

Numerical Analysis

Using the N-R method, find the real roots of the equation $x^2 - 5x + 2 = 0$ correct to three places of decimals.

Soln: Let $f(x) \equiv x^2 - 5x + 2$

| x | $f(x)$ |
|-----|--------|
| 0 | 2 |
| 1 | -2 |

So there is a real root between 0 and 1.

$$f'(x) = 2x - 5$$

Now by N-R method,

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

$$= x_n - \frac{x_n^2 - 5x_n + 2}{2x_n - 5}$$

$$= \frac{2x_n^2 - 5x_n - x_n^2 + 5x_n + 2}{2x_n - 5} = \frac{x_n^2 - 2}{2x_n - 5}$$

Let the initial approximation of the root be $x_0 = 0$. [Since the root lies in $(0, 1)$].

Then the successive approximations are

$$x_1 = \frac{x_0^2 - 2}{2x_0 - 5} = \frac{0 - 2}{0 - 5} = \frac{2}{5} = 0.4$$

$$x_2 = \frac{x_1^2 - 2}{2x_1 - 5} = \frac{\left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^2 - 2}{2\left(\frac{4}{5}\right) - 5} = \frac{\frac{16}{25} - 2}{\frac{8}{5} - 5} = \frac{\frac{16 - 50}{25}}{\frac{8 - 25}{5}} = \frac{-34/25}{-17/5} = \frac{34}{25} = 1.36$$

$$= 0.4381$$

$$x_3 = \frac{x_2^2 - 2}{2x_2 - 5} = \frac{(0.4381)^2 - 2}{2(0.4381) - 5} = 0.4384$$

Thus the desired root = 0.438 [Correct upto three ~~three~~ decimal places]

x $f(x)$

| | |
|---|----|
| 1 | -2 |
| 2 | -4 |
| 3 | -4 |
| 4 | -2 |
| 5 | +2 |

So the other root lies in $(4, 5)$.

Taking initial approximation $x_0 = 4$ and proceeding as before we get,

$$x_1 = 4.6667$$

$$x_2 = 4.5641$$

$$x_3 = 4.5615$$

$$x_4 = 4.5615$$

So the other root = 4.562 (Correct upto three decimal places).

since the equation is quadratic there is no other root.

Use N-R method to deduce the iterative procedure

$x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \left(x_n + \frac{a}{x_n} \right)$ for evaluating root \sqrt{a} as the solution of the equation $x^2 - a = 0$.
Hence compute $\sqrt{2}$, using $x_0 = 1.4$.

Soln:

$$\text{Here } f(x) = x^2 - a$$

$$\therefore f'(x) = 2x$$

From N-R method,

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

$$= x_n - \frac{x_n^2 - a}{2x_n}$$

$$= \frac{2x_n^2 - x_n^2 + a}{2x_n}$$

$$\text{or, } x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \left(x_n + \frac{a}{x_n} \right) \checkmark$$

Using $x_0 = 1.4$, we get

$$x_1 = \frac{1}{2} \left(x_0 + \frac{a}{x_0} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(1.4 + \frac{2}{1.4} \right)$$

$$= 1.414$$

$$x_2 = \frac{1}{2} \left(x_1 + \frac{a}{x_1} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(1.414 + \frac{2}{1.414} \right)$$

$$= 1.41421$$

Thus $\sqrt{2} = 1.414$ [Correct up to four significant figures]

Prove that $\sqrt[k]{a}$ can be evaluated by using the iterative procedure $x_{n+1} = \dots$

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{k} \left[(k-1) \cdot x_n + \frac{a}{x_n^{k-1}} \right]$$

Hence, compute $\sqrt[3]{2}$ using $x_0 = 1.25$.

Solⁿ

Solⁿ: Let $x = \sqrt[k]{a}$

$$\therefore x^k - a = 0.$$

$$\text{Let } f(x) = x^k - a.$$

$$\therefore f'(x) = kx^{k-1}.$$

N-R method gives,

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

$$= x_n - \frac{x_n^k - a}{kx_n^{k-1}}$$

$$= \frac{(k-1)x_n^k + a}{kx_n^{k-1}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{k} \left[(k-1) \cdot x_n + \frac{a}{x_n^{k-1}} \right]$$

Using $x_0 = 1.25$, $a = 2$, $k = 3$, we get,

$$x_1 = \frac{1}{3} \left[(3-1) \cdot x_0 + \frac{2}{x_0^{3-1}} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \left[2 \cdot 1.25 + \frac{2}{1.25^2} \right]$$

$$= 1.26$$

$$x_2 = 1.259921$$

$$x_3 = 1.259921$$

$$\text{Hence } \sqrt[3]{2} \approx 1.259921$$