

# 10.34: Numerical Methods Applied to Chemical Engineering

Lecture 7:  
Solutions of nonlinear equations  
Newton-Raphson method

# Recap

- Singular value decomposition
- Iterative solutions to linear equations

# Recap

- Iterative solutions to linear equations
  - Given:  $\mathbf{x}_0$
  - Iterate on:  $\mathbf{x}_{i+1} = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{c}$
  - Until converged to solution of:  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$
  
- Assume the iterations converge. When should I stop?

# Systems of Nonlinear Eqns.

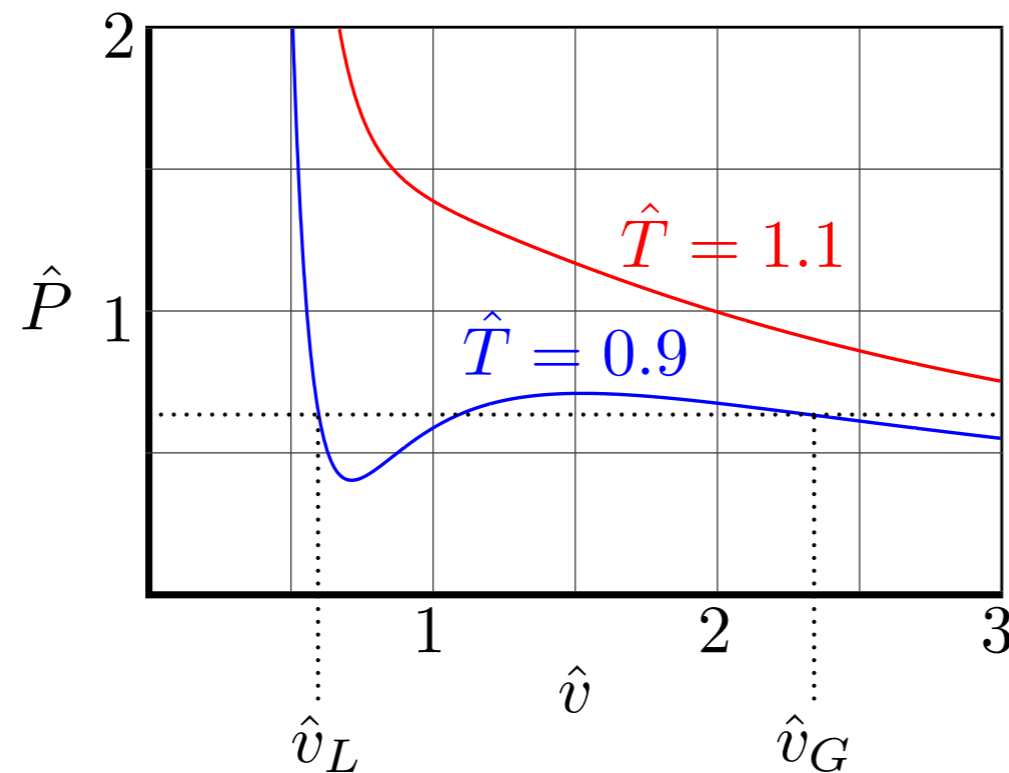
- Formally:  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = 0$ 
  - where:  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$
  - where:  $\mathbf{f} : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$
  - $\mathbf{x}$  are called the roots of  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$
  - linear equations are represented as  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}$
- Common chemical engineering examples include:
  - Equations of state
  - Energy balances
  - Mass balances with nonlinear reactions

# Systems of Nonlinear Eqns.

- Example: van der Waals equation of state

$$\left( \hat{P} + \frac{3}{\hat{v}^2} \right) \left( \hat{v} - \frac{1}{3} \right) = \frac{8}{3} \hat{T}$$

- $\hat{P}$ ,  $\hat{T}$ ,  $\hat{v}$  are reduced pressure, temperature, and molar volume



- Given pressure and temperature, there are 1-3 molar volumes that satisfy the equation of state.

# Systems of Nonlinear Eqns.

- Example: van der Waals equation of state

$$\left( \hat{P} + \frac{3}{\hat{v}^2} \right) \left( \hat{v} - \frac{1}{3} \right) = \frac{8}{3} \hat{T}$$

- Given pressure and temperature, 1, 2 or 3 solutions for molar volume possible.

$$f(\hat{v}; \hat{P}, \hat{T}) = \left( \hat{P} + \frac{3}{\hat{v}^2} \right) \left( \hat{v} - \frac{1}{3} \right) - \frac{8}{3} \hat{T} = 0$$

- In general, nonlinear equations can have any number of solutions. It is impossible to predict beforehand.
- For gas-liquid coexistence, can the pressure and temperature be specified independently?

# Systems of Nonlinear Eqns.

- Example: van der Waals equation of state
- For gas-liquid coexistence, can the pressure and temperature be specified independently?
  - No!
  - Thermal equil. – same temperature in gas/liquid

$$\hat{T}_G = \hat{T}_L = \hat{T}$$

- Mechanical equil. – same pressure in gas/liquid

$$\hat{P}_G = \hat{P}_L = \hat{P}_{\text{sat}}$$

- Chemical equil. – same chemical potential in gas/liquid

$$\int_{\hat{v}_G}^{\hat{v}_L} (\hat{P}(\hat{v}) - \hat{P}_{\text{sat}}) d\hat{v} = 0$$

# Systems of Nonlinear Eqns.

- Example: van der Waals equation of state
- For gas-liquid coexistence, can the pressure and temperature be specified independently?
  - Given the temperature, there are 3 unknowns
    - The saturation pressure
    - The molar volumes of the gas and liquid
  - There are three nonlinear equations to solve:
    - Equation of state in gas/liquid
    - Maxwell equal area construction
- Must solve:  $\mathbf{f}(\hat{P}_{\text{sat}}, \hat{v}_G, \hat{v}_L) = 0$



