AP Topic: Power Series (BC only)

Since some graphing calculator can produce Taylor Polynomials, this question appears on the no calculator allowed section. (Questions from 1995 – 1999 before the FR sections was split do not have anything a calculator *could* do. They are interesting and clever and worth looking at.)

What students should be able to do:

- Find the Taylor (or Maclaurin) polynomial or series for a given function – usually 4 terms and the general term). This may be done by finding the various derivatives, or any other method such as substitution into a known series, long division, the formula for the sum of an infinite geometric series, integration, differentiation, etc.
- Know from memory the Maclaurin series for $\sin(x)$, $\cos(x)$, e^x, and $\frac{1}{1-x}$.
- Find related series by substitution, differentiation, integration or by adapting one of those above.
- Find the radius of convergence (usually by using the Ratio test, or from a geometric series).
- Find the interval of convergence using the radius and checking the endpoints separately.
- Work with geometric series.
- Use the convergence test separately and when checking the endpoints.
- Find a high-order derivative from the coefficient of a term.
- Estimate the error bound of a Taylor or Maclaurin polynomial by using *alternating series error bound* or the *Lagrange error bound.*
- *Do not* claim that a function is equal to (=) its Taylor or Maclaurin polynomial; it is only approximately equal ($\approx$). This could cost a point.

3. The Taylor series about $x = 5$ for a certain function f converges to $f(x)$ for all x in the interval of convergence. The nth derivative of f at $x = 5$ is given by $f^{(n)}(5) = \dfrac{(-1)^n n!}{2^n (n+2)}$, and $f(5) = \dfrac{1}{2}$.

(a) Write the third-degree Taylor polynomial for f about $x = 5$.

(b) Find the radius of convergence of the Taylor series for f about $x = 5$.

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(c) Show that the sixth-degree Taylor polynomial for f about $x = 5$ approximates $f(6)$ with error less than $\frac{1}{1000}$.

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6. The Maclaurin series for the function f is given by

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(2x)^{n+1}}{n+1} = 2x + \frac{4x^2}{2} + \frac{8x^3}{3} + \frac{16x^4}{4} + \cdots + \frac{(2x)^{n+1}}{n+1} + \cdots$$

on its interval of convergence.

(a) Find the interval of convergence of the Maclaurin series for f. Justify your answer.

NO CALCULATOR ALLOWED

(b) Find the first four terms and the general term for the Maclaurin series for $f'(x)$.

(c) Use the Maclaurin series you found in part (b) to find the value of $f'\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)$.

3. The Taylor series about $x = 0$ for a certain function f converges to $f(x)$ for all x in the interval of convergence. The nth derivative of f at $x = 0$ is given by

$$f^{(n)}(0) = \frac{(-1)^{n+1}(n+1)!}{5^n (n-1)^2} \text{ for } n \geq 2.$$

The graph of f has a horizontal tangent line at $x = 0$, and $f(0) = 6$.

(a) Determine whether f has a relative maximum, a relative minimum, or neither at $x = 0$. Justify your answer.

(b) Write the third-degree Taylor polynomial for f about $x = 0$.

(c) Find the radius of convergence of the Taylor series for f about $x = 0$. Show the work that leads to your answer.

NO CALCULATOR ALLOWED

6. The function f is defined by $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^3}$. The Maclaurin series for f is given by

$$1 - x^3 + x^6 - x^9 + \cdots + (-1)^n x^{3n} + \cdots,$$

which converges to $f(x)$ for $-1 < x < 1$.

(a) Find the first three nonzero terms and the general term for the Maclaurin series for $f'(x)$.

(b) Use your results from part (a) to find the sum of the infinite series $-\frac{3}{2^2} + \frac{6}{2^5} - \frac{9}{2^8} + \cdots + (-1)^n \frac{3n}{2^{3n-1}} + \cdots$.

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Continue problem 6 on page 15.

(c) Find the first four nonzero terms and the general term for the Maclaurin series representing $\int_0^x f(t)\,dt$.

(d) Use the first three nonzero terms of the infinite series found in part (c) to approximate $\int_0^{1/2} f(t)\,dt$. What are the properties of the terms of the series representing $\int_0^{1/2} f(t)\,dt$ that guarantee that this approximation is within $\frac{1}{10{,}000}$ of the exact value of the integral?

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6. The function f is defined by the power series

$$f(x) = -\frac{x}{2} + \frac{2x^2}{3} - \frac{3x^3}{4} + \cdots + \frac{(-1)^n nx^n}{n+1} + \cdots$$

for all real numbers x for which the series converges. The function g is defined by the power series

$$g(x) = 1 - \frac{x}{2!} + \frac{x^2}{4!} - \frac{x^3}{6!} + \cdots + \frac{(-1)^n x^n}{(2n)!} + \cdots$$

for all real numbers x for which the series converges.

(a) Find the interval of convergence of the power series for f. Justify your answer.

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(b) The graph of $y = f(x) - g(x)$ passes through the point $(0, -1)$. Find $y'(0)$ and $y''(0)$. Determine whether y has a relative minimum, a relative maximum, or neither at $x = 0$. Give a reason for your answer.

