

# Newton Square Root Problem

Create a package named `newton_sqrt` and write a program to use the "Newton's method" for computing a square root.

Newton's method for calculating the square root of  $N$  starts by making a guess at the square root. I would recommend starting with an initial guess of  $N/2$ .

It then computes a better guess, according to the following formula:

$$\text{new\_guess} = ((N/\text{last\_guess}) + \text{last\_guess})/2;$$

You will want to use a while loop for this algorithm. Each time you do the calculation you will get a more accurate answer. Have your while loop continue executing until the

accuracy is  $< .000001$

It can be shown that the accuracy of your "new\_guess" is:

$$\text{accuracy} = \text{absolute\_value of } (\text{new\_guess} - \text{last\_guess})$$

If you are unfamiliar with absolute value, then we would say that for some variable  $x$ :

```
double x, absolute_value_of_x;

// ..... x gets a value somehow
if (x >= 0)
    absolute_value_of_x = x;
else
    absolute_value_of_x = -x;
```

Print the "Newton\_sqrt" answer for computing a square root at the end of your while loop.

Compare it with the Java Math function:

`Math.sqrt(N);`

Sample output might look like:

```
Enter in N for Newton: 200
Newton(200.0)=14.142135623730955
Math.sqrt =14.142135623730951
```

Run your program with the inputs shown above and insert the results in the appropriate section of the JH worksheet.