

# Newton's method

## ● Introduction

Newton's method is the way we can use it to find our roots. Meantime, we know the minimizer or maximizer appear in roots of the derivative (solutions to  $f'(x)=0$ ). According to Figure 1,

$$f'(x) = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{f(x_1) - f(x_2)}{x_1 - x_2}, \quad f'(x) * (x_2 - x_1) = f(x_1) - f(x_2)$$

$$x_2 = x_1 - \frac{f(x_1) - f(x_2)}{f'(x_1)}, \quad \text{so } x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{f(x_k)}{f'(x_k)}.$$

The function which is twice differentiable is  $f(x)$ . The minimum value appears in  $f'(x)$

$$= 0, \text{ so we can write } x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{f(x_k)}{f'(x_k)}.$$

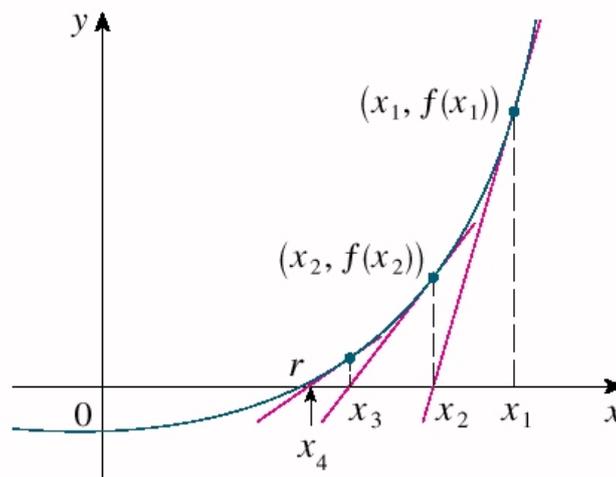


Figure 1 Newton's method

## ● Question1

Implement a Newton's method with the following specs:

Input: iteration number, initial point

Output: the minimizer, graph of the objective function with marks that illustrate the algorithm process

(a)  $f(x) = x^2/2 - \sin(x)$

```

t = 0:0.01:3;           %plot problem1
plot(t,(t.^2)/2-sin(t));
times = 5;             %iteration number
xk = 1.5;              %initial point
hold on;
plot(xk,(xk.^2)/2-sin(xk),'rx') %plot initial point

syms x;
g = (x.^2)/2-sin(x);  %problem1

g1 = diff(g);         %find first differential equation
g2 = diff(g1);        %find second differential equation

for i=1:times;        %for times of loop
    x=xk;              %substitute variable
    value1=subs(g1);  %get first differential value
    value2=subs(g2);  %get second differential value
    xk = xk - value1/value2; %newton's method
    plot(xk,(xk.^2)/2-sin(xk),'rx') %plot point
end

```

By using iteration number = 5 and initial point = 1.5, I got Figure 2 as my output. The minimizer is at  $x = 0.739085133215161$ .

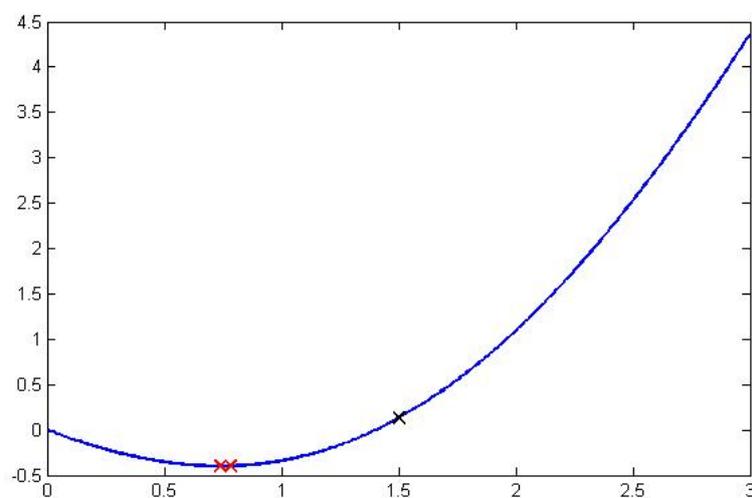


Figure 2 output of problem 1

**(b)  $f(x) = x^4 - 14x^3 + 60x^2 - 70x$**

```

t = 0:0.01:2;                                %plot problem2
plot(t,t.^4 - 14*t.^3 + 60*t.^2 - 70*t);
times = 5;                                    %iteration number
xk = 1.5;                                      %initial point
hold on;
plot(xk,xk.^4 - 14*xk.^3 + 60*xk.^2 - 70*xk,'rx') %plot initial point

syms x;
g = x.^4 - 14*x.^3 + 60*x.^2 - 70*x;         %problem2

g1 = diff(g);                                 %find first differential equation
g2 = diff(g1);                                %find second differential equation

for i=1:times;                                %for times of loop
    x=xk;                                     %substitute variable
    value1=subs(g1);                          %get first differential value
    value2=subs(g2);                          %get second differential value
    xk = xk - value1/value2;                  %newton's method
    plot(xk,xk.^4 - 14*xk.^3 + 60*xk.^2 - 70*xk,'rx') %plot point
end

```

By using iteration number = 5 and initial point = 1.5, I got Figure 3 as my output. The minimizer is at  $x = 0.780884051178671$ .

