

Recap of last lecture

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→ Using the same computer (w/ fixed precision),
different numerical strategies (algorithms) incur different
error while performing the same numerical task.

finite (eg. 4-digit
arithmetic)

→ further do the following reading assignment -
p-25, example 6 from the textbook (Burden & Faires)

→ This example shows "nested"
strategy to evaluate f' 's incur less
error!

→ Forward error vs Backward error

Stability & convergence of numerical algorithms

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→ a general overview

* Numerical Algos. will invariably incur error

* $e_0 > 0$ — initial error (eg. $|y - y^*|$)
(in magnitude)

e_n — error after performing n iterations of the algo.

STABLE algorithm

Acceptable if $e_n \approx Cn e_0$; where C is const. not dependent on n
linear growth of error if C, e_0 are small

UNSTABLE algorithm

to be avoided if $e_n \approx C^n e_0$; $C > 1$
then exponential growth of error.

* Small changes in i/p data causes small changes in results (estimates); then algorithm is STABLE.

else unSTABLE!

* Conditionally stable: - Certain algos. are Stable for some data set & unstable for other types of data set.

Condition number: Ratio of fwd. error to bkwd error for small changes in the problem statement.

eg. Consider the root finding problem $f(x) = 0$ from last class.

$$\text{Cond}^n \text{ no.} = \frac{\text{fwd. error}}{\text{bkwd error}} = \frac{|x^* - x_0|}{|f(x^*) - f(x_0)|} = \frac{(x_0 + \Delta) - x_0}{f(x_0 + \Delta) - f(x_0)}$$

Contd...

$$\text{Cond. no.} = \frac{\Delta}{\Delta f'(x_0)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{f'(x_0)}$$

∴ Taylor expanding $f(x)$ about x_0 :

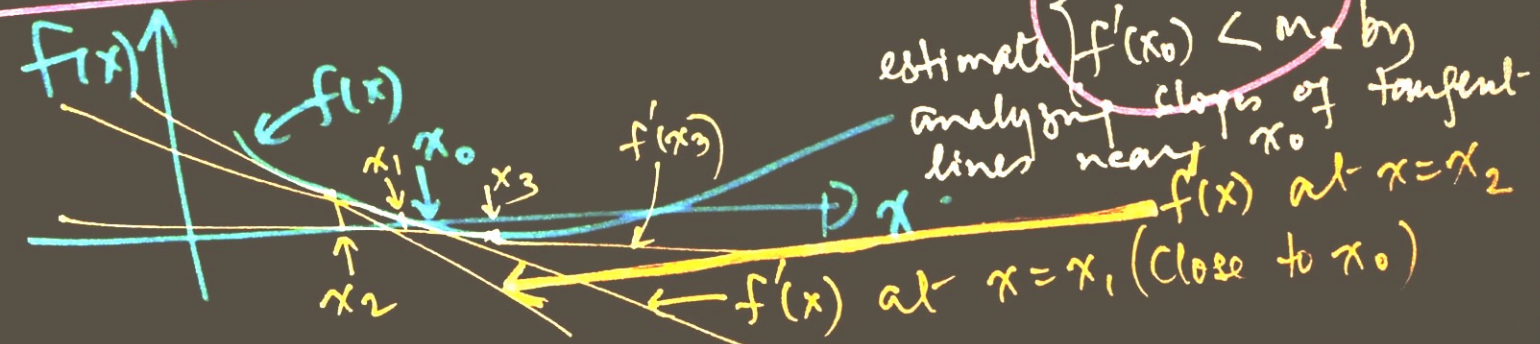
$$f(x_0 + \Delta) = f(x_0) + \Delta f'(x_0) + \text{H.O.T.}$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x_0 + \Delta) - f(x_0) \approx \Delta f'(x_0)$$

Now since we don't know x_0 ; we cannot calculate $f'(x_0)$!

$$\frac{1}{m_1} > K = \frac{1}{f'(x_0)} > \frac{1}{M_2}$$

But we know $f(x)$ in general & may be able to bound $f'(x)$ near $x = x_0$.



estimate $f'(x_0) < m_2$ by analyzing slopes of tangent lines near x_0 .

$f'(x)$ at $x = x_1$ (close to x_0)

$f'(x)$ at $x = x_2$

Convergence

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Let $\{\beta_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \rightarrow 0$ like $\frac{1}{n^p} \rightarrow 0$.

and $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \rightarrow \alpha$.

If $\exists K \neq 0$ s.t.

$$|\alpha_n - \alpha| \leq K |\beta_n| \quad \text{for large } n;$$

then $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} \rightarrow \alpha$ w/ rate of convergence $O(\beta_n)$ or $O(\frac{1}{n^p})$

* We are generally interested in the largest such value of p .

example of convergence.

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Q) Let $\alpha_n = \frac{n+1}{n^2}$; $\gamma_n = \frac{n+3}{n^3}$; $n \geq 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n+1}{n^2} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{n}{n^2} + \frac{1}{n^2}}{\left(\frac{n^2}{n^2}\right)} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n^2}}{1} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Clearly $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \gamma_n = 0$!

Find/compare the rate of convergence of α_n and γ_n to 0?

Ans:- Let $\beta_n = \frac{1}{n}$ and $\tilde{\beta}_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$.

$$|\alpha_n - 0| = \frac{n+1}{n^2} \leq \frac{n+n}{n^2} = 2\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) = 2\beta_n \text{ i.e. } |\alpha_n - 0| \leq 2|\beta_n|$$

and

$$|\gamma_n - 0| = \frac{n+3}{n^3} \leq \frac{n+3n}{n^3} = 4\frac{1}{n^2} = 4\tilde{\beta}_n \text{ i.e.}$$

$$|\gamma_n - 0| \leq 4|\tilde{\beta}_n|$$

$\therefore \{\alpha_n\} \rightarrow 0$ w/ $O\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$ and $\{\gamma_n\} \rightarrow 0$ w/ $O\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right)$.