3.6 Evaluate e^{-5} using two approaches

$$e^{-x} = 1 - x + \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \cdots$$

and

$$e^{-x} = \frac{1}{e^x} = \frac{1}{1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \cdots}$$

and compare with the true value of 6.737947×10^{-3}. Use 20 terms to evaluate each series and compute true and approximate relative errors as terms are added.

3.7 The derivative of $f(x) = 1/(1 - 3x^2)$ is given by

$$\frac{6x}{(1 - 3x^2)^2}$$

Do you expect to have difficulties evaluating this function at $x = 0.577$? Try it using 3- and 4-digit arithmetic with chopping.

4.2 The Maclaurin series expansion for $\cos x$ is

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

Starting with the simplest version, $\cos x = 1$, add terms one at a time to estimate $\cos(\pi/3)$. After each new term is added, compute the true and approximate percent relative errors. Use your pocket calculator to determine the true value. Add terms until the absolute value of the approximate error estimate falls below an error criterion conforming to two significant figures.

4.5 Use zero- through third-order Taylor series expansions to predict $f(3)$ for

$$f(x) = 25x^3 - 6x^2 + 7x - 88$$

using a base point at $x = 1$. Compute the true percent relative error ε_t for each approximation.

4.11 Recall that the velocity of the falling parachutist can be computed by [Eq. (1.10)],

$$v(t) = \frac{gm}{c}\left(1 - e^{-(c/m)t}\right)$$

Use a first-order error analysis to estimate the error of v at $t = 6$, if $g = 9.81$ and $m = 50$ but $c = 12.5 \pm 1.5$.

4.12 Repeat Prob. 4.11 with $g = 9.81$, $t = 6$, $c = 12.5 \pm 1.5$, and $m = 50 \pm 2$.