# Systems of Nonlinear Eqns.

- Example: van der Waals equation of state
  - Must solve:  $\mathbf{f}(\hat{P}_{\text{sat}}, \hat{v}_G, \hat{v}_L) = 0$

$$f_1(\hat{P}_{\text{sat}}, \hat{v}_G, \hat{v}_L) = \left( \hat{P}_{\text{sat}} + \frac{3}{\hat{v}_G^2} \right) \left( \hat{v}_G - \frac{1}{3} \right) - \frac{8}{3} \hat{T} = 0$$

$$f_2(\hat{P}_{\text{sat}}, \hat{v}_G, \hat{v}_L) = \left( \hat{P}_{\text{sat}} + \frac{3}{\hat{v}_L^2} \right) \left( \hat{v}_L - \frac{1}{3} \right) - \frac{8}{3} \hat{T} = 0$$

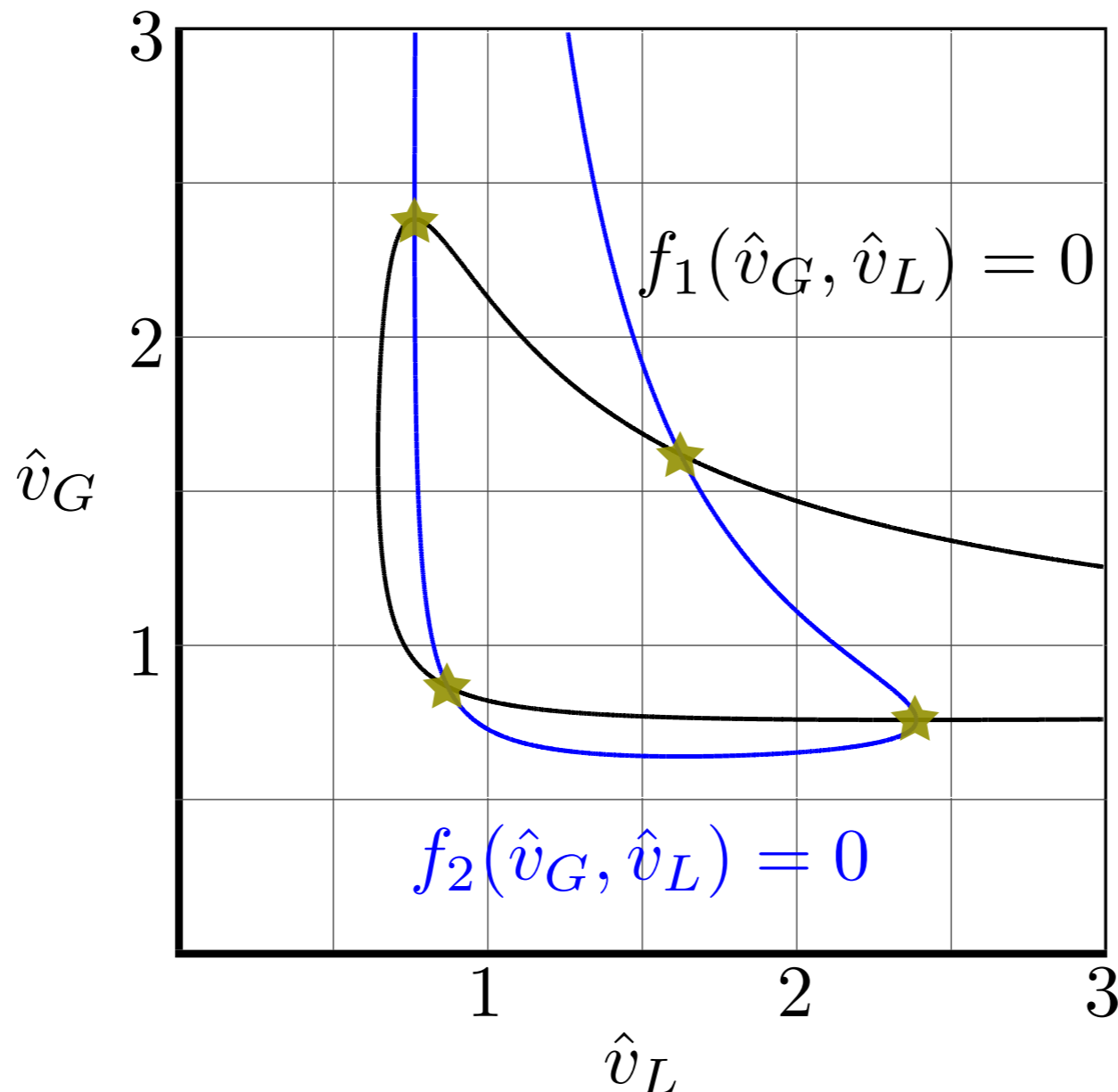
$$f_3(\hat{P}_{\text{sat}}, \hat{v}_G, \hat{v}_L) = \int_{\hat{v}_G}^{\hat{v}_L} (\hat{P}(\hat{v}) - \hat{P}_{\text{sat}}) d\hat{v} = 0$$

# Systems of Nonlinear Eqns.

- Example: van der Waals equation of state

- Use  $\hat{P}_{\text{sat}} = \frac{1}{\hat{v}_L - \hat{v}_G} \int_{\hat{v}_G}^{\hat{v}_L} \hat{P}(\hat{v}) d\hat{v}$  to eliminate  $\hat{P}_{\text{sat}}$  from:

$$f_1(\hat{P}_{\text{sat}}, \hat{v}_G, \hat{v}_L), f_2(\hat{P}_{\text{sat}}, \hat{v}_G, \hat{v}_L),$$



