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Nonlinear Programming - 1

Lec – 18

Search Techniques-I

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So hello friends welcome to lecture series on linear programming so now we come to search techniques you see there are some nonlinear problems there is unique matter to solve any nonlinear problems non linear programming problems however we have studied some problem some specific problems which we can solve using KKT conditions or quartile programming or separable technique or geometric programming okay but all the problems cannot be solved using these techniques.

There is no any unique matter, so we go to numerical approach or first techniques okay to find at least approximately solution appreciate solution approximate optimal solution of a given non linear problem, so we first start with unconstrained optimization problems.

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Search techniques for unconstrained optimization problems

Consider the following unconstrained minimization problem:

$$(P) \quad \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x).$$

The question arises how to find a point $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ which solves (or atleast approximately solves) (P). Because in general, our analytical approach may not work for all types of optimization problems. So we move to search techniques.

We have already discussed that a problem with without any constrain that is simply minimization of a function $f(x)$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such problems are called unconstrained optimization problems, now the question arises how can we find out a point say $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ which solves or at least approximately solves the given problem P okay because in general our analytical techniques may not work for all type of optimization problems, so we move to such techniques.

So this is the reason that we should move to such techniques because all the kind of optimization problems cannot be solved using analytical approach.

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Basic scheme

A common basic scheme is of the form:

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + \alpha_k d_k$$

where x_k is the current solution, d_k is the direction of movement from x_k and $\alpha_k > 0$ is the step size (distance upto which we move from x_k in the direction d_k).

How to find α_k and d_k to find next iteration x_{k+1} such that we move to the solution of (P) in an efficient manner?

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Now what is the basic scheme the common basic scheme is of the form x_{k+1} is the recursion algorithm basically all the such techniques are recursion algorithms so basic scheme is you take x_{k+1} that is the iteration at $k + 1$ th point is equals to x_k that is the pervious iteration + $\alpha_k d_k$ now x_k is a current solution okay d_k is the direction of movement from x_k you see that your moving from a point x_k to x_{k+1} you have two distingue point x_k and x_{k+1} .

How to move from x_k to x_{k+1} so that we are moving towards the optimal solution if it is a minimization problem then we are towards the minimum point, how can we find a direction in which we should move so that is d_k and next is α_k which is ≥ 0 and is called as step size is the distance up to which we move form x_k in the direction of d_k that is how much direction from how much distance from x_k we should move so that that we can find an we can kind the improved solution okay.

So this is a basic sachem so basic scheme in basic scheme what we have to find basically we have to find two things x_k is the current solution it is this is given to us or we can find next is α_k α_k is a step size which we have to finds and d_k is the direction in which we should move so that we can get the improved solution the next iteration, so two things we have to find in all the schemes α_k and d_k so how to find α_k and d_k to find the next iteration x_{k+1} such that we move in to the solution of P in the efficient manner okay.

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Search techniques for unconstrained optimization problems

Consider the following unconstrained minimization problem:

$$(P) \quad \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(x).$$

The question arises how to find a point $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ which solves (or atleast approximately solves) (P). Because in general, our analytical approach may not work for all types of optimization problems. So we move to search techniques.

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So that is a main phenomena main problem now next is descent property what is decent property an algorithm for solving P use see this is a problem P that is minimization of $f(x)$ sub to $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ this is a minimization unconstraint optimization problem now we say that it is satisfy it is an property decent property means you see you have find you start from a point current solution is x_k and finding α_k and d_k u comes to $\alpha_k x_k + 1$ that us iteration at $k + 1$ at point okay, so $x_{k + 1}$ will be better point better solution than x_k only if the function value at $x_{k + 1}$ will be lesser than what we obtain at x_k okay, so that we say that satisfy that it satisfy.

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Descent property

An algorithm for solving (P) is said to have a descent property if $f(x_{k+1}) < f(x_k)$ for all k . That is, as we proceed, the value of objective function should decrease.

Order of convergence

Let a sequence $\{x_k\}$ converge to a point \bar{x} and let $x_k \neq \bar{x}$ for sufficiently large k . The quantity $\|x_k - \bar{x}\|$ is called the error of the k^{th} iteration. Suppose there exist p and $0 < \alpha < \infty$ such that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|x_{k+1} - \bar{x}\|}{\|x_k - \bar{x}\|^p} = \alpha,$$

then p is called the order of convergence of the sequence $\{x_k\}$.



