = 3^{k(p-1)-1} \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} \begin{cases} \infty & \text{if } p > 1; \\ 1/3 & \text{if } p = 1, \end{cases}$$

it follows that  $\{x_k\}$  converges linearly to 0 with  $\mu = 1/3$ .

b) We have  $x_k \rightarrow 0$  and

$$\frac{|x_{k+1}|}{|x_k|^p} = \left( \frac{(k+1)^p}{k+2} \right)^2 \xrightarrow{k \rightarrow \infty} \begin{cases} \infty & \text{if } p > 1; \\ 1 & \text{if } p = 1, \end{cases}$$

so the rate of convergence is sublinear.

c) This time

$$\frac{|x_{k+1}|}{|x_k|^p} = \pi^{5^k(p-5)},$$

which yields that the order of convergence is quintic, with  $\mu = 1$ .

<sup>1</sup>This follows implicitly for all the other cases by the ratio test for sequences.

2 Recall that Newton's method

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

applied to a twice continuously differentiable function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is locally quadratically convergent provided that the root  $\alpha$  is simple. If, however,  $\alpha$  has multiplicity  $m > 1$ , in other words, if

$$f(\alpha) = f'(\alpha) = \dots = f^{(m-1)}(\alpha) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad f^{(m)}(\alpha) \neq 0$$

for a sufficiently smooth  $f \in C^m(\mathbb{R})$ , then the rate of convergence is just linear. In this exercise, you will establish that the modified Newton scheme

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - m \frac{f(x_k)}{f'(x_k)} \quad (*)$$

retains the quadratic convergence speed in the presence of a root  $\alpha$  with multiplicity  $m$ .

a) Show that  $\alpha$  is a fixed point of the function  $\phi(x) = x - mf(x)/f'(x)$ . *Hint: l'Hôpital's rule.*

*Solution.* By l'Hôpital's rule and the multiplicity of  $\alpha$ ,

$$\frac{f(\alpha)}{f'(\alpha)} = \frac{f'(\alpha)}{f''(\alpha)} = \dots = \frac{f^{(m-1)}(\alpha)}{f^{(m)}(\alpha)} = 0,$$

because  $f^{(m-1)}(\alpha) = 0$  and  $f^{(m)}(\alpha) \neq 0$ . Thus  $\phi(\alpha) = \alpha$ .

b) Prove that  $\phi'(\alpha) = 0$ . *Hint: Write  $f$  as  $f(x) = (x - \alpha)^m h(x)$  for some function  $h$  satisfying  $h(\alpha) \neq 0$  before you calculate  $f'(x)$  and  $f''(x)$ .*

*Solution.* Routine calculations give

$$\phi'(x) = 1 - m + m \frac{f(x)f''(x)}{f'(x)^2},$$

with

$$f'(x) = (x - \alpha)^{m-1} [mh(x) + (x - \alpha)h'(x)]$$

and

$$f''(x) = (x - \alpha)^{m-2} [m(m-1)h(x) + 2m(x - \alpha)h'(x) + (x - \alpha)^2 h''(x)].$$

Since  $h(\alpha) \neq 0$ , we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{f(x)f''(x)}{f'(x)^2} &= \frac{h(x) [m(m-1)h(x) + 2m(x - \alpha)h'(x) + (x - \alpha)^2 h''(x)]}{[mh(x) + (x - \alpha)h'(x)]^2} \\ &\xrightarrow{x \rightarrow \alpha} \frac{m(m-1)}{m^2} = 1 - \frac{1}{m}, \end{aligned}$$

and so  $\phi'(\alpha) = 0$ , as desired.

c) Let  $e_k = x_k - \alpha$  be the error at step  $k$  and show that

$$e_{k+1} = \frac{1}{2}\phi''(\xi)e_k^2$$

for some  $\xi$  between  $x_k$  and  $\alpha$ . Now deduce that (\*) achieves quadratic convergence speed.

*Solution.* Notice first that  $e_{k+1} = x_{k+1} - \alpha = \phi(x_k) - \phi(\alpha)$  from (\*), the definition of  $\phi$  and a). Hence, by Taylor expansion and b),

$$e_{k+1} = \phi'(\alpha)(x_k - \alpha) + \frac{1}{2}\phi''(\xi)(x_k - \alpha)^2 = \frac{1}{2}\phi''(\xi)e_k^2$$

for some  $\xi$  between  $x_k$  and  $\alpha$ . Consequently, quadratic convergence rate follows from

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{e_{k+1}}{e_k^2} = \frac{1}{2}\phi''(\alpha),$$

where we have used that  $\xi \rightarrow \alpha$  as  $x_k \rightarrow \alpha$  and the continuity of  $\phi''$ .

