

## Chapter 5

# Roots of Equations Part 2: Bracketing Methods

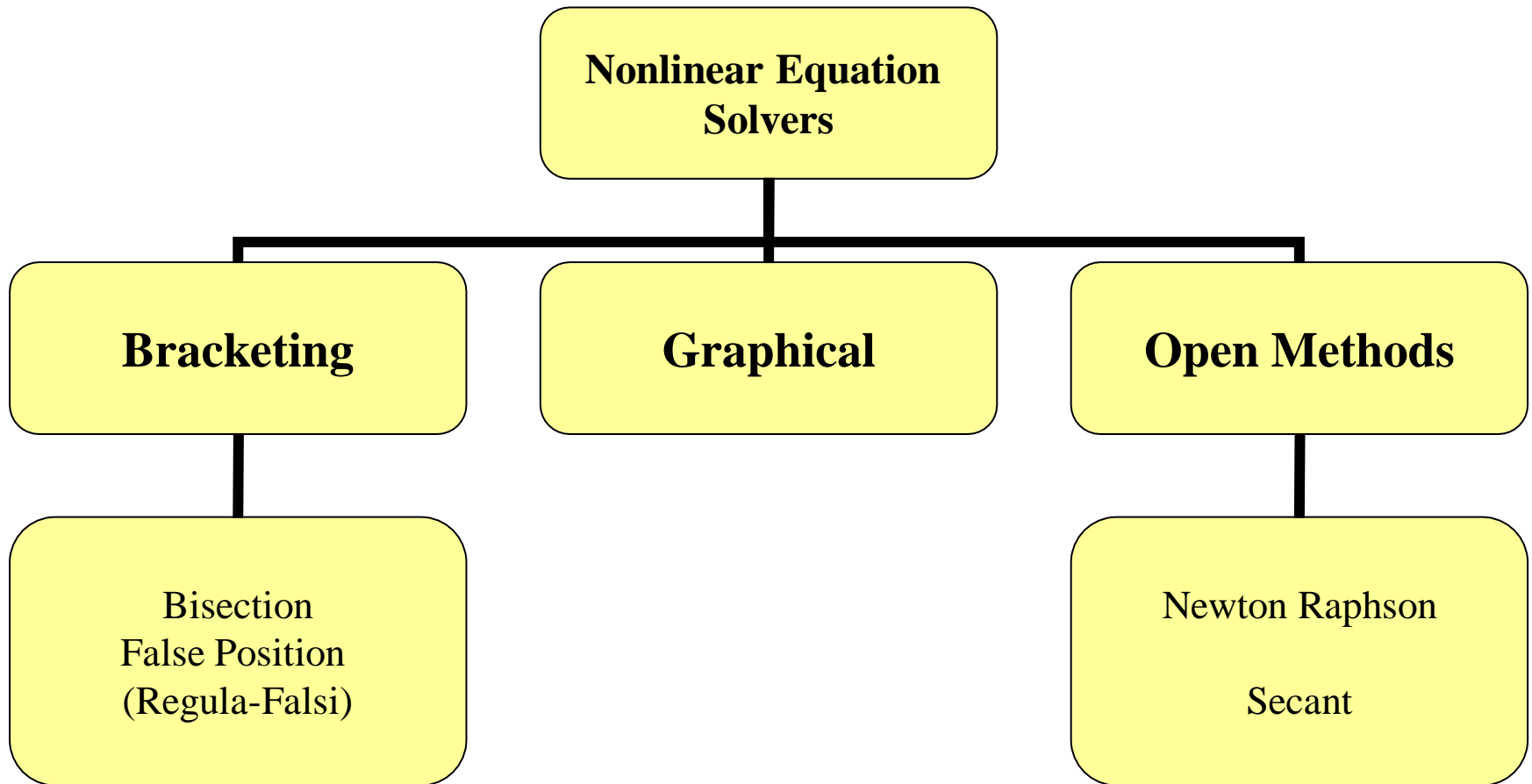
- Why?

