

# Lecture 9 - part 1

## Topic: Newton's method

- Newton's method is a numerical method for solving (systems of) equations.
- Let's first look at one equation in one variable. We want to solve  $f(x) = 0$ . That is, we want to find where the graph crosses the x-axis. The idea of the method is to guess an initial point  $x_0$  (approximate solution). Approximate  $f(x)$  at  $x_0$  by its tangent line  $y = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0)$ . We can find where this tangent line crosses the x-axis. Putting  $y = 0$  and solving for  $x$  gives  $x_1 = x_0 - f(x_0)/f'(x_0)$  which we hope is a better approximation to  $f(x) = 0$ . Iterate this procedure, with the general expression  $x_{i+1} = x_i - f(x_i)/f'(x_i)$ .
- For many examples this algorithm works efficiently. In general there is a great deal to be said to investigate the subtleties of such numerical methods. Aalto offers many courses related to computational mathematics and numerical analysis.
- Now let us look at the case of  $n$ -equations in  $n$  unknowns. Let  $n = 2$  just for easy of writing, but there is no difference for larger numbers. We want to solve  $f(x,y) = 0$  and  $g(x,y) = 0$ . Put these together as a column vector. Let  $F = [f \ g]^T$  (where  $T$  denoted transpose). Let  $z = [x \ y]^T$ . So the system of equations is now written  $F(z) = 0$ . The analogue to the tangent line or plane is  $L(z) = F(z_0) + J_F(z_0)(z - z_0)$ . Letting  $L = 0$  and solving for  $z$  gives  $z_1 = z_0 - J_F^{-1}(z_0) F(z_0)$ . Here the  $(-1)$  means matrix inverse.
- Showed an example of implementing this on Maple. The code and output can be found in "materials".

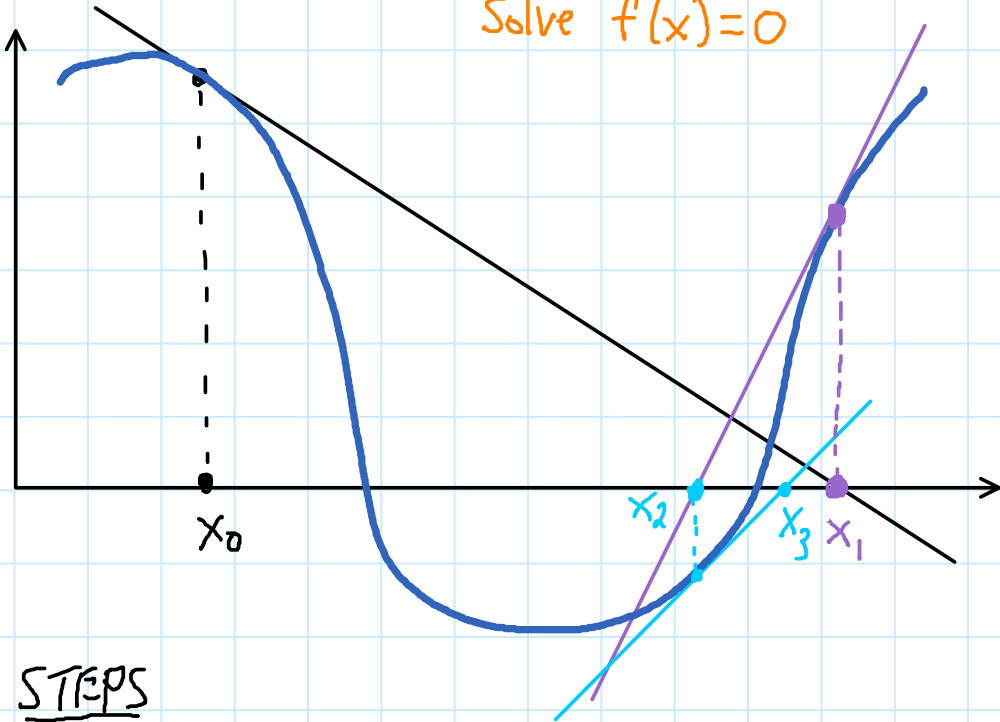
## Where to find this material

- Adams and Essex. 13.7 (see "materials" for a copy of this section.)