3 Let  $\mathbf{G}: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be given as

$$\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{x}) = (g_1(\mathbf{x}), g_2(\mathbf{x}), g_3(\mathbf{x})) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{6}(1 + 2\cos(x_1x_2)) \\ \frac{1}{9}\sqrt{x_1^2 + \sin x_3 + 1.06} - 0.1 \\ \frac{1}{20}(1 - e^{-x_1x_2}) - \frac{\pi}{6} \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$ . Show that the fixed-point iteration  $\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{x}^{(k)})$  converges towards a unique fixed point for all starting vectors  $\mathbf{x}^{(0)}$  in the closed cube

$$D = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3 : -1 \leq x_1, x_2, x_3 \leq 1\}.$$

Also, verify the result numerically.

*Solution.* If we can show that  $\mathbf{G}$  is a contraction—that is, a Lipschitz function with Lipschitz constant less than 1—satisfying  $\mathbf{G}(D) \subseteq D$ , then Banach's fixed-point theorem guarantees the existence of a unique fixed point in  $D$ .

It can be seen that

$$g_1(1, 1, x_3) \approx 0.34 < g_1(x_1, x_2, x_3) \leq 0.5 = g_1(0, x_2, x_3);$$

$$g_2(0, x_2, -1) \approx -0.048 < g_2(x_1, x_2, x_3) < 0.09 \approx g_2(1, x_2, 1);$$

$$g_3(-1, 1, x_3) \approx -0.61 < g_3(x_1, x_2, x_3) < -0.49 \approx g_3(1, 1, x_3),$$

so that, indeed,  $\mathbf{G}(D) \subseteq D$ . Furthermore, from the mean value theorem we know that contractivity of  $\mathbf{G}$  is assured provided

$$\max_{i=1,2,3} \sum_{j=1}^3 \left| \frac{\partial g_i}{\partial x_j}(\mathbf{x}) \right| < 1 \quad \text{for all } \mathbf{x} \in D.$$

Some calculations yield that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \left| \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_1} \right| < 0.281, & \left| \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_2} \right| < 0.281, & \left| \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_3} \right| = 0, \\ \left| \frac{\partial g_2}{\partial x_1} \right| < 0.067, & \left| \frac{\partial g_2}{\partial x_2} \right| = 0, & \left| \frac{\partial g_2}{\partial x_3} \right| < 0.119, \\ \left| \frac{\partial g_3}{\partial x_1} \right| < 0.136, & \left| \frac{\partial g_3}{\partial x_2} \right| < 0.136, & \left| \frac{\partial g_3}{\partial x_3} \right| = 0, \end{array}$$

for all  $\mathbf{x} \in D$ , which means that

$$\max_{i=1,2,3} \sum_{j=1}^3 \left| \frac{\partial g_i}{\partial x_j}(\mathbf{x}) \right| < \max\{0.562, 0.186, 0.272\} = 0.562 < 1.$$

Hence,  $G$  has a unique fixed point in  $D$ .

The fixed point equals  $\mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{6}(3, 0, -\pi)$  and the following script in MATLAB demonstrates that the fixed-point iteration converges for any  $\mathbf{x}_0 \in D$ .

```
G = @(x) [(1 + 2 * cos(x(1) .* x(2))) / 6; ...
          sqrt(x(1).^2 + sin(x(3)) + 1.06) / 9 - .1; ...
          (1 - exp(-x(1) .* x(2))) / 20 - (pi / 6)];
fixedpt = [.5; 0; -pi / 6];

% Run fixed-point iteration with random starting points
% and compute maximum absolute error of all tests.
tests = 100;
testpoints = -1 + 2 * rand(3, tests);
for n = 1:tests
    for k = 1:13
        testpoints(:, n) = G(testpoints(:, n));
    end
end
max_abs_error = max(max(abs(testpoints - repmat(fixedpt, 1, tests))))
```

Noticeably, convergence is obtained after just 13 iterations for all the tests.

