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# Iterative Methods

## Computer Oriented Numerical and Statistical Methods

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# Outline

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- Iterative methods :
  - Bisection
  - False-Position
  - Newton-Raphson

# Types of Equations

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- **Linear Equations** : The equation in which power of the unknown quantity is one is called linear equation. The equation in which the power of the unknown is two is called quadratic equation.
- **Non-linear Equations** : Most of the equation having more power of unknowns or involving sin, log function are non-linear equations. Ex.  $x^2 - 3x = 15$  ,  $x - \cos x = 4$

# Kinds of Equations

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- They are classified on the basis of unknown quantity or power.
    - An equation which contains the first power only of an unknown quantity is called **simple / linear** equation [e.x.  $x - 2 = 5$  here the power of  $x$  is 1]
    - If the power of the unknown quantity in an equation is 2 then it is called a **quadratic** equation [e.x.  $x^2 - 2x = 15$  here the power of  $x$  is 2]
    - Some times two linear equations contains two unknown quantities. Also in order to find two unknown quantities we must have two linear equations. Such equations are called **simultaneous** equation [e.x  $2x + y = 5$ ;  $x + 3y = 8$ ]
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# Kinds of Equations

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- Non-linear equations
    - Most of non-linear equations can be solved algebraically.
    - The solution obtained by algebraic manipulation is known as algebraic solution or an analytical solution
    - There are many non-linear equation that cannot be solved algebraically for example  $2^x - x - 3 = 0$  which seems very simple but cannot be solved algebraically.
    - This solutions will be numerical not algebraic, and are called numerical solutions.
    - Types of non- linear equations are
      - Polynomial
      - Transcendental
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# Polynomial Equations

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- A polynomial has the general form

$$a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + a_{n-2} x^{n-2} + \dots + a_2 x^2 + a_1 x + a_0 = 0 \text{ where } a_n \neq 0$$

- It is  $n^{\text{th}}$  degree polynomial in  $x$  and has  $n$  roots. These roots may be
  - Real and different
  - Real and repeated
  - complex

# Transcendental Equations

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- A non-polynomial equation is called transcendental equations.
- Examples
  - $xe^x - x\sin x = 0$
  - $e^x \cos x - 3x = 0$
  - $2^x - x - 3 = 0$
- A transcendental equation may have finite/ infinite numbers of roots or may not have any roots at all.

