

# WENZHOU-KEAN UNIVERSITY

## NUMERICAL ANALYSIS MATH 3940



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# UNIT 1: Solutions of Equations in One Variable

- ✓ **Root Finding Problem**
- ✓ **Graphical Interpretation of Roots**
- ✓ **Descarte's Rule of Sign**
- ✓ **Bisection Method**
- ✓ **Examples**

# Linear Equations

- Equations of the form  $y = mx + c$
- Degree of linear equation is 1
- Solution in the form of a graph is always a straight line.

## Non-Linear Equations

- Equations containing **algebraic** ( $P_n(x)=0$ ) or **transcendental** functions *i.e.* functions which are expressed by infinite series ( $e^x$ ,  $\log x$ ,  $\sin x$  etc.)

e.g.,  $x^2 + 3x + 5 = 0$ ,  $\log x^2 + 7 = 0$ ,  $\sin x^2 - x - 2 = 0$

- Degree of non-linear polynomial is at least 2.

# Root-Finding Problem

- We now consider one of the most basic problems of numerical approximation, namely the **root-finding problem**.
- This process involves finding a **root**, or solution, of an equation of the form

$$f(x) = 0$$

for a given function  $f$ .

- A root of this equation is also called a **zero** of the function  $f$ .
- The problem of finding an approximation to the root of an equation can be traced back at least to 1700 B.C.E.

# Applications

**Marketing Problem:** The design of a box specifies that its length is 4 inches greater than its width. The height is 1 inch less than the width. The volume of the box is 12 cubic inches. What is the width of the box?

