

Non-linear equations

One dimensional case

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Today's outline

- Introduction
 - General
- Direct Iteration Method
 - Passing functions
- Bracketing
- Bisection method
- Secant/False Position
- Brent's method

Content

Root finding

How to solve $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}$ for arbitrary functions \mathbf{f} (i.e., $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ move all terms to the left)

- One-dimensional case: 'Bracket' or 'trap' a root between bracketing values, then hunt it down like a rabbit.
- Multi-dimensional case:
 - N equations in N unknowns: You can only hope to find a solution.
 - It may have no (real) solution, or more than one solution!
 - Much more difficult!! "You never know whether a root is near, unless you have found it"

Outline

One-dimensional case:

- Direct iteration method
- Bisection method
- Secant and false position method
- Brent's method
- Newton-Raphson method

Multi-dimensional case:

- Newton-Raphson method
- Broyden's method

In this course we will:

- Introduction to underlying ideas and algorithms
- Exercises in how to program the methods in Excel and Python.

Warning

Do not use routines as black boxes without understanding them!!!

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General Idea

Root finding proceeds by iteration:

- Start with a good initial guess (crucially important!!)
- Use an algorithm to improve the solution until some predetermined convergence criterion is satisfied

Pitfalls:

- Convergence to the wrong root...
- Fails to converge because there is no root
- Fails to converge because your initial estimate was not close enough...

Tips:

- It never hurts to inspect your function graphically
- Pay attention to carefully select initial guesses

Hamming's motto

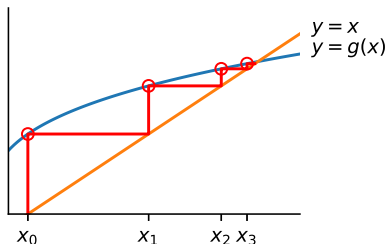
The purpose of computing is insight,
not numbers!!

Direct Iteration Method/Successive Substitutions

Rewrite $f(x) = 0 \Rightarrow x = g(x)$

- Start with an initial guess: x_0
- Calculate new estimate with: $x_1 = g(x_0)$
- Continue iteration with: $x_2 = g(x_1)$
- Proceed until: $|x_{i+1} - x_i| < \varepsilon$

When the process converges, taking a smaller value for $x_{i+1} - x_i$ results in a more accurate solution, but more iterations need to be performed.



Direct Iteration Method - Exercise 1

Find the root of

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

Attempt 1

Rewrite as $x = (3x^2 + 3x + 4)^{(1/3)}$

- Solve in Excel
- Solve in Python

Attempt 2

Rewrite as: $x = (x^3 - 3x^2 - 4)/3$

- Solve in Excel
- Solve in Python

Intermezzo: Functions Revisited

- In Python, you can define your own functions to reuse certain functionalities. We can define a mathematical function at the top of a file, or in a separate file with .py extension:

```
1 def demo_f1(x):  
2     return x**2 + np.exp(x)
```

- The first line contains the function name, in this case `demo_f1`
- The return statement defines the output, `x` is defined as input
- It can use `x` as a scalar as well as a vector by using NumPy: e.g. `np.exp()`
 - If `x` is a vector, the output is also a vector.
- In case you define your function in a separate file, e.g. `nonlin_functions.py`, you can import the function into another file through:

```
1 from nonlin_functions import demo_f1
```

Passing Functions in Python

- To solve $f(x) = x^2 - 4x + 2 = 0$ numerically, we can write a function that returns the value of $f(x)$:

```
1 def MyFunc(x): # Note: case sensitive!!  
2     return x**2 - 4*x + 2
```

- The function can be assigned to a variable as an alias:

```
1 f = MyFunc  
2 a = 4  
3 b = f(a)
```

2

- We can then call a solving routine (e.g., `fsolve` from SciPy):

```
1 from scipy.optimize import fsolve  
2 ans = fsolve(MyFunc, 5)  
3 ans = fsolve(lambda x: x**2 - 4*x + 2, 5)
```

```
array([3.41421356])  
array([3.41421356])
```

Passing Functions in Python

- We can also make our own function, that takes another function as an argument:

```
1 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
2 import numpy as np
3
4 def draw_my_function(func):
5     # Draws a function in the range [0, 10] using 20 data points.
6     # 'func' is a function that can be any actual function.
7     x = np.linspace(0, 10, 20)
8     y = func(x)
9     plt.plot(x, y, "-o")
10    plt.show()
```

