

The goal here is to approximate \sqrt{x} for values near $x = 4$.

Let $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$.

1.
 - (a) Show that the point $(4.41, 2.1)$ lies on the graph $y = f(x)$.
 - (b) Use the points $(4, 2)$ and $(4.41, 2.1)$ to approximate $f'(4)$.
 - (c) Using your approximation for $f'(4)$, find an equation for the line tangent to the graph of $f(x)$ at $x = 4$.
 - (d) Plot $f(x)$ and the tangent line on the same set of axes.
Do they look close to each other near $x = 4$?
2. Use your equation of the tangent line to approximate $\sqrt{4.01}$. How close is your answer to the “real” value?
3. Approximate $\sqrt{3.98}$. How close is your answer to the “real” value?