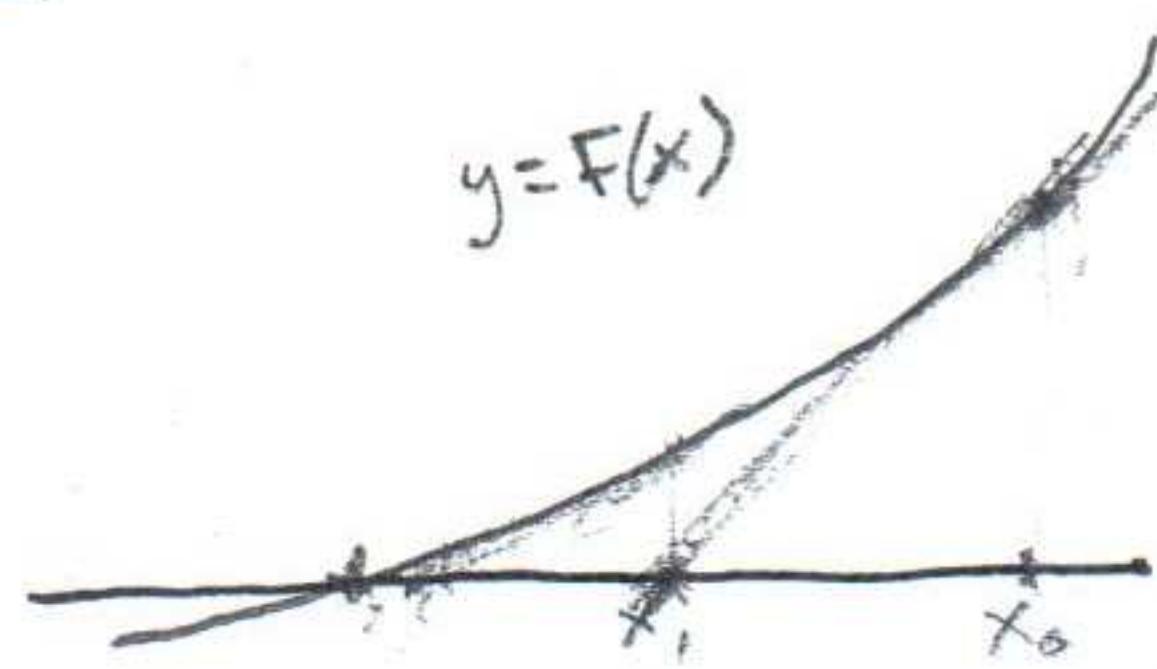


# Root finding: Newton-Raphson Method for $F(x) = 0$

Idea: Start with an initial guess  $x_0$ .



construct tangent line at  $(x_0, F(x_0))$ ,  
find x-intercept of line

$$y - F(x_0) = F'(x_0) \cdot (x - x_0)$$

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

repeat

From Taylor expansion about  $x_0$ :

$$F(x_0 + \Delta x) \approx F(x_0) + F'(x_0) \cdot \Delta x$$

//want

$$\Rightarrow \Delta x = - \frac{F(x_0)}{F'(x_0)}$$

$$x = x_0 + \Delta x$$

repeat

Need  $F(x), F'(x)$  continuous near root

Newton-Raphson algorithm for root of  $F(x) = 0$ : initial guess  $x_0$  (near root  $r$ )

Newton step:  $\Delta x = - \frac{F(x_n)}{F'(x_n)}$

$$x_{n+1} = x_n + \Delta x, n=0, 1, \dots, \text{maxIT}$$

Stop when  $|\Delta x| < \text{TOL}$  and  $|F(x_n)| < \text{TOL}$

Convergence of Newton: If  $F \in C^1$  near a simple root  $r$  ( $F(r)=0$  but  $F'(r) \neq 0$ )  
and if initial guess  $x_0$  is "sufficiently close" to  $r$   
then Newton iterates  $\{x_n\}$  converge to  $r$  quadratically.

Quadratic order of convergence:  $|x_{n+1} - r| \leq C \cdot |x_n - r|^2$

$$|e_{n+1}| \leq C \cdot |e_n|^2$$

amounts to (roughly) doubling the number  
of correct binary digits at each iteration!  
Very fast convergence!