4 Consider the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} x_1^2 + x_2^2 &= 1; \\ x_1^3 - x_2 &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

which has two solutions—one in the region  $-1 \leq x_1, x_2 \leq 0$  and the other one in  $0 \leq x_1, x_2 \leq 1$ . Try a fixed-point scheme based on the formulation

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= \sqrt[3]{x_2}; \\ x_2 &= \sqrt{1 - x_1^2}, \end{aligned}$$

and show—with explanation—that it converges for suitable starting values. How would you select the starting values?

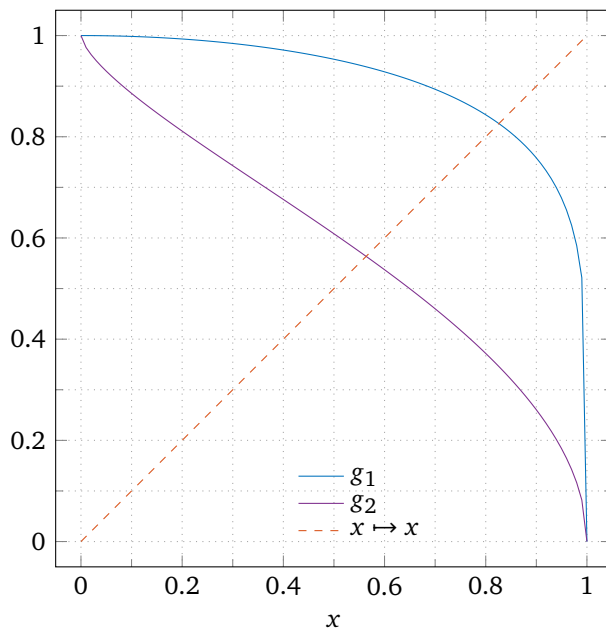
*Hint:* It is simpler to do the analysis if you consider two subsequent iterations as one. That is, consider instead the scheme  $\mathbf{x}^{(k+2)} = \mathbf{G}(\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{x}^{(k)}))$  with the appropriate  $\mathbf{G}$ . This decouples the iterations into two scalar cases.

**Solution.** The fixed-point iteration for two steps is given by

$$\begin{aligned} x_1^{(k+1)} &= \sqrt[3]{x_2^{(k)}}, & x_1^{(k+2)} &= \sqrt[6]{1 - (x_1^{(k)})^2}, \\ x_2^{(k+1)} &= \sqrt{1 - (x_1^{(k)})^2}, & x_2^{(k+2)} &= \sqrt{1 - (x_2^{(k)})^{2/3}}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $x_1^{(k+2)}$  and  $x_2^{(k+2)}$  only depend on  $x_1^{(k)}$  and  $x_2^{(k)}$ , respectively, the original iteration can be viewed as fixed-point iterations on the two separate scalar equations

$$x = g_1(x) = \sqrt[6]{1 - x^2} \quad \text{and} \quad x = g_2(x) = \sqrt{1 - x^{2/3}}.$$



**Figure 1:** Graphs of  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  and their fixed-points.

We now intend to use Banach's fixed point theorem on the  $g_i$ 's, and for each of these we need to find an interval  $[a, b]$  such that  $g_i([a, b]) \subseteq [a, b]$  and  $|g_i'(x)| < 1$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ .

Practically, we start by locating the fixed points graphically. **Figure 1** shows that  $g_1$  has a fixed point near 0.8, and  $g_2$  one near 0.5. Considering  $g_1$  first, we calculate

$$g_1'(x) = -\frac{x}{3(1 - x^2)^{5/6}},$$

which implies that  $|g_1'(x)| < 1$  at least when  $0 \leq x \leq 0.87$ . This interval, however, does not satisfy  $g_1([0, 0.87]) \subseteq [0, 0.87]$ . But since  $g_1$  is monotonically decreasing, some trial and error reveals that

$$g_1([0.76, 0.87]) \subseteq [0.76, 0.87].$$

Similarly, we can show that the two conditions are satisfied for  $g_2$  on the interval  $[0.22, 0.80]$ .

In conclusion, the system of equations has a unique fixed point in the region

$$D = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2 : 0.76 \leq x_1 \leq 0.87, 0.22 \leq x_2 \leq 0.80\},$$

and the iterations converge for all starting values in  $D$ .