

# Roots of Equations

Open Methods  
Newton-Raphson

# Nonlinear Equation Solvers

## Bracketing

Bisection  
False Position  
(Regula-Falsi)

## Graphical

## Open Methods

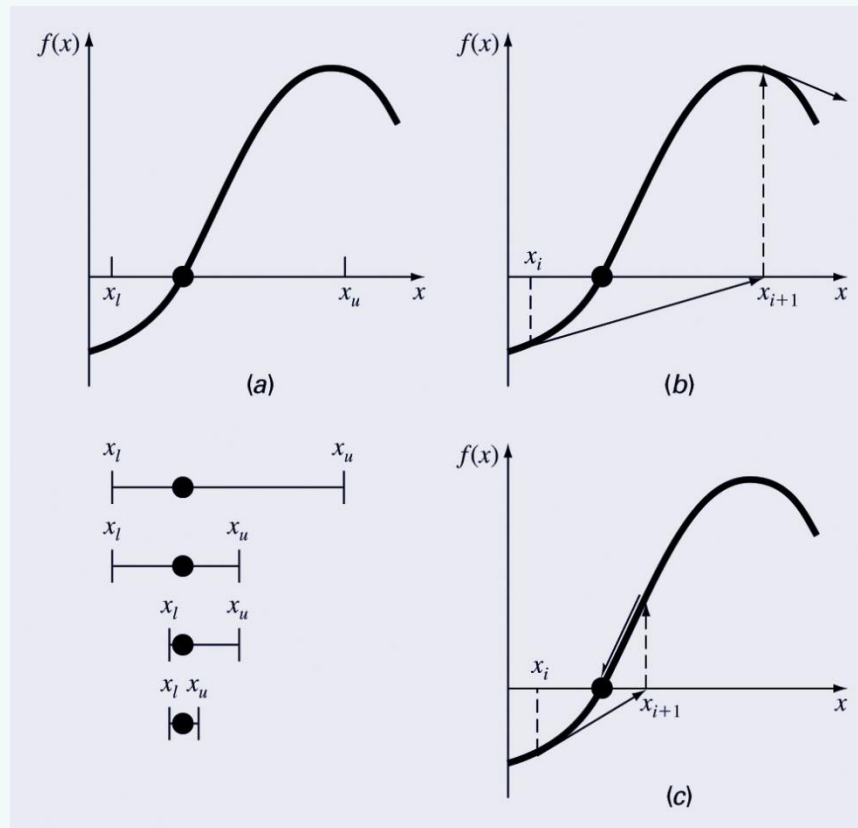
Newton Raphson  
Secant

All Iterative

# Open Methods

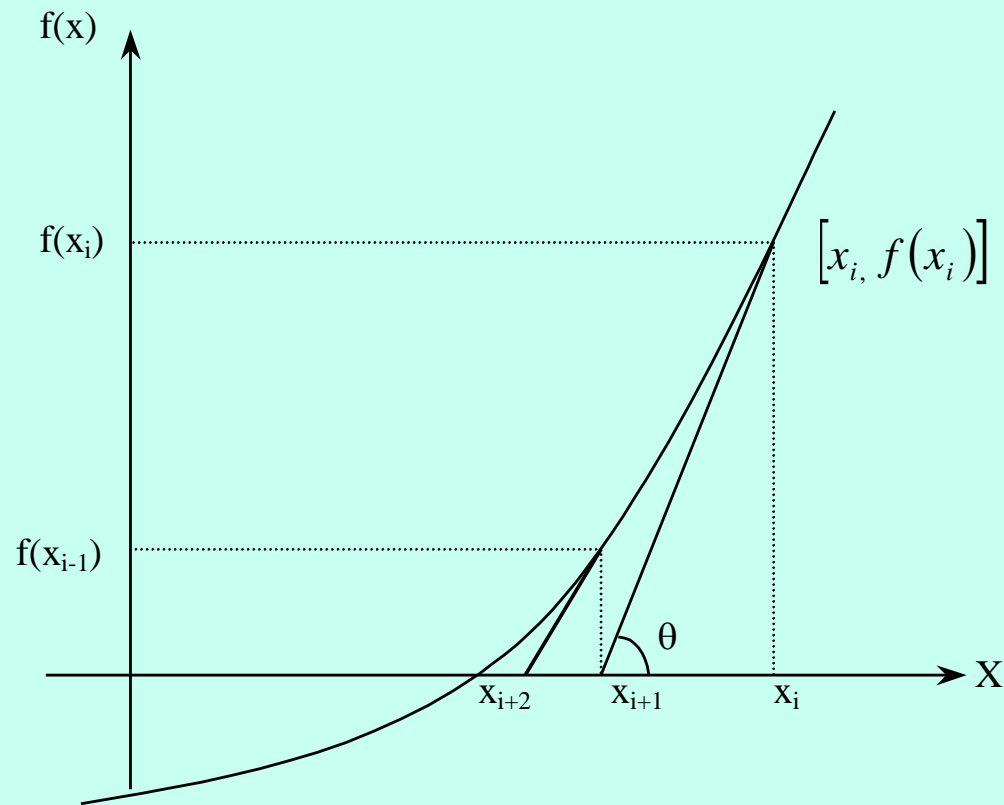
- *Open methods* differ from bracketing methods, in that open methods require only a single starting value (NR).
- Used in computer programs today to solve extremely complicated equations
- Open methods may diverge as the computation progresses, but when they do converge, they usually do so much faster than bracketing methods.

