

**Topic:** Trapezoidal rule error bound

**Question:** Calculate the area under the curve. Then, use the Trapezoidal Rule, with  $n = 6$ , to approximate the same area. Compare the actual area to the result to determine the error of the Trapezoidal Rule approximation of the area.

$$\int_0^3 -\frac{2}{5}x^5 + \frac{7}{3}x^3 + 5x^2 + 4x + 2 \, dx$$

**Answer choices:**

- A      Actual area is  $\frac{135}{2}$        $TRAP_6$  is  $\frac{265}{4}$       Error is  $\frac{5}{4}$
- B      Actual area is  $\frac{265}{4}$        $TRAP_6$  is  $\frac{135}{2}$       Error is  $\frac{5}{4}$
- C      Actual area is  $\frac{10,597}{160}$        $TRAP_6$  is  $\frac{1,353}{20}$       Error is  $\frac{227}{160}$
- D      Actual area is  $\frac{1,353}{20}$        $TRAP_6$  is  $\frac{10,597}{160}$       Error is  $\frac{227}{160}$



**Solution: D**

The question asks us to calculate the area under the curve, and then approximate the same area using the trapezoidal Rule, with  $n = 6$ , and compare the results by identifying the error.

$$\int_0^3 -\frac{2}{5}x^5 + \frac{7}{3}x^3 + 5x^2 + 4x + 2 \, dx$$

From the integral, the function is

$$g(x) = -\frac{2}{5}x^5 + \frac{7}{3}x^3 + 5x^2 + 4x + 2$$

Let's begin by integrating  $g(x)$  using the power rule and evaluating the integral. This will give the actual area under the curve.

$$\int_0^3 -\frac{2}{5}x^5 + \frac{7}{3}x^3 + 5x^2 + 4x + 2 \, dx$$

$$\left( -\frac{x^6}{15} + \frac{7x^4}{12} + \frac{5x^3}{3} + 2x^2 + 2x \right) \Big|_0^3$$

$$-\frac{(3)^6}{15} + \frac{7(3)^4}{12} + \frac{5(3)^3}{3} + 2(3)^2 + 2(3) - \left[ -\frac{0^6}{15} + \frac{7(0^4)}{12} + \frac{5(0^3)}{3} + 2(0^2) + 2(0) \right]$$

$$-\frac{243}{5} + \frac{567}{12} + \frac{135}{3} + 18 + 6 = \frac{1,353}{20}$$

Now, we'll estimate the area under the curve using the Trapezoidal Rule, with  $n = 6$ . The table below shows the interval  $[0,3]$  divided into 6



subintervals, and the function values at each point. The work is shown below the table.

$x$	0	0.5	1	1.5	2	2.5	3
$g(x)$	2	$\frac{1,327}{240}$	$\frac{194}{15}$	$\frac{1,927}{80}$	$\frac{538}{15}$	$\frac{1,951}{48}$	$\frac{124}{5}$

For  $g(0)$ :

$$g(0) = -\frac{2}{5}(0)^5 + \frac{7}{3}(0)^3 + 5(0)^2 + 4(0) + 2 = 2$$

For  $g(1/2)$ :

$$g\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = -\frac{2}{5}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5 + \frac{7}{3}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 + 5\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + 4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 2$$

$$g\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = -\frac{2}{5}\left(\frac{1}{32}\right) + \frac{7}{3}\left(\frac{1}{8}\right) + 5\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) + 4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + 2$$

$$g\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = -\frac{1}{80} + \frac{7}{24} + \frac{5}{4} + 2 + 2$$

$$g\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1,327}{240}$$

For  $g(1)$ :

$$g(1) = -\frac{2}{5}(1)^5 + \frac{7}{3}(1)^3 + 5(1)^2 + 4(1) + 2 = -\frac{2}{5} + \frac{7}{3} + 5 + 4 + 2 = \frac{194}{15}$$