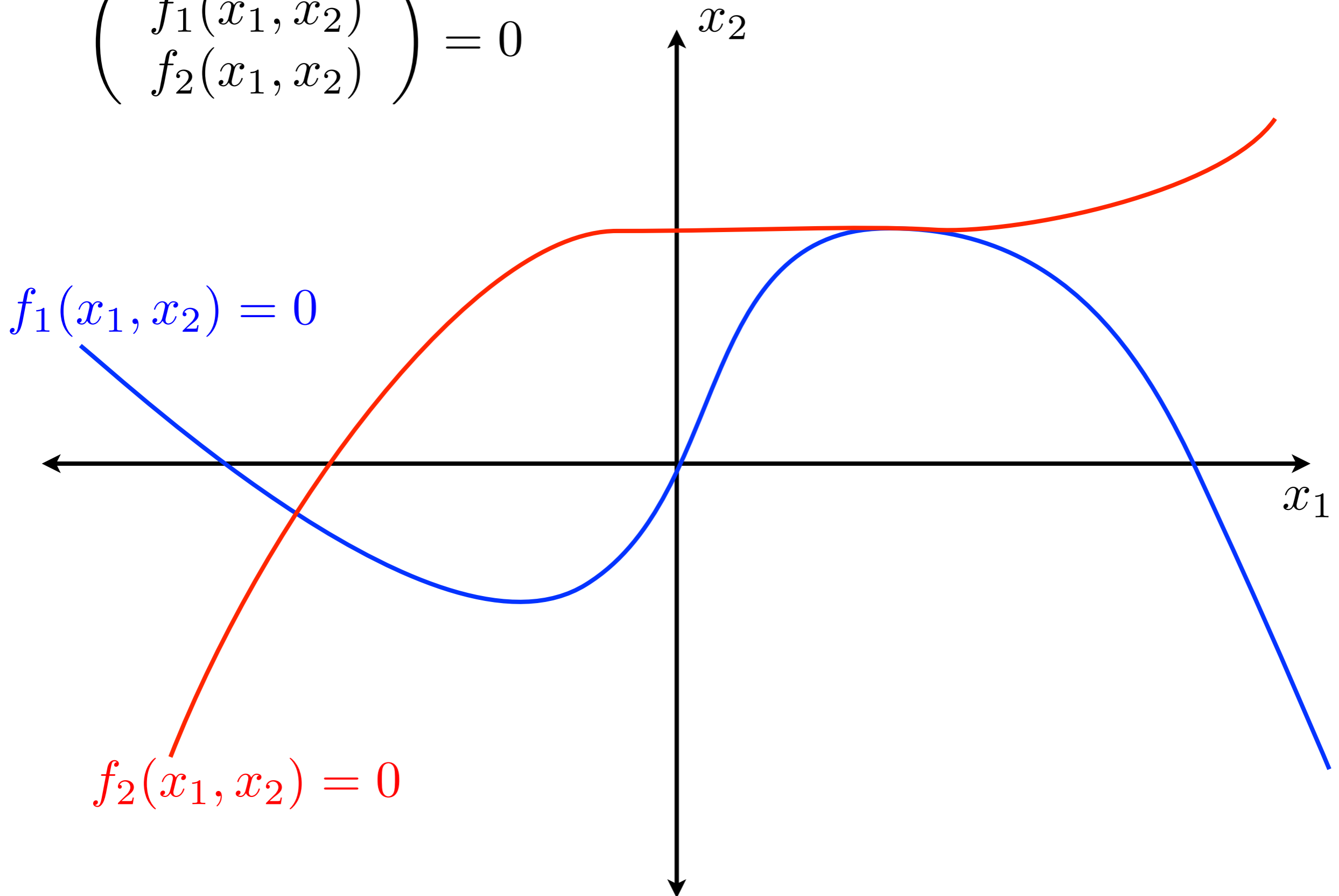
# Systems of Nonlinear Eqns.

- Given:  $\mathbf{f} : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$
- Find:  $\mathbf{x}^* \in \mathbb{R}^N : \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$ 
  - There could be no solutions
  - There could be  $1 < n < \infty$  locally unique solutions
  - There could be  $\infty$  solutions
- A solution,  $\mathbf{x}^*$ , is locally unique if there exists a ball of finite radius such that  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is the only solution within the ball.
- Consider the simple function:

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_1(x_1, x_2) \\ f_2(x_1, x_2) \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

