

## 61A Lecture 6

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Friday, September 13

## Announcements

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- Homework 2 due Tuesday 9/17 @ 11:59pm

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- Midterm 1 on Monday 9/23 from 7pm to 9pm
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  - There will be a web form for students who cannot attend due to a conflict

# Lambda Expressions

(Demo)

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*Important:* No "return" keyword!

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Must be a single expression

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Lambda expressions in Python cannot contain statements at all!

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## Lambda Expressions Versus Def Statements

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Example: <http://goo.gl/XH54uE>

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**VS**

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- Both create a function with the same domain, range, and behavior.

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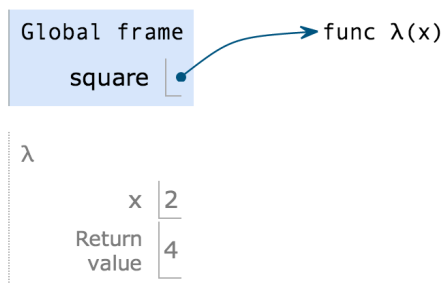
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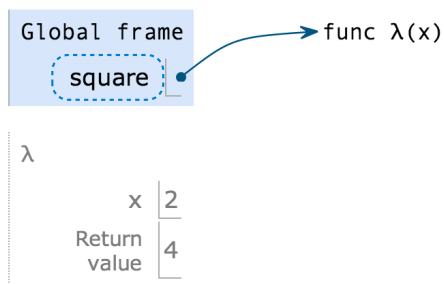
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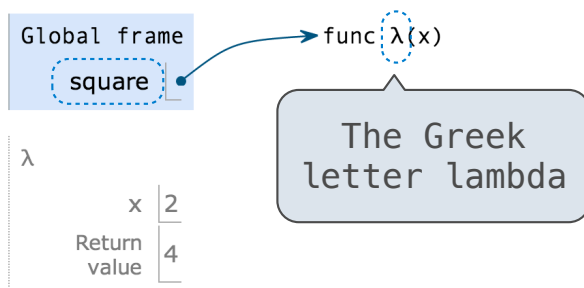
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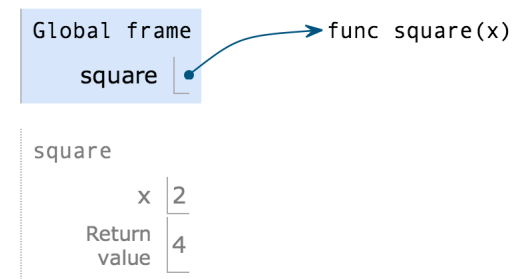
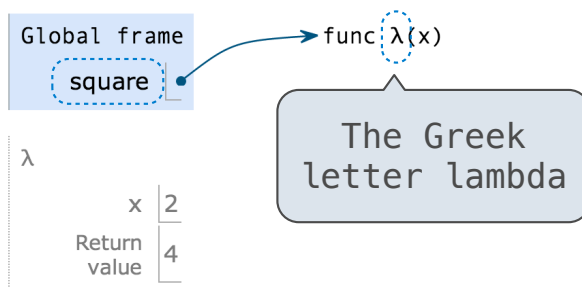
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Currying

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def make_adder(n):  
    return lambda k: n + k
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>>> make_adder(2)(3)  
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>>> add(2, 3)  
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**Currying:** Transforming a multi-argument function into a single-argument, higher-order function.

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Schönfinkeling?

## Newton's Method

## Newton's Method Background

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Quickly finds accurate approximations to zeroes of differentiable functions!



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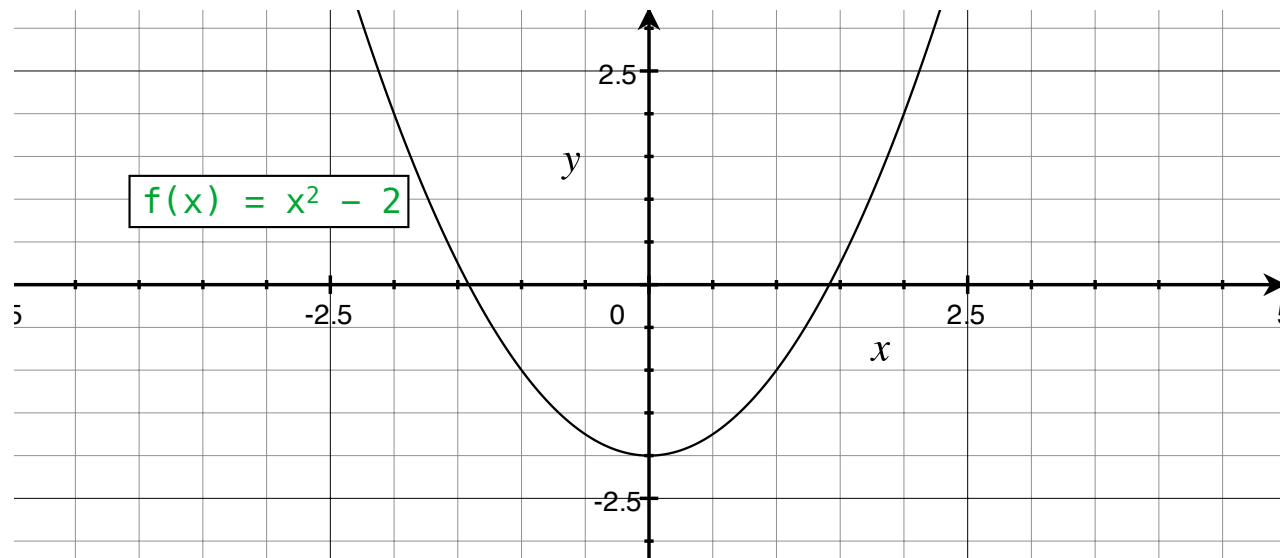
Quickly finds accurate approximations to zeroes of differentiable functions!

