

CÁLCULO DIFERENCIAL.

Cuestionario # 1

Nombre: ANSWER KEY

1. Usando la definición de derivada, calcule la derivada de la función

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x}.$$

2. Usando la linealización de $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$, aproxime $\sqrt{15}$.

① We need to compute:

$$(a) f(x+h) - f(x) = \frac{1}{x+h} - \frac{1}{x} = \frac{x - (x+h)}{(x+h)x} = \frac{-h}{(x+h)x}$$

$$(b) \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \frac{1}{h} \frac{-h}{(x+h)x} = \frac{-1}{(x+h)x}.$$

$$(c) \frac{df(x)}{dx} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-1}{(x+h)x} = -\frac{1}{x^2}$$

Hence:
$$\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{x} \right) = -\frac{1}{x^2}$$

② The linearization is the linear function given by the equation of the tangent line at $x=a$; $y=y_0$:

$$y = m(x-a) + y_0.$$

In this instance: $m = f'(a)$, $y_0 = f(a)$. Hence,

$$L(x) = f'(a)(x-a) + f(a)$$

Choose $a=16$, hence: $f(a) = \sqrt{a} = \sqrt{16} = 4$.

since $16 \approx \dots = 4 =$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Now } f'(x) &= \frac{d}{dx}(\sqrt{x}) \approx \frac{d}{dx}(x^{1/2}) = \frac{1}{2}x^{\frac{1}{2}-1} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2} \Rightarrow f'(16) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{16}}.\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Then } f'(a) = f'(16) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{16}} = \frac{1}{8}$$

Hence, the linearization is:

$$L(x) = 4 + \frac{1}{8}(x-16).$$

We approximate $\sqrt{15}$ by $L(15)$

$$f(15) = \sqrt{15} \approx L(15) = 4 + \frac{1}{8}(15-16) = 4 - \frac{1}{8} = \frac{32-1}{8}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\sqrt{15} \approx \frac{31}{8}} \quad \text{or} \quad \sqrt{15} \approx 4 - \frac{1}{8} = 4 - 0.125$$

$$\text{or} \quad \boxed{\sqrt{15} \approx 3.875}$$

No calculator needed.
