

Lagrangian Method of Interpolation--Simulation.

© 2003 Nathan Collier, Autar Kaw, Jai Paul, Michael Keteltas, University of South Florida, kaw@eng.usf.edu, <http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu/mws>

NOTE: This worksheet demonstrates the use of Maple to illustrate the Lagrangian method of interpolation. We limit this worksheet to using first, second, and third order polynomials.

- Introduction

The Lagrangian method of interpolation (for detailed explanation, you can read the [textbook notes and examples](#), and see a [Power Point Presentation](#)) is based on the following. Given 'n' data points of 'y' versus 'x', it is required to find the value of y at a particular value of x using first, second, and third order Lagrangian interpolation.

Since the number of data points may be more than you need for a particular order of interpolation, one has to first pick the needed data points, and then one can use the chosen points to interpolate the data.

Lagrangian interpolating polynomial is given by $f_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n L_i(x)f(x_i)$ where 'n' in f_n stands for

the n^{th} order polynomial that approximates the function $y = f(x)$ given at (n+1) data points as

$(x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), (x_n, y_n)$, and $L_i(x) = \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^n \frac{x - x_j}{x_i - x_j}$. $L_i(x)$ is a weighting function that

includes a product of (n-1) terms with terms of $j = i$ omitted.

```
> restart;
with(LinearAlgebra):
with(linalg):
```

```
Warning, the previous binding of the name GramSchmidt has been removed and it
now has an assigned value
```

```
Warning, the protected names norm and trace have been redefined and
unprotected
```

- Section I : Input Data.

The following is the array of x-y data which is used to interpolate. It is obtained from the [physical problem](#) of velocity of rocket (y-values) vs. time (x-values) data. We are asked to find the velocity at an intermediate point of x=16.

```
> xy:=[[10,227.04],[0,0],[20,517.35],[15,362.78],[30,901.67],[22.
5,602.97]]:
```

Value of X at which Y is desired

```
> xdesired:=16:
```

Section II : Big scary functions.

```
> n:=rowdim(xy) :  
> for i from 1 to n do  
  x[i]:=xy[i,1];  
  y[i]:=xy[i,2];  
end do:
```

The following function considers the x data and selects those data points which are close to the desired x value based on the least absolute difference between the x values and the desired x value. This function selects the two closest data points that bracket the desired value of x. It first picks the closest data point to the desired x value. It then checks if this value is less than or greater than the desired value. If it is less, then, it selects the data point which is greater than the desired value and also the closest, and viceversa.

Finds the absolute difference between the X values and the desired X value.

```
> for i from 1 to n do  
  co[i]:=abs(x[i]-xdesired);  
end do:
```

Identifies the X value with the least absolute difference.

```
c:=co[1]:  
for i from 2 to n do  
  if c > co[i] then  
    c:=co[i];  
    ci:=i;  
  end if:  
end do:
```

If the value with the least absolute difference is less than the desired value, then it selects the closest data point greater than the desired value to bracket the desired value.

```
if x[ci] < xdesired then  
  q:=1;  
  for i from 1 to n do  
    if x[i] > xdesired then  
      nex[q]:=x[i];  
      q:=q+1;  
    end if;  
  end do;  
  
  b:=nex[1]:
```

```

for i from 2 to q-1 do
  if b > nex[i] then
    b:=nex[i];
  end if;
end do;

for i from 1 to n do
  if x[i]=b then bi:=i end if;
end do;
end if:

```

If the value with the least absolute difference is greater than the desired value, then it selects the closest data point less than the desired value to bracket the desired value.

```

if x[ci] > xdesired then
  q:=1;
  for i from 1 to n do
    if x[i] < xdesired then
      nex[q]:=x[i];
      q:=q+1;
    end if;
  end do;

  b:=nex[1];
  for i from 2 to q-1 do
    if b < nex[i] then
      b:=nex[i];
    end if;
  end do;

  for i from 1 to n do
    if x[i]=b then bi:=i end if;
  end do;
end if:

firsttwo:=<ci,bi>;

```

If more than two values are desired, the same procedure as above is followed to choose the 2 datapoints which bracket the desired value. In addition, the following function selects the subsequent values that are closest to the desired value and puts all the values into a matrix, maintaining the original data order.

```

> for i from 1 to n do
  A[i,2]:=i;