# Convergence Notation

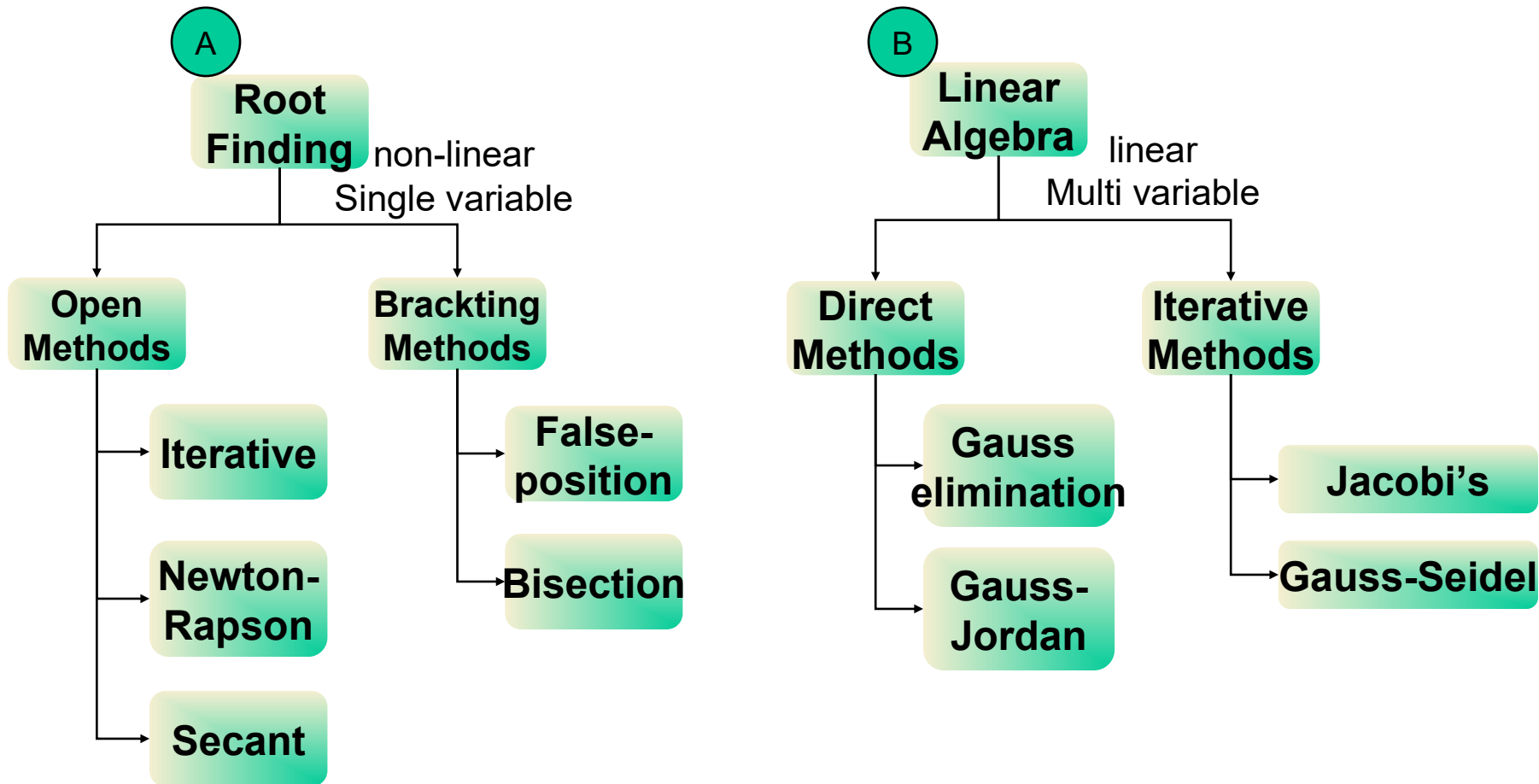
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A sequence  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \dots$  is said to **converge** to  $x$  if to every  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $N$  such that :

$$|x_n - x| < \varepsilon \quad \forall n > N$$



# Equation Solving



# Iterative Method

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- The Latin word 'Iterate' means to 'repeat'
  - It is also known as trial and error methods, are based on idea of successive approximations.
  - They start with one or more initial approximations to the root and obtain a sequence of approximations by repeating a fixed sequence of steps till the solution with reasonably accuracy is obtained.
  - Iterative method generally gives one root at a time.
  - Iterative methods are very cumbersome and time-consuming for solving non-linear equations manually.
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# Iterative Method

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- However they are best suited for use on computers, due to following reasons:
  - Iterative methods can be concisely expressed as computational algorithms.
  - It is possible to formulate algorithms that can handle class of similar problems. For e.g. an algorithm can be developed to solve a polynomial equation of degree  $n$
  - Round – off errors are negligible in iterative methods as compared to direct methods.

# Steps involved in an Iterative Method

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- To develop an algorithm which is a step by step procedure for solving the problem
- An initial guess or initial estimates is made for the variable or variables of the solution.
  - The initial estimates should be reasonable.
  - Success in the solution depends on the choice of proper initial values for the variables.
- Using the algorithm developed, better and better estimates are obtained in the successive iterations.
- The iteration process is stopped when an acceptable solution is obtained, based on some reasonable criteria for stopping the iteration process.

# Bracketing / Interpolation Methods

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- In bracketing methods, the method starts with an interval that contains the root and a procedure is used to obtain a smaller interval containing the root.
  - Two estimates of the roots are made- one giving a positive value for the function  $f(x)$  and other a negative value for the function  $f(x)$ . Since the value of  $f(x)$  would be zero at the root.
  - It means the root is effectively bracketed between these two values..
  - By proper choice, the gap between the two estimates of the roots is reduced further and further so as to arrive at very small gap between the two estimates successively.
  - Examples of bracketing methods:
    - Bisection method
    - False position method
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# OpenEnd / Extrapolation / Successive Approximation Methods

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- In the open methods, the method starts with one or more initial guess points. In each iteration, a new guess of the root is obtained.
- Open methods are usually more efficient than bracketing methods.
- They may not converge to a root.
- Examples of open end methods:
  - Newton –Raphson Method
  - Secant Method.

