CS 450 – Numerical Analysis

Chapter 5: Nonlinear Equations [†]

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January 28, 2019

[†]Lecture slides based on the textbook *Scientific Computing: An Introductory Survey* by Michael T. Heath, copyright © 2018 by the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics. http://www.siam.org/books/c180

Nonlinear Equations

Nonlinear Equations

Given function f, we seek value x for which

f(x) = 0

- Solution x is root of equation, or zero of function f
- So problem is known as root finding or zero finding

Nonlinear Equations

Two important cases

Single nonlinear equation in one unknown, where

 $f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$

Solution is scalar x for which f(x) = 0

System of *n* coupled nonlinear equations in *n* unknowns, where

$$\boldsymbol{f}:\mathbb{R}^n\to\mathbb{R}^n$$

Solution is *n*-vector x for which all components of f are zero simultaneously, f(x) = 0

Examples: Nonlinear Equations

Example of nonlinear equation in one dimension

$$x^2 - 4\sin(x) = 0$$

for which x = 1.9 is one approximate solution

Example of system of nonlinear equations in two dimensions

$$x_1^2 - x_2 + 0.25 = 0$$

$$-x_1 + x_2^2 + 0.25 = 0$$

for which $\boldsymbol{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}^T$ is solution vector

Systems of Nonlinear Equations

Solving systems of nonlinear equations is much more difficult than 1D case because

- Wider variety of behavior is possible, so determining existence and number of solutions or good starting guess is much more complex
- There is no simple way, in general, to guarantee convergence to desired solution or to bracket solution to produce absolutely safe method
- Computational overhead increases rapidly with dimension of problem

Existence, Uniqueness, and Conditioning

Existence and Uniqueness

- Existence and uniqueness of solutions are more complicated for nonlinear equations than for linear equations
- For function f : ℝ → ℝ, bracket is interval [a, b] for which sign of f differs at endpoints
- If f is continuous and sign(f(a)) ≠ sign(f(b)), then Intermediate
 Value Theorem implies there is x* ∈ [a, b] such that f(x*) = 0
- There is no simple analog for n dimensions

Examples: One Dimension

Nonlinear equations can have any number of solutions

•
$$exp(x) + 1 = 0$$
 has no solution

•
$$x^2 - 4\sin(x) = 0$$
 has two solutions

• $x^3 + 6x^2 + 11x - 6 = 0$ has three solutions

Example: Systems in Two Dimensions





Multiplicity

 If f(x*) = f'(x*) = f''(x*) = ··· = f^(m-1)(x*) = 0 but f^(m)(x*) ≠ 0 (i.e., mth derivative is lowest derivative of f that does not vanish at x*), then root x* has multiplicity m



• If m = 1 ($f(x^*) = 0$ and $f'(x^*) \neq 0$), then x^* is *simple* root

Sensitivity and Conditioning

- Conditioning of root finding problem is opposite to that for evaluating function
- Absolute condition number of root finding problem for root x^{*} of f: ℝ → ℝ is 1/|f'(x^{*})|
- Root is ill-conditioned if tangent line is nearly horizontal
- In particular, multiple root (m > 1) is ill-conditioned
- ▶ Absolute condition number of root finding problem for root \mathbf{x}^* of $\mathbf{f} : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$ is $\|\mathbf{J}_f^{-1}(\mathbf{x}^*)\|$, where \mathbf{J}_f is Jacobian matrix of \mathbf{f} ,

$$\{\mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x})\}_{ij} = \partial f_i(\mathbf{x})/\partial x_j$$

Root is ill-conditioned if Jacobian matrix is nearly singular

Sensitivity and Conditioning



Sensitivity and Conditioning

• What do we mean by approximate solution \hat{x} to nonlinear system,

$$\|\boldsymbol{f}(\hat{\boldsymbol{x}})\| \approx 0$$
 or $\|\hat{\boldsymbol{x}} - \boldsymbol{x}^*\| \approx 0$?

