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# On the semilocal convergence of a fast two-step Newton method

Convergencia semilocal de un método de Newton de dos pasos

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ABSTRACT. We provide a semilocal convergence analysis for a cubically convergent two-step Newton method (2) recently introduced by H. Homeier [8], [9], and also studied by A. Özban [13]. In contrast to the above works we examine the semilocal convergence of the method in a Banach space setting, instead of the local in the real or complex number case. A comparison is given with a two step Newton–like method using the same information.

*Key words and phrases.* Two-step Newton method, Newton method, Banach space, majorizing sequence, Newton–Kantorovich hypothesis, semilocal convergence, Fréchet-derivative.

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RESUMEN. Proporcionamos un análisis de convergencia semilocal para un método de Newton de dos pasos, cúbicamente convergente, recientemente introducido por H. Homeier [8], [9], también estudiado por A. Özban [13]. En contraste con esto, examinamos la convergencia local del método en espacios de Banach en lugar del local, en el caso real y complejo. Damos una comparación con el método de Newton de dos pasos usando la misma información.

*Palabras y frases clave*. Método de Newton de dos pasos, método de Newton, espacio de Banach, secuencia mayorante, hipótesis de Newton–Kantorovich, convergencia semilocal, derivada de Fréchet.

### 1. Introduction

In this study we are concerned with the problem of approximating a locally unique solution  $x^*$  of the nonlinear equation

$$F(x) = 0, (1)$$

where F is a Fréchet-differentiable operator defined on the closure  $\overline{U}(x_0, R)$ (R > 0) of a ball  $U(x_0, R) = \{x \mid x \in X \mid ||x - x_0|| < R\}$  in a Banach space X with values in a Banach space Y.

Many problems in applied mathematics, and also in engineering, can be formulated as in equation (1) for a suitable choice of the operator F [4], [10], [12].

Recently H. Homeier [8], [9] and A. Özban [13] studied the local convergence of the cubically convergent two-step Newton method

$$y_n = x_n - F'(x_n)^{-1} F(x_n) \quad (n \ge 0), \qquad (x_0 \in D),$$
  
$$x_{n+1} = x_n - F'(z_n)^{-1} F(x_n), \quad z_n = \frac{x_n + y_n}{2}$$
(2)

for all  $n \ge 0$  in the special case when  $X = Y = \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ . In [7], [10] it was already demonstrated experimentally that method (2) can compete in efficiency with other methods using the same information.

Method (2) was originally studied in [11], [5], where the cubic convergence was established under hypotheses on the second Fréchet-derivative of operator F.

Semilocal and local convergence theorems on Newton-like methods under various conditions can be found in [1], [14], and the references there. Therefore one can immediately obtain sufficient convergence conditions for the local as well as the semilocal case by simply referring to those results (see, in particular [3], [4]).

Results on other fast methods can be found in [1], [6], [7]. However here we decided to study the semilocal convergence of method (2) on a Banach space setting motivated by the efficiency of the method when  $X = Y = \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$  using a direct approach and precise majorizing sequences along the lines of our works in [3], [4].

We assume that for some  $x_0 \in D$ ,  $F'(x_0)^{-1} \in L(Y, X)$  and for all  $x, y \in U(x_0, R)$ 

$$||F'(x_0)^{-1}[F'(x) - F'(x_0)]|| \le w_0(||x - x_0||),$$
(3)

$$\|F'(x_0)^{-1}[F'(x) - F'(y)]\| \le w(\|x - y\|)$$
(4)

for some monotonically increasing functions  $w_0$ , w defined on [0, R] and satisfying

$$\lim_{r \to 0} w_0(r) = \lim_{r \to 0} w(r) = 0.$$
(5)

Conditions of the form (3) - (5) were inaugurated in the elegant work in [2] (see also [3], [4]) in connection with the study of Newton's method

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - F'(x_n)^{-1} F(x_n) \quad (n \ge 0), \qquad (x_0 \in D), \tag{6}$$

in the special case when  $w_0(r) = w(r)$  for all  $r \in [0, R]$ .

The advantages of introducing function  $w_0$  in the study of Newton-like methods have been explained in [3], [4]. In fact this way under the same or even weaker hypotheses finer error bounds on the distances  $||y_n - x_n||$ ,  $||x_{n+1} - x_n||$ ,

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 $||y_n - x^*||$ ,  $||x_n - x^*||$   $(n \ge 0)$  can be obtained and an at least as precise information on the location of the solution  $x^*$ .

