

# Nonlinear Equations

# How can we solve these equations?

- Spring force:

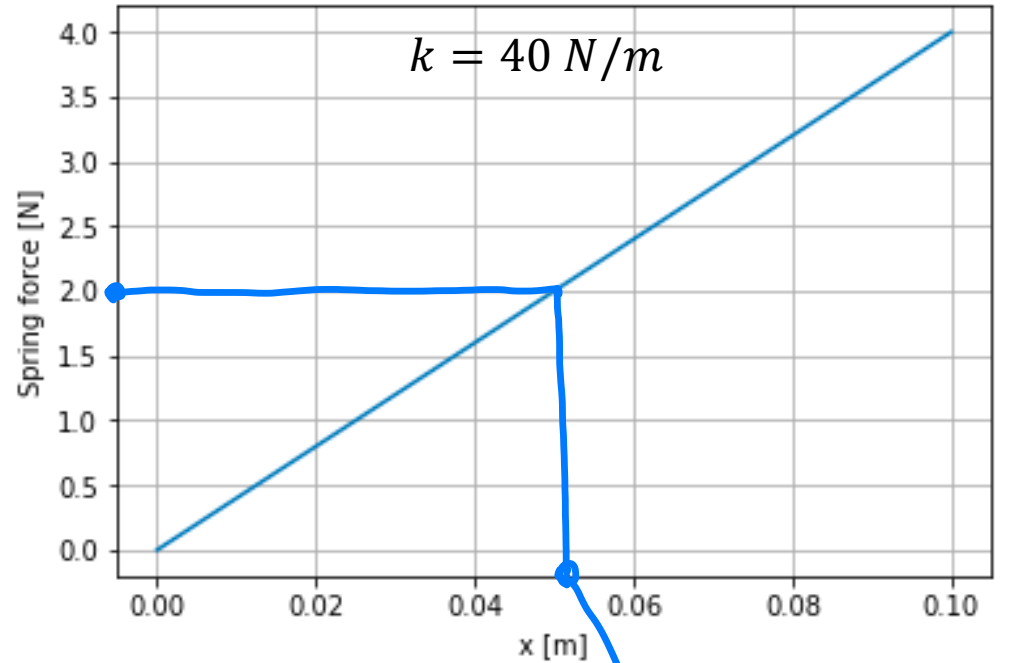
$$F = k x$$

What is the displacement when

$$F = 2\text{N}?$$

$$F = kx$$

$$x = \frac{F}{k} = \frac{2\text{N}}{40\text{N/m}} = 0.05\text{ m}$$



$$x \approx 0.05\text{ m}$$

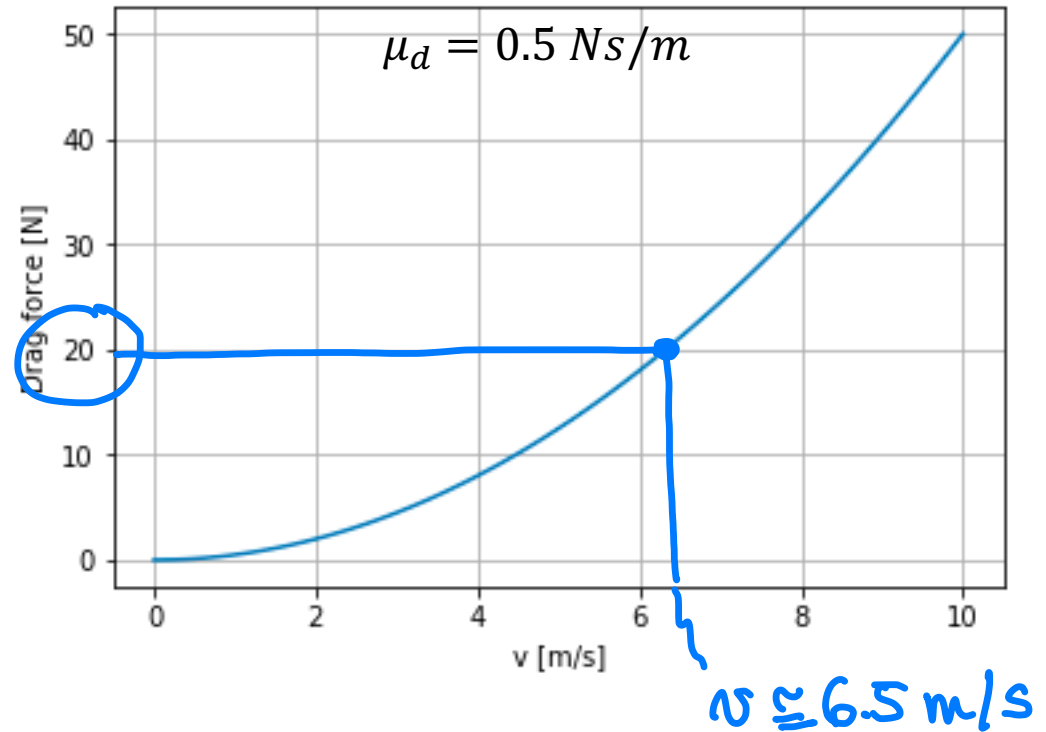
# How can we solve these equations?