- Now we can call the function with another function, either a lambda function or a common function:

```
1 f = lambda x: x**2 - 4*x + 2
2 draw_my_function(f)
```

Direct Iteration Method - Exercise 1

Find the root of

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

Attempt 1

Rewrite as $x = (3x^2 + 3x + 4)^{(1/3)}$

- Solve in Excel
- Solve in Python

Attempt 2

Rewrite as: $x = (x^3 - 3x^2 - 4)/3$

- Solve in Excel
- Solve in Python

Direct Iteration Method - Exercise 1

Find the root of $f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 - 3x - 4$ with the direct iteration method in Excel:

First attempt:

Iteration	Formula	Result
1	$(3x^2 + 3x + 4)^{(1/3)}$	2
2		3.115
3		3.489
⋮		⋮
10		3.990

Converges!

Second attempt:

Iteration	Formula	Result
1	$x = (x^3 - 3x^2 - 4)/3$	-1
2		-2.375
3		-11.439
⋮		⋮
10		#NUM!

Diverges!

Direct Iteration Method - Exercise 1

Find the root of $f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 - 3x - 4 = 0$ with the direct iteration method in Python:
A simple script:

```
1 x = 2.5
2 print(f"i: {0}, x: {x:.6e}")
3 for i in range(1, 21):
4     x = (3*x**2 + 3*x + 4)**(1/3)
5     print(f"i: {i}, x: {x:.6e}")
```

```
i: 0, x: 2.500000e+00
i: 1, x: 3.115840e+00
i: 2, x: 3.489024e+00
...
i: 19, x: 3.999970e+00
i: 20, x: 3.999983e+00
```

Lesson

Not very flexible/reusable → use functions

Direct Iteration Method - Exercise 1

Find the root of the equation $f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 - 3x - 4 = 0$ using the direct iteration method in Python.

- First, define the functions.
- Then, create a function to carry out the Direct Iteration algorithm.

```
1 def MyFnc1(x):  
2     return (3*x**2 + 3*x + 4)**(1/3)  
3  
4 def MyFnc2(x):  
5     return (x**3 - 3*x**2 - 4) / 3
```


Direct Iteration Method - Exercise 1

Find the root of the equation $f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 - 3x - 4 = 0$ using the direct iteration method in Python.

- Finally, call the Direct Iteration function with the appropriate parameters.

```
1 DirectIterationMethod(MyFnc1, 2.5, 1e-3)
2 DirectIterationMethod(MyFnc2, 2.5, 1e-3)
```

```
i: 0, x: 2.500000e+00
i: 1, x: 3.115840e+00
i: 2, x: 3.489024e+00
i: 3, x: 3.708113e+00
...
i: 9, x: 3.990573e+00
i: 10, x: 3.994696e+00
i: 11, x: 3.997016e+00
i: 12, x: 3.998321e+00
```

```
i: 0, x: 2.500000e+00
i: 1, x: -2.375000e+00
i: 2, x: -1.143945e+01
i: 3, x: -6.311875e+02
i: 4, x: -8.421961e+07
i: 5, x: -1.991216e+23
i: 6, x: -2.631687e+69
Traceback (most recent
call last):
```

Thinking

Discuss why it converges with **MyFnc1** and diverges with **MyFnc2**

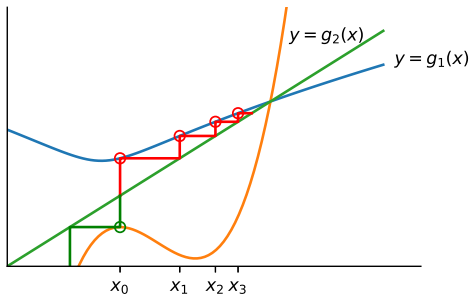
Direct Iteration Method

- Exercise 1: Find the root of the equation

$$f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 - 3x - 4 = 0$$

using the direct iteration method.

- Observe that the method only works effectively when $g'(x_i) < 1$. Even then, it may not converge quickly.