# Newton's method

This is a numerical method for finding zeros of a function.

Solve  $f(x) = 0$



## STEPS

- ① choose an initial guess  $x_0$
- ② draw the tangent line
- ③  $x_1$  is where this tangent intersects the  $x$ -axis (our new approximation)
- ④ Repeat:  $x_2, x_3, \dots$

Formula:

Tangent line at  $x_0$  is  $y = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0)$

Intercept is when  $y = 0$ , so

$$0 = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0)$$

Solving for  $x$  gives

$$x = x_0 - \frac{f(x_0)}{f'(x_0)}$$

as long as  $f'(x_0) \neq 0$

So the next approximation,  $x_1$ , is

$$x_1 = x_0 - \frac{f(x_0)}{f'(x_0)}$$

Repeating this:

$$x_2 = x_1 - \frac{f(x_1)}{f'(x_1)}$$

⋮

The iterative formula is

NEWTON'S METHOD

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

# Newton's method - 2 variables

We deal the case of a function  $F: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$

$$\text{Let } F(x,y) = \begin{bmatrix} f(x,y) \\ g(x,y) \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve  
 $F(x,y) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Initial guess  $\vec{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} f = 0 \\ g = 0 \end{cases}$$

To get the next iterate we solve

$$\vec{y} - F(\vec{x}_0) = J_F(\vec{x}_0) (\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0)$$

for  $\vec{x}$  when  $\vec{y} = \vec{0}$

$$-F(\vec{x}_0) = J_F(\vec{x}_0) (\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0)$$

In components

$$- \begin{bmatrix} f(x_0, y_0) \\ g(x_0, y_0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0) & \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0) & \frac{\partial g}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x - x_0 \\ y - y_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

As long as  $J_F(x_0, y_0)$  is invertible,

$$(\vec{x} - \vec{x}_0) = -J_F^{-1}(x_0, y_0) F(\vec{x}_0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}_1 = \vec{x}_0 - J_F^{-1}(x_0, y_0) F(\vec{x}_0)$$

OR

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{bmatrix} - J_F^{-1}(x_0, y_0) \begin{bmatrix} f(x_0, y_0) \\ g(x_0, y_0) \end{bmatrix}$$

This all works in any dimension:  $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\underbrace{x_{n+1}}_{\mathbb{R}^n} = \underbrace{x_n}_{\mathbb{R}^n} - \underbrace{J_F^{-1}(x_n, y_n)}_{n \times n \text{ matrix}} \underbrace{F(x_n)}_{\mathbb{R}^n}$$

# Newton's method example

①  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f(x) = x^2 - e^x + \sin(x)$

Find solutions to  $f(x) = 0$

(See maple code and PDF on MyCourses)

②  $F: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2, F(x,y) = \begin{bmatrix} x(1+y^2) - 1 \\ y(1+x^2) - 2 \end{bmatrix}$

Find solutions to  $F(x,y) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

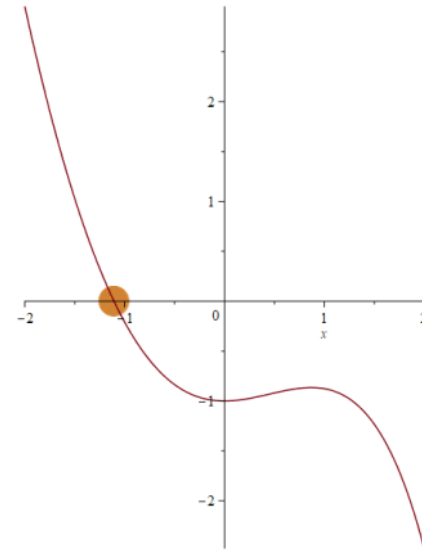
That is, find solutions to

$$\begin{cases} x(1+y^2) - 1 = 0 \\ y(1+x^2) - 2 = 0 \end{cases}$$

Think of this as the intersection of 3 surfaces

$$z = x(1+y^2) - 1 = y(1+x^2) - 2 = 0$$

①



②