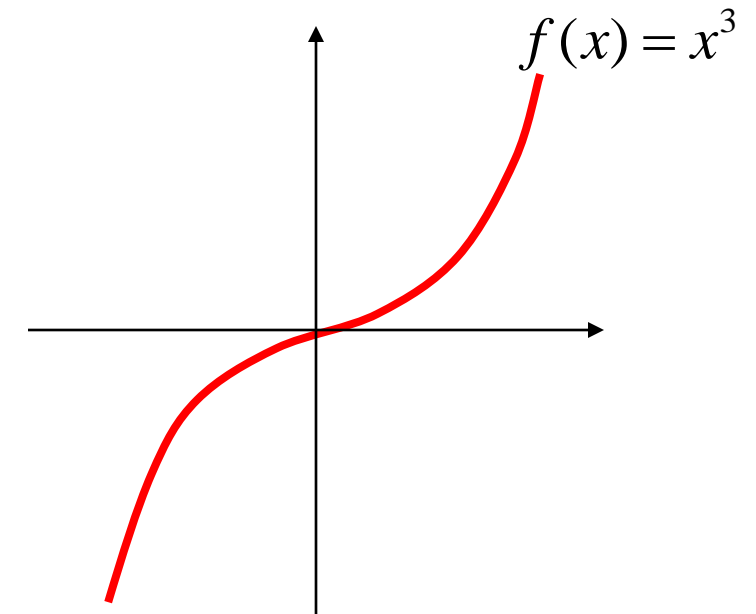
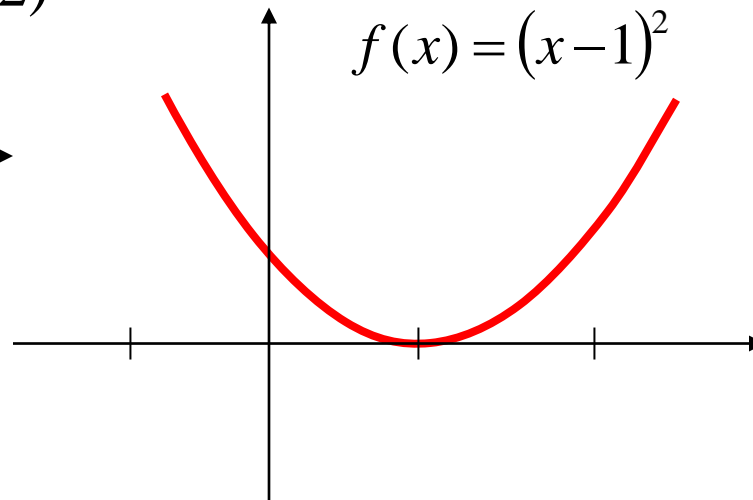
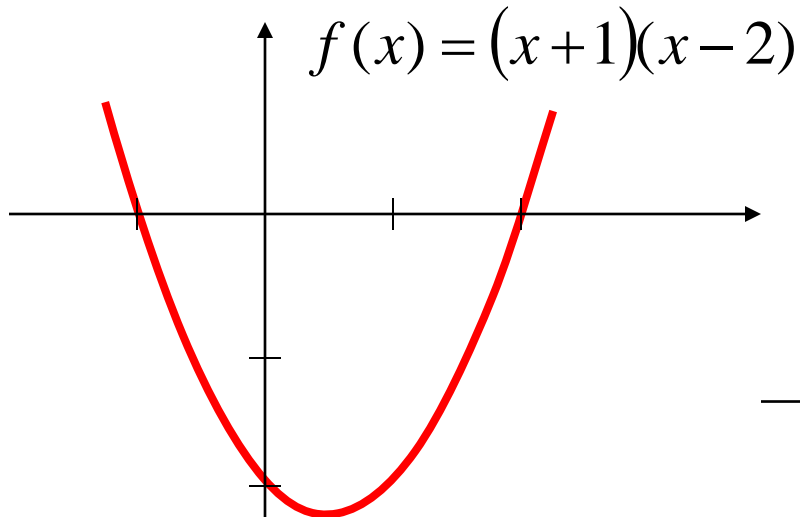
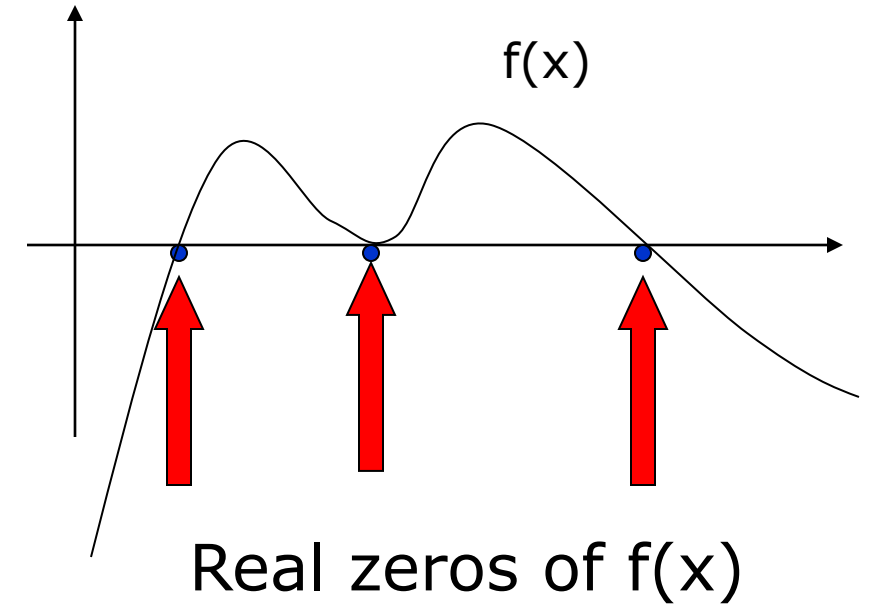
**Population Growth Problem:** Suppose that a certain population contains  $N(0)=1,000,000$  individuals initially, that  $v=435,000$  individuals immigrate into the community in the first year, and that  $N(1) = 1,564,000$  individuals are present at the end of one year. Determine the birthrate  $\lambda$  of this population?

