

1. Determine the degree of the Taylor polynomial $P_n(x)$ expanded about $c = 1$ that should be used to approximate $\ln(1.2)$ so that the error is less than 0.0005.

(a) Find the first four derivatives for $f(z) = \ln(z)$

$$\begin{aligned} f(z) &= \ln(z) \\ f'(z) &= \frac{1}{z} \\ f''(z) &= \frac{-1}{z^2} \\ f^{(3)}(z) &= \frac{2}{z^3} \\ f^{(4)}(z) &= \frac{-6}{z^4} \end{aligned}$$

(b) Find a formula for $|f^{(n+1)}(z)|$ where $z > 0$.

$$|f^{(n+1)}(z)| = \frac{n!}{z^{n+1}}$$

(c) We are approximating the function $f(x) = \ln(x)$ at $x = 1.2$ using a Taylor polynomial centered at $c = 1$. If

$$|f^{(n+1)}(z)| \leq M$$

for all z in the interval $1 \leq z \leq 1.2$. Then we wish to find the upper bound M . To do this find

$$\frac{d}{dz} (|f^{(n+1)}(z)|).$$

$$\frac{d}{dz} (|f^{(n+1)}(z)|) = \frac{-(n+1)!}{z^{n+2}}$$

- i. Does $|f^{(n+1)}(z)|$ have any critical points on $1 \leq z \leq 1.2$? **No**
- ii. Is $|f^{(n+1)}(z)|$ increasing or decreasing on $1 \leq z \leq 1.2$? **decreasing**

- (d) Use part (c) to identify a good upper bound M for $|f^{(n+1)}(z)|$ on the interval $1 \leq z \leq 1.2$. (Notice that M will depend on n .)

Using the fact that $|f^{(n+1)}(z)|$ is decreasing we know that the maximum value will occur on the left endpoint. Therefore to find the maximum we evaluate at $x = 1$. Thus $M = n!$

- (e) Make use of the inequality

$$|R_n(x)| \leq \frac{M}{(n+1)!} |x - c|^{n+1} < 0.0005$$

to find an appropriate value for n that gives accuracy within 0.0005.

Using the fact that $M = n!$, $x = 1.2$, and $c = 1$ we have,

$$|R_n(x)| \leq \frac{M}{(n+1)!} |x - c|^{n+1} = \frac{n!}{(n+1)!} |.2|^{n+1} < 10^{-3}$$

which by guessing and checking we see that for $n = 3$ this is true.

- (f) Finally approximate $\ln(1.2)$ using the n th-degree Taylor polynomial centered at $c = 1$ with the n you found in part (e).

$$P_3(z) = \sum_{n=1}^3 \frac{(-1)^{n-1}(x-1)^n}{n} = (x-1) - \frac{(x-1)^2}{2} + \frac{(x-1)^3}{3}$$

Therefore when $x = 1.2$ we get $P_3(1.2) = 0.182667$.