# Graphical Comparison of Methods



- a) Bracketing method
- b) Diverging open method
- c) Converging open method - note speed!

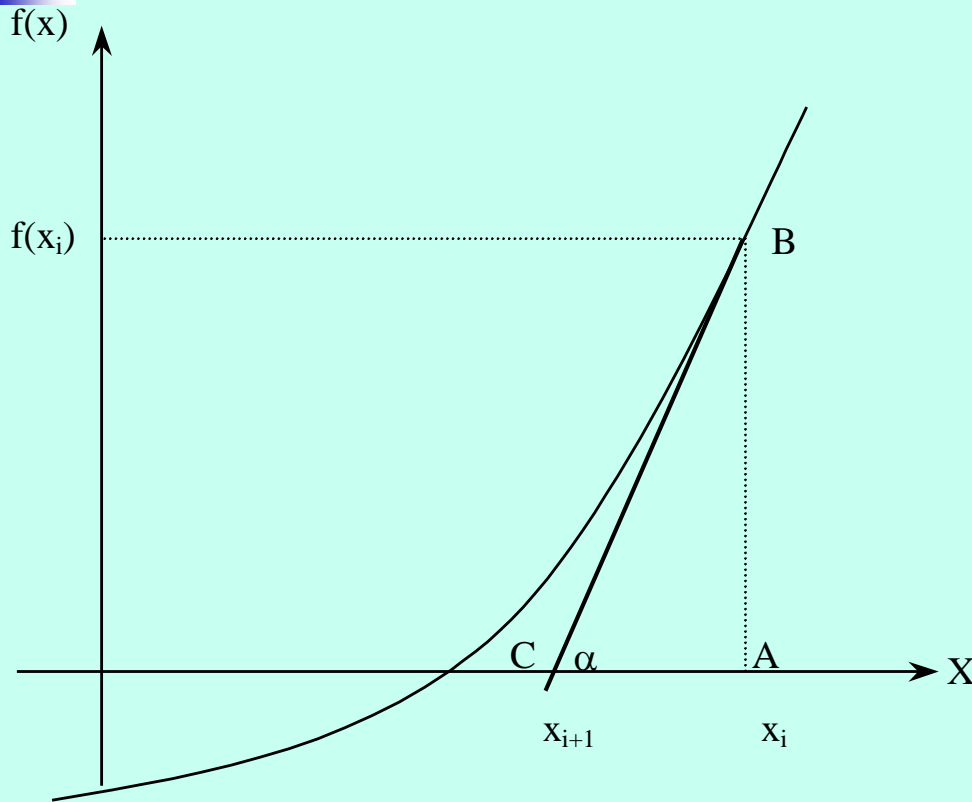
# Newton-Raphson Method



$$x_{i+1} = x_i - \frac{f(x_i)}{f'(x_i)}$$

**Figure 1** Geometrical illustration of the Newton-Raphson method.

# Derivation

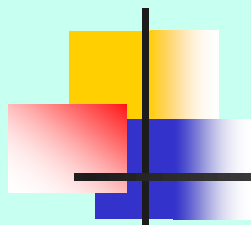


$$\tan(\alpha) = \frac{AB}{AC}$$

$$f'(x_i) = \frac{f(x_i)}{x_i - x_{i+1}}$$

$$x_{i+1} = x_i - \frac{f(x_i)}{f'(x_i)}$$

**Figure 2** Derivation of the Newton-Raphson method.



# Algorithm for Newton-Raphson Method

# Step 1

Evaluate  $f'(x)$  symbolically.





# Step 2

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Use an initial guess of the root,  $x_i$ , to estimate the new value of the root,  $x_{i+1}$ , as

$$x_{i+1} = x_i - \frac{f(x_i)}{f'(x_i)}$$

# Step 3

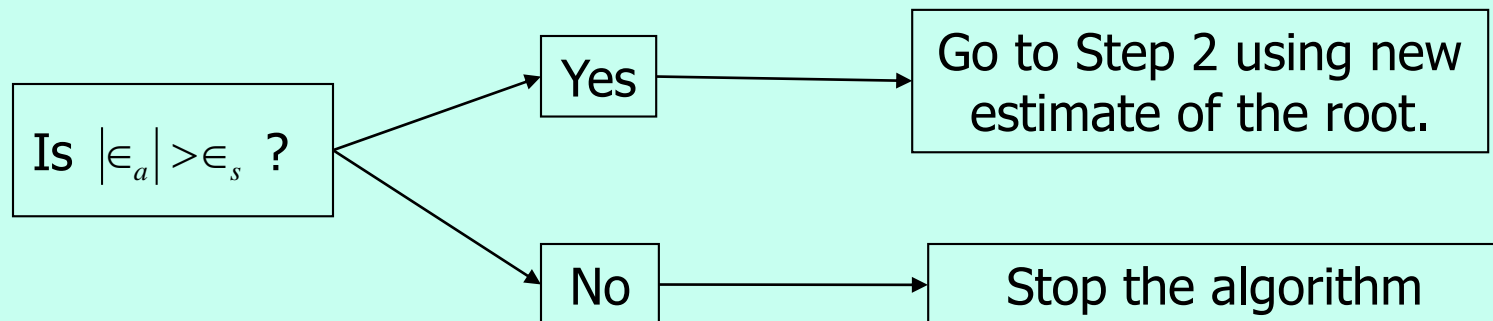
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Find the absolute relative approximate error  $|\epsilon_a|$  as