```

```

    A[i,1]:=co[i];
end do:

for passnum from 1 to n-1 do
  for i from 1 to n-passnum do
    if A[i,1]>A[i+1,1] then
      temp1:=A[i,1];
      temp2:=A[i,2];
      A[i,1]:=A[i+1,1];
      A[i,2]:=A[i+1,2];
      A[i+1,1]:=temp1;
      A[i+1,2]:=temp2;
    end if:
  end do:
end do:

for i from 1 to n do
  A[i,3]:=i;
end do:

for passnum from 1 to n-1 do
  for i from 1 to n-passnum do
    if A[i,2]>A[i+1,2] then
      temp1:=A[i,1];
      temp2:=A[i,2];
      temp3:=A[i,3];
      A[i,1]:=A[i+1,1];
      A[i,2]:=A[i+1,2];
      A[i,3]:=A[i+1,3];
      A[i+1,1]:=temp1;
      A[i+1,2]:=temp2;
      A[i+1,3]:=temp3;
    end if:
  end do:
end do:

for i from 1 to n do
  d[i]:=A[i,3];
end do:

if d[firsttwo[2]]<>2 then
  temp:=d[firsttwo[2]];
  d[firsttwo[2]]:=1;

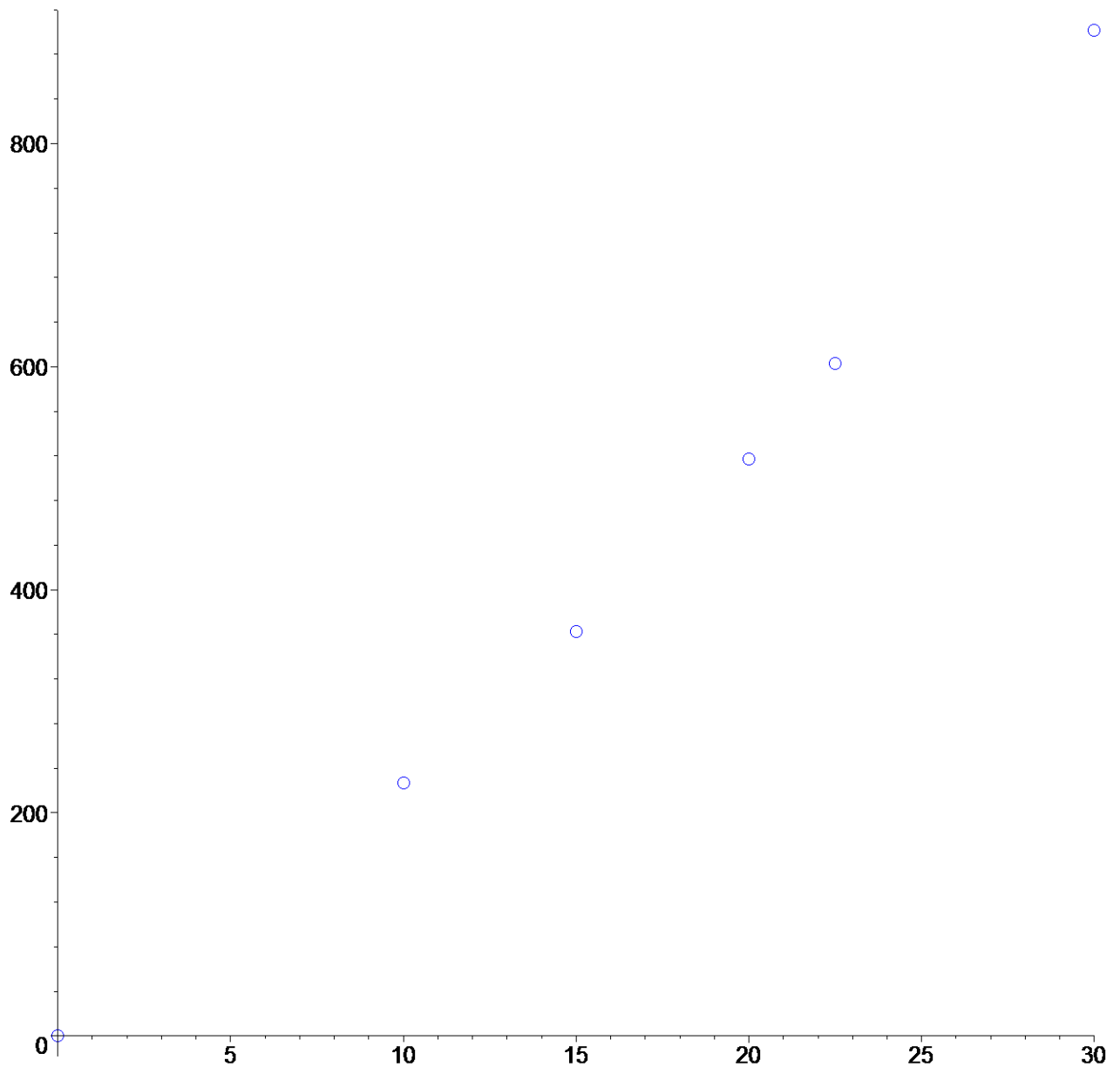
```

```
    for i from 1 to n do
      if i <> firsttwo[1] and i <> firsttwo[2] and d[i] <= temp
then
      d[i]:=d[i]+1;
      end if:
    end do;
    d[firsttwo[1]]:=1;
end if:
```

```
> ranger:=proc(ar,n)
local i,xmin,xmax,xrange;
xmin:=ar[1]:
xmax:=ar[1]:
for i from 1 to n do
if ar[i] > xmax then xmax:=ar[i] end if;
if ar[i] < xmin then xmin:=ar[i] end if;
end do;
xrange:=xmin..xmax;
end proc:
```