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STOP

END OF EXAM

THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS APPLY TO THE COVERS OF THE SECTION II BOOKLET.

- MAKE SURE YOU HAVE COMPLETED THE IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION AS REQUESTED ON THE FRONT AND BACK COVERS OF THE SECTION II BOOKLET.
- CHECK TO SEE THAT YOUR AP NUMBER LABEL APPEARS IN THE BOX(ES) ON THE COVER(S).
- MAKE SURE YOU HAVE USED THE SAME SET OF AP NUMBER LABELS ON ALL AP EXAMS YOU HAVE TAKEN THIS YEAR.

NO CALCULATOR ALLOWED

6. Let f be the function given by $f(x) = 6e^{-x/3}$ for all x.

(a) Find the first four nonzero terms and the general term for the Taylor series for f about $x = 0$.

(b) Let g be the function given by $g(x) = \int_0^x f(t)\,dt$. Find the first four nonzero terms and the general term for the Taylor series for g about $x = 0$.

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(c) The function h satisfies $h(x) = kf'(ax)$ for all x, where a and k are constants. The Taylor series for h about $x = 0$ is given by

$$h(x) = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \cdots + \frac{x^n}{n!} + \cdots.$$

Find the values of a and k.

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x	$h(x)$	$h'(x)$	$h''(x)$	$h'''(x)$	$h^{(4)}(x)$
1	11	30	42	99	18
2	80	128	$\frac{488}{3}$	$\frac{448}{3}$	$\frac{584}{9}$
3	317	$\frac{753}{2}$	$\frac{1383}{4}$	$\frac{3483}{16}$	$\frac{1125}{16}$

3. Let h be a function having derivatives of all orders for $x > 0$. Selected values of h and its first four derivatives are indicated in the table above. The function h and these four derivatives are increasing on the interval $1 \le x \le 3$.

(a) Write the first-degree Taylor polynomial for h about $x = 2$ and use it to approximate $h(1.9)$. Is this approximation greater than or less than $h(1.9)$? Explain your reasoning.

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(b) Write the third-degree Taylor polynomial for h about $x = 2$ and use it to approximate $h(1.9)$.

(c) Use the Lagrange error bound to show that the third-degree Taylor polynomial for h about $x = 2$ approximates $h(1.9)$ with error less than 3×10^{-4}.

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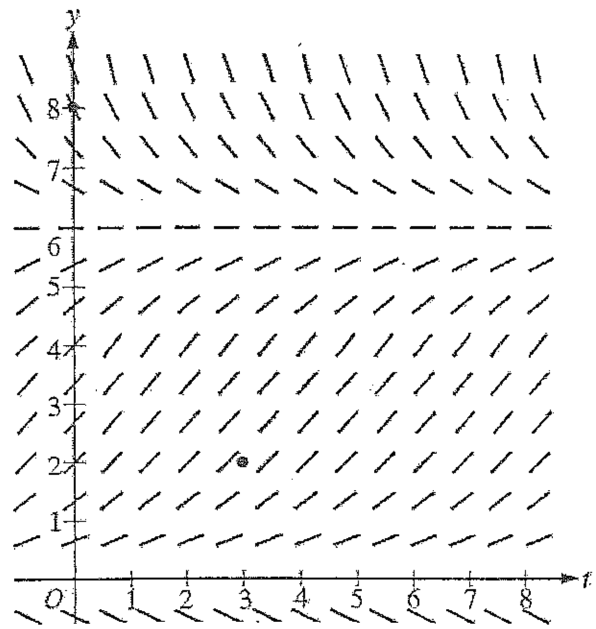
END OF PART A OF SECTION II

IF YOU FINISH BEFORE TIME IS CALLED, YOU MAY CHECK YOUR WORK ON PART A ONLY. DO NOT GO ON TO PART B UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.

NO CALCULATOR ALLOWED

6. Consider the logistic differential equation $\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{y}{8}(6 - y)$. Let $y = f(t)$ be the particular solution to the differential equation with $f(0) = 8$.

   (a) A slope field for this differential equation is given below. Sketch possible solution curves through the points $(3, 2)$ and $(0, 8)$.



   (b) Use Euler's method, starting at $t = 0$ with two steps of equal size, to approximate $f(1)$.

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Continue problem 6 on page 15.

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(c) Write the second-degree Taylor polynomial for f about $t = 0$, and use it to approximate $f(1)$.

(d) What is the range of f for $t \geq 0$?

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6. Let f be the function given by $f(x) = \frac{2x}{1+x^2}$.

(a) Write the first four nonzero terms and the general term of the Taylor series for f about $x = 0$.

(b) Does the series found in part (a), when evaluated at $x = 1$, converge to $f(1)$? Explain why or why not.

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(c) The derivative of $\ln\left(1+x^2\right)$ is $\frac{2x}{1+x^2}$. Write the first four nonzero terms of the Taylor series for $\ln\left(1+x^2\right)$ about $x=0$.

(d) Use the series found in part (c) to find a rational number A such that $\left|A - \ln\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)\right| < \frac{1}{100}$. Justify your answer.

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