Bisection method:

The goal of the exercise is to apply the bisection method to find the root of a function f(x), that is to say find the x_0 value for which $f(x_0) = 0$.

It is assumed that the function has a root (x_0) between the left boundary (x_L) and the right boundary (x_R) .



The algorithm is as follows:

1. Specify the values for x_L , x_R and *Tolerance*.

- 2. Calculate the middle value (x_M): $x_M = \frac{x_R + x_L}{2}$
- 3. Find in which interval is the root (x_0) : $x_L \le x_0 < x_M$ or $x_M \le x_0 \le x_R$?
- 4. Modify the initial interval:
 - If $x_L \le x_0 < x_M$ then x_R is replaced by x_M .
 - If $x_M \le x_0 \le x_R$ then x_L is replaced by x_M .
- 5. Iterate the steps 3, 4 and 5 until the *Error* is below a given *Tolerance* :

$$Error \equiv \left| \frac{x_R - x_L}{x_M} \right| \le Tolerance$$

6. Print the root value (x_0).

Exercise:

- Find the root of the function $f(x) = \cos x - x$ starting with the initial interval $x_L = 0$, $x_R = 1$. Calculate the root (x_0) with 8 digits of accuracy.

Give the number of necessary iterations.