Plotting the given values of X and Y.

```
> plot(xy,ranger(x,n),style=POINT,color=BLUE,symbol=CIRCLE,symbol
size=30);
```



Section III: Linear Interpolation.

[The two closest data points to the desired value are chosen in this method.

```
[ > datapoints:=2:
```

```
[ > p:=1:
```

```
  for i from 1 to n do  
    if d[i] <= datapoints then  
      xdata[p]:=x[i];  
      ydata[p]:=y[i];  
      p:=p+1;  
    end if  
  end do:
```

```
> entries(xdata) ;
```

```
[20], [15]
```

```
> entries(ydata) ;
```

```
[517.35], [362.78]
```

The weighting functions are now calculated using the formula mentioned above. These functions give weightages to the Y values corresponding to the chosen X values. The sum of the weightages is always equal to one.

```
> L0(z) := (z-xdata[2]) / (xdata[1]-xdata[2]) :
```

```
> L1(z) := (z-xdata[1]) / (xdata[2]-xdata[1]) :
```

Setting up the Lagrangian polynomial

```
> flinear(z) := eval(L0(t), t=z) * ydata[1] + eval(L1(t), t=z) * ydata[2] ;
```

```
flinear(z) := 30.91400000 z - 100.93
```

Substituting the value of the desired X value for z in the above equation, the corresponding Y value is found.

```
> eval(flinear(z), z=xdesired) ;
```

