

Root Finding Problem

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Abstract: In this note, we consider the alternative form of the rootfinding problem known as the fixed-point problem.

Keywords: rootfinding, fixed-point iteration, number Pi .

I. Introduction: root finding problem

Recall that

$$2 \int_0^{\pi} (\sin(x - \sqrt{\pi^2 - x^2}))^2 dx = \pi \tag{1}$$

Define

$$f(y) = 2 \int_0^y (\sin(x - \sqrt{y^2 - x^2}))^2 dx \tag{2}$$

The fixed-point problem is to find a value q , called a fixed point, such that

$$f(q) = q \tag{3}$$

Given $y_1 = 3$, define

$$y_{n+1} = f(y_n) \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \tag{4}$$

The idea is to generate a sequence of values that one hopes will converges to the correct result, and stop when we are satisfied that we are close enough to the limit.

II. Fixed-point iteration

$$y_1 = 3, \quad y_{n+1} = f(y_n) \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \tag{5}$$

n	y_n
1	3
2	3.139707749099462936405777233059473798139974321591021592416756848266555770293222
3	3.1415926491252556944794381440657649099212399776512705648543836226501752887271487
4	3.1415926535897932384626433239544438121837693370155904765056022068985170791187880
5	3.1415926535897932384626433832795028841971693993751058209749445923078164062860698

$$y_n \rightarrow \pi = 4 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2n+1} \tag{6}$$

$$|y_5 - \pi| = 1.39 \dots \cdot 10^{-76} \tag{7}$$

III. Convergence

Fixed point iteration for a differentiable $f(x)$ converges to a fixed point q if the initial error is sufficiently small and $|f'(q)| < 1$. The iteration diverges for all initial values if $|f'(q)| > 1$.

IV. Error sequence

If $\epsilon_n = y_n - q$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ is the error sequence we have

$$\epsilon_{n+1} = f^{(1)}(q) \epsilon_n + \frac{1}{2} f^{(2)}(q) \epsilon_n^2 + \frac{1}{6} f^{(3)}(q) \epsilon_n^3 + \dots \quad (8)$$

for

$$f(y) = 2 \int_0^y (\sin(x - \sqrt{y^2 - x^2}))^2 dx \quad (9)$$

we have ($q = \pi$)

$$f^{(1)}(\pi) = f^{(2)}(\pi) = 0, \quad f^{(3)}(\pi) = 4 \quad (10)$$

$$\epsilon_{n+1} \approx \frac{2}{3} \epsilon_n^3, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (11)$$

V. End note

$$2 \int_0^\pi (\cos(x - \sqrt{\pi^2 - x^2}))^2 dx = \pi \quad (12)$$

$$8 \int_0^\pi (\cos(x - \sqrt{\pi^2 - x^2}))^4 dx = 3\pi \quad (13)$$

$$8 \int_0^\pi (\sin(x - \sqrt{\pi^2 - x^2}))^4 dx = 3\pi \quad (14)$$

$$8 \int_0^\pi (\cos(x - \sqrt{\pi^2 - x^2}))^2 (\sin(x - \sqrt{\pi^2 - x^2}))^2 dx = \pi \quad (15)$$

VI. References

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