*Note: The growth of a population can often be modeled over short periods of time by assuming that the population grows continuously with time at a rate proportional to the number present at that time*

$$N(t) = N(0)e^{\lambda t} + \frac{v}{\lambda}(e^{\lambda t} - 1)$$

# Graphical Interpretation of Zeros

- The real zeros of a function  $f(x)$  are the values of  $x$  at which the graph of the function crosses (or touches) the  $x$ -axis.
- Simple and Multiple Zeros



## Facts

$$P_n(x) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0 = 0$$

coefficients of  $x$  are real numbers.

- Any  $n^{\text{th}}$  order polynomial has exactly  $n$  zeros (counting real and complex zeros with their multiplicities).
- Any polynomial with an odd order has at least one real zero.
- If  $(\alpha + i\beta)$  is a root then  $(\alpha - i\beta)$  will also be a root.
- If a function has a zero at  $x=r$  with multiplicity  $m$  then the function and its first  $(m-1)$  derivatives are zero at  $x=r$  and the  $m^{\text{th}}$  derivative at  $r$  is not zero.

# Descarte's Rule of Sign

- No. of positive roots can not exceed the no. of change in sign in  $f(x)$ .
- No. of sign change in  $f(-x)$  will give no. of negative roots.
- If  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  be the two values of  $f(x)$  s.t.  $f(a) \times f(b) < 0$ , then the equation  $f(x)=0$  has at least one real root or an odd number of real roots in the interval  $(a,b)$ .
- If  $f(a) \times f(b) > 0$  then the no. of roots in  $(a, b)$  will be either 0 or even in numbers.



**Ex:**  $f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 + 3x + 1 = 0$

- There are two change in sign of  $f(x)$  so the equation  $f(x) = 0$  can have **at most** two positive roots

$$f(-x) = -x^3 - 2x^2 - 3x + 1 = 0$$

- There is one change in sign of  $f(-x)$  so the equation  $f(x) = 0$  can have **at most** one negative root.

➤  $f(-1) = -5 = f(a)$

➤  $f(0) = 1 = f(b)$

so,  $f(a)f(b) < 0$ . Hence, the negative root will lie in the interval  $(-1, 0)$

# Descarte's Rule of Sign

$$f(x) = x^3 - 7x^2 - 10x - 8 = 0$$

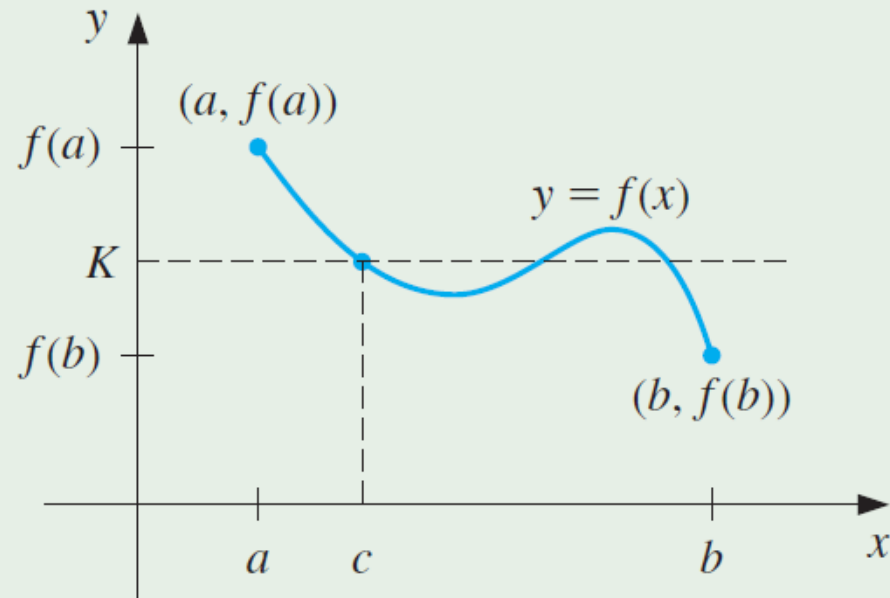
$$f(x) = 3x^4 + 2x^3 - 5x^2 - 8x + 1 = 0$$

# The Bisection Method

- We first consider the Bisection (Binary search) Method which is based on the Intermediate Value Theorem (IVT). [▶ IVT Illustration](#)
- Suppose a continuous function  $f$ , defined on  $[a, b]$  is given with  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  of opposite sign.
- By the IVT, there exists a point  $p \in (a, b)$  for which  $f(p) = 0$ . In what follows, it will be assumed that the root in this interval is unique.