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad x = \frac{-b \mp \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

- But

$$ax^5 + bx^4 + cx^3 + dx^2 + ex + f = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad x = ?$$

$$\sin x + x = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad x = ?$$



All Iterative

# Bracketing Methods

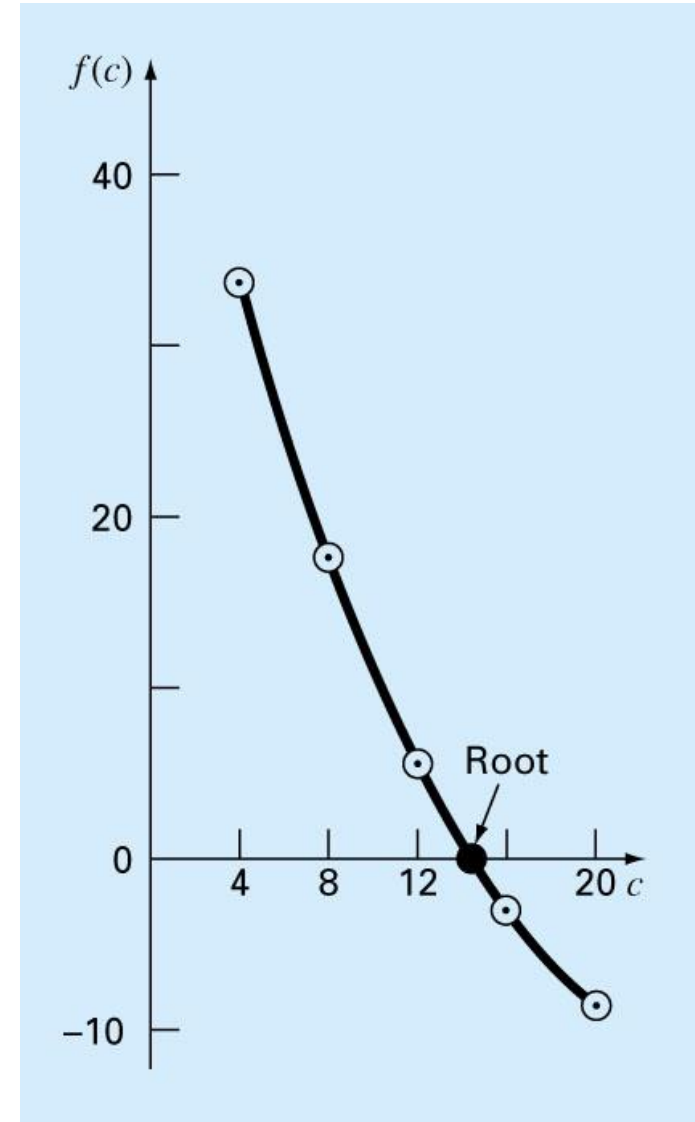
(Or, two point methods for finding roots)

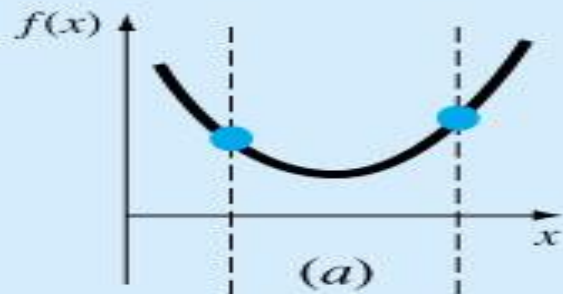
- Two initial guesses for the root are required. These guesses must “bracket” or be on either side of the root.

== > From The Figure

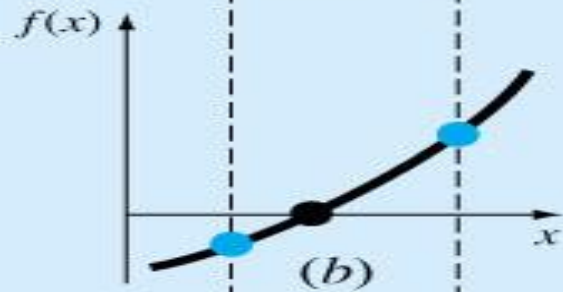
- If one root of a real and continuous function,  $f(x)=0$ , is bounded by values  $x = x_l$ ,  $x = x_u$  then  
 $f(x_l) \cdot f(x_u) < 0$ .

