

CONVERGENCE BEHAVIOUR OF INEXACT NEWTON METHODS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper we investigate local convergence properties of inexact Newton and Newton-like methods for systems of nonlinear equations. Processes with modified relative residual control are considered, and new sufficient conditions for linear convergence in an arbitrary vector norm are provided. For a special case the results are affine invariant.

1. INTRODUCTION

We consider the system of nonlinear equations

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

where F is a given function from \mathbb{R}^N to \mathbb{R}^N , and we let $F'(x)$ denote the Jacobian of F at x . Locally convergent iterative procedures commonly used to solve (1) have the general form:

*For $k = 0$ step 1 until convergence do
Find the step Δ_k which satisfies*

$$(2) \quad B_k \Delta_k = -F(x_k)$$

Set $x_{k+1} = x_k + \Delta_k$

where x_0 is a given initial guess and B_k is a $N \times N$ nonsingular matrix. The process is Newton's method if $B_k = F'(x_k)$, and it represents a Newton-like method if $B_k = B(x_k)$ is an approximation to $F'(x_k)$ ([1], [2]).

In [3] and [4] iterative processes of the following general form were formulated:

*For $k = 0$ step 1 until convergence do
Find some step s_k which satisfies*

$$(3) \quad B_k s_k = -F(x_k) + r_k, \text{ where } \frac{\|r_k\|}{\|F(x_k)\|} \leq \eta_k$$

Set $x_{k+1} = x_k + s_k$.

Here $\{\eta_k\}$ is a sequence of forcing terms such that $0 \leq \eta_k < 1$. These iterative processes are called inexact methods. In particular, we obtain inexact Newton methods taking $B_k = F'(x_k)$ and inexact Newton-like methods if B_k approximates the Jacobian $F'(x_k)$. We remark that inexact methods include the class of Newton iterative methods ([1]), where an iterative method is used to approximate the solution of the linear systems (2).

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For inexact Newton methods, local and rate of convergence properties can be characterized in terms of the forcing sequence $\{\eta_k\}$. Let $\|\cdot\|$ denote any vector norm on \mathbb{R}^N and the matrix subordinate norm on $\mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$. In [3] it is shown that, if the usual assumptions for Newton's method hold and $\{\eta_k\}$ is uniformly less than one, we can define a sequence $\{x_k\}$ linearly convergent to a solution x^* of (1) in the norm $\|y\|_* = \|F'(x^*)y\|$.

Recently, several authors (see e.g. [5], [6], [7], [8]) have proposed applications of inexact methods in different fields of numerical analysis and pointed out difficulties in applying linear convergence results of [3]. In fact, such results are norm-dependent and $\|\cdot\|_*$ is not computable. Then, they focused on the analysis of the stopping relative residual control $\|r_k\|/\|F(x_k)\| \leq \eta_k$ and its effect on convergence properties.

In this paper we consider inexact methods where a scaled relative residual control is performed at each iteration. Further, we determine conditions that assure linear convergence of inexact methods in terms of a sequence of forcing terms uniformly less than one and for an arbitrary norm on \mathbb{R}^N . Such schemes include as a special case inexact methods (3). The results obtained are valid under the assumption of widely used hypotheses on F and merge into the theory of Newton's and Newton-like methods in the limiting case of vanishing residuals, i.e. $\eta_k = 0$ for each k . Further, for a special case, such conditions of convergence are affine invariant and in agreement with the theory of [9].

2. PRELIMINARIES

In this section we analyze local convergence results given in [3]. The following definition of rate of convergence can be found in [1].