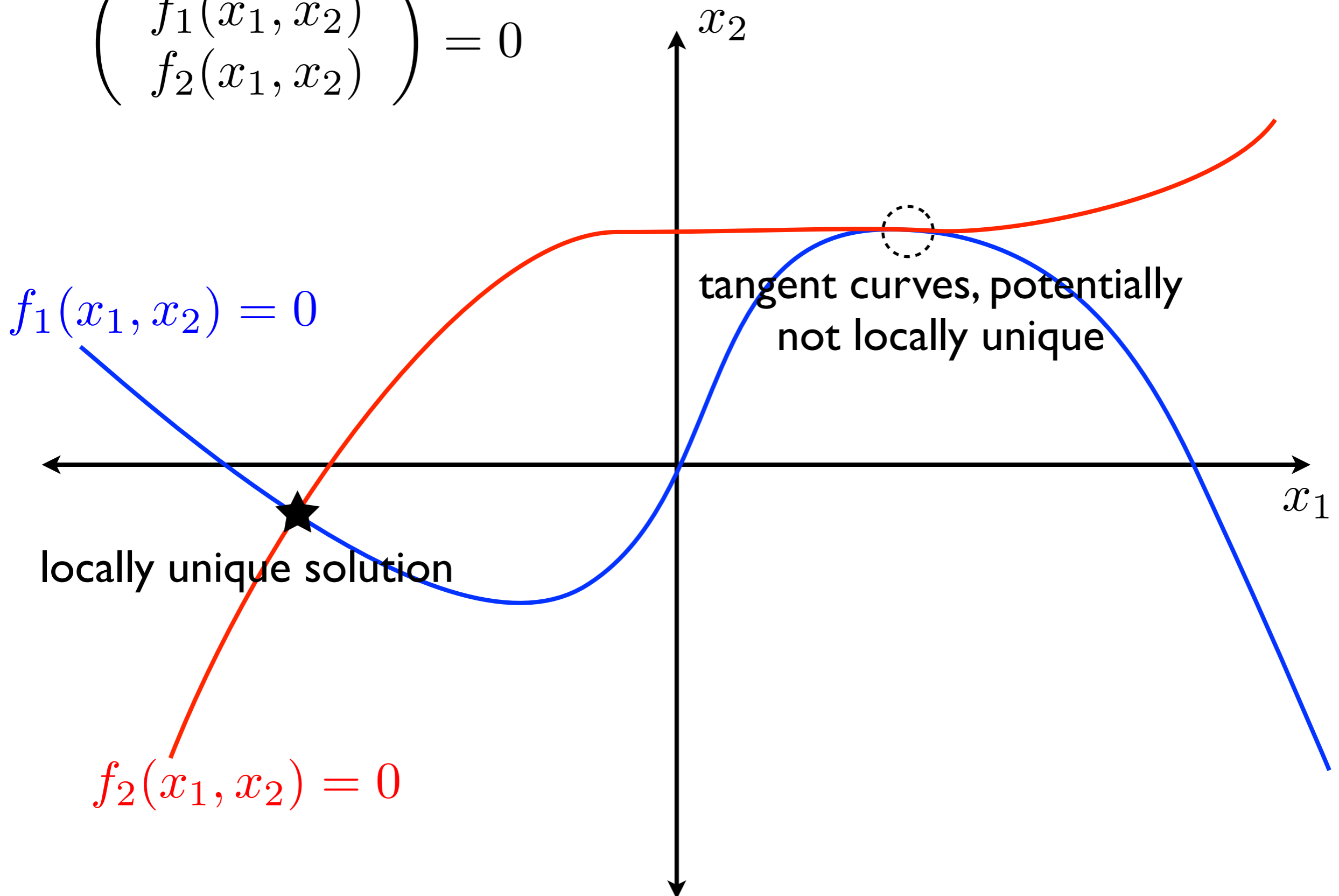
# Systems of Nonlinear Eqns.

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_1(x_1, x_2) \\ f_2(x_1, x_2) \end{pmatrix} = 0$$



# Systems of Nonlinear Eqns.

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_1(x_1, x_2) \\ f_2(x_1, x_2) \end{pmatrix} = 0$$



# Systems of Nonlinear Eqns.

- Inverse function theorem:

- If  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$  and  $\det \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}^*) \neq 0$ ,

- then  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a locally unique solution,

- where the Jacobian is:

$$\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_N} \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_N}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_N}{\partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_N}{\partial x_N} \end{pmatrix}$$

- The Jacobian describes the rate of change of a vector function with respect to all of its independent variables.
- If  $\det \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$ , solution may/may not be locally unique
- Most numerical methods can only find one locally unique solution at a time.

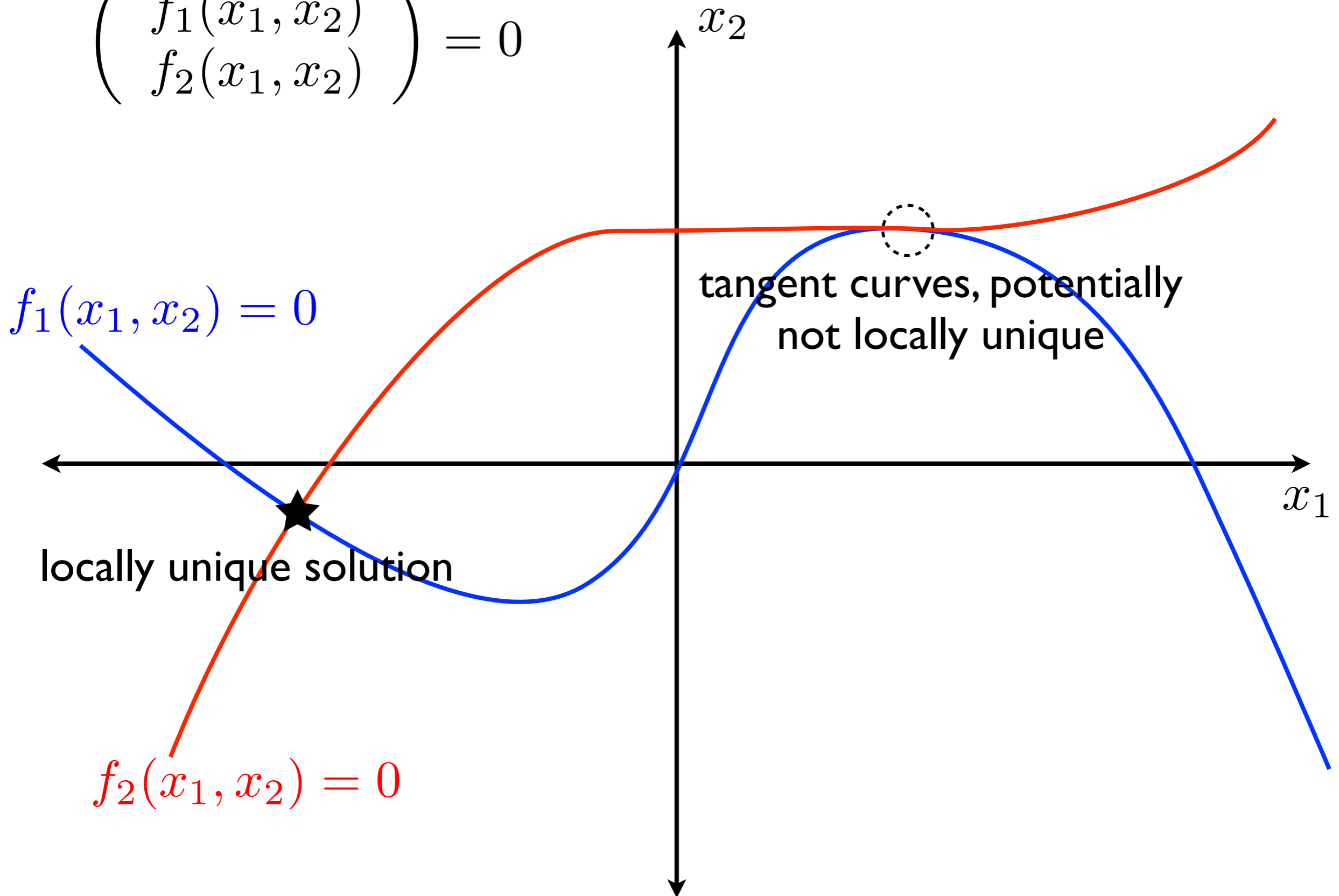
# Systems of Nonlinear Eqns.