For  $g(3/2)$ :



$$g\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = -\frac{2}{5}\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^5 + \frac{7}{3}\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^3 + 5\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 + 4\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) + 2$$

$$g\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = -\frac{2}{5}\left(\frac{243}{32}\right) + \frac{7}{3}\left(\frac{27}{8}\right) + 5\left(\frac{9}{4}\right) + 4\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) + 2$$

$$g\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = -\frac{243}{80} + \frac{63}{8} + \frac{45}{4} + 6 + 2$$

$$g\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = \frac{1,927}{80}$$

For  $g(2)$ :

$$g(2) = -\frac{2}{5}(2)^5 + \frac{7}{3}(2)^3 + 5(2)^2 + 4(2) + 2$$

$$g(2) = -\frac{2}{5}(32) + \frac{7}{3}(8) + 5(4) + 4(2) + 2$$

$$g(2) = -\frac{64}{5} + \frac{56}{3} + 20 + 8 + 2$$

$$g(2) = \frac{538}{15}$$

For  $g(5/2)$ :

$$g\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) = -\frac{2}{5}\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^5 + \frac{7}{3}\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^3 + 5\left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^2 + 4\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) + 2$$

$$g\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) = -\frac{2}{5}\left(\frac{3125}{32}\right) + \frac{7}{3}\left(\frac{125}{8}\right) + 5\left(\frac{25}{4}\right) + 4\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) + 2$$



$$g\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) = -\frac{625}{16} + \frac{875}{24} + \frac{125}{4} + 10 + 2$$

$$g\left(\frac{5}{2}\right) = \frac{1,951}{48}$$

For  $g(3)$ :

$$g(3) = -\frac{2}{5}(3)^5 + \frac{7}{3}(3)^3 + 5(3)^2 + 4(3) + 2$$

$$g(3) = -\frac{2}{5}(243) + \frac{7}{3}(27) + 5(9) + 4(3) + 2$$

$$g(3) = -\frac{486}{5} + 63 + 45 + 12 + 2$$

$$g(3) = \frac{124}{5}$$

The general rule for the Trapezoidal Rule approximation of the area is

$$A = \frac{\Delta x}{2} [f(x_1) + 2f(x_2) + \dots + 2f(x_{n-1}) + f(x_n)]$$

The subinterval widths are all  $1/2$ , so  $\Delta x = 1/2$ . To find the Trapezoidal Rule approximation of the area, insert each function value in the table into the general Trapezoidal Rule.

$$A = \frac{1}{4} \left[ 2 + 2\left(\frac{1,327}{240}\right) + 2\left(\frac{194}{15}\right) + 2\left(\frac{1,927}{80}\right) + 2\left(\frac{538}{15}\right) + 2\left(\frac{1,951}{48}\right) + \frac{124}{5} \right]$$

$$A = \frac{1}{4} \left( 2 + \frac{1,327}{120} + \frac{388}{15} + \frac{1,927}{40} + \frac{1,076}{15} + \frac{1,951}{24} + \frac{124}{5} \right)$$



$$A = \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{10,597}{40} \right)$$

$$A = \frac{10,597}{160}$$

The error is the actual area minus the estimated area.

$$\frac{1,353}{20} - \frac{10,597}{160} = \frac{227}{160}$$



**Topic:** Trapezoidal rule error bound

**Question:** Calculate the error bound of the Trapezoidal Rule, with  $n = 6$ .

$$\int_0^3 -\frac{2}{5}x^5 + \frac{7}{3}x^3 + 5x^2 + 4x + 2 \, dx$$

**Answer choices:**

- A  $|E_T| \leq 10.25$
- B  $|E_T| \leq 10.06$
- C  $|E_T| \leq 11.13$
- D  $|E_T| \leq 10.008$



**Solution: A**

The question asks us to calculate the error bound of the Trapezoidal Rule, with  $n = 6$ , for the area under the curve.

$$\int_0^3 -\frac{2}{5}x^5 + \frac{7}{3}x^3 + 5x^2 + 4x + 2 \, dx$$

To find the error bound of the Trapezoidal Rule on the interval  $[a, b]$ , we use this formula.

$$|E_T| \leq k \frac{(b-a)^3}{12n^2}$$

Where  $|E_T|$  denotes the maximum error of the Trapezoidal Rule,  $k$  is a constant based on the function, which we will find,  $a$  is the lower limit of the interval,  $b$  is the upper limit of the interval, and  $n$  is the number of subintervals.

