By Tatsuo NODA

Faculty of Engineering, Toyama Prefectural University

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1. Introduction. Let  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  be a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and D a region contained in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Let f(x) be a real-valued nonlinear function defined on D. We denote by  $\mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  the set of all  $n \times n$  real matrices. Define an *n*-dimensional vector  $\nabla f(x)$  and an  $n \times n$  matrix H(x) by

 $\nabla f(x) = \left(\partial f(x) / \partial x_i\right) \qquad (1 \le i \le n)$ 

and

$$H(x) = (\partial^2 f(x) / \partial x_i \partial x_k) \qquad (1 \le j, k \le n)$$

For any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , we shall use the norms ||x|| and  $||x||_2$  defined by

$$\|x\| = \max_{1 \le i \le n} |x_i|$$
 and  $\|x\|_2 = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2\right)^{1/2}$ ,

respectively. The corresponding matrix norms, denoted by ||A|| and  $||A||_{s}$ , are defined as

 $\|A\| = \max_{1 \le i \le n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} |a_{ij}|$  and  $\|A\|_s = \lambda^{1/2}$ ,

respectively, where  $A = (a_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , and  $\lambda$  is the maximum eigenvalue of  $A^*A$ ,  $A^*$  being the transposed matrix of A. We also define the matrix norm  $||A||_E$  by

$$\|A\|_{E} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_{ij}^{2}\right)^{1/2}$$

In this section, we shall assume the same conditions (A.1)-(A.4) as in [5] except for (A.1).

- (A.1) f(x) is three times continuously differentiable on D.
- (A.2) There exists a point  $\bar{x} \in D$  satisfying  $\nabla f(x) = 0$ .
- (A.3) The  $n \times n$  symmetric matrix  $H(\bar{x})$  is positive definite.
- (A.4)  $\beta$  is a constant satisfying  $0 < \beta < 2$ .

We see that f(x) has a local minimum at  $\bar{x}$  by conditions (A.1)-(A.3). For computational purpose, we have proposed in [5, (2.1)] an iteration method

(1.1) 
$$x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} - \frac{\beta}{\|H(x^{(k)})\|_{E}} \nabla f(x^{(k)})$$

for finding  $\bar{x}$  under conditions (A.1)–(A.4).

As mentioned in [2], [3] and [4], Henrici [1, p. 116] has considered a formula, which is called the Aitken-Steffensen formula. Now, we have studied the above Aitken-Steffensen formula for systems of nonlinear equations in [2], [3] and [4], and shown [2, Theorem 2], [3, Theorem 2] and [4, Theorem 1].

The purpose of this paper is to construct a formula by use of (1.1), which we shall also call an Aitken-Steffensen formula, and to show Theorem 1 by using [2, Theorem 2].

2. Statement of results. Define an *n*-dimensional vector  $g(x) = (g_i(x))$  by

(2.1) 
$$g(x) = x - \frac{\beta}{\|H(x)\|_E} \nabla f(x).$$

Given  $x^{\scriptscriptstyle(0)} \in R^n$ , define  $x^{\scriptscriptstyle(i)} \in R^n$   $(i=1,2,\cdots)$  by

$$x^{(i+1)} = g(x^{(i)})$$
  $(i=0, 1, 2, \cdots).$ 

Put  $d^{(i)} = x^{(i)} - \bar{x}$  for  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , and then define an  $n \times n$  matrix  $D_k$  by  $D_k = (d^{(k)}, d^{(k+1)}, \dots, d^{(k+n-1)}).$ 

In addition to conditions (A.1)-(A.4), we suppose the following two conditions (A.5) and (A.6) which are based on [2, Theorem 2].

(A.5) The vectors  $d^{(k)}$ ,  $d^{(k+1)}$ ,  $\cdots$ ,  $d^{(k+n-1)}$ ,  $k=0, 1, 2, \cdots$ , are linearly independent.

(A.6)  $\inf \{ |\det D_k| / || d^{(k)} ||_2^n \} > 0.$ 

As suggested by [2, (1.5)], we can construct an Aitken-Steffensen formula (2.2)  $y^{(k)} = x^{(k)} - \Delta X^{(k)} (\Delta^2 X^{(k)})^{-1} \Delta x^{(k)}$   $(k=0, 1, 2, \cdots),$ 

where an *n*-dimensional vector  $\Delta x^{(k)}$ , and  $n \times n$  matrices  $\Delta X^{(k)}$  and  $\Delta^2 X^{(k)}$  are given by

$$\Delta x^{(k)} = x^{(k+1)} - x^{(k)},$$
  
$$\Delta X^{(k)} = (x^{(k+1)} - x^{(k)}, \cdots, x^{(k+n)} - x^{(k+n-1)})$$

and

(3.3)

 $\varDelta^{2} X^{(k)} \!=\! \varDelta X^{(k+1)} \!-\! \varDelta X^{(k)}.$ 

In this paper, we shall show the following

**Theorem 1.** Under conditions (A.1)-(A.6), for  $x^{(k)} \in U(\bar{x}; \delta)$ , there exists a constant  $M_2$  such that the following property

 $\|y^{(k)} - \bar{x}\|_2 \leq M_2 \|x^{(k)} - \bar{x}\|_2^2$ 

holds for sufficiently large k.