- First corresponds to "small residual," second measures closeness to (usually unknown) true solution x*
- Solution criteria are not necessarily "small" simultaneously
- Small residual implies accurate solution only if problem is well-conditioned

Convergence of Iterative Methods

Convergence Rate

• For general iterative methods, define error at iteration k by

$$oldsymbol{e}_k = oldsymbol{x}_k - oldsymbol{x}^*$$

where x_k is approximate solution and x^* is true solution

 For methods that maintain interval known to contain solution, rather than specific approximate value for solution, take error to be length of interval containing solution

Sequence converges with rate r if

$$\lim_{k\to\infty}\frac{\|\boldsymbol{e}_{k+1}\|}{\|\boldsymbol{e}_k\|^r}=C$$

for some finite nonzero constant C

Convergence Rate, continued

Some particular cases of interest

•
$$r = 1$$
: linear $(C < 1)$

- ► r > 1: superlinear
- \blacktriangleright r = 2: quadratic

Convergence	Digits gained	
rate	per iteration	
linear	constant	
superlinear	increasing	
quadratic	double	

Bisection Method in 1D

Interval Bisection Method

Bisection method begins with initial bracket and repeatedly halves its length until solution has been isolated as accurately as desired

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Example: Bisection Method

	. ,	. ,	
а	f(a)	b	f(b)
1.000000	-2.365884	3.000000	8.435520
1.000000	-2.365884	2.000000	0.362810
1.500000	-1.739980	2.000000	0.362810
1.750000	-0.873444	2.000000	0.362810
1.875000	-0.300718	2.000000	0.362810
1.875000	-0.300718	1.937500	0.019849
1.906250	-0.143255	1.937500	0.019849
1.921875	-0.062406	1.937500	0.019849
1.929688	-0.021454	1.937500	0.019849
1.933594	-0.000846	1.937500	0.019849
1.933594	-0.000846	1.935547	0.009491
1.933594	-0.000846	1.934570	0.004320
1.933594	-0.000846	1.934082	0.001736
1.933594	-0.000846	1.933838	0.000445

 $f(x) = x^2 - 4\sin(x) = 0$

Bisection Method, continued

- Bisection method makes no use of magnitudes of function values, only their signs
- Bisection is certain to converge, but does so slowly
- At each iteration, length of interval containing solution reduced by half, convergence rate is *linear*, with r = 1 and C = 0.5
- One bit of accuracy is gained in approximate solution for each iteration of bisection
- ▶ Given starting interval [a, b], length of interval after k iterations is (b − a)/2^k, so achieving error tolerance of tol requires

$$\left\lceil \log_2\left(\frac{b-a}{tol}\right) \right\rceil$$

iterations, regardless of function f involved

Fixed-Point Iteration in 1D

Fixed-Point Problems

• *Fixed point* of given function $g : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ is value x such that

$$x = g(x)$$

 Many iterative methods for solving nonlinear equations use fixed-point iteration scheme of form

$$x_{k+1} = g(x_k)$$

where fixed points for g are solutions for f(x) = 0

- Also called *functional iteration*, since function g is applied repeatedly to initial starting value x₀
- For given equation f(x) = 0, there may be many equivalent fixed-point problems x = g(x) with different choices for g

Example: Fixed-Point Problems

- If $f(x) = x^2 x 2$, then fixed points of each of functions
 - $g(x) = x^2 2$ • $g(x) = \sqrt{x+2}$ • g(x) = 1 + 2/x• $g(x) = \frac{x^2 + 2}{2x - 1}$

are solutions to equation f(x) = 0

Example: Fixed-Point Problems



Example: Fixed-Point Iteration



Example: Fixed-Point Iteration



Convergence of Fixed-Point Iteration

If x^{*} = g(x^{*}) and |g'(x^{*})| < 1, then there is interval containing x^{*} such that iteration

 $x_{k+1} = g(x_k)$

converges to x^* if started within that interval

- If $|g'(x^*)| > 1$, then iterative scheme diverges
- ► Asymptotic convergence rate of fixed-point iteration is usually linear, with constant C = |g'(x*)|
- But if $g'(x^*) = 0$, then convergence rate is at least quadratic

