

## Problem 1

The following data are measured precisely:

<i>T</i>	2	2.1	2.2	2.7	3	3.4
<i>Z</i>	6	7.752	10.256	36.576	66	125.168

- Use Newton interpolating polynomials to determine  $z$  at  $t = 2.5$ . Make sure that you order your points to attain the most accurate results. What do your results tell you regarding the order of the polynomials used to generate the data?
- Use a third-order Lagrange interpolating polynomial to determine  $y$  at 2.5.

### Using Newton Interpolating Polynomial

Given our points  $T$  and  $Z$ , we start computing the first order divided difference:

Formula

$$f(x_i, x_j) = \frac{f(x_i) - f(x_j)}{x_i - x_j}$$

We now construct the Divided Difference table using this formula, starting with the First Order.

For  $T = 2$ , to  $T = 2.1$ :

$$\frac{7.752 - 6}{2.1 - 2} = \frac{1.752}{0.1} = 17.52$$

For  $T = 2.1$  to  $T = 2.2$ :

$$\frac{10.256 - 7.752}{2.2 - 2.1} = \frac{2.504}{0.1} = 25.04$$

For  $T = 2.2$  to  $T = 2.7$ :

$$\frac{36.576 - 10.256}{2.7 - 2.2} = \frac{26.32}{0.5} = 52.64$$

For  $T = 2.7$  to  $T = 3$ :

$$\frac{66 - 36.576}{3 - 2.7} = \frac{29.424}{0.3} = 98.08$$

For T = 3 to T = 3.4:

$$\frac{125.168 - 66}{3.4 - 3} = \frac{59.168}{0.4} = 147.92$$

For the second order, we use the values gotten when finding the first order divided difference.

For T = 2 to T = 2.2:

$$\frac{25.04 - 17.52}{2.2 - 2} = \frac{7.52}{0.2} = 37.6$$

For T = 2.1 to T = 2.7:

$$\frac{52.64 - 25.04}{2.7 - 2.1} = \frac{27.6}{0.6} = 46$$

For T = 2.2 to T = 3:

$$\frac{98.08 - 52.64}{3 - 2.2} = \frac{45.44}{0.8} = 56.8$$

For T = 2.7 to T = 3.4:

$$\frac{147.92 - 98.08}{3.4 - 2.7} = \frac{49.84}{0.7} = 71.2$$

Now, we continue with the third order using the computer values from the second order.

For T = 2, T = 2.2 and T = 2.7 using deltas from second order: T = 2.1 and T = 2:

$$\frac{46 - 37.6}{2.7 - 2} = \frac{8.4}{0.7} = 12$$

For T = 2.1, T = 2.7 and T = 3 using deltas from second order: T = 2.2 and T = 2.1:

$$\frac{56.8 - 46}{3 - 2.1} = \frac{10.8}{0.9} = 12$$

For T = 2.2, T = 3 and T = 3.4 using deltas from second order: T = 2.7 and T = 2.2:

$$\frac{71.2 - 56.8}{3.4 - 2.2} = \frac{14.4}{1.2} = 12$$

Finally, we move to the fourth order, we again use the values from the previous order.

For  $T = 2$ ,  $T = 2.2$ ,  $T = 2.7$  and  $T = 3$ , using deltas from third order:  $T = 2.1$  and  $T = 2$ :

$$\frac{12 - 12}{3 - 2} = \frac{0}{1} = 0$$

For  $T = 2.1$ ,  $T = 2.7$ ,  $T = 3$  and  $T = 3.4$  using deltas from third order:  $T = 2.2$  and  $T = 2.1$ :

$$\frac{12 - 12}{3.4 - 2.1} = \frac{0}{1.3} = 0$$

### Divided Differences Table

We can now plug these values into the table like so:

T	Z	Second Order ( $b_2$ )	Third Order ( $b_3$ )	Fourth Order ( $b_4$ )	Fifth Order ( $b_5$ )
<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>17.52</b>	<b>37.6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>2.1</b>	<b>7.752</b>	<b>25.04</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>2.2</b>	<b>10.256</b>	<b>52.64</b>	<b>56.8</b>	<b>12</b>	
<b>2.7</b>	<b>36.576</b>	<b>98.08</b>	<b>71.2</b>		
<b>3</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>147.92</b>			
<b>3.4</b>	<b>125.168</b>				