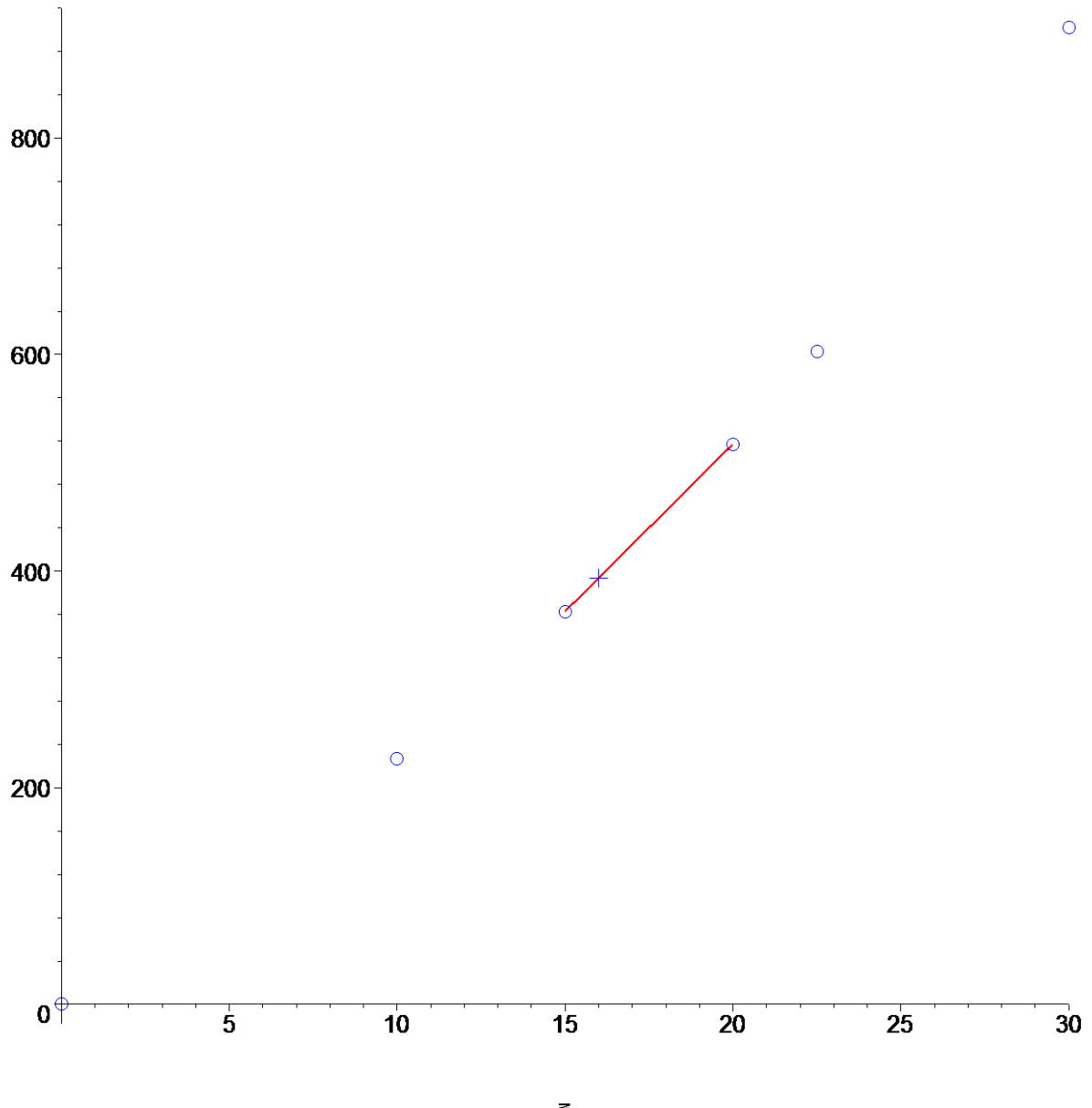
```
393.6940000
```

```
> fprev := % :
```

Plotting the Linear interpolant and the value of Y for the desired X

```
> plot([[t, eval(flinear(z), z=t), t=ranger(xdata, datapoints)], xy, [[  
xdesired, eval(flinear(z), z=xdesired) ]], z=ranger(x, n), style=[LI  
NE, POINT, POINT], color=[RED, BLUE, BLUE], symbol=[CROSS, CIRCLE], sym  
bolsize=[40, 30], thickness=3, title="Linear interpolation") ;
```


Linear interpolation



Section IV: Quadratic Interpolation (Second order polynomial)

[The three closest data points to the desired value are chosen in this method.

```
[ > datapoints:=3:
```

```
> p:=1:
```

```
  for i from 1 to n do  
    if d[i] <= datapoints then  
      xdata[p]:=x[i];  
      ydata[p]:=y[i];  
      p:=p+1;  
    end if  
  end do:
```

```
> entries(xdata);
```

```
[10],[20],[15]
```

```
> entries(ydata);
```

```
[227.04],[517.35],[362.78]
```

The weighting functions are now calculated using the formula mentioned above. These functions give weightages to the Y values corresponding to the chosen X values. The sum of the weightages is always equal to one.

```
> L0(z):=(z-xdata[2])*(z-xdata[3])/(xdata[1]-xdata[2])/(xdata[1]-xdata[3]);
```

```
> L1(z):=(z-xdata[1])*(z-xdata[3])/(xdata[2]-xdata[1])/(xdata[2]-xdata[3]);
```

```
> L2(z):=(z-xdata[1])*(z-xdata[2])/(xdata[3]-xdata[1])/(xdata[3]-xdata[2]);
```

Setting up the Lagrangian polynomial

```
> fquad(z):=eval(L0(t),t=z)*ydata[1]+eval(L1(t),t=z)*ydata[2]+eval(L2(t),t=z)*ydata[3];
```

```
fquad(z):= 4.540800000(z-20)(z-15)+10.34700000(z-10)(z-15)  
- 14.51120000(z-10)(z-20)
```