 \langle interactive example \rangle

Newton's Method in 1D

Newton's Method

Truncated Taylor series

$$f(x+h)\approx f(x)+f'(x)h$$

is linear function of h approximating f near x

- ▶ Replace nonlinear function f by this linear function, whose zero is h = -f(x)/f'(x)
- Zeros of original function and linear approximation are not identical, so repeat process, giving *Newton's method*

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{f(x_k)}{f'(x_k)}$$

Newton's Method, continued

Newton's method approximates nonlinear function f near x_k by *tangent line* at $f(x_k)$



Example: Newton's Method

Use Newton's method to find root of

$$f(x) = x^2 - 4\sin(x) = 0$$

Derivative is

$$f'(x) = 2x - 4\cos(x)$$

so iteration scheme is

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{x_k^2 - 4\sin(x_k)}{2x_k - 4\cos(x_k)}$$

• Taking $x_0 = 3$ as starting value, we obtain

X	f(x)	f'(x)	h
3.000000	8.435520	9.959970	-0.846942
2.153058	1.294772	6.505771	-0.199019
1.954039	0.108438	5.403795	-0.020067
1.933972	0.001152	5.288919	-0.000218
1.933754	0.000000	5.287670	0.000000

Convergence of Newton's Method

Newton's method transforms nonlinear equation f(x) = 0 into fixed-point problem x = g(x), where

$$g(x) = x - f(x)/f'(x)$$

and hence

$$g'(x) = f(x)f''(x)/(f'(x))^2$$

- If x^* is simple root (i.e., $f(x^*) = 0$ and $f'(x^*) \neq 0$), then $g'(x^*) = 0$
- Convergence rate of Newton's method for simple root is therefore *quadratic* (r = 2)
- But iterations must start close enough to root to converge

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Newton's Method, continued

For multiple root, convergence rate of Newton's method is only linear, with constant C = 1 - (1/m), where *m* is multiplicity

k	$f(x) = x^2 - 1$	$f(x) = x^2 - 2x + 1$
0	2.0	2.0
1	1.25	1.5
2	1.025	1.25
3	1.0003	1.125
4	1.0000005	1.0625
5	1.0	1.03125

Interpolation Methods in 1D

Secant Method

- For each iteration, Newton's method requires evaluation of both function and its derivative, which may be inconvenient or expensive
- In secant method, derivative is approximated by finite difference using two successive iterates, so iteration becomes

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - f(x_k) \frac{x_k - x_{k-1}}{f(x_k) - f(x_{k-1})}$$

• Convergence rate of secant method is normally *superlinear*, with $r \approx 1.618$

Secant Method, continued

Secant method approximates nonlinear function f by secant line through previous two iterates



 \langle interactive example \rangle

Example: Secant Method

Use secant method to find root of

$$f(x) = x^2 - 4\sin(x) = 0$$

• Taking $x_0 = 1$ and $x_1 = 3$ as starting guesses, we obtain

X	f(x)	h
1.000000	-2.365884	
3.000000	8.435520	-1.561930
1.438070	-1.896774	0.286735
1.724805	-0.977706	0.305029
2.029833	0.534305	-0.107789
1.922044	-0.061523	0.011130
1.933174	-0.003064	0.000583
1.933757	0.000019	-0.00004
1.933754	0.000000	0.000000

Higher-Degree Interpolation

- Secant method uses linear interpolation to approximate function whose zero is sought
- Higher convergence rate can be obtained by using higher-degree polynomial interpolation
- For example, quadratic interpolation (Muller's method) has superlinear convergence rate with $r \approx 1.839$
- Unfortunately, using higher degree polynomial also has disadvantages
 - interpolating polynomial may not have real roots
 - roots may not be easy to compute
 - choice of root to use as next iterate may not be obvious

