

Solution of Algebraic and Transcendent Equations

Algebraic Equation: An expression of the form $f(x) = a_0x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + \dots + a_n$ is called a polynomial in x of degree n .

- The Polynomial $f(x)=0$ is called an algebraic Equation of degree n .
- If $f(x)$ contains some other functions such as trigonometric, logarithmic, exponential etc then $f(x)=0$ is called a transcendental equation.

for example

$$x^3 - 2x - 5 = 0 \quad \text{Algebraic Equation}$$

$$xe^x - 1 = 0 \quad \text{Transcendental Equation}$$

- The value of x which satisfies $f(x)=0$ is called a root of $f(x)=0$.
- Geometrically, a root of $f(x)=0$ is the value of x where the graph of $y=f(x)$ crosses the x axis.
- The process of finding the roots of an equation is known as the solution of that equation.

Need of numerical methods to solve algebraic or transcendental Equations.

If $f(x)$ is a quadratic equation, say

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

we can solve it by shridharacharya method or by factorizing it.

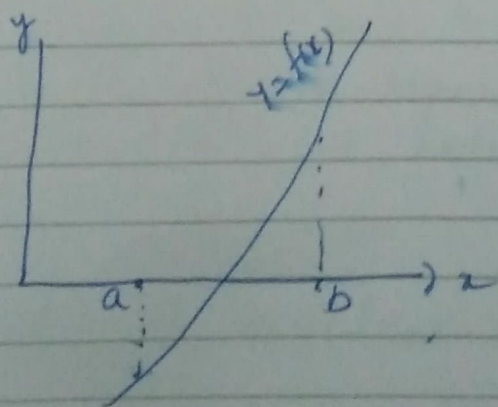
similarly if we have cubic or a biquadratic equation then there are limited methods available.

But if we have to solve higher degree or transcendental equations for which no direct methods exist.

such equations can be solved by approximate or numerical methods.

Intermediate value Property.

If $f(x)$ is continuous in the interval $[a, b]$ and $f(a), f(b)$ have different signs, then the equation $f(x) = 0$ has at least one root between $x = a$ and $x = b$.



Let us discuss some numerical methods for the solution of algebraic or Transcendental Equations.

We will discuss following methods.

1. Bisection method
2. False Position method
3. secant Method
4. Newton's Raphson Method
5. Iteration Method

In all the above method we approximate given function by a straight line.

Firstly we discuss Bisection Method.

BISECTION METHOD

This method is based on intermediate value property.

⇒ which states that if a function $f(x)$ is continuous between a and b and $f(a)$ and $f(b)$ are of opposite signs then there exists atleast one root between a and b .

⇒ Let Equation is $f(x) = 0$

⇒ and let $f(a)$ be negative and $f(b)$ be positive.

⇒ Then the root lies between a and b and let approximate value be given by

$$x_0 = \frac{a+b}{2}$$

⇒ Now if $f(x_0) = 0$

then we conclude that x_0 is a root of the equation $f(x) = 0$

⇒ otherwise the root lies either between x_0 and b , or between x_0 and a depending on whether $f(x_0)$ is negative or positive.

⇒ we write this new interval as $[a, b_1]$ whose length is $\frac{|b-a|}{2}$

⇒ Now as before this is bisected at x_1 , a new interval will be exactly half ~~of~~ the length of the previous one.

⇒ we repeat this process until the latest interval (which contains the root) is as small as desired, say ϵ .