- Drag force:

$$F = 0.5 C_d \rho A v^2 = \mu_d v^2$$

What is the velocity when

$$F = 20\text{N?}$$



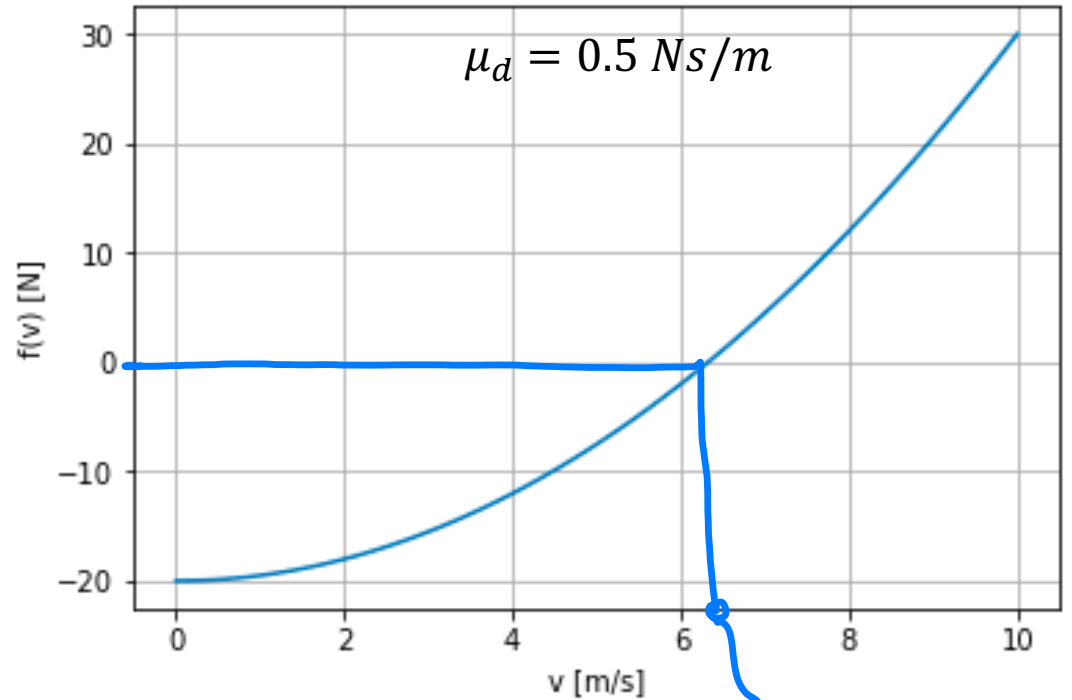
$$F = \mu v^2 \rightarrow v^2 = \frac{F}{\mu} \rightarrow v = \pm \sqrt{\frac{F}{\mu}} \Rightarrow v = 6.3 \text{ m/s}$$

$$F = \mu v^2 \Rightarrow \underbrace{F - \mu v^2}_{f(v)} = 0$$

$$f(v) = \mu_d v^2 - F = 0$$



Find the root (zero) of the nonlinear equation  $f(v)$



## Nonlinear Equations in 1D

Goal: Solve  $f(x) = 0$  for  $f: \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$