Inverse Interpolation

- ▶ Good alternative is *inverse interpolation*, where x_k are interpolated as function of y_k = f(x_k) by polynomial p(y), so next approximate solution is p(0)
- Most commonly used for root finding is inverse quadratic interpolation



Inverse Quadratic Interpolation

- ▶ Given approximate solution values a, b, c, with function values f_a, f_b, f_c, next approximate solution found by fitting quadratic polynomial to a, b, c as function of f_a, f_b, f_c, then evaluating polynomial at 0
- Based on nontrivial derivation using Lagrange interpolation, we compute

$$u = f_b/f_c, \quad v = f_b/f_a, \quad w = f_a/f_c$$

$$p = v(w(u - w)(c - b) - (1 - u)(b - a))$$

$$q = (w - 1)(u - 1)(v - 1)$$

then new approximate solution is b + p/q

• Convergence rate is normally $r \approx 1.839$

 \langle interactive example \rangle

Example: Inverse Quadratic Interpolation

Use inverse quadratic interpolation to find root of

$$f(x) = x^2 - 4\sin(x) = 0$$

• Taking x = 1, 2, and 3 as starting values, we obtain

x	f(x)	h
1.000000	-2.365884	
2.000000	0.362810	
3.000000	8.435520	
1.886318	-0.244343	-0.113682
1.939558	0.030786	0.053240
1.933742	-0.000060	-0.005815
1.933754	0.000000	0.000011
1.933754	0.000000	0.000000

Linear Fractional Interpolation

Interpolation using rational fraction of form

$$\phi(x) = \frac{x-u}{vx-w}$$

is especially useful for finding zeros of functions having horizontal or vertical asymptotes

- Given approximate solution values *a*, *b*, *c*, with function values f_a , f_b , f_c , next approximate solution is c + h, where

$$h = \frac{(a-c)(b-c)(f_a - f_b)f_c}{(a-c)(f_c - f_b)f_a - (b-c)(f_c - f_a)f_b}$$

Convergence rate is normally r ≈ 1.839, same as for quadratic interpolation (inverse or regular)

Example: Linear Fractional Interpolation

Use linear fractional interpolation to find root of

$$f(x) = x^2 - 4\sin(x) = 0$$

• Taking x = 1, 2, and 3 as starting values, we obtain

X	f(x)	h
1.000000	-2.365884	
2.000000	0.362810	
3.000000	8.435520	
1.906953	-0.139647	-1.093047
1.933351	-0.002131	0.026398
1.933756	0.000013	-0.000406
1.933754	0.000000	-0.00003

 \langle interactive example \rangle

Hybrid Methods

Safeguarded Methods

- Rapidly convergent methods for solving nonlinear equations may not converge unless started close to solution, but safe methods are slow
- Hybrid methods combine features of both types of methods to achieve both speed and reliability
- Use rapidly convergent method, but maintain bracket around solution
- If next approximate solution given by fast method falls outside bracketing interval, perform one iteration of safe method, such as bisection

Safeguarded Methods, continued

- Fast method can then be tried again on smaller interval with greater chance of success
- Ultimately, convergence rate of fast method should prevail
- Hybrid approach seldom does worse than safe method, and usually does much better
- Popular combination is bisection and inverse quadratic interpolation, for which no derivatives required

Zeros of Polynomials

For polynomial p(x) of degree n, one may want to find all of its n zeros, which may be complex even if coefficients are real

Several approaches are available

- Use root-finding method such as Newton's or Muller's method to find one root, deflate it out, and repeat
- Form companion matrix of polynomial and use eigenvalue routine to compute all its eigenvalues
- Use method designed specifically for finding all roots of polynomial, such as Jenkins-Traub

Newton's Method for Nonlinear Systems

Fixed-Point Iteration

• *Fixed-point problem* for $\boldsymbol{g} \colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$ is to find vector \boldsymbol{x} such that

$$\boldsymbol{x} = \boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{x})$$