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

## Newton's Method Background

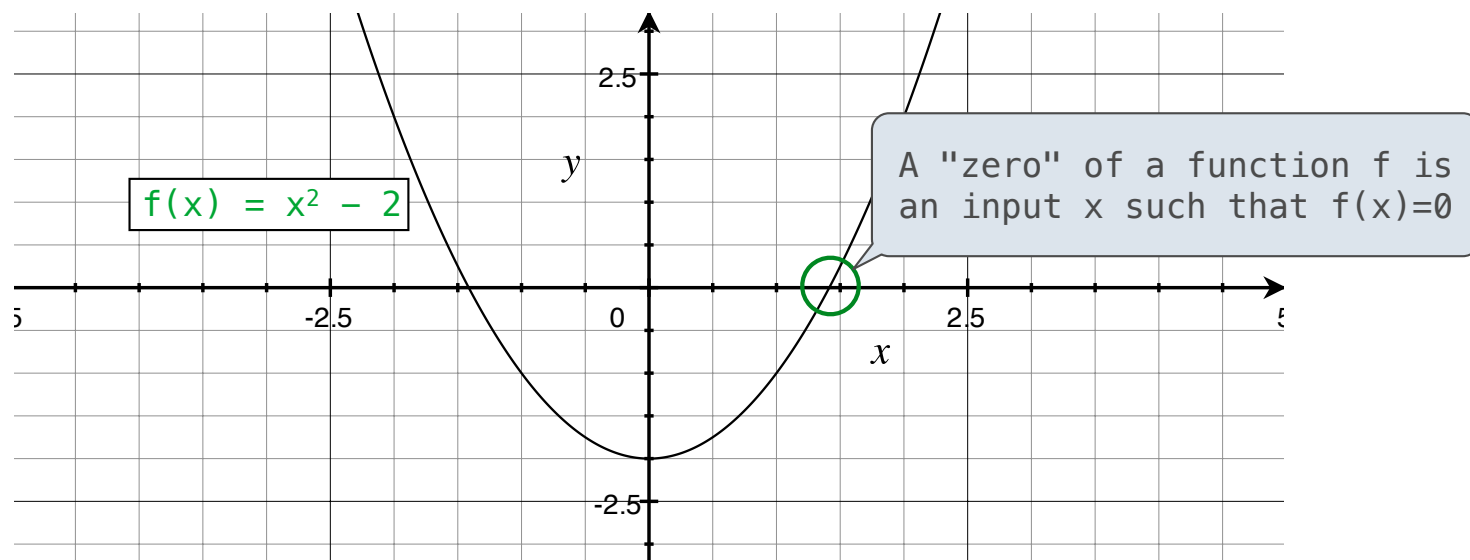
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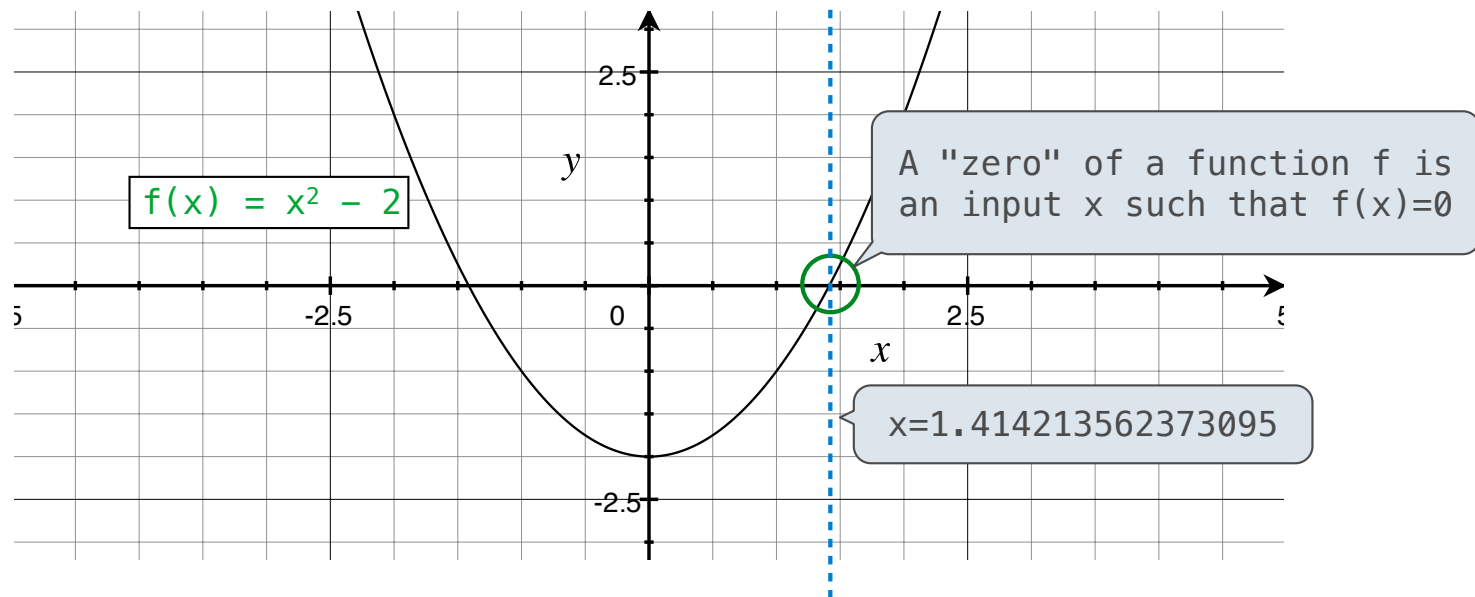
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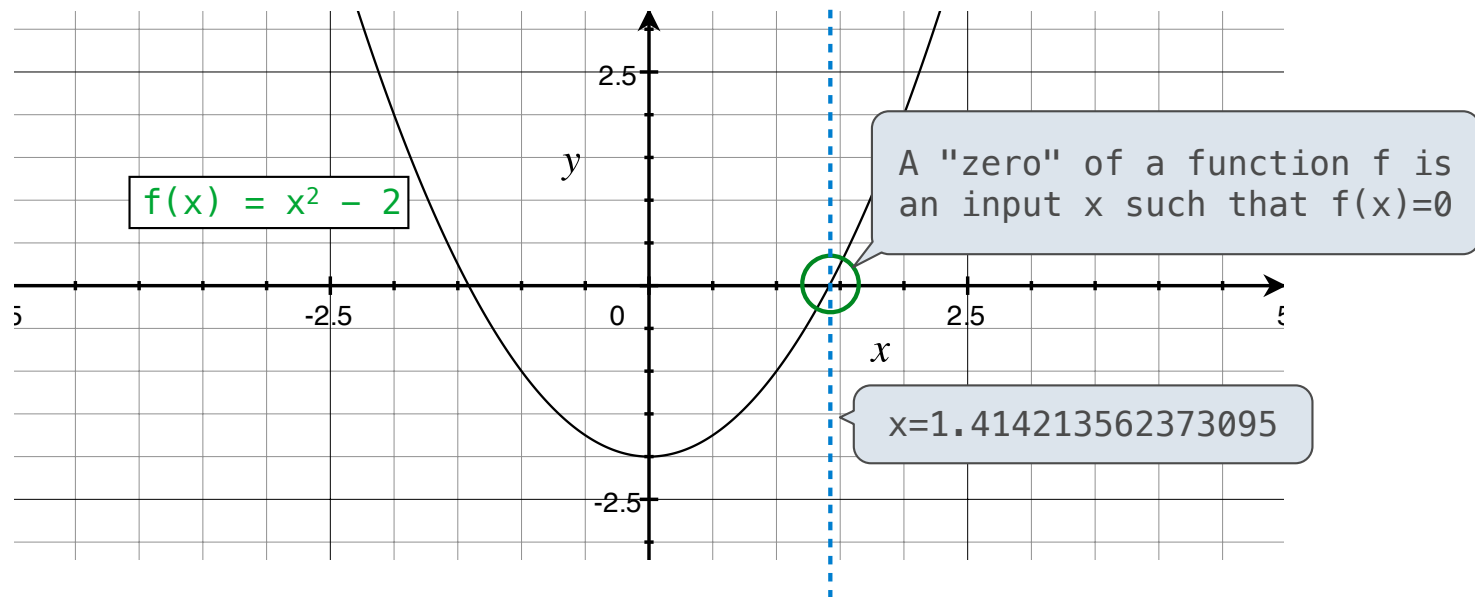
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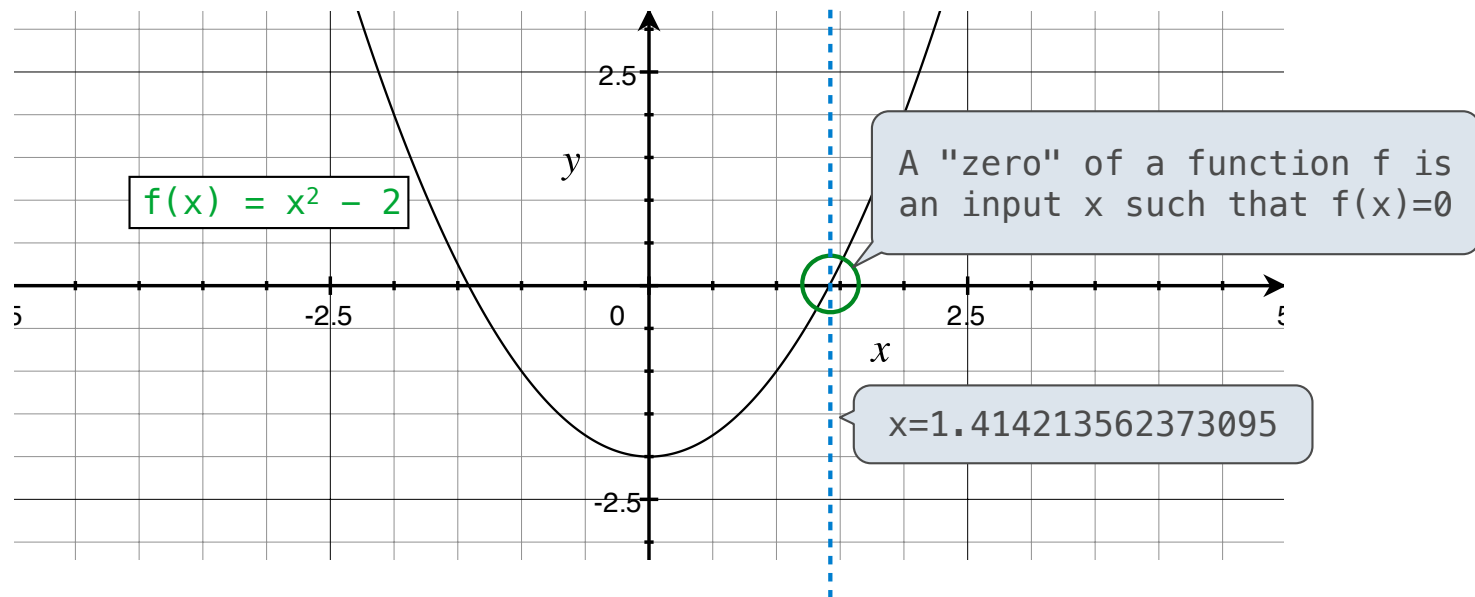
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Application: a method for computing square roots, cube roots, etc.