(The function changes sign on opposite sides of the root)

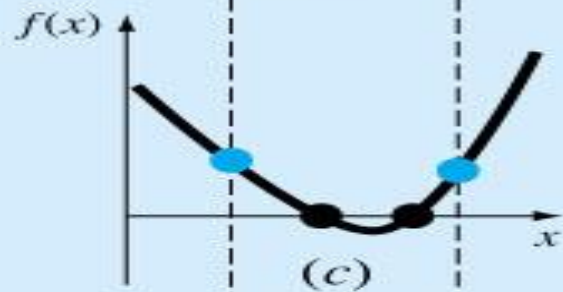




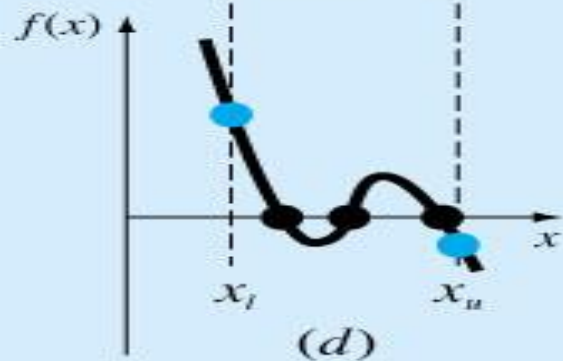
No answer (No root)



Nice case (one root)

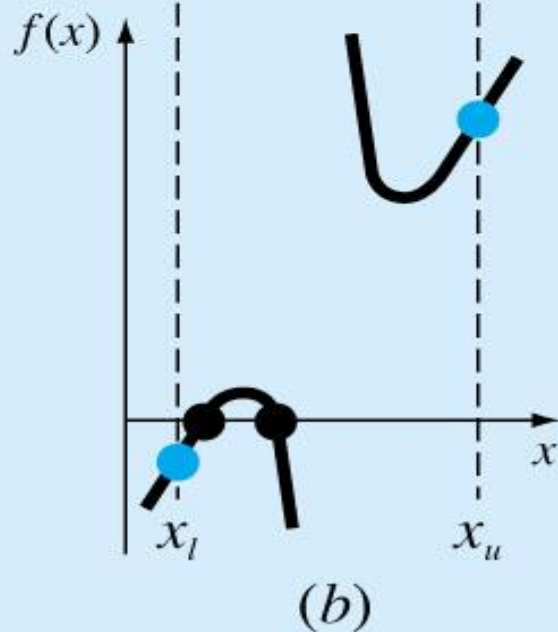
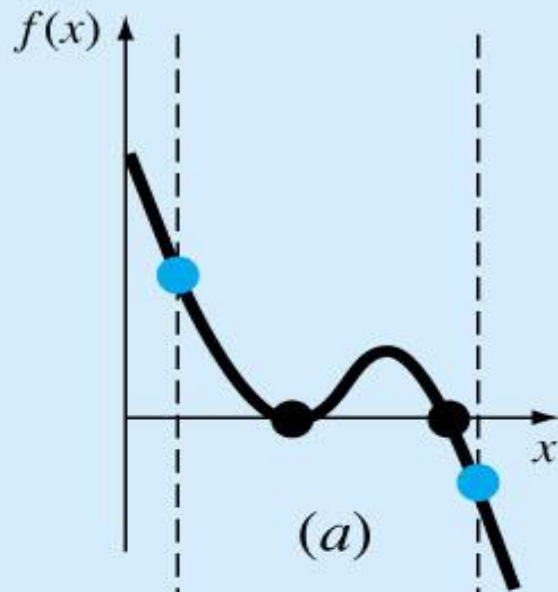


Oops!! (two roots!!)



Three roots( Might work for a while!!)

Two roots( Might work for a while!!)



Discontinuous function. Need special method

MANY-MANY roots. What do we do?