Point

The iterations can be represented using the following relations:

$$x_{i+1} = g(x_i) + g'(x_i)(x - x_i)$$

$$x_{i+2} = g(x_{i+1}) + g'(x_{i+1})(x_{i+1} - x_i)$$

$$|x_{i+2} - x_{i+1}| = |g'(x_i)| |x_{i+1} - x_i|$$

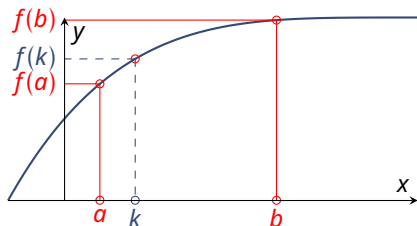
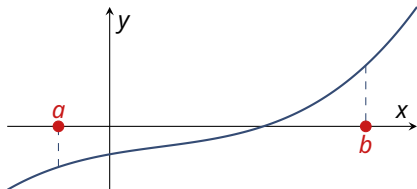
$$\text{Convergence if } |g'(x_i)| \leq 1$$

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Bracketing

Bracketing a root involves identifying an interval (a, b) within which the function changes its sign.



- If $f(a)$ and $f(b)$ have opposite signs, it indicates that at least one root lies in the interval (a, b) , assuming the function is continuous in the interval.

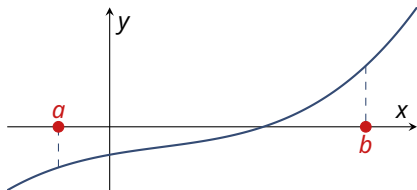
Intermediate value theorem

States that if $f(x)$ is continuous on $[a, b]$ and k is a constant lying between $f(a)$ and $f(b)$, then there exists a value $x \in [a, b]$ such that $f(x) = k$.

Bracketing

What's the point?

Bracketing a root = Understanding that the function changes its sign in a specified interval, which is termed as bracketing a root.

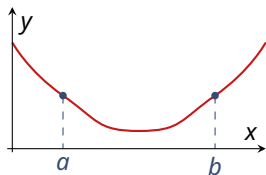


General best advice:

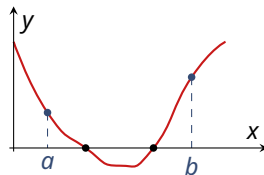
- Always bracket a root before attempting to converge on a solution.
- Never allow your iteration method to get outside the best bracketing bounds...

General Idea

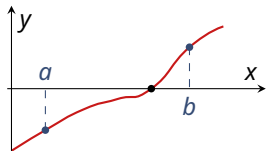
Potential issues to be cautious of while bracketing:



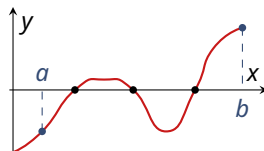
No answer (no root found)



Oops! Encountering two roots



Ideal scenario with one root found



Finding three roots (might work temporarily)

Bracketing - exercise 2

- 1 Write a Python function to bracket a function, starting with an initially guessed range x_1 and x_2 through the expansion of the interval.
- 2 Develop a program to ascertain the minimum number of roots existing within the x_1 and x_2 interval.
- 3 Note: These functions can be integrated to formulate a function that yields bracketing intervals for diverse roots.
- 4 Test the function for $f(x) = x^2 - 4x + 2$

Bracketing - exercise 2

- Initially, if feasible, draft a graph using the following Python commands:

```
1 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
2 import numpy as np
3
4 x = np.linspace(0, 5, 50)
5 y = x**2 - 4*x + 2
6 plt.figure()
7 plt.plot(x, y, x, np.zeros(len(x)))
8 plt.axis('tight')
9 plt.grid(True)
10 plt.show()
```

- This graphical representation instantly reveals the existence of two roots, evaluated as:

$$x_1 = 2 - \sqrt{2} \approx 0.59 \quad , \quad x_2 = 2 + \sqrt{2} \approx 3.41$$

