

# Optimization Techniques (MAT-2003)

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## Non classical Optimization Method:

- 1) Region Elimination Methods
  - (i) Fibonacci Search Method
  - (ii) Golden Search Method
- 2) Gradient Based Methods
  - (i) Newton Method

**Unimodal function:** A function  $f(x)$  is said to be unimodal function if for some value  $m$  it is monotonically increasing for  $x > m$  and monotonically decreasing for  $x < m$ . For function  $f(x)$ , maximum value is  $f(m)$  and there is no other local maximum.

## Region of Elimination Methods:

The fundamental rule for the region of elimination method as follows:

Let us consider two points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  which lie in the interval  $(a, b)$  and satisfy  $x_1 < x_2$ . For unimodal functions for minimization, we can conclude the following:

- If  $f(x_1) > f(x_2)$  then the minimum does not lie in  $(a, x_1)$ .
- If  $f(x_1) < f(x_2)$  then the minimum does not lie in  $(x_2, b)$ .
- If  $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$  then minimum does not lie in  $(a, x_1)$  and  $(x_2, b)$ .

## Fibonacci Search Method:

- This method is an elimination Technique.
- The function should be unimodal function.
- In this method, the search interval is reduced according to Fibonacci numbers. The property of the Fibonacci numbers is that, given two consecutive numbers  $f_{n-2}$  and  $F_{n-1}$ , the third number is calculated as follows:

$$F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}, \dots\dots\dots(1)$$

where  $n = 2, 3, 4, \dots$

The first few Fibonacci numbers are  $F_0 = 1, F_1 = 1, F_2 = 2, F_3 = 3, F_4 = 5, F_6 = 13, \dots$

- The property of the Fibonacci numbers can be used to create a search algorithm that requires only one function evaluation at each iteration.

- The principle of Fibonacci search is that out of two points required for the use of region-elimination rule, one is always the previous point and the other point is new.
- Thus, only one function evaluation is required at each iteration.
- When the region-elimination rule eliminates a portion of the search space depending on the function values at these two points, the remaining search is  $L_k$ . By defining  $L_k^* = (F_{n-k+1}/F_{n+1})L$  and  $L_k = (F_{n-k+2}/F_{n+1})L$ , it can be shown that  $L_k - L_k^* = L_{k+1}$ , which means that one of the two points used in iteration  $k$  remains as one point in iteration  $(k + 1)$ . If the region  $(a, x_2)$  is eliminated in the  $k^{th}$  iteration, the point  $x_1$  is at a distance  $(L_k - L_k^*)$  or  $L_{k+1}^*$  from the point  $x_2$  in the  $(k + 1)$  iteration. Since, the first two Fibonacci numbers are the same, the algorithm usually starts with  $k = 2$ .

## Fibonacci Search Algorithm:

- (i) Choose a lower bound  $a$  and an upper bound  $b$ . Set  $L = b - a$ . Assume the desired number of function evaluations to be  $n$ . Set  $k = 2$ .
- (ii) Compute  $L_k^* = (F_{n-k+1}/F_{n+1})L$ . Set  $x_1 = a + L_k^*$  and  $x_2 = b - L_k^*$ .
- (iii) Compute one of  $f(x_1)$  or  $f(x_2)$ , which was not evaluated earlier. Use the fundamental region-elimination rule to eliminate a region. Set new  $a$  and  $b$ .
- (iv) Is  $k = n$ ? If not, set  $k = k + 1$  and go to step (ii), else terminate the procedure.

**Note:** In this algorithm, the interval reduces to  $(2/F_{n+1})L$  after  $n$  function evaluations. Thus, for a desired accuracy  $\epsilon$ , the number of required function evaluations  $n$  can be calculated using the following equation:

$$\frac{2}{F_{n+1}}(b - a) = \epsilon.$$

### Example:

Find the minimum of  $f(x) = x^2 + \frac{54}{x}$  using Fibonacci search method on  $[0, 5]$  and  $n = 3$ .

**Solution:** Given function  $f(x) = x^2 + \frac{54}{x}$

**Step 1:** Let  $a = 0, b = 5$ . Thus, the initial interval is  $L = b - a = 5$ .

Let us choose the number of function evaluations to be three ( $n = 3$ ). In practice the large number of  $n$  is usually chosen to get the more accurate value. Also, We set  $k = 2$ .

