

## Convergence Order

2.2.1

Numerical Integration methods we've seen converge as follows — under appropriate assumptions —

$$|\epsilon_{i+1}| \approx \alpha |\epsilon_i|$$

(not the mathematically rigorous defn. — see Ralston 78, e.g.)

this leads to  $|\epsilon_i| \approx C^i$

Let's look at another very important numerical method.

Example

Square-Root Algorithm, given  $N$

$$x_0 = 1;$$

$$x_{i+1} = \frac{1}{2}(x_i + N/x_i) \text{ until } |x_{i+1} - x_i| < \epsilon.$$

Intuition: at convergence  $x = \frac{1}{2}(x + N/x)$   
... if convergence takes place  
 $\Rightarrow x = N/x \Rightarrow x^2 = N$

<u>iteration</u>	<u>N=2, Error</u>	<u>N=100 Error</u>
1	0.08578	40.50
2	0.00245	16.24
3	0.00000 2112	5.025
4	*	0.8404
5		0.03258
6		0.000052
7		*

\* Thanks to Prof. David Dobkin

Empirically, we observe that

# of places  doubles  (approximately)  
every iteration — eventually

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Note that this is ultimate behavior.

Eg. if  $N$  is very small

$$x_{i+1} \approx x_i/2 \quad \dots \text{ until we get close}$$


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# of places doubling is example of

$$E_{i+1} \approx d|E_i|^2 \rightarrow \text{called } \underline{\text{quadratic}} \underline{\text{convergence}}$$

$$E_{i+1} \approx d|E_i| \rightarrow \text{called } \underline{\text{linear}} \underline{\text{convergence}}$$


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Linear  $E_{i+1} \approx C^i$

quadratic  $E_{i+1} \approx C^{2^i}$

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this is an example of a root-finding,  
or zero-finding problem in one real variable —

$$x^2 - N = 0$$

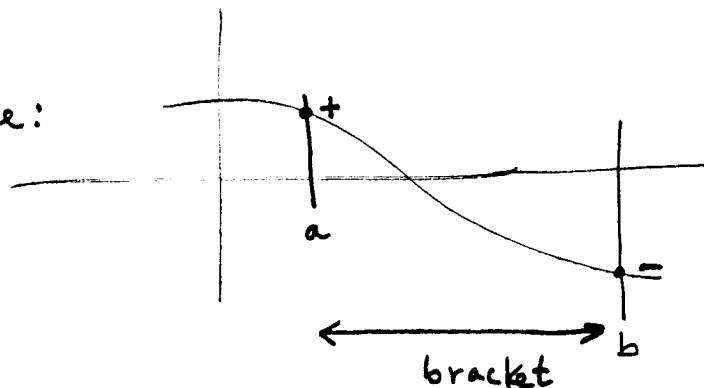
# Root Finding in one-D:

2.2.3

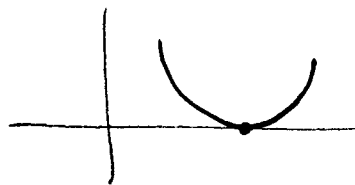
- Issues:
- choosing starting point, interval(?)
  - convergence?
  - rate of convergence?

Dangers lurk!  $\rightarrow$  insight & knowledge is crucial

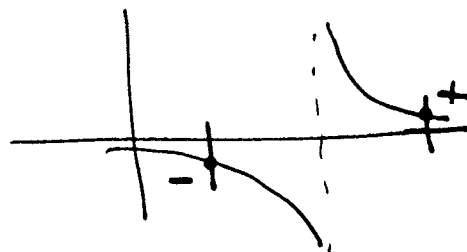
Good case:



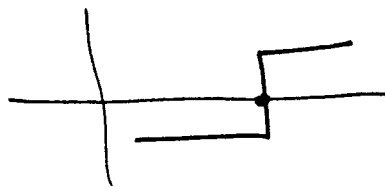
tangent:  
(double root)



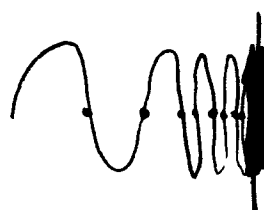
singularity:



discontinuity:



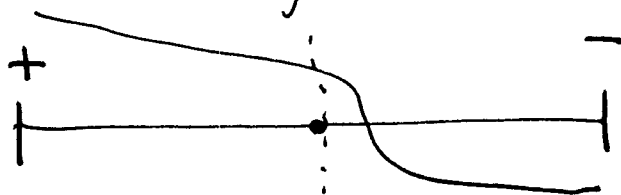
pathology:



$\sin(1/x)$  e.g.

