

Polynomial Approximations

3rd degree polynomial approximation

$$P_3(x) = f(c) + f'(c)(x-c) + \frac{f''(c)}{2!} (x-c)^2 + \frac{f'''(c)}{3!} (x-c)^3$$

Ex. Write $P_3(x)$ for $f(x) = \sin x$ centered at $x = 0$.

| n | $f^{(n)}(x)$ | $f^{(n)}(0)$ | $\frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!}$ |
|-----|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| 0 | $\sin x$ | $0 \div 0!$ | 0 |
| 1 | $\cos x$ | $1 \div 1!$ | 1 |
| 2 | $-\sin x$ | $0 \div 2!$ | 0 |
| 3 | $-\cos x$ | $-1 \div 3!$ | $-\frac{1}{3!}$ |

$$\sin x \approx x - \frac{1}{3!} x^3$$

sine is an odd function

$$P_7(x) = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!}$$

$n = 0 \qquad 1 \qquad 2 \qquad 3$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} = \sin x$$

Write $P_8(x)$ for $\cos x$
centered at $x = 0$.

| n | $f^{(n)}(x)$ | $f^{(n)}(0)$ | $\frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!}$ |
|-----|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| 0 | $\cos x$ | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | $-\sin x$ | 0 | 0 |
| 2 | $-\cos x$ | -1 | $-1/2!$ |
| 3 | $\sin x$ | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | $\cos x$ | +1 | $1/4!$ |
| 5 | $-\sin x$ | 0 | 0 |
| 6 | $-\cos x$ | -1 | $-1/6!$ |
| 7 | $\sin x$ | 0 | 0 |
| 8 | $\cos x$ | 1 | $1/8!$ |

$$\cos x \approx 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \frac{x^8}{8!}$$

$$\cos x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n}}{(2n)!}$$

Write $P_5(x)$ for e^x centered at $x=0$. This is the Maclaurin Polynomial for e^x .

| n | $f^{(n)}(x)$ | $f^{(n)}(0)$ | $\frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!}$ | |
|-----|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------|
| 0 | e^x | 1 | 1 | const. |
| 1 | e^x | 1 | 1 | x |
| 2 | e^x | 1 | $1/2!$ | x^2 |
| 3 | e^x | 1 | $1/3!$ | x^3 |
| 4 | e^x | 1 | $1/4!$ | x^4 |
| 5 | e^x | 1 | $1/5!$ | x^5 |

$$e^x \approx 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \frac{x^5}{5!}$$

$$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

$$\frac{f^{(n)}(c)}{n!} (x-c)^n$$

Write $P_{10}(x)$ for $\sin x^2$ at $x=0$.

$$\sin x \approx x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} \dots$$

$$\sin x^2 \approx x^2 - \frac{(x^2)^3}{3!} + \frac{(x^2)^5}{5!}$$

$$= x^2 - \frac{x^6}{3!} + \frac{x^{10}}{5!}$$

Write $P_5(x)$ for $f(x) = \frac{e^{x^2}}{x}$ at $x > 0$

$$e^x \approx 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} \dots$$

$$e^{x^2} \approx 1 + x^2 + \frac{x^4}{2!} + \frac{x^6}{3!} \dots$$

$$\frac{e^{x^2}}{x} \approx \frac{1}{x} + x + \frac{x^3}{2!} + \frac{x^5}{3!}$$