A comparison with the two-step Newton-like method

$$y_n = x_n - F'(x_n)^{-1}F(x_n) \quad (n \ge 0), \qquad (x_0 \in D)$$
  
$$x_{n+1} = x_n - F'(y_n)^{-1}F(x_n)$$
(7)

is given. Note that both methods (2) and (7) use two inverses and one function evaluation at every step. Numerical examples can also be found in [8], [13].

#### 2. Semilocal convergence analysis of Newton-like method

Let  $\eta \ge 0$ . It is convenient for us to define scalar sequences  $\{s_n\}, \{t_n\} \ (n \ge 0)$  for  $t_0 = 0, \ s_0 = \eta, \ t_1 = s_0 + \frac{s_0}{1 - w_0\left(\frac{s_0 + t_0}{2}\right)}$  by

$$s_{n+1} = t_{n+1} + \frac{\int_0^1 w \left( t \left( t_{n+1} - t_n \right) \right) \left( s_n - t_n \right) dt + \left[ 1 + w_0(t_n) \right] \left( t_{n+1} - s_n \right)}{1 - w_0(t_{n+1})} , \quad (8)$$

and

$$t_{n+2} = t_{n+1} + \frac{\int_0^1 w \left[ \frac{1}{2} (s_n - t_n) + t(t_{n+1} - t_n) \right] (t_{n+1} - t_n) dt}{1 - w_0 \left( \frac{t_{n+1} + s_{n+1}}{2} \right)}, \qquad (9)$$

for all  $n \ge 0$ .

It follows by the definition of sequences  $\{s_n\}, \{t_n\}$  that if there exists  $\alpha \in [0, R]$  such that

$$s_n \le t_{n+1} \le \alpha < w_0^{-1}(1)$$
 for all  $n \ge 0$ , (10)

then both sequences are monotonically increasing, bounded above by  $\alpha$ , and as such they converge to a common limit  $t^*$  such that

$$t_n \le s_n \le t_{n+1} \quad (n \ge 0), \tag{11}$$

and

$$t^* \le \alpha. \tag{12}$$

We can show the following semilocal convergence theorem for Newton-like method (2) using majorizing sequences  $\{t_n\}$  and  $\{s_n\}$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** Under conditions (3), (4) and (8) for  $|F'(x_0)^{-1}F(x_0)| \leq \eta$ ,  $||F'(z_0)^{-1}F(x_0)|| \leq t_1$  sequence  $\{x_n\}$   $(n \geq 0)$  generated by Newton-like method (2) is well defined, remains in  $\overline{U}(x_0, t^*)$  for all  $n \geq 0$ , and converges to a unique solution  $x^*$  of equation F(x) = 0 in  $\overline{U}(x_0, t^*)$ .

Moreover the following estimates hold for all  $n \ge 0$ :

$$\|y_n - x_n\| \leq s_n - t_n, \tag{13}$$

$$\|x_{n+1} - x_n\| \leq t_{n+1} - t_n, \tag{14}$$

$$\|y_n - x^*\| \leq t^* - s_n, \tag{15}$$

$$||x_n - x^*|| \le t^* - t_n.$$

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(16)

and

Furthermore if there exists  $R_0 \in (t^*, R]$  such that

$$\int_0^1 w[tt^* + (1-t)R_0]dt < 1, \tag{17}$$

then the solution  $x^*$  is unique in  $U(x_0, R_0)$ .

*Proof.* We shall show:

$$\|y_k - x_k\| \leq s_k - t_k, \tag{18}$$

$$||x_{k+1} - x_k|| \leq t_{k+1} - t_k, \tag{19}$$

$$\overline{U}(y_k, t^* - s_k) \subseteq \overline{U}(x_k, t^* - t_k),$$
(20)

and

$$\overline{U}(x_{k+1}, t^* - t_{k+1}) \subseteq \overline{U}(x_k, t^* - t_k).$$
(21)

For every  $z \in \overline{U}(y_0, t^* - s_0)$ ,

$$||z - y_0|| \le ||z - y_0|| + ||y_0 - x_0|| \le t^* - s_0 + s_0 = t^* = t^* - t_0$$

implies  $z \in \overline{U}(y_0, t^* - t_0)$ . Similarly, for every  $w \in U(x_1, t^* - t_1)$ 

$$||w - x_0|| \le ||w - x_1|| + ||x_1 - x_0|| \le t^* - t_1 + t_1 = t^*$$

implies  $w \in \overline{U}(x_0, t^* - t_0)$ .

