

Math 250 Briggs 4.8

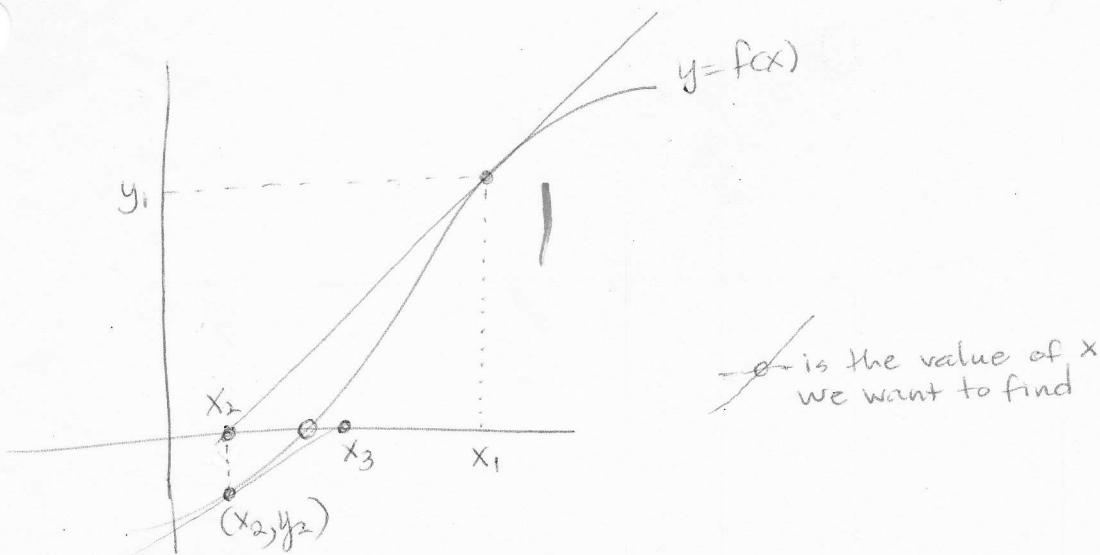
Newton's Method

- 1) Use Newton's Method to find approximate values of the zeros of a function.
- 2) Understand why Newton's Method may sometimes fail for one starting value but succeed for a different starting value
- 3) Understand why Newton's Method sometimes fails for any starting value, and demonstrate this using algebra.

Newton's Method always used to solve  $\text{stuff} = 0$ .  
Sometimes we arrange to get 0 on RHS.

- Points of intersection  $f(x) = g(x)$  means  $\underbrace{f(x) - g(x)}_{\text{stuff}} = 0$
- Fixed points  $f(x) = x$  means  $\underbrace{f(x) - x}_{\text{stuff}} = 0$
- Local extrema (VV, actually) means  $\underbrace{f'(x)}_{\text{stuff}} = 0$

Approximate a zero of function using Newton's method.



Write the equation of the line tangent to  $f(x)$  at  $(x_1, y_1)$ .

$$y - y_1 = f'(x_1)(x - x_1)$$

Find the x-intercept of this line. [Set  $y=0$ , solve for  $x$ .]

$$0 - y_1 = f'(x_1)(x - x_1)$$

$$\frac{-y_1}{f'(x_1)} = x - x_1$$

$$x_1 - \frac{y_1}{f'(x_1)} = x$$

$$x = x_1 - \frac{y_1}{f'(x_1)}$$

How was  $y_1$  originally calculated?  $y_1 = f(x_1)$ .

Substitute that:

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

Call this x-intercept  $x_2 = x_1 - \frac{f(x_1)}{f'(x_1)}$   
Repeat the process. to get  $x_3 = x_2 - \frac{f(x_2)}{f'(x_2)}$

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

Repeat again to get  $x_4 = x_3 - \frac{f(x_3)}{f'(x_3)}$

\*Memorize\*

Newton's Method

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

If we are "lucky", the sequence

$$x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, \dots$$

will get closer and closer to the zero of the function  $f(x)$ .

This is called "converging", or a "convergent sequence".

If so, Newton's method succeeds.

The success or failure of Newton's Method can depend on several things.