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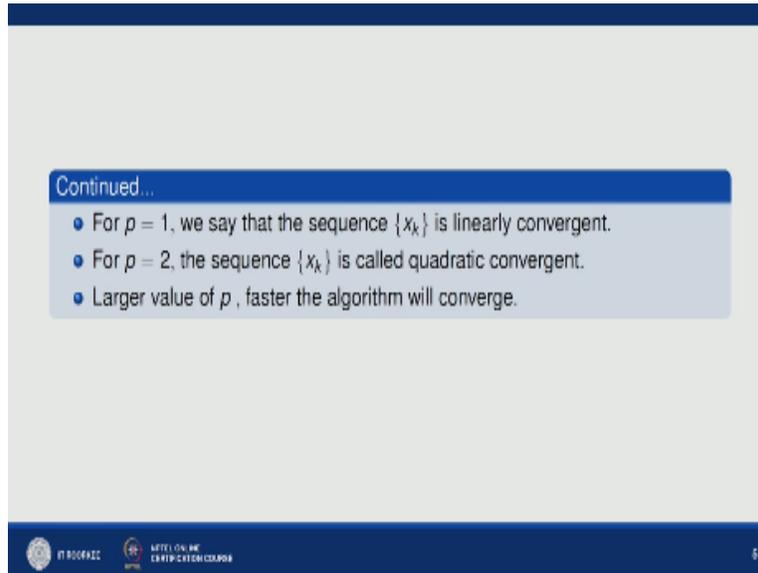
It satisfy descent property because the functional value functional value c functional value at x_{k+1} is less than $f(x_k)$ that is we are moving towards the improved solution in the case of minimization we have more than towards the improve point where the value of f are improving are decreasing okay so then we say that it has satisfy descent property okay, now order of convergence now we have different search techniques to find out an optimal solution of a given problem p .

Which scheme is better okay, so that will be decided by it is order of converges and what is the order of convergence let us see let a sequence x_k you see when you start from a initial guess x_0 using any scheme when you come to x_1 then x_2 then x_3 and so on x_k x_{k+1} and so on okay. So you have a sequence of x_k x_0 x_1 x_2 x_3 and so on of other sequence and suppose sequence converge to a point \bar{x} suppose x_k will tends to \bar{x} as part okay, and let x_k is not equal to \bar{x} for sufficiently large value of k .

Let us suppose then the quantity this of course if you take the distance of x_k the point obtain at the k^{th} iteration the difference of the point obtain in the K iteration with \bar{x} , that will be the error point that will be error it is K iteration okay, this is simply give the error term at the k^{th} iteration now suppose there exist p and $\alpha > 0$ such that $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|x_{k+1} - \bar{x}\|}{\|x_k - \bar{x}\|^p} = \alpha$ that is whatever we obtain at k at $k+1$ th point $\frac{\|x_{k+1} - \bar{x}\|}{\|x_k - \bar{x}\|^p}$ tend to α so then we say there the order of converges the sequences p .

If this expression is tending to α as k tending to ∞ then we say that the order of convergence of the given scheme is p , okay you can simply understand that this norm as a distance of x_{k+1} with \bar{x} distance x_k with \bar{x} okay now if $p = 1$.

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Okay then we say that the convergence that the sequence convergence linearly either $p = 2$ then we say the sequence x_k convergence quadratically, or it is having quadratic convergence that means if we have a larger value of p the order of then the convergence rate will be faster more the value of p more faster will the scheme so we are always in search of those schemes those techniques which is having larger or order of convergence.

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Unimodal function

The function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$ is said to be a unimodal function if it has only one peak in the given interval $[a, b]$.