Often called Root Finding

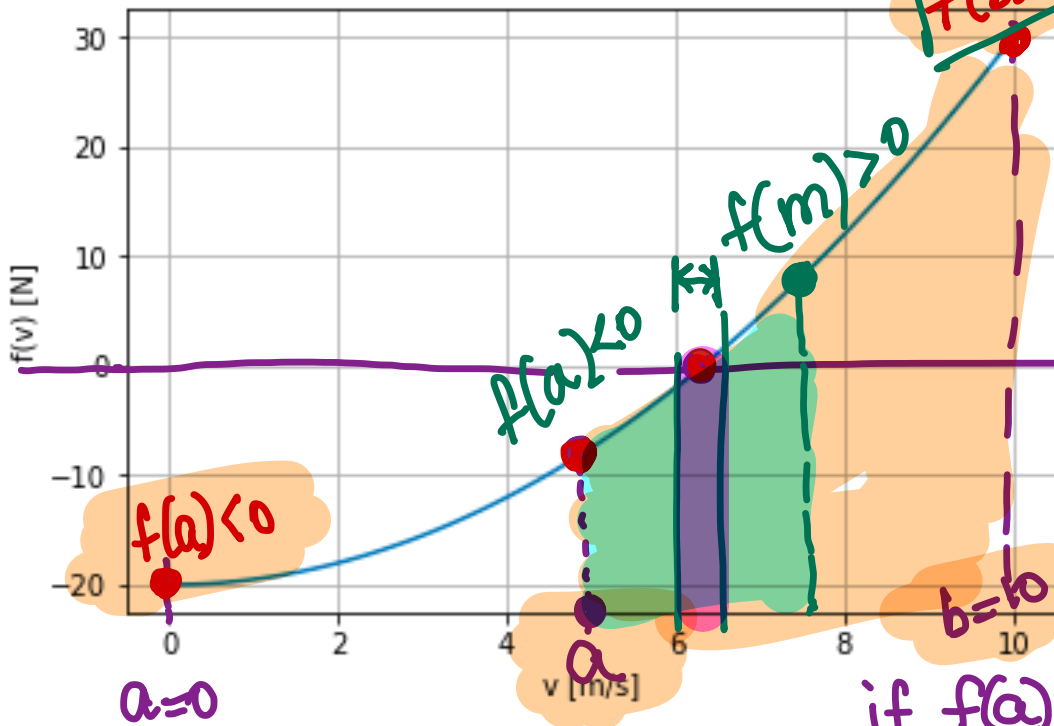
$$\boxed{f(v) = 0}$$

root of  $f$

numerical  $\rightarrow$  iterative

$v \approx 6.3 \text{ m/s}$

# Bisection method



★ Define interval that has the root

interval:  $[a, b]$

$a = 0$  ;  $b = 10$

$t_0 = |b - a| = 10$

★ Define midpoint:

$m = \frac{b+a}{2} = 5$

★ Check the signs!

if  $f(a) \cdot f(m) > 0$ :

$t_{\text{new}} = [m, b]$

$a = m$

else:

$t_{\text{new}} = [a, m]$

$b = m$

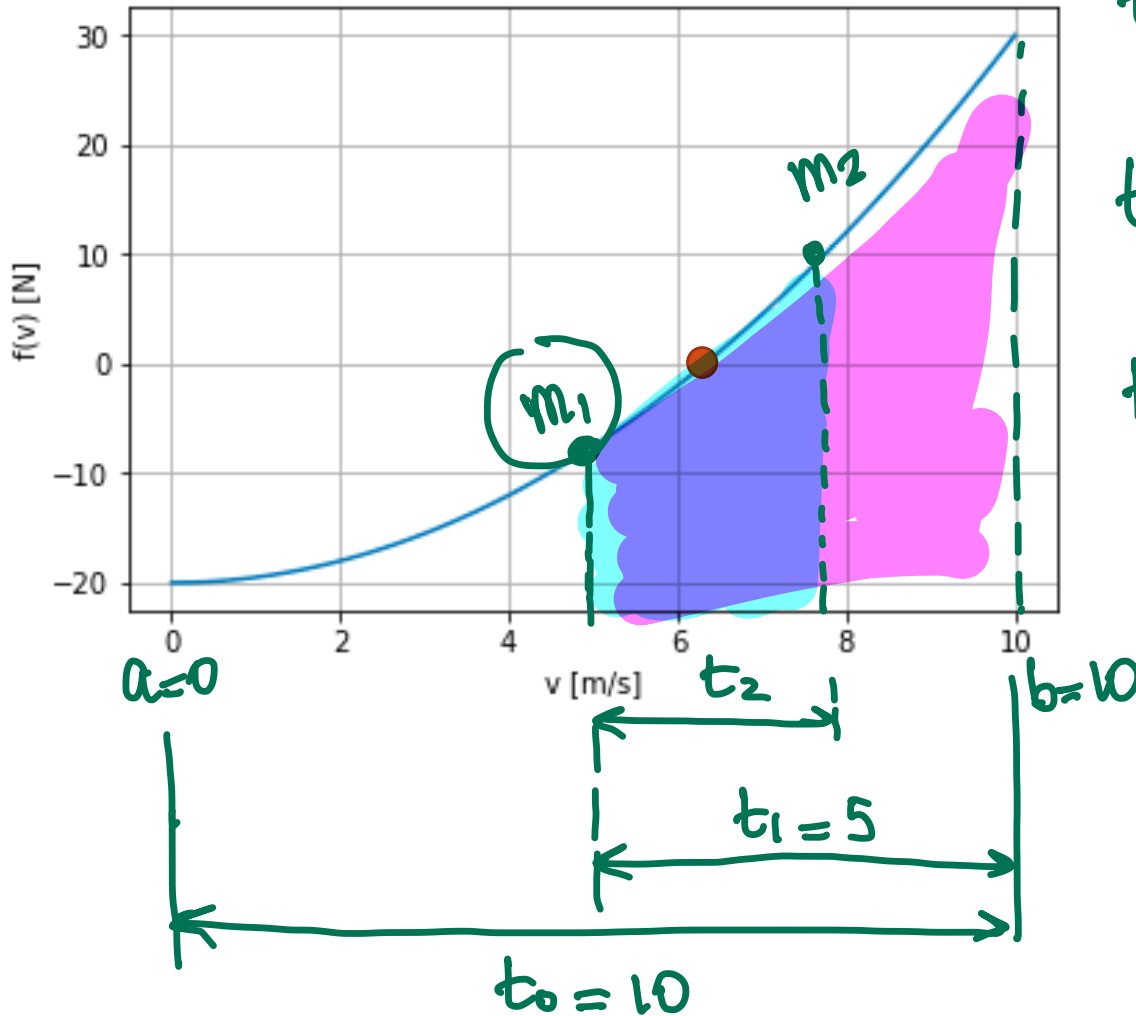
interval gets smaller

check interval:

$\text{sign}(f(a)) \neq \text{sign}(f(b))$

$f(a) \cdot f(b) < 0$

# Bisection method



$$t_0 = |b - a| = 10$$
$$t_1 = \frac{|b - a|}{2} = \frac{t_0}{2}$$

$$t_2 = \frac{t_1}{2} = \frac{t_0}{2.2}$$

$$t_3 = \frac{t_2}{2} = \frac{t_0}{8}$$

$$t_k = \frac{t_0}{2^k}$$

\* every iteration, the interval is divided by 2!

# Convergence

An iterative method **converges with rate  $r$**  if:

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|e_{k+1}\|}{\|e_k\|^r} = C, \quad 0 < C < \infty \quad r = 1: \text{linear convergence}$$

Linear convergence gains a constant number of accurate digits each step  
(and  $C < 1$  matters!)

For example: Power Iteration

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|e_{k+1}\|}{\|e_k\|^{r=1}} = \left| \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} \right| = \text{constant} = C \implies \text{linear convergence}$$

\*  $\lambda_2 \sim \lambda_1 \rightarrow \text{constant} \approx 1 \rightarrow \text{slow convergence}$

$\lambda_1 = \alpha \lambda_2 \rightarrow C = \frac{1}{\alpha} \rightarrow \text{faster convergence as } \alpha \text{ increases}$

# Convergence

An iterative method **converges with rate**  $r$  if:

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|e_{k+1}\|}{\|e_k\|^r} = C, \quad 0 < C < \infty$$

Power Method

- $r = 1$ : linear convergence
- $r > 1$ : superlinear convergence
- $r = 2$ : quadratic convergence

$$1 < r < 2$$

Linear convergence gains a constant number of accurate digits each step (and  $C < 1$  matters!)