$$|\epsilon_a| = \left| \frac{x_{i+1} - x_i}{x_{i+1}} \right| \times 100$$

# Step 4

Compare the absolute relative approximate error with the pre-specified relative error tolerance  $\epsilon_s$ .



Also, check if the number of iterations has exceeded the maximum number of iterations allowed. If so, one needs to terminate the algorithm and notify the user.

Ex-ple:  $\epsilon_s = 0,05\%$

$$x^3 = 20$$

$$x_0 = 3,0$$

Conduct 3 iterations (for simplicity).

Sol:  $f(x) = 0$  we need to rewrite our fct


$$f(x) = x^3 - 20 = 0$$

General formula:

$$x_{i+1} = x_i - \frac{f(x_i)}{f'(x_i)}$$

we need the derivative:

$$f(x) = x^3 - 20 \rightarrow f'(x) = 3x^2.$$


$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\lambda} = 0: \quad x_1 &= x_0 - \frac{f(x_0)}{f'(x_0)} \\ &= 3 - \frac{3^3 - 20}{3(3)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$x_1 = 2.741$$

Calculated: Relate App Error:

$$\begin{aligned} |E_a| &= \left| \frac{2.741 - 3.0}{2.741} \right| \times 100 \\ &= 9.45\% \end{aligned}$$

$$\bar{i} = 1$$

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

$$= x_1 - \frac{x_1^3 - 20}{3x_1^2}$$

$$= 2,741 - \frac{2,741^3 - 20}{3(2,741)^2}$$

$$= 2,715$$

$$|\mathcal{E}_a| = \left| \frac{2,715 - 2,741}{2,715} \right| \times 100$$

$$= 0,96\% \quad \Leftarrow \quad \text{from } 9,45 \text{ to } 0,96\%$$

when this method converge it does so fast

$$\bar{i} = 2$$

$$x_3 = x_2 - \frac{f(x_2)}{f'(x_2)}$$

$$= x_2 - \frac{x_2^3 - 20}{3x_2^2} = 2,715 - \frac{2,715^3 - 20}{3(2,715)^2}$$

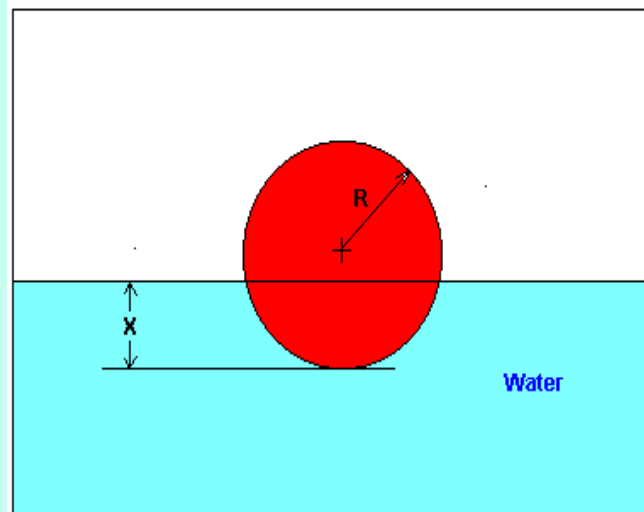
$$\approx 2,714$$

$$(\mathcal{E}_a)_s = \left| \frac{2,714 - 2,715}{2,714} \right| \times 100 = 0,009\%$$

9,45%  $\rightarrow$  0,96%  $\rightarrow$  0,009% in 3 iterations only

# Example 1

You are working for 'DOWN THE TOILET COMPANY' that makes floats for ABC commodes. The floating ball has a specific gravity of 0.6 and has a radius of 5.5 cm. You are asked to find the depth to which the ball is submerged when floating in water.



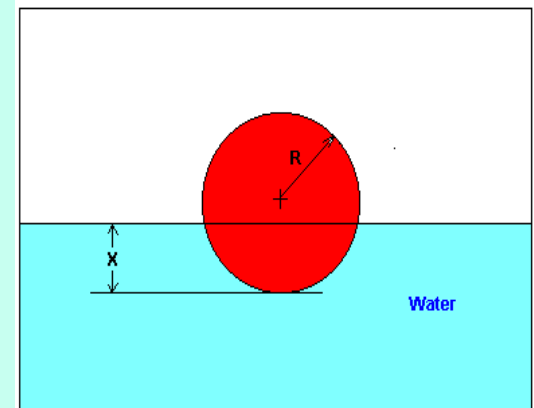
**Figure 3** Floating ball problem.