Consider, a unimodal min function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$. Then there exists $a \leq x \leq b$, such that

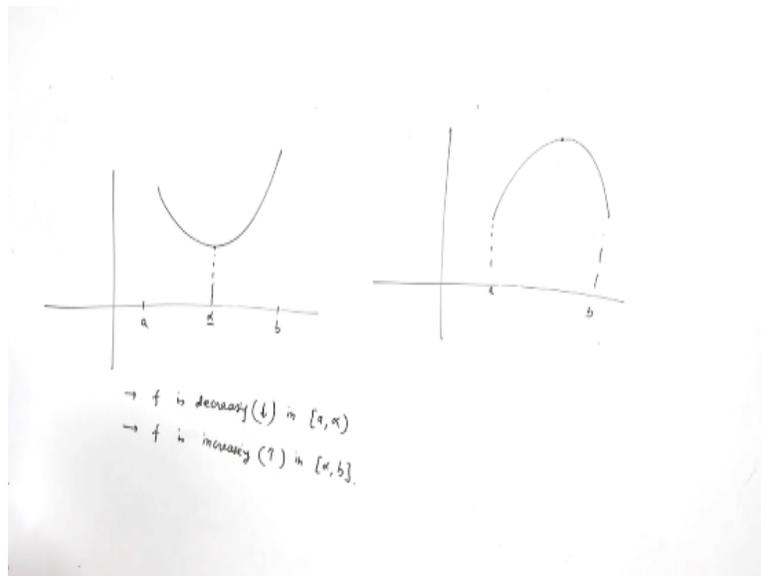
- 1 f is strictly decreasing in $[a, x)$.
- 2 f is strictly increasing in $[x, b]$.

Similarly, we can define for a unimodal max function.

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Now next is unimodal function so these are basic terminal logics where should we should know before a starting semi search techniques what is the descent property what is the order of convergence okay, and what is unimodal function we should know then we should go to search techniques okay, now unimodal function what is unimodal function now suppose a function f which is define from a interval a, b close interval a, b to r and it said to be a unimodal function if it is only one peak you see in a to b if in the interval a to b suppose this is interval.

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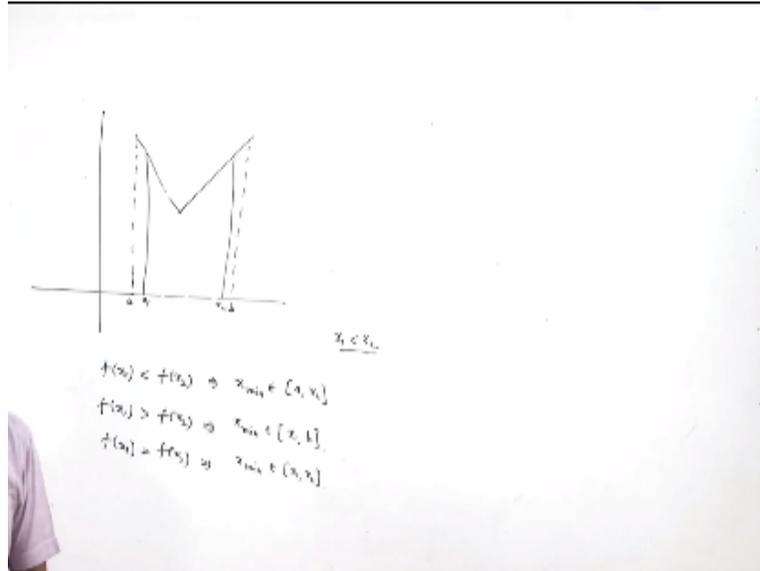


a, b if in this interval the function is only one peak here one peak only one minimum either minimum or maximum peak means if it is only one minima or one maxima in the entire interval a to b then we say this is a function is an unimodal function, okay. Function may be like this also in a to b okay it is only one peak okay, so such functions are called unimodal function, now here we are considering minimum objective function I mean optimization problem of minimization type and similarly we can derive the expressions for optimization problems of maximization types.

So we are dealing with minimization over here, now consider a unimodal minimum function, minimum function means objective function is of minimization type that means the peak in the objective function is of minimum type of this type of problem we are considering okay. So if it is minimum type problem to some α is there in-between a and b such that it has only one peak now that means if it has only one peak I mean only one minimum in the interval a to b .

That means before this α it must decrease and after this α upto b it must increase if it is unimodal function because according to definition unimodal function it must have only one peak I mean only one minima in-between a and b that means if the point of minimize α that means f is decreasing in a to α and f is increasing in α to b , so that is the main concept of unimodal function, if it is unimodal maximum function then if it is a unimodal function and it suppose maxima is obtained at β . Then it first increase and then decrease it increases up to β and after β to b it decrease okay.