## Newton-Raphson root finder

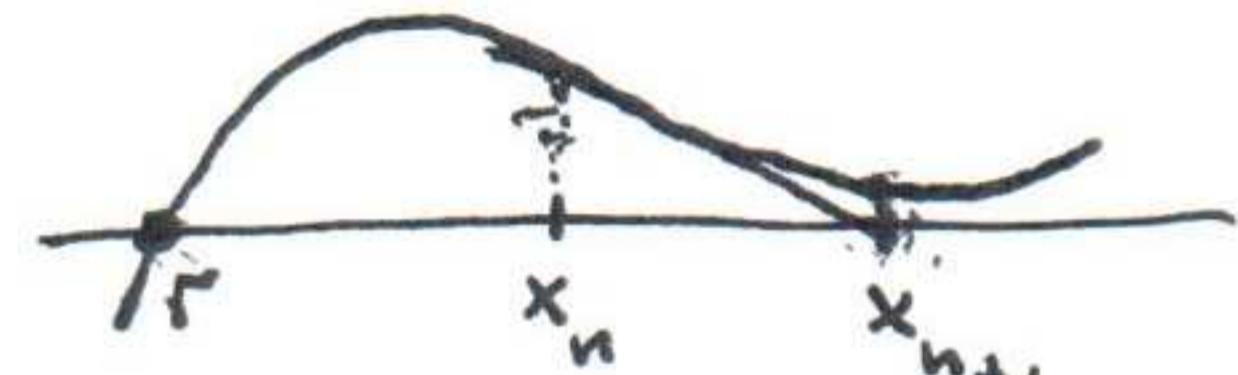
- Advantages: 1. converges quadratically fast if it converges, very fast!  
 2. applicable in any dimension.

Disadvantages: 1. Not robust: may fail to converge, unless  $x_0$  very close to root.

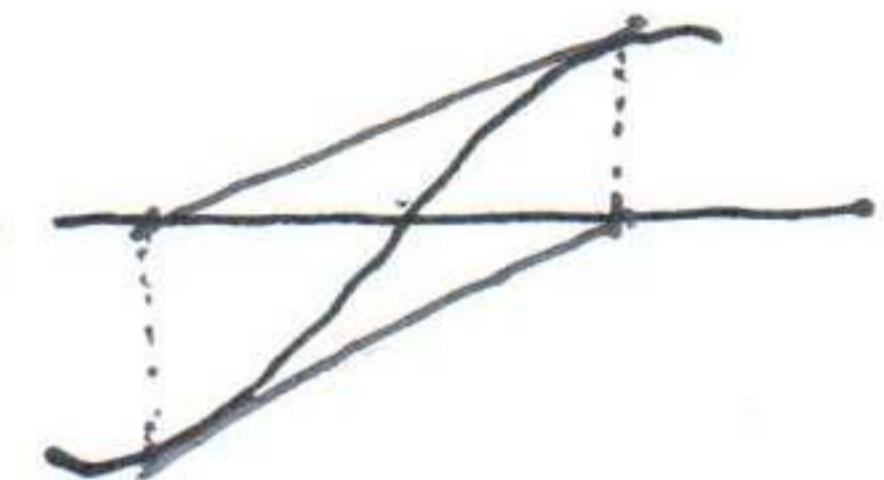
2. Requires formula for  $F'(x)$ , and be able to evaluate at any  $x_n$ , which may be unavailable and/or expensive.

3. May give false root:  $|F(x_n)| \approx 0$

must check both  $|F(x_n)| < TOL$   
and  $|\Delta x| < TOL$



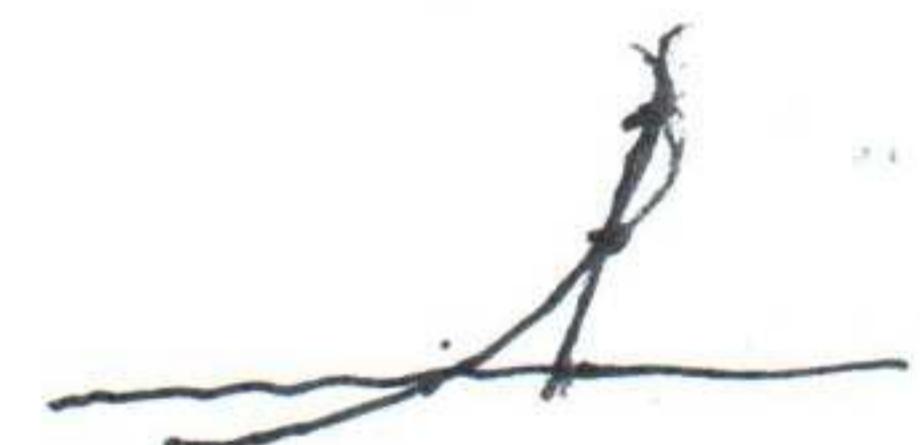
4. May converge to another root or get stuck:



Remedy for 2. Use "Secant Method": replace  $F'(x_n) \approx \frac{F(x_n) - F(x_{n-1})}{x_n - x_{n-1}}$

(needs two starting pts)

Geometrically: replace tangent by secant:



Order of convergence is  $\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \approx 1.62$ , less than quadratic  
 but still superlinear.

Newton-Raphson is a fixed point iteration:  $x = g(x) := x - \frac{F(x)}{F'(x)}$

Finding  $\sqrt{a}$  : Solve  $F(x) = x^2 - a = 0$ ,  $a > 0$ .

via Newton:  $x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{x_n^2 - a}{2x_n} = \frac{1}{2}\left(x_n + \frac{a}{x_n}\right)$  an ancient method!

$$\text{iteration of } x = g(x) = \frac{1}{2}\left(x + \frac{a}{x}\right)$$

e.g.  $\sqrt{4}$ : solve  $x^2 - 4 = 0$

$$x_0 = 1, x_1 = \frac{1}{2}\left(1 + \frac{4}{1}\right) = \frac{5}{2}, x_2 = \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{5}{2} + 4 \cdot \frac{2}{5}\right) = \frac{41}{20} \approx 2.05$$

$$x_3 = \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{41}{20} + \frac{4 \cdot 20}{41}\right) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{41^2 + 4 \cdot 20^2}{20 \cdot 41} \approx 2.000609756$$

e.g. Golden Ratio ( $\varphi$  is root of  $F(x) = x^2 - x - 1 = 0$ )

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{x_n^2 + 1}{2x_n - 1} = \frac{x_n^2 + 1}{2 - \frac{1}{x_n}} = \frac{x_n + \frac{1}{x_n}}{2 - \frac{1}{x_n}}$$

$$x_0 = 1, x_1 = 2, x_2 = \frac{5}{3} \approx 1.66, x_3 = \frac{34}{21} \approx 1.619, x_4 = 1.618, \dots$$

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Other root finding methods: Müller

Inverse Quadratic Interpolation

...

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Root finder codes: `ZEROIN(a, b, TOL)` excellent! uses Brent's method:  
bisection in  $[a, b]$ , then Inverse Interpolation

Matlab has `fzero`:  $[\text{root}, \text{Feval}] = \text{fzero}(\text{F\_handle}, \text{Init})$

$\text{F\_handle} = @\text{FCN}$  with  $y = \text{FCN}(x)$  coded in FCN.m

$\text{Init} = x_0$  initial guess for target root

$= [a, b]$  interval containing target root (better)

## Newton algorithm → code

inputs :  $x_0$ , maxIT, TOL

initialize:  $x_n = x_0$ ,  $Dx = 10$  (something big)

print labels for columns of iterates : n     $x_n$      $F_n$

for n = 1 : maxIT

evaluate F, F' :  $[F_n, DF_n] = FCN(x_n)$

print iterate : n,  $x_n$ ,  $F_n$

Test for convergence: both  $Dx$  and residual:

if  $|Dx| < TOL \cdot |x_n|$

if  $|F_n| < TOL$

DONE: root =  $\overset{x_n}{\text{found}}$  in n iter, residual =  $F_n$

break

else

stuck! at iter n,  $Dx < TOL$  but  $F_n > TOL$ , exiting

break

end

end

Perform Newton step:

$$Dx = -F_n / DF_n$$

$$x_{n+1} = x_n + Dx$$

end for-loop

if  $n \geq \text{maxIT}$

print: Out of iter, ~~try~~ try bigger maxIT...

end

$$\Delta x = -\frac{F(x_n)}{F'(x_n)}$$

$$x_{n+1} = x_n + \Delta x$$

$y = F(x)$  coded in FCN.m:

function [y, Dy] = FCN(x)

$$y = x^{1/2} - x - 1;$$

$$Dy = 2x^{-1/2} - 1;$$

end.