

**ZMATH 2016b.00612**

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**Improving an approximate formula.**

Math. Sch. (Leicester) 40, No. 3, 29 (2011).

From the text: In a recent issue of this journal, [M. Rose, “Miscellany”, *ibid.* 39, No. 1, 27 (2010)] offered an interesting approximate formula:  $\tan x = \frac{10+x}{100-x}$  ( $25 \leq x \leq 65$ ). But can we improve this formula without resorting to calculus? It seems reasonable to assume that a more accurate formula might take the form:  $\tan x = \frac{x^2+Ax+B}{x^2+Cx+D}$ .

*Classification:* G60 N50

*Keywords:* trigonometry; trigonometric functions; tangent; function values; approximate values; rational approximations; rational functions; percentage error