Figure 5.4a

$$f(x) = \sin 10x + \cos 3x$$

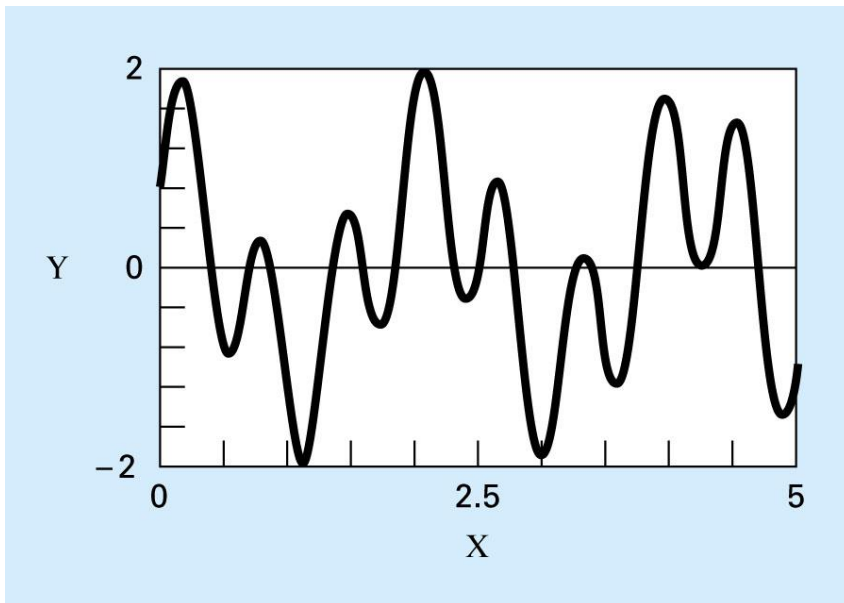


Figure 5.4b

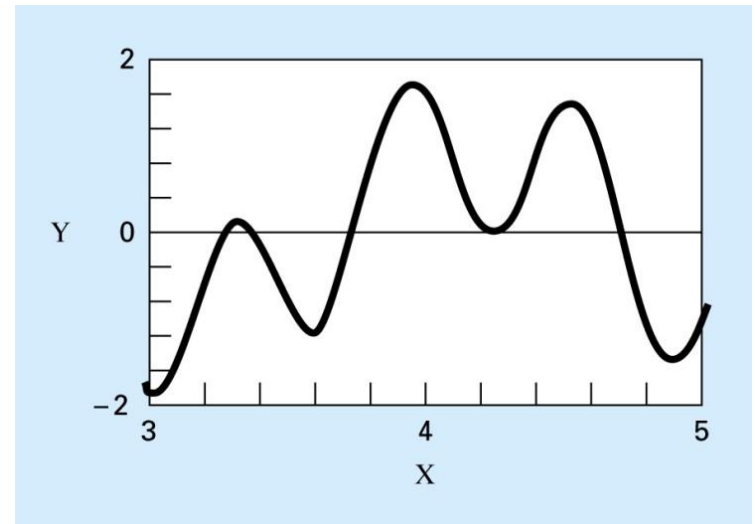
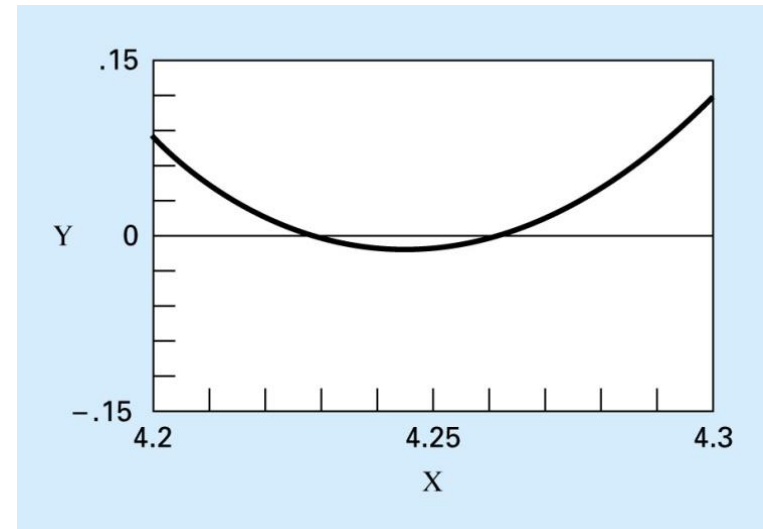