Definition 2.1. Let $\{x_k\} \subset \mathbb{R}^N$ be any convergent sequence with limit x^* . Then $x_k \rightarrow x^*$ with Q-order at least p , $p \geq 1$, if

$$\|x_{k+1} - x^*\| = O(\|x_k - x^*\|^p), \quad k \rightarrow \infty.$$

Moreover, consider the quantity $Q_p = Q_p(\{x_k\}, x^*)$, called the Q-factor:

$$(4) \quad Q_p(\{x_k\}, x^*) = \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|x_{k+1} - x^*\|}{\|x_k - x^*\|^p}.$$

In [1] it is noted that if $Q_p < \infty$, then for any $\epsilon > 0$ there exists a k_0 such that

$$(5) \quad \|x_{k+1} - x^*\| \leq \alpha \|x_k - x^*\|^p, \quad k \geq k_0,$$

where $\alpha = Q_p + \epsilon$. With regard to $p = 1$ and for a given norm, the process has Q-linear convergence if $0 < Q_1 < 1$, Q-sublinear convergence if $Q_1 \geq 1$. If, for $p = 1$, there exist $\alpha < 1$ and k_0 such that (5) holds, convergence is Q-linear in that norm ([1]).

In [3] the following result is proved:

Theorem 2.1 ([3], Th. 2.3). *Let $F : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$ be a nonlinear mapping with the following properties:*

- (i) *there exists an $x^* \in \mathbb{R}^N$ with $F(x^*) = 0$;*
- (ii) *F is continuously differentiable in a neighborhood of x^* , and $F'(x^*)$ is nonsingular.*

Assume that $\eta_k \leq \eta_{max} < t < 1$. Then there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that, if $\|x_0 - x^*\| \leq \epsilon$, the sequence $\{x_k\}$ of inexact Newton methods converges to x^* . Moreover, the convergence is linear in the sense that

$$\|x_{k+1} - x^*\|_* \leq t \|x_k - x^*\|_*, \quad k \geq 0.$$

This thesis holds for inexact Newton-like methods too, if we assume that B_k is a good approximation to $F'(x_k)$, i.e.

$$\|B_k - F'(x_k)\| \leq \gamma \quad \text{and} \quad \|B_k^{-1} - F'(x_k)^{-1}\| \leq \gamma,$$

where γ is a suitable small quantity.

Theorem 2.1 assures that inexact Newton methods converge Q -linearly in norm $\|\cdot\|_*$ and

$$(6) \quad \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|x_{k+1} - x^*\|_*}{\|x_k - x^*\|_*} \leq t.$$

Convergence conditions in norm $\|\cdot\|$ can be easily derived with slight changes in the proof of Theorem 2.1. In particular, since

$$\frac{\|y\|}{\|F'(x^*)^{-1}y\|} \leq \|y\|_* \leq \|F'(x^*)\| \|y\|,$$

we obtain

$$(7) \quad Q_1(\{x_k\}, x^*) = \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|x_{k+1} - x^*\|}{\|x_k - x^*\|} \leq \text{cond}(F'(x^*)) t,$$

where $\text{cond}(F'(x^*)) = \|F'(x^*)\| \|F'(x^*)^{-1}\|$ is the condition number of $F'(x^*)$.

This observation points out an interesting relation between the Q_1 -factor in norm $\|\cdot\|$ and the number $\text{cond}(F'(x^*)) t$, and shows that convergence in norm $\|\cdot\|$ may be sublinear if $\text{cond}(F'(x^*)) t \geq 1$.

Since (7) employs x^* , it does not allow us to evaluate the upper bound t on $\{\eta_k\}$ such that convergence is assured to be Q -linear in norm $\|\cdot\|$. On the other hand, in the following section we will show that, for a well known class of functions F and for an arbitrary norm on \mathbb{R}^N , new linear convergence conditions leading to computable restrictions on the forcing terms can be derived. As in Theorem 2.1, the forcing sequence is uniformly less than one.

3. INEXACT METHODS WITH SCALED RESIDUAL CONTROL

In this section we assume that F belongs to the class $\mathcal{F}(\omega, \Lambda^*)$ of nonlinear mappings that satisfy the following properties ([6], [9]-[13]):

- (i) $F : D(F) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$, $D(F)$ an open set, is continuously differentiable in $D(F)$;
- (ii) there exists an $x^* \in D(F)$ such that $F(x^*) = 0$ and $F'(x^*)$ is nonsingular;
- (iii) $S(x^*, \omega) = \{x | x \in \mathbb{R}^N \|x - x^*\| \leq \omega\} \subset D(F)$, and x^* is the only solution of $F(x) = 0$ in $S(x^*, \omega)$;
- (iv) for $x, y \in S(x^*, \omega)$,

$$\|F'(x^*)^{-1}(F'(y) - F'(x))\| \leq \Lambda^* \|y - x\|.$$

From [10], [2] and [11] we have the following lemmata:

Lemma 3.1 ([10]). *Let $F \in \mathcal{F}(\omega, \Lambda^*)$. Then there exists $\sigma < \min\{\omega, 1/\Lambda^*\}$ such that $F'(x)$ is invertible in $S(x^*, \sigma)$ and for all $x, y \in S(x^*, \sigma)$ we have*

$$(8) \quad E(y, x) = F'(x)^{-1}(F'(y) - F'(x)), \quad \|E(y, x)\| \leq \Lambda_\sigma \|y - x\|,$$

where $\Lambda_\sigma = \Lambda^*/(1 - \Lambda^*\sigma)$.

Lemma 3.2 ([2], Lemma 4.1.9). *Let $F : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$ be continuously differentiable in an open convex set $D \subset \mathbb{R}^N$. For any $x, x + z \in D$,*

$$F(x + z) - F(x) = \int_0^1 F'(x + tz)z \, dt.$$

Lemma 3.3 ([11], Lemma 3.1). *Let $x, y \in S(x^*, \sigma)$. Then*

$$(9) \quad \int_0^1 \|E(x^* + t(x - x^*), y)\| \, dt \leq \Lambda_\sigma \left(\frac{\|x - x^*\|}{2} + m \right),$$

where $m = \min\{\|x - y\|, \|x^* - y\|\}$.

In the following, for brevity, we write $\Lambda = \Lambda_\sigma$, $S = S(x^*, \sigma)$.

Now let us consider inexact methods of the form:

For $k = 0$ step 1 until convergence do

Find some step \hat{s}_k which satisfies

$$(10) \quad \hat{B}_k \hat{s}_k = -F(\hat{x}_k) + \hat{r}_k, \quad \text{where } \frac{\|P_k \hat{r}_k\|}{\|P_k F(\hat{x}_k)\|} \leq \theta_k$$

Set $\hat{x}_{k+1} = \hat{x}_k + \hat{s}_k$

where \hat{x}_0 is a given initial guess and P_k is an invertible matrix for each k . If $P_k = I$ for each k , (10) reduces to (3). It is worth noting that residuals of this form are used in iterative Newton methods if preconditioning is applied, and that P_k changes with index k if B_k does.

First we examine inexact Newton and modified inexact Newton methods that correspond to $\hat{B}_k = F'(\hat{y}_k)$ with $\hat{y}_k = \hat{x}_k$ and $\hat{y}_k = \hat{x}_0$, for each k , respectively.

Theorem 3.1. *Assume $\hat{B}_k = F'(\hat{y}_k)$, $\forall k$, in (10). Let $\hat{x}_0 \in S$, $\|\hat{x}_0 - x^*\| \leq \delta$, $\nu_k = \theta_k \text{cond}(P_k F'(\hat{y}_k))$ with $\nu_k \leq \bar{\nu} < \nu$, and $\mu = \frac{\Lambda}{2} \delta (1 + \nu)$. Then the iterates of (10) are well-defined and $\{\hat{x}_k\}$ converges to x^* if*

$$(11) \quad \alpha = \mu(\mu + \nu) + \nu < 1,$$

for inexact Newton methods and

$$(12) \quad \alpha = \mu(\mu + \nu) + 2\mu + \nu < 1,$$

for modified inexact Newton methods. Further, for sufficiently large k we have

$$(13) \quad \|\hat{x}_{k+1} - x^*\| \leq \nu \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\|,$$

$$(14) \quad \|\hat{x}_{k+1} - x^*\| \leq (2\mu + \nu) \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\|,$$

for inexact Newton and modified inexact Newton methods, respectively.

Proof. First, we point out that (11) or (12) implies $\nu < 1$, $(\mu + \nu) < 1$, and (12) yields $(2\mu + \nu) < 1$.

