

Fixed-Point Iteration is Linearly Convergent

Assume that $x_{i+1} = g(x_i)$ converges to r , where g' is continuous and satisfies $g'(r) \neq 0$. By the Mean Value Theorem, there exists c_n between x_n and r such that

$$x_{n+1} - r = g(x_n) - g(r) = g'(c_n)(x_n - r)$$

Since $\{x_n\}$ converges to r , $\{c_n\}$ also converges to r . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x_{n+1} - r}{x_n - r} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g'(c_n) = g'(r) \\ \Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{x_{n+1} - r}{x_n - r} \right| &= |g'(r)| \end{aligned}$$

which shows that fixed-point iteration is linearly convergent.