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In linear model minimum function suppose we are having this type of problem, okay any problem this way problem suppose we are having, now minima for minima we are not discussing about the continuity or differentiability or the function, okay function may or may not be continuous or may or may not be differentiable. We are only thinking that function is a unimodal function that is it has only one minimum point in a to b, suppose it is a and it is b it is a minimum point okay. It first decreases and then increases, okay.

Now the first interval a, b is called first interval of uncertainty what is our aim, our aim is to find out the minimum point off the given problem P we have a some given problem P some given affects which we have to minimize subject $2S$ belongs to RN our aim is to find out the minimum value of the objective function $f(x)$ okay. Now for that we are in search of we are always try to reduce this interval okay this is the first interval okay we are always try to find out some experiments in this intervals such that the minimum point always lies in-between that interval lies in the interior of that interval.

And we are always try to reduce the size of the interval the width off the interval and such intervals are called interval of uncertainty okay in every two in every like iterations we are trying to find out a new intervals of uncertainties such that the interval of width of the intervals uncertainty becomes smaller and smaller okay and in each interval uncertainty minimum point will lie, okay.

Now suppose in any scheme you find out two experiments yes two experiments means two iterations you perform two iterations okay you find out two interactions suppose you find out first iterations over here x_1 and next iteration you find out here if suppose it is x_2 okay, you perform any such techniques which we discuss afterwards you find two experiments suppose experiments are x_1 and x_2 okay. It may be possible it in this case $f(x_1) < f(x_2)$.

So minimum will belongs to x minimum or minimum point which is this point will belongs to which interval, will belongs to a_2x_2 why a_2x_2 why not s_1 to x_2 because this x_1 may be here also, because here also $f(x_1)$ is less than $f(x_2)$ if we say in between x_1 and x_2 then here x_1 to x_2 does not contain the point of minima.

However, a_2x_2 always cover the point of minima because we are choosing $x_1 < x_2$ we are taking two experiments such that $x_1 < x_2$ okay, if $x_1 < x_2$ and value of function $f(x_1)$ is less than function of value $f(x_2)$ so of course minimum will lie in between a_2x_2 . Now suppose $f(x_1)$ is bigger than $f(x_2)$ suppose this is the case, suppose x_1 is here okay, if x_1 is here so this implies minimum will belongs to which point which interval x_2 to b , because minimum is here okay.

Again you may say thus the minimum should lie in from x_1 to x_2 but it is not true, x_2 may be here also, if x_2 is here because x_1 is less than x_2 and $f(x_1)$ is greater than $f(x_2)$ holds here also, and if it is here and you are saying that minimum lies in between x_1 and x_2 which is not true because minimum is here may x_2 and x_1 are the arbitrary experiments which we are performing, okay. So do not know where minimum is, so but minimum always lies in this interval and if $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$ if it is equal suppose here so in this case minimum will be lying belongs to x_1x_2 .

So from any scheme from any basic scheme from any such technique we first find to two experiments okay, x_1 and x_2 we find the next interval of one certainty which maybe this, this or this. This case really happens because $f(x_1)$ most of the cases really happens that $f(x_1) = f(x_2)$ so in most of the cases we are having either this case or this case so next interval certainty will be either this or this, so definitely the width of this interval will be $x_2 - a$ band width of this interval $b - x_1$ which is less than $b - c$.

So in each step in each iteration we are trying to find out the next interval certainties such that the minimum point will be lying in that interval and we are making interval smaller and smaller,

so that is the basic scheme that is the basic like property which we are using in these any such technique, okay. Now next is measure of effectiveness.