Estimates (16) and (17) hold true for k = 0 by the initial conditions. Let us assume estimates (16) - (19) hold for n = 0, 1, ..., k, then

$$\begin{aligned} \|y_k - x_0\| &\leq \|y_k - x_k\| + \sum_{i=1}^k \|x_i - x_{i-1}\| \\ &\leq s_k - t_k + t_k - t_0 = s_k - t_0 \leq t^* \\ \|x_{k+1} - x_0\| &\leq \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \|x_i - x_{i-1}\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} (t_i - t_{i-1}) \\ &= t_{k+1} - t_0 \leq t^*, \\ \left|\frac{y_k + x_k}{2} - x_0\right\| &\leq \frac{1}{2} [\|y_k - x_0\| + \|x_k - x_0\|] \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} (s_k + t_k) \leq \frac{1}{2} (t^* + t^*) = t^*, \end{aligned}$$

and

 $||x_k + t(x_{k+1} - x_k) - x_0|| \le t_k + t(t_{k+1} - t_k) \le t^* \text{ for all } t \in [0, 1].$ 

Let  $u \in \overline{U}(x_0, t^*)$ , then using (3) and the induction hypotheses we get

$$\left\|F'(x_0)^{-1}\left[F'(u) - F'(x_0)\right]\right\| \le w_0(\|u - x_0\|) \le w_0(t^*) < 1.$$
(22)

It follows from (20) and the Banach Lemma on invertible operators [10] that  $F^\prime(u)^{-1}$  exists and

$$\left\|F'(u)^{-1}F'(x_0)\right\| \le \left[1 - w_0(\|u - x_0\|)\right]^{-1}.$$
(23)

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In view of (2) we obtain the identity

$$F(x_{k+1}) = F(x_{k+1}) - F(x_k) - F'(x_k)(y_k - x_k)$$
  
= 
$$\int_0^1 [F'(x_k + t(x_{k+1} - x_k)) - F'(x_k)](x_{k+1} - x_k)dt$$
  
+ 
$$[F'(x_k) - F'(x_0)](x_{k+1} - y_k) + F'(x_0)(x_{k+1} - y_k), (24)$$

and by composing by  $F'(x_0)^{-1}$  we get using (4)

$$\begin{aligned} \left\|F'(x_{0})^{-1}F(x_{k+1})\right\| \\ &= \left\|\int_{0}^{1}F'(x_{0})^{-1}\left[F'(x_{k}+t(x_{k+1}-x_{k}))-F'(x_{k})\right](x_{k+1}-x_{k})dt\right\| \\ &+ \left\|F'(x_{0})^{-1}\left[F'(x_{k})-F'(x_{0})\right](x_{k+1}-y_{k})\right\| + \left\|x_{k+1}-y_{k}\right\| \\ &\leq \int_{0}^{1}w\left(\left\|t(x_{k+1}-x_{k})\right\|\right)\left\|x_{k+1}-x_{k}\right\|dt \\ &+ w_{0}\left(\left\|x_{k}-x_{0}\right\|\right)\left\|x_{k+1}-y_{k}\right\| + \left\|x_{k+1}-y_{k}\right\| \\ &\leq \int_{0}^{1}w(t(t_{k+1}-t_{k}))(t_{k+1}-t_{k})dt + w_{0}(t_{k})(t_{k+1}-s_{k}) \\ &+ (t_{k+1}-s_{k}). \end{aligned}$$
(25)

Similarly from (2) we obtain the identity

$$F(x_{k+1}) = F(x_{k+1}) - F(x_k) - F'\left(\frac{x_k + y_k}{2}\right)(x_{k+1} - x_k)$$
(26)  
$$= \int_0^1 \left[F'(x_k + t(x_{k+1} - x_k)) - F'\left(\frac{x_k + y_k}{2}\right)\right](x_{k+1} - x_k)dt.$$