- Temporary:  
choose  
a new  
 $x_1$*       { 1) Initial guess  $x_1$  may be too far from or too close to the zero.
- 2) Initial guess may have  $f'(x_1) = 0$ , causing a divide-by-zero error
- 3) A later value  $x_i$  may have  $f'(x_i) = 0$ , causing a divide-by-zero error.
- 4) Initial guess may have  $f(x_1)$  or  $f'(x_1)$  undefined.
- 5) A later value  $x_i$  may have  $f(x_i)$  or  $f'(x_i)$  undefined.
- Permanent:  
do algebra  
to simplify  
 $\frac{x-f(x)}{f'(x)}$*       { 6) The fraction  $\frac{f(x)}{f'(x)}$  simplifies to a constant so that  $x + \frac{f(x)}{f'(x)}$  keeps getting bigger no matter what  $x_1$  is chosen.

Note: If  $f(x_1) = 0$ , then your initial guess is already a solution of  $f(x) = 0$ , (an  $x$ -intercept or zero).

## Math 250 Newton's Method Graphing Calculator Skills

Skill I. Calculate something with variable x and store the calculated result in x, replacing the original value of x

Step 1: Store the value 2 in the memory location called x.

L2 2 RCL X STO> A-LOCK ALPHA RCL X STO> ENTRY SOLVE ENTER

2<sup>→X</sup>  
2

Step 2: Multiply the value in x (2) by 3 (to get 6) and store the result in x.

L3 0 A-LOCK ALPHA RCL X STO> RCL X STO> A-LOCK ALPHA RCL X STO> ENTRY SOLVE ENTER

2<sup>→X</sup>  
3<sup>→X</sup>  
2  
6

A-LOCK ALPHA RCL X STO> ENTRY SOLVE ENTER

2<sup>→X</sup>  
3<sup>→X</sup>  
2  
6  
x  
6

Step 3: Confirm that the value in x is 6.

Skill II. Do Skill I repeatedly.

Step 1: Store the value 2 in the memory location called x.

L2 2 RCL X STO> A-LOCK ALPHA RCL X STO> ENTRY SOLVE ENTER

2<sup>→X</sup>  
2

Step 2: Multiply the value in x (2) by 3 (to get 6) and store the result in x.

L3 0 A-LOCK ALPHA RCL X STO> RCL X STO> A-LOCK ALPHA RCL X STO> ENTRY SOLVE ENTER

2<sup>→X</sup>  
3<sup>→X</sup>  
2  
6

ENTRY SOLVE  
ENTER  
ENTRY SOLVE  
ENTER  
ENTRY SOLVE  
ENTER

3<sup>→X</sup>  
3<sup>→X</sup>  
3<sup>→X</sup>  
18  
54  
162  
■

Step 3: Repeat the calculation by pressing Enter.

Each time we press Enter, the previous result is multiplied by 3 and stored in the same location.

Skill III. Evaluate a function value using the Y-VARS menu and memory storage locations.



Step 0: Clear all functions from the Y= menu.

Plot1	Plot2	Plot3
$\text{Y}_1 = 2x + 3$		
$\text{Y}_2 =$		
$\text{Y}_3 =$		
$\text{Y}_4 =$		
$\text{Y}_5 =$		
$\text{Y}_6 =$		
$\text{Y}_7 =$		

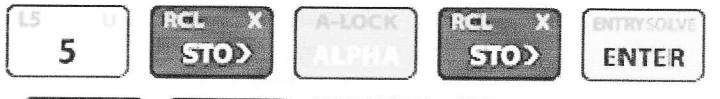
Step 1: Type in the function  $y = 2x + 3$ .



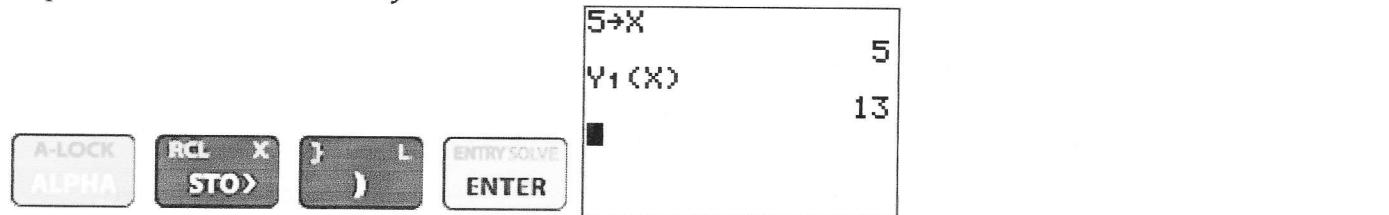
Step 2: Exit the Y= menu and return to the calculating screen.



