

Classical Search + Hill Climbing

Note Title

Classical Binary Search:

BS(x, key, lo, hi)

if (lo > hi)
return -1

m ← $\frac{lo+hi}{2}$

if $x_m == key$
return m

if $x_m > key$
return BS(x, k, lo, m-1)

if $x_m < key$
return BS(x, k, m+1, hi)

given x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}

$x_0 \leq x_1 \leq \dots \leq x_{n-1}$

Find K such that $x_k = key$

or return -1 if no K exists

Knowledge base: Array $x_0 \dots x_{n-1}$, key, state = [lo, hi]

Initial state: [0, n-1]

Goal: lo == hi

Rules:

[lo, hi] → [lo, mid-1]

Precondition: $x_{mid} > key$

[lo, hi] → [mid+1, hi]

Precondition: $x_{mid} < key$

mid = $\frac{lo+hi}{2}$

[lo, hi] → [mid, mid]

Precondition: $x_{mid} == key$

[lo, hi] → [-1, -1]

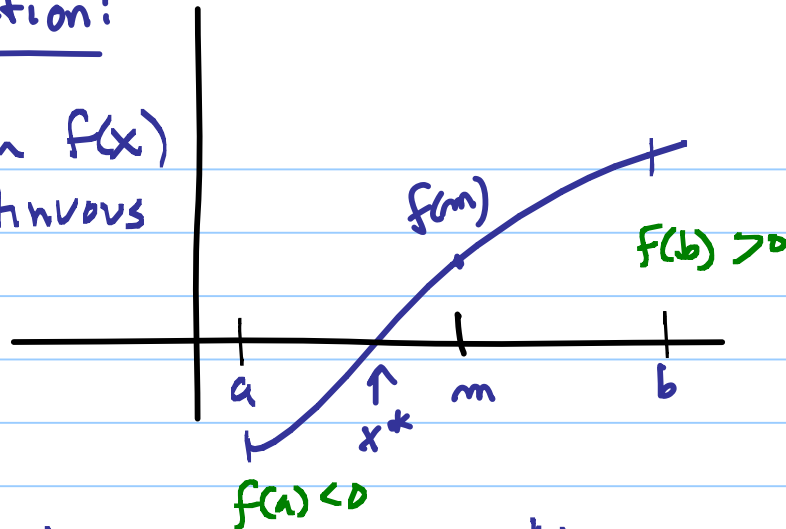
Precondition: lo > hi

Hill-Climbing
Function

$g(lo, hi) = lo - hi$ { < 0 if $lo < hi$, $= 0$ if $lo == hi$ }

Bisection:

given $f(x)$
continuous



find x^* such that $f(x^*) = 0$

Classical Method:

find $m = (a+b)/2$

if $|f(m)| < \epsilon$

return m

else

if $f(a)f(m) > 0$ // i.e., $f(a)$ & $f(m)$
have same sign

else $a = m$

else $b = m$

Initial State: $[a, b]$

an interval for which
 $f(a)$ and $f(b)$ have opposite
signs - i.e., $f(a)f(b) < 0$

Goal condition $b - a < \epsilon$

where ϵ is some small
"tolerance" that says a & b
are sufficiently close

Rules:

• $[a, b] \rightarrow [a, m]$ ($m = \frac{a+b}{2}$)

precondition:

$f(b)f(m) > 0$ (same sign)

• $[a, b] \rightarrow [m, b]$

precondition:

$f(a)f(m) > 0$

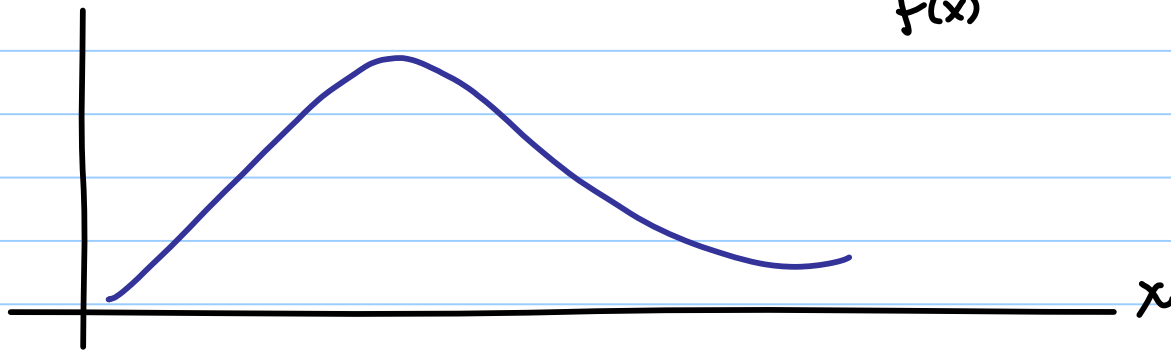
Hill Climbing function

$g(\text{state}) = g(a, b) = a - b$

improves
as $a \rightarrow b$

Newton's Method

* find maximal value of a function



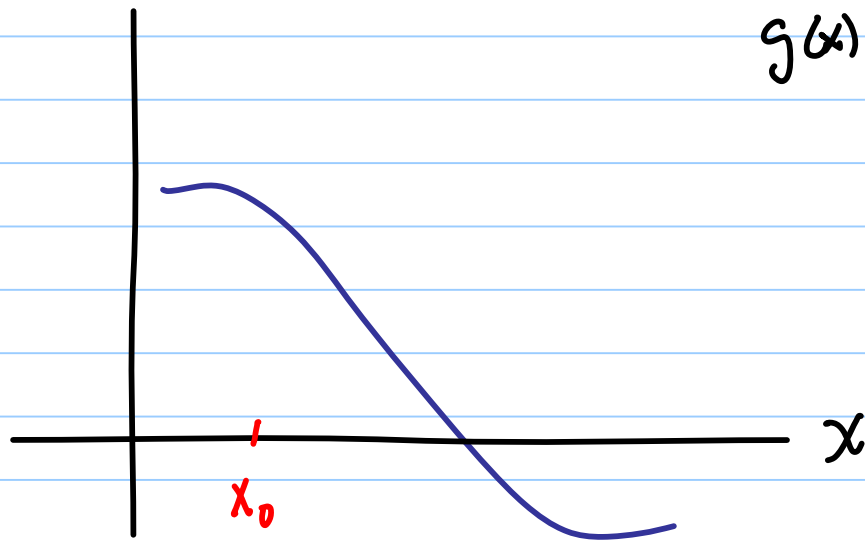
$$[f(x) \geq 0, \forall x]$$

Note: single maximum.

One approach: if $f(x)$ is differentiable, solve for $f'(x) = 0$

[Global vs. Local Optima
[Objective function
[Examples

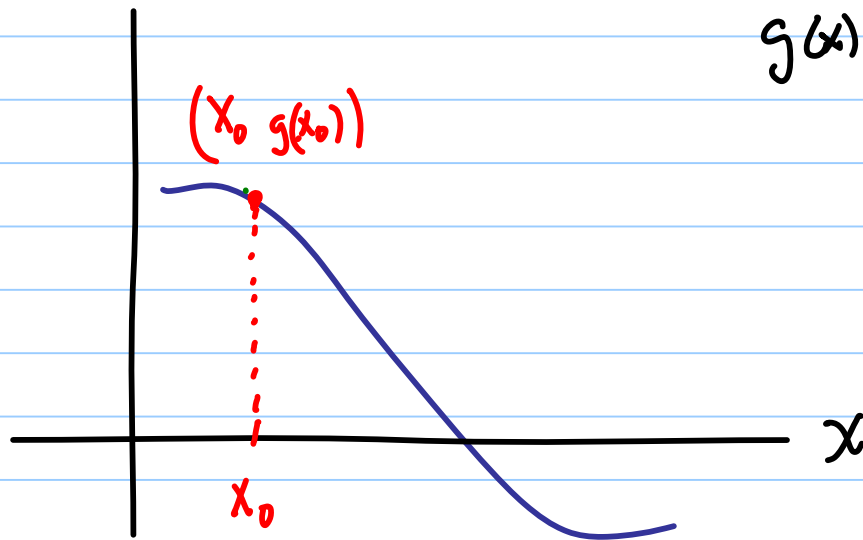
Find a point where $g(x)=0$:



[Newton's Method]

start with an initial guess, x_0
update by moving in direction of
slope at x_0 : $g'(x_0)$