Therefore again by (24) and (4), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left\|F'(x_{0})^{-1}F(x_{k+1})\right\| \\ &\leq \int_{0}^{1} w \left[\left\|x_{k}+t(x_{k+1}-x_{k})-\frac{x_{k}+y_{k}}{2}\right\|\right] \|x_{k+1}-x_{k}\|dt \\ &\leq \int_{0}^{1} w \left[\frac{1}{2}\|y_{k}-x_{k}\|+t\|x_{k+1}-x_{k}\|\right] \|x_{k+1}-x_{k}\|dt \\ &\leq \int_{0}^{1} w \left[\frac{1}{2}(s_{k}-t_{k})+t(t_{k+1}-t_{k})\right] (t_{k+1}-t_{k})dt. \end{aligned}$$
(27)

In view of (2), (21) (for  $u = x_{k+1}$ , and  $u = \frac{x_{k+1}+y_{k+1}}{2}$  respectively), (23) and (25), we obtain:

$$\|y_{k+1} - x_{k+1}\| \le \|F'(x_{k+1})^{-1}F'(x_0)\| \cdot \|F'(x_0)^{-1}F(x_{k+1})\| \le s_{k+1} - t_{k+1},$$
(28)

and

$$||x_{k+2} - x_{k+1}|| \le t_{k+2} - t_{k+1}, \tag{29}$$

which show (16) and (17) for all  $n \ge 0$ .

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Thus for every  $w \in \overline{U}(x_{k+2}, t^* - t_{k+2})$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|w - x_{k+1}\| &\leq \|w - x_{k+2}\| + \|x_{k+2} - x_{k+1}\| \leq t^* - t_{k+2} + t_{k+2} - t_{k+1} \\ &= t^* - t_{k+1}, \end{aligned}$$
(30)

which imply

$$z \in \overline{U}(x_{k+1}, t^* - t_{k+1}). \tag{31}$$

Similarly for every  $z \in \overline{U}(y_{k+1}, t^* - s_{k+1})$ , we get

$$z \in \overline{U}(y_k, t^* - s_k). \tag{32}$$

The induction for estimates (16) - (19) is now complete.

In view of (8), (9), and (16) - (19), sequences  $\{x_n\}$ ,  $\{y_n\}$  are Cauchy in a Banach space X and as such they converge to a common limit  $x^* \in \overline{U}(x_0, t^*)$  (since  $\overline{U}(x_0, t^*)$  is a closed set). By letting  $k \to \infty$  in (26) we get  $F(x^*) = 0$ . Estimates (13) and (14) follow from (11) and (12) by using standard majorization techniques [4], [10], [12].

To show uniqueness of  $x^*$  first in  $\overline{U}(x_0, t^*)$ , let  $y^*$  be a solution of equation F(x) = 0 in  $\overline{U}(x_0, t^*)$ . In view of (3) and (8), we get

$$\left\| F'(x_0)^{-1} \int_0^1 [F'(y^* + t(x^* - y^*)) - F'(x_0)] dt \right\|$$
  

$$\leq \int_0^1 w_0 [t \, \|x^* - x_0\| + (1 - t) \, \|y^* - x_0\|] dt \leq w_0(t^*) < 1. \quad (33)$$

It follows from (30) and the Banach Lemma on invertible operators that linear operator L given by

$$L = \int_0^1 F' \left( y^* + t \left( x^* - y^* \right) \right) dt \tag{34}$$

is invertible.

Using the identity

$$0 = F(x^*) - F(y^*) = L(x^* - y^*),$$
(35)

we deduce  $x^* = y^*$ .

Finally to show uniqueness in  $U(x_0, R_0)$ , again as in (30) we obtain

$$\left\|F'(x_0)^{-1}(L - F'(x_0))\right\| \le \int_0^1 w_0 \left(tt^* + (1 - t)R_0\right) dt < 1,$$
(36)

which again together with (33) yields to  $x^* = y^*$ . That completes the proof of the theorem.