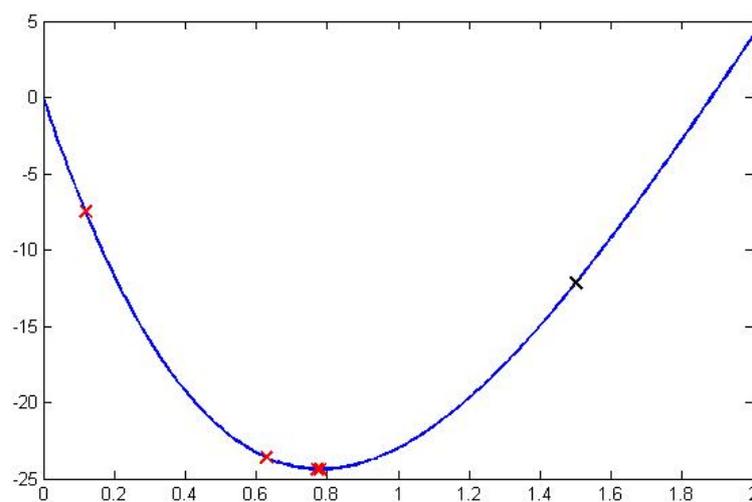


Figure 3 output of problem 2

(c)  $f(x) = 8e^{(1-x)} + 7\ln(x)$

```

t = 1:0.01:2;                                %plot problem3
plot(t,8*exp(1-t) + 7*log(t));
times = 5;                                    %iteration number
xk = 1.5;                                     %initial point
hold on;
plot(xk,8*exp(1-xk) + 7*log(xk),'rx')        %plot initial point

syms x;
g = 8*exp(1-x) + 7*log(x);                   %problem3

g1 = diff(g);                                %find first differential equation
g2 = diff(g1);                               %find second differential equation

for i=1:times;                                %for times of loop
    x=xk;                                     %substitute variable
    value1=subs(g1);                          %get first differential value
    value2=subs(g2);                          %get second differential value
    xk = xk - value1/value2;                  %newton's method
    plot(xk,8*exp(1-xk) + 7*log(xk),'rx')    %plot point
end

```

By using iteration number = 5 and initial point = 1.5, I got Figure 4 as my output. The minimizer is at  $x = 1.609381067723078$ .

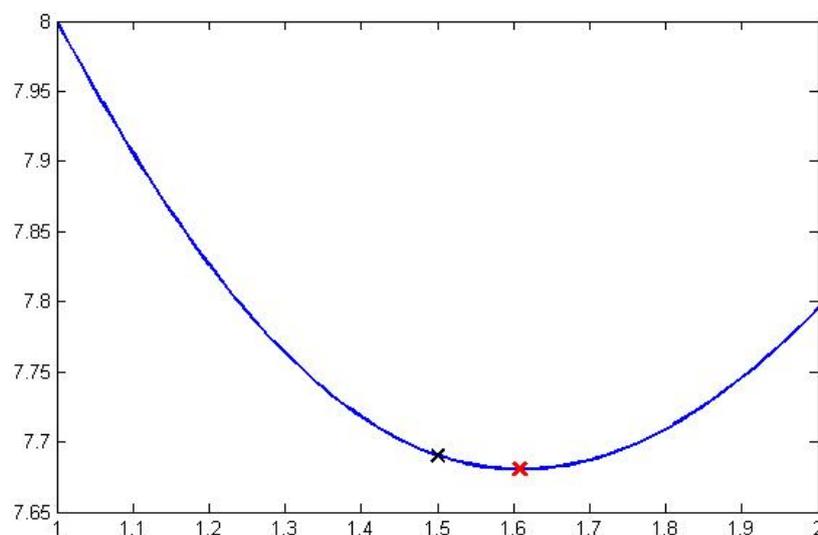


Figure 4 output of problem 3

## ● Question2

Describe a few situations in which your Newton's method can fail.

There are three situations as following: If our function is  $f(x)$ , then

**(a) There are no roots in  $f'(x)$ , for example,  $f'(x) = (x-2)^2+1$ .**

Using iteration number = 3 and initial point = 1.5 presents in Figure 5.