Substituting the value of the desired X value for z in the above equation, the corresponding Y value is found.

```
> eval(fquad(z),z=xdesired);
```

```
392.1876000
```

```
> fnew:=%:
```

```
>
```

The absolute percentage relative approximate error between the first order and the second order interpolation is

```
> epsilon:=abs((fnew-fprev)/fnew)*100;
```

```
ε := 0.3841018941
```

The number of significant digits at least correct in the solution is

```
> sigdig:=floor(2-log10(epsilon/0.5));
```

```
sigdig := 2
```

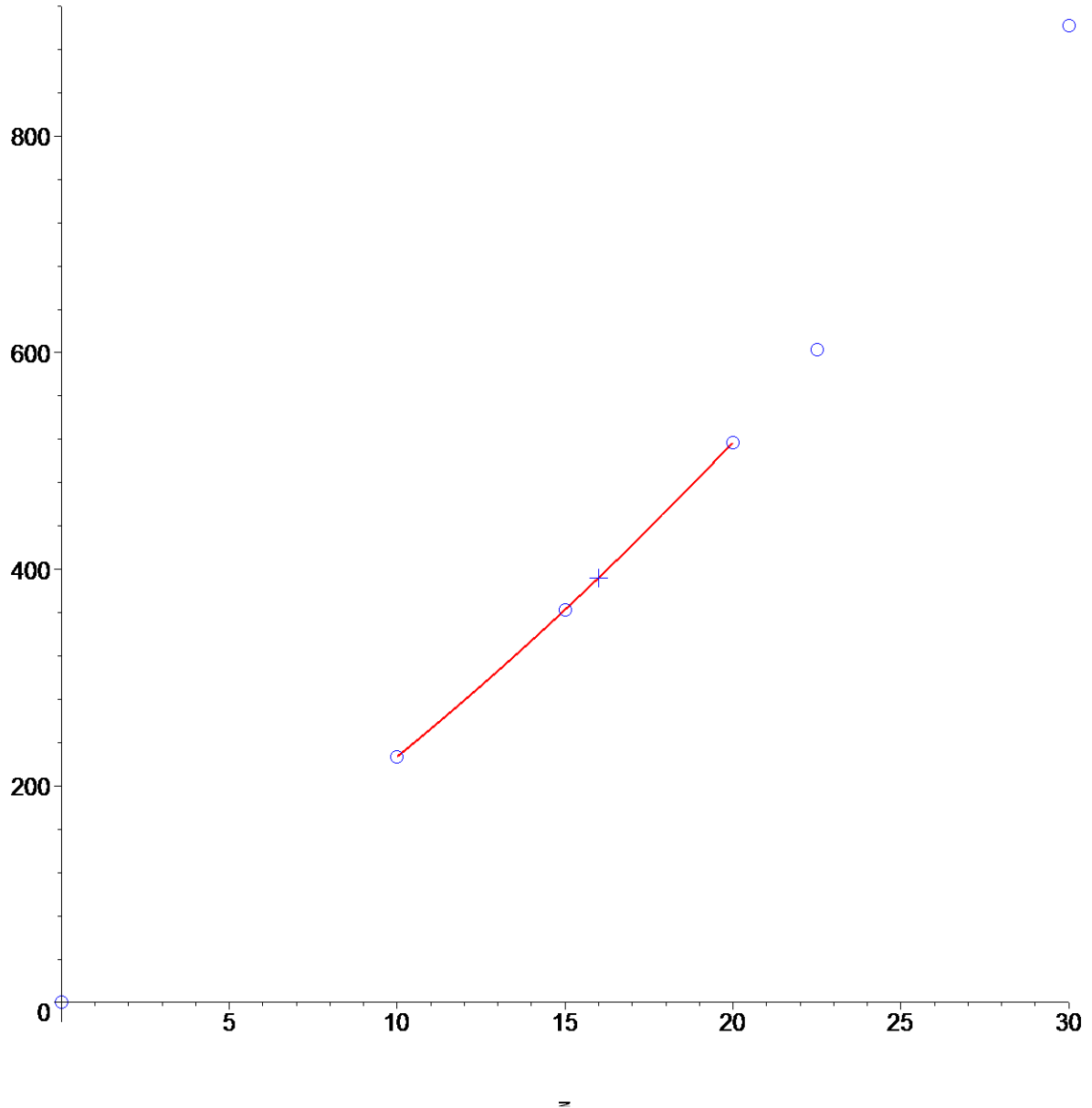
```
> fprev:=fnew:
```

Plotting the quadratic interpolant and the value of Y for the desired X

```
> plot([[t,eval(fquad(z),z=t),t=ranger(xdata,datapoints)],xy,[[xdesired,eval(fquad(z),z=xdesired)]]],z=ranger(x,n),style=[LINE,POINT,POINT],color=[RED,BLUE,BLUE],symbol=[CROSS,CIRCLE],symbolsize=[40,30],thickness=3,title="Quadratic interpolation");
```

```
>
```

Quadratic interpolation



Section V: Cubic Interpolation (Third order polynomial)

[The four closest data points to the desired value are chosen in this method.

```
[ > datapoints:=4:
```

```
> p:=1:
```

```
  for i from 1 to n do  
    if d[i] <= datapoints then  
      xdata[p]:=x[i];  
      ydata[p]:=y[i];  
      p:=p+1;  
    end if  
  end do:
```

```
> entries(xdata);  
[10], [20], [15], [22.5]
```

```
> entries(ydata);  
[227.04], [517.35], [362.78], [602.97]
```