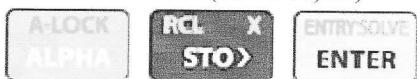
Step 3: Store the value 5 in the memory location x.



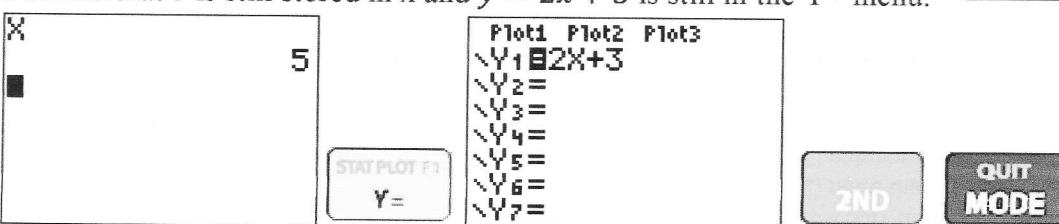
Step 4: Evaluate the function  $y = 2x + 3$  for  $x = 5$ .



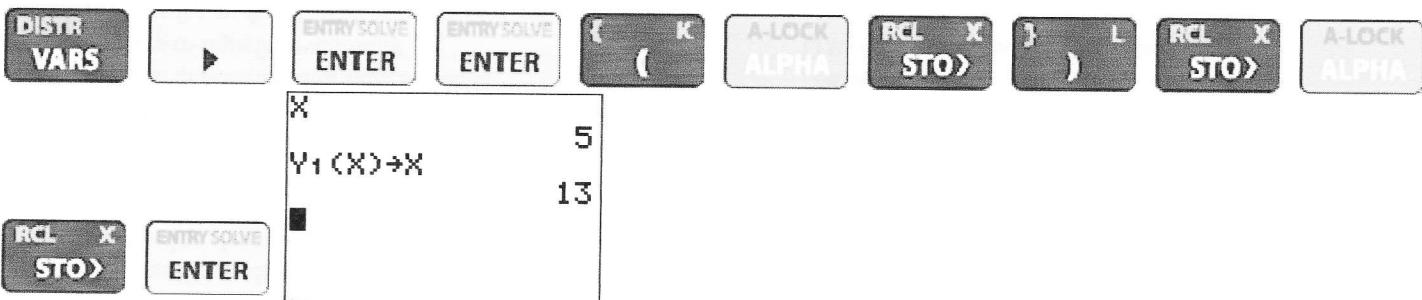
Skill IV. Repeatedly evaluate a function using value stored in x, and store the result in x. (x? Yes, x.)



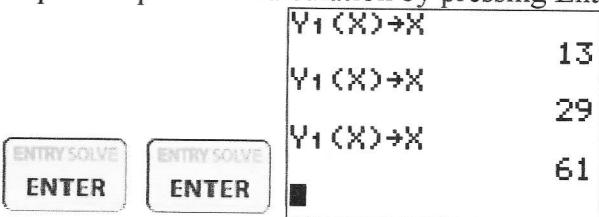
Confirm that 5 is still stored in x and  $y = 2x + 3$  is still in the Y= menu.



Step 1: Evaluate  $y(x)$  for  $x=5$  and store the result in x.



Step 2: Repeat this calculation by pressing Enter.



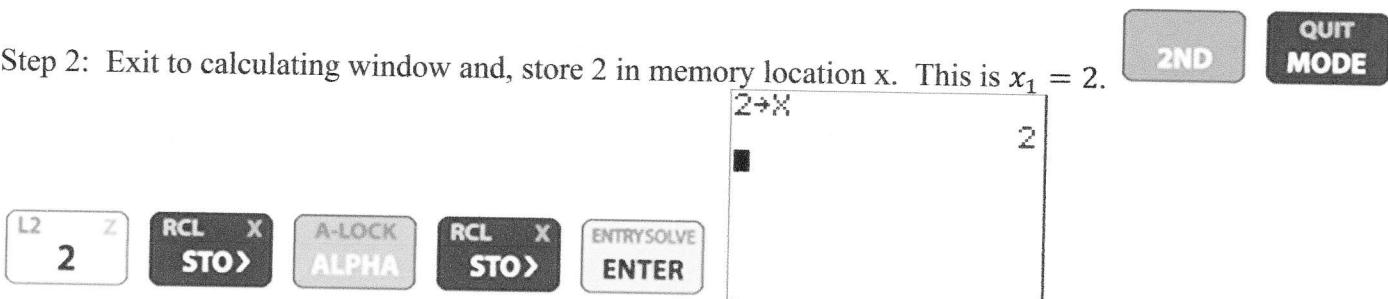
The first time, we find  $y(13)=2(13)+3=29$ . The next it's  $y(29)=2(29)+3=61$ .