**Remark 2.1.** Although stronger but easier to verify conditions implying crucial hypothesis (8) have already been given in [2], when  $w_0(r) = w(r)$  for all  $r \in [0, R]$ , and us [3], [4], when functions  $w_0$  and w are not necessarily the same, we decided to leave condition (8) as uncluttered as possible. In order for us

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to find conditions other than (8), let us assume there exists a monotonically increasing function  $\tilde{w}$  satisfying (5) and for all  $t \geq s$ , with  $s, t \in [0, R]$ :

$$\int_{0}^{t-s} w(t)dt \le \int_{s}^{t} \left[\tilde{w}(t) - w(s)\right] dt.$$
(37)

Such an estimate can follow e.g. from

$$\tilde{w}(r) = \sup\{w(u) + w(v) \colon u + v = r\}.$$
(38)

This function may be calculated explicitly in some cases. For example, in the Hölder case

$$w(r) = \ell r^{\lambda} \quad (0 < \lambda \le 1) \tag{39}$$

we have

$$\tilde{w}(r) = 2^{1-\lambda} \ell r^{\lambda}.$$
(40)

In general, if w is a concave function on [0, R], we have  $\tilde{w}(r) = 2w(\frac{r}{2})$ . Clearly  $\tilde{w}$  is always increasing, concave, and

$$w(r) \le \overline{w}(r) \quad for \ all \ r \in [0, R].$$

$$(41)$$

Conditions of the form (35) - (36) were first given in [2]. More information on the motivation for the introduction of function  $\tilde{w}$  can be found in [2] - [4].

It is convenient for us to define scalar functions f, g on [0, R], and sequences  $\{\overline{s}_n\}, \{\overline{t}_n\}, \{\overline{\overline{s}}_n\}, \{\overline{\overline{t}}_n\}$   $(n \ge 0)$  for all  $n \ge 0$  by

$$f(r) = \eta - r + \int_0^r \tilde{w}(t)dt, \qquad (42)$$

$$g(r) = \eta - r + \int_0^1 w(t)dt,$$
(43)

$$\overline{t}_0 = 0, \ \overline{s}_0 = \eta, \ \overline{t}_1 = \overline{s}_0 + \frac{\overline{s}_0}{1 - w\left(\frac{\overline{s}_0 + \overline{t}_0}{2}\right)},$$
$$- \int_0^1 w\left(t\left(\overline{t}_{n+1} - \overline{t}_n\right)\right)\left(\overline{s}_n - \overline{t}_n\right) dt \tag{12}$$

$$\overline{s}_{n+1} = \overline{t}_{n+1} + \frac{J_0 w (t (t_{n+1} - t_n)) (s_n - t_n) dt}{1 - w(\overline{t}_{n+1})},$$
(44)

$$\overline{t}_{n+2} = \overline{t}_{n+1} + \frac{\int_0^1 w \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(\overline{s}_n - \overline{t}_n\right) + t \left(\overline{t}_{n+1} - \overline{t}_n\right)\right] \left(\overline{t}_{n+1} - \overline{t}_n\right) dt}{1 - w \left(\frac{\overline{t}_{n+1} + \overline{s}_{n+1}}{2}\right)}$$
(45)

$$\overline{\overline{t}}_{0} = \overline{t}_{0}, \quad \overline{\overline{s}}_{0} = \overline{s}_{0}, \quad \overline{\overline{t}}_{1} = \overline{t}_{1},$$

$$\overline{\overline{s}}_{n+1} = \overline{\overline{t}}_{n+1} - \frac{f_{1}\left(\overline{\overline{t}}_{n}, \overline{\overline{s}}_{n}, \overline{\overline{t}}_{n+1}\right)}{g'\left(\overline{\overline{t}}_{n+1}\right)}, \quad (46)$$

$$\overline{\overline{t}}_{n+2} = \overline{\overline{t}}_{n+1} - \frac{f_2\left(\overline{\overline{t}}_n, \overline{\overline{s}}_n, \overline{\overline{t}}_{n+1}\right)}{g'\left(\frac{\overline{\overline{t}}_{n+1} + \overline{\overline{s}}_{n+1}}{2}\right)},\tag{47}$$