# Intermediate Value Theorem

If  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $K$  is any number between  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$ , then there exists a number  $c \in (a, b)$  for which  $f(c) = K$ .



(The diagram shows one of 3 possibilities for this function and interval.)

# Bisection Technique

- Suppose  $f$  is a continuous function defined on the interval  $[a, b]$ , with  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  of opposite sign.
- The Intermediate Value Theorem implies that a number  $p$  exists in  $(a, b)$  with  $f(p) = 0$ .
- Although the procedure will work when there is more than one root in the interval  $(a, b)$ , we assume for simplicity that the root in this interval is unique.
- The method calls for a repeated halving (or bisecting) of subintervals of  $[a, b]$  and, at each step, locating the half containing  $p$ .

# Computation Steps

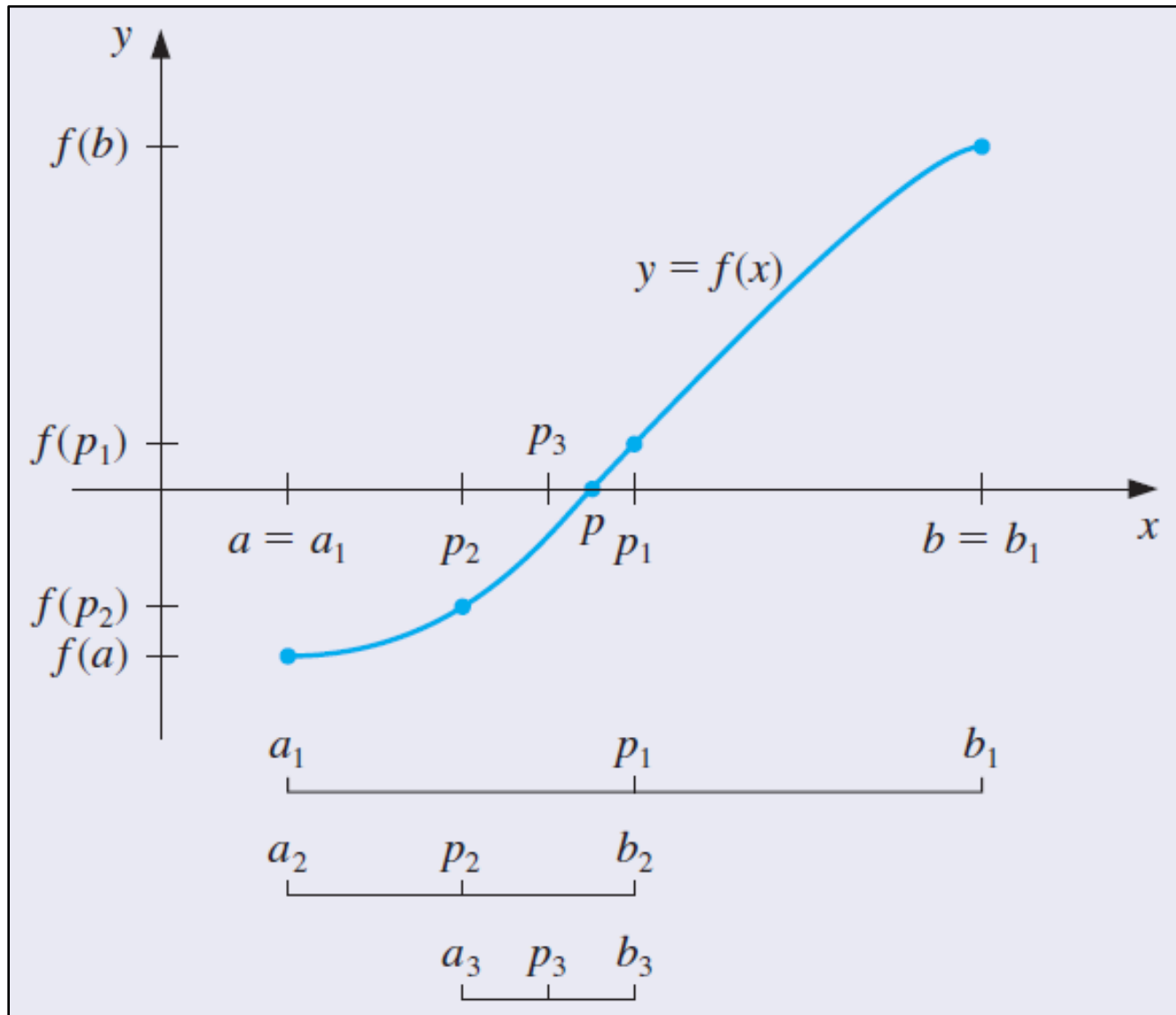
To begin, set  $a_1 = a$  and  $b_1 = b$ , and let  $p_1$  be the midpoint of  $[a, b]$ ; that is,