**Step 2:** We compute  $L_2^*$  as follows:

$$L_2^* = \left( \frac{F_{3-2+1}}{F_{3+1}} \right) L = \left( \frac{F_2}{F_4} \right) \cdot 5 = \frac{2}{5} \cdot 5 = 2.$$

Calculate  $x_1 = 0 + 2 = 2$  and  $x_2 = 5 - 2 = 3$ .

**Step 3:** Let us compute  $f(x_1) = 31$  and  $f(x_2) = 27$

We have  $f(x_1) > f(x_2)$ , we eliminate the region  $(0, x_1)$  or  $(0, 2)$ . Now, we set  $a = 2, b = 5$ .



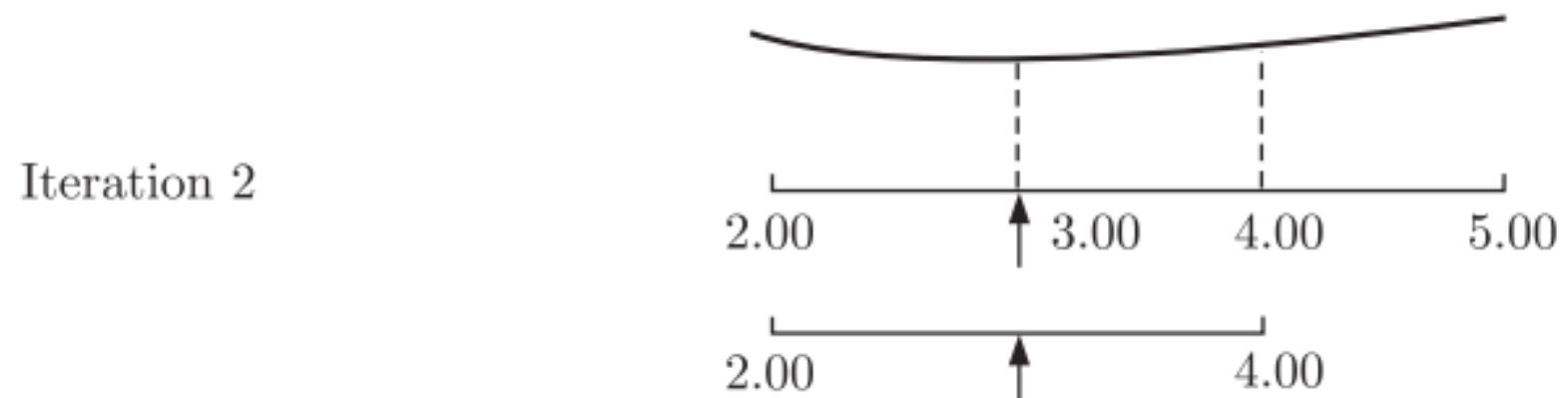
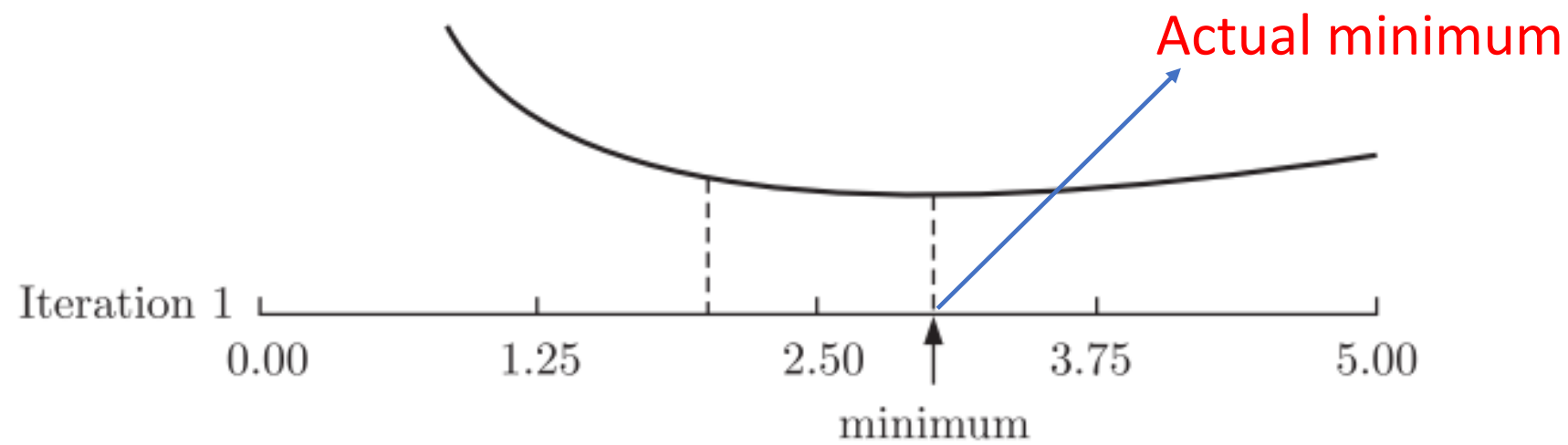
**Step 4:** Since  $k = 2 \neq 3$ , we increase  $k = k + 1$  and go to step 2. This completes one iteration.