First, let's find  $k$ . The value  $k$  is often denoted by the notation  $M_{f''}$  which means the maximum absolute value of the function's second derivative in the interval. Let's find  $k$  for the function and interval in this problem.

$$g(x) = -\frac{2}{5}x^5 + \frac{7}{3}x^3 + 5x^2 + 4x + 2$$

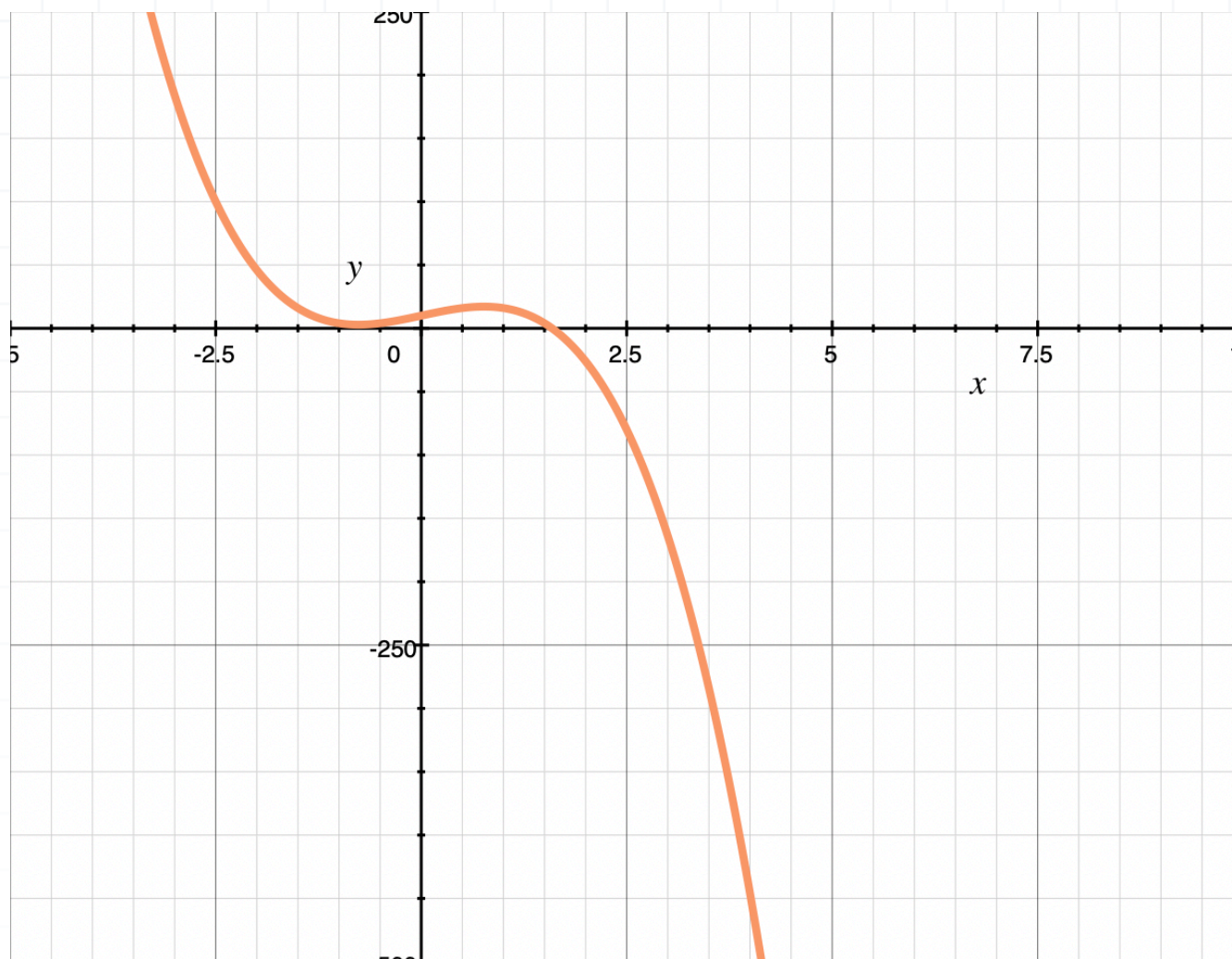
$$g'(x) = -\frac{2}{5}(5)x^4 + \frac{7}{3}(3)x^2 + 10x + 4 = -2x^4 + 7x^2 + 10x + 4$$

$$g''(x) = -8x^3 + 14x + 10$$

The graph of  $g''(x)$  is shown below.