Bracketing - exercise 2

```
1 def find_root_by_bracketing(func, x1, x2, tol=1e-6, max_iter=1000):
2     # Ensure the bracket is valid
3     if func(x1) * func(x2) > 0:
4         print('The bracket is invalid. The function must have opposite signs at
5             the two endpoints.')
6         return False
7
8     # Loop until we find the root or exceed the maximum number of iterations
9     for i in range(max_iter):
10         # Find the midpoint
11         x_mid = (x1 + x2) / 2
12
13         # Check if we found the root
14         if abs(func(x_mid)) < tol:
15             print(f'Root found: {x_mid}')
16             return True
17
18         # Narrow down the bracket
19         if func(x_mid) * func(x1) < 0:
20             x2 = x_mid
21         else:
22             x1 = x_mid
23
24     # If we reach here, we did not find the root within the maximum number of
25     iterations
26     print('Failed to find the root within the maximum number of iterations.')
27     return False
```

Steps:

- Formulate a function to augment the interval (x_1, x_2) up to a maximum of 250 iterations or until a root is discovered.
- The function should:
 - Return true if a root is found, and false otherwise.
 - Showcase the results.

Bracketing

Exercise 2: Function to Bracket a Function

```
1 def brak(func, x1, x2, n):
2     nroot = 0
3     dx = (x2 - x1) / n
4     xb1 = []
5     xb2 = []
6
7     x = x1
8     for i in range(n):
9         x += dx
10        if func(x) * func(x - dx) <= 0:
11            nroot += 1
12            xb1.append(x - dx)
13            xb2.append(x)
14
15    for i in range(nroot):
16        print(f'Root {i+1} in bracketing interval
17              [{xb1[i]}, {xb2[i]}]')
18    else:
19        if nroot == 0:
20            print('No roots found!')
```

Steps:

- The function subdivides the interval (x_1, x_2) into n parts to check for at least one root.
- It returns the left and right boundaries of the intervals where roots are found in arrays `xb1` and `xb2`.

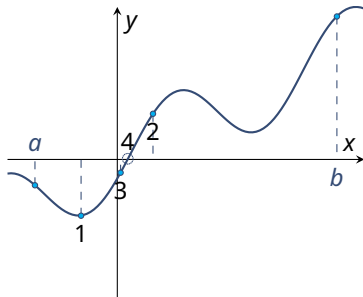
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Bisection Method

Bisection Algorithm:

- Within a certain interval, the function crosses zero, indicated by a change in sign.
- Evaluate the function value at the midpoint of the interval and examine its sign.
- The midpoint then supersedes the limit sharing its sign.



Properties

- Pros: The method is infallible.
- Cons: Convergence is relatively slow.

Bisection Method

Exercise 3

- Write a function in Excel to find a root of a function using the bisection method.
- Assume that an initial bracketing interval (x_1, x_2) is provided.
- Specify the required tolerance.
- Output the required number of iterations.
- Implement the same in Python.

Exercise 3

Bisection Method in Excel:

it	x_1	x_2	f_1	f_2	xmid	fmid	Interval Size
0	-2	2	14	-2	0	2	4
1	0	2	2	-2	1	-1	2
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮
25	0.585786	0.585786	1×10^{-7}	-6.8×10^{-8}	0.585786	1.58×10^{-8}	5.96×10^{-8}

Note: The table represents a sequence of iterations showing how the bisection method converges to a root with each step, demonstrating variable updates and interval size reduction.

Bisection Method

Exercise 3: Python Implementation

```
1 def bisection(func, a, b, tol, maxIter):
2     if func(a) * func(b) > 0:
3         print('Error: f(a) and f(b) must have different signs.')
4         return None
5
6     iter = 0
7     while (b - a) / 2 > tol:
8         iter += 1
9         if iter >= maxIter:
10            print('Maximum iterations reached')
11            return None
12
13        c = (a + b) / 2
14        print(f'Iteration {iter}: Current estimate: {c}')
15
16        if func(c) == 0:
17            return c
18
19        if np.sign(func(c)) != np.sign(func(a)):
20            b = c
21        else:
22            a = c
23
24    return (a + b) / 2
```

- Criterion used for both the function value and the step size.
- While loop usually requires protection for a maximum number of iterations.
- Bisection is sure to converge.
- Root found in 25 iterations. Can we optimize it further?