The weighting functions are now calculated using the formula mentioned above. These functions give weightages to the Y values corresponding to the chosen X values. The sum of the weightages is always equal to one.

```
> L0(z) := ((z-xdata[2]) * (z-xdata[3]) * (z-xdata[4])) / (xdata[1]-xdata  
[2]) / (xdata[1]-xdata[3]) / (xdata[1]-xdata[4]) :
```

```
> L1(z) := ((z-xdata[1]) * (z-xdata[3]) * (z-xdata[4])) / (xdata[2]-xdata  
[1]) / (xdata[2]-xdata[3]) / (xdata[2]-xdata[4]) :
```

```
> L2(z) := ((z-xdata[1]) * (z-xdata[2]) * (z-xdata[4])) / (xdata[3]-xdata  
[1]) / (xdata[3]-xdata[2]) / (xdata[3]-xdata[4]) :
```

```
> L3(z) := ((z-xdata[1]) * (z-xdata[2]) * (z-xdata[3])) / (xdata[4]-xdata  
[1]) / (xdata[4]-xdata[2]) / (xdata[4]-xdata[3]) :
```

Setting up the Lagrangian polynomial

```
> fcubic(z) := eval(L0(t), t=z) * ydata[1] + eval(L1(t), t=z) * ydata[2] + ev  
al(L2(t), t=z) * ydata[3] + eval(L3(t), t=z) * ydata[4];
```

```
fcubic(z) := -0.3632640000 (z - 20) (z - 15) (z - 22.5)  
- 4.1388000000 (z - 10) (z - 15) (z - 22.5) + 1.934826667 (z - 10) (z - 20) (z - 22.5)  
+ 2.572672000 (z - 10) (z - 20) (z - 15)
```

Substituting the value of the desired X value for z in the above equation, the corresponding Y value is found.

```
> eval(fcubic(z), z=xdesired);  
392.0571681
```

```
> fnew := %:
```

The absolute percentage relative approximate error between the second order and the third order interpolation is

```
> epsilon := abs((fnew - fprev) / fnew) * 100;  
ε := 0.03326859209
```

