

(7.) The function $f(x) = x \ln(x)$ has one critical point on the interval $(0, 5)$.

- (a) (4 pts) Determine the **exact** x value (i.e., not a decimal approximation) for the location of this critical point.

$$f'(x) = \ln(x) + x \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \\ = \ln(x) + 1$$

$$f'(x) = 0 \text{ if } \ln x = -1 \\ \text{so } x = e^{-1} = \frac{1}{e} \quad \text{or } x = \frac{1}{e}$$

- (b) (3pts) Is this point a maximum or a minimum or neither of these? Explain and show your work. Use either 1st or 2nd deriv test -- or a good graphical argument.

By 2nd deriv. test: $f''(x) = \frac{1}{x}$; $f''\left(\frac{1}{e}\right) > 0$
So $x = \frac{1}{e}$ is a local minimum.

- (c) (2 pts) Determine the instantaneous rate of change of f at $x = 1$ and at $x = 2$.

$$f'(1) = \ln(1) + 1 = 1 \\ f'(2) = \ln(2) + 1 \approx 1.693$$

@ $x=1$, $f'(1) = 1$
@ $x=2$, $f'(2) \approx 1.693$

- (d) (2 pts) What do the values in part (c) suggest about the concavity of the function between $x = 1$ and $x = 2$? Explain.

Since f' increases between $x=1$ & $x=2$, this suggests the function is concave up between $x=1$ & $x=2$.

- (e) (3 pts) Determine an equation of the tangent to the graph of f at $x = 1$.

@ $x=1$, $f(1) = 1 \cdot \ln(1) = 0$; $m = f'(1) = 1$,
so $y - 0 = 1(x - 1)$
 $y = x - 1$

- (f) (2 pts) Use your equation from part (e) to approximate $f(2)$.

Using part (e),
 $f(2) \approx 2 - 1 = 1$.

[Note: $\ln(2) \approx 0.693$]

- (g) (2 pts) Should your estimate be an underestimate or an overestimate? Why?

Underestimate Why? - Because if the function is concave up, the tangent lies below the function.