Assume that \hat{x}_k and \hat{y}_k are in S , and determine an upper bound for $\|\hat{x}_{k+1} - x^*\|$. From (10) and Lemma 3.2 with $\xi_k = x^* + t(\hat{x}_k - x^*)$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{x}_{k+1} - x^* &= \hat{x}_k - x^* - F'(\hat{y}_k)^{-1} (F(\hat{x}_k) - F(x^*)) + F'(\hat{y}_k)^{-1} \hat{r}_k \\ &= - \int_0^1 E(\xi_k, \hat{y}_k) dt (\hat{x}_k - x^*) + F'(\hat{y}_k)^{-1} P_k^{-1} P_k \hat{r}_k. \end{aligned}$$

Further,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|\hat{x}_{k+1} - x^*\| &\leq \int_0^1 \|E(\xi_k, \hat{y}_k)\| dt \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| + \theta_k \|(P_k F'(\hat{y}_k))^{-1}\| \|P_k F(\hat{x}_k)\| \\
 &\leq \int_0^1 \|E(\xi_k, \hat{y}_k)\| dt \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| \\
 &\quad + \theta_k \|(P_k F'(\hat{y}_k))^{-1}\| \|P_k F'(\hat{y}_k)\| \int_0^1 F'(\hat{y}_k)^{-1} F'(\xi_k) dt (\hat{x}_k - x^*) \\
 &\leq \int_0^1 \|E(\xi_k, \hat{y}_k)\| dt \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| \\
 &\quad + \theta_k \text{cond}(P_k F'(\hat{y}_k)) \left\| \int_0^1 (I + E(\xi_k, \hat{y}_k)) dt (\hat{x}_k - x^*) \right\| \\
 &\leq [(1 + \nu_k) \int_0^1 \|E(\xi_k, \hat{y}_k)\| dt + \nu_k] \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\|,
 \end{aligned}$$

and from Lemma 3.3 we derive

$$(15) \quad \|\hat{x}_{k+1} - x^*\| \leq [\Lambda(1 + \nu_k) (\frac{1}{2} \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| + m_k) + \nu_k] \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\|,$$

where $m_k = \min\{\|\hat{x}_k - \hat{y}_k\|, \|x^* - \hat{y}_k\|\}$.

Concerning inexact Newton methods, we observe that $m_k = 0$ for each k , and if $\hat{x}_k \in S(x^*, \delta)$ from (15) we have

$$\|\hat{x}_{k+1} - x^*\| \leq \left[\frac{\Lambda}{2} (1 + \nu_k) \delta + \nu_k \right] \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| < (\mu + \nu) \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\|.$$

Then, from (11) it follows that $\|\hat{x}_{k+1} - x^*\| < \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\|$. Moreover it can be shown that

$$(16) \quad \|\hat{x}_{k+1} - x^*\| < \alpha^k (\mu + \nu) \delta, \quad k \geq 0.$$

In fact, for $k = 0$ we have

$$\|\hat{x}_1 - x^*\| \leq \left(\frac{\Lambda}{2} (1 + \nu_0) \delta + \nu_0 \right) \|\hat{x}_0 - x^*\| < (\mu + \nu) \delta,$$

and (16) holds. Suppose now $\|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| < \alpha^{k-1} (\mu + \nu) \delta$ for a given $k \geq 1$. If $\alpha < 1$, then $\hat{x}_k \in S(x^*, \delta)$, and from (15) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|\hat{x}_{k+1} - x^*\| &< [\Lambda(1 + \nu_k) (\frac{1}{2} \alpha^{k-1} (\mu + \nu) \delta) + \nu_k] \alpha^{k-1} (\mu + \nu) \delta \\
 &< (\mu(\mu + \nu) + \nu) \alpha^{k-1} (\mu + \nu) \delta = \alpha^k (\mu + \nu) \delta,
 \end{aligned}$$

which proves (16).

To prove convergence for modified inexact Newton methods we show that (16) holds with α given in (12). In particular, $m_0 = 0$, $m_k = \min\{\|\hat{x}_0 - \hat{x}_k\|, \|\hat{x}_0 - x^*\|\} \leq \delta$ for $k > 0$, and (15) yields $\|\hat{x}_1 - x^*\| \leq (\frac{1}{2} \Lambda(1 + \nu_0) \delta + \nu_0) \|\hat{x}_0 - x^*\| < (\mu + \nu) \delta$. Then $\hat{x}_1 \in S(x^*, \delta)$, and (16) holds for $k = 0$.

