

## Golden Section Method

In this method the function should be unimodal. If the function is multimodal then there are many local optima (minima/maxima). For that case we have to break the interval of uncertainty into small intervals and apply the region elimination technique to the smaller intervals.

The main Golden section Method is very similar to Fibonacci Method. The main advantage is that ~~in~~ in this method the number of experiments are not pre-fixed beforehand, we can fix this while running the experiments. Let's see the method step by step.

### Golden Ratio $\phi$ ( $\approx 1.618$ )

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

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

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_n}{F_{n-1}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_{n-1}}{F_{n-2}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_{n-j}}{F_{n-(j-1)}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi = 1 + \frac{1}{\phi}$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi^2 - \phi + 1 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \phi = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

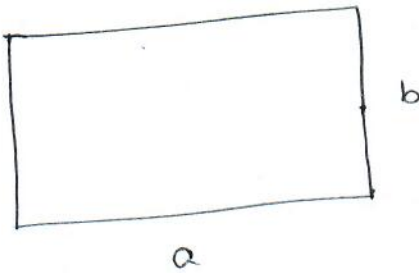
$$\therefore \phi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \approx 1.618$$

$$\phi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} = 1.618 \quad (\text{conjugate golden ratio})$$

$$\frac{1}{\phi} = 0.618$$

Golden ratio

(Room construction, envelope and all)  
TV screen,



$$\frac{\text{whole length}}{\text{length of bigger}} = \frac{\text{length of bigger}}{\text{length of smaller}}$$

$$= \frac{a+b}{a} = \frac{a}{b} = \phi$$

In Geometry, if we divide a line segment with unequal parts. Then we will see that



$$\frac{\text{length of the whole line segment}}{\text{length of the larger part}} = \frac{\text{length of the larger part}}{\text{length of the smaller part}}$$

$$= \phi$$

# Algorithm for Golden Section Method

Step-1: Given initial <sup>interval</sup> of uncertainty  $L_0 = [a, b]$



Step-2:  $L_2^* = \frac{1}{\phi^2} L_0$

Fibonacci Method  $\Rightarrow L_2^* = \frac{F_{n-2}}{F_n} L_0$

$\therefore$  For Golden Section Method we compute large number of experiments.

$$L_2^* = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_{n-2}}{F_n} L_0$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_{n-2}}{F_{n-1}} \cdot \frac{F_{n-1}}{F_n} \cdot L_0$$

$$\because \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_{n-1}}{F_n} = \frac{1}{\phi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\phi^2} L_0$$

To generate  $x_1 = a + L_2^*$   
 $x_2 = b - L_2^*$

Then,

$$f(x_1) < f(x_2)$$

• Minimization problem  
 discard  $(x_2, b]$ .

• Maximization problem  
 discard  $[a, x_1]$ .

Step-3:  $L_2 = \text{either } [a, x_2) \text{ or } [x_1, b]$

"  
New interval of uncertainty,

$$L_2 = \frac{1}{2} L_0$$



$$L_3^* = \frac{1}{2^3} L_0.$$

Similar like previous

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_{n-3}}{F_n} L_0 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_{n-3}}{F_{n-2}} \cdot \frac{F_{n-2}}{F_{n-1}} \cdot \frac{F_{n-1}}{F_n} \cdot L_0$$

$$= \frac{1}{2^3} L_0$$

Step-4:  $L_3 = L_2 - L_3^* = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F_{n-2}}{F_n} L_0 = \frac{1}{2^2} L_0.$

To generate the  $k^{\text{th}}$  experiment.

$$L_k^* = \frac{1}{2^k} L_0$$

$$L_k = \frac{1}{2^{k-1}} L_0$$

,  $k=1, 2, \dots$

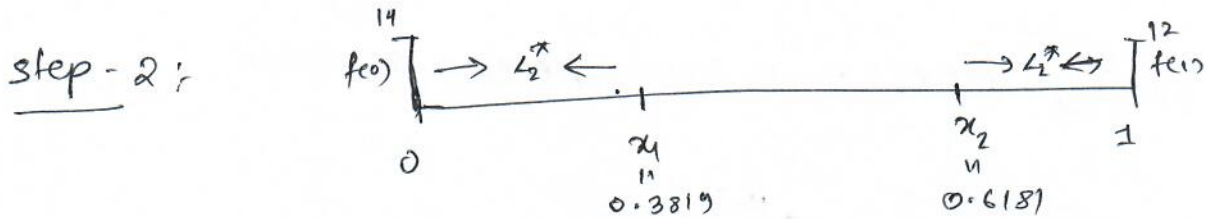
Step-5: Length of  $L_k < \epsilon$  ( $\epsilon$  is very small)

Then declare that  $L_k$  is the final interval of uncertainty. And, certainly, the middle point of  $L_k$  would be the optimal solution of the problem.



