ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Solving nonsmooth equations using family of derivative-free optimal methods

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Abstract   In this paper, a family of derivative-free of third and fourth order convergent methods for solving nonlinear equations is suggested. In the proposed methods, several linear combinations of divided differences are used in order to get a good estimation of the derivative of the given function at the different steps of the iteration. The efficiency indices of the members of this family are equal to 1.442 and 1.587. The convergence and error analysis are given. Numerical comparisons are made with other existing methods to show the performance of the presented methods.

MATHEMATICS SUBJECT CLASSIFICATION: 41A25, 65H05, 65K05

1. Introduction

In recent years many researchers have developed several iterative methods for solving nonlinear equations. In this paper we are going to develop efficient methods to find approximations of the root r of $f(x) = 0$, without evaluation of derivatives. A number of ways are considered by many researchers to improve the local order convergence of Newton's method by the expense of additional evaluations of the functions, derivatives and changes in the points of iterations see [1–9]. There are several different methods in literature for the computation of

the root r of the nonlinear equation $f(x) = 0$. The most famous of these methods is the classical Newton's method (NM):

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)},$$

which is a well-known basic method and converges quadratically in the neighborhood of simple root r. This method is not applicable when the derivative of any function is not defined in any interval. Therefore the Newton's method was modified by Steffensen, who replaced the first derivative $f'(x)$ in Newton's method by forward difference approximation

$$f'(x_n) = \frac{f(x_n + \beta f(x_n)) - f(x_n)}{\beta f(x_n)} = P_0(x_n) \qquad (1)$$

and obtained the famous Steffensen's method (SM) [10]:

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{\beta f(x_n)^2}{f(x_n + \beta f(x_n)) - f(x_n)},$$

which is the known Steffensen's method (SM), where $\beta \in R - \{0\}$, provided that the denominator is not equal to

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Peer review under responsibility of Egyptian Mathematical Society.

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zero. Newton and Steffensen's methods are of second order converges, both require two functional evaluations per step, but in contrast to Newton's method, Steffensen's method is free from any derivative of the function, because sometimes the applications of the iteration methods which depend upon derivatives are restricted in engineering.

A family of Steffensen like methods was derived in [10–13] free from derivatives, which uses three functional evaluations per step and has cubic convergence. Recently, Cordero et al. [14] proposed a derivative free iterative method by replacing the forward-difference approximation in Ostrowski's method by the central-difference approximation. However, it is still a method of third order and requires four functional evaluations per iteration. Therefore, these methods have efficiency index $3^{1/4} \approx 1.1316$ which is less than $2^{1/2} \approx 1.4142$ of the Newton and Steffensen methods [15]. However, the purpose of this paper is to establish new derivative-free methods with optimal order, i.e., we aim to increase the convergence rate to four without any additional evaluations of the function.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows: in Section 2 we describe our family of methods. In Section 3 we show the order of convergence of these methods. In Section 4, different numerical test confirm the theoretical results and allow us to compare this family with other known methods mentioned in this section.

2. Description of the methods

For the sake completeness, we recall methods in [14,17] these methods respectively as follows:

Algorithm 2.1. For a given x_0, compute approximates solution x_{n+1} by the iterative schemes

$$y_n = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)},$$

$$x_{n+1} = y_n - \frac{f(x_n)^2 + f(y_n)^2}{f'(x_n)(f(x_n) - f(y_n))}.$$

Algorithm 2.1 has fourth-order convergence, which was obtained by Jisheng et al. [16].

Algorithm 2.2. For a given x_0, compute approximates solution x_{n+1} by the iterative scheme

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{2f(x_n)f'(x_n)}{2f'^2(x_n) - f(x_n)f''(x_n)}.$$

This is known as Halley's method and has cubic convergence [17]. Now we introduce the following cubically convergent iteration scheme.

Algorithm 2.3. For a given x_0, compute approximates solution x_{n+1} by the iterative schemes

$$y_n = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)},$$

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(y_n)}{f'(x_n)}.$$

The first and the second derivatives with respect to y, which may create some problems. To overcome this drawback, several authors have developed involving only the first derivatives.