Figure 5.4c



# The Bisection Method

For the arbitrary equation of one variable,  $f(x)=0$

1. Pick  $x_l$  and  $x_u$  such that they bound the root of interest, check if  $f(x_l).f(x_u) < 0$ .
2. Estimate the root by evaluating  $f[(x_l+x_u)/2]$ .
3. Find the pair
  - If  $f(x_l). f[(x_l+x_u)/2] < 0$ , root lies in the lower interval, then  $x_u=(x_l+x_u)/2$  and go to step 2.



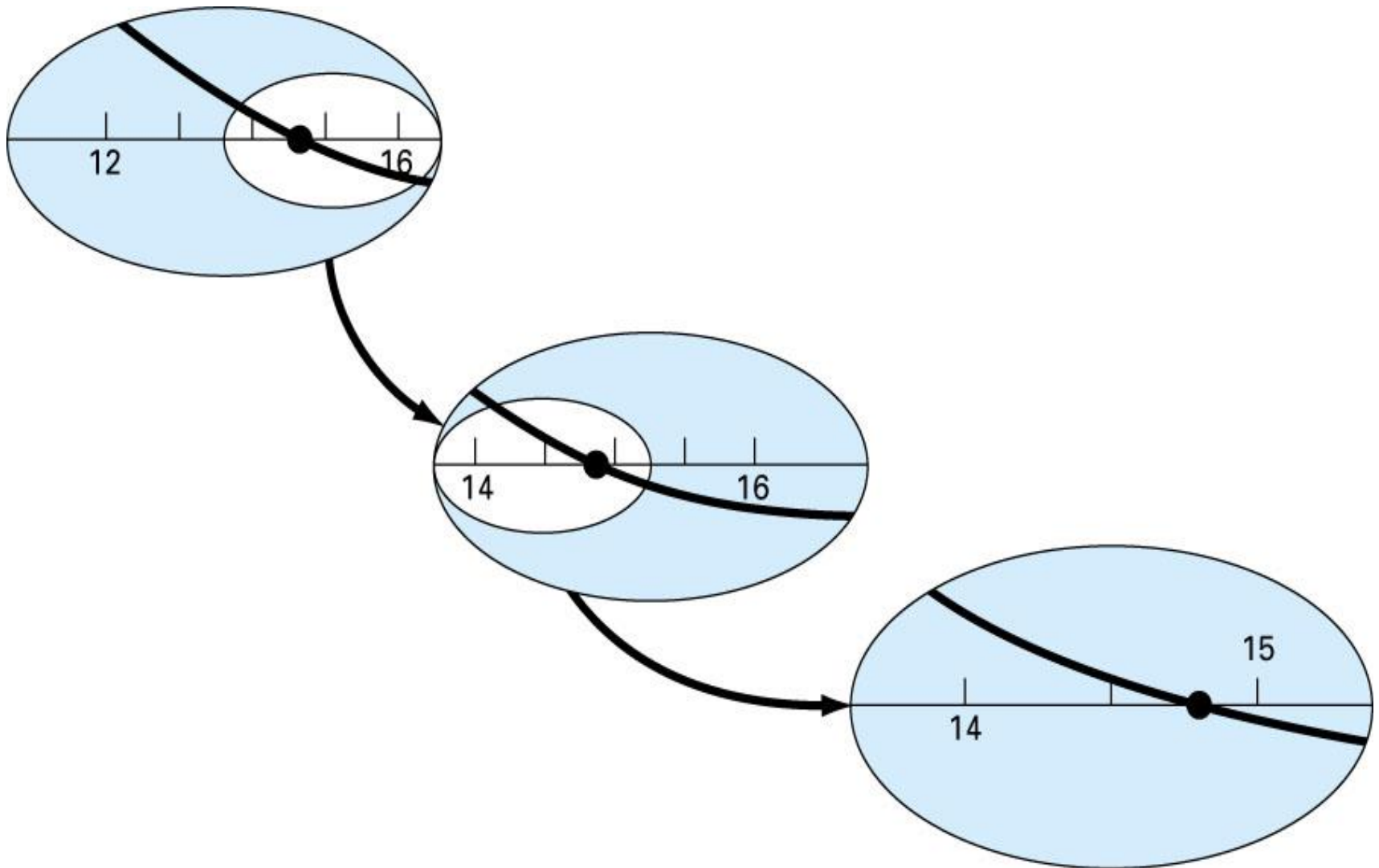
- If  $f(x_l) \cdot f[(x_l+x_u)/2] > 0$ , root lies in the upper interval, then  $x_l = [(x_l+x_u)/2]$ , go to step 2.
  - If  $f(x_l) \cdot f[(x_l+x_u)/2] = 0$ , then root is  $(x_l+x_u)/2$  and terminate.
4. Compare  $\varepsilon_s$  with  $\varepsilon_a$
5. If  $\varepsilon_a < \varepsilon_s$ , stop. Otherwise repeat the process.