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The slide is titled "Measure of effectiveness" and contains the following text:

The measure of effectiveness of any search technique, α is defined as

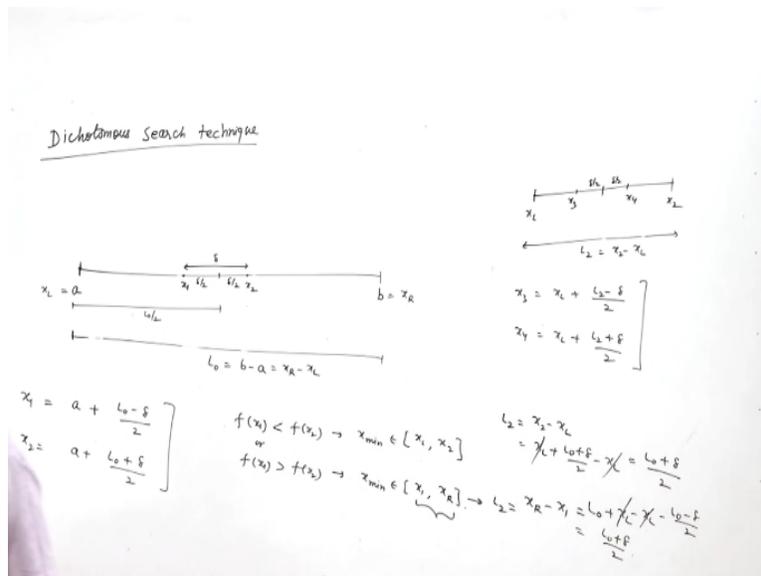
$$\alpha = \frac{L_n}{L_0}$$

where, L_n is the width of interval of uncertainty after n -experiments and L_0 is the initial width of uncertainty.

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What it is, it is denoted by α and it is defined as L_n/L_0 , L_n is simply width of the interval of uncertainty after n experiments suppose it perform n number of experiments, so L_n we are defined as width of interval of uncertainty after n experiments and L_0 is the initial width of uncertainty, initial width means $b-a$ over here. So definitely α will be less than equal to 1 because in each iteration we are trying to reduce the size of the width of the interval so L_n will be definitely $\leq L_0$ so L_n / L_0 we definitely ≤ 1 so smaller value of α that means we are making the interval uncertainty smaller and smaller okay. Now the first technique is Dichotomy search technique now what it is let us discussed.

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So first technique is dichotomous search technique you see here to experiment you have the initial interval is given to you interval is a, b close interval a, b you have find out the experiments and the next interval of unsatinity okay how to find that so in this search technique in this scheme what we do we basically so this is l_0 we first find l_0 , l_0 is $b - a$ the initial length of unsatinity that is $b - a$ okay.

Now you find two experimnt here x_1 and x_2 such that $x_1 x_2$ are suppose δ this is a part, now we take the two point at equal distance from the mind point of this that is so this is $l_0/2$ this length is $l_0 / 2$, and we are making it $\delta/2$ we are shifting one point $\delta/2$ on the left side of the interval and we are making one point $\delta/2$ on the right side of this interval. This is $\delta/2$ and this is $\delta/2$ so x_1 will be equal to $a +$ you see the left point $a +$ this is $l_0 - \delta/2$ this is from here to here it is $l_0/2$ and $l_0/2 - \delta/2 + a$ will give this point x_1 .

If you are add $l_0 - \delta/2$ on this a we will get x_1 okay and how to find the next experimnt x_2 , x_2 is $l_0/2 + \delta/2$ so $a + l_0 + \delta/2$ that will give x_2 , so this is how we can find x_1 and x_2 , in this PPT we have denoted a x_l that is a left point and this by x_r okay. So we are placing two experimnts such that the experimnt are lying $\delta/2$ on the left side of this line and $\delta/2$ on the right side on this line okay such that.

So next we find out the sign f_{x1} we find $f_{x1} < f_{x2}$ or $f_{x1} > f_{x2}$ okay next we find out whether $f_{x1} < f_{x2}$ or $f_{x1} > f_{x2}$, if $f_{x1} < f_{x2}$ this means minimum will belongs because $f_{x1} < f_{x2}$ this means minimum will belongs to x_l to x_2 and if this is the case then this means minimum will belongs to

x_1 to x_r okay. Now this will our next interval of uncertainty if suppose this is the, our next of our uncertainty so this will be x_1 and this will be new x_r , again we divide we take the midpoint and place the two next two experiments $\delta/2$ on the left side and $\delta/2$ on the right side okay suppose this will be our next experiment so next experiment will be now x_1 to x_2 again this length is suppose l_2 which is $x_2 - x_1$ okay now we again take the midpoint of this place one point $\Delta/2$ on the left side of this which is x_3 and one point here which is x_4 $\Delta/2$ on right side.