This idea plays a significant part in developing our new iterative methods free from first and second derivatives with respect to y. To be more precise, we now approximate $f'(y_n)$, to reduce the number of evaluations per iteration by a combination of already known data in the past steps. Toward this end, an estimation of the function $P_1(t)$ is taken into consideration as follows:

$$P_1(t) = a + b(t - x_n) + c(t - x_n)^2,$$
$$P_1'(t) = b + 2c(t - x_n).$$

By substituting in the known values

$$P_1(y_n) = f(y_n) = a + b(y_n - x_n) + c(y_n - x_n)^2,$$
$$P_1'(y_n) = f'(y_n) = b + 2c(y_n - x_n),$$
$$P_1(x_n) = f(x_n) = a, P_1'(x_n) = f'(x_n) = b,$$

we could easily obtain the unknown parameters. Thus we have

$$f'(y_n) = 2\left(\frac{f(y_n) - f(x_n)}{y_n - x_n}\right) - f'(x_n) = P_1(x_n, y_n). \quad (2)$$

At this time, it is necessary to approximate $f''(y_n)$, with a combination of known values Accordingly, we take account of an interpolating polynomial

$$P_2(t) = a + b(t - x_n) + c(t - x_n)^2 + d(t - x_n)^3$$

and also consider that this approximation polynomial satisfies the interpolation conditions $f(x_n) = P_2(x_n)$, $f(y_n) = P_2(y_n)$, $f'(x_n) = P_2'(x_n)$ and $f'(y_n) = P_2'(y_n)$, By substituting the known values in $P_2(t)$ we have a system of three linear equations with three unknowns. By solving this system and simplifying we have

$$f''(y_n) = \frac{2}{y_n - x_n}\left(\frac{f(y_n) - f(x_n)}{y_n - x_n} - f'(x_n)\right) = P_2(x_n, y_n). \quad (3)$$

Using (1) we can also remove the first derivative from (2) to (3)

$$f'(y_n) = 2\left(\frac{f(y_n) - f(x_n)}{y_n - x_n}\right) - \frac{f(x_n + \beta f(x_n)) - f(x_n)}{\beta f(x_n)} = P_1(x_n, y_n), \quad (4)$$

$$f''(y_n) = \frac{2}{y_n - x_n}\left(\frac{f(y_n) - f(x_n)}{y_n - x_n} - \frac{f(x_n + \beta f(x_n)) - f(x_n)}{\beta f(x_n)}\right) = P_2(x_n, y_n). \quad (5)$$

Now using Eqs. (1)–(3) to suggest the following new iterative methods for solving nonlinear equation, It is established that the following new methods have convergence order three, which will denote by Hafiz Bahgat Methods (HBM1–HBM5). Then Algorithm 2.1 can be written in the following form.

HBM1: For a given x_0, compute approximates solution x_{n+1} by the iterative schemes

$$y_n = x_n - \frac{\beta f(x_n)^2}{f(x_n + \beta f(x_n)) - f(x_n)},$$

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)^2 + f(y_n)^2}{P_0(x_n)(f(x_n) - f(y_n))}.$$

We use Steffensen's method as predictor and Algorithm 2.2 as a corrector then we have the following new methods have convergence order three.

HBM2: For a given x_0, compute approximates solution x_{n+1} by the iterative schemes

$$y_n = x_n - \frac{\beta f(x_n)^2}{f(x_n + \beta f(x_n)) - f(x_n)},$$
$$x_{n+1} = y_n - \frac{2f(y_n)P_1(x_n, y_n)}{2P_1^2(x_n, y_n) - f(y_n)P_2(x_n, y_n)}.$$

HBM2 is called the new two-step modified Halley's method free from second and first derivative, for solving nonlinear equation $f(x) = 0$.

HBM3: For a given x_0, compute approximates solution x_{n+1} by the iterative schemes

$$y_n = x_n - \frac{\beta f(x_n)^2}{f(x_n + \beta f(x_n)) - f(x_n)},$$
$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{P_0(x_n)}.$$

Now we can modified the methods in [18] by removing the derivatives in the following two methods.