# Example 1 Cont.

The equation that gives the depth  $x$  in meters to which the ball is submerged under water is given by

$$f(x) = x^3 - 0.165x^2 + 3.993 \times 10^{-4}$$



**Figure 3** Floating ball problem.

Use the Newton's method of finding roots of equations to find

- the depth 'x' to which the ball is submerged under water. Conduct three iterations to estimate the root of the above equation.
- The absolute relative approximate error at the end of each iteration, and
- The number of significant digits at least correct at the end of each iteration.

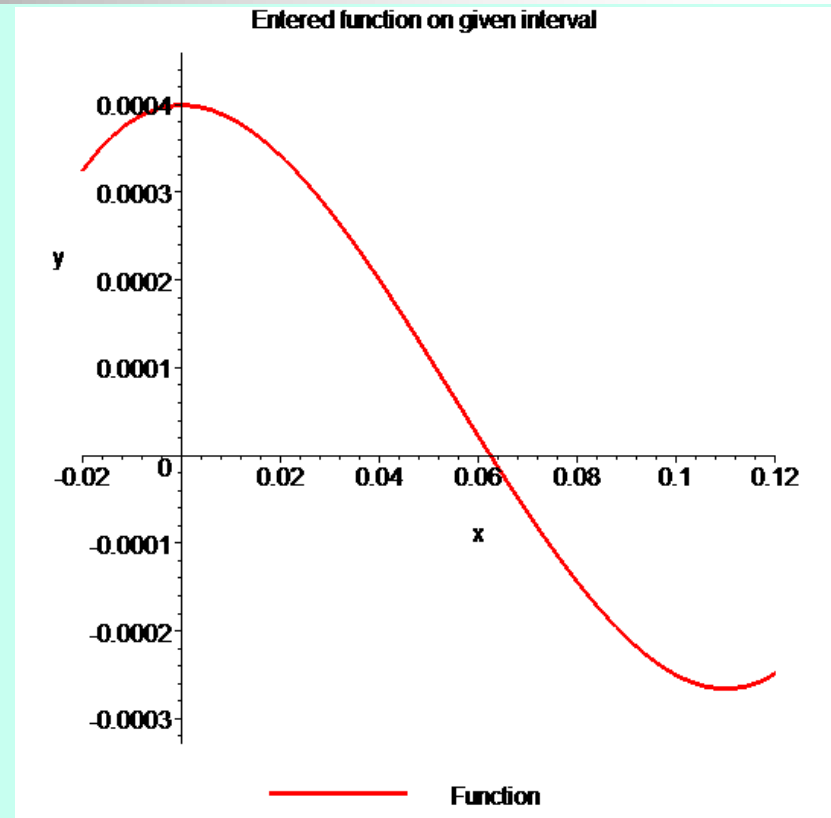
# Example 1 Cont.

## Solution

To aid in the understanding of how this method works to find the root of an equation, the graph of  $f(x)$  is shown to the right,

where

$$f(x) = x^3 - 0.165x^2 + 3.993 \times 10^{-4}$$



**Figure 4** Graph of the function  $f(x)$



# Example 1 Cont.

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Solve for  $f'(x)$

$$f(x) = x^3 - 0.165x^2 + 3.993 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 0.33x$$

Let us assume the initial guess of the root of  $f(x) = 0$  is  $x_0 = 0.05\text{m}$ . This is a reasonable guess (discuss why  $x = 0$  and  $x = 0.11\text{m}$  are not good choices) as the extreme values of the depth  $x$  would be 0 and the diameter (0.11 m) of the ball.



# Example 1 Cont.

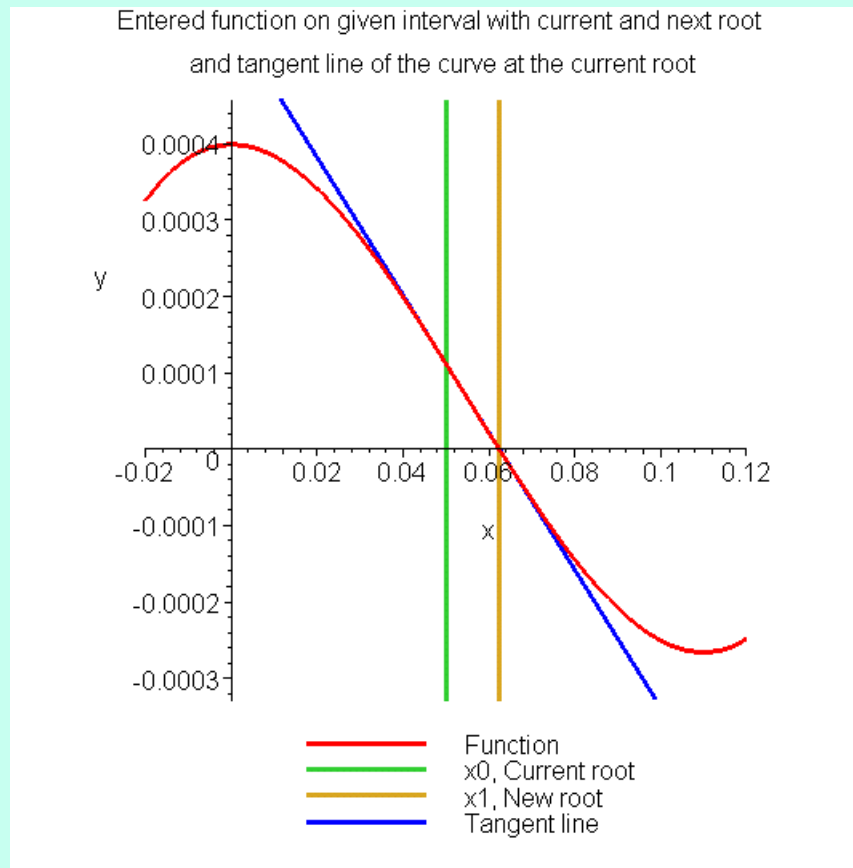
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## Iteration 1