If as inductive hypothesis we assume $\hat{x}_k \in S(x^*, \delta)$ and $\|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| < \alpha^{k-1} (\mu + \nu) \delta$, then from (15) we have $\|\hat{x}_{k+1} - x^*\| < \alpha \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\|$, and (16) follows.

Finally, if we consider (15) and if k is large enough so that

$$(17) \quad \frac{\Lambda}{2} (1 + \nu_k) \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| \leq \nu - \bar{\nu},$$

(13) and (14) easily follow. □

It is worth noting that, for a given $\nu < 1$, at each iteration (11) and (12) yield the upper bound $\nu/\text{cond}(P_k F'(\hat{y}_k))$ for θ_k .

This theorem also gives an estimate of the radius of convergence $\delta \leq \sigma$. In particular, from $\alpha < 1$ we have

$$\delta < \frac{2(1 - \nu)}{\Lambda(1 + \nu)}, \quad \delta < \frac{-(\nu + 2) + \sqrt{\nu^2 + 8}}{\Lambda(1 + \nu)},$$

for inexact Newton and modified inexact Newton methods, respectively, and we can conclude that δ decreases while ν approaches 1.

From Theorem 3.1, stated with $\Lambda = \Lambda_\sigma$, we have that the sequence $\{\hat{x}_k\}$ belongs to $S(x^*, \delta)$. Moreover, from [10] we know that, for $x, y \in S(x^*, \delta)$ and $\delta \leq \sigma$, (8) holds with $\Lambda_\delta = \Lambda^*/(1 - \Lambda^*\delta)$. Then we can conclude that the thesis of Theorem 3.1 is still valid if we replace Λ with Λ_δ . Further, if (11) and (12) are formulated in terms of Λ_δ , then for $\nu = 0$

$$\delta < \frac{2}{3\Lambda^*}, \quad \delta < \frac{2\sqrt{2} - 2}{(2\sqrt{2} - 1)\Lambda^*},$$

given in [12] for Newton’s method and modified Newton’s method, respectively. In particular, the estimate for the radius of convergence of Newton’s method is known to be sharp ([12]). Then, we can conclude that for vanishing residuals, Theorem 3.1 merges into the theory of Newton’s method.

A result analogous to Theorem 3.1 can be proven also for inexact Newton-like methods where $\hat{B}_k = \hat{B}(\hat{x}_k)$ approximates $F'(\hat{x}_k)$.

Theorem 3.2. *Let $\hat{B}(x)$ be an approximation to the Jacobian $F'(x)$ for $x \in D(F)$, satisfying for $x \in S$ the following properties:*

- $\hat{B}(x)$ is invertible;
- $\|\hat{B}(x)^{-1}F'(x) - I\| \leq \tau_1$;
- $\|\hat{B}(x)^{-1}F'(x)\| \leq \tau_2$.

Let $\hat{x}_0 \in S$, $\|\hat{x}_0 - x^*\| \leq \delta$, $\nu_k = \theta_k \text{cond}(P_k \hat{B}_k)$ and $\nu_k \leq \bar{\nu} < \nu$. Then the sequence $\{\hat{x}_k\}$ of (10) is well-defined, and $\{\hat{x}_k\}$ converges to x^* if

$$(18) \quad \alpha = \rho(\rho + \tau_1 + \nu \tau_2) + \tau_1 + \nu \tau_2 < 1,$$

where $\rho = \frac{\Lambda}{2} \delta(1 + \nu)\tau_2$. Moreover, for k sufficiently large,

$$(19) \quad \|\hat{x}_{k+1} - x^*\| \leq (\tau_1 + \nu \tau_2)\|\hat{x}_k - x^*\|.$$