Bisection Method

Required Number of Iterations:

- Interval bounds containing the root decrease by a factor of 2 after each iteration.

$$\varepsilon_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon_n \Rightarrow \boxed{n = \log_2 \frac{\varepsilon_0}{tol}} \quad \begin{array}{l} \varepsilon_0 = \text{initial bracketing interval,} \\ tol = \text{desired tolerance.} \end{array}$$

- After 50 iterations, the interval is decreased by a factor of $2^{50} = 10^{15}$.
- Consider machine accuracy when setting tolerance.
- Order of convergence is 1:

$$\boxed{\varepsilon_{n+1} = K\varepsilon_n^m}$$

- $m = 1$: linear convergence.
- $m = 2$: quadratic convergence.

- Bisection method will:
 - Find one of the roots if there is more than one.
 - Find the singularity if there is no root but a singularity exists.

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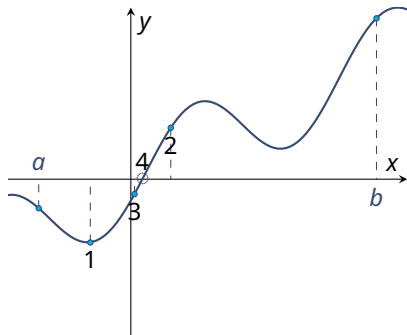
Secant and False Position Method

Secant/False Position (Regula Falsi) Method

- Provides faster convergence given sufficiently smooth behavior.
- Differs from the bisection method in the choice of the next point:
 - **Bisection**: selects the mid-point of the interval.
 - **Secant/False position**: chooses the point where the approximating line intersects the axis.
- Adopts a new estimate by discarding one of the boundary points:
 - **Secant**: retains the most recent of the previous estimates.
 - **False position**: maintains the prior estimate with the opposite sign to ensure the points continue to bracket the root.

Secant and False Position Method: Comparison

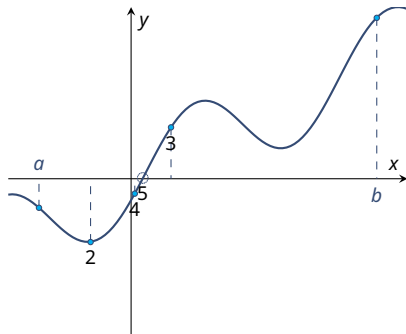
Secant Method



- Slightly faster convergence:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |\varepsilon_{n+1}| = K |\varepsilon_n|^{1.618}$$

False Position Method



- Guaranteed convergence

Secant and False Position Method

Exercise 4:

- Write a function in Excel and Python to find a root of a function using the Secant and False position methods.
- Assume that an initial bracketing interval (x_1, x_2) is provided.
- Specify the required tolerance.
- Output the required number of iterations.
- Compare the bisection, false position, and secant methods.

Secant and False Position Method

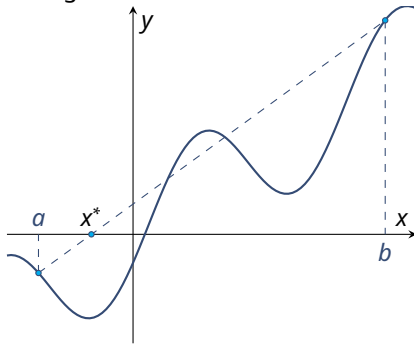
Exercise 4:

- Determination of the abscissa of the approximating line:
- Determine the approximating line using the expression:

$$f(x) \approx f(a) + \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}(x - a)$$

- Determine the abscissa where $f(x^*) = 0$:

$$\begin{aligned} x^* &= a - \frac{f(a)(b - a)}{f(b) - f(a)} \\ &= \frac{af(b) - bf(a)}{f(b) - f(a)} \end{aligned}$$



Note: In the above equations, a and b are the initial guesses/boundaries where the root is suspected to be, and $f(x)$ is the function for which we are finding the root.

Secant and False Position Method

Exercise 4:

- Write a function in Excel and Python to find a root of a function using the Secant and the False position methods.
- Assume that an initial bracketing interval (x_1, x_2) is provided.
- Specify the required tolerance.
- Output the required number of iterations.
- Compare the bisection, false position, and secant methods.