Skill V. Use the GC to calculate seven iterations of Newton's Method to find an approximate zero of  $f(x) = x^2 - 3$ . Use  $x = 2$  as the initial guess.

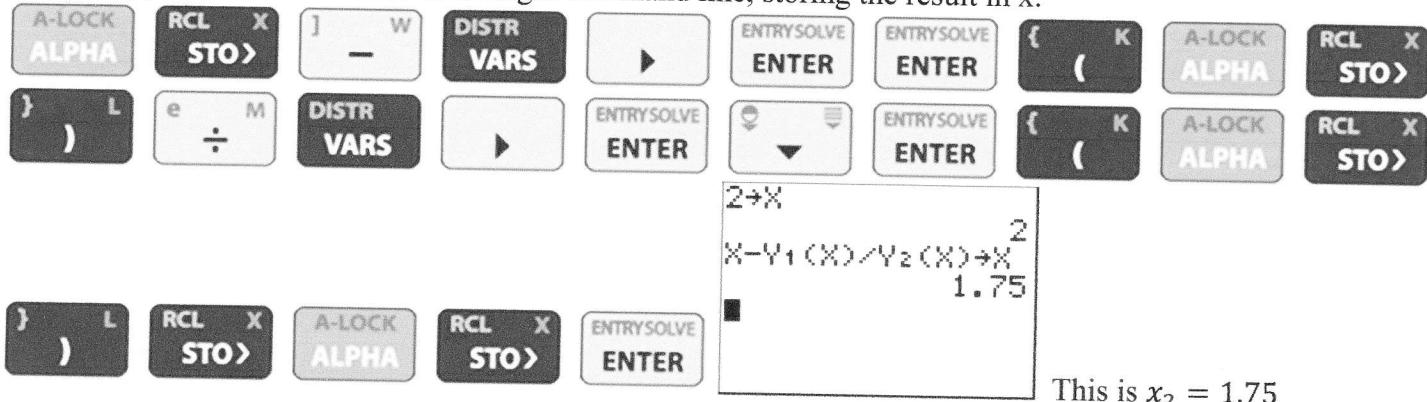
Step 1: Find  $f'(x)$  analytically and input  $f(x)$  and  $f'(x)$  in the Y= menu. Hint: Always put the function in  $y_1$  and the derivative in  $y_2$ .



Step 2: Exit to calculating window and, store 2 in memory location x. This is  $x_1 = 2$ .



Step 3: Type Newton's Method as a single command line, storing the result in x.



This is  $x_2 = 1.75$

$X - Y_1(X) / Y_2(X) \rightarrow X$ 1.75	$X - Y_1(X) / Y_2(X) \rightarrow X$ 1.73205081
$X - Y_1(X) / Y_2(X) \rightarrow X$ 1.732142857	$X - Y_1(X) / Y_2(X) \rightarrow X$ 1.732050808
$X - Y_1(X) / Y_2(X) \rightarrow X$ 1.73205081	$X - Y_1(X) / Y_2(X) \rightarrow X$ 1.732050808

Step 4: Repeat this calculation by pressing Enter 5 times.

These are  $x_3 = 1.732142857$ ,  $x_4 = 1.73205081$ ,  $x_5 = 1.73205081$ , and  $x_6 = x_7 = 1.732050808$ . We have reached the accuracy of this calculator, and all future values will be the same.

$X - Y_1(X) / Y_2(X) \rightarrow X$ 1.732050808	$X - Y_1(X) / Y_2(X) \rightarrow X$ 1.732050808
$\sqrt{3}$	1.732050808

Check:  $\sqrt{3} = 1.732050808$

$\sqrt{3}$	1.732050808
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Note:  $f(x) = x^2 - 3$  has a second zero at  $x = -\sqrt{3}$ . Use a different guess!

You may write tables of all the calculations:

$n$	$x_n$	$f(x_n)$	$f'(x_n)$	$\frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}$	$x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}$	BUT...
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Because we have an efficient way to do the entire calculation all at once, you do NOT need to write down such a table.  
Instead you should show the following in your work:

$$f(x)$$

$$f'(x).$$

The rule for using Newton's method:  $x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}$

All of your calculated sequence, rounded to <sup>at least</sup> <sub>more than</sub> two decimal places <sub>than</sub> the prescribed tolerance.