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Application: a method for computing square roots, cube roots, etc.

The positive zero of  $f(x) = x^2 - a$  is  $\sqrt{a}$ . (We're solving the equation  $x^2 = a$ .)

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Given a function  $f$  and initial guess  $x$ ,

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[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:NewtonIteration\\_Ani.gif](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:NewtonIteration_Ani.gif)

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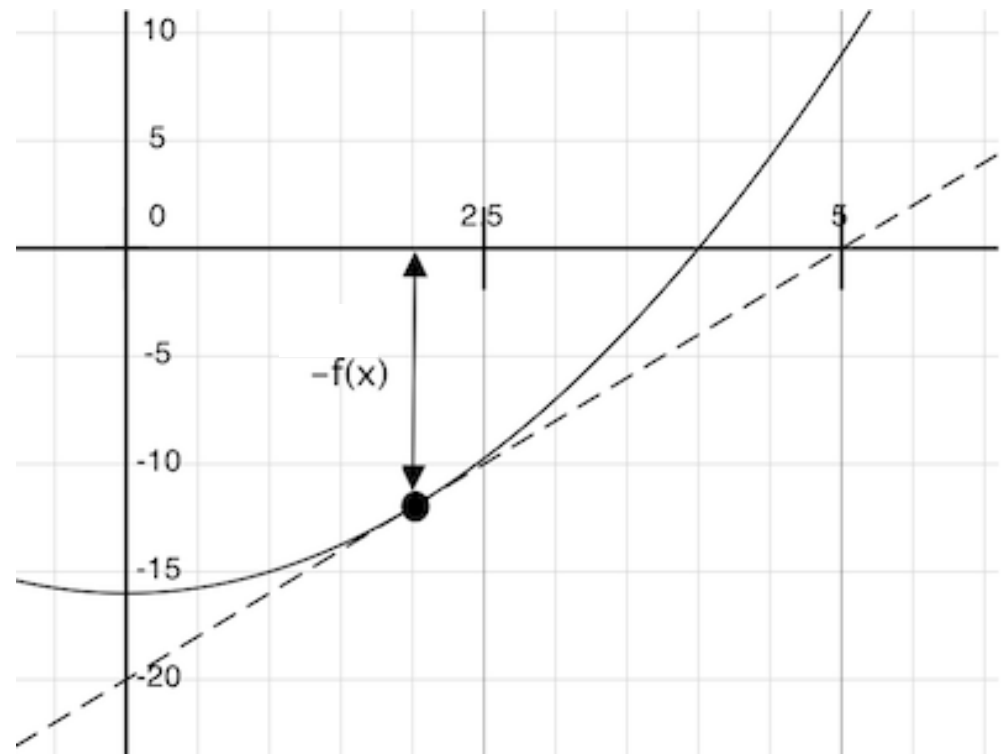


