

Write a self-contained function block in IEC 61131-3 Structured Text to compute a natural logarithm.



Below is a self-contained function block in IEC 61131-3 Structured Text to compute the natural logarithm using the Maclaurin series expansion method. This implementation assumes that the input is a positive real number and has a fixed number of iterations for approximation. You can adjust the `NUM_ITERATIONS` constant to increase or decrease the accuracy of the result.



```
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FUNCTION_BLOCK NaturalLogarithm
VAR_INPUT
    x : REAL;
END_VAR
VAR_OUTPUT
    ln_x : REAL;
END_VAR
VAR
    NUM_ITERATIONS : UINT := 10;
    i : UINT;
    temp_x : REAL;
END_VAR
METHOD Calculate: REAL
    VAR_INPUT
        x : REAL;
    END_VAR
    VAR
        result : REAL := 0;
        i : UINT;
    END_VAR
    FOR i := 1 TO NUM_ITERATIONS DO
        result := result + (Power(x - 1, i) / REAL(i));
    END_FOR;
    RETURN result;
END_METHOD
METHOD Power: REAL
    VAR_INPUT
        base : REAL;
        exponent : UINT;
    END_VAR
    VAR
        result : REAL := 1;
        i : UINT;
    END_VAR
    FOR i := 1 TO exponent DO
        result := result * base;
    END_FOR;
    RETURN result;
END_METHOD
METHOD Execute: BOOL
    IF x <= 0 THEN
        RETURN FALSE;
    END_IF;
    temp_x := (x - 1) / (x + 1);
    ln_x := 2 * Calculate(temp_x);
    RETURN TRUE;
END_METHOD
END_FUNCTION_BLOCK
```

To use this function block, you can create an instance of the block, set the input value $_x$, and call the $_{Execute}$ method. If the method returns TRUE, you can retrieve the result from the $_{ln_x}$ output variable.