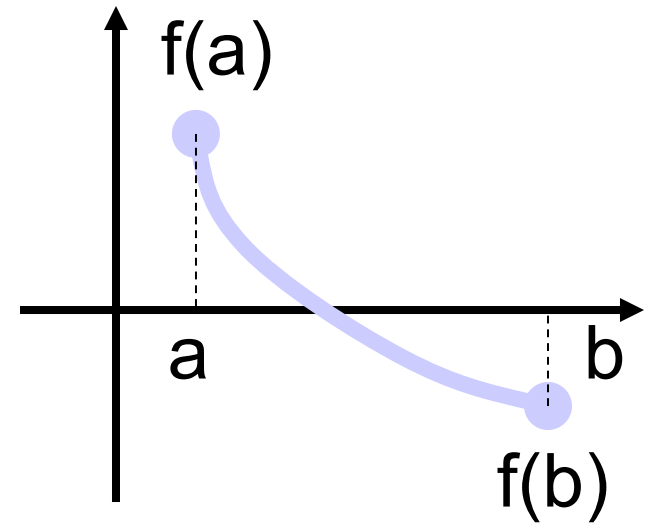
# Bisection / Binary Chopping / Half- Interval/ Midpoint / Bolzano / Interval –Halving Method.

- This method is based on the theorem 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  $b$
  - Here  $f(a)$  is negative and  $f(b)$  is positive
  - The root lies between  $a$  and  $b$  and its approximation is given by  $x_0 = (a + b)/2$
  - If  $f(x_0) = 0$  then  $x_0$  is the root.
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# Intermediate Value Theorem

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- Let  $f(x)$  be defined on the interval  $[a,b]$ .
- Intermediate value theorem:  
if a function is continuous and  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  have different signs then the function has at least one zero in the interval  $[a,b]$ .

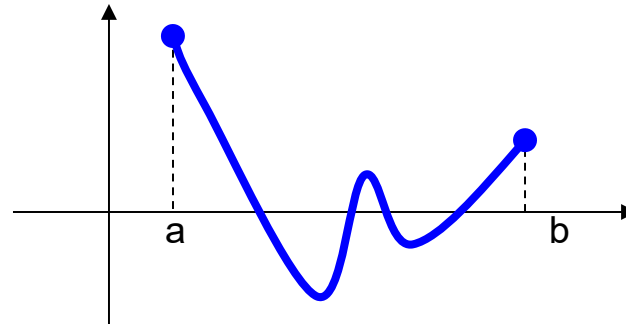




# Examples

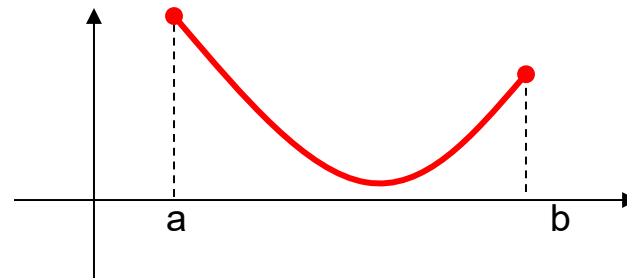
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- If  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  have the same sign, the function may have an even number of real zeros or no real zeros in the interval  $[a, b]$ .



The function has four real zeros

- Bisection method can not be used in these cases.



The function has no real zeros

# Bisection Method

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## Assumptions:

Given an interval  $[a,b]$

$f(x)$  is continuous on  $[a,b]$

$f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  have opposite signs.

These assumptions ensure the existence of at least one zero in the interval  $[a,b]$  and the bisection method can be used to obtain a smaller interval that contains the zero.