$$\frac{\left| x_l - \frac{x_l + x_u}{2} \right|}{\left| \frac{x_l + x_u}{2} \right|} < 100\%$$

or

$$\frac{\left| x_u - \frac{x_l + x_u}{2} \right|}{\left| \frac{x_l + x_u}{2} \right|} < 100\%$$

Figure 5.6



# Evaluation of the Bisection Method

## Properties

- Easy
- Always find root
- Number of iterations required to attain an absolute error can be computed a priori.

## Constrains

- Slow
- Know  $a$  and  $b$  that bound root
- Multiple roots
- No account is taken of  $f(x_l)$  and  $f(x_u)$ , if  $f(x_l)$  is closer to zero, it is likely that root is closer to  $x_l$ .

# How Many Iterations will It Take?

- Length of the first Interval  $L_o = b - a$
- After 1 iteration  $L_1 = L_o / 2$
- After 2 iterations  $L_2 = L_o / 4$
- After k iterations  $L_k = L_o / 2^k$

$$\varepsilon_a \leq \frac{L_k}{x} \times 100\%$$

$$\varepsilon_a \leq \varepsilon_s$$

- If the absolute magnitude of the error is

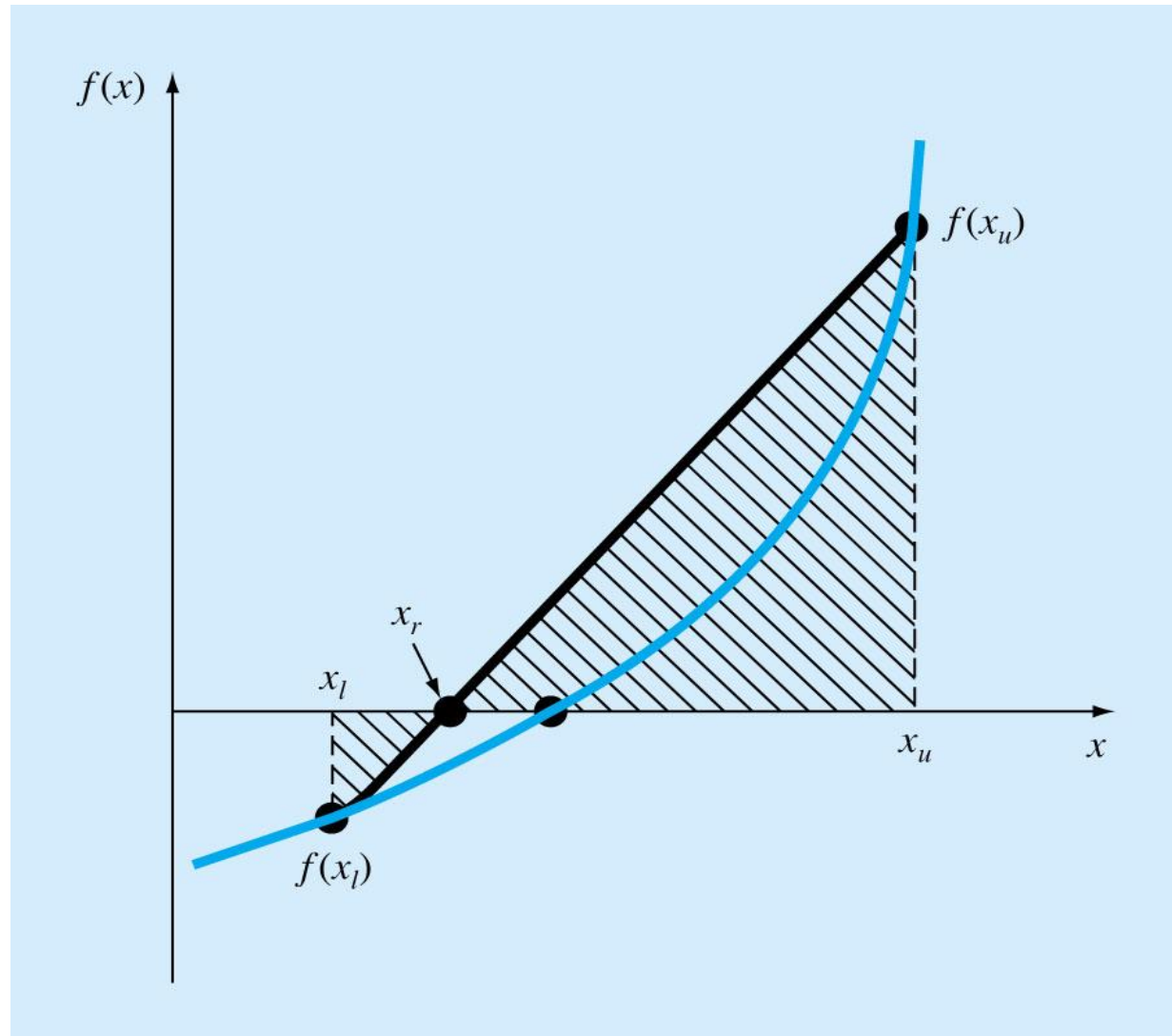
$$\frac{\varepsilon_s \cdot x}{100\%} = 10^{-4}$$

and  $L_o=2$ , how many iterations will you have to do to get the required accuracy in the solution?

$$10^{-4} = \frac{2}{2^k} \Rightarrow 2^k = 2 \times 10^4 \Rightarrow k \cong 14.3 = 15$$