Example 3: Minimize  $f(x) = 4x^3 + x^2 - 7x + 14$ . within the interval  $[0, 1]$  using Golden Section Method. Assume that the  $f \triangleq f(x)$  is unimodal,  $\varepsilon = 0.15$ . (Stopping tolerance.)

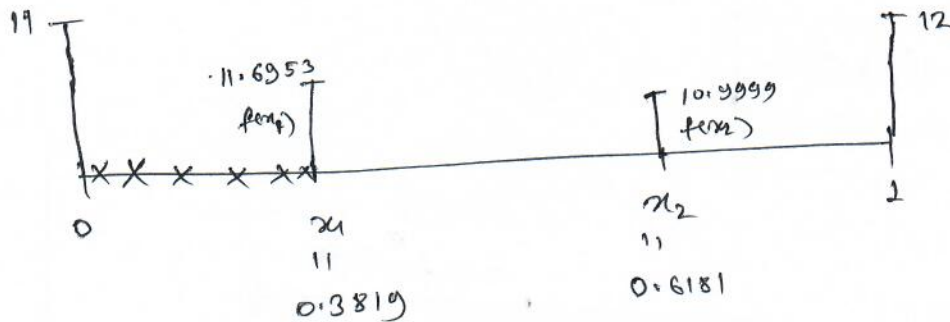
$\Rightarrow$  Step-1:  $L_0 = 1$  (Initial interval of uncertainty)



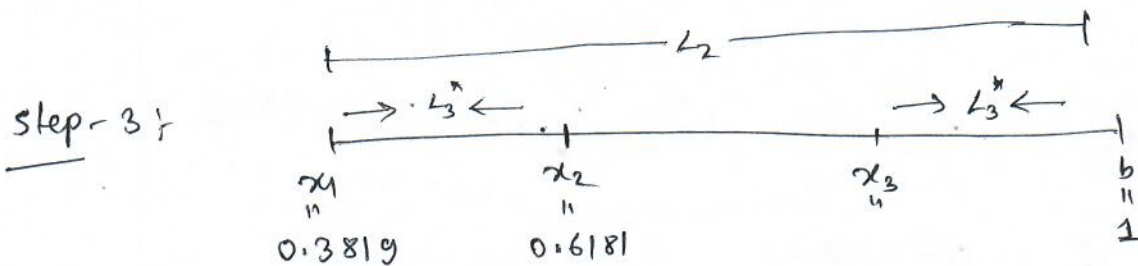
$$L_2^* = \frac{1}{\phi^2} L_0 = 0.3819.$$

$$x_1 = a + L_2^* = 0.3819, \quad f(x_1) = 11.6953$$

$$x_2 = b - L_2^* = 0.6181, \quad f(x_2) = 10.9999.$$



$\therefore$  Next interval of uncertainty is  $(x_1, b] = [0.3819, 1]$



Generate  $x_3$ .