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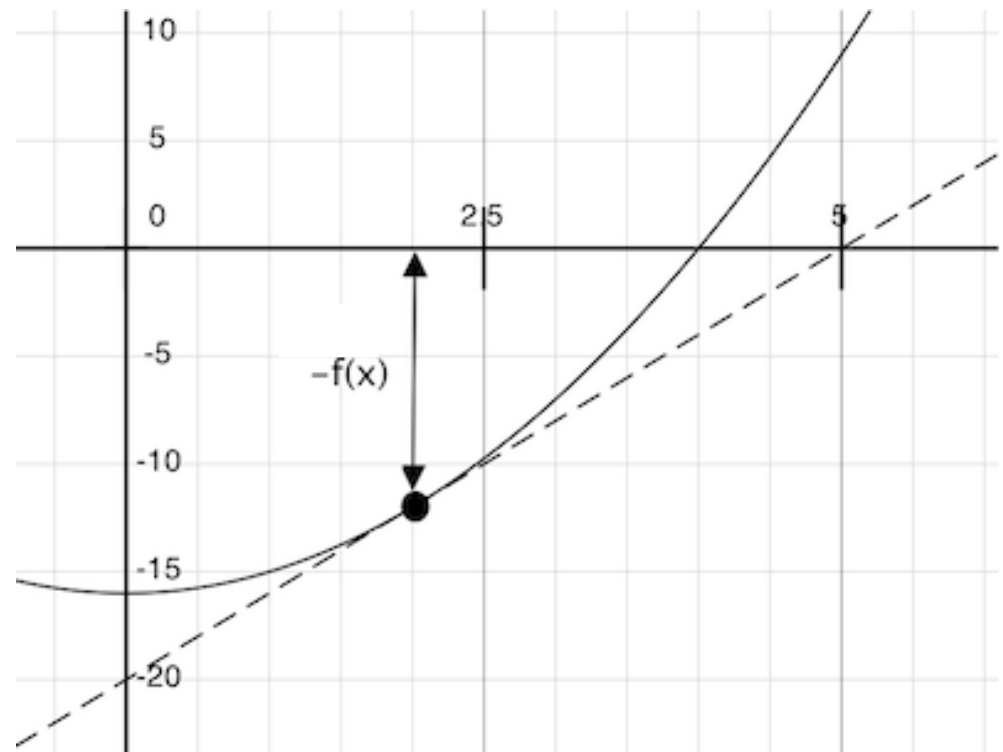


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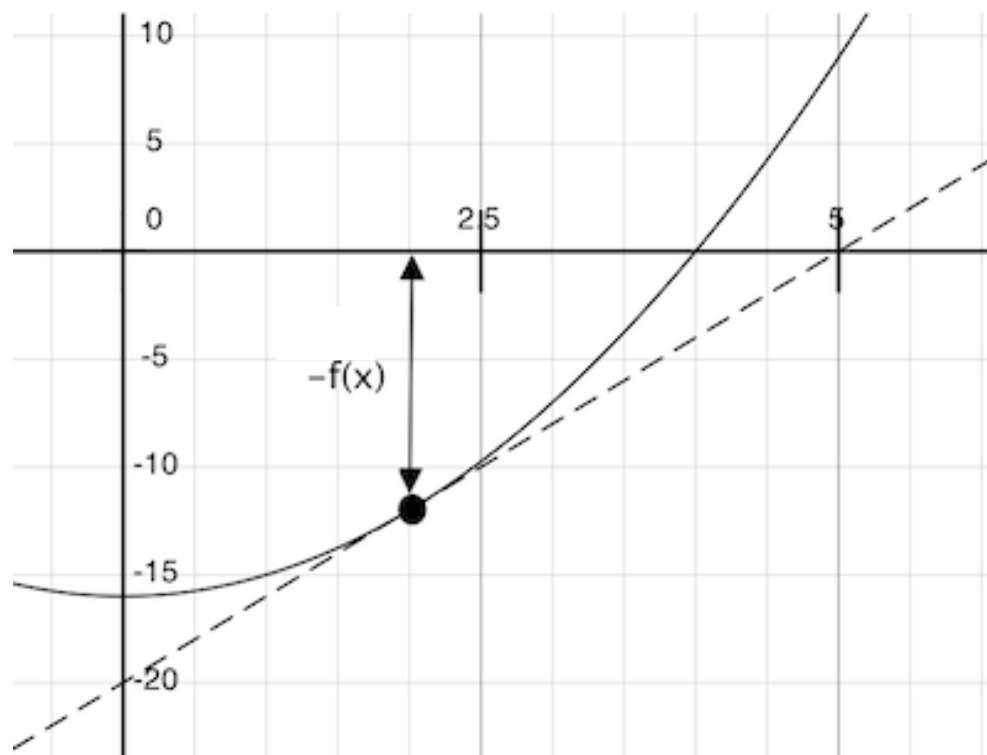