- Example:
  - Compute the Jacobian of:

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1^2 + x_2^2 \\ x_1^2 x_2^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Systems of Nonlinear Eqns.

$$\begin{pmatrix} f_1(x_1, x_2) \\ f_2(x_1, x_2) \end{pmatrix} = 0$$





# Systems of Nonlinear Eqns.

- Inverse function theorem:

- Consider a linear equation:  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}$

- The Jacobian of the function is:

$$\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{A}$$

- The equation:  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = 0$ , has a locally unique solution when  $\det \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}) = \det \mathbf{A} \neq 0$
- There is a locally unique solution when  $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible
- The inverse function theorem is just a generalization of what we learned in our study of linear algebra.
- In fact, in a neighborhood close to a root of  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ , we can often treat the function as linear!

# Linearization

- Linearizing 1-D nonlinear functions:
  - $f(x + \Delta x) = f(x) + f'(x)\Delta x + O(\Delta x^2)$
  - typically valid as  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$
- Linearizing generalized nonlinear functions:
  - $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x} + \Delta \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x})\Delta \mathbf{x} + O(\|\Delta \mathbf{x}\|_2^2)$
  - typically valid as  $\|\Delta \mathbf{x}\|_2 \rightarrow 0$
- Part of a Taylor expansion for each component of  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ :

$$f_i(\mathbf{x} + \Delta \mathbf{x}) = f_i(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{\partial f_i(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_j} \Delta x_j$$
$$+ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{\partial^2 f_i(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_j \partial x_k} \Delta x_j \Delta x_k + \dots$$

# Iterative Solutions to NLEs

- Nonlinear equations,  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^*) = 0$ , are solved iteratively
- The algorithmic map:  $\mathbf{x}_{i+1} = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_i)$ , is designed so that:
  - $\mathbf{x}^* = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}^*)$
  - equivalently,  $\mathbf{x}^*$  is a fixed point of the map,  $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})$
- Iterations stop when the map is sufficiently converged.
- Two common criterion for stopping are:

- Function norm criterion:

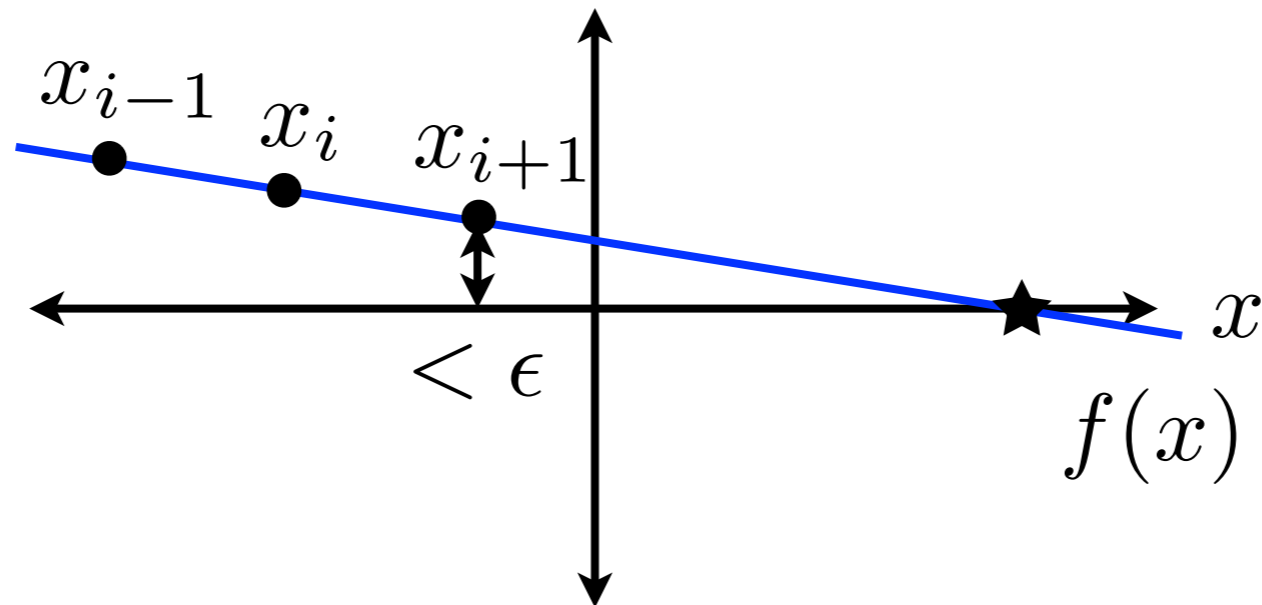
$$\|\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_{i+1})\|_p \leq \epsilon$$

- Step norm criterion:

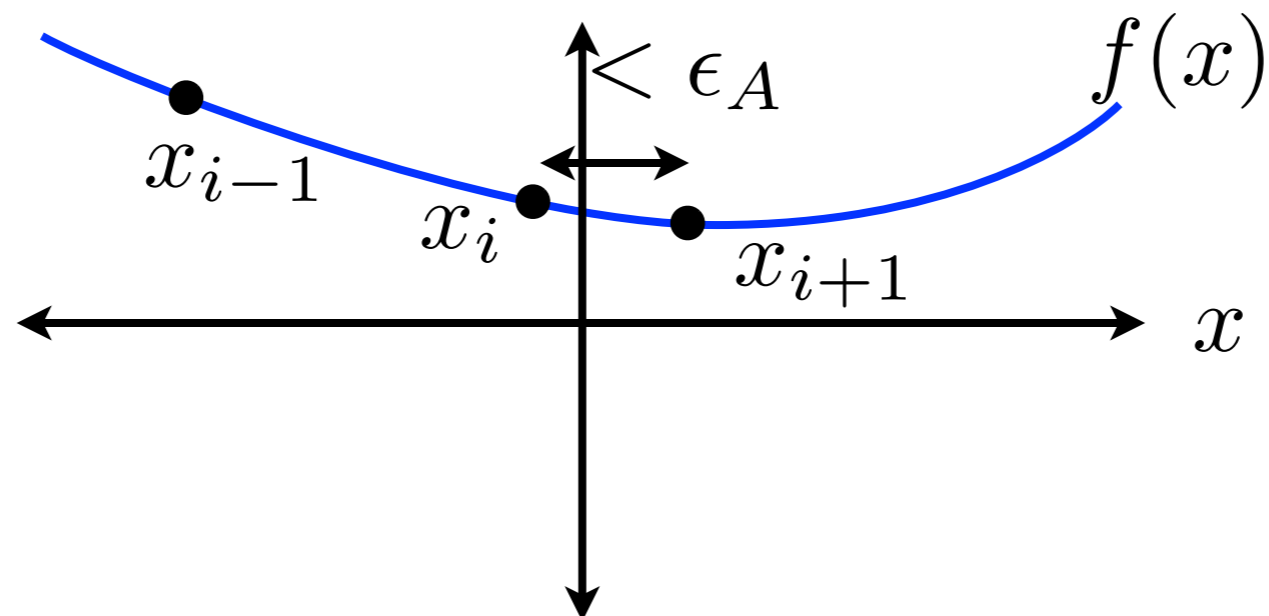
$$\|\mathbf{x}_{i+1} - \mathbf{x}_i\|_p \leq \epsilon_R \|\mathbf{x}_{i+1}\|_p + \epsilon_A$$

# Iterative Solutions to NLEs

- Failure of function norm criterion:



- Failure of step norm criterion:



# Convergence Rate

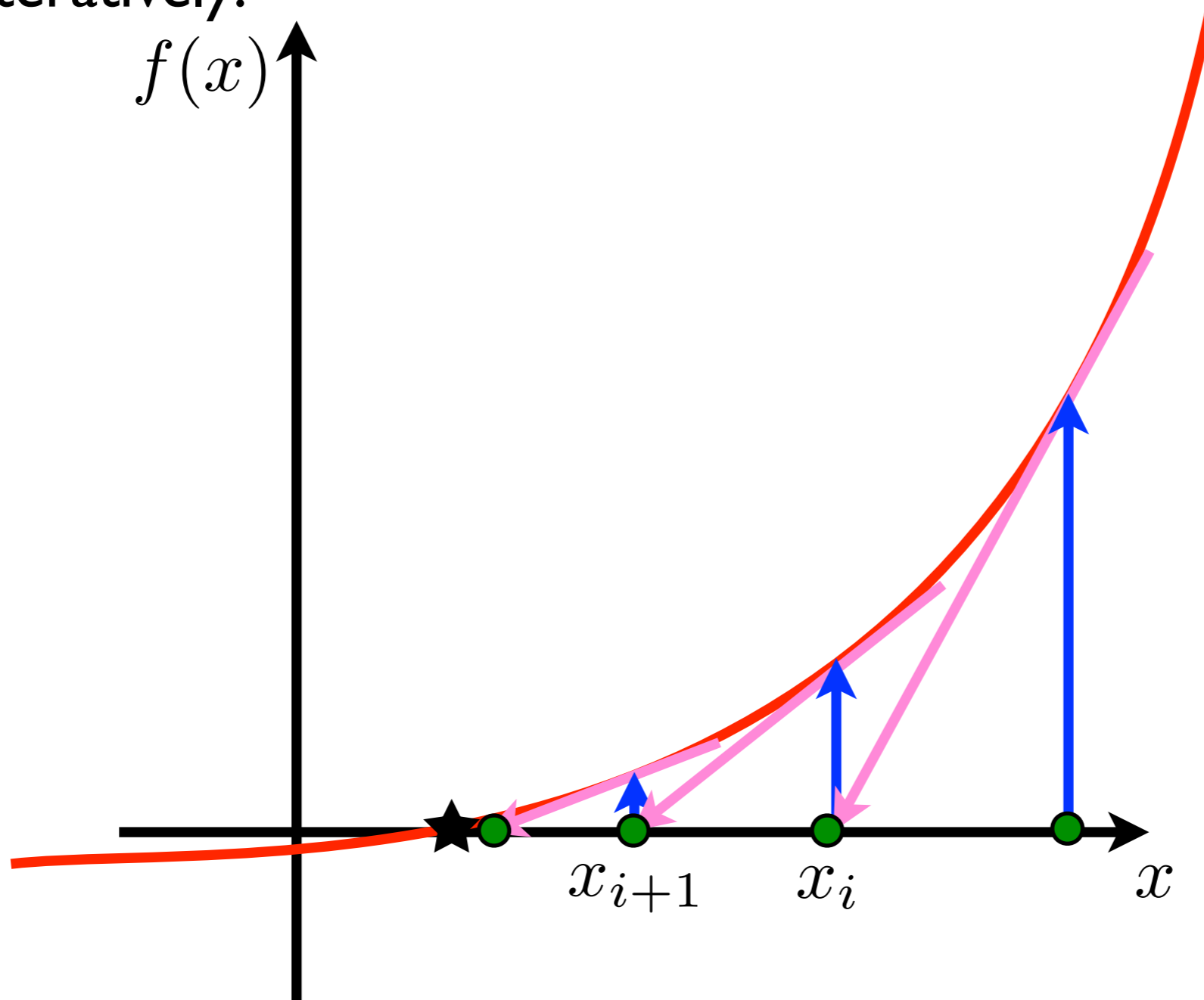
- The rate of convergence is addressed by examining:

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|\mathbf{x}_{i+1} - \mathbf{x}^*\|_p}{\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}^*\|_p^q} = C$$

- when the limit exists and is not zero:
  - $q = 1, C < 1$ , convergence is linear
    - If  $C = 10^{-1}$  each iteration is 1 digit more accurate than the previous
  - $q > 1$ , convergence is super-linear
  - $q = 2$ , convergence is quadratic
    - The number of accurate digits doubles with each iteration.
- Jacobi and Gauss-Seidel showed linear convergence rates

# Newton-Raphson Method

- Utilize linear approximations of the function to find a root iteratively:



$$f(x_{i+1}) \approx 0 = f(x_i) + f'(x_i)(x_{i+1} - x_i)$$

$$x_{i+1} = x_i - \frac{f(x_i)}{f'(x_i)}$$

# Newton-Raphson Method

- When the iterate is sufficiently close to the root, convergence is guaranteed (local convergence)!
- Extending this idea to systems nonlinear equations is easy:
- Approximate the function as linear:

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}) \approx 0 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_i) + \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}_i)(\mathbf{x}_{i+1} - \mathbf{x}_i)$$

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_{i+1}) \approx 0 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_i) + \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}_i)\mathbf{d}_i$$

- Solve for the displacement:

$$\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}_i)\mathbf{d}_i = -\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_i) \Rightarrow \mathbf{d}_i = -[\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}_i)]^{-1}\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

- Update the iterate:

$$\mathbf{x}_{i+1} = \mathbf{x}_i + \mathbf{d}_i$$

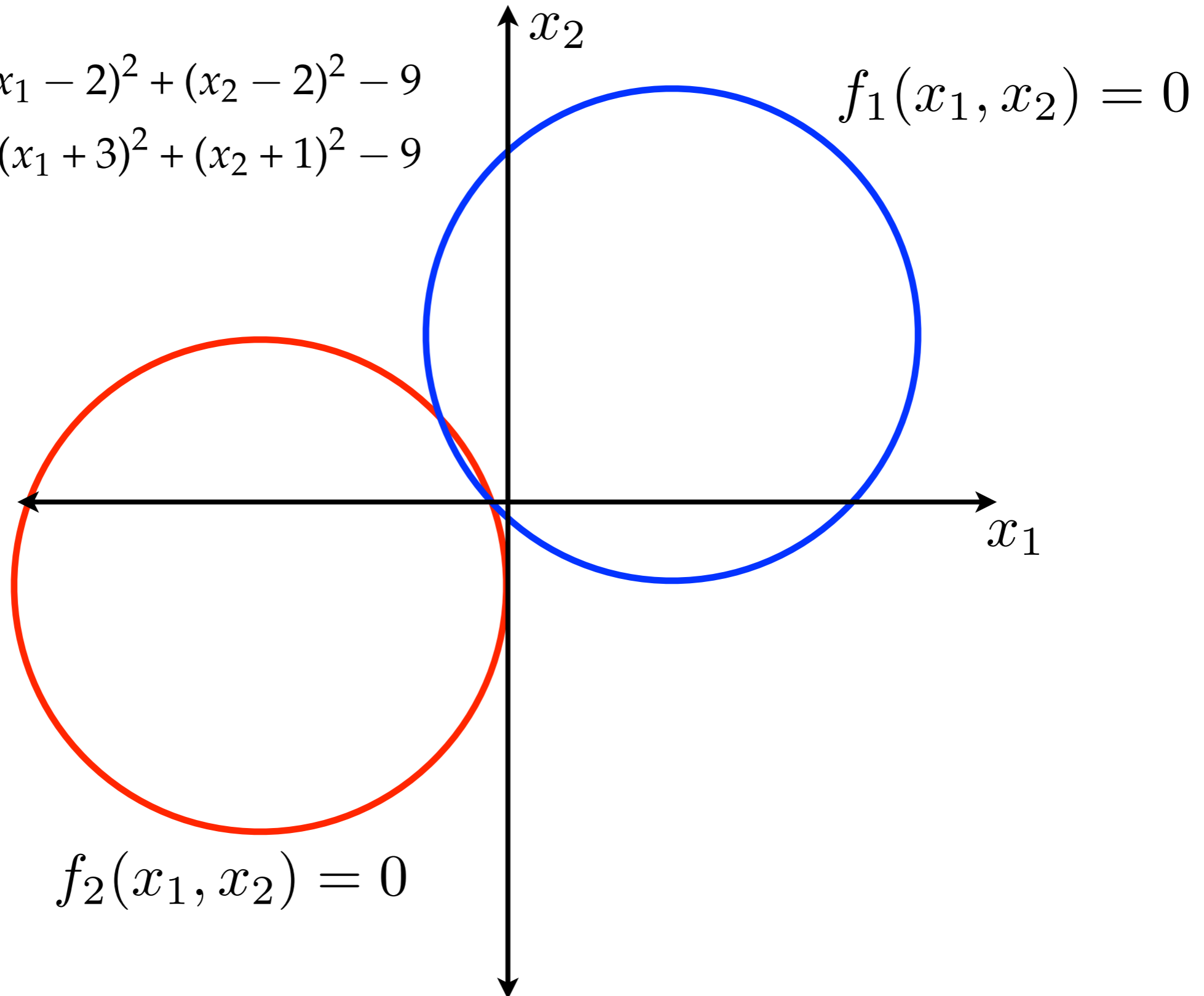
$$\mathbf{x}_{i+1} = \mathbf{x}_i - [\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}_i)]^{-1}\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

