

### Linear interpolation from a table

Suppose that you are to find the specific weight ( $\gamma$ ) for water at a temperature  $T = 62.5^\circ F$ . Table A.1, Appendix A, p. 732, in *Finnemore and Franzini (2002)*, shows values of  $\gamma$  for  $T = 60^\circ F$  and  $T = 70^\circ F$ . Since the temperature of interest is between these two values, we can put together the following interpolating table, where  $x$  is the unknown value sought:

	<u><math>T(^{\circ}F)</math></u>	<u><math>\gamma(lb/ft^3)</math></u>	
→	60.0	62.37	←
→	62.5	$x$	←
→	70.0	62.30	←

$\left( \begin{array}{l} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \end{array}$

$\left( \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \\ \leftarrow \end{array}$

$\boxed{(62.30-x)}$

The brackets in the table represent differences of the various elements in the table, from bottom to top, i.e.,  $70.0 - 60.0 = 10.0$ ,  $70.0 - 62.5 = 7.5$ ,  $62.30 - 62.37 = -0.07$ , and  $(62.30 - x)$ . Then, we can set up the following proportions among the differences shown above, i.e.,

$$\frac{(62.30 - x)}{-0.07} = \frac{7.5}{10}$$

Solving for  $x$ , we get:

$$x = 62.30 - \left(-0.07 \frac{7.5}{10}\right) = 62.3525 \text{ ,}$$

i.e., the result sought is  $\gamma = 62.3525 \text{ lb/ft}^3$ .