The estimate of the root is

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 &= x_0 - \frac{f(x_0)}{f'(x_0)} \\&= 0.05 - \frac{(0.05)^3 - 0.165(0.05)^2 + 3.993 \times 10^{-4}}{3(0.05)^2 - 0.33(0.05)} \\&= 0.05 - \frac{1.118 \times 10^{-4}}{-9 \times 10^{-3}} \\&= 0.05 - (-0.01242) \\&= 0.06242\end{aligned}$$

# Example 1 Cont.



**Figure 5** Estimate of the root for the first iteration.



# Example 1 Cont.

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The absolute relative approximate error  $|\epsilon_a|$  at the end of Iteration 1 is

$$\begin{aligned} |\epsilon_a| &= \left| \frac{x_1 - x_0}{x_1} \right| \times 100 \\ &= \left| \frac{0.06242 - 0.05}{0.06242} \right| \times 100 \\ &= 19.90\% \end{aligned}$$

The number of significant digits at least correct is 0, as you need an absolute relative approximate error of 5% or less for at least one significant digits to be correct in your result.



# Example 1 Cont.

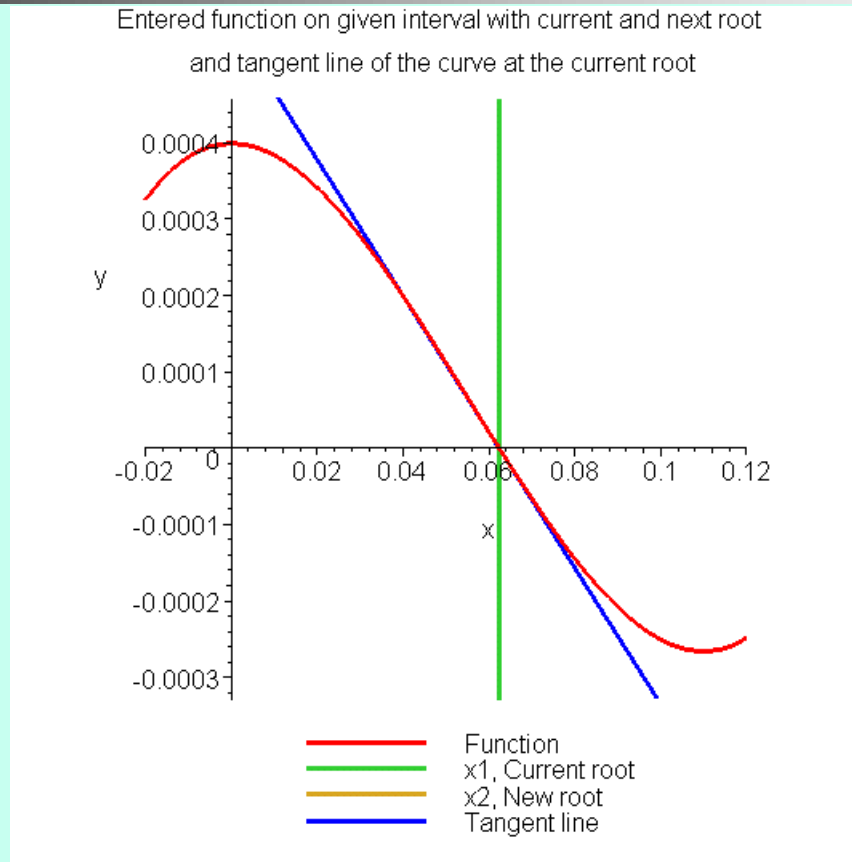
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## Iteration 2

The estimate of the root is

$$\begin{aligned}x_2 &= x_1 - \frac{f(x_1)}{f'(x_1)} \\&= 0.06242 - \frac{(0.06242)^3 - 0.165(0.06242)^2 + 3.993 \times 10^{-4}}{3(0.06242)^2 - 0.33(0.06242)} \\&= 0.06242 - \frac{-3.97781 \times 10^{-7}}{-8.90973 \times 10^{-3}} \\&= 0.06242 - (4.4646 \times 10^{-5}) \\&= 0.06238\end{aligned}$$