**Iteration 2:** Now the new interval is  $(2, 5)$ , i.e.,  $a = 2$ ,  $b = 5$

**Step 2:** Compute,  $L_3^* = \left(\frac{F_1}{F_4}\right) L = \frac{1}{5} \cdot 5 = 1$ ,  $x_1 = 2 + 1 = 3$ , and  $x_2 = 5 - 1 = 4$ .

**Step 3:** The function evaluation at  $x_1 = 3$  is evaluated in the last iteration. Thus, we need to compute the function at  $x_2 = 4$  implies  $f(x_2) = 29.5$ . We have  $f(x_1) < f(x_2)$ . Therefore, eliminate the region  $(4, 5)$ .

**Step 4:** At this iteration  $k = n = 3$  and we terminate the algorithm. Therefore, the final interval is  $(2, 4)$ .



### Example:

Find the minimum of the function  $f(x) = 10 + x^3 - 2x - 5e^x$  using Fibonacci search method on  $(-5, 5)$  and  $n = 3$ .

# Golden Search Method

## Algorithm:

**Step 1:** Choose a lower bound  $a$  and an upper bound  $b$ . Also choose a small number  $\epsilon$ . Normalize the variable by using the equation  $w = (x - a)/(b - a)$ . Thus,  $a_w = 0$ ,  $b_w = 1$ , and  $L_w = 1$ . Set  $k = 1$ .

**Step 2:** Set  $w_1 = a_w + (0.618)L_w$  and  $w_2 = b_w - (0.618)L_w$ . Compute  $f(w_1)$  or  $f(w_2)$ , depending on whichever of the two was not evaluated earlier. Use the fundamental region-elimination rule to eliminate a region. Set new  $a_w$  and  $b_w$ .

**Step 3:** Is  $|L_w| < \epsilon$  small? If not, set  $k = k + 1$ , go to step 2; Else terminate.

## Note:

- 1) Using golden search method, after  $n$  function evaluations the interval reduces to  $(0.618)^{n-1}$ .
- 2) The number of function evaluations  $n$  required to achieve a desired accuracy  $\epsilon$  is given by  $(0.618)^{n-1}(b - a) = \epsilon$ .

## Relation between Fibonacci method and Golden search method:

$$F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$$

$$\frac{F_n}{F_{n-1}} = 1 + \frac{F_{n-2}}{F_{n-1}}$$

If  $n$  is large i.e., as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_n}{F_{n-1}} = 1 + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_{n-2}}{F_{n-1}}$$

$$r = 1 + \frac{1}{r}$$

$$r^2 = r + 1$$

$$r^2 - r - 1 = 0$$

$$\text{By solving } r = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$r = 1.618, -0.618.$$

Here,  $r = 1.618$  is the golden ratio and  $r = -0.618$  is the conjugate golden ratio.

**Note:** As  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_n}{F_{n-1}} = \frac{1}{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_{n-2}}{F_{n-1}}}$

### Example:

Find the minimum of  $f(x) = x^2 + \frac{54}{x}$  using Golden search method on  $[0, 5]$  and  $\epsilon = 0.01$ .

### Solution:

**Step 1:** Given  $a = 0, b = 5$ . The transformation of the variable  $x$  is given by  $w = \frac{x-a}{b-a}$   
 $w = \frac{x}{5}$ . Thus,  $a_w = 0, b_w = 1$ , and  $L_w = 1$ . Since, given function transformed to  $g(w) = 25w^2 + \frac{54}{5w}$ , we set  $k = 1$ .

### Iteration 1:

**Step 2:** We set  $w_1 = 0 + (0.618)1 = 0.618$  and  $w_2 = 1 - (0.618)1 = 0.382$ .

The function values are  $g(w_1) = 27.02$  and  $g(w_2) = 31.92$ .

Here,  $g(w_1) < g(w_2)$ . Therefore, the minimum cannot lie in any point smaller than 0.382.