The second derivative,  $g''(x)$ , will reach its maximum absolute value at the point  $(3, -164)$ , so the value of  $M_{f''}$  is 164.

$$g''(0) = 10, \quad g''(3) = -164, \quad k = 164$$

Now in the expression

$$|E_T| \leq k \frac{(b-a)^3}{12n^2}$$

$k = 164$ ,  $a = 0$ ,  $b = 3$  and  $n = 6$ . Evaluate the error bound.

$$k \frac{(b-a)^3}{24n^2} = (164) \frac{(3-0)^3}{12(6)^2} = \frac{(164)(27)}{(12)(36)} = 10.25$$

Therefore,



$$|E_T| \leq 10.25$$



**Topic:** Trapezoidal rule error bound

**Question:** Find  $n$  to get the accuracy of the trapezoidal Rule to within 0.00001.

$$\int_0^3 -\frac{2}{5}x^5 + \frac{7}{3}x^3 + 5x^2 + 4x + 2 \, dx$$

**Answer choices:**

A  $n = 6,073$

B  $n = 6,072$

C  $n = 6,074$

D  $n = 6,075$



**Solution: D**

The question asks us to find  $n$  to get the accuracy of the Trapezoidal Rule to within 0.00001.

$$\int_0^3 -\frac{2}{5}x^5 + \frac{7}{3}x^3 + 5x^2 + 4x + 2 \, dx$$

To find the error bound of the Midpoint Rule on the interval  $[a, b]$ , we use this formula.

$$|E_T| \leq k \frac{(b-a)^3}{12n^2}$$

Where  $|E_T|$  denotes the maximum error of the Trapezoidal Rule,  $k$  is a constant based on the function, which we will find,  $a$  is the lower limit of the interval,  $b$  is the upper limit of the interval, and  $n$  is the number of subintervals.

First, let's find  $k$ . The value  $k$  is often denoted by the notation  $M_{f''}$  which means the maximum absolute value of the function's second derivative in the interval. Let's find  $k$  for the function and interval in this problem.