So what will be the x_3 now x_3 will $x_1 + l_2 - \Delta/2$ and x_4 will be $x_1 + l_2 + \Delta/2$ again we take the sign of f_{x_3} and f_{x_4} whether f_{x_3} is less than f_{x_4} f_{x_3} is greater than f_{x_4} on the basis of this we can decide the next interval of uncertainty okay so this is the main scheme we place that two experiments starting from midpoint $\Delta/2$ on left side and $\Delta/2$ on right side so if you find that next length l_2 , l_2 is $x_2 - x_1$ x_3 is what x_2 is this value

That is $a + a$ or $x_1 + a$ means x_1 okay that is $x_1 + \Delta/2$ x_1 so it is l_2 and from here also if you find L_2 it is same because this is are the same x_r or $-x_1$ what is x_r , x_r is a lot plus x_1 and x_1 is x_1 is this quantity a is x_1 so it is $-x_1$ and $-L \Delta/2$ which is equal to x_1 , x_1 is cancel out it is so both are same okay.

Whether we have this next interval uncertainty or this it will remain same okay so what we are obtained now the number of experiments and always even because here any iteration we are calculating two experiments x_1 and x_2 x_3 x_4 and so on so number of experiments are the 2,4,6 and so on okay now the interval of uncertainty I mean width of interval of uncertainty will be if you perform two experiments.

So we are seen that interval uncertainty is that we have seen $\Delta/2$ okay basically what we are doing we are taking the half of the length here what we are doing we are taking half of the length plus $\Delta/2$ in the next experiments x_3 and x_4 if you find the length of the interval of uncertainty or width of the interval of uncertainty that will be simply half of this because now the next length is this if you take length as in the initial interval so it is $\Delta/2$ now in the next iteration now the length is this quantity.

So this by 2 plus $\Delta/2$ will be the next length of uncertainty that you can easily show here you can easily see also okay now in this 6th experiment this will be half of this plus $\Delta/2$ and so on because in each step we are making $\Delta/2$ now this is the next interval length so this by 2 $\Delta/2$ now

this is next length this by 2 by $\Delta/2$ so what happens after say $2k$ number of iterations say $n= 2k$ if $n= 2k$ so it is you see $\frac{1}{2}$ okay so it is $L_0 2^k$ it is 2×3 so it is 2^3 if it $2 \times k$, so it is $2k + \delta^k + \delta^k -1$ and so on, if it is 6 so δ is up on $2^3 + \delta^2 + \delta / 2$.

If it is $2k$ it is $\delta/2k$ and $\delta/2k -1 \delta/2$ so that will be $= L_0/2^k +$ it is geometric progression having k number of terms, so it is a $1 - r^n$ r is 2 , is 2^k and $1- 2$ that will be $L_0/2^k + \delta/2^k -1$ it is a $1- r^n$ r is 2 okay, so it is $2^k 1- 2$, that is this is correct okay. So it is $L_0/2^n + \delta/2^n -1$ because k is $n/2 + \delta -1$, so this will be the length L_n , so if you see here $L_0 L_n$ will be.

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Continued...

The interval of uncertainty at the end of the different pairs of experiments can be given as:

No. of experiments	2	4	6	...
width of interval of uncertainty	$\frac{L_0 + \delta}{2}$	$\frac{L_0 - \delta}{2^2} + \frac{\delta}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{L_0 + \delta}{2^2} + \frac{\delta}{2} \right) + \frac{\delta}{2}$...

Therefore, $L_n = \frac{L_0}{2^{n/2}} + \delta \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} \right)$.

Then, $\alpha = \frac{L_n}{L_0} = \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} + \frac{\delta}{L_0} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} \right)$.

$L_0 L_n$ will be $L_0 + 2 + \delta -1/2$, and α which is the major effectiveness is L_n upon L_0 so it will be 1 up on $L_0 + 2 + \delta -1/2$, so this is the main scheme let us discuss it by an example again okay, now we have to find the maximum value of function f_x which is.