HBM4: For a given x_0, compute approximates solution x_{n+1} by the iterative schemes

$$y_n = x_n - \frac{\beta f(x_n)^2}{f(x_n + \beta f(x_n)) - f(x_n)},$$
$$x_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{f(y_n)}{P_0(x_n)} - \frac{2f(x_n)f(y_n)}{P_0(x_n)(f(x_n) - f(y_n))}.$$

HBM5: For a given x_0, compute approximates solution x_{n+1} by the iterative schemes

$$y_n = x_n - \frac{\beta f(x_n)^2}{f(x_n + \beta f(x_n)) - f(x_n)},$$
$$x_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{f(y_n)}{P_0(x_n)} - \frac{4f(y_n)}{P_0(x_n) + P_1(x_n, y_n)}.$$

Let us remark that, in terms of computational cost, the developed methods require only three functional evaluations per step. So, they have efficiency indices $3^{1/3} \approx 1.442$, which is higher than $2^{1/2} \approx 1.4142$ of the Newton and Steffensen's [15]. Therefore, these methods do not produce an optimal order of convergence. However, the purpose of this paper is to establish new derivative-free methods with optimal order, i.e., we aim to increase the convergence rate to four without any additional evaluations of the function. So, we shall use the weight function w which is expressed as

$$w = \left\{ \frac{4}{1 + f[x_n, y_n]f[w_n, y_n]/P_0(x_n)^2} - 1 \right\},$$

where $w_n = x_n + f(x_n)$ and $f[x_i, x_j] = (f(x_i) - f(x_j))/(x_i - x_j)$, $\forall i, j \in N$, $i \neq j$. we can modify the algorithm HBM3 to the following algorithm

HBM6: For a given x_0, compute approximates solution x_{n+1} by the iterative schemes

$$y_n = x_n - \frac{\beta f(x_n)^2}{f(x_n + \beta f(x_n)) - f(x_n)},$$
$$x_{n+1} = y_n - \frac{f(y_n)}{P_0(x_n)} \left\{ \frac{4}{1 + f[x_n, y_n]f[w_n, y_n]/P_0(x_n)^2} - 1 \right\},$$

this method (HBM6) have convergence order four and require only three functional evaluations per step. So, they have efficiency indices $4^{1/3} \approx 1.5874$, that is, the new method (HBM6) reaches the optimal order of convergence four, conjectured

by Kung and Traub [19]. Furthermore, if we consider approximating the derivative in (2) and replaced it by divided difference method

$$f'(y_n) = \frac{f[x_n, y_n]f[w_n, y_n]}{f[w_n, x_n]},$$

then we derive higher efficiency index methods. Furthermore, the algorithm HBM5 can be rewritten in the same form of algorithm HBM6.

3. Convergence analysis

Let us now discuss the convergence analysis of the above mentioned algorithms at $\beta = 1$.

Theorem 3.1. *Let r be a sample zero of sufficient differentiable function $f :\subseteq R \to R$ for an open interval I. If x_0 is sufficiently close to r, then the two-step method defined by HBM2 has third-order convergence.*

Proof. Consider to

$$y_n = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)^2}{f(x_n + f(x_n)) - f(x_n)}, \tag{6}$$

$$x_{n+1} = y_n - \frac{2f(y_n)P_1(x_n, y_n)}{2P_1^2(x_n, y_n) - f(y_n)P_2(x_n, y_n)}. \tag{7}$$

Let r be a simple zero of f. Since f is sufficiently differentiable, by expanding $f(x_n)$ about r, we get

$$f(x_n) = c_1 e_n + c_2 e_n^2 + c_3 e_n^3 + c_4 e_n^4 + \cdots \tag{8}$$

Furthermore, we have

$$f(x_n)^2 = c_1^2 e_n^2 + 2c_1 c_2 e_n^3 + (2c_3 c_1 + c_2^2)e_n^4 + \cdots \tag{9}$$

Again by using Taylor's expansion we can get

$$f(x_n + f(x_n)) = c_1(1 + c_1)e_n + (3c_2 c_1 + c_2 + c_1^2 c_2)e_n^2 + \cdots \tag{10}$$

which gives

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_n + f(x_n)) - f(x_n) &= c_1^2 e_n + (3c_2 c_1 + c_1^2 c_2)e_n^2 \\ &\quad + (4c_3 c_1 + 2c_2^2 + 2c_2^2 c_1 + 3c_3 c_1^2 + c_3 c_1^3)e_n^3 \\ &\quad + \cdots \end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

where $c_k = \frac{f^{(k)}(r)}{k!}$, $k = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$ and $e_n = x_n - r$.