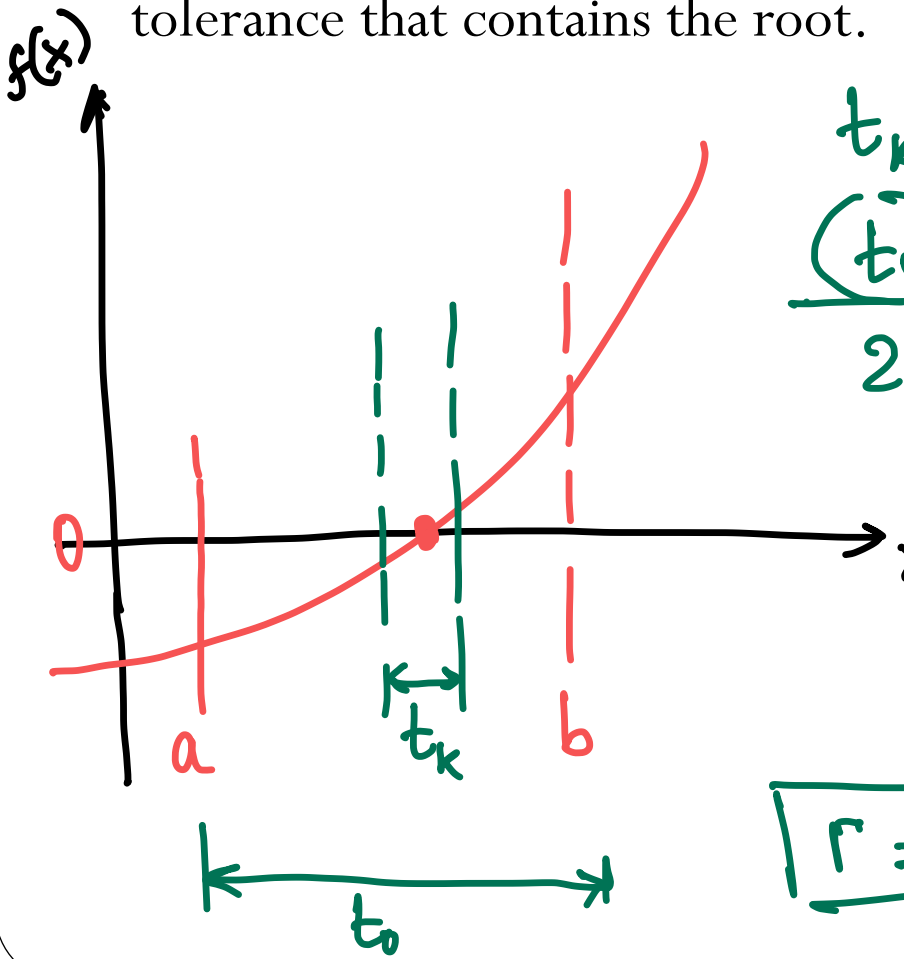
Quadratic convergence doubles the number of accurate digits in each step (however it only starts making sense once  $\|e_k\|$  is small (and  $C$  does not matter much))



# Convergence

$x^*$  is the root  
 ~~$x_k$~~   $\rightarrow$   $t_k$  error =  ~~$x - x_k$~~

- The bisection method does not estimate  $x_k$ , the approximation of the desired root  $x$ . It instead finds an interval smaller than a given tolerance that contains the root.



$t_k < tol \rightarrow stop$   
 $\frac{(tol)}{2^k} < (tol)$

error =  $t_k$   
 $\frac{|e_{k+1}|}{|e_k|^r} = \frac{|b-a|/2^{k+1}}{|b-a|/2^k} = \frac{1}{2} = c$

$r = 1$

$c = \frac{1}{2}$

$\Rightarrow$  linear convergence!

# Example:

in general:  $t_k < tol$   
 $\frac{|b-a|}{2^k} < tol$

Consider the nonlinear equation

$$f(x) = 0.5x^2 - 2$$

$$2^k > \frac{|b-a|}{tol}$$

$$k > \log_2\left(\frac{|b-a|}{tol}\right)$$

and solving  $f(x) = 0$  using the Bisection Method. For each of the initial intervals below, how many iterations are required to ensure the root is accurate within  $2^{-4}$ ?

A)  $f(a)$   $f(b)$   
A)  $[-10, -1.8]$   $f(a) \cdot f(b) < 0 \rightarrow \text{ok!}$

$$k > \log_2\left(\frac{8.2}{2^{-4}}\right) \approx 7.3$$

(8 iterations)

