

## Section 4.8. Newton's Method

Ex.

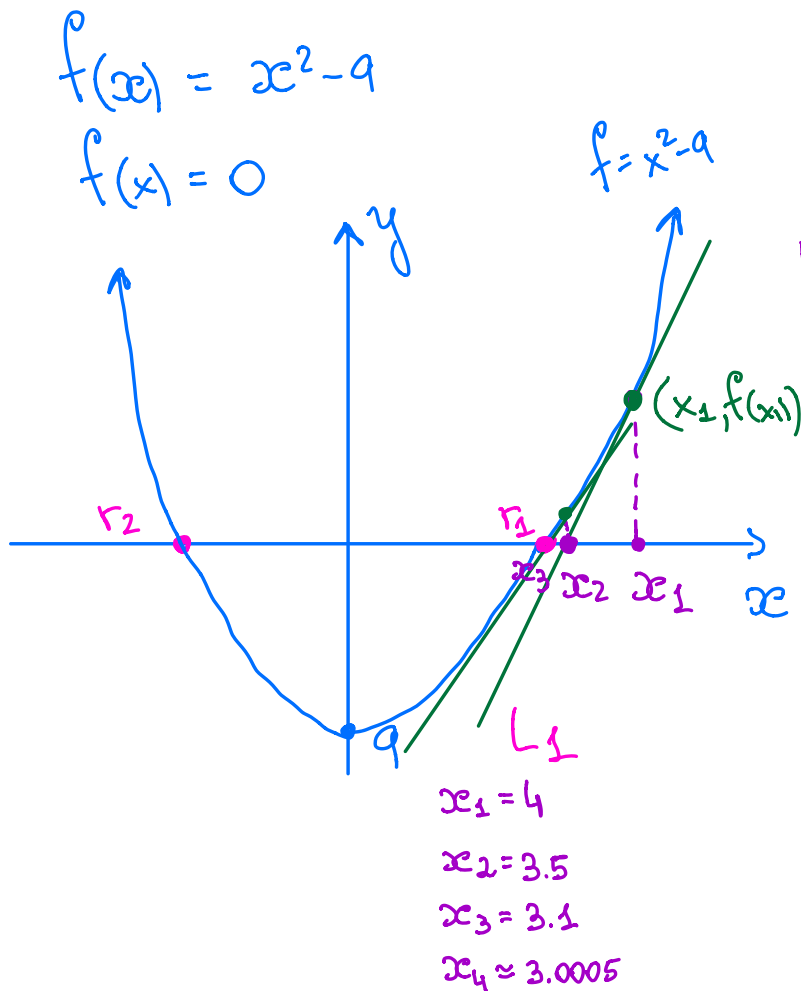
$$x^2 - 9 = 0$$

$$x^2 = 9$$

$$x = \pm 3$$

$$\cos(x) + x^2 - \sqrt{x} = 0$$

$$\cos(x) = \sqrt{x} - x^2$$



Step 1:

Let  $x_1$  be our initial guess

Step 2:

Build tangent line at your initial guess  $x_1$ .

Step 3:

pick  $x_2$  as our new approximation and we build a new tangent line at  $x_2$ .

1.  $x_1$  is given

2. TL equation at  $x = x_1$

$$L_1: f(x) = f'(x_1)(x - x_1) + f(x_1)$$

3.  $(x_2, 0)$  is a crossing point

$$0 = f'(x_1)(x_2 - x_1) + f(x_1)$$

$$f'(x_1)(x_2 - x_1) = -f(x_1)$$

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

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

$$f'(x_1) \neq 0$$

$$x_3 = x_2 - \frac{f(x_2)}{f'(x_2)}$$

$$x_{n+1}^{\text{new}} = x_n^{\text{old}} - \frac{f(x_n^{\text{old}})}{f'(x_n^{\text{old}})} \quad (*)$$

$$n=1: \quad x_2 = \underbrace{x_1}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{is given}}} - \frac{f(x_1)}{f'(x_1)}$$

$$n=2: \quad x_3 = x_2 - \frac{f(x_2)}{f'(x_2)}$$

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## SECTION 4.8 NEWTON'S METHOD

Newton's Method is an iterative rule for finding roots.

**Given:**  $F(x)$

**Want:**  $a$  so that  $F(a) = 0$

**Guess:**  $x_0$  close to  $a$

**Plug in and Repeat:**

$\text{newX} = \text{oldX} - F(\text{oldX}) / F'(\text{oldX})$

In math language:

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{F(x_k)}{F'(x_k)}$$

1. Let  $F(x) = x^2 - 2$ .

$$x^2 - 2 = 0$$

(a) Using elementary algebra, find  $a$  such that  $F(a) = 0$ . (Find  $a$  exactly and find a decimal approximation with at least 9 decimal places.)

$$x_{1,2} = \pm \sqrt{2} \approx \pm 1.414213562$$

(b) Find a formula for  $x_{k+1}$ . Simplify it.

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{F(x_k)}{F'(x_k)} \Rightarrow x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{x_k^2 - 2}{2x_k}$$

(c) Using an initial guess of  $x_0 = 2$ , complete 4 iterations of Newton's method to find  $x_4$  and compare your answer to the one in part (a).

$$1. \quad x_0 = 2$$

$$2. \quad k=0 : \quad x_1 = x_0 - \frac{x_0^2 - 2}{2x_0}$$

$$x_1 = 2 - \frac{4-2}{4} = 2 - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{2} = 1.5$$

$$3. \quad k=1 : \quad x_2 = x_1 - \frac{x_1^2 - 2}{2x_1}$$

$$x_2 = 1.5 - \frac{1.5^2 - 2}{2 \cdot 1.5} = 1.4166667$$

$$4. \quad k=2: \quad x_3 = x_2 - \frac{x_2^2 - 2}{2x_2}$$

$$x_3 = 1.4167 - \frac{1.4167^2 - 2}{2 \cdot 1.4167} = \boxed{1.414216}$$

2. This page is intended to illustrate *how* Newton's Method works.

Again, consider the function  $F(x) = x^2 - 2$ .

