

WTF x s.t. $x = \cos x$

No.

Date / /

Method: Initially, put $x_0 \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2})$, $x_{n+1} = \cos x_n$.

1st \exists and ! : Intuition:



of $x = \cos x$ Analytically, $f(x) = x - \cos x$, $f'(x) = 1 - \sin x > 0$

on $(0, \frac{\pi}{2}) \Rightarrow f(x)$ is increasing, $f(0) = -1$, $f(\frac{\pi}{2}) = \frac{\pi}{2} - 0 > 0$

$\Rightarrow f(x)$ is continuous $\Rightarrow \exists x^*$ s.t. $f(x^*) = 0$, $x^* \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2})$. Since

$f(x) \uparrow \Rightarrow x^*$ is unique,

2nd Robust of method: WTF: $|\cos x - x^*| \leq |x - x^*|$

Proof: Suppose $\exists x \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2})$ s.t. $|\cos x - x^*| > |x - x^*|$

$\Rightarrow \frac{|\cos x - \cos x^*|}{|x - x^*|} > 1$, by Lagrange mean-value Th.,

$\exists c \in (x, x^*)$ (or (x^*, x)) s.t. $\frac{|\cos' c|}{1} > 1$, which is $\sin c > 1$.

Contradict to the domain of $\sin x$, $x \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2}) \Rightarrow |\cos x - x^*| \leq |x - x^*|$

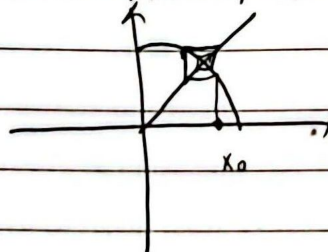
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More precisely, choose $(0, \frac{\pi}{2} - \epsilon)$ s.t. $\sin(\frac{\pi}{2} - \epsilon) = 0.999$.

$|x_{n+1} - x^*| = |\cos x_n - \cos x^*| = |\sin(\xi)| |x_n - x^*| < 0.999 |x_n - x^*|$

$\Rightarrow |x_n - x^*| < 0.999^n |x_0 - x^*| \Rightarrow n \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow x_n \rightarrow x^*$.

In graph:



$x^* \approx 0.73$