

Activity - Lagrange Polynomial Approximation

May 3, 2025

Problem

Given Values (Using Calculator)

x	$\tan(x)$	$\log_{10}(\tan(x))$
1.00	1.5574	0.1924
1.05	1.7415	0.2414
1.10	1.9640	0.2933
1.15	2.2945	0.3492

Formula

$$P(x) = \sum_{i=0}^3 f(x_i) \cdot L_i(x), \quad P_3(x) = \sum_{i=0}^3 y_i \cdot L_i(x)$$

Lagrange Basis Polynomials

$$\begin{aligned} L_0(x) &= \frac{(x - 1.05)(x - 1.10)(x - 1.15)}{(1.00 - 1.05)(1.00 - 1.10)(1.00 - 1.15)} = \frac{(x - 2.15x + 1.155)(x - 1.15)}{0.00075} \\ &= -1,333.33(x^3 - 3.3x^2 + 3.6275x - 1.32825) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} L_1(x) &= \frac{(x - 1.00)(x - 1.10)(x - 1.15)}{(1.05 - 1.00)(1.05 - 1.10)(1.05 - 1.15)} = \frac{(x^2 - 2.1x + 1.15)(x - 1.15)}{0.000125} \\ &= 4000(x^3 - 3.25x^2 + 3.515x - 1.265) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} L_2(x) &= \frac{(x - 1.00)(x - 1.05)(x - 1.15)}{(1.10 - 1.00)(1.10 - 1.05)(1.10 - 1.15)} = \frac{(x^2 - 2.05x + 1.05)(x - 1.15)}{0.00025} \\ &= -4000(x^3 - 3.2x^2 + 3.4075x - 1.2075) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} L_3(x) &= \frac{(x - 1.00)(x - 1.05)(x - 1.10)}{(1.15 - 1.00)(1.15 - 1.05)(1.15 - 1.10)} = \frac{(x^2 - 2.05x + 1.05)(x - 1.10)}{0.000375} \\ &= 1,333.33(x^3 - 3.15x^2 + 3.305x - 1.155) \end{aligned}$$

Interpolated Polynomial $P(x)$

$$\begin{aligned} P(x) &= [-(0.1924) \cdot (133.33)] \cdot (x^3 - 3.3x^2 + 3.6275x - 1.32825) \\ &\quad + [0.2414 \cdot 4000] \cdot (x^3 - 3.25x^2 + 3.515x - 1.265) \\ &\quad + [-(0.2933) \cdot (4000)] \cdot (x^3 - 3.2x^2 + 3.4075x - 1.2075) \\ &\quad + [0.3492 \cdot 1833.33] \cdot (x^3 - 3.15x^2 + 3.305x - 1.155) \end{aligned}$$

$$P(x) = 1.4641x^3 - 4.0384x^2 + 4.6368x - 1.8721$$

Evaluation at $x = 1.09$

$$\begin{aligned} P(1.09) &\approx 0.2826352729 \\ f(1.09) &= \log_{10}(\tan(1.09)) \approx 0.2826429145 \\ \Rightarrow P(1.09) &\approx f(1.09) \approx \boxed{0.2826} \end{aligned}$$