Bisection

Simple, linear convergence,  
very reliable



bracket  
evaluate at mid point  
halve bracket

$$\epsilon_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_n$$

linear convergence

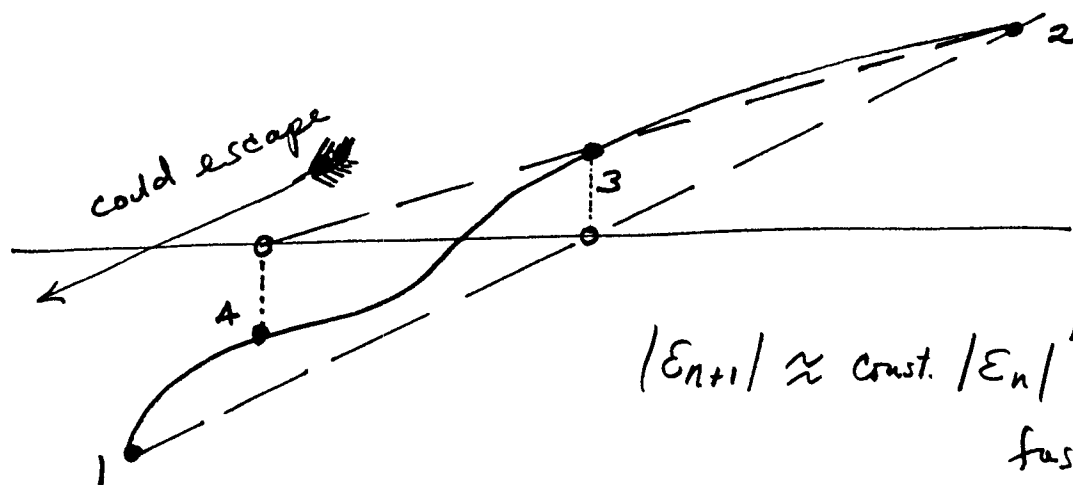
must succeed.

tolerance for termination - requires thought, use  
relative size

→ Other Classical Methods: sometimes faster,  
see [Press et al. NR] [Ralston 78] [Acton 70] more dangerous

Secant Method

Extrapolate or Interpolate linearly  
through two most recent points.



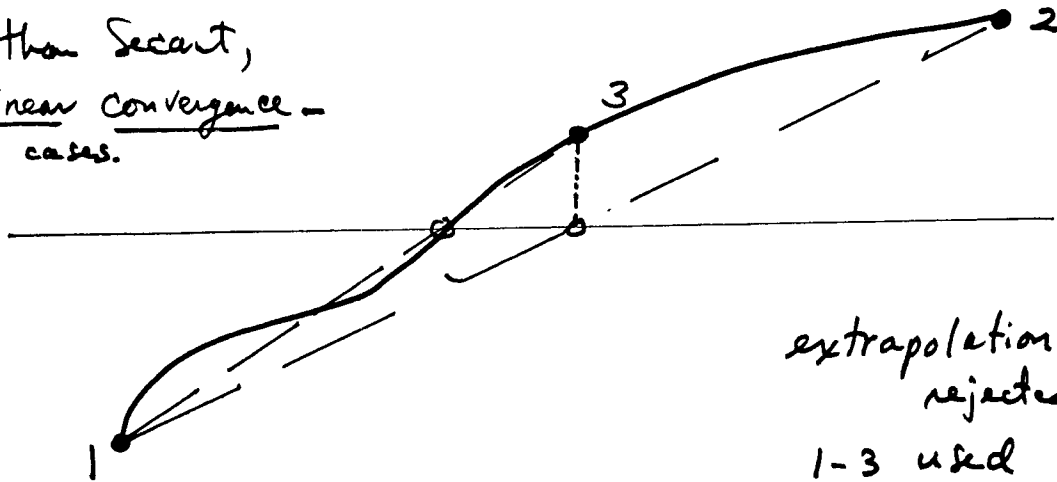
$$|\epsilon_{n+1}| \approx \text{const.} |\epsilon_n|^{1.618}$$

faster, but  
more dangerous

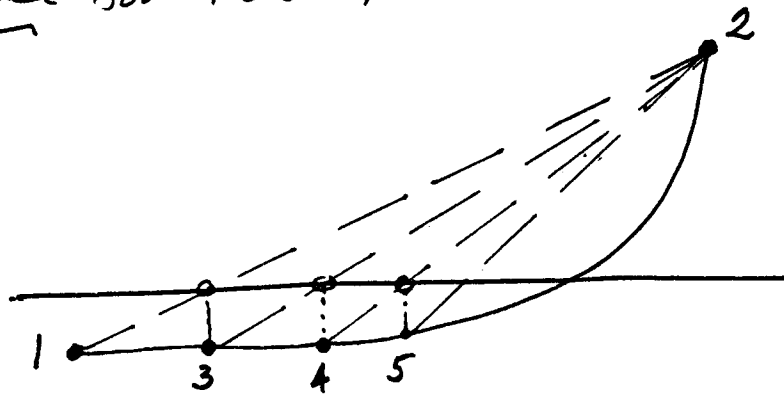
## False Position (Regula falsi)