$$p_1 = a_1 + \frac{b_1 - a_1}{2} = \frac{a_1 + b_1}{2}.$$

- If  $f(p_1) = 0$ , then  $p = p_1$ , and we are done.
- If  $f(p_1) \neq 0$ , then  $f(p_1)$  has the same sign as either  $f(a_1)$  or  $f(b_1)$ .
  - ◊ If  $f(p_1)$  and  $f(a_1)$  have the same sign,  $p \in (p_1, b_1)$ . Set  $a_2 = p_1$  and  $b_2 = b_1$ .
  - ◊ If  $f(p_1)$  and  $f(a_1)$  have opposite signs,  $p \in (a_1, p_1)$ . Set  $a_2 = a_1$  and  $b_2 = p_1$ .

Then re-apply the process to the interval  $[a_2, b_2]$ , etc.

# Interval Halving to Bracket the Root



1.  $a_1 = a, b_1 = b, p_0 = a$ ;
2.  $i = 1$ ;
3.  $p_i = \frac{1}{2} (a_i + b_i)$ ;
4. If  $|p_i - p_{i-1}| < \epsilon$  or  $|f(p_i)| < \epsilon$  then 10;
5. If  $f(p_i)f(a_i) > 0$ , then 6;  
If  $f(p_i)f(a_i) < 0$ , then 8;
6.  $a_{i+1} = p_i, b_{i+1} = b_i$ ;
7.  $i = i + 1$ ; go to 3;
8.  $a_{i+1} = a_i, b_{i+1} = p_i$ ;
9.  $i = i + 1$ ; go to 3;
10. End of Procedure.

## Example

Show that  $f(x) = x^3 + 4x^2 - 10 = 0$  has a root in  $[1, 2]$  and use the Bisection method to determine an approximation to the root that is accurate to at least within  $10^{-4}$ .



## Example

Show that  $f(x) = x^3 + 4x^2 - 10 = 0$  has a root in  $[1, 2]$  and use the Bisection method to determine an approximation to the root that is accurate to at least within  $10^{-4}$ .

Note that, for this example, the iteration will be terminated when a bound for the relative error is less than  $10^{-4}$ , implemented in the form

$$\frac{|p_n - p_{n-1}|}{|p_n|} < 10^{-4}.$$

# Example

Iter	$a_n$	$b_n$	$p_n$	$f(a_n)$	$f(p_n)$	RelErr
1	1.000000	2.000000	1.500000	-5.000	2.375	0.33333
2	1.000000	1.500000	1.250000	-5.000	-1.797	0.20000
3	1.250000	1.500000	1.375000	-1.797	0.162	0.09091