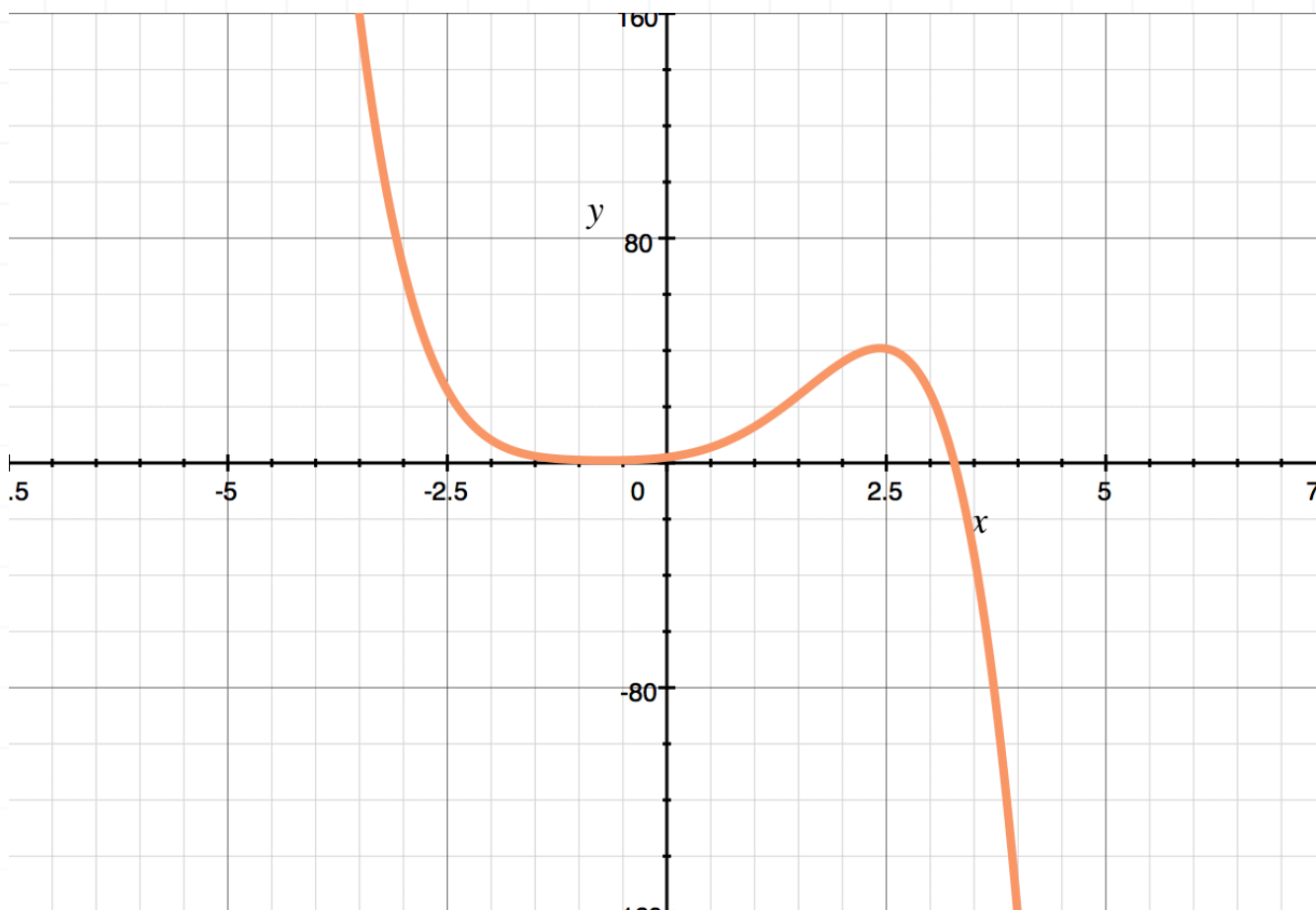
$$g(x) = -\frac{2}{5}x^5 + \frac{7}{3}x^3 + 5x^2 + 4x + 2$$

$$g'(x) = -\frac{2}{5}(5)x^4 + \frac{7}{3}(3)x^2 + 10x + 4 = -2x^4 + 7x^2 + 10x + 4$$

$$g''(x) = -8x^3 + 14x + 10$$

The graph of  $g''(x)$  is shown below.





The second derivative  $g''(x)$  will reach its maximum value at  $(0.7637, 17.1284)$  but its maximum absolute value is at the point  $(3, -164)$ , so the value of  $M_{f''}$  is 164.

$$g''(0) = 10, \quad g''(3) = -164, \quad k = 164$$

Now in the expression

$$|E_T| \leq k \frac{(b-a)^3}{12n^2}$$

$k = 164$ ,  $a = 0$  and  $b = 3$ . We'll find the value of  $n$ . Let's simplify the expression first.

$$|E_T| \leq (164) \frac{(3-0)^3}{12n^2}$$

$$|E_T| \leq \frac{(164)(27)}{12n^2}$$



$$|E_T| \leq \frac{4,428}{12n^2}$$

$$|E_T| \leq \frac{369}{n^2}$$

Since we want the error to be less than 0.00001, we set the maximum error bound expression to be less than 0.00001.

$$\frac{369}{n^2} \leq 0.00001$$

Multiply by  $n^2$  and divide by 0.00001.

$$369 \leq (0.00001)n^2$$

$$\frac{369}{0.00001} \leq n^2$$

Square root both sides of the inequality, ignoring the possibility that  $n$  could be negative.

$$\sqrt{\frac{369}{0.00001}} \leq \sqrt{n^2}$$

$$n \geq 6,074.54$$

We found an interval for  $n$ . However, since  $n$  is the number of subintervals,  $n$  has to be a whole number. Thus, to be accurate to within 0.0001,  $n = 6,075$ .