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where,

$$f_1(a, b, c) = \int_0^1 \overline{w}[a + t(c - a)](b - a)dt - w(a)(b - a)dt$$

and

$$f_2(a,b,c) = \int_0^1 \overline{w}[b+t(c-a)](c-a)dt - w\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right)(c-a).$$
  
w of (3) and (4) it follows that

In view of (3) and (4) it follows that

$$w_0(r) \le w(r) \quad \text{for all } r \in [0, R], \tag{48}$$

and  $\frac{w(r)}{w_0(r)}$  can be arbitrarily large [3], [4]. By comparing sequences  $\{s_n\}, \{t_n\}$  with  $\{\overline{s}_n\}$  and  $\{\overline{t}_n\}$  and using induction on  $n \ge 0$  we deduce

$$s_n \leq \overline{s}_n,$$
 (49)

$$t_n \leq t_n, \tag{50}$$

$$s_n - t_n \leq \overline{s_n} - \overline{t_n}, \tag{51}$$

$$s_{n+1} - t_n \leq \overline{t_{n+1}} - \overline{t_n}, \tag{52}$$

$$t_{n+1} - t_n \leq t_{n+1} - t_n, \tag{52}$$

$$t^* - s_n \leq t - \overline{s}_n, \quad t = \lim_{n \to \infty} t_n, \tag{53}$$

$$t^* - t_{n+1} \leq \overline{t}^* - \overline{t}_{n+1}, \tag{54}$$

and

$$t^* \le \overline{t}^*. \tag{55}$$

Note also that strict inequality holds in (47) - (50) if (44) also holds as a strict inequality.

Moreover if (35) or (36) hold then

$$\overline{s}_n \leq \overline{\overline{s}}_n, \tag{56}$$

$$\overline{t}_n \leq \overline{t}_n,$$
 (57)

$$\overline{s}_n - \overline{t}_n \leq \overline{\overline{s}}_n - \overline{\overline{t}}_n, \tag{58}$$

$$\overline{t}_{n+1} - \overline{t}_n \leq \overline{t}_{n+1} - \overline{t}_n, \tag{59}$$

$$\overline{t}^* - \overline{s}_n \leq \overline{t}^* - \overline{s}_n, \quad \overline{t}^* = \lim_{n \to \infty} \overline{t}_n, \quad (60)$$

$$\overline{t}^* - \overline{t}_{n+1} \leq \overline{\overline{t}}^* - \overline{\overline{t}}_{n+1}, \tag{61}$$

and

$$\overline{t}^* \le \overline{\overline{t}}^*. \tag{62}$$

Clearly, if conditions for the convergence of sequences  $\{\overline{s}_n\}, \{\overline{t}_n\}$  are imposed, the same conditions will imply the convergence of the finer sequences  $\{s_n\}, \{\overline{s}_n\}, \{\overline{s}_n$  $\{t_n\}, \{\overline{s}_n\}, \text{ and } \{\overline{t}_n\} \ (n \ge 0).$  Such a condition is:

(C) Equation

$$f(r) = 0 \tag{63}$$

has a unique solution  $\delta \in [0, R]$ .

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Note that in this case

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \overline{\overline{s}}_n = \lim_{n \to \infty} \overline{\overline{t}}_n \le \delta.$$

The proof is omitted since it has essentially been given in Theorem 2 in [2, p. 5].

**Remark 2.2.** Concerning related method (7), let us consider the corresponding scalar majorizing sequences  $\{p_n\}, \{q_n\}, \{\overline{p}_n\}, \{\overline{q}_n\}, \{\overline{\overline{p}}_n\}, \{\overline{\overline{q}}_n\}, (n \ge 0)$  defined as the s-t-sequences, respectively.

For example, sequences  $\{p_n\}$ ,  $\{q_n\}$  as defined as  $\{s_n\}$ ,  $\{t_n\}$  given in (6) and (7) but  $s_n$ ,  $t_n$ ,  $t_{n+1}$ ,  $\frac{t_n + s_n}{2}$  are now  $p_n$ ,  $q_n$ ,  $p_{n+1}$ ,  $p_n$ , respectively, etc.

Clearly, method (7) also converges under condition (C).

Note that a similar proof as in Theorem 2.1 can be given for method (7). We do not known if the *s*-*t*-sequences are finer than the *p*-*q*-sequences. In practice, we will use both to see which ones provide the more precise estimates on the distances  $|| y_n - x_n ||$ ,  $|| x_{n+1} - x_n ||$ ,  $|| y_n - x^* || (n \ge 0)$ .

Finally note that the results obtained here can be extended to the more general method (2) where  $z_n = (1 - \lambda)x_n + \lambda y_n$ ,  $0 \le \lambda \le 1$ . However here we decided to examine (2) only in the case  $\lambda = \frac{1}{2}$  which although seems to be the most popular [7], [8], [13] we do not know yet if it is always the best choice.

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