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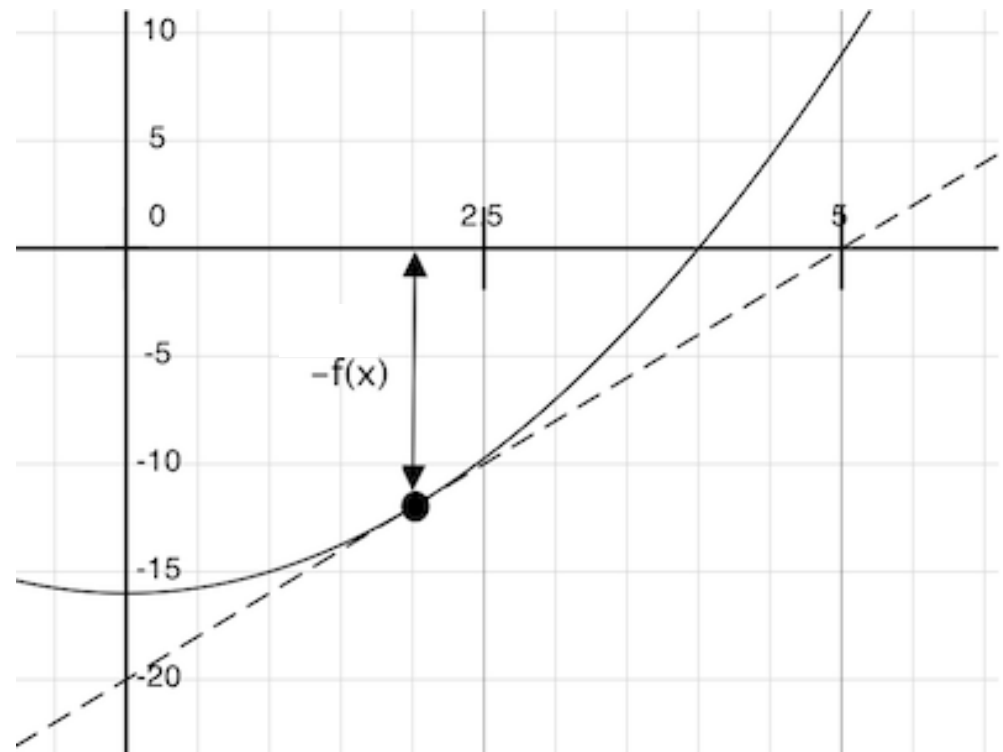
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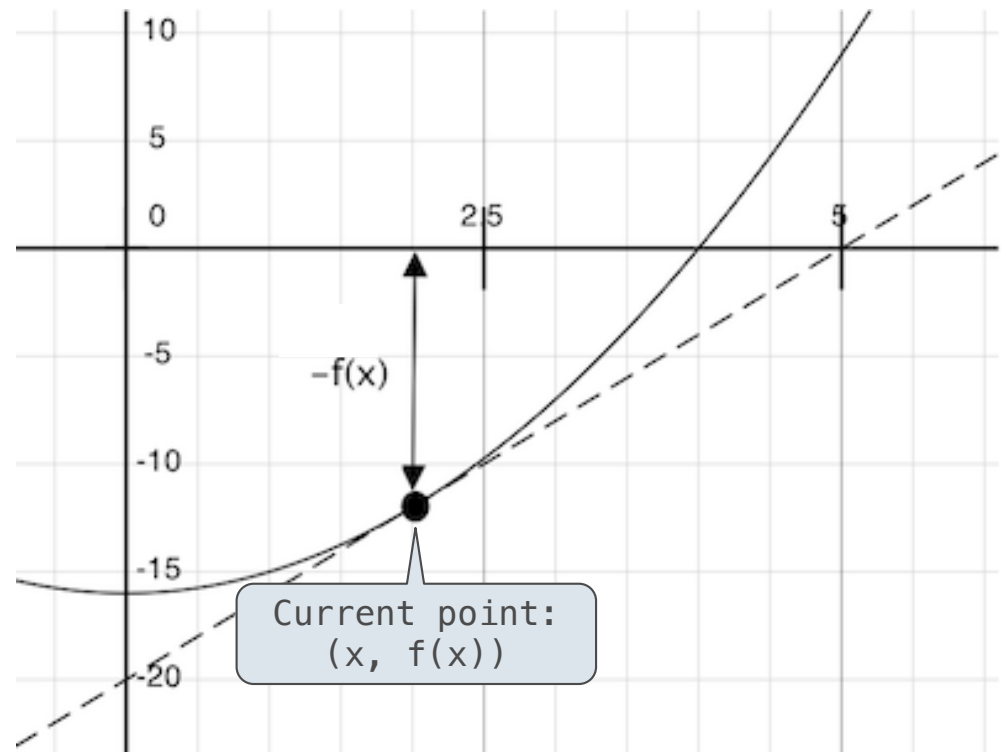
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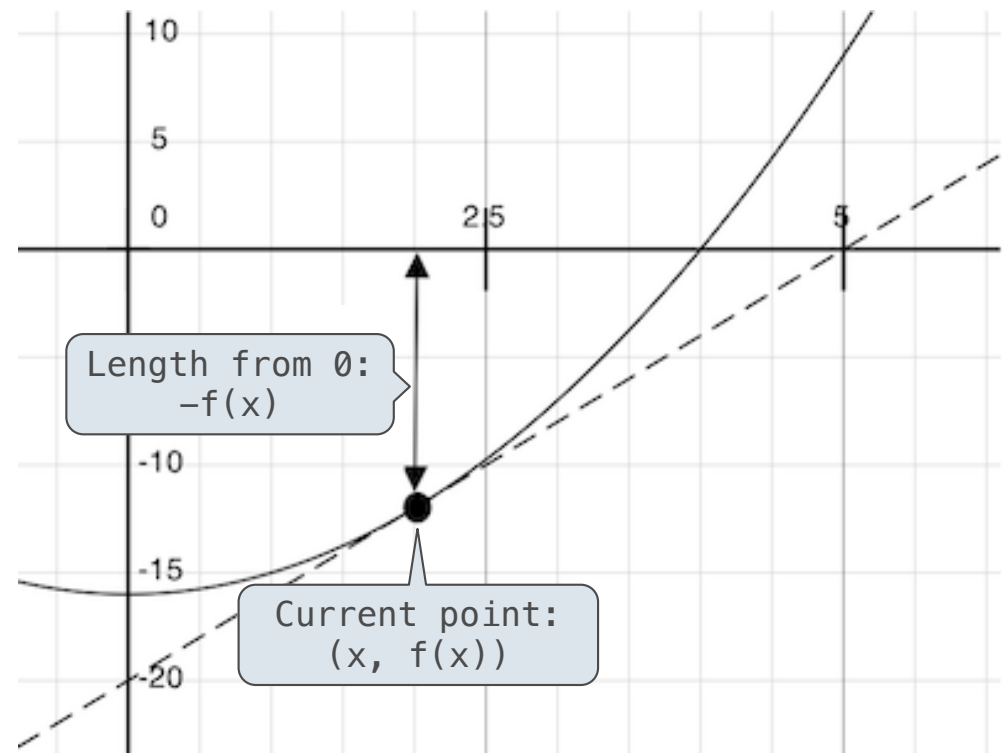