Secant and False Position Method

Exercise 4: False Position Method in Excel

iteration	xa	xb	fa	fb	x absc	fabsc	interval
0	-1.5000	4.0000	-0.3895	2.1628	-0.6606	-0.8455	5.5000
1	-0.6606	4.0000	-0.8455	2.1628	0.6493	0.6896	4.6606
2	-0.6606	0.6493	-0.8455	0.6896	0.0609	-0.1972	1.3099
3	0.0609	0.6493	-0.1972	0.6896	0.1917	0.0070	0.5884
4	0.0609	0.1917	-0.1972	0.0070	0.1873	-0.0001	0.1308
5	0.1873	0.1917	-0.0001	0.0070	0.1874	0.0000	0.0045
6	0.1874	0.1917	0.0000	0.0070	0.1874	0.0000	0.0044
7	0.1874	0.1917	0.0000	0.0070	0.1874	0.0000	0.0044

Relevant expressions:

- $a = \text{IF}((a * fa) < 0, a, x_{absc})$

- $b = \text{IF}((b * fb) < 0, b, x_{absc})$

- $x_{absc} = a - fa * (xb - xa) / (fb - fa)$

Secant and False Position Method

Exercise 4:

- Write a function in Excel and Python to find a root of a function using the Secant and the False position methods.
- Assume that an initial bracketing interval (x_1, x_2) is provided.
- Also the required tolerance is specified.
- Also output the required number of iterations.
- Compare the bisection, false position, and secant methods.

Secant and False Position Method

Exercise 4: Secant method in excel

iteration	x	f
-1	2.0000	0.5895
0	-1.0000	-0.7591
1	0.6886	0.7368
2	-0.1431	-0.4819
3	0.1857	-0.0026
4	0.1875	0.0002
5	0.1874	0.0000

Relevant expressions:

$$x_n = x_{n-1} - f(x_{n-1}) \frac{x_{n-1} - x_{n-2}}{f(x_{n-1}) - f(x_{n-2})}$$

Secant and False Position Method

Exercise 4: False position method in Python

```
1 def false_position(f, x0, x1, tol, max_iter):
2     if f(x0) * f(x1) > 0:
3         raise ValueError('f(x0) and f(x1) must have different signs.')
4
5     history = []
6
7     for i in range(max_iter):
8         x2 = x1 - f(x1) * (x1 - x0) / (f(x1) - f(x0))
9         history.append(x2)
10
11        if abs(f(x2)) < tol:
12            break
13
14        if f(x2) * f(x0) < 0:
15            x1 = x2
16        else:
17            x0 = x2
18
19    root = x2
20    return root, history
```

Calling the function:

```
secant_method(lambda x: x**2 - 4*x + 2, 0, 2, 1e-7, 100)
```

Secant and False Position Method

Exercise 4: Secant method in Python

```
1 def secant_method(f, x0, x1, tol, max_iter):
2     history = [x0, x1]
3
4     for i in range(1, max_iter):
5         x2 = x1 - f(x1) * (x1 - x0) / (f(x1) - f(x0))
6         history.append(x2)
7
8         if abs(x2 - x1) < tol:
9             break
10
11         x0 = x1
12         x1 = x2
13
14     root = x1
15     return root, history
```

Calling the function:

```
1 false_position(lambda x: x**2 - 4*x + 2, 0, 2, 1e-7, 100)
```

Comparison of Methods

Exercise 4:

- $\text{tol}_{\text{eps}}, \text{tol}_{\text{func2}} = 1e-15$, and $(x_1, x_2) = (0, 2)$
- $f(x) = x^2 - 4x + 2 = 0$

Method	Nr. of iterations
Bisection	52
False position	22
Secant	9

```
1 from scipy.optimize import root_scalar
2
3 root_scalar(lambda x: x**2 - 4*x + 2, method='brentq', bracket=[0, 2], xtol=1e-15)
```

Note the initial bracketing steps in root_scalar!

Today's outline

- Introduction
 - General
- Direct Iteration Method
 - Passing functions
- Bracketing
- Bisection method
- Secant/False Position
- Brent's method

Brent's Method

Features of Brent's method:

- Superlinear convergence with the sureness of bisection
- Keeps track of superlinear convergence, and if not achieved, alternates with bisection steps, ensuring at least linear convergence
- Implemented in MATLAB's `scipy.optimize.fzero` function:
 - Utilizes root-bracketing
 - Bisection/secant/inverse quadratic interpolation
- Inverse quadratic interpolation:
 - Uses three prior points to fit an inverse quadratic function ($x(y)$)
 - Involves contingency plans for roots falling outside the brackets

Brent's method

Formulas:

$$x = b + \frac{P}{Q},$$

$$P = S[T(R - T)(c - b) - (1 - R)(b - a)],$$

$$Q = (T - 1)(R - 1)(S - 1),$$

$$R = \frac{f(b)}{f(c)}$$

$$S = \frac{f(b)}{f(a)}$$

$$T = \frac{f(a)}{f(c)}$$

- b = current best estimate
- P/Q = a 'small' correction

Note: If P/Q does not land within the bounds or if bounds are not collapsing quickly enough, a bisection step is taken.