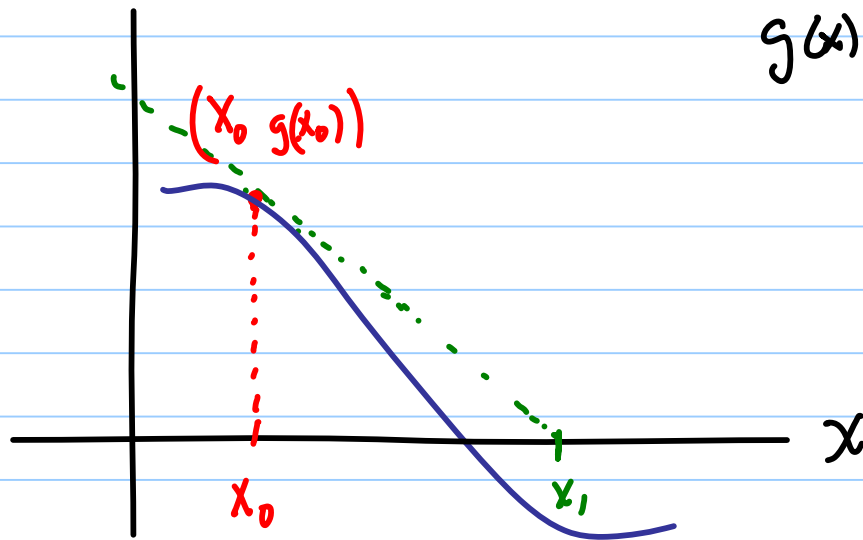
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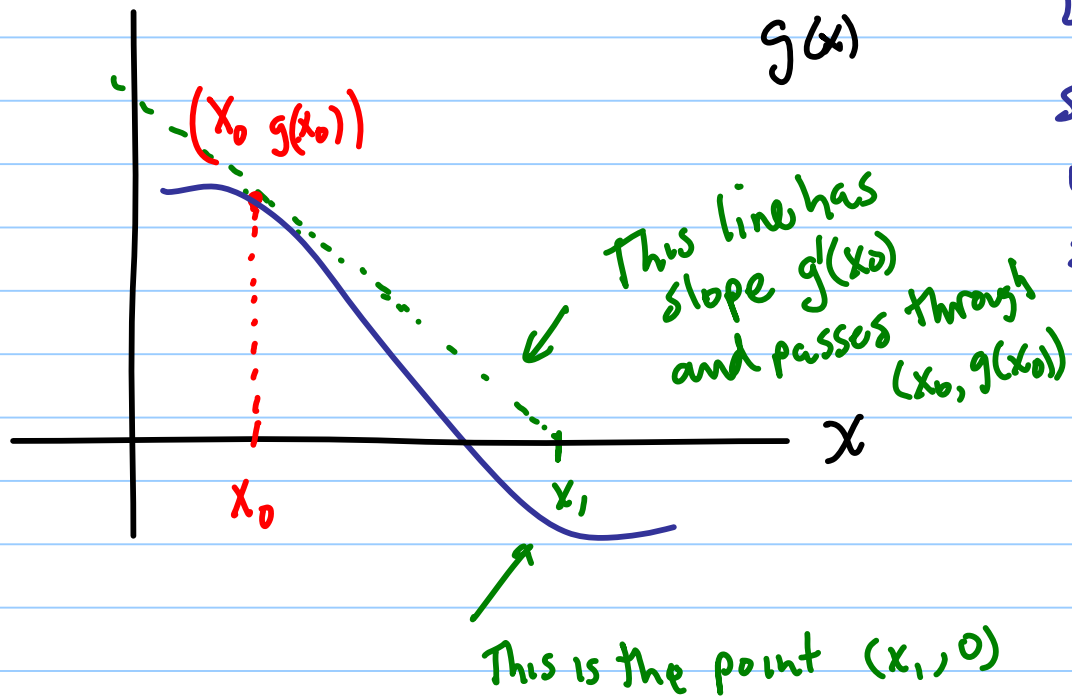
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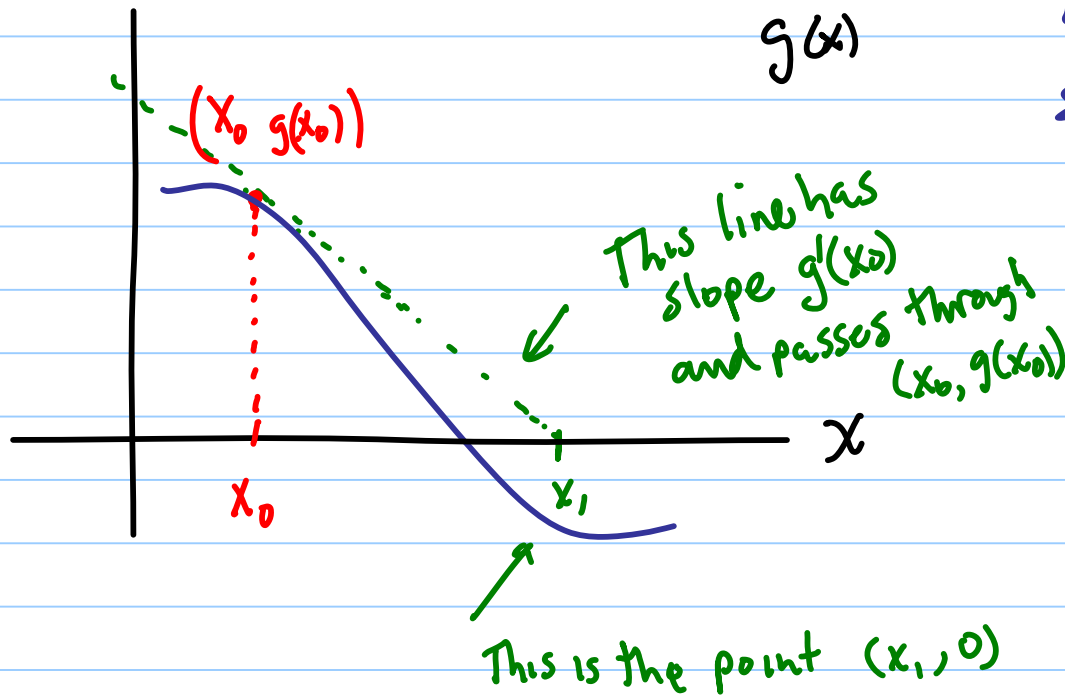
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Using point-slope formula -

