

1. Numerical mathematics - introduction

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Absolute and relative error

Denote x^* the *exact* quantity and x its approximation, then **absolute error** e_a is equal to the absolute value of their difference

$$e_a = |x^* - x|.$$

Usually we do not know x^* , and thus we look for **estimation** $\varepsilon(x)$ of the absolute error x

$$|x^* - x| \leq \varepsilon(x).$$

Accuracy of a method is better characterized by **relative error** e_r , ratio of the absolute error and absolute value of the exact quantity

$$e_r = \frac{|x^* - x|}{|x^*|}.$$

Estimation of the relative error $\delta(x)$ is such a real number that

$$\frac{|x^* - x|}{|x^*|} \leq \delta(x).$$

Norm of vector

Arithmetic vector x is an ordered n -tuple of real numbers, i.e. $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$. **Norm of the arithmetic vector** $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a non-negative function (denoted $\|\cdot\|$) that satisfies:

- (1) (i) $\|x\| > 0$ for every non-zero vector and $\|x\| = 0$ only for $x = o$,
- (2) (ii) $\|c \cdot x\| = |c| \cdot \|x\|$ for every real number c ,
- (3) (iii) $\|x + y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|$ for every two vectors from \mathbb{R}^n .

Examples of norms:

- (1) a) $\|x\|_\infty = \max\{|x_1|, |x_2|, \dots, |x_n|\}$, **maximum** norm,
- (2) b) $\|x\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|$, **octahedron, taxicab, Manhattan** norm,
- (3) c) $\|x\|_2 = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2}$, **euclidean** norm.

Example 2: Evaluate all the previous norms of $x = (1, -2, 0, 3)$.

$$\|x\|_\infty = \max\{|1|, |-2|, |0|, |3|\} = \max\{1, 2, 0, 3\} = 3$$

$$\|x\|_1 = |1| + |-2| + |0| + |3| = 1 + 2 + 0 + 3 = 6$$

$$\|x\|_2 = \sqrt{1^2 + (-2)^2 + 0^2 + 3^2} = \sqrt{1 + 4 + 0 + 9} = \sqrt{14}$$

MATLAB – norm of vector v :

maximum:

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>> norm(v, inf)
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octahedron:

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>> norm(v, 1)
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euclidean:

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>> norm(v,2)
>> norm(v)
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Norms in other spaces:

(1) i) In the space of all real numbers \mathbb{R} norm means the absolute value

$$\|x\| = |x|, \quad x \in \mathbb{R},$$

(2) ii) in the space of all continuous functions on a closed interval $\mathcal{C}_{\langle a,b \rangle}$ we can define a norm in the following way

$$\|f\| = \max_{a \leq x \leq b} |f(x)|, \quad f \in \mathcal{C}_{\langle a,b \rangle}.$$

Spaces with norms are called **normed spaces**.

Remark: For u, v from a normed space \mathbb{M} the number $\|u - v\|$ is called the **distance** of u and v .

Convergence

Let \mathbb{M} be a normed space and let us have a sequence $v_n \in \mathbb{M}$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$

We say that the sequence (v_n) **converges** to $v \in \mathbb{M}$, i.e. $v_n \rightarrow v$ for $n \rightarrow \infty$ (resp. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} v_n = v$), if

$$\|v_n - v\| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{pro } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

We say that the sequence (v_n) is **Cauchy** if

$$\|v_n - v_m\| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{pro } n, m \rightarrow \infty.$$

Remark: If a sequence is convergent in \mathbb{M} then it is Cauchy in \mathbb{M} .

A normed space \mathbb{M} is called **complete** if every Cauchy sequence converges in \mathbb{M} .

The following normed spaces are complete:

- (1) "1" $\mathbb{M} = \mathbb{R}$ with the norm $\|x\| = |x|$,
- (2) "2" $\mathbb{M} = \mathbb{R}^n$ with the norms $\|x\|_\infty, \|x\|_1, \|x\|_2$,
- (3) "3" $\mathbb{M} = \mathcal{C}_{\langle a,b \rangle}$ with the norm $\|f\| = \max_{a \leq x \leq b} |f(x)|$ (the space of continuous functions on a closed interval $\langle a, b \rangle$).

Example 3: Let us have the space $\mathbb{M} = (0, 1)$ with the norm $\|x\| = |x|$. Then \mathbb{M} is not complete.

Banach fixed point theorem

Many of the methods we will study are based on the following theorem

Banach fixed point theorem.

Let \mathbb{M} be a complete normed space, let us have $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ and let f be a mapping \mathbb{M} into \mathbb{M} where

$$\|f(x) - f(y)\| \leq \alpha \|x - y\| \quad \text{for each } x, y \in \mathbb{M}.$$

Then

- (1) "a)" There exists a unique point x_p with

$$f(x_p) = x_p.$$

- (2) "b)" For every $x_0 \in \mathbb{M}$ the sequence of points

$$x_n = f(x_{n-1}) \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2, \dots$$

converges to x_p , i.e.

$$x_p = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} x_n.$$

- (3) "c)" And we have the estimations:

$$\|x_k - x_p\| \leq \frac{\alpha^k}{1 - \alpha} \|x_0 - x_1\| \quad \text{for } k > 1,$$

$$\|x_k - x_p\| \leq \frac{\alpha}{1 - \alpha} \|x_{k-1} - x_k\| \quad \text{for } k > 1.$$

Remark: The point x_p is called the **fixed point** of f .