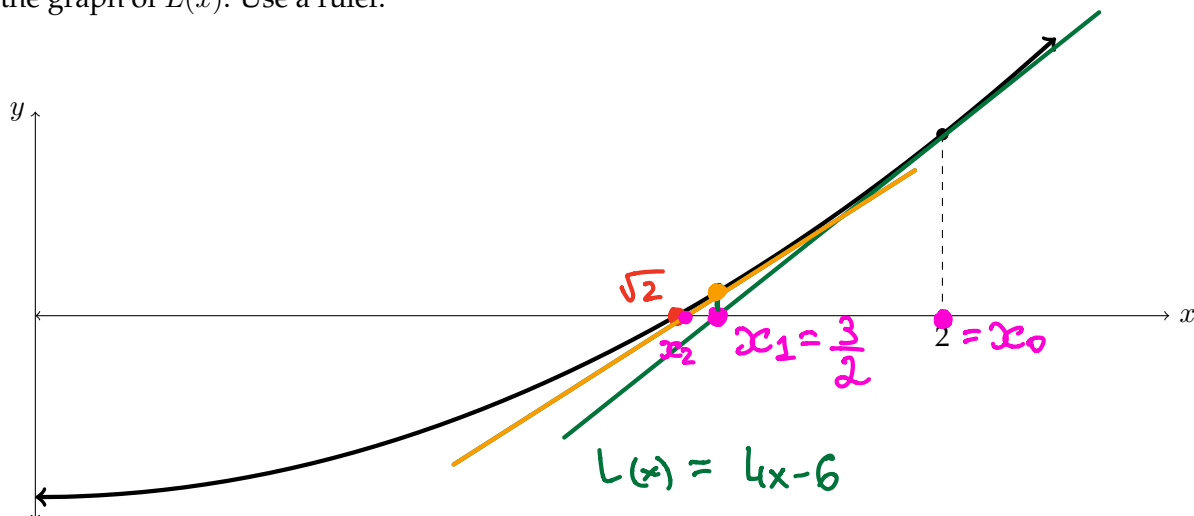
$$x^2 - 2 = 0$$

(a) Find the linearization  $L(x)$  of  $F(x)$  at  $x = 2$ . Leave your answer in point-slope form.

$$L(x) = F'(2)(x-2) + F(2) \quad x=2.$$

$$L(x) = 2 \cdot 2(x-2) + 2 \Rightarrow L(x) = 4(x-2) + 2 = \boxed{4x-6}$$

(b) I've graphed  $F(x)$  for you below. Mark where  $\sqrt{2}$  is on this diagram and add to this diagram the graph of  $L(x)$ . Use a ruler.



(c) Find the number  $x_1$  such that  $L(x_1) = 0$ .

$$L(x) = 4x - 6 : L(x_1) = 0$$

$$4x_1 - 6 = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = \frac{6}{4} = \frac{3}{2} = 1.5$$

(d) In the diagram above, label the point  $x_1$  on the  $x$ -axis.

(e) Let's do it again! Find the linearization  $L(x)$  of  $F(x)$  at  $x = x_1$ .

$$L(x) = F'(x_1)(x-x_1) + F(x_1) \quad F'(x) = 2x$$

$$L(x) = 2x_1(x-x_1) + x_1^2 - 2 = \boxed{2 \cdot \frac{3}{2}(x - \frac{3}{2}) + \frac{9}{4} - 2}$$

(f) Add the graph of this new linearization to your diagram above.

(g) Find the number  $x_2$  such that  $L(x_2) = 0$ . Then label the point  $x = x_2$  in the diagram.

$$\boxed{L(x) = 0}$$

when  $L(x)$  crosses  $x$ -axis

$$3(x - \frac{3}{2}) + \frac{9}{4} - 2 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3(x - \frac{3}{2}) &= 2 - \frac{9}{4} \\ x - \frac{3}{2} &= \frac{2}{3} - \frac{3}{4} \end{aligned}$$

(h) Compare your numbers for  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  to those on the previous page. They should be the same.

$$x_2 = x = \frac{2}{3} - \frac{3}{4} + \frac{3}{2}$$

(i) Let's be a little more systematic. Suppose we have an estimate  $x_k$  for  $\sqrt{2}$ .

- Compute  $F(x_k)$ .

- Compute  $F'(x_k)$ .

- Compute the linearization of  $F(x)$  at  $x = x_k$ .

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{F(x_k)}{F'(x_k)}$$

$$L(x) = F'(x_k)(x - x_k) + F(x_k)$$

- Find the number  $x_{k+1}$  such that  $L(x_{k+1}) = 0$ . You should try to find as simple an expression as you can. Compare this to the formula we used on problem 1b from page 1.

$$L(x_{k+1}) = F'(x_k)(x_{k+1} - x_k) + F(x_k) = 0$$

$\Downarrow$

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{F(x_k)}{F'(x_k)}$$

$$x_0 = a$$

3. Try to solve

$$e^{-x} - x = 0$$

by hand.

4. Explain why there is a solution between  $x = 0$  and  $x = 1$ .

5. Starting with  $x_0 = 1$ , find an approximation of the solution of  $e^{-x} - x = 0$  to 6 decimal places. During your computation, keep track of each  $x_k$  to at least 9 decimal places of accuracy.