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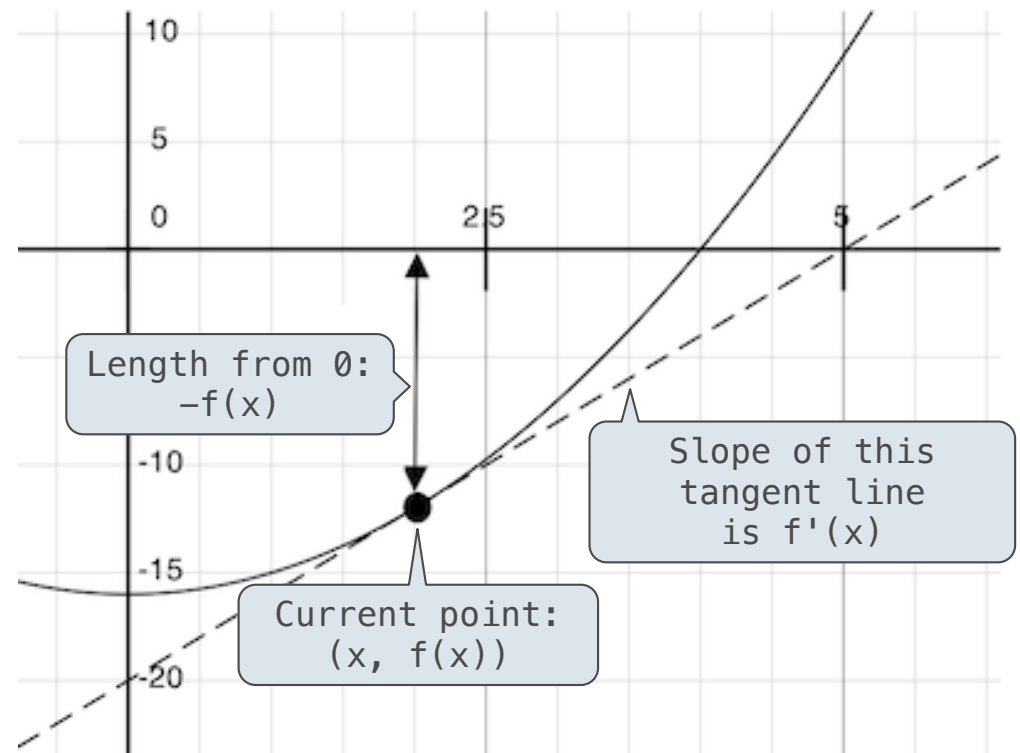
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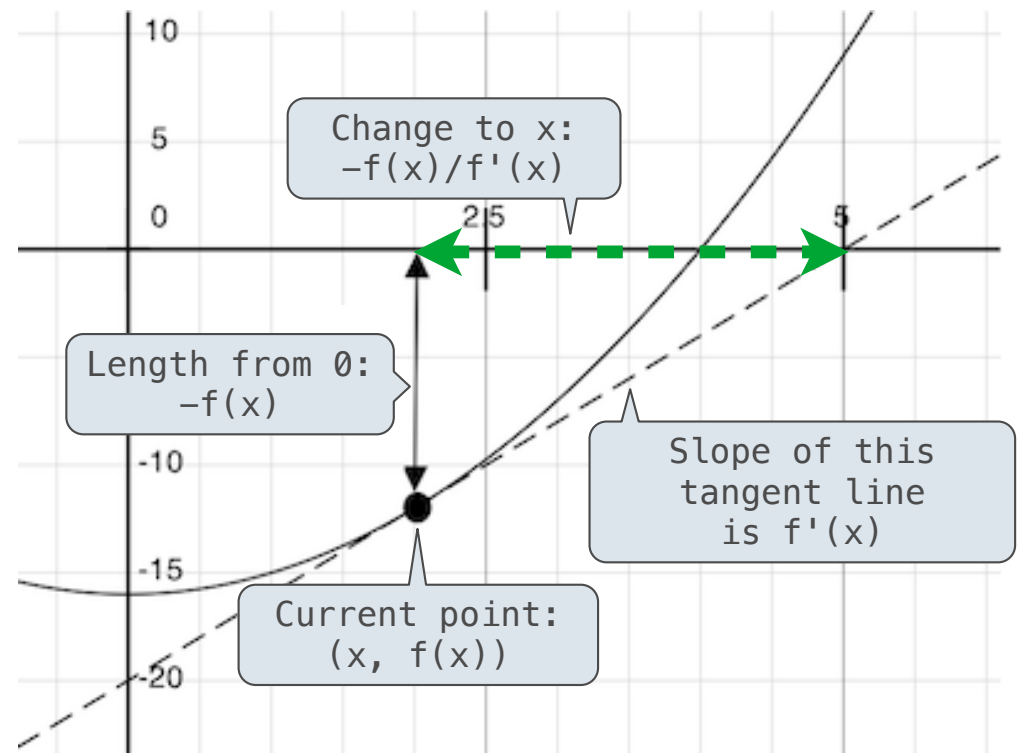
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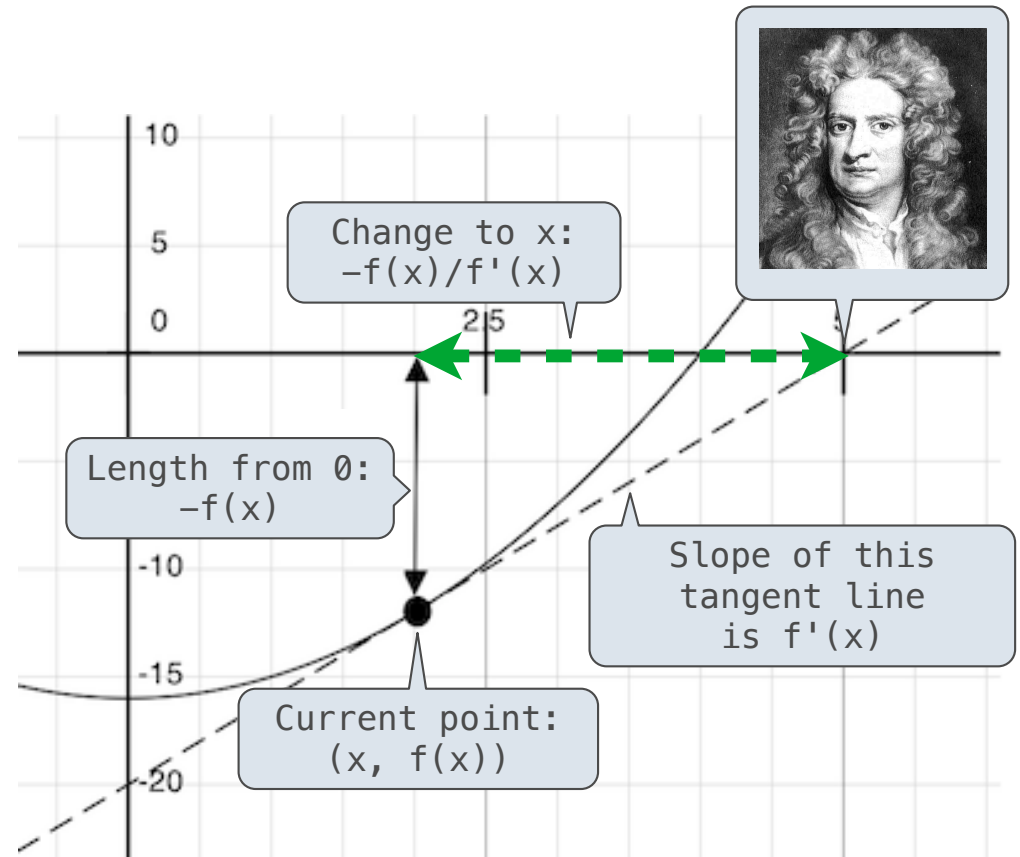