# The False-Position Method (Regula-Falsi)

- If a real root is bounded by  $x_l$  and  $x_u$  of  $f(x)=0$ , then we can approximate the solution by doing a linear interpolation between the points  $[x_l, f(x_l)]$  and  $[x_u, f(x_u)]$  to find the  $x_r$  value such that  $l(x_r)=0$ ,  $l(x)$  is the linear approximation of  $f(x)$ .



# Procedure

1. Find a pair of values of  $x$ ,  $x_l$  and  $x_u$  such that  $f_l=f(x_l) < 0$  and  $f_u=f(x_u) > 0$ .
2. Estimate the value of the root from the following formula (Refer to Box 5.1)

$$x_r = \frac{x_l f_u - x_u f_l}{f_u - f_l}$$

and evaluate  $f(x_r)$ .

3. Use the new point to replace one of the original points, keeping the two points on opposite sides of the x axis.

If  $f(x_r) < 0$  then  $x_l = x_r \implies f_l = f(x_r)$

If  $f(x_r) > 0$  then  $x_u = x_r \implies f_u = f(x_r)$

If  $f(x_r) = 0$  then you have found the root and need go no further!



4. See if the new  $x_l$  and  $x_u$  are close enough for convergence to be declared. If they are not go back to step 2.

- Why this method?

- Faster
- Always converges for a single root.

➔ See Sec.5.3.1, Pitfalls of the False-Position Method

*Note:* Always check by substituting estimated root in the original equation to determine whether  $f(x_r) \approx 0$ .