Brent's method script

```

1 def brent_method(f, a, b, tol=1e-6, max_iter=100):
2     if f(a) * f(b) >= 0:
3         raise ValueError("f(a) and f(b) must have different signs.")
4     # Initialize variables
5     c = a
6     fa = f(a)
7     fb = f(b)
8     fc = fa
9     history = [a, b]
10    d = e = b - a
11    for _ in range(max_iter):
12        if fa * fc > 0:
13            c = a
14            fc = fa
15            d = e = b - a
16        if abs(fc) < abs(fb):
17            a, b, c = b, c, a
18            fa, fb, fc = fb, fc, fa
19        toll = 2 * 1.0e-16 * abs(b) + 0.5 * tol
20        xm = 0.5 * (c - b)
21        if abs(xm) <= toll or fb == 0:
22            return b, history
23        if abs(e) >= toll and abs(fa) > abs(fb):
24            s = fb / fa
25            if a == c:
26                # Linear interpolation (Secant method)
27                p = 2 * xm * s
28                q = 1 - s

```

```

28        q = 1 - s
29    else:
30        # Inverse quadratic interpolation
31        q = fa / fc
32        r = fb / fc
33        p = s * (2 * xm * q * (q - r) - (b - a) * (r - 1))
34        q = (q - 1) * (r - 1) * (s - 1)
35    if p > 0:
36        q = -q
37    p = abs(p)
38
39    if 2 * p < min(3 * xm * q - abs(toll * q), abs(e * q)):
40        e = d
41        d = p / q
42    else:
43        d = xm
44        e = d
45    else:
46        d = xm
47        e = d
48    a = b
49    fa = fb
50    if abs(d) > toll:
51        b += d
52    else:
53        b += toll if xm > 0 else -toll
54
55    fb = f(b)
56    history.append(b)
57    raise ValueError("Maximum number of iterations reached.")

```


Using Excel for Solving Non-linear Equations: Goal-Seek and Solver

Setting up Goal-Seek and Solver in Excel:

- Available in Excel with some prerequisites installation.
- For Excel 2010:
 - Install via **Excel → File → Options → Add-Ins → Go (at the bottom) → Select solver add-in.**
 - Accessible through the 'data' menu ('Oplosser' in Dutch).

Procedure for solving:

- Select the goal-cell.
- Specify whether you want to minimize, maximize, or set a certain value.
- Define the variable cells for Excel to adjust to find the solution.
- Set the boundary conditions (if any).
- Click 'solve', possibly after setting advanced options.

Excel: Goal-Seek Example

Using Goal-Seek to find a solution:

- The Goal-Seek function can set the goal-cell to a desired value by adjusting another cell.
- Steps:

① Open Excel and input the following data:

A	x	B
1	x	3
2	f(x)	$f(x) = -3*B1^2 - 5*B1 + 2$
3		

② Navigate to **Data** → **What-if Analysis** → **Goal Seek** and input:

- Set cell: B2
- To value: 0
- By changing cell: B1

③ Press OK to find a solution of approximately 0.3333.

Excel: Solver Example

Using Solver to Find Solutions with Boundary Conditions:

- Solver can adjust values in one or more cells to reach a desired goal-cell value, respecting specified boundary conditions.
- Example sheet setup:

	A	B	C
1		x	f(x)
2	x1	3	=2*B2*B3-B3+2
3	x2	4	=2*B3-4*B2-4

- Procedure:
 - 1 Navigate to **Data** → **Solver**.
 - 2 Set the goal function to C2 with a target value of 0.
 - 3 Add a boundary condition: C3 = 0.
 - 4 Specify the cells to change as **\$B\$2:\$B\$3**.
 - 5 Click "Solve" to find B2 = 0 and B3 = 2 as solutions.