3. Proof of Theorem 1. We shall prove Theorem 1. By (A.3),

$$0 < (\rho, H(\bar{x})\rho) \leq ||H(\bar{x})||_{E}$$

for any  $\rho \in \mathbb{R}^n$  with  $\|\rho\|_2 = 1$ . Since, by (A.1),  $\|H(x)\|_E$  is continuous at every point  $x \in D$ , there exists a neighbourhood

$$U(\bar{x}; \delta_1) = \{x; \|x - \bar{x}\|_2 < \delta_1\} \subset D$$

such that  $x \in U(\bar{x}; \delta_1)$  implies  $||H(x)||_E > 0$ . Then, we observe that, by (A.1), (3.1)  $g_i(x)$   $(1 \le i \le n)$  are two times continuously differentiable on  $U(\bar{x}; \delta_1)$ , and, from (2.1), by (A.2),

 $(3.2) <math>\overline{x} = g(\overline{x}),$ 

while we have shown in [5] that the following inequality

$$\|G(ar{x})\|_s\!<\!1$$

holds from (A.3) and (A.4), where  $G(x) = (\partial g_i(x)/\partial x_j)$   $(1 \le i, j \le n)$ . Choosing a constant M so as to satisfy  $||G(\bar{x})||_s < M < 1$ , we see, by (A.1), that there exists a constant  $\delta \le \delta_1$  such that  $U(\bar{x}; \delta) \subset U(\bar{x}; \delta_1)$  and  $||G(x)||_s < M$  for  $x \in U(\bar{x}; \delta)$ . By (1.1), (2.1) and (3.2),

$$x^{(k+1)} - \bar{x} = g(x^{(k)}) - g(\bar{x})$$
  
=  $\int_0^1 G(\bar{x} + t(x^{(k)} - \bar{x}))(x^{(k)} - \bar{x})dt.$ 

We note that  $\bar{x} + t(x^{(k)} - \bar{x}) \in U(\bar{x}; \delta)$   $(0 \leq t \leq 1)$ , provided  $x^{(k)} \in U(\bar{x}; \delta)$ . Then, by  $||G(x)||_s < M$  for  $x \in U(\bar{x}; \delta)$  shown above,

$$\int_{0}^{1} \|G(\bar{x} + t(x^{(k)} - \bar{x}))\|_{s} dt \leq M$$

holds, so that we have

(3.4)  $\|x^{(k+1)} - \bar{x}\|_2 \leq M \|x^{(k)} - \bar{x}\|_2$ for  $x^{(k)} \in U(\bar{x}; \delta)$ .

For the proof of Theorem 1, we need the following well-known relations.

Now, we recall that conditions (A.1)–(A.4) imply (3.1), (3.2) and (3.3) as shown above. Then applying the argument in the proof of [2, Theorem 2] to the norms  $||x||_2$  and  $||A||_s$  instead of the norms ||x|| and ||A||, respectively, and using (3.4), (3.5), (3.6), (3.7) and (3.8), we deduce that, for  $x^{(k)} \in U(\bar{x}; \delta)$ , there exists a constant  $M_2$  such that

$$\|y^{(k)} - \bar{x}\|_2 \leq M_2 \|x^{(k)} - \bar{x}\|_2^2$$

holds for sufficiently large k. In this way, we have proved Theorem 1, as desired.

4. Numerical example. We deal with a function

 $y(x; a, b, c, d) = e^{ax}(c \cos bx + d \sin bx)$  (a < 0),

which is the same as in [5]. In order to show the efficiency of the Aitken-Steffensen formula (2.2), we consider a system of nonlinear equations, Example 4.1. The solution of Example 4.1 using the Aitken-Steffensen formula (2.2) is presented in Table 4.1 below, together with the solution by the iteration method [5, (2.1)].

Example 4.1:  $\begin{cases} y(0.0; a, b, c, d) = 1.50, \\ y(0.8; a, b, c, d) = -0.05, \\ y(1.6; a, b, c, d) = -0.12, \\ y(2.4; a, b, c, d) = 0.04. \end{cases}$ 

The solution is (a, b, c, d) = (-1.50, -2.50, 1.50, -0.50).

Table 4.1.	Computation	results	for	Example	4.1
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Methods	Solutions		
Iteration method [5, (2.1)] ( $\beta$ =0.99)	(-1.506458, -2.501487, 1.499880, -0.5009617)		
Aitken-Steffensen formula (2.2)	(-1.502620, -2.505557, 1.499941, -0.5007080)		

 $(a^{(0)}, b^{(0)}, c^{(0)}, d^{(0)}) = (-1.0, -1.0, -1.0, -1.0)$ 

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