

**Use MATLAB to Explore Lagrange Polynomials****ASSIGNMENT:**

The goal is to investigate Lagrange Polynomials,  $P_n(x)$ .

- (a.) Via graphs of Lagrange polynomials [See for example Figure 3.5 on page 108.] explore the behavior of Lagrange Polynomials. Describe the observed behaviors. A suggestion: Using the data set  $\{x_i = i\}_{i=0}^9$  compare the graphical images of  $L_{9,k}(x)$  for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 9$ . Describe/comment on the behaviors and properties you observe.
- (b.) For pp112-13, #6(a.) and #8(a.), using graphs of  $f(x)$  and  $P_n(x)$ , for  $n = 1, 2, 3$ , compare the effectiveness of the  $P_i(x)$  to approximate  $f(x)$ . Submit copies of three sets of graphs:  $f(x)$  and  $P_i(x)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$  along with your comments about each set of graphs.

**BONUS**

[5 points] 1. Using the function in 8(a.) repeat (b.) for Taylor Polynomials,  $T_i(x)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$  about  $x = 0.43$ .

[3points] 2. Carefully compare the graphical results for Lagrange Polynomials vs Taylor Polynomials for their effectiveness at approximating  $f(x)$ .

Hand-in a hardcopy or send a digital copy to [weiss@fairfield.edu](mailto:weiss@fairfield.edu) of your solution by the beginning of class on **Wednesday, October 17, 2018**.

Your solution should include:

- 1. A copy of your *MATLAB* code(s) and output(s);
- 2. A report (your comments) about your results.