Proof. To begin, note that (18) implies $(\tau_1 + \nu \tau_2) < 1$ and $(\rho + \tau_1 + \nu \tau_2) < 1$. We assume that $\hat{x}_k \in S$ and determine an upper bound for $\|\hat{x}_{k+1} - x^*\|$. From (10) and Lemma 3.2 with $\xi_k = x^* + t(\hat{x}_k - x^*)$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{x}_{k+1} - x^* &= \hat{x}_k - x^* - \hat{B}_k^{-1}(F(\hat{x}_k) - F(x^*)) + \hat{B}_k^{-1}\hat{r}_k \\ &= \hat{x}_k - x^* - \int_0^1 \hat{B}_k^{-1}F'(\xi_k)dt(\hat{x}_k - x^*) + \hat{B}_k^{-1}\hat{r}_k \\ &= - \int_0^1 \hat{B}_k^{-1}F'(\hat{x}_k)E(\xi_k, \hat{x}_k)dt(\hat{x}_k - x^*) \\ &\quad - \hat{B}_k^{-1}(F'(\hat{x}_k) - \hat{B}_k)(\hat{x}_k - x^*) + \hat{B}_k^{-1}P_k^{-1}P_k\hat{r}_k. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, applying Lemma 3.3, we derive

$$\begin{aligned} \|\hat{x}_{k+1} - x^*\| &\leq (\tau_2 \int_0^1 \|E(\xi_k, \hat{x}_k)\| dt + \tau_1) \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| + \theta_k \|\hat{B}_k^{-1} P_k^{-1}\| \|P_k F(\hat{x}_k)\| \\ &\leq (\frac{1}{2} \Lambda \tau_2 \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| + \tau_1) \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| \\ &\quad + \nu_k \tau_2 \int_0^1 \|F'(\hat{x}_k)^{-1} F'(\xi_k)\| dt \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| \\ &\leq (\frac{1}{2} \Lambda \tau_2 \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| + \tau_1) \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| \\ &\quad + \nu_k \tau_2 \int_0^1 \|(I + E(\xi_k, \hat{x}_k))\| dt \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\|, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(20) \quad \|\hat{x}_{k+1} - x^*\| \leq \left[\frac{\Lambda}{2} (1 + \nu_k) \tau_2 \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| + \tau_1 + \nu_k \tau_2 \right] \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\|.$$

To prove convergence, note that

$$\|\hat{x}_1 - x^*\| \leq (\rho + \tau_1 + \nu_0 \tau_2) \|\hat{x}_0 - x^*\| < (\rho + \tau_1 + \nu \tau_2) \delta,$$

and, by induction on $k > 1$, suppose that

$$(21) \quad \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| < \alpha^{k-1} (\rho + \tau_1 + \nu \tau_2) \delta,$$

with α defined in (18). We can conclude that $\hat{x}_k \in S(x^*, \delta)$ and, from (20),

$$\begin{aligned} \|\hat{x}_{k+1} - x^*\| &< \left[\frac{\Lambda}{2} (1 + \nu_k) \tau_2 \alpha^{k-1} (\rho + \tau_1 + \nu \tau_2) \delta + \tau_1 + \nu_k \tau_2 \right] \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| \\ &< [\rho (\rho + \tau_1 + \nu \tau_2) + \tau_1 + \nu \tau_2] \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\| = \alpha \|\hat{x}_k - x^*\|, \end{aligned}$$

which proves the induction hypothesis. Further, for sufficiently large k , (17) holds and from (20) we derive (19). \square

The results we proved state inverse proportionality between each forcing term θ_k and $\text{cond}(P_k \hat{B}_k)$. Such conditions are sufficient for convergence, and may be overly restrictive for the upper bounds on $\{\theta_k\}$ if $P_k \hat{B}_k$ are bad conditioned matrices.

We now consider the sequence $\{\hat{x}_k\}$ given by inexact methods (10) with $P_k \neq I$, and the sequence $\{x_k\}$ obtained for $P_k = I, \forall k$, and matrices $B_k = \hat{B}(x_k)$ in (3). From Theorem 3.2 it easily follows that if $x_0 = \hat{x}_0$ and the sequences $\{\theta_k \text{cond}(P_k \hat{B}_k)\}$ and $\{\eta_k \text{cond}(B_k)\}$ are bounded by the same quantity ν , then $\{x_k\}$ and $\{\hat{x}_k\}$ converge to x^* satisfying (19).