Now by substituting (9) and (11) in (6), we have

$$\begin{aligned} y_n &= r + \left(c_2 + \frac{c_2}{c_1} \right) e_n^2 \\ &\quad + \left(2\frac{c_3}{c_1} + c_3 c_1 - c_2^2 + 3c_3 - 2\frac{c_2^2}{c_1^2} \right) e_n^3 + \cdots \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

By using Taylor's theorem, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(y_n) &= c_2(1 + c_1)e_n^2 \\ &\quad + (2c_3 c_1 + c_3 c_1^3 - c_2^2 c_1^2 + 3c_3 c_1^2 - 2c_2^2 - 2c_2^2 c_1) \frac{e_n^3}{c_1} \\ &\quad + \cdots \end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

and

$$P_1(x_n, y_n) = c_1 - c_1 c_2 e_n + \left(-c_3 + c_2^2 + 2\frac{c_2^2}{c_1} - c_3 c_1^2 - 3c_1 c_3\right)e_n^2 + \cdots \quad (14)$$

$$P_2(x_n, y_n) = 2(c_1 c_2 + c_2) + \left(4c_3 - \frac{c_2^2}{c_1} + 2c_3 c_1^2 + 6c_1 c_3 + c_1 c_2^2 + 2c_2^2\right)e_n + \cdots \quad (15)$$

From (13)–(15), we obtain

$$\frac{f(y_n)}{P_1(x_n, y_n)} = \frac{c_2}{c_1}(1 + c_1)e_n^2$$

$$+ \left(-c_2^2 + 2c_3 + c_3 c_1^2 + 3c_3 c_1 - 2\frac{c_2^2}{c_1} - 2c_2^2\right)\frac{e_n^3}{c_1} + \cdots \quad (16)$$

$$\frac{P_2(x_n, y_n)}{P_1(x_n, y_n)} = 2\left(c_2 + \frac{c_2}{c_1}\right)$$

$$+ \left(3c_2^2 + 4\frac{c_2^2}{c_1} + 4\frac{c_3}{c_1} - \frac{c_2^2}{c_1^2} + 2c_3 c_1 + 6c_3\right)e_n + \cdots \quad (17)$$

$$\frac{1}{2}\frac{f(y_n)}{P_1(x_n, y_n)}\frac{P_2(x_n, y_n)}{P_1(x_n, y_n)} = (c_1^2 + 2c_1 + 1)\frac{c_2^2}{c_1^2}e^2 + \cdots \quad (18)$$

Then Eq. (7) can be written as:

$$x_{n+1} = y_n - \frac{f(y_n)}{P_1(x_n, y_n)}\left[1 - \frac{1}{2}\cdot\frac{f(y_n)}{P_1(x_n, y_n)}\cdot\frac{P_2(x_n, y_n)}{P_1(x_n, y_n)}\right]^{-1}. \quad (19)$$

Now by substituting (16) and (18) in (19), we have

$$x_{n+1} = r + (1 - c_1)\frac{c_2^2}{c_1}e_n^3 + \cdots \quad (20)$$

From (20) and $e_{n+1} = x_{n+1} - r$, we have:

$$e_{n+1} = (1 - c_1)\frac{c_2^2}{c_1}e_n^3 + \cdots$$

which shows (HBM2) has third-order convergence. $\square$

Theorem 3.2. *Let r be a sample zero of sufficient differentiable function $f :\subseteq R \to R$ for an open interval I. If x_0 is sufficiently close to r, then the two-step method defined by (HBM6) has fourth-order convergence.*

Proof. Consider to

$$y_n = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)^2}{f(x_n + f(x_n)) - f(x_n)}, \quad (21)$$

$$x_{n+1} = y_n - \frac{f(y_n)}{P_0(x_n)}\left\{\frac{4}{1 + f[x_n, y_n]f[w_n, y_n]/P_0(x_n)^2} - 1\right\}. \quad (22)$$

