IEOR 160: Nonlinear and Discrete Optimization Course Project

1. Consider the optimization problem

$$\min_{x_1, x_2} e^{x_1 - x_2 - 0.4} + e^{x_1 + x_2 - 0.4} + (x_1 - 1)^2 + (x_2 + 1)^2$$

Write a code to solve this problem using the Gradient method with the backtracking parameters $\alpha=1$ and $\beta=0.6$. Draw $f(x^{(k)})$ verses k for $k=0,1,2,\ldots,50$. Show the trajectory of points $x^{(0)},x^{(1)},\ldots,x^{(50)}$ in the 2-dimensional (x_1,x_2) plane.

- 2. Redo the previous problem with Newton's method.
- 3. Consider the optimization problem

$$\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \quad -\sum_{i=1}^n \log(2 - x_i^2) - \sum_{i=1}^n \log(1 - 2a_i^T x)$$

where n=500 and $a_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$ are randomly generated vectors. Solve this problem using Newton's method with the backtracking line search ($\alpha=0.4$ and $\beta=0.4$). Draw $f(x^{(k)})$ versus k for $k=0,1,\ldots,300$.