Thus, we eliminate the region  $(a, w_2)$  or  $(0, 0.382)$ . Thus,  $a_w = 0.382$  and  $b_w = 1$ . At this stage,  $L_w = 1 - 0.382 = 0.618$ .

**Step 3:** Here,  $|L_w|$  is not less than  $\epsilon$ . Therefore, go to next iteration by setting  $k = 2$ .



## Iteration 2:

**Step 2:** Let us calculate  $w_1 = 0.382 + (0.618)0.618 = 0.764$ .  
 $w_2 = 1 - (0.618)0.618 = 0.618$ .

The function value at  $w_2 = 0.618$  is calculated in the previous iteration. Therefore, we need to compute the function value at  $w_1$ :

$g(w_1) = 28.73$ . And,  $g(w_1) > g(w_2)$  we eliminate the interval  $(0.763, 1)$  using fundamental region of elimination rule.

The new bounds are  $a_w = 0.382$  and  $b_w = 0.764$ ; and  $L_w = 0.764 - 0.382 = 0.382$ .

**Step 3:** Here,  $|L_w| = 0.382 \not\leq 0.01$ . Therefore, go to next iteration by setting  $k = 3$ .

### Iteration 3:

**Step 2:** Here, we observe that  $w_1 = 0.382 + (0.618)0.382 = 0.618$ .

$$w_2 = 0.764 - (0.618)0.382 = 0.528$$

From above  $w_1$  and  $w_2$ , the function value at  $w_1 = 0.618$  is evaluated earlier. Thus, we need to compute the function value only at  $w_2 = 0.528$  is  $g(0.528) = 27.43$ . Also, we have  $g(w_1) < g(w_2)$  and we eliminate the interval  $(0.382, 0.528)$  by fundamental region of elimination. The new interval is  $(0.528, 0.764)$  and  $L_w = 0.236$ .

**Step 3:** Here,  $|L_w| = 0.236 \not\leq 0.01$ . Therefore, go to next iteration by setting  $k=4$ .

### Iteration 4:

**Step 2:**

$$a_w = 0.528, b_w = 0.764$$

$$w_1 = 0.528 + (0.618)0.236 = 0.6738$$

$$w_2 = 0.764 - (0.618)0.236 = 0.6182$$

$$g(w_1) = 27.3787 \text{ and } g(w_2) = 27.0244$$

From the above it is clear that  $g(w_1) > g(w_2)$  and we eliminate  $(0.6738, 0.764)$  by region elimination method. The new interval is  $(0.528, 0.6738)$  and  $L_w = 0.1458$ .

**Step 3:**  $|L_w| = 0.1458 \not< 0.01$ . Therefore, go to next iteration by setting  $k=5$ .

You can go further iterations until  $|L_w| < \epsilon (= 0.01)$ .

**Note:**

The termination condition for the Golden Search method can be depend on the number of functional evaluations or threshold value for the length of the interval ( $\epsilon$ ).

### Example:

Find the maximum of  $f(x) = \frac{x^4}{4} - \frac{5x^3}{3} - 6x^2 + 19x - 7$ , Using Golden section search Method with the interval  $[-4, 0]$  and  $\epsilon = 0.1$ .

### Solution:

$$w = \frac{x - (-4)}{4} = \frac{x + 4}{4}$$
$$x = 4w - 4$$

$$g(w) = \frac{(4w - 4)^4}{4} - \frac{5(4w - 4)^3}{3} - 6(4w - 4)^2 + 19(4w - 4) - 7$$

Do the rest ...

## Practice Problems:

Minimize the following functions using Region elimination methods (Fibonacci search method, Golden section search method).

1)  $\frac{x^2}{16} - \frac{27x}{4}$  in range  $(0, 10)$

2)  $x^3 + x^2 - x - 2$  in the interval  $(-2, 2)$

3)  $-\frac{1.5}{x} + 6(10^{-6})/x^9$  in  $(-4, 4)$

4)  $f(x) = \exp(x) - x^3$  in  $(0, 5)$

5)  $f(x) = x^5 - 5x^3 - 20x + 5$  in  $(0, 5)$

6. Find the minimum of the following function using golden section search method in terms of the obtained interval after 10 function evaluations in the interval  $(-10, 5)$

$$f(x) = x^2 - 10 \exp(0.1x).$$

<https://www.investopedia.com/articles/technical/04/033104.asp#:~:text=The%20golden%20ratio%20is%20an,introduced%20the%20concept%20to%20Europe.>