Let r be a simple zero of f. Since f is sufficiently differentiable, by expanding $f(x_n)$, $f(x_n + f(x_n))$ and $f(y_n)$ about r as in Theorem 3.1 we get

$$f[w_n, x_n] = \frac{f(w_n) - f(x_n)}{w_n - x_n} = P_0(x_n)$$
$$= c_1 + (2 + c_1)c_2 e_n + (3c_3 + 3c_1 c_3 + c_1^2 c_3 + c_2^2)e_n^2 + \cdots$$

$$f[w_n, y_n] = \frac{f(w_n) - f(y_n)}{w_n - y_n}$$
$$= c_1 + (1 + c_1)c_2 e_n + (3c_1^2 c_3 + c_2^2 + c_1 c_2^2 + c_1^3 c_3)\frac{e_n^2}{c_1} + \cdots$$

$$f[x_n, y_n] = \frac{f(x_n) - f(y_n)}{x_n - y_n}$$
$$= c_1 + c_2 e_n + (c_1 c_3 + c_2^2 + c_1 c_2^2)\frac{e_n^2}{c_1} + \cdots$$

$$\frac{f[x_n, y_n]f[w_n, y_n]}{P_0(x_n)^2} = 1 - (c_1 + 2)\frac{c_2 e_n}{c_1}$$
$$+ (7c_2^2 + 5c_1(c_2^2 - c_3) + c_1^2(c_2^2 - 3c_3) - c_1^3 c_3)\frac{e_n^2}{c_1^2} + \cdots$$

$$\frac{4}{f[x_n, y_n]f[w_n, y_n]/P_0(x_n)^2 + 1} = 2 + (c_1 + 2)\frac{c_2 e_n}{c_1}$$

$$+ \left(c_1^3 c_3 + c_1^2\left(3c_3 - \frac{c_2^2}{2}\right)\right.$$

$$\left. + c_1(5c_3 - 3c_2^2) - 5c_2^2\right)\frac{e_n^2}{c_1^2}$$

$$+ \cdots \quad (23)$$

$$\frac{f(y_n)}{P_0(x_n)} = (1 + c_1)\frac{c_2}{c_1}e_n^2 + (c_3 c_1^3 + c_1^2(3c_3 - 2c_2^2)$$

$$+ c_1(2c_3 - 3c_2^2) - 4c_2^2)\frac{e_n^3}{c_1^2} + \cdots \quad (24)$$

Now by substituting (12), (23) and (24) in (22), we have

$$e_{n+1} = \left(18c_2^4 + c_1(26c_2^2 - 14c_3) + c_1^2(14c_2^2 - 24c_3)\right.$$

$$\left. + c_1^3(3c_2^2 - 13c_3) - 3c_1^4 c_3\right)\frac{c_2}{c_1^3}e_n^4 + O(e_n^5) \quad (25)$$

from which it follows that (HBM6) has four-order convergence.

In similar way, we observe that the methods HBM1, HBM3, HBM4 and HBM5 have also third order convergence as follows:

$$e_{n+1} = -(1 + c_1)\frac{c_2^2}{c_1}e_n^3 + O(e_n^4), \quad (\text{HBM1, HMB4})$$

$$e_{n+1} = (2 + 3c_1 + c_1^2)\frac{c_2^2}{c_1^2}e_n^3 + O(e_n^4), \quad (\text{HBM3})$$

$$e_{n+1} = -\left(c_2 + \frac{c_2^2}{c_1}\right)e_n^3 + O(e_n^4). \quad \square \quad (\text{HBM5})$$

4. Numerical examples

For comparisons, we have used the third-order Soleymani method (SM) [20] defined by:

$$y_n = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)^2}{f(x_n + f(x_n)) - f(x_n)},$$

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \left[1 + \frac{f(y_n)}{f(x_n)}\left(1 + \frac{2f(y_n)}{f(x_n)}\right)\right]\frac{f(y_n)}{P_0(x_n)}.$$

Table 1 Test functions and their roots.