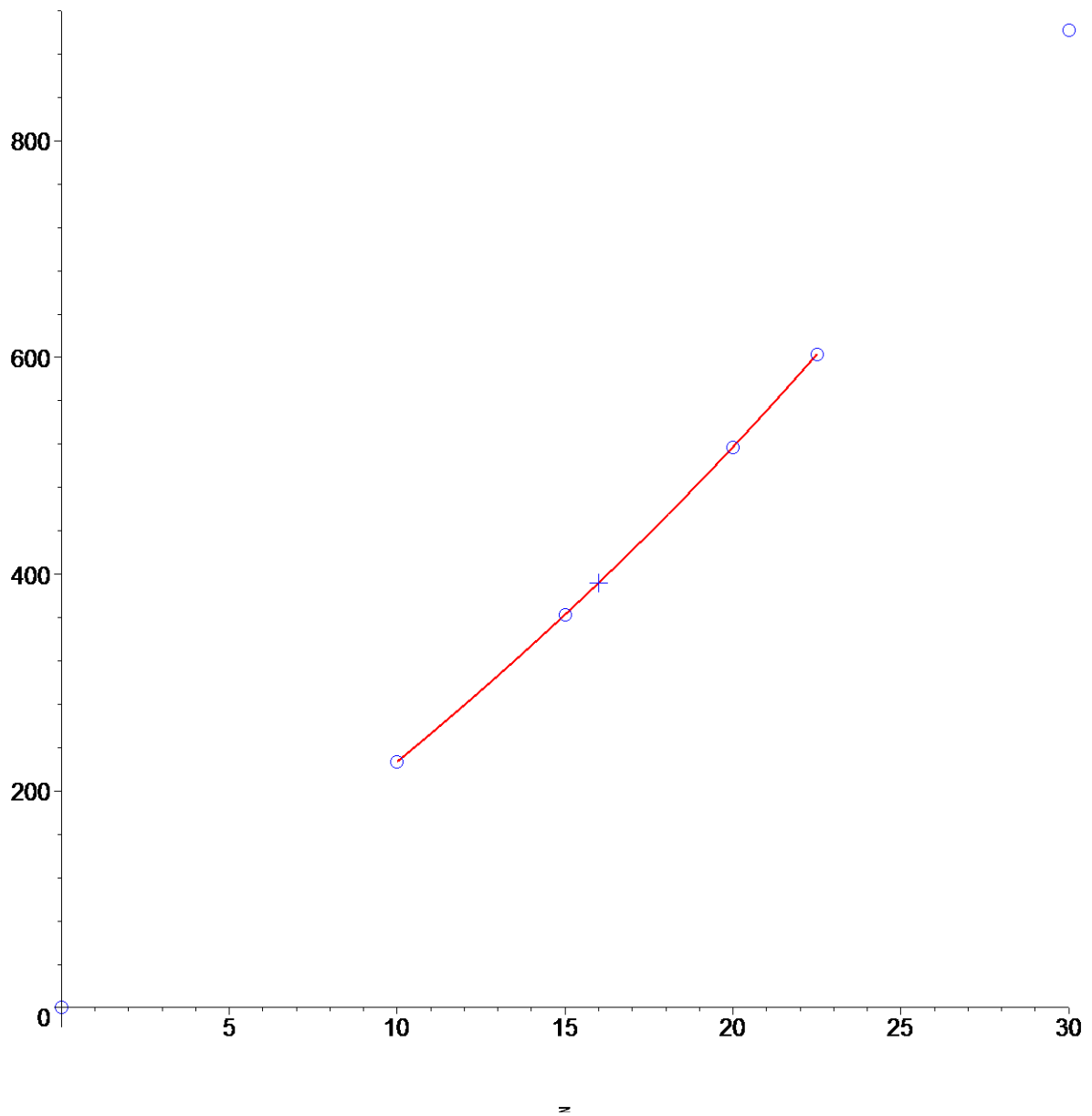
The number of significant digits at least correct in the solution is

```
> sigdig := floor(2 - log10(epsilon / 0.5));  
sigdig := 3
```

Plotting the cubic interpolant and the value of 'y' for the desired 'x'

```
> plot([[t, eval(fcubic(z), z=t)], t=ranger(xdata, datapoints)], xy, [[x  
desired, eval(fcubic(z), z=xdesired)]], z=ranger(x, n), style=[LINE  
, POINT, POINT], color=[RED, BLUE, BLUE], symbol=[CROSS, CIRCLE], symbo
```

```
lsize=[40,30],thickness=3,title="Cubic interpolation");  
Cubic interpolation
```



[>

Section VI: Conclusion.

Maple helped us to apply our knowledge of numerical methods of interpolation to find the value of y at a particular value of x using first, second, and third order Lagrangian method of interpolation. Using Maple functions and plotting routines made it easy to illustrate this method.

References

[1] *Nathan Collier, Autar Kaw, Jai Paul, Michael Keteltas, Holistic Numerical Methods Institute, See*

http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu/mws/gen/05inp/mws_gen_inp_sim_lagrange.mws

http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu/mws/gen/05inp/mws_gen_inp_txt_lagrange.pdf

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