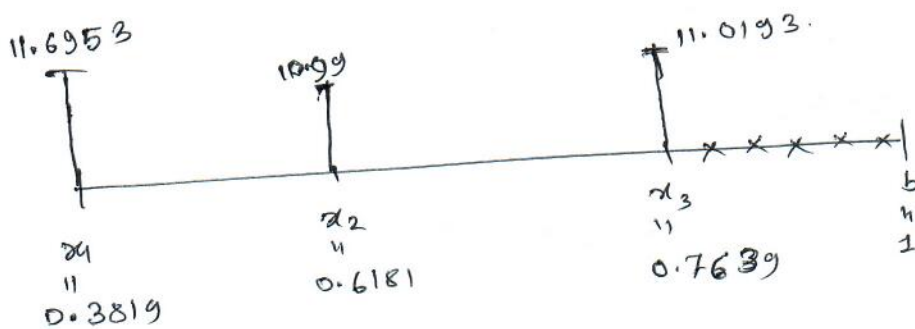
$$L_3^* = \frac{1}{2^3} L_0 = 0.2361$$

$$\therefore x_3 = b - L_3^* = 0.7639.$$

$$L_2 = \frac{1}{2^2} L_0 \rightarrow \text{step-2}$$

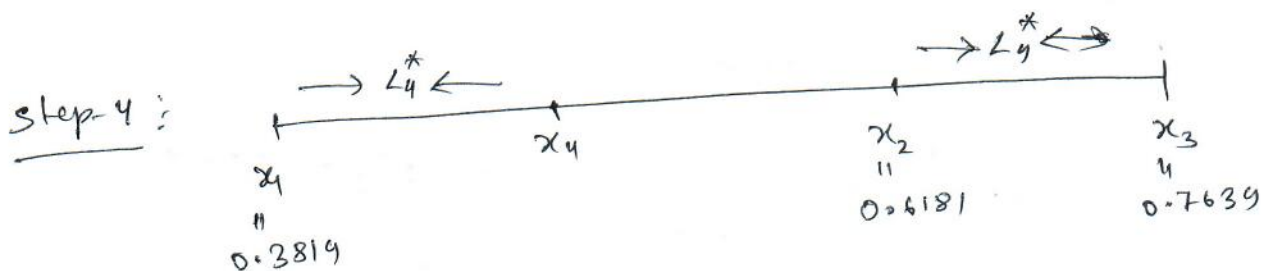
$$L_3 = \frac{1}{2^3} L_0 \quad \text{step-3}$$

$$f(x_1) = 11.6953, \quad f(x_3) = 11.0193, \quad f(x_2) = 10.9999$$



$\therefore$  New interval of uncertainty ~~is~~  $(x_1, x_3) = (0.3819, 0.7639)$

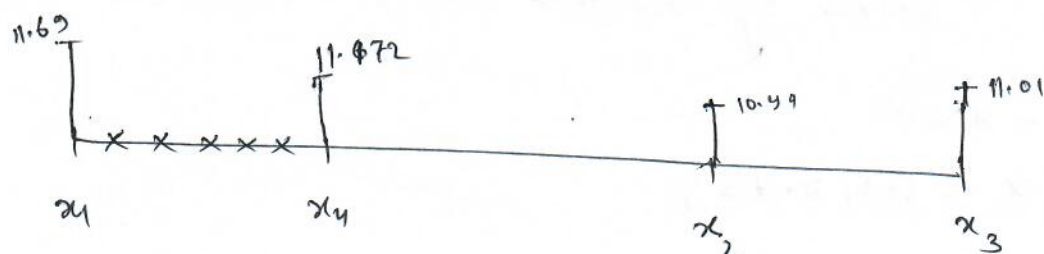
$$L_3 = x_3 - x_1 = \frac{1}{2^3} L_0.$$



To generate  $x_4$ , calculate  $L_4^* = \frac{1}{2^4} L_0 = 0.1459$

$$x_4 = x_1 + L_4^* = 0.5278.$$

$$f(x_4) = 11.1721$$



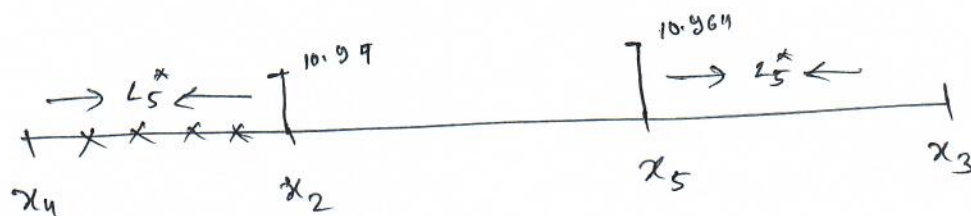
$\therefore$  New interval of uncertainty  $= (x_4, x_3)$

$$L_4 = x_3 - x_4 = \frac{1}{2^3} L_0$$

$$L_4 = 0.2360 \neq \varepsilon$$

step-5: To generate  $x_5$ ,  $L_5^* = \frac{1}{2^5} L_0$   
 $= 0.0902$

$$x_5 = 0.7639, f(x_5) = 10.9611$$



$$L_5 = \frac{1}{2^4} L_0 = 0.1458 < \varepsilon. \quad (\text{STOP the iteration process})$$

$\therefore$  The final interval of uncertainty  $= (x_2, x_3)$ .

$$\therefore L_5 = x_2 - x_3 = 0.1458$$

$$\therefore \text{Optimal point } x^* = \frac{x_2 + x_3}{2}$$

Exercise : Solve by Golden Section Method

$$\text{Max } -x^2 - 1$$

$$\text{s.t. } x \in [-1, 0.75]$$

with the final interval of uncertainty having a length less than  $\frac{1}{4}$ .