$$m = \frac{(y - y_0)}{(x - x_0)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g'(x_0) &= \frac{y - g(x_0)}{x - x_0} \\ &= \frac{0 - g(x_0)}{x_1 - x_0} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (x_1 - x_0) g'(x_0) &= -g(x_0) \\ \left[x_1 = x_0 - \frac{g(x_0)}{g'(x_0)} \right] \end{aligned}$$



Example:

$$\text{Solve } x^4 = 16$$

$$g(x) = x^4 - 16$$

$$g'(x) = 4x^3$$

$$\frac{g(x)}{g'(x)} = \frac{x^4 - 16}{4x^3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= x - \left(\frac{x^4 - 16}{4x^3} \right) \\ &= \frac{3x^4 + 16}{4x^3} \end{aligned}$$

guess $x_0 = 1$

$$x_1 = \frac{3x_0^4 + 16}{4x_0^3} = \frac{19}{4} = 4\frac{3}{4}$$

i	x[i]	x[i+1]	abs. err	rel.err
0	1	4.75	2.75	1.375
1	4.75	3.599823	1.599823	0.799912
2	3.599823	2.785614	0.785614	0.392807
3	2.785614	2.274264	0.274264	0.137132
4	2.274264	2.045744	0.045744	0.022872
5	2.045744	2.001512	0.001512	0.000756
6	2.001512	2.000002	1.71E-06	8.56E-07
7	2.000002	2	2.2E-12	1.1E-12
8	2	2	0	0
9	2	2	0	0
10	2	2	0	0

Newton's Method as Hill-Climbing

initial state = x_0
rules $\rightarrow x \rightarrow \left[x - \frac{g(x)}{g'(x)} \right]$ (Precond: $g'(x) \neq 0$)
goal = $|x_{\text{new}} - x_{\text{old}}| < \epsilon$