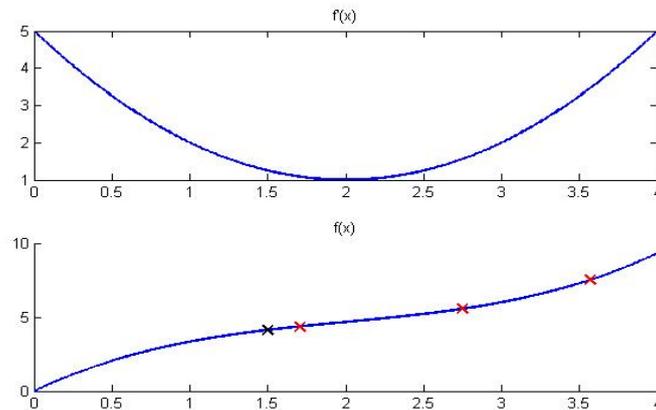


Figure 5  $f'(x) = (x-2)^2+1$

**(b) There are two roots in  $f'(x)$ , for example,  $f'(x) = (x-2)^2-1$ .**

Using iteration number = 3 and initial point = 1.5 presents in Figure 6. There are two roots in 1 and 3. If we choose initial point closed to 1, the minimizer is 1.

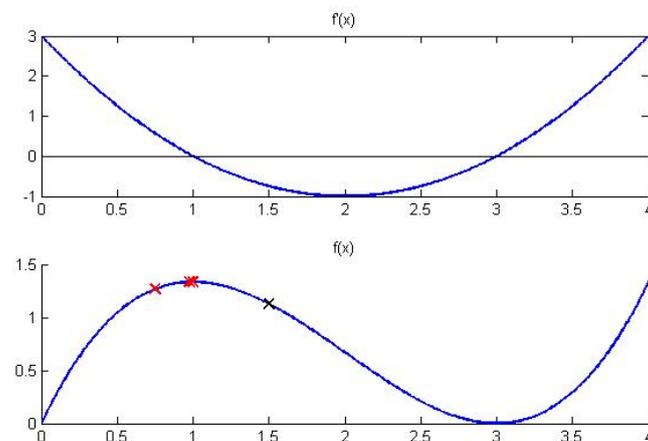


Figure 6  $f'(x) = (x-2)^2-1$

**(c) There are more roots in  $f'(x)$ , for example,  $f'(x) = \sin(x)$ .**

It's the same with (b). Our maximizer or minimizer will depends on which point we selected. We can find the final point which is the most close to our root.

**(d) If we select the value on the point,  $f''(x) = 0$ .**

For the function aboded mentioned,  $f(x) = (x-2)^2-1$ . Using  $x = 2$ , then it won't work.

(e) If the function cannot be differentiable, like  $f(x) = x^{1/5}$  at  $x = 0$ .

Using iteration number = 2 and initial point = 0.5 presents in Figure 7. It cannot converge successfully.

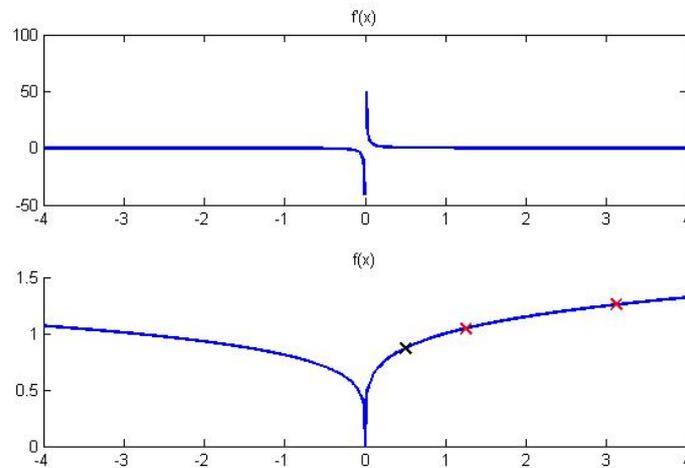


Figure 7  $f(x) = x^{1/5}$

### ● Question3

Describe the type of functions that your Newton's method can converge to the minimizer using only one iteration.

If  $f'(x)$  = linear function and  $f''(x)$  = constant, then it only needs once iteration.

For example,

$$f(x) = 3x^2 + 6x$$

$$f'(x) = 6x + 6$$

$$f''(x) = 6$$

We can see Figure 8 as a result by iteration number = 5 and initial point = 0.5.

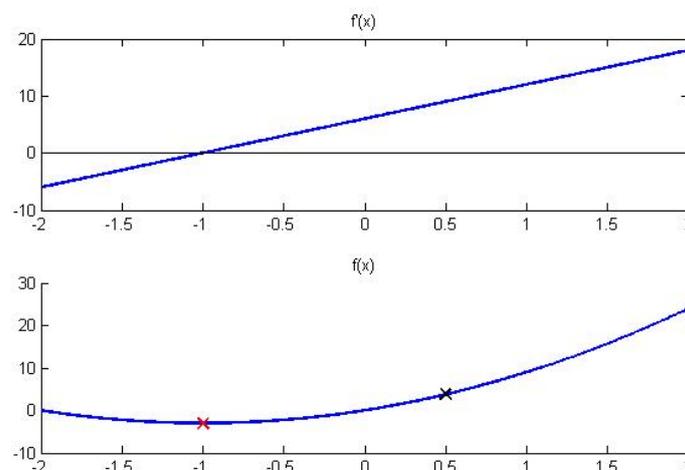


Figure 8  $f(x) = 3x^2 + 6x$