

## Pencil and Paper homework Number 11c

This homework concerns Newton's method for solving equations.

Let's say we want to solve  $f(x) = a$ . We form the new function  $g(x) = f(x) - a$ . Then you get the recursion formula from  $g(x)$  by

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{g(x)}{g'(x)}$$

You have to guess  $x_0$  to get started with. This is usually done with a graph. However, since this is stressful I guess it for you.

1) Solve the following equations:

a)  $f(x) = x^2$  solve  $f(x) = 2$   $x_0 = 1$

b)  $f(x) = x^3$  solve  $f(x) = 2$   $x_0 = 1$

c)  $f(x) = x^3 + x$  solve  $f(x) = 3$   $x_0 = 1$

d)  $f(x) = \sin x - \frac{1}{2}x$  solve  $f(x) = 0$   $x_0 = 2$

e)  $f(x) = e^x + x$  solve  $f(x) = 3$   $x_0 = 1$

Graph the three functions  $\tan(x)$ ,  $x$ ,  $\tan x - x$  for  $0 \leq x \leq 3\pi$

f)  $f(x) = \tan x - 2x$  solve  $f(x) = 0$   $x_0 = 1.5$

g)  $f(x) = \tan x - 2x$  solve  $f(x) = 0$   $x_0 = 4.6066$

h)  $f(x) = \tan x - 2x$  solve  $f(x) = 0$   $x_0 = 7.76032$

2) Show that the recursion formula for  $f(x) = x^2$ , solve  $f(x) = a$  gives that  $x_{n+1}$  is the average of  $x_n$  and  $a/x_n$ . This was the way the Babylonians did square roots. The result you are trying to get is

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \left( x_n + \frac{a}{x_n} \right)$$

a) Use this method to find  $\sqrt{19}$ . Start with  $x_0 = 4$

b) Use this method to find  $\sqrt{1111}$ . Start with  $x_0 = 30$