

False Position Method (RegulaFalsi Method)

Algorithm

False Position method (regula falsi method) Steps (Rule)	
Step-1:	Find points x_0 and x_1 such that $x_0 < x_1$ and $f(x_0) \cdot f(x_1) < 0$.
Step-2:	Take the interval $[x_0, x_1]$ and find next value $x_2 = x_0 - f(x_0) \cdot \frac{x_1 - x_0}{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}$
Step-3:	If $f(x_2) = 0$ then x_2 is an exact root, else if $f(x_0) \cdot f(x_2) < 0$ then $x_1 = x_2$, else if $f(x_2) \cdot f(x_1) < 0$ then $x_0 = x_2$.
Step-4:	Repeat steps 2 & 3 until $f(x_i) = 0$ or $ f(x_i) \leq \text{Accuracy}$

Example-1

Find a root of an equation $f(x) = x^3 - x - 1$ using False Position method

Solution:

Here $x^3 - x - 1 = 0$

Let $f(x) = x^3 - x - 1$

Here

x	0	1	2
$f(x)$	-1	-1	5

1st iteration :

Here $f(1) = -1 < 0$ and $f(2) = 5 > 0$

∴ Now, Root lies between $x_0 = 1$ and $x_1 = 2$

$$x_2 = x_0 - f(x_0) \cdot \frac{x_1 - x_0}{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}$$

$$x_2 = 1 - (-1) \cdot \frac{2 - 1}{5 - (-1)}$$

$$x_2 = 1.16667$$

$$f(x_2) = f(1.16667) = -0.5787 < 0$$

2nd iteration :

Here $f(1.16667) = -0.5787 < 0$ and $f(2) = 5 > 0$

∴ Now, Root lies between $x_0 = 1.16667$ and $x_1 = 2$

$$x_3 = x_0 - f(x_0) \cdot \frac{x_1 - x_0}{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}$$

$$x_3 = 1.16667 - (-0.5787) \cdot \frac{2 - 1.16667}{-(-0.5787)}$$

$$x_3 = 1.25311$$

$$f(x_3) = f(1.25311) = -0.28536 < 0$$

3rd iteration :

$$\text{Here } f(1.25311) = -0.28536 < 0 \text{ and } f(2) = 5 > 0$$

∴ Now, Root lies between $x_0 = 1.25311$ and $x_1 = 2$

$$x_4 = x_0 - f(x_0) \cdot \frac{x_1 - x_0}{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}$$

$$x_4 = 1.25311 - (-0.28536) \cdot \frac{2 - 1.25311}{-(-0.28536)}$$

$$x_4 = 1.29344$$

$$f(x_4) = f(1.29344) = -0.12954 < 0$$

4th iteration :

$$\text{Here } f(1.29344) = -0.12954 < 0 \text{ and } f(2) = 5 > 0$$

∴ Now, Root lies between $x_0 = 1.29344$ and $x_1 = 2$

$$x_5 = x_0 - f(x_0) \cdot \frac{x_1 - x_0}{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}$$

$$x_5 = 1.29344 - (-0.12954) \cdot \frac{2 - 1.29344}{-(-0.12954)}$$

$$x_5 = 1.31128$$

$$f(x_5) = f(1.31128) = -0.05659 < 0$$

5th iteration :

$$\text{Here } f(1.31128) = -0.05659 < 0 \text{ and } f(2) = 5 > 0$$

∴ Now, Root lies between $x_0 = 1.31128$ and $x_1 = 2$

$$x_6 = x_0 - f(x_0) \cdot \frac{x_1 - x_0}{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}$$

$$x_6 = 1.31128 - (-0.05659) \cdot \frac{2 - 1.31128}{-(-0.05659)}$$

$$x_6 = 1.31899$$

$$f(x_6) = f(1.31899) = -0.0243 < 0$$

6th iteration :

$$\text{Here } f(1.31899) = -0.0243 < 0 \text{ and } f(2) = 5 > 0$$

∴ Now, Root lies between $x_0 = 1.31899$ and $x_1 = 2$

$$x_7 = x_0 - f(x_0) \cdot \frac{x_1 - x_0}{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}$$

$$x_7 = 1.31899 - (-0.0243) \cdot \frac{2 - 1.318995}{-(-0.0243)}$$

$$x_7 = 1.32228$$

$$f(x_7) = f(1.32228) = -0.01036 < 0$$

7th iteration :

