

Section 3.11: Linearization and Differentials.

If a function $f(x)$ is differentiable at $x = a$, then the approximating function below is called the **Linearization of f at a** .

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

Use this equation to compute the linearization of the following functions. Then use it to estimate the given values.

1. $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$. Estimate $f(9.01)$.
2. $f(x) = x + \frac{1}{x}$. Estimate $f(1.03)$.
3. $g(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$. Estimate $g(0.2)$.
4. $h(x) = \sqrt[3]{x}$. Estimate $h(26.5)$.
5. Let $f(u) = (1 + u)^k$ for some real number k . Determine the linearization of $f(u)$ at $u = 0$.
6. Using your formula from #5, create an approximation function for the given functions below for values of x near zero.
 - a. $f(x) = (1 - x)^7$
 - b. $f(x) = \frac{7}{x + 1}$
 - c. $f(x) = \sqrt{4 + 4x}$
 - d. $f(x) = \sqrt{9 + x^2}$
 - e. $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{2 - 5x}$