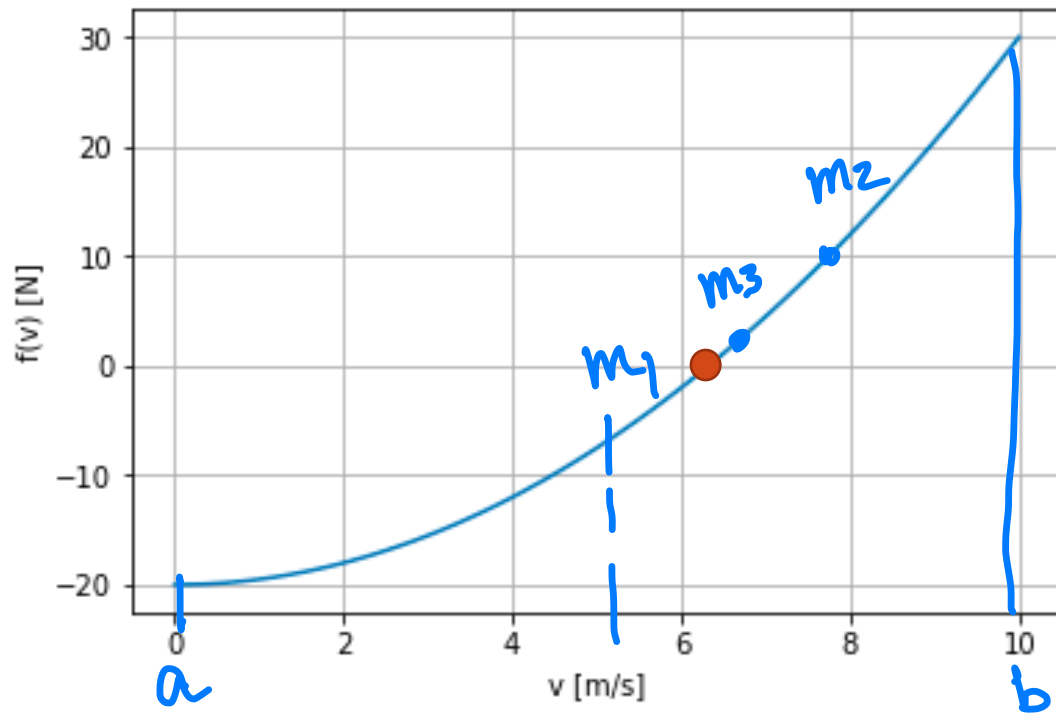
~~B)  $[-3, -2.1]$   $f(a) \cdot f(b) > 0 \rightarrow \text{not ok!}$~~

$$k > \log_2\left(\frac{5.9}{2^{-4}}\right) \approx 6.56$$

(7 iterations)

C)  $[-4, 1.9]$   $f(a) \cdot f(b) < 0 \rightarrow \text{ok!}$

# Bisection method



$f(a)$ ,  $f(b)$ ,  $f(m)$   
new fc evaluation  
 $f(m)$

## Algorithm:

1. Take two points,  $a$  and  $b$ , on each side of the root such that  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  have opposite signs.
2. Calculate the midpoint  $m = \frac{a+b}{2}$
3. Evaluate  $f(m)$  and use  $m$  to replace either  $a$  or  $b$ , keeping the signs of the endpoints opposite.

# Bisection Method - summary

- ❑ The function must be continuous with a root in the interval  $[a, b]$
- ❑ Requires only one function evaluations for each iteration!
  - The first iteration requires two function evaluations.
- ❑ Given the initial interval  $[a, b]$ , the length of the interval after  $k$  iterations is  $\frac{b-a}{2^k}$
- ❑ Has linear convergence

# Newton's method

- Recall we want to solve  $f(x) = 0$  for  $f: \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$
- The Taylor expansion:   
  $\underbrace{f(x_k + h)}_{\text{nonlinear}} \approx \underbrace{f(x_k) + f'(x_k)h}_{\text{linear approximation of } f(x)} = \hat{f}(h)$

gives a linear approximation for the nonlinear function  $f$  near  $x_k$ .

$$f(x_k + h) = 0$$

$$\hat{f}(h) = 0 \implies f(x_k) + f'(x_k)h = 0$$

Newton  
algorithm:

$x_0 =$  random (initial  
guess)