# Bisection Algorithm

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## Assumptions:

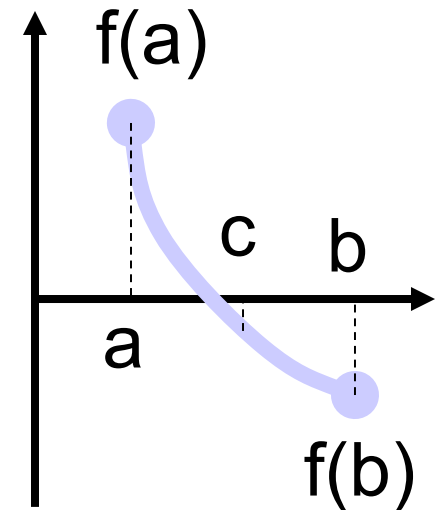
- $f(x)$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$
- $f(a) f(b) < 0$

## Algorithm:

### Loop

1. Compute the mid point  $c = (a+b)/2$
2. Evaluate  $f(c)$
3. If  $f(a) f(c) < 0$  then new interval  $[a, c]$   
If  $f(a) f(c) > 0$  then new interval  $[c, b]$

### End loop



# Stopping Criteria

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Two common stopping criteria

1. Stop after a fixed number of iterations
2. Stop when the absolute error is less than a specified value

How are these criteria related?

$c_n$  : is the midpoint of the interval at the  $n^{\text{th}}$  iteration  
(  $c_n$  is usually used as the estimate of the root).

$r$  : is the zero of the function.

After  $n$  iterations:

$$|error| = |r - c_n| \leq E_a^n = \frac{b - a}{2^n} = \frac{\Delta x^0}{2^n}$$

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# Bisection Method

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## Advantages

- **Simple** and easy to implement
- **One** function evaluation per iteration
- The **size** of the interval containing the zero is reduced by 50% after each iteration
- The **number of iterations** can be determined **a priori**
- **No** knowledge of the **derivative** is needed
- The function does **not** have to be **differentiable**