## Example

Iter	$a_n$	$b_n$	$p_n$	$f(a_n)$	$f(p_n)$	RelErr
1	1.000000	2.000000	1.500000	-5.000	2.375	0.33333
2	1.000000	1.500000	1.250000	-5.000	-1.797	0.20000
3	1.250000	1.500000	1.375000	-1.797	0.162	0.09091
4	1.250000	1.375000	1.312500	-1.797	-0.848	0.04762
5	1.312500	1.375000	1.343750	-0.848	-0.351	0.02326
6	1.343750	1.375000	1.359375	-0.351	-0.096	0.01149
7	1.359375	1.375000	1.367188	-0.096	0.032	0.00571
8	1.359375	1.367188	1.363281	-0.096	-0.032	0.00287
9	1.363281	1.367188	1.365234	-0.032	0.000	0.00143
10	1.363281	1.365234	1.364258	-0.032	-0.016	0.00072
11	1.364258	1.365234	1.364746	-0.016	-0.008	0.00036
12	1.364746	1.365234	1.364990	-0.008	-0.004	0.00018
13	1.364990	1.365234	1.365112	-0.004	-0.002	0.00009

- After 13 iterations,  $p_{13} = 1.365112305$  approximates the root  $p$  with an error

$$|p - p_{13}| < |b_{14} - a_{14}| = |1.3652344 - 1.3651123| = 0.0001221$$

- Since  $|a_{14}| < |p|$ , we have

$$\frac{|p - p_{13}|}{|p|} < \frac{|b_{14} - a_{14}|}{|a_{14}|} \leq 9.0 \times 10^{-5},$$

so the approximation is correct to at least within  $10^{-4}$ .

- The correct value of  $p$  to nine decimal places is  $p = 1.365230013$

```
>> format long
>> p=[1 4 0 -10]

p =

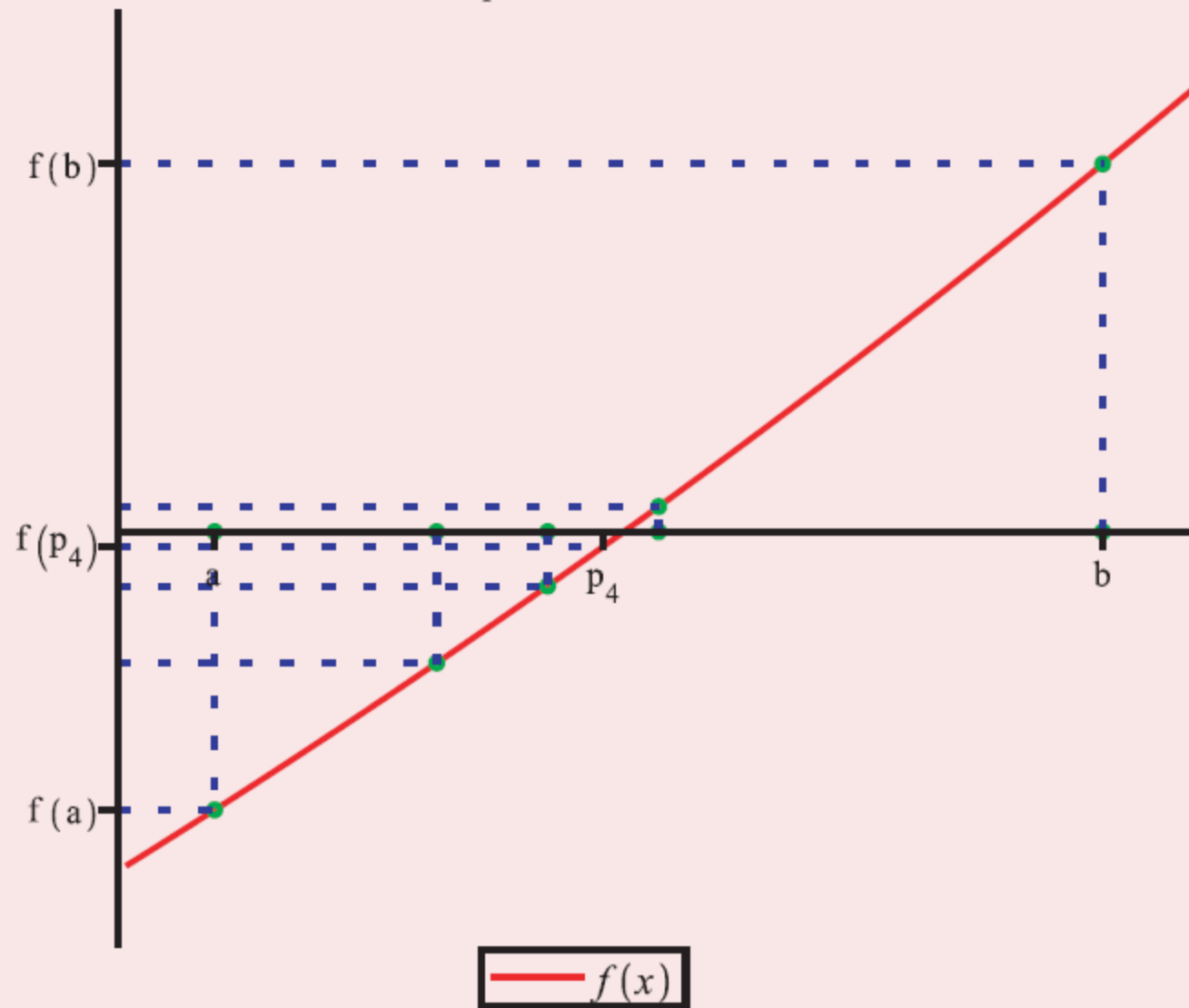
      1      4      0     -10

>> roots(p)

ans =

-2.682615006707049 + 0.358259359924043i
-2.682615006707049 - 0.358259359924043i
 1.365230013414097 + 0.000000000000000i
```