⇒ It is clear that the interval width is reduced by a factor of one-half at each step and at the end of the n th step, the new interval will be $[a_n, b_n]$ of length $\frac{|b-a|}{2^n}$.

we then have $\frac{|b-a|}{2^n} \leq \epsilon$

which gives on simplification

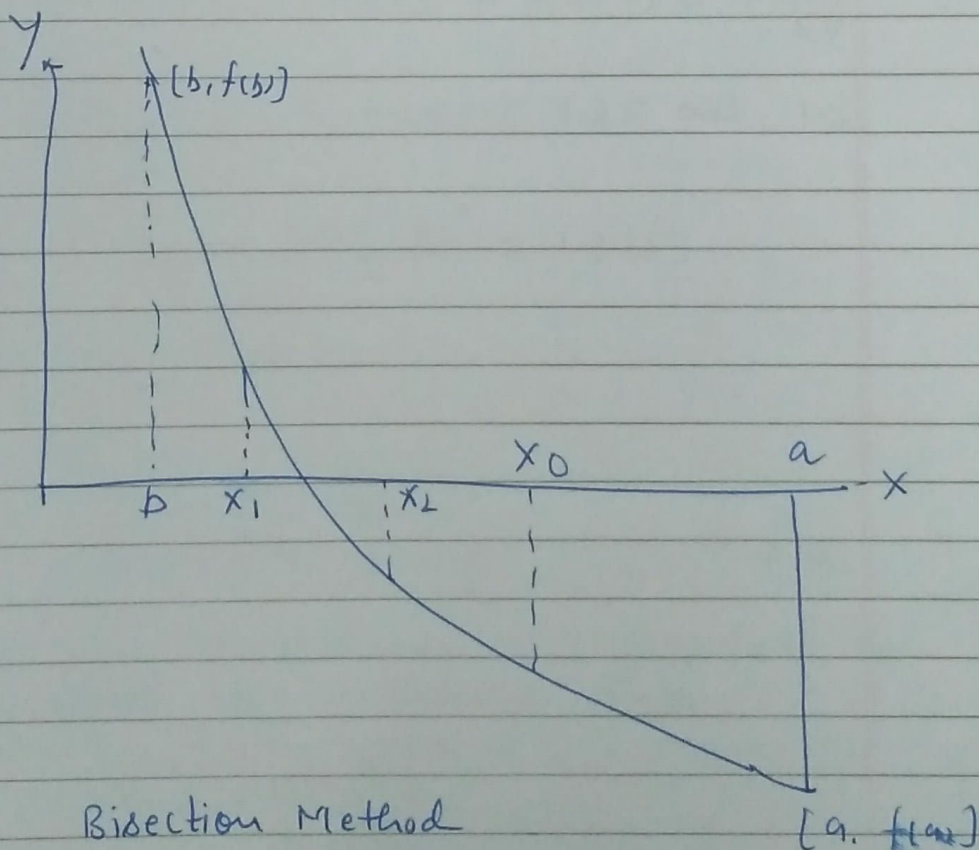
$$n \geq \frac{\log_e \left(\frac{|b-a|}{\epsilon} \right)}{\log_e 2} \quad \text{--- ①}$$

Inequality ① gives the number of iterations required to achieve an accuracy ϵ

for example if $|b-a|=1$ and $\epsilon=0.001$, then it can be seen that

$$n \geq 10$$

Method is shown graphically in figure 1



Example: Find a real root of the equation

$$f(x) = x^3 - x - 1 = 0$$

Sol.

$$f(0) = 0 - 0 - 1 = -1, \quad f(1) = 1 - 1 - 1 = -1, \quad f(2) = 5$$

Since $f(1)$ is negative and $f(2)$ is positive,

\therefore root lies between 1 and 2 and therefore

$$\text{we take } x_0 = \frac{3}{2}, \quad \text{Then } f(x_0) = \frac{27}{8} - \frac{3}{2} = \frac{15}{8}$$

which is positive.