Further, consider the k -th equation (3)

$$B_k s_k = -F(x_k) + r_k,$$

and assume that both residual controls

$$\frac{\|r_k\|}{\|F(x_k)\|} \leq \eta_k, \quad \frac{\|P_k r_k\|}{\|P_k F(x_k)\|} \leq \theta_k,$$

are applied. If we suppose $\eta_k \text{cond}(B_k) = \theta_k \text{cond}(P_k B_k)$, i.e.

$$\theta_k = \frac{\text{cond}(B_k)}{\text{cond}(P_k B_k)} \eta_k = \gamma \eta_k,$$

and if P_k is such that $1 \leq \text{cond}(P_k B_k) \leq \text{cond}(B_k)$, we obtain $\gamma \in [1, \text{cond}(B_k)]$ and $\theta_k \in [\eta_k, \nu_k]$. We point out that θ_k does not depend on $\text{cond}(P_k)$ but only on the conditioning of $P_k B_k$. Further, it follows that the choice of a suitable scaling

matrix P_k such that $\text{cond}(P_k B_k) < \text{cond}(B_k)$ leads to a relaxation on the forcing terms, and while $\text{cond}(P_k B_k)$ decreases, θ_k approaches the maximum ν_k .

For $P_k = B_k^{-1}$, called *natural scaling* ([13]), we have the residual control

$$(22) \quad \frac{\|B_k^{-1} r_k\|}{\|B_k^{-1} F(x_k)\|} \leq \theta_k,$$

and the *extremal properties* $\text{cond}(P_k B_k) = 1$ and $\theta_k = \nu_k$, hold. Moreover, regarding inexact Newton and modified inexact Newton methods with control (22), from Theorem 3.1 it is easy to derive

Corollary 3.1. *Let the hypotheses of Theorem 3.1 hold. Then, given a sequence $\{\theta_k\}$ uniformly less than 1, there exists a $\hat{\delta}$ such that for $\hat{x}_0 \in S(x^*, \delta)$, $\delta < \hat{\delta}$, the sequence $\{\hat{x}_k\}$ converges Q -linearly.*

Proof. Since $\nu_k = \theta_k < 1 \forall k$ and $\{\theta_k\}$ is bounded away from 1, for a suitable $\nu < 1$ we have $\nu_k \leq \bar{\nu} < \nu$. Further, there exists $\hat{\delta} > 0$ such that (11) holds. Then, from Theorem 3.1 the thesis follows for inexact Newton methods. In the same way, if $\hat{\delta}$ is such that (12) is satisfied, the thesis holds for modified inexact Newton methods. \square

We remark that $\theta_k < 1$ is the only condition needed to define the process correctly ([3]), and that condition (22) is affine invariant, as it is insensitive with respect to transformations of the mapping $F(x)$ of the form: $F(x) \rightarrow AF(x)$, A an invertible matrix, as long as the same affine transformation is also valid for $B(x)$ (see e.g. inexact Newton, modified inexact Newton and inexact finite difference methods).

Since Newton's iterates are affine invariant, in [13] convergence conditions were determined in affine invariant terms. Ypma provided an affine invariant study of local convergence also for inexact Newton methods, although they are formally no longer affine invariant unless the residuals vanish. Specifically, in [9] it was noted that even if the method

$$\begin{aligned} F'(x_k) s_k &= -F(x_k) + r_k, & k = 0, 1, \dots, \\ x_{k+1} &= x_k + s_k, \end{aligned}$$

is affine invariant, the condition $\|r_k\|/\|F(x_k)\|$ is not. As a consequence the alternative form (22) with $B_k = F'(x_k)^{-1}$ was proposed, and affine convergence theory was provided for the resulting process.

We point out that for $P_k = B_k^{-1}$ and for methods such that (22) is affine invariant, Theorems 3.1 and 3.2 represent an affine convergence analysis of inexact Newton-like methods, and in the case of inexact Newton methods Corollary 3.1 agrees with the main theorem of [9] (see [9], Theorem 3.1).

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