Irrevocable: | old values of state discarded

Note: hillclimbing
implies a function
to be maximized
—
here, we are
minimizing

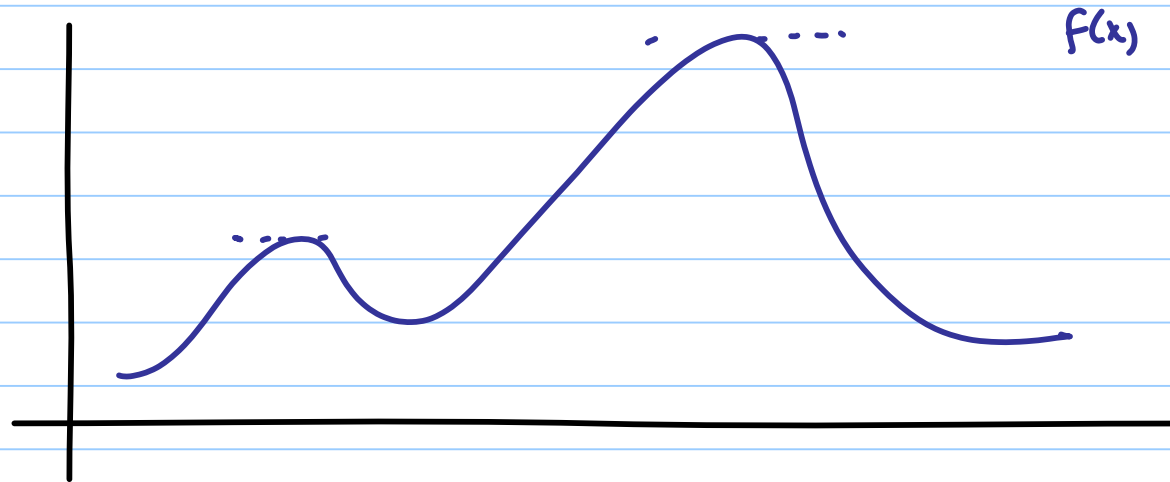
$$\text{Error} = |x_{\text{new}} - x_{\text{old}}|$$

Principal

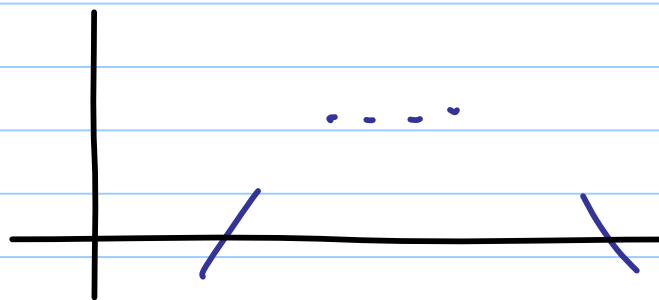
maximizing $h(x)$
 \equiv
minimizing $-h(x)$

Note: This process finds a local maximum

Suppose



solve for $f'(x) = 0$



crosses axis
more than once

The point of convergence may not be the global optimum!

Common occurrences of hill-climbing algorithms

- Machine Learning


Find best set of weights w_0, \dots, w_{k-1}

for a function $f(x) = w_0 f_0(x) + \dots + w_{k-1} f_{k-1}(x)$

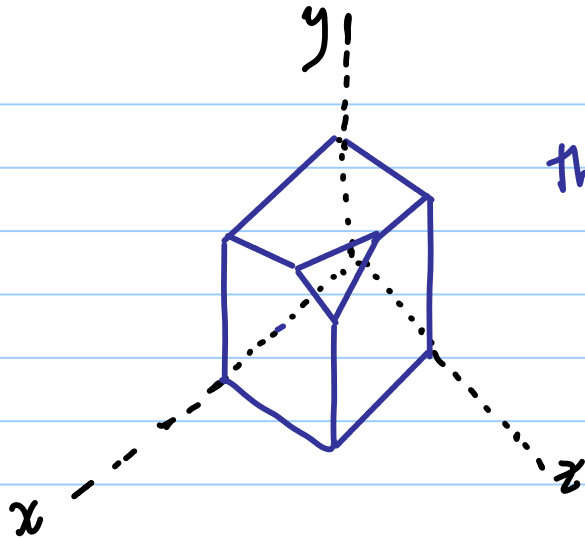
- Start with initial set of weights $\underline{w} = (w_0, \dots, w_{k-1})$
- Experiment (e.g. play game using this heuristic)
- Adjust as needed $\underline{w}' = (w'_0, \dots, w'_{k-1})$

- Training Neural Network:

initial set of weights - \underline{w}
compute new set \underline{w}'



- Simplex Method for solving Linear Programming problems.



The interior of the polyhedron is the set of all feasible solutions to a set of inequalities

$$a_{11}x_1 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n \leq b_1$$

⋮

$$a_{m1}x_1 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n \leq b_m$$

$$x_1, \dots, x_n \geq 0$$

Simplex Method:

- start at a vertex (which is a feasible solution)

in this case,
 $x_1=0, x_2=0, x_3=0$
is feasible

Find feasible sol'n with maximal value of objective function
 $Z = C_1x_1 + \dots + C_nx_n$

→ • look at adjacent vertices [slide to one of them] — most likely, the one w/ highest value of Z

• if optimal (there is a quick way of checking this!)
stop

(stop when no adjacent vertex has a higher value of z than
current vertex)