- ② Use Newton's Method to calculate the zero of  $f(x) = \tan(x)$  with initial guess  $x_1 = 2.5$ , until successive iterations differ by less than .0001.

$$y_1 = f(x) = \tan(x)$$

$$y_2 = f'(x) = \sec^2 x = 1 / (\cos(x))^2$$

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)} = x_n - \frac{\tan(x_n)}{\sec^2(x_n)}$$

$$x_1 = 2.5$$

$$x_2 \approx 2.979462$$

6 places

$$x_3 \approx 3.138766$$

$$x_4 \approx 3.141593$$

$$x_5 \approx 3.141593$$

using TABLE in Ask

↓  
Residual  $f(x_i)$

$$\tan(2.5) \approx -0.747$$

$$\tan(2.979462) \approx -0.1636$$

$$\tan(3.138766) \approx -0.0028$$

$$\tan(3.141593) \approx 3.5 \times 10^{-7}$$

$\boxed{\tan(3.14159) \approx 0.}$

OR zero  $\boxed{x \approx 3.14159}$

- ③ What happens if you use  $x_1 = \pi/2$ ?  $\Rightarrow \pi/2$  not in domain of  $\tan$ .

AND  $\cos(\pi/2) = 0$  div by 0.

So Newton's Method can fail if the initial guess is chosen poorly.

- ④ Approximate the zero(s) of  $f(x) = \sqrt[5]{x}$  using Newton's method.

$$f(x) = x^{1/5}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{5}x^{-4/5}$$

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{x_n^{1/5}}{\frac{1}{5}x_n^{-4/5}} = x_n - 5x_n = -4x_n$$

ex(4) cont.

whatever your initial guess, the next iteration is 4 times the magnitude and the opposite sign.

This is an example of a function where Newton's method fails for every initial guess.

This is because  $f'(x) = \frac{1}{5}x^{-4/5}$  is not defined (vertical tangent) at the zero  $x=0$ .

### Summary of Newton's Method

- Used to find values of  $x$ , call it  $x=c$ , where  $f(c)=0$ .  
 { based on x-ints, it only works for x-ints, also called zeros }.
- The function  $f$  must be differentiable on some open interval containing  $c$ .
- Select an initial guess that  
 $f'(x_1) \neq 0$       { no divide by 0 happens }  
 and  $x_1$  is in domain of  $f$ .

If Newton's method does not converge; try:

- Simplify the expression to see if it's not supposed to converge.
- Choose a new  $x_1$ .
- Check that you correctly calculated  $f'(x)$ .
- Check that you correctly typed  $y_1=f(x)$  and  $y_2=f'(x)$  into your calculator.
- Check that you typed Newton's method into the calculator.  
 { e.g.  $x_n + \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}$  will foul up! }

{ e.g.  $x_n - \frac{f'(x_n)}{f(x_n)}$  will too }

- ⑤ Apply Newton's Method to approximate the  $x$ -values of the point(s) of intersection of the two graphs until successive iterations differ by 0.001.

$$f(x) = 3 - x$$

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 + 1}$$

Newton's method is for zeros.

If  $f(x) = g(x)$  at point of intersection, then

$$f(x) - g(x) = 0 \text{ at point of intersection.}$$



To use Newton's for Intersections

$$y_1 = f(x) - g(x)$$

$$y_2 = f'(x) - g'(x)$$

Use Newton's method on  $h(x) = 3 - x - \frac{1}{x^2 + 1}$

$$h'(x) = -1 - \frac{[(x^2 + 1) \cdot 0 - 1(2x)]}{(x^2 + 1)^2}$$

$$h'(x) = -1 + \frac{2x}{(x^2 + 1)^2}$$

Newton's method  $x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{[3 - x_n - \frac{1}{x_n^2 + 1}]}{\left[-1 + \frac{2x_n}{(x_n^2 + 1)^2}\right]}$

zero between  $x=2$  and  $x=3$ ?