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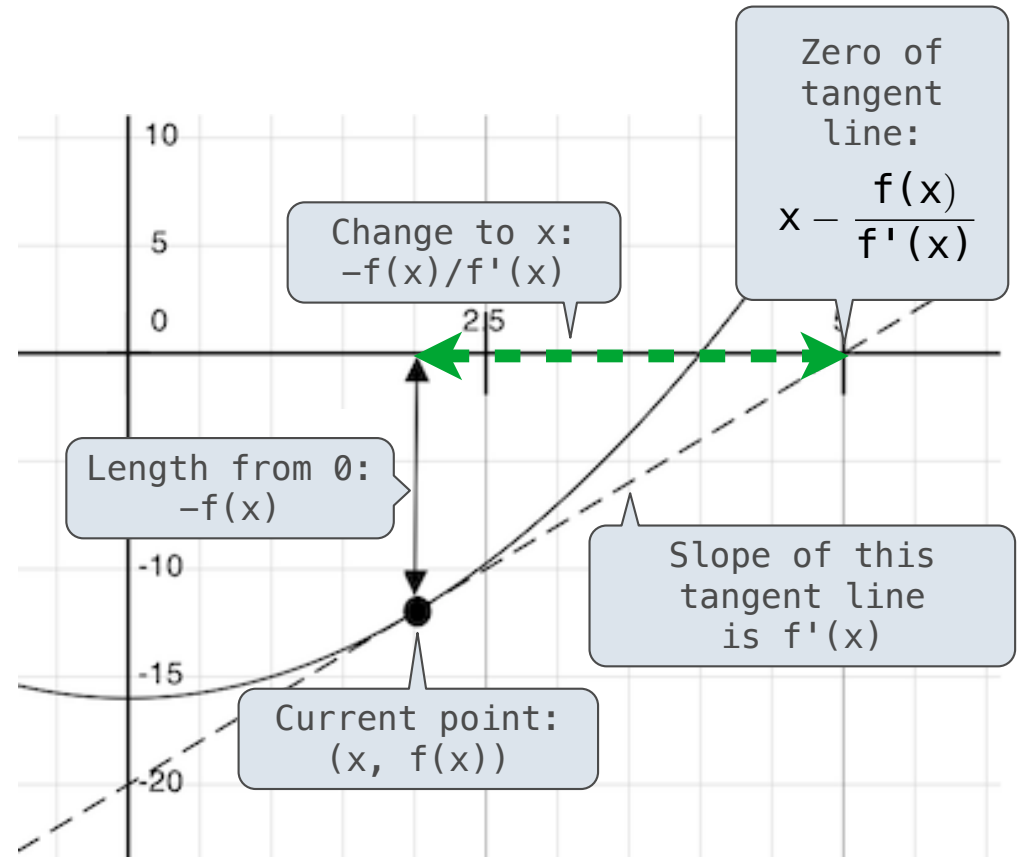
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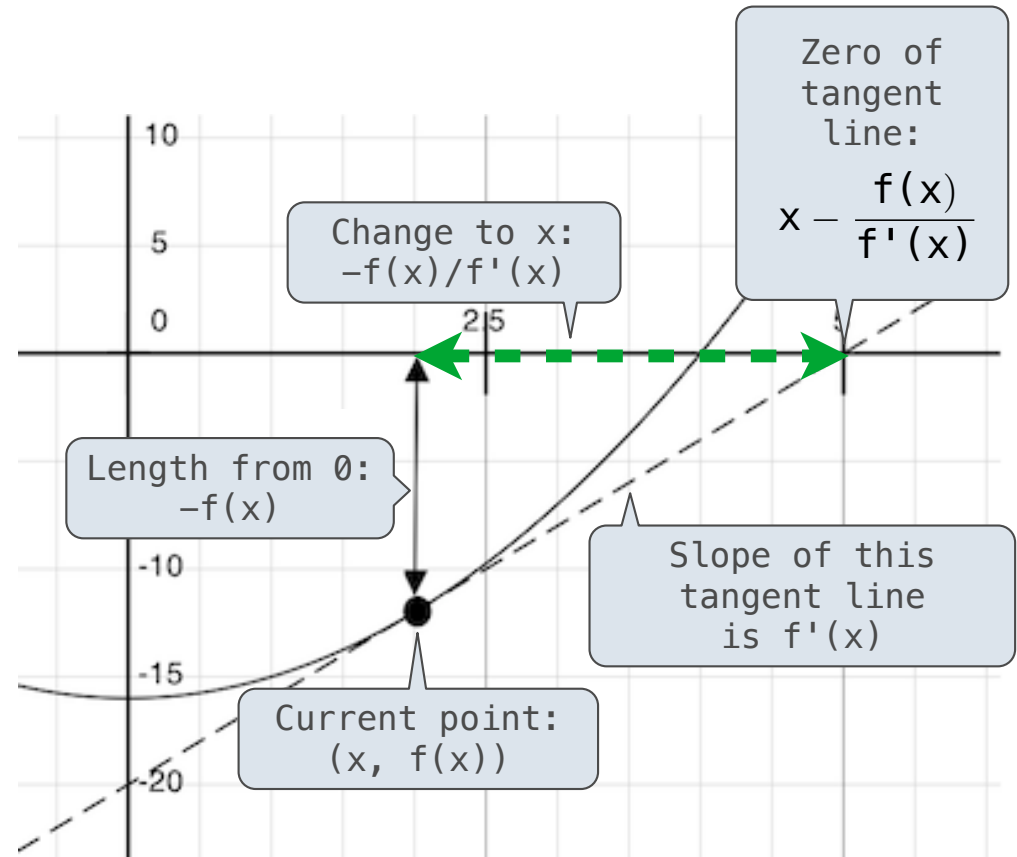
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Finish when  $f(x) = 0$  (or close enough)