### The Polynomial

Now we attempt to construct the Newton Interpolating Polynomial using the following formula:

$$P(t) = b_0 + b_1(x - x_1) + b_2(x - x_1)(x - x_2) + \dots + b_n(x - x_1)(x - x_2) \dots (x - x_{n-1})$$

Where:

$P(t)$  – is the value of the polynomial at time  $t$

$b_n$  – are the coefficients from the divided differences table

$t_n$  – are the  $T$  values of our data points

We gather our coefficients:

$$b_0 = 6$$

$$b_1 = 17.52$$

$$b_2 = 37.6$$

$$b_3 = 12$$

We stop on the third order since our  $T = 2.5$  falls just above it.

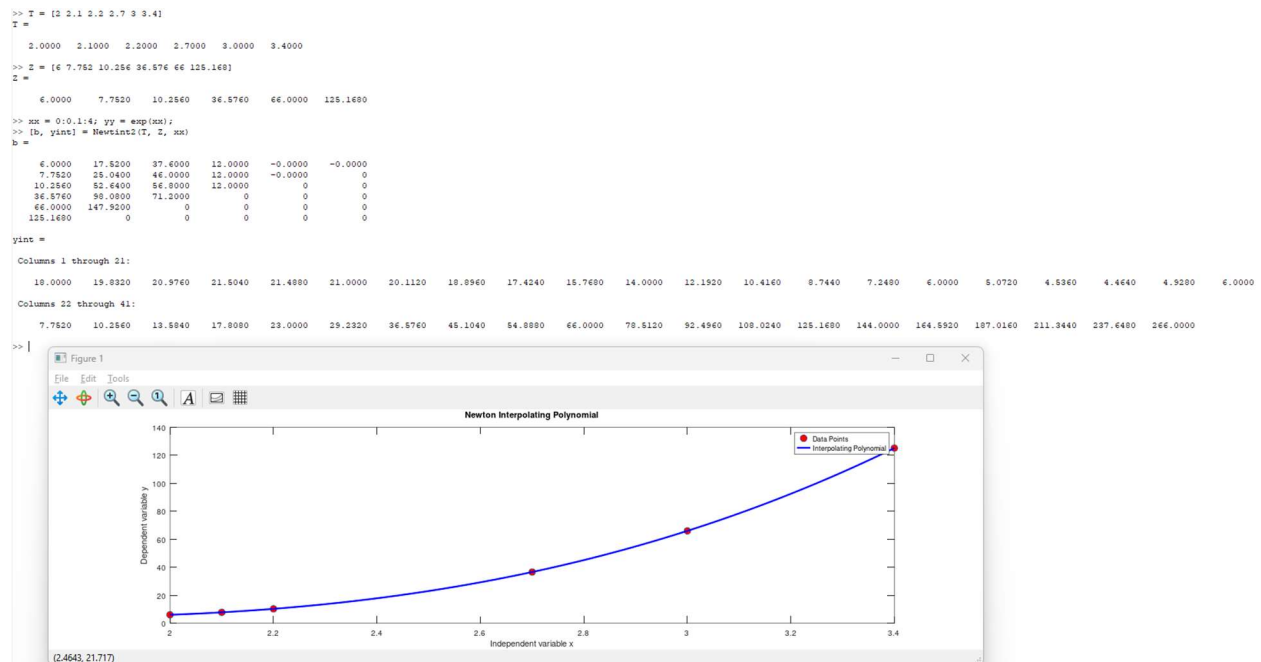
Now we substitute the values:

$$P(t) = 6 + 17.52(x - 2) + 37.6(x - 2)(x - 2.1) + 12(x - 2)(x - 2.1)(x - 2.2)$$

Solve for  $t = 2.5$ :

$$P(2.5) = 6 + 17.52(2.5 - 2) + 37.6(2.5 - 2)(2.5 - 2.1) + 12(2.5 - 2)(2.5 - 2.1)(2.5 - 2.2) = 23$$

By running the code in Listing [1], we get the following results:



The consistency of twelves in the 3<sup>rd</sup> order and the presence of Zero's in the fourth order suggests that the data was likely generated by a third-order polynomial (cubic polynomial). In Newton's method, if the  $n$ -th order divided differences are zero, it implies that the polynomial of best fit is of order  $n - 1$ . Since the fourth order divided differences are zero, the polynomial used to generate the data is of order 3, i.e., cubic polynomial.