Functions	Roots	From
$f_1(x) = \sin^2 x - x^2 + 1$,	1.40449164821534	[12]
$f_2(x) = x^2 - e^x - 3x + 2$,	0.25753028543986	[12]
$f_3(x) = \cos x - x$,	0.73908513321516	[14]
$f_4(x) = x - 3\log x$,	1.85718386020784	[21]
$f_5(x) = e^{-x} + \cos x$,	1.74613953040801	[21]
$f_6(x) = x - e\sin x - \mu$	0.38997777494636	[22]
$f_7(x) = \frac{1}{x} - |x|$,	1	[21]
$f_8(x) = |x^2 - 9|$	$-3, 3$	[22]
$f_9(x) = \begin{cases} x(x+1), & \text{if } x \leqslant 0, \\ -2x(x-1), & \text{if } x > 0, \end{cases}$	$-1, 0, 1$	[14]
$f_{10}(x) = \begin{cases} 10(x^4 + x), & \text{if } x < 0, \\ -10(x^3 + x), & \text{if } x \geqslant 0, \end{cases}$	$-1, 0$	[14]

Table 2 Comparison of number of iterations for various methods required such that $|f(x_{n+1})| < 10^{-15}$.

Iterations x_0	f_1 1.3	f_2 1.0	f_3 1.7	f_4 0.5	f_5 3.0	f_6 1.0	f_7 -0.5	f_8 3.2	f_9 0.1	f_{10} -0.8
SM	3	3	4	7	3	4	4	Div.	2	14
DM	3	3	3	7	3	5	3	3	2	25
JM	3	3	3	5	3	5	4	3	9	8
HBM1	3	3	4	6	3	4	4	3	4	11
HBM2	3	4	4	5	3	10	4	812	82	20
HBM3	3	3	3	7	3	5	3	3	2	25
HBM4	3	3	4	6	3	4	4	7	4	11
HBM5	3	3	4	6	3	4	4	7	4	11
HBM6	3	3	3	4	3	4	2	3	3	14

Dehghan method (DM) [12]

$$y_n = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)^2}{f(x_n + f(x_n)) - f(x_n)},$$
$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)[f(x_n) + f(y_n)]}{f(x_n + f(x_n)) - f(x_n)}$$

and Jain method (JM) [10]

$$y_n = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)^2}{f(x_n + f(x_n)) - f(x_n)},$$
$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)^3}{[f(x_n + f(x_n)) - f(x_n)][f(x_n) - f(y_n)]}.$$

We consider here some numerical examples to demonstrate the performance of the new modified two-step iterative methods, namely algorithms (HBM1)–(HBM6). We compare the Soleymani method (SM), the Dehghan method (DM), Jain method (JM) and the new modified two-step methods algorithms (HBM1)–(HBM6), in this paper. In Table 1 our examples are tested with precision $\varepsilon = 10^{-15}$ and $\beta = 1$.

All the computations are performed using Maple 15. The following examples are used for numerical testing:

where the function f_6 is Kepler's equation; $0 \leqslant e < 1$ and $0 \leqslant \mu \leqslant \pi$. We take values $\mu = 0.01$ and $e = 0.9995$. Furthermore, functions $f_7 \cdots f_{10}$ are nonsmooth functions. In Table 2, we listed the number of iterations for various methods, where the 'Div.' in the following tables imply that the method diverges (or the method terminates due to overflow).

Results are summarized in Table 2 as it shows, new algorithms are comparable with all of the methods and in most cases gives better or equal results.

5. Conclusions

The present study suggested a family of new derivative-free iterative methods for solving nonlinear equations. The efficiency indices of the members of this family are equal to 1.442 and 1.587. In addition, these methods are derivative-free, which allow us to apply them also on nonsmooth equations with positive and promising results. Furthermore, these methods are particularly suited to those problems in which derivatives require lengthy. In the sequel, numerical examples have used in order to show the efficiency and accuracy of the novel methods from our suggested derivative-free class. Finally, it should be noted that, like all other iterative methods,

the new methods from the class (HBM1)–(HBM6) have their own domains of validity and in certain circumstances should not be used.

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