# Newton-Raphson Method

- Example: the intersection of circles

$$0 = f_1(x_1, x_2) = (x_1 - 2)^2 + (x_2 - 2)^2 - 9$$

$$0 = f_2(x_1, x_2) = (x_1 + 3)^2 + (x_2 + 1)^2 - 9$$





# Newton-Raphson Method

- Example: the intersection of circles

$$0 = f_1(x_1, x_2) = (x_1 - 2)^2 + (x_2 - 2)^2 - 9$$

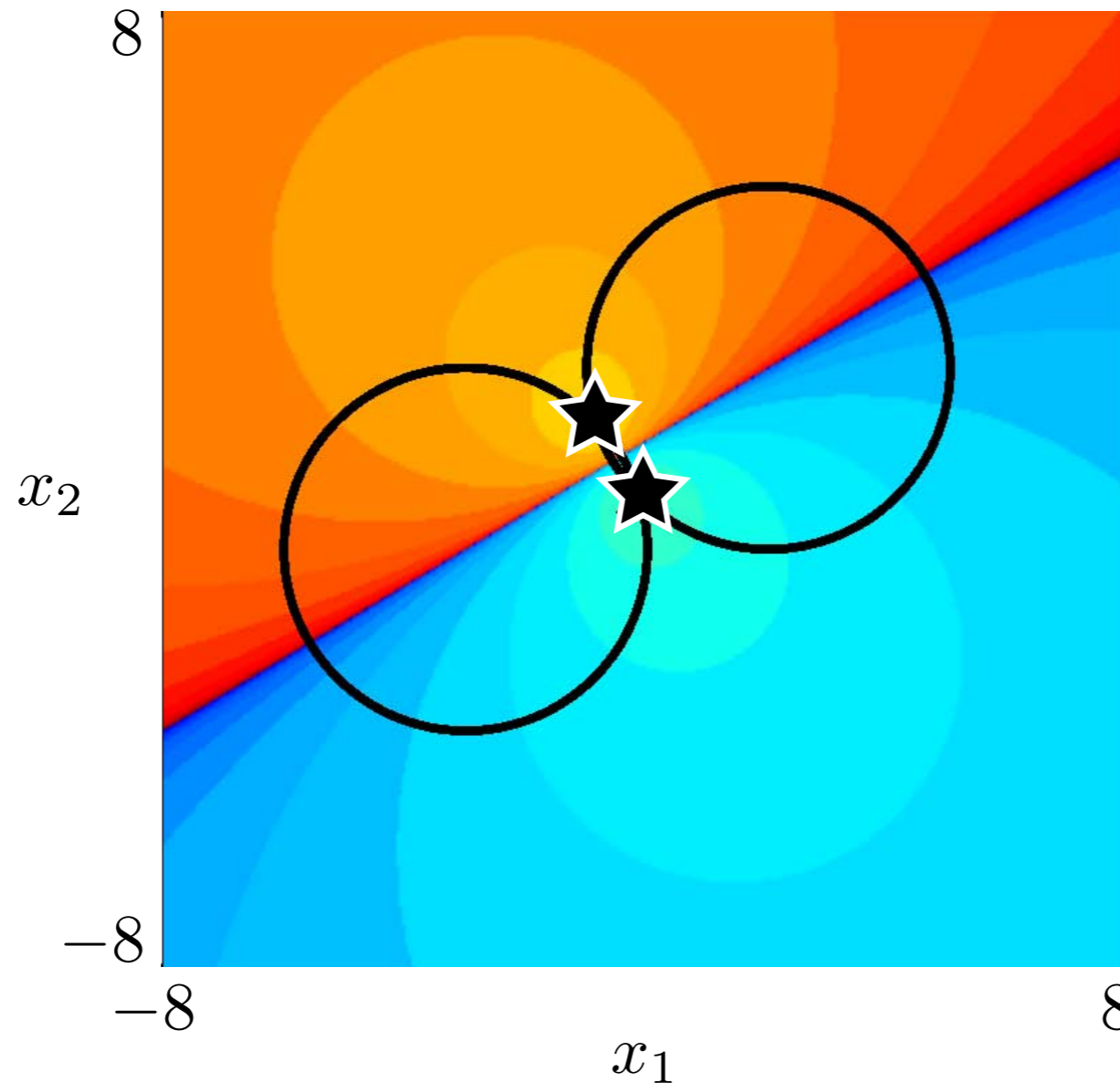
$$0 = f_2(x_1, x_2) = (x_1 + 3)^2 + (x_2 + 1)^2 - 9$$

$$\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{pmatrix} & \end{pmatrix}$$

$k$	$\mathbf{x}^{(k)}$	$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^{(k)})$	$\ \mathbf{x}^{(k)} - \mathbf{x}^{(k-1)}\ _2$	$\ \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^{(k)})\ _2$
0	(-1.00, 3.00)	(1.00, 11.0)		11.1
1	(-1.25, 1.75)	(1.63, 1.63)	0.556	2.30
2	(-0.963, 1.27)	(0.310, 0.310)	0.173	0.439
3	(-0.875, 1.124)	(0.030, 0.030)	0.020	0.042
4	(-0.864, 1.101)	(0.004, 0.004)	0.003	0.006

# Newton-Raphson Method

- Example: the intersection of circles



$$\det(\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x})) = 4(x_1 - 2)(x_2 + 1) - 4(x_2 - 2)(x_1 + 3)$$

- Notice that convergence is slowest near where  $\det \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}) = 0$

MIT OpenCourseWare  
<https://ocw.mit.edu>

10.34 Numerical Methods Applied to Chemical Engineering  
Fall 2015

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <https://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.