Online: False position method

Full Marks: 10

In this assignment, you will implement the false position method for finding roots of a non-linear equation. False position method has three steps:

Step 1: Find two initial guesses x_L and x_U such that $f(x_L) * f(x_U) < 0$. [Same as in bisection method]

Step 2: Find x_r as the estimate of the root where $(x_r, 0)$ is the intersecting point between the x-axis and the line connecting the points $(x_L, f(x_L))$ and $(x_U, f(x_U))$. Please see Fig. 1. The equation for finding x_r can be obtained by calculation as:

$$x_r = \frac{x_U f(x_L) - x_L f(x_U)}{f(x_L) - f(x_U)}$$

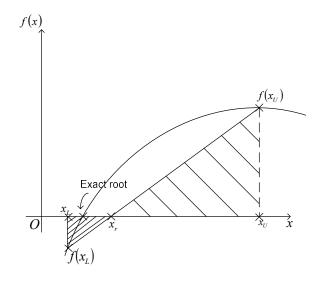


Fig. 1: False position method

<u>Step 3</u>: If $f(x_L) * f(x_r) > 0$, then $[x_r, x_U]$ is chosen as the interval which contains the root; otherwise $[x_L, x_r]$ is chosen. [Same as in bisection method]

Steps 2 and 3 continue until error reaches below some threshold.

Use the false position method to output all real roots of the equation $x^3-x-1=\mathbf{0}$

Show graph of the function and explain how you have chosen your initial guesses. Also show error after every iteration.