Interpolate between most recent points  
that bracket root.

Safer than Secant,  
but linear convergence -  
in bad cases.



Bad Case for False Position:

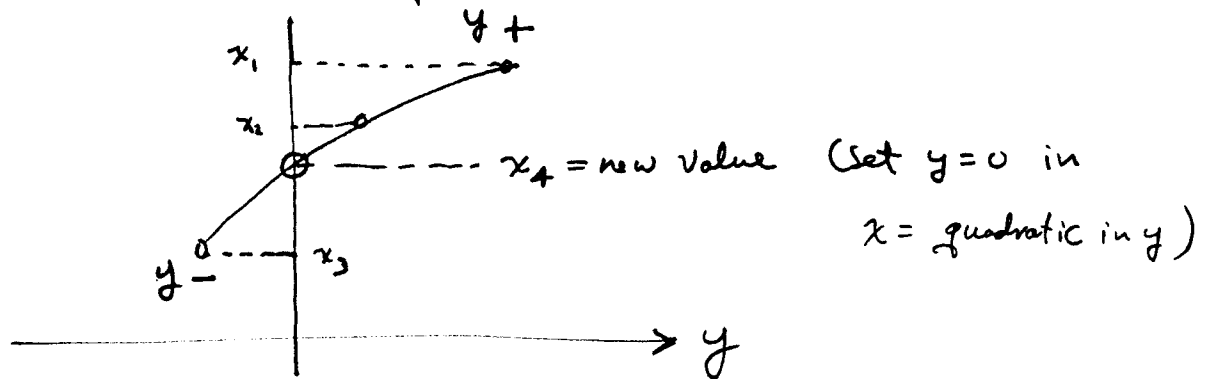


[Press et al.] Numerical Recipes recommends state-of-the-art 2.2.6

Brent's Method [Brent 73 Algorithms for Minimization Without Derivatives  
Prentice-Hall]

- Combines
- root bracketing
  - bisection (if interpolation outside current bracket)
  - inverse quadratic interpolation

Inverse quadratic interpolation



Claim is superlinear (at least in smooth cases)  
but safe (because of bisection backup)

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All these methods avoid using derivatives.

back to Sir Isaac...

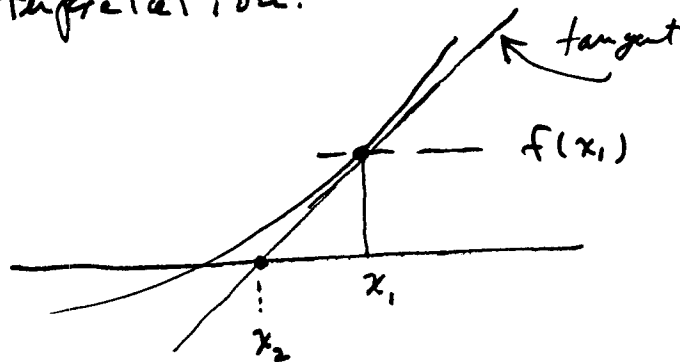
Newton-Raphson Method:

Taylor series

$$f(x+\delta) \approx f(x) + f'(x)\delta + \dots = 0$$

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

Geometric interpretation:



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

Can be extended to  $n$ -dimensions, and is very useful — when close.

BTW, back to square-root algorithm:

$$\text{Solve } f(x) = x^2 - N = 0$$

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

$$x_{i+1} = x_i - \frac{x_i^2 - N}{(2x_i)} = \frac{1}{2} \left( x_i + \frac{N}{x_i} \right)$$

which we started with today.