## Using Newton's Method

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How to find the **square root** of 2?

## Using Newton's Method

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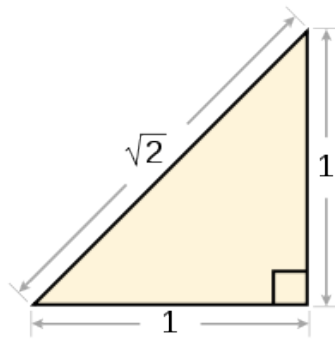
How to find the **square root** of 2?

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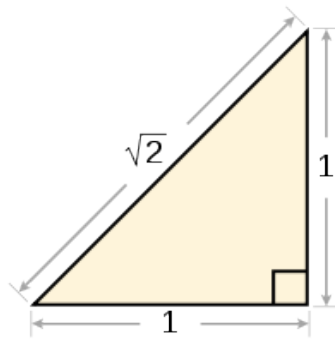


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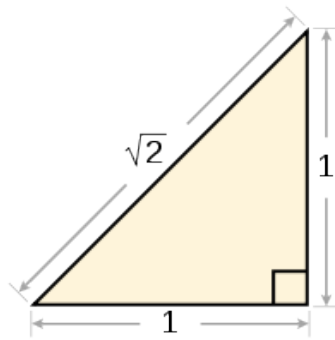
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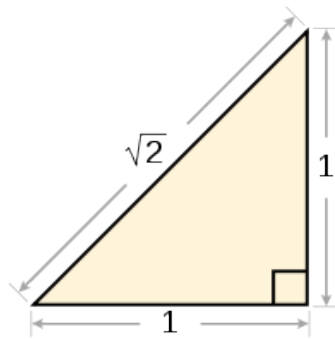
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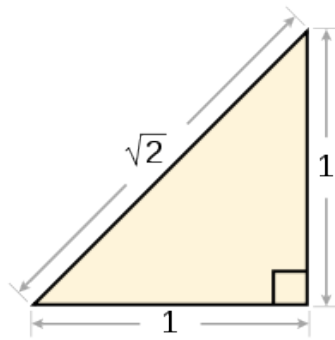
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How to find the **cube root** of 729?

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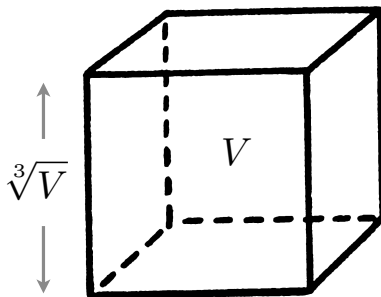


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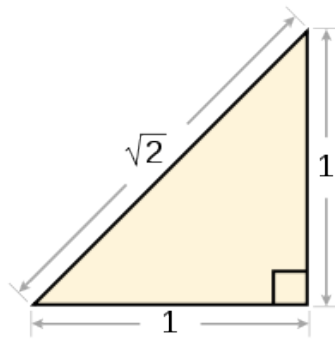
Applies Newton's method until  $|f(x)| < 10^{-15}$ , starting at 1

How to find the **cube root** of 729?



## Using Newton's Method

How to find the **square root** of 2?

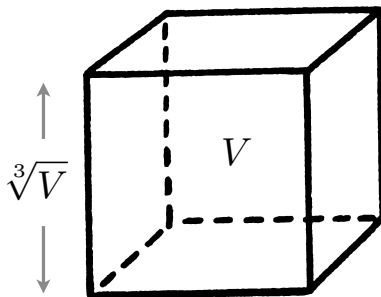


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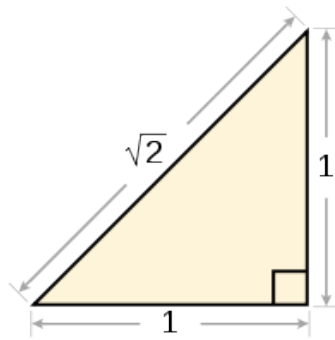
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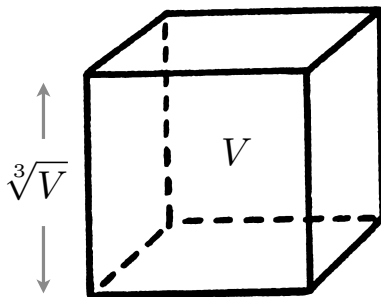


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## Iterative Improvement

## Special Case: Square Roots

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How to compute `square_root(a)`

**Idea:** Iteratively refine a guess  $x$  about the square root of  $a$



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# Implementing Newton's Method

(Demo)