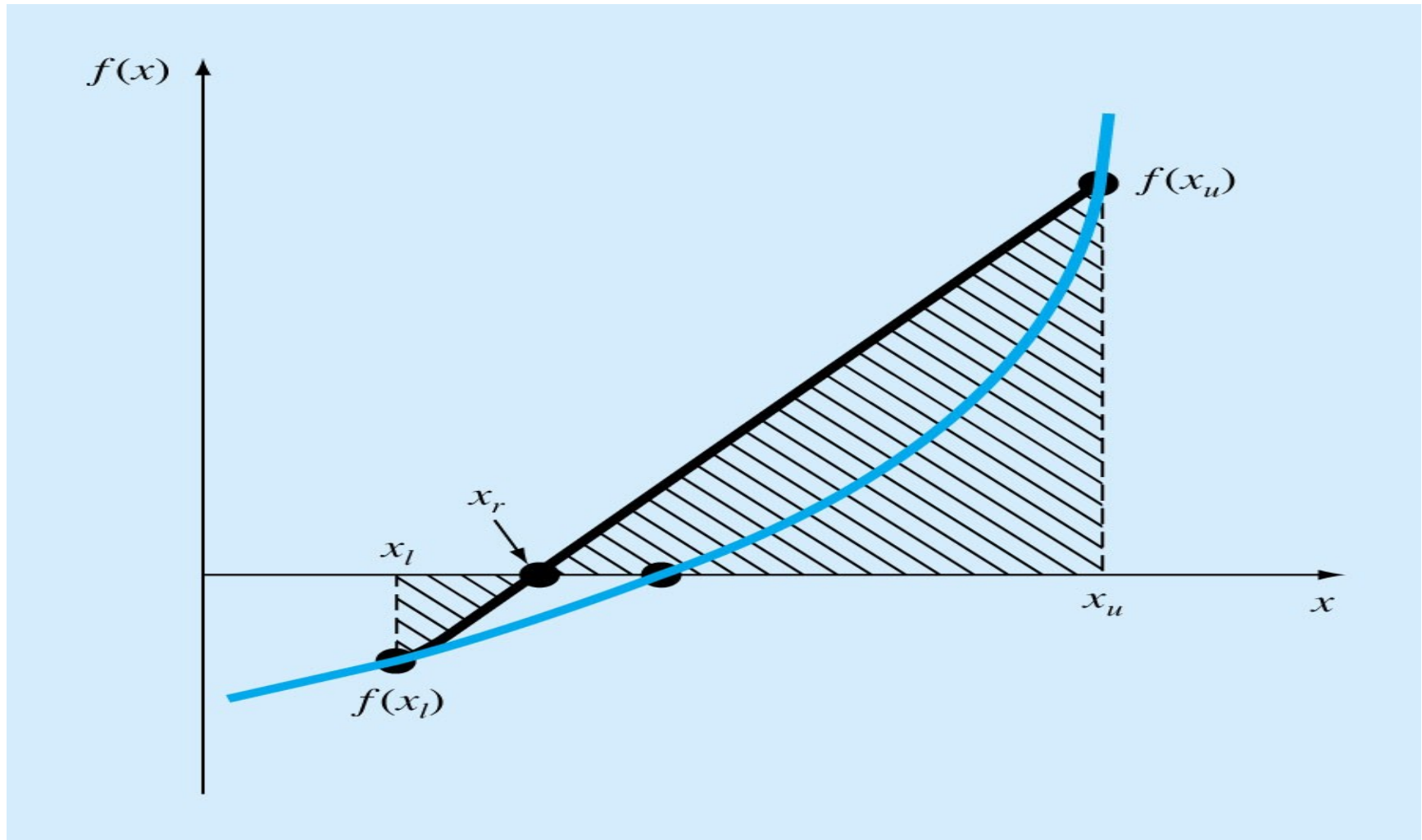
## Disadvantage

- **Slow** to converge
  - **Good** intermediate approximations may be **discarded**
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# **False- Position /Regula – Falsi / Linear Interpolation / Method Of Chords**

- Here, we choose two points  $x_n$  and  $x_{n-1}$  such that  $f(x_n)$  and  $f(x_{n-1})$  are of opposite signs.
- Intermediate value property suggests that the graph of  $y = f(x)$  crosses the  $x$ -axis between these two points and therefore, a root say  $\alpha$  lies between these two points.
- Thus, to find a real root of  $f(x) = 0$  using Regula-Falsi method, we replace the part of the curve between the points  $A[x_n, f(x_n)]$  and  $B[x_{n-1}, f(x_{n-1})]$  by a chord in that interval and we take the point of intersection of this chord with the  $x$ -axis as a first approximation to the root.

# False- Position /Regula – Falsi / Linear Interpolation / Method Of Chords



# False- Position Method

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- Start with two approximation to root say  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  for which  $f(x)$  has opposite sign.
- Compute  $x_3$  as

$$x_3 = \frac{x_1 f(x_2) - x_2 f(x_1)}{f(x_2) - f(x_1)}$$

- There are 3 possibilities
    - If  $f(x_3) = 0$  then we have a root as  $x_3$
    - If  $f(x_1)$  and  $f(x_3)$  are of opposite sign, then the root lies in the interval  $[x_1, x_3]$ . Thus  $x_2$  is replaced by  $x_3$  and the iterative procedure is repeated.
    - If  $f(x_1)$  and  $f(x_3)$  are of same sign, then the root lies in the interval  $[x_3, x_2]$ . Thus  $x_1$  is replaced by  $x_3$  and the iterative procedure is repeated.
    - Terminate the process when the size of the search interval becomes less than prescribed tolerance.
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# Bisection Method Vs False- Position Method

- Difference between bisection and regula falsi method

Bisection	Regula -Falsi
If bisect the given interval $[x_1, x_2]$ on x -axis	It intersects the x- axis by a straight line joining the points $(x_1, f(x_1))$ and $(x_2, f(x_2))$
It only depends on the sign change of $f(x)$ , but it does not depend on the values of $f(x)$	It only depends on both the sign change of $f(x)$ and values of $f(x)$
Usually it obtains a repeated zero (i.e. root) accurately	It cannot obtain a repeated zero accurately
It detects both the zero and the jump discontinuity in a given interval	It detects mainly the zero but it may fail to detect jump discontinuity