All of these are guided by some objective function — a function
to be maximized —

if multiple optima exist, can get stuck at local optimum

by using obj fn to drive the algorithm, cannot re-visit

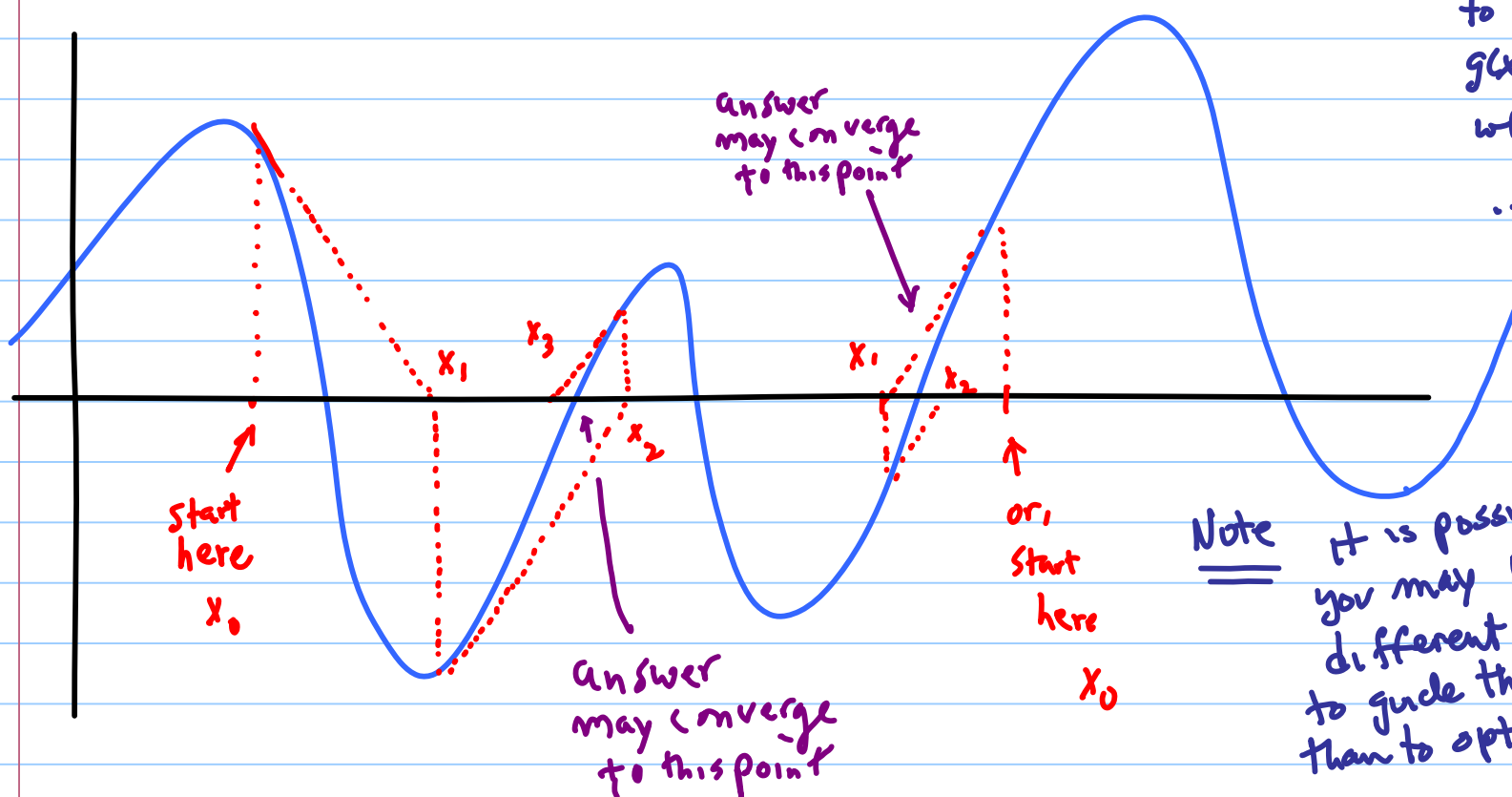
a previous point !

[IMPORTANT — since we aren't
maintaining a record of previous points
visited]

Handling multiple optima

Try several initial guesses and run several times. Choose maximum

to maximize
 $g(x)$, find
where $g'(x) = 0$
...



Note

It is possible that you may use a different function to guide the iteration than to optimize -