# Example 1 Cont.



**Figure 6** Estimate of the root for the Iteration 2.





# Example 1 Cont.

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The absolute relative approximate error  $|\epsilon_a|$  at the end of Iteration 2 is

$$\begin{aligned} |\epsilon_a| &= \left| \frac{x_2 - x_1}{x_2} \right| \times 100 \\ &= \left| \frac{0.06238 - 0.06242}{0.06238} \right| \times 100 \\ &= 0.0716\% \end{aligned}$$

The maximum value of  $m$  for which  $|\epsilon_a| \leq 0.5 \times 10^{2-m}$  is 2.844. Hence, the number of significant digits at least correct in the answer is 2.



# Example 1 Cont.

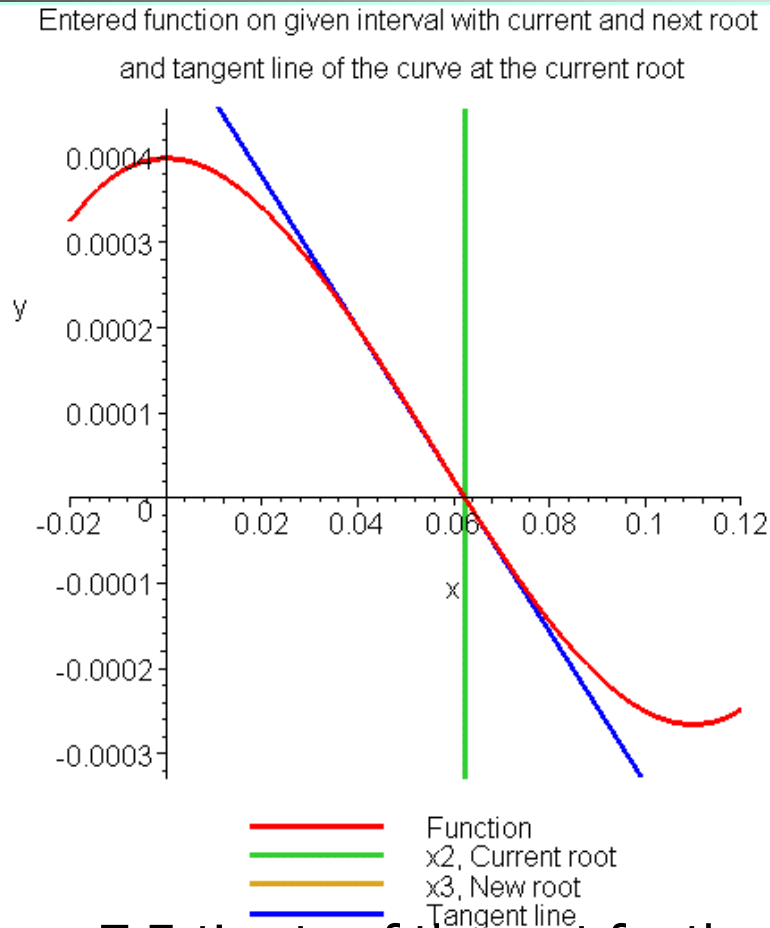
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## Iteration 3

The estimate of the root is

$$\begin{aligned}x_3 &= x_2 - \frac{f(x_2)}{f'(x_2)} \\&= 0.06238 - \frac{(0.06238)^3 - 0.165(0.06238)^2 + 3.993 \times 10^{-4}}{3(0.06238)^2 - 0.33(0.06238)} \\&= 0.06238 - \frac{4.44 \times 10^{-11}}{-8.91171 \times 10^{-3}} \\&= 0.06238 - (-4.9822 \times 10^{-9}) \\&= 0.06238\end{aligned}$$

# Example 1 Cont.



**Figure 7** Estimate of the root for the Iteration 3.



# Example 1 Cont.

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The absolute relative approximate error  $|\epsilon_a|$  at the end of Iteration 3 is

$$\begin{aligned} |\epsilon_a| &= \left| \frac{x_2 - x_1}{x_2} \right| \times 100 \\ &= \left| \frac{0.06238 - 0.06238}{0.06238} \right| \times 100 \\ &= 0\% \end{aligned}$$

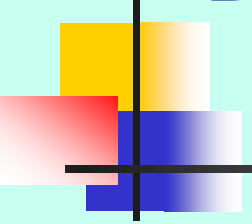
The number of significant digits at least correct is 4, as only 4 significant digits are carried through all the calculations.



# Advantages

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- Converges fast (quadratic convergence), if it converges.
- Requires only one guess



# Drawbacks – Oscillations near local maximum and minimum

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## 3. Oscillations near local maximum and minimum

Results obtained from the Newton-Raphson method may oscillate about the local maximum or minimum without converging on a root but converging on the local maximum or minimum.