Corresponding *fixed-point iteration* is

$$oldsymbol{x}_{k+1} = oldsymbol{g}(oldsymbol{x}_k)$$

- If ρ(G(x*)) < 1, where ρ is spectral radius and G(x) is Jacobian matrix of g evaluated at x, then fixed-point iteration converges if started close enough to solution
- Convergence rate is normally linear, with constant C given by spectral radius ρ(G(x*))
- If $\boldsymbol{G}(\boldsymbol{x}^*) = \boldsymbol{O}$, then convergence rate is at least quadratic

Newton's Method

In n dimensions, Newton's method has form

$$\boldsymbol{x}_{k+1} = \boldsymbol{x}_k - \boldsymbol{J}(\boldsymbol{x}_k)^{-1}\boldsymbol{f}(\boldsymbol{x}_k)$$

where J(x) is Jacobian matrix of f,

$$\{\boldsymbol{J}(\boldsymbol{x})\}_{ij} = \frac{\partial f_i(\boldsymbol{x})}{\partial x_j}$$

In practice, we do not explicitly invert J(xk), but instead solve linear system

$$\boldsymbol{J}(\boldsymbol{x}_k)\boldsymbol{s}_k = -\boldsymbol{f}(\boldsymbol{x}_k)$$

for *Newton step* s_k , then take as next iterate

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{x}_k + \mathbf{s}_k$$

Example: Newton's Method

Use Newton's method to solve nonlinear system

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + 2x_2 - 2 \\ x_1^2 + 4x_2^2 - 4 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\mathsf{Jacobian matrix is } \mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2x_1 & 8x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathsf{If we take } \mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}^T, \mathsf{then}$$

$$f(\mathbf{x}_0) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 13 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}_0) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 16 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathsf{Solving system} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 16 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{s}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -13 \end{bmatrix} \text{ gives } \mathbf{s}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} -1.83 \\ -0.58 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ so}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{s}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} -0.83 & 1.42 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

Example, continued

Evaluating at new point,

$$\boldsymbol{f}(\boldsymbol{x}_1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\ 4.72 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{J}_f(\boldsymbol{x}_1) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2\\ -1.67 & 11.3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\succ} \text{ Solving system } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2\\ -1.67 & 11.3 \end{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\ -4.72 \end{bmatrix} \text{ gives}$$

$$\boldsymbol{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.64 & -0.32 \end{bmatrix}^T, \text{ so } \boldsymbol{x}_2 = \boldsymbol{x}_1 + \boldsymbol{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -0.19 & 1.10 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

$$\boldsymbol{\vdash} \text{ Evaluating at new point,}$$

$$\boldsymbol{f}(\boldsymbol{x}_2) = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\ 0.83 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{J}_f(\boldsymbol{x}_2) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2\\ -0.38 & 8.76 \end{bmatrix}$$

• Iterations eventually convergence to solution $x^* = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^T$

\langle interactive example \rangle

Convergence of Newton's Method

Differentiating corresponding fixed-point operator

$$\boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{x}) = \boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{J}(\boldsymbol{x})^{-1}\boldsymbol{f}(\boldsymbol{x})$$

and evaluating at solution x^* gives

$$G(x^*) = I - (J(x^*)^{-1}J(x^*) + \sum_{i=1}^n f_i(x^*)H_i(x^*)) = O$$

where $H_i(x)$ is component matrix of derivative of $J(x)^{-1}$

- Convergence rate of Newton's method for nonlinear systems is normally *quadratic*, provided Jacobian matrix J(x*) is nonsingular
- But it must be started close enough to solution to converge

Cost of Newton's Method

Cost per iteration of Newton's method for dense problem in n dimensions is substantial

- Computing Jacobian matrix costs n^2 scalar function evaluations
- Solving linear system costs $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$ operations

Secant Updating Methods

Secant Updating Methods

- Secant updating methods reduce cost by
 - Using function values at successive iterates to build approximate Jacobian and avoiding explicit evaluation of derivatives
 - Updating factorization of approximate Jacobian rather than refactoring it each iteration
- Most secant updating methods have superlinear but not quadratic convergence rate
- Secant updating methods often cost less overall than Newton's method because of lower cost per iteration