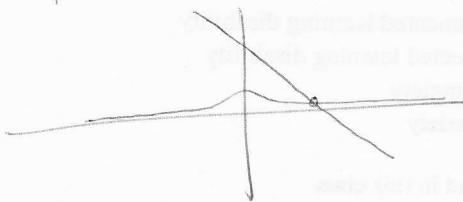
$$x_1 = 3$$

$$x_2 \approx 2.89362$$

$$x_3 \approx 2.89329$$

$$x \approx 2.893$$

} Looks like only one point of intersection



- ⑥ Approximate the fixed point of  $f(x) = \cot x$   $0 < x < \pi$  to 2 decimal places. A fixed point ~~is~~  $x_0$  is one where  $f(x_0) = x_0$ .

Use  $g(x) = f(x) - x$

when  $f(x) = x$

$$g(x) = \cot(x) - x$$

$$\text{then } f(x) - x = 0$$

$$g'(x) = -\csc^2(x) - 1$$

need zero.

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{\cot(x_n) - x_n}{-\csc^2(x_n) - 1}$$

(6) cont.

$$y_1 = \cos(x) / \sin(x) - x$$

$$y_2 = -1 / (\sin(x))^2 - 1$$

$$x_1 = 1$$

$$x_2 \approx .85163$$

$$x_3 \approx .86029$$

$$x_4 \approx .86033$$

$$x_5 \approx .86033\dots$$

$$\text{Residual } \cot(x_i) - x_i = g(x_i)$$

$$g(1) \approx -0.3579$$

$$g(.85163) \approx 0.02396$$

$$g(.86029) \approx 1.2 \times 10^{-4}$$

$$g(.86033) \approx 9.8 \times 10^{-6}$$

$x \approx .86$  is approximate fixed pt.  $\cot(.86) \approx .86$ .

### Convergence of Newton's Method

If  $\left| \frac{f(x) \cdot f''(x)}{[f'(x)]^2} \right| < 1$  for all  $x \in (a, b)$   
where zero  $c \in (a, b)$

then Newton's Method will converge.

This is called a "sufficient" condition because if it happens, it's sufficient to ensure convergence.

Unfortunately, it's not a "necessary" condition, meaning that there are situations which converge but don't meet this condition.

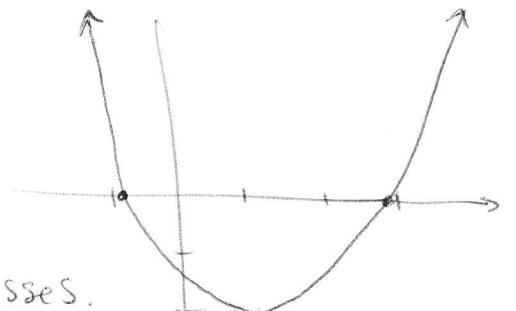
- ⑦ Find all zeros (to four places) of  $f(x) = x^2 - 2x - 2$  using Newton's Method.

$$y_1 = f(x) = x^2 - 2x - 2$$

$$y_2 = f'(x) = 2x - 2$$

check graph of  $f(x)$   
has 2 x-intercepts.

will need 2 initial guesses.



Residual

$$x_1 = 4$$

$$x_2 = 3$$

$$x_3 = 2.75$$

$$x_4 = 2.73214$$

$$x_5 = 2.73205$$

$$x_6 = 2.73205$$

$$x \approx 2.7321$$

Residual	Residual
6	1
1	.0625
.0625	$3.1 \times 10^{-4}$
$3.1 \times 10^{-4}$	$-3 \times 10^{-6}$
$-3 \times 10^{-6}$	
$x_1 = -1$	
$x_2 = -0.75$	
$x_3 = -0.73214$	
$x_4 = -0.73205$	
$x_5 = -0.73205$	
$x \approx -0.7321$	

- ⑧ Estimate the critical values of  $f(x) = x^5 - x^4 + x^2 - x$  on  $(-\infty, \infty)$  using Newton's method.

C.V. means  $f'(x) = 0$  or  $f'(x)$  undefined (none for polynomial)

$$f'(x) = 5x^4 - 4x^3 + 2x - 1 = 0$$

means we need

$$f''(x) = 20x^3 - 12x^2 + 2$$

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

when we apply Newton's to  $f'(x)$ .

$$x_0 = 1$$

$$x_1 = .8$$

$$x_2 = .6684$$

$$x_3 = .6147$$

$$x_4 = .6080$$

$$\boxed{x_5 = .6080}$$

$$x_0 = -1$$

$$x_1 = -.8$$

$$x_2 = -0.7060$$

$$x_3 = -0.6844$$

$$x_4 = -0.6834$$

$$\boxed{x_5 = -0.6833}$$