

1. Find the derivatives (using the formulas, not the definition).

(a) (2 pts)  $f(x) = x^2 \ln(3x + 2)$ ;  $f'(x) = 2x \ln(3x + 2) + x^2 \cdot \frac{3}{3x + 2} = 2x \ln(3x + 2) + \frac{3x^2}{3x + 2}$

(b) (2 pts)  $y = 10e^{t^2+4}$ ;  $\frac{dy}{dt} = 10e^{t^2+4} \cdot (2t) = 20te^{t^2+4}$

(c) (2 pts)  $h(x) = \sqrt{3 \ln x + 5}$ ;  $h'(x) = \frac{1}{2}(3 \ln x + 5)^{-1/2} \cdot \frac{3}{x} = \frac{3}{2x}(3 \ln x + 5)^{-1/2}$   $\left( = \frac{3}{2x\sqrt{3 \ln x + 5}} \right)$

2. (4 pts) Find the **quadratic** Taylor polynomial for the function  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$  centered at  $x_0 = 4$ , and use this polynomial to approximate  $\sqrt{4.5}$ .

**Differentiate (twice):**  $f(x) = x^{1/2} \implies f'(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2} \implies f''(x) = -\frac{1}{4}x^{-3/2}$

**Evaluate at  $x_0 = 4$ :**  $f(4) = 2$ ,  $f'(4) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{4^{1/2}} = \frac{1}{4}$  and  $f''(4) = -\frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4^{3/2}} = -\frac{1}{32}$ .

**Build the Taylor polynomial:**  $T_2(x) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0) + \frac{f''(x_0)}{2}(x - x_0)^2$ , so in this case

$$T_2(x) = 2 + \frac{1}{4}(x - 4) - \frac{1}{64}(x - 4)^2.$$

**Approximate:**

$$\sqrt{4.5} = f(4.5) \approx T_2(4.5) = 2 + \frac{1}{4}(4.5 - 4) - \frac{1}{64}(4.5 - 4)^2 = 2 + \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{64} \cdot \frac{1}{4} = \frac{543}{256} \quad (= 2.12109375)$$

3. The demand equation for a monopolist's product is  $q = 10\sqrt{400 - 0.8p}$

(a) (2 pts) Find the price-elasticity of demand for this good **as a function of the price  $p$** .

$$\begin{aligned} \eta_{q/p} &= \frac{dq}{dp} \cdot \frac{p}{q} = \overbrace{\left[ 10 \cdot \frac{1}{2}(400 - 0.8p)^{-1/2} \cdot (-0.8) \right]}^{dq/dp} \cdot \frac{p}{10\sqrt{400 - 0.8p}} \\ &= \frac{-4}{(400 - 0.8p)^{1/2}} \cdot \frac{p}{10(400 - 0.8p)^{1/2}} \\ &= \frac{-4p}{10(400 - 0.8p)} = -\frac{p}{1000 - 2p} \end{aligned}$$

(b) (1 pt) What is the price elasticity of demand when  $p = 200$ ?

$$\eta_{q/p} \Big|_{p=200} = -\frac{200}{1000 - 400} = -\frac{1}{3}$$

(c) (2 pts) Use your answer to (b) to find the firm's *marginal revenue* when  $p = 200$ .

Use the formula

$$\frac{dr}{dq} = p \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\eta} \right)$$

So in this case

$$\frac{dr}{dq} \Big|_{p=200} = 200 \left( 1 + \frac{1}{-1/3} \right) = 200(1 - 3) = -400$$