$$f(x_0), f'(x_0) \implies h \implies$$

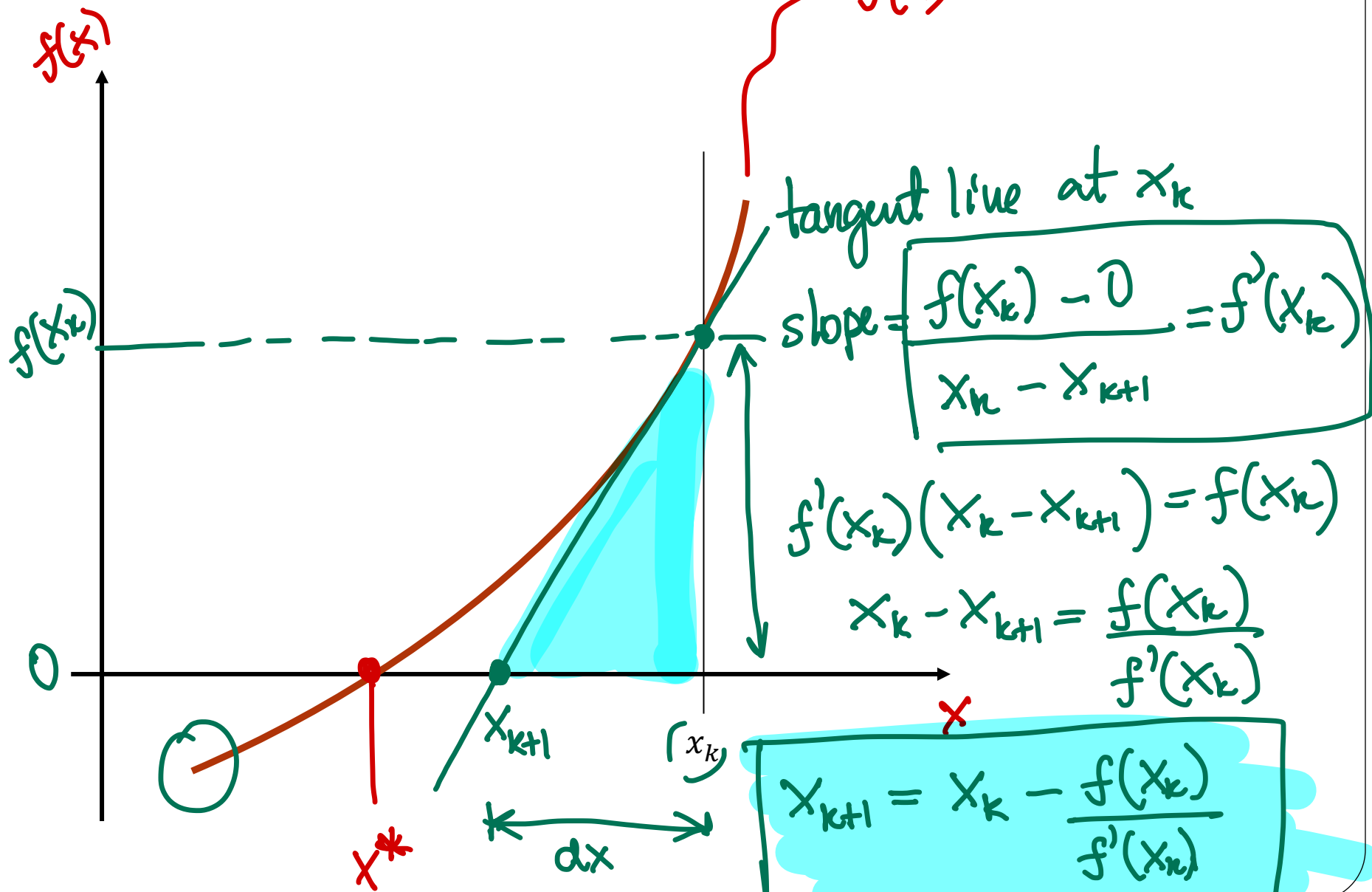
$$h = -\frac{f(x_k)}{f'(x_k)}$$

Newton step

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + h$$

Newton update

# Newton's method



# Example

$$x_1 = ?$$
$$x_0 = 0$$

Consider solving the nonlinear equation

$$5 = 2.0 e^x + x^2 \Rightarrow f(x) = 2e^x + x^2 - 5 = 0$$

What is the result of applying **one iteration** of Newton's method for solving nonlinear equations with initial starting guess  $x_0 = 0$ , i.e. what is  $x_1$ ?

A) -2

B) 0.75

C) -1.5

**D) 1.5**

E) 3.0

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + h$$

$$h = -\frac{f(x_k)}{f'(x_k)}$$

$$f'(x) = 2e^x + 2x$$

$$x_0 \Rightarrow f(x_0) = 2 - 5 = -3$$

$$f'(x_0) = 2$$

$$h = -\frac{f}{f'} = -\frac{(-3)}{2}$$

$$h = 1.5$$

$$x_1 = x_0 + h = 0 + 1.5$$

$$\Rightarrow x_1 = 1.5$$

# Newton's Method - summary

- ❑ Must be started with initial guess close enough to root (convergence is only local). Otherwise it may not converge at all.
- ❑ Requires function and first derivative evaluation at each iteration (think about two function evaluations)

- ❑ Typically has quadratic convergence

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|e_{k+1}\|}{\|e_k\|^2} = C, \quad 0 < C < \infty$$

*r=2*

- ❑ What can we do when the derivative evaluation is too costly (or difficult to evaluate)?