# Bisection Method Vs False- Position Method

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- Similarity between bisection and regula falsi method
1. Activation occurs when there is a sign change in  $f(x)$  for the points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ .
  2. They do not accurately find the number of repetitions of a root.
  3. These methods are applicable only for obtaining real roots of a real function, not for complex roots.
  4. When the curve  $y = f(x)$  approaches and touches the  $x$ - axis, these methods gives an indication of the approach but they fail to detect the root (i.e. the touching point)
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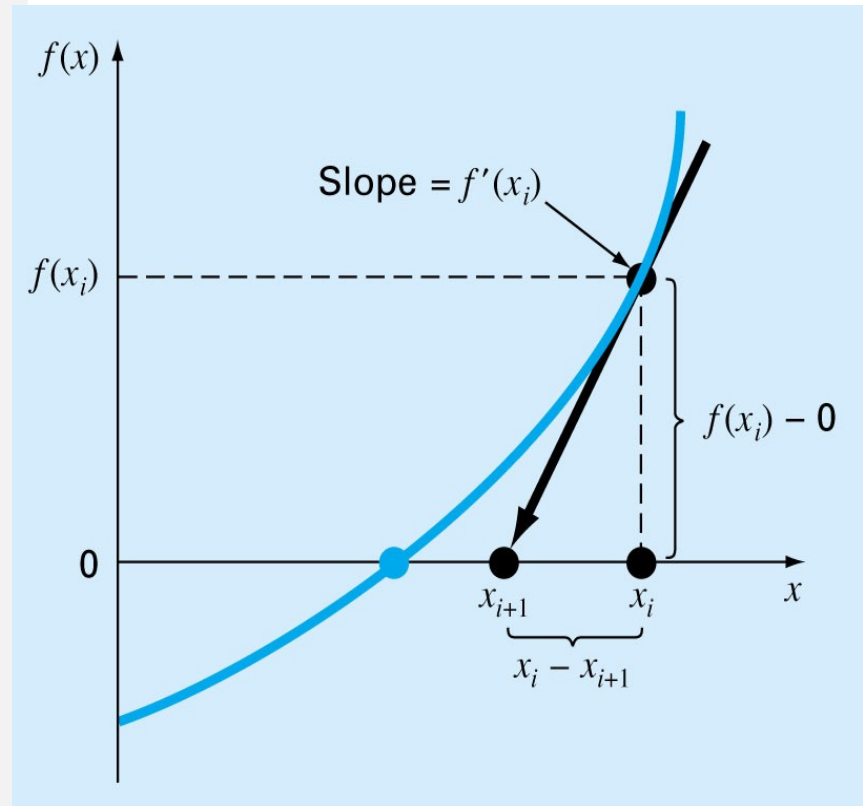
# Newton-Raphson Method/ Netwon's Method of Tangents

- Most widely used formula for locating roots.
- It is one of the fastest iterative methods.
- Can be derived using **Taylor series** or the geometric interpretation of the slope in the figure

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

rearrange to obtain :

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



# Newton-Raphson Method

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- Given an initial guess of the root  $x_0$ , Newton-Raphson method uses information about the function and its derivative at that point to find a better guess of the root.
- Assumptions:
  - $f(x)$  is continuous and the first derivative is known
  - An initial guess  $x_0$  such that  $f'(x_0) \neq 0$  is given

# Newton-Raphson Method

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- Start with the arbitrary point  $x_0$
- Determine  $f(x_0)$ ,  $f'(x_0)$
- Determine
$$x_1 = x_0 - \frac{f(x_0)}{f'(x_0)}$$
- Stop the iterative cycle when two successive values of  $x_i$  are nearly equal with a prescribed tolerance  
 $|x_0 - x_1| < \varepsilon_1$  or  $|f(x_1)| < \varepsilon_2$

## Advantage of Newton's Method

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- It has quadratic convergence. It converges fast at the cost of slightly increased labour in less number of iterations.
- Convergence is assured.

## Disadvantage of Newton's Method

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- For every iteration,  $f(x^{(k)})$  and  $f'(x^{(k)})$  have to be evaluated.
- If the initial guess of the root is far from the root the method may not converge.
- Since  $f'(x^{(k)})$  occurs in the denominator of the expression for  $x^{(k+1)}$  this poses a problem. If  $f'(x^{(k)}) = 0$  **or nearly zero**
- Newton's method converges linearly near multiple zeros  $\{ f(x) = f'(x) = 0 \}$ . In such a case, modified algorithms can be used to regain the quadratic convergence.