4 iteration(s) of the bisection method applied to  
 $f(x) = x^3 + 4x^2 - 10$   
with initial points  $a = 1.25$  and  $b = 1.5$



## Theorem

Suppose that  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $f(a) \cdot f(b) < 0$ . The Bisection method generates a sequence  $\{p_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  approximating a zero  $p$  of  $f$  with

$$|p_n - p| \leq \frac{b - a}{2^n}, \quad \text{when } n \geq 1.$$

## Proof.

For each  $n \geq 1$ , we have

$$b_n - a_n = \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}(b - a) \quad \text{and} \quad p \in (a_n, b_n).$$

Since  $p_n = \frac{1}{2}(a_n + b_n)$  for all  $n \geq 1$ , it follows that

$$|p_n - p| \leq \frac{1}{2}(b_n - a_n) = \frac{b - a}{2^n}.$$



## Conservative Error Bound

- It is important to realize that the theorem gives only a bound for approximation error and that this bound might be quite conservative.
- For example, this bound applied to the earlier problem, namely where

$$f(x) = x^3 + 4x^2 - 10$$

ensures only that

$$|p - p_9| \leq \frac{2^{-1}}{2^9} \approx 2 \times 10^{-3},$$

but the actual error is much smaller:

$$|p - p_9| = |1.365230013 - 1.365234375| \approx 4.4 \times 10^{-6}.$$

## Question!!

Determine the number of iterations necessary to solve  $f(x) = x^3 + 4x^2 - 10 = 0$  with accuracy  $10^{-3}$  using  $a_1 = 1$  and  $b_1 = 2$ .



## Question!!

Find the positive root, between 0 and 1, of the equation  $x = e^{-x}$  to a tolerance of 0.05%.

# Final Remarks

- 1 **Convergence is guaranteed:** Bisection method is bracketing method and it is always convergent.
  - 2 **Error can be controlled:** In Bisection method, increasing number of iteration always yields more accurate root.
- 
- 1 **Slow Rate of Convergence:** Although convergence of Bisection method is guaranteed, it is generally slow.
  - 2 **Choosing one guess close to root has no advantage:** Choosing one guess close to the root may result in requiring many iterations to converge.
  - 3 **Can not find root of some equations.** For example:  $f(x) = x^2$  as there are no bracketing values.

**THANK YOU**  
**ANY QUESTIONS???**