Hence root lies between 1 and 1.5 and so now we get

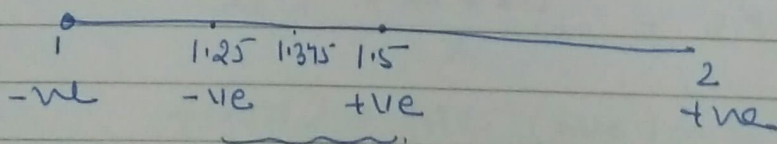
$$x_1 = \frac{1 + 1.5}{2} = 1.25$$

$$\therefore f(x_1) = (1.25)^3 - 1.25 - 1 = -\frac{19}{64} \quad (-ve)$$

so root lies between 1.25 and 1.5

$$\therefore x_2 = \frac{1.25 + 1.5}{2} = 1.375$$

we can show



Now the procedure is repeated and successive approximations are

$$x_3 = 1.3125$$

$$x_4 = 1.34375$$

$$x_5 = 1.328125$$

Q Find a root of the equation $x^3 - 3x - 5 = 0$ by bisection Method

Sol. Let $f(x) = x^3 - 3x - 5 = 0$ by bisection Method.

Now $f(0) = -5$

$$f(1) = 1^3 - 3 \times 1 - 5 = -7$$

$$f(2) = 2^3 - 3 \times 2 - 5 = -3$$

$$f(3) = 3^3 - 3 \times 3 - 5 = 13$$

Thus a root lies between 2 and 3.

Let ~~$x_0 = 2.5$~~ $x_0 = \frac{2+3}{2} = 2.5$

$$f(x_0) = (2.5)^3 - 3 \times 2.5 - 5 = 3.125$$

(+ve)

\therefore Root lies between 2.0 and 2.5

then $x_1 = \frac{2+2.5}{2} = 2.25$

$$f(x_1) = -0.359375 \text{ (-ve)}$$

\therefore Root lies between 2.25 and 2.5.

$$\therefore x_2 = \frac{2.25+2.5}{2} = 2.375$$

$$f(2.375) = 1.275 \text{ (+ve)}$$

Hence root lies between 2.25 and 2.375

$$\therefore x_3 = \frac{2.25+2.375}{2} = 2.3125$$

$f(2.3125) = 0.4209 \text{ (+ve)}$

root lies between 2.25 and 2.3125

$$\therefore x_4 = \frac{2.25 + 2.3125}{2}$$

$$= 2.28125$$

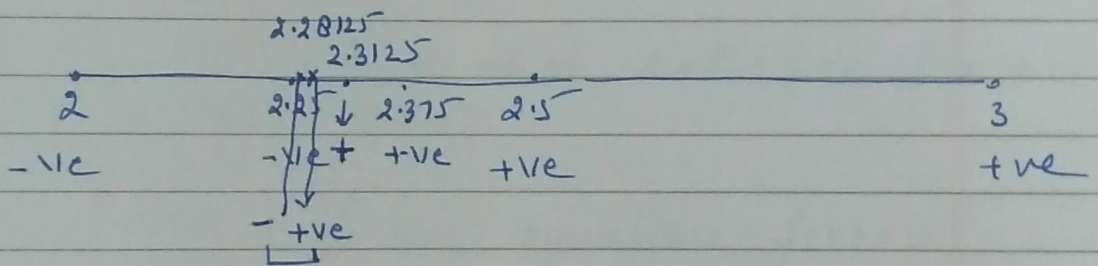
$$f(2.28125) = 0.0201 \text{ (+ve)}$$

$$1 \quad x_5 = \frac{2.25 + 2.28125}{2}$$

$$= 2.265625$$

$$f(2.265625) = 11.6295015 - 6.796075 - 5$$

$$= -0.1672935$$



Root lies between 2.28125 and 2.3125

$$\therefore x_6 = \frac{2.28125 + 2.3125}{2}$$

$$= 2.296875$$

continuing this process till the required accuracy we get the desired root

Root is 2.29

Q. Find a root of the following equations correct to three decimal places

(i) $x^3 - x - 11 = 0$

(ii) $x^4 - x - 10 = 0$

(iii) $x - \cos x = 0$

(iv) $x \log_{10} x = 1.2$

Q. The value of x that satisfies $f(x) = 0$ is called the

(A) root of an equation $f(x) = 0$

(B) root of a function $f(x)$

(C) zero of an equation $f(x) = 0$

(D) none of these