
MATH 128B: QUIZ 4

41 points

We want to solve a nonlinear equation $F(\mathbf{x}) = 0$. We have a method to generate a sequence of approximate solutions: $\mathbf{x}^{(0)}, \mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \mathbf{x}^{(2)}, \dots$. Denote the error at the k^{th} step via

$$e^k = \|\mathbf{x}^{(k)} - \mathbf{x}\|_{\infty}$$

where \mathbf{x} is the true solution.

1. (Convergence) Write down a relationship satisfied by e^k and e^{k-1} given that the method converges

(a) linearly

(b) quadratically

Make sure do define any symbols you use.

$$(a) \quad e^k \leq C e^{k-1}$$

for some constant C

(C depends, potentially, on # dimensions, bounds of derivatives of F , etc..)

$$(b) \quad e^k \leq C (e^{k-1})^2$$

for some constant C

Note these relations are inequalities!

2. Give an example (just the name, not the formula) of a nonlinear solution method that converges

(a) linearly Fixed Point, steepest Descent

(b) quadratically Newton's

3. (Newton's Method) Write down the formula for an update step using Newton's Method, defining any symbols that you use.

$$x^{k+1} = x^k - \underbrace{J^{-1}(x^k)}_{\text{is Jacobian for } F} F(x^k)$$

$$(J)_{ij} = \frac{\partial F_i}{\partial x_j}$$

4. Name a possible drawback of Newton's Method and how you would address it.

- have to evaluate/invert J at each step
 → could use Sherman-Morrison formula to update J
- have to analytically solve for J
 → could use finite difference approx.
- can diverge if initial guess is far off
 → could use another method to get "close"
- Jacobian could be singular at the minimum
 ⇒ just use another method!

5. (Bonus!) Draw a self-portrait using level curves of a nonlinear function and the path of a steepest descent algorithm.