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Example

Problem: Find the maximum of $f(x) = x(1.5 - x)$ in $[0, 1]$.
 Given $\delta = 0.001$, $\alpha \leq 0.2$

Solution: $L_0 = 1 - 0 = 1$

$$\alpha = \frac{L_n}{L_0} = \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} + \frac{\delta}{L_0} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{n/2}}\right) \leq 0.2$$

$$= \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} + \frac{0.001}{1} \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^{n/2}}\right) \leq 0.2$$

$$\Rightarrow n \geq \frac{999}{199} \approx 5.$$

Since, n is even, therefore, take $n = 6$.

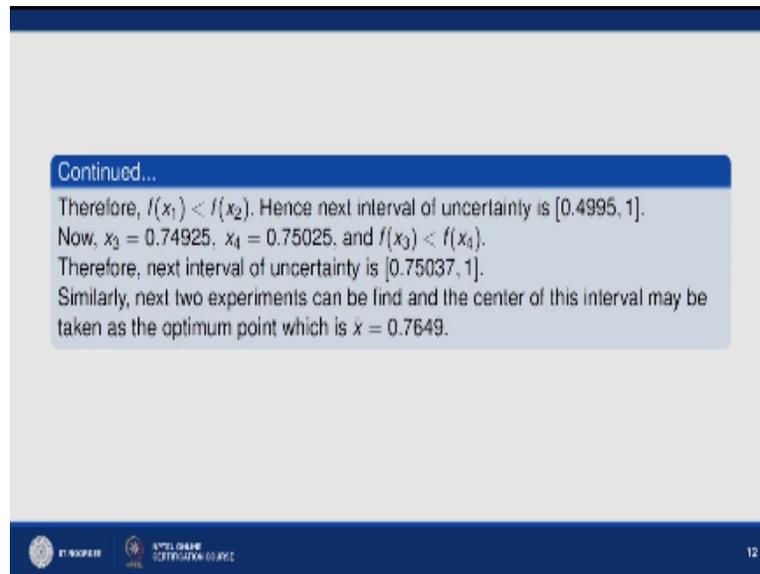
$$x_1 = \frac{L_0}{2} - \frac{\delta}{2} = 0.4995, f(x_1) = 0.4995.$$

$$x_2 = \frac{L_0}{2} + \frac{\delta}{2} = 0.5005, f(x_2) = 0.50025.$$

$f(x) = 1.5x - x^2$ in $[0, 1]$ so x_1 is 0 and x^* is 1 so what is the 1st interval on certainty that is $1 - 0$ which is 1 okay δ is given to us it is 0.001 and α which is the major effectiveness also given to us it should be ≤ 0.2 . So we know that α in the expression called as dichotomic technique is given by this expression, this we have already derived, so this must be ≤ 0.2 now if you simply δ is 0.001 and this $L_0 - 1 - 0$ it is 1, you simplify this so you will get $n \geq$ approximately 5, but n must be even for dichotomies.

So we take $n = 6$ that means we have to find 6 number of iterations so that α will be ≤ 0.2 , now how to find that experiments, so this we have already seen that x_1 will be $a + x_1$ + $L_0 - \delta/2$ and $x_2 = x_1 + L_0 + \delta/2$ so this x_1 is $0 + L_0$ is $1 - \delta$ is $0.001/2$ and it is again $0 + 1 + 0.001/2$ so in this way we find x_1 and x_2 . There you will see the sign of $f(x_1)$ and $f(x_2)$ find the values of $f(x_1)$ and $f(x_2)$, so we find that $f(x_1) < f(x_2)$, so therefore the next interval of certainty will be x_1 to x_2 that is

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0.499521 okay again using this interval as the new interval of our certainty again we find the two experiments x_3 and x_4 which is given by this expression okay, because now you can take x_l as this x_r is this again you will take the midpoint and place $\delta/2$ on the left side and in one experiment $\delta/2$ on right side okay. You find x_3 and x_4 again you see the sign $f(x_3)$ $f(x_4)$ whether $f(x_3)$ is $<$ $f(x_4)$ so the next interval certainty will be 0.7503721.

So in this way we will perform the next two experiments also and finally the midpoint of final interval that will be the approximate solution of the given problem so this is the simple illustration that how can we use the technique by using the search technique so thank you very much.

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