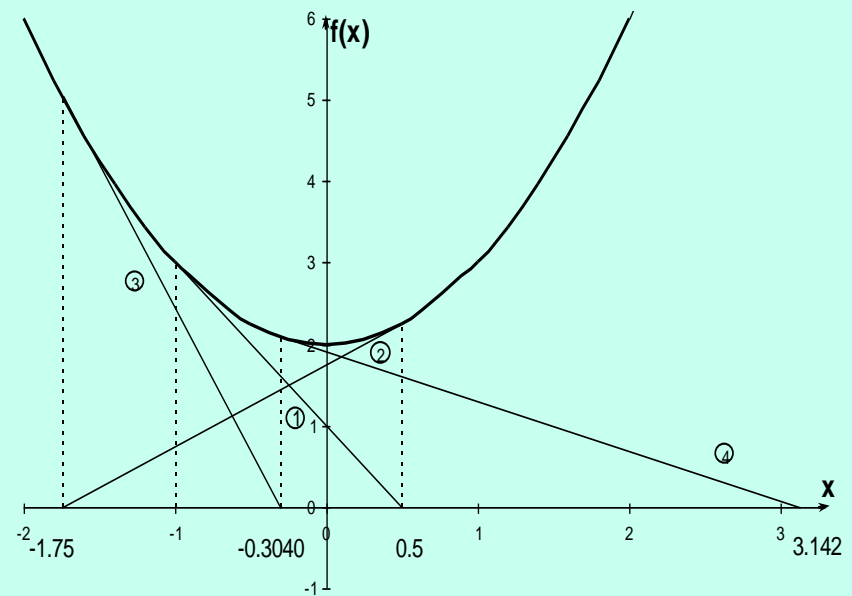
Eventually, it may lead to division by a number close to zero and may diverge.

For example for  $f(x) = x^2 + 2 = 0$  the equation has no real roots.

# Drawbacks – Oscillations near local maximum and minimum

**Table 3** Oscillations near local maxima and minima in Newton-Raphson method.

Iteration Number	$x_i$	$f(x_i)$	$ \epsilon_a \%$
0	-1.0000	3.00	
1	0.5	2.25	300.00
2	-1.75	5.063	128.571
3	-0.30357	2.092	476.47
4	3.1423	11.874	109.66
5	1.2529	3.570	150.80
6	-0.17166	2.029	829.88
7	5.7395	34.942	102.99
8	2.6955	9.266	112.93
9	0.97678	2.954	175.96



**Figure 10** Oscillations around local minima for  $f(x) = x^2 + 2$ .

# Drawbacks – Root Jumping

## 4. Root Jumping

In some cases where the function  $f(x)$  is oscillating and has a number of roots, one may choose an initial guess close to a root. However, the guesses may jump and converge to some other root.