Here $f(1.32228) = -0.01036 < 0$ and $f(2) = 5 > 0$

∴ Now, Root lies between $x_0 = 1.32228$ and $x_1 = 2$

$$x_8 = x_0 - f(x_0) \cdot \frac{x_1 - x_0}{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}$$

$$x_8 = 1.32228 - (-0.01036) \cdot \frac{2 - 1.322285}{-(-0.01036)}$$

$$x_8 = 1.32368$$

$$f(x_8) = f(1.32368) = -0.0044 < 0$$

8th iteration :

Here $f(1.32368) = -0.0044 < 0$ and $f(2) = 5 > 0$

∴ Now, Root lies between $x_0 = 1.32368$ and $x_1 = 2$

$$x_9 = x_0 - f(x_0) \cdot \frac{x_1 - x_0}{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}$$

$$x_9 = 1.32368 - (-0.0044) \cdot \frac{2 - 1.323685}{-(-0.0044)}$$

$$x_9 = 1.32428$$

$$f(x_9) = f(1.32428) = -0.00187 < 0$$

9th iteration :

Here $f(1.32428) = -0.00187 < 0$ and $f(2) = 5 > 0$

∴ Now, Root lies between $x_0 = 1.32428$ and $x_1 = 2$

$$x_{10} = x_0 - f(x_0) \cdot \frac{x_1 - x_0}{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}$$

$$x_{10} = 1.32428 - (-0.00187) \cdot \frac{2 - 1.324285}{-(-0.00187)}$$

$$x_{10} = 1.32453$$

$$f(x_{10}) = f(1.32453) = -0.00079 < 0$$

10th iteration :

Here $f(1.32453) = -0.00079 < 0$ and $f(2) = 5 > 0$

∴ Now, Root lies between $x_0 = 1.32453$ and $x_1 = 2$

$$x_{11} = x_0 - f(x_0) \cdot \frac{x_1 - x_0}{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}$$

$$x_{11} = 1.32453 - (-0.00079) \cdot \frac{2 - 1.32453}{-(-0.00079)}$$

$$x_{11} = 1.32464$$

$$f(x_{11}) = f(1.32464) = -0.00034 < 0$$

Approximate root of the equation $x^3 - x - 1 = 0$ using False Position method is 1.32464

n	x_0	$f(x_0)$	x_1	$f(x_1)$	x_2	$f(x_2)$	Update
1	1	-1	2	5	1.16667	-0.5787	$x_0 = x_2$
2	1.16667	-0.5787	2	5	1.25311	-0.28536	$x_0 = x_2$
3	1.25311	-0.28536	2	5	1.29344	-0.12954	$x_0 = x_2$
4	1.29344	-0.12954	2	5	1.31128	-0.05659	$x_0 = x_2$
5	1.31128	-0.05659	2	5	1.31899	-0.0243	$x_0 = x_2$
6	1.31899	-0.0243	2	5	1.32228	-0.01036	$x_0 = x_2$
7	1.32228	-0.01036	2	5	1.32368	-0.0044	$x_0 = x_2$
8	1.32368	-0.0044	2	5	1.32428	-0.00187	$x_0 = x_2$
9	1.32428	-0.00187	2	5	1.32453	-0.00079	$x_0 = x_2$
10	1.32453	-0.00079	2	5	1.32464	-0.00034	$x_0 = x_2$