In the <sup>bad</sup> old days, division was done in software

$$\frac{a}{b} = a * (\frac{1}{b}) \quad \text{So we need inverse}$$

Solve  $f(x) = b - \frac{1}{x} = 0$

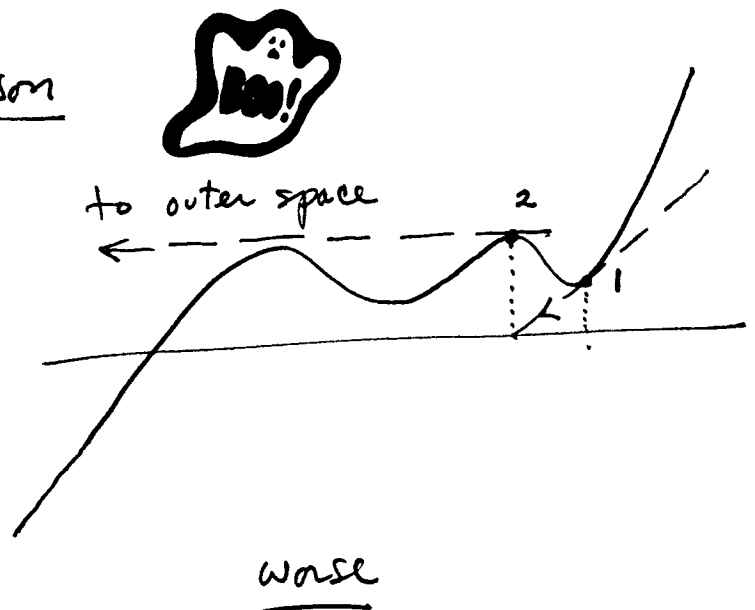
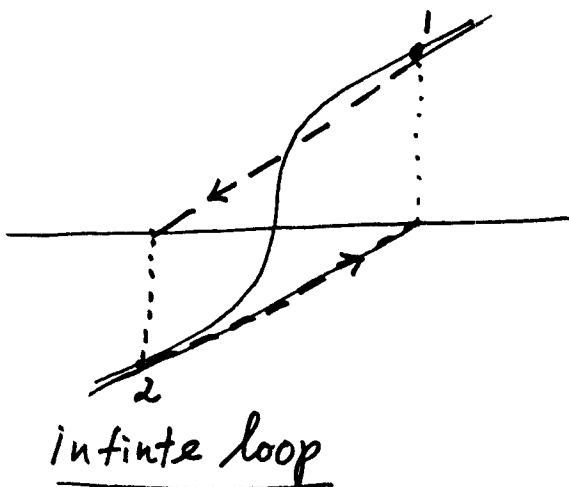
$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$$

iteration  $x_{i+1} = x_i - \frac{b - \frac{1}{x_i}}{\frac{1}{x_i^2}} = x_i * (2 - b * x_i)$

Uses multiplication & subtraction.

Requires initial estimate  $0 < x_0 < 2/b$  [Atkinson 85]

### Bad Cases for Newton-Raphson





Proof of Quadratic Convergence:

[Press et al., Atkinson, etc.]

$$f(\alpha) = f(x_n) + (\alpha - x_n)f'(x_n) + \frac{1}{2}(\alpha - x_n)^2 f''(c_n)$$

where  $c_n \in [\alpha, x_n]$

and  $\alpha$  is the desired root,  $f(\alpha) = 0$

divide by  $f'(x_n)$  (which can't be zero!)

$$0 = \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)} + (\alpha - x_n) + (\alpha - x_n)^2 \frac{f''(c_n)}{2f'(x_n)}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{x_n - x_{n+1}}$

$$0 = \cancel{x_n} - x_{n+1} + \alpha - \cancel{x_n} + (\alpha - x_n)^2 \frac{f''(c_n)}{2f'(x_n)}$$

$$\Rightarrow (\alpha - x_{n+1}) = \left[ -\frac{f''(c_n)}{2f'(x_n)} \right] (\alpha - x_n)^2$$

$$\epsilon_{n+1} \approx \text{const.} \epsilon_n^2 \quad \blacksquare$$

Good Starting Point all important

Common Strategy

- Start with bisection
- polish off with Newton-Raphson

Polynomial root finding is a specialized art -  
try to use highly evolved package, test answers

Zero-Finding:

2.2.10

In higher dimensions, we are in a jungle.

Insight, estimates, physical arguments - all help.

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Newton-Raphson is the only general tool that's practical, but must be nursed to work on problems that are at all difficult.

There's a "Basin of Convergence":

Suppose, e.g., we want to use N-R to solve cubic

$$z^3 - 1 = 0$$

$$z_{i+1} = z_i - \frac{(z_i^3 - 1)}{3z_i^2}$$

in complex  $z$ -plane.

Mark all starting points that converge to  $z=1$ .

... Julia sets, fantastic pictures ...

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Next topic: Optimization



Easier in general, especially in higher dimensions.