Broyden's Method

- Broyden's method is typical secant updating method
- Beginning with initial guess x₀ for solution and initial approximate Jacobian B₀, following steps are repeated until convergence

Motivation for formula for B_{k+1} is to make least change to B_k subject to satisfying secant equation

$$\boldsymbol{B}_{k+1}(\boldsymbol{x}_{k+1}-\boldsymbol{x}_k) = \boldsymbol{f}(\boldsymbol{x}_{k+1}) - \boldsymbol{f}(\boldsymbol{x}_k)$$

In practice, factorization of B_k is updated instead of updating B_k directly, so total cost per iteration is only O(n²)

Example: Broyden's Method

Use Broyden's method to solve nonlinear system

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 + 2x_2 - 2 \\ x_1^2 + 4x_2^2 - 4 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}$$

▶ If
$$\mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}^T$$
, then $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_0) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 13 \end{bmatrix}^T$, and we choose

$$\boldsymbol{B}_0 = \boldsymbol{J}_f(\boldsymbol{x}_0) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 16 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving system

gives
$$\mathbf{s}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} -1.83\\ -0.58 \end{bmatrix}$$
, so $\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{x}_0 + \mathbf{s}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} -0.83\\ 1.42 \end{bmatrix}$

Example, continued

• Evaluating at new point
$$\mathbf{x}_1$$
 gives $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\ 4.72 \end{bmatrix}$, so $\mathbf{y}_0 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_1) - \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_0) = \begin{bmatrix} -3\\ -8.28 \end{bmatrix}$

From updating formula, we obtain

$$\boldsymbol{B}_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 16 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ -2.34 & -0.74 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -0.34 & 15.3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving system

gives
$$\mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.59\\ -0.30 \end{bmatrix}$$
, so $\mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{s}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -0.24\\ 1.120 \end{bmatrix}$

Example, continued

• Evaluating at new point \mathbf{x}_2 gives $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_2) = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\ 1.08 \end{bmatrix}$, so

$$\mathbf{y}_1 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_2) - \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\ -3.64 \end{bmatrix}$$

From updating formula, we obtain

$$\boldsymbol{B}_{2} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -0.34 & 15.3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1.46 & -0.73 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1.12 & 14.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\blacktriangleright \text{ Iterations continue until convergence to solution } \boldsymbol{x}^{*} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

 \langle interactive example \rangle

Robust Newton-Like Methods

- Newton's method and its variants may fail to converge when started far from solution
- Safeguards can enlarge region of convergence of Newton-like methods
- Simplest precaution is *damped Newton method*, in which new iterate is

$$\mathbf{x}_{k+1} = \mathbf{x}_k + \alpha_k \mathbf{s}_k$$

where s_k is Newton (or Newton-like) step and α_k is scalar parameter chosen to ensure progress toward solution

Parameter α_k reduces Newton step when it is too large, but α_k = 1 suffices near solution and still yields fast asymptotic convergence rate

Trust-Region Methods

- Another approach is to maintain estimate of *trust region* where Taylor series approximation, upon which Newton's method is based, is sufficiently accurate for resulting computed step to be reliable
- Adjusting size of trust region to constrain step size when necessary usually enables progress toward solution even starting far away, yet still permits rapid converge once near solution
- Unlike damped Newton method, trust region method may modify direction as well as length of Newton step
- More details on this approach will be given in Chapter 6

Summary – Solving Nonlinear Equations

- Methods for solving nonlinear equations in 1D include safe but slow methods, such as interval bisection, and fast but risky methods, such as Newton or secant
- Hybrid methods combine best features of both types of methods to achieve rapid but still guaranteed convergence
- Safe methods do not generalize readily to *n* dimensions, but Newton and secant do, and they maintain their rapid asymptotic convergence
- Secant updating methods (Broyden) significantly reduce overhead of Newton's method while still converging superlinearly
- Line search or trust region strategy can improve robustness of Newton-like methods