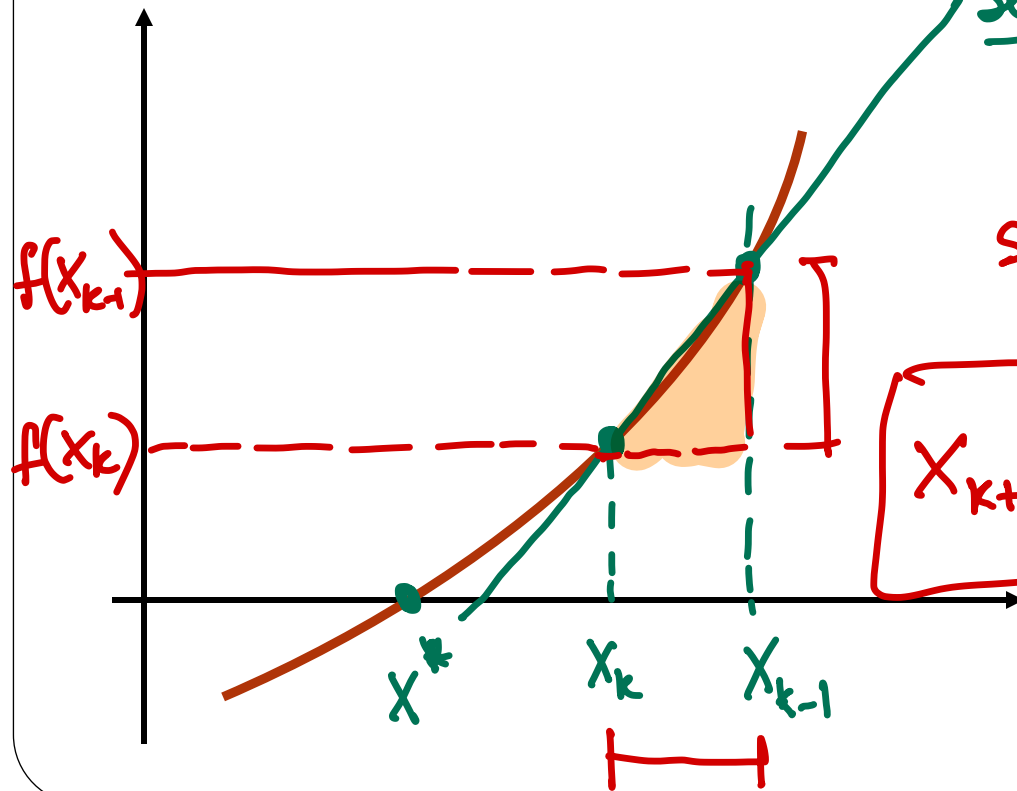


# Secant method

$df \Rightarrow$  approximation for  $f'(x)$

Also derived from Taylor expansion, but instead of using  $f'(x_k)$ , it approximates the tangent with the secant line:

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{f(x_k)}{f'(x_k)} \longrightarrow x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{f(x_k)}{df(x_k)}$$



secant line  
(2 points) !  $[x_0, x_1]$

$$\text{slope} = \frac{f(x_{k-1}) - f(x_k)}{x_{k-1} - x_k} = df$$

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

# Secant Method - summary

- ❑ Still local convergence
- ❑ Requires only one function evaluation per iteration (only the first iteration requires two function evaluations)
- ❑ Needs two starting guesses
- ❑ Has slower convergence than Newton's Method – superlinear convergence

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|e_{k+1}\|}{\|e_k\|^r} = C,$$

$$1 < r < 2$$

$f' \rightarrow df$

# 1D methods for root finding:

Method	Update	Convergence	Cost
Bisection	Check signs of $f(a)$ and $f(b)$ $t_k = \frac{ b - a }{2^k}$	Linear ( $r = 1$ and $c = 0.5$ )	One function evaluation per iteration, no need to compute derivatives
Secant	$x_{k+1} = x_k + h$ $h = -f(x_k)/f'(x_k)$	Superlinear ( $r = 1.618$ ), local convergence properties, convergence depends on the initial guess	One function evaluation per iteration (two evaluations for the initial guesses only), no need to compute derivatives
Newton	$x_{k+1} = x_k + h$ $h = -f(x_k)/dfa$ $dfa = \frac{f(x_k) - f(x_{k-1})}{(x_k - x_{k-1})}$	Quadratic ( $r = 2$ ), local convergence properties, convergence depends on the initial guess	Two function evaluations per iteration, requires first order derivatives