For example

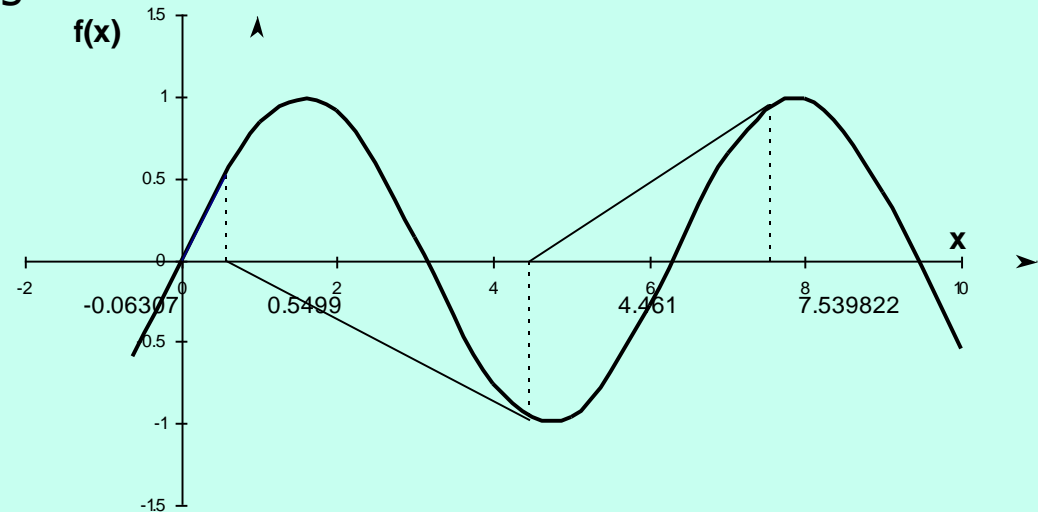
$$f(x) = \sin x = 0$$

Choose

$$x_0 = 2.4\pi = 7.539822$$

It will converge to  $x = 0$

instead of  $x = 2\pi = 6.2831853$

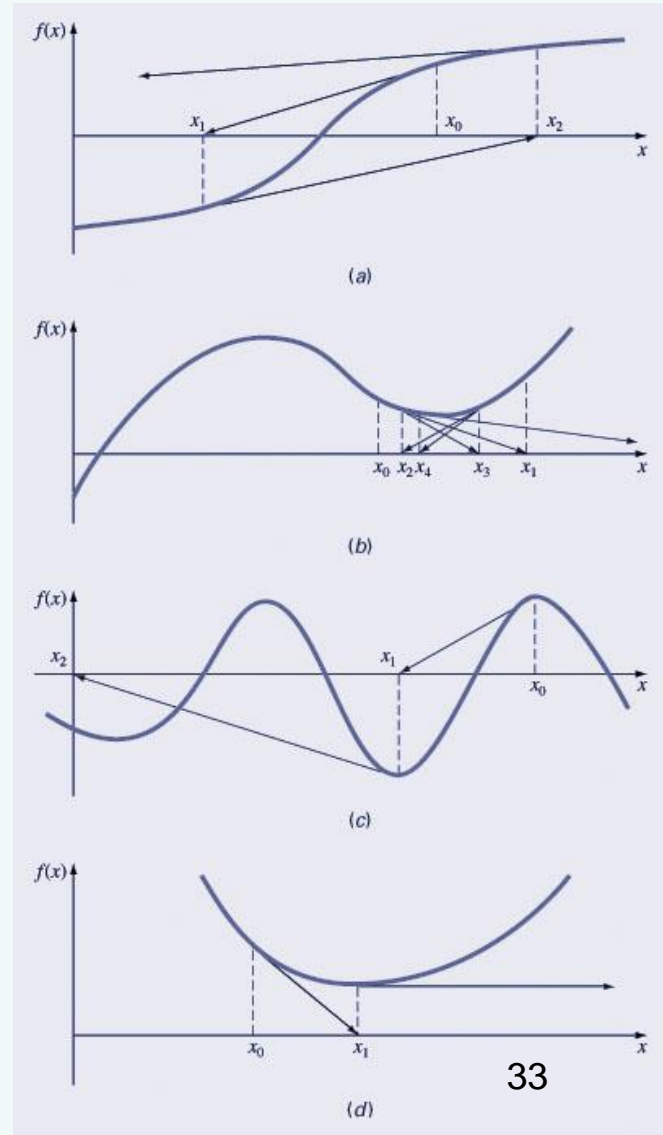


**Figure 11** Root jumping from intended location of root for  $f(x) = \sin x = 0$



# Pros and Cons

- Pro: The error of the  $i+1^{\text{th}}$  iteration is roughly proportional to the square of the error of the  $i^{\text{th}}$  iteration - this is called *quadratic convergence*
- Con: Some functions show slow or poor convergence



# MATLAB's `fzero` Function

- MATLAB's `fzero` provides the best qualities of both bracketing methods and open methods.
  - Using an initial guess:  

```
x = fzero(function, x0)
```

```
[x, fx] = fzero(function, x0)
```

    - `function` is a function handle to the function being evaluated
    - `x0` is the initial guess
    - `x` is the location of the root
    - `fx` is the function evaluated at that root
  - Using an initial bracket:  

```
x = fzero(function, [x0 x1])
```

```
[x, fx] = fzero(function, [x0 x1])
```

    - As above, except `x0` and `x1` are guesses that *must* bracket a sign change

# fzero Options

- Options may be passed to `fzero` as a third input argument - the options are a data structure created by the `optimset` command
- `options = optimset('par1', val1, 'par2', val2,...)`
  - `parn` is the name of the parameter to be set
  - `valn` is the value to which to set that parameter
  - The parameters commonly used with `fzero` are:
    - `display`: when set to 'iter' displays a detailed record of all the iterations
    - `tolx`: A positive scalar that sets a termination tolerance on x.

# fzero Example

- `options = optimset('display', 'iter');`
  - Sets options to display each iteration of root finding process
- `[x, fx] = fzero(@(x) x^10-1, 0.5, options)`
  - Uses `fzero` to find roots of  $f(x)=x^{10}-1$  starting with an initial guess of  $x=0.5$ .
- MATLAB reports  $x=1$ ,  $fx=0$  after 35 function counts

# Polynomials

- MATLAB has a built in program called `roots` to determine all the roots of a polynomial - including imaginary and complex ones.
- `x = roots(c)`
  - `x` is a column vector containing the roots
  - `c` is a row vector containing the polynomial coefficients
- Example:
  - Find the roots of
$$f(x)=x^5-3.5x^4+2.75x^3+2.125x^2-3.875x+1.25$$
  - `x = roots([1 -3.5 2.75 2.125 -3.875 1.25])`

# Polynomials (cont)

- MATLAB's `poly` function can be used to determine polynomial coefficients if roots are given:

- `b = poly([0.5 -1])`

- Finds  $f(x)$  where  $f(x)=0$  for  $x=0.5$  and  $x=-1$
- MATLAB reports `b = [1.000 0.5000 -0.5000]`
- This corresponds to  $f(x)=x^2+0.5x-0.5$

- MATLAB's `polyval` function can evaluate a polynomial at one or more points:

- `a = [1 -3.5 2.75 2.125 -3.875 1.25];`

- If used as coefficients of a polynomial, this corresponds to  $f(x)=x^5-3.5x^4+2.75x^3+2.125x^2-3.875x+1.25$

- `polyval(a, 1)`

- This calculates  $f(1)$ , which MATLAB reports as `-0.2500`