

Numerical methods:

(1) Bisection Method:

Suppose a continuous function f defined on the interval $[a,b]$ is given with $f(a)$ and $f(b)$ of opposite sign (i.e. $f(a) \times f(b) < 0$). Then by intermediate value theorem (If $f \in C[a,b]$ and k is any number between $f(a)$ and $f(b)$, then there exists $c \in (a,b)$ for which $f(c)=k$) there exists a point $c \in (a,b)$ such that $f(c)=0$. If we choose the midpoint $c = \frac{a+b}{2}$, then three possibilities arise:

$$\text{If } f(a) \times f(c) \begin{cases} < 0 & \text{there is a root between } a, c \Rightarrow d = \frac{a+c}{2} \\ > 0 & \text{there is a root between } b, c \Rightarrow d = \frac{b+c}{2} \\ = 0 & c \text{ is exact root ((Stop))}. \end{cases}$$

We stop iteration if the interval width is as small as desired i.e. $|c_i - c_{i+1}| < \varepsilon$ for any i .

Example (5):

Find an approximate root of the equation $x \sin(x) - 1 = 0$ in the interval $[0,2]$ by using Bisection method.

Solution: It is possible to use bisection method because $f(x)$ is continuous on $[0,2]$ and $f(a)=f(0)=-1$; $f(b)=f(2)=0.81859 \Rightarrow f(a) \times f(b) < 0$.

$$\Rightarrow c_1 = \frac{a+b}{2} = \frac{0+2}{2} = 1$$

$$f(c_1) = f(1) = -0.158529$$

$$\Rightarrow f(c_1) \times f(a) > 0 \Rightarrow \text{there is a root between } c_1 \text{ and } b \Rightarrow [c_1, b]$$

$$\Rightarrow c_2 = \frac{c_1 + b}{2} = \frac{1+2}{2} = 1.5$$

$$f(c_2) = f(1.5) = 0.496242$$

$$\Rightarrow f(c_2) \times f(c_1) < 0 \Rightarrow \text{there is a root between } c_1 \text{ and } c_2 \Rightarrow [c_1, c_2]$$

$$\Rightarrow c_3 = \frac{c_1 + c_2}{2} = \frac{1 + 1.5}{2} = 1.25$$

$$f(c_3) = f(1.25) = 0.18623$$

$$\Rightarrow f(c_3) \times f(c_1) < 0 \Rightarrow \text{there is a root between } c_1 \text{ and } c_3 \Rightarrow [c_1, c_3]$$

$$\Rightarrow c_4 = \frac{c_1 + c_3}{2} = 1.125$$

⋮

Stop iteration with $c = 1.114157141$

Example (6):

Find an approximate root of $f(x) = x^2 - 2$ in the interval $[1, 2]$ by using Bisection method with error $\leq \varepsilon = 10^{-4}$.

Solution:

It is possible to use bisection method because $f(x)$ is continuous on $[1, 2]$ and $f(a) = f(1) = -1$; $f(b) = f(2) = 2$

$$\Rightarrow f(a) \times f(b) = -2 < 0.$$

$$c_1 = \frac{a + b}{2} = \frac{1 + 2}{2} = 1.5, \quad |c_1 - a| = 0.5 > \varepsilon.$$

Find c_2 :

$$f(c_1) = 0.25 \Rightarrow f(c_1) \times f(a) < 0 \Rightarrow \text{there is a root between } c_1 \text{ and } a \Rightarrow [a, c_1]$$

$$\Rightarrow c_2 = \frac{a + c_1}{2} = 1.25$$

$$|c_1 - c_2| = 0.25 > \varepsilon.$$

Find c_3 :

$$f(c_2) = -0.437 \Rightarrow f(c_2) \times f(c_1) < 0 \Rightarrow \text{there is a root between } c_1 \text{ and } c_2 \Rightarrow [c_2, c_1]$$

$$\Rightarrow c_3 = \frac{c_2 + c_1}{2} = 1.375$$

⋮

Stop iteration if $|c_i - c_{i+1}| \leq \varepsilon$ for any $i = 1, 2, \dots$

Theorem:

Let $f \in C[a,b]$ and suppose $f(a) \times f(b) < 0$. The bisection method generates a sequence $\{c_n\}$ approximating to P a zero of f ($f(P)=0$) with the property

$$|c_n - P| \leq \frac{b-a}{2^n}; \quad n \geq 1.$$

Notes:

1- The rate of convergence is linear.

2- Since $|c_n - P| \leq \frac{b-a}{2^n}; \quad n \geq 1$, then the sequence $\{c_n\}$ converges to P with rate of convergence $O(1/2^n)$ that is $c_n = P + O(1/2^n)$.

3- We can determine approximately how many iterations are necessary to solve $f(x)$ with error $\leq \varepsilon$ over $[a,b]$. i.e.:

We must find an integer n that will satisfy

$$|c_n - P| \leq \frac{b-a}{2^n} \leq \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow 2^n \geq \frac{b-a}{\varepsilon} \Rightarrow n \ln(2) \geq \ln\left(\frac{b-a}{\varepsilon}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow n \geq \frac{\ln(b-a) - \ln(\varepsilon)}{\ln(2)}.$$

For example, if $f(x) = x \sin(x) - 1 = 0$, $\varepsilon = 10^{-5}$ and $[0,2]$, then

$$n \geq \frac{\ln(2-0) - \ln(10^{-5})}{\ln(2)} = \frac{0.69315 - (-11.51293)}{0.69315} \approx 17.6072 \Rightarrow n=18 \text{ (number of iterations)}.$$

Home work:

Find an approximate root of $f(x)=x \ln(x)-1=0$ in the interval $[1,2]$ by using Bisection method with error $\leq \varepsilon = 10^{-3}$.

Answer the root is $c_{11}=1.762953125$ with error $\leq \varepsilon = 10^{-3}$.

Algorithm (Bisection method)

Input: $a, b, \varepsilon, f(x)$

Step(1): If $f(a) \times f(b) > 0$ then stop (does not exist root).

Step(2): Set $c = \frac{a+b}{2}$, and find $f(c)$.

Step(3): If $f(a) \times f(c) < 0$ then $b=c$

Step(4): If $f(a) \times f(c) > 0$ then $a=c$

Step(5): If $|b-a| \geq \varepsilon$ or $|f(c)| \geq \varepsilon$ then go to step(2).

Step(6): Print c