

2017 AP® CALCULUS BC FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

$$\begin{aligned}f(0) &= 0 \\f'(0) &= 1 \\f^{(n+1)}(0) &= -n \cdot f^{(n)}(0) \text{ for all } n \geq 1\end{aligned}$$

6. A function f has derivatives of all orders for $-1 < x < 1$. The derivatives of f satisfy the conditions above. The Maclaurin series for f converges to $f(x)$ for $|x| < 1$.

- (a) Show that the first four nonzero terms of the Maclaurin series for f are $x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4}$, and write the general term of the Maclaurin series for f .
- (b) Determine whether the Maclaurin series described in part (a) converges absolutely, converges conditionally, or diverges at $x = 1$. Explain your reasoning.
- (c) Write the first four nonzero terms and the general term of the Maclaurin series for $g(x) = \int_0^x f(t) dt$.
- (d) Let $P_n\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$ represent the n th-degree Taylor polynomial for g about $x = 0$ evaluated at $x = \frac{1}{2}$, where g is the function defined in part (c). Use the alternating series error bound to show that

$$\left| P_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - g\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \right| < \frac{1}{500}.$$

STOP
END OF EXAM

**AP[®] CALCULUS BC
2017 SCORING GUIDELINES**

Question 6

(a) $f(0) = 0$
 $f'(0) = 1$
 $f''(0) = -1(1) = -1$
 $f'''(0) = -2(-1) = 2$
 $f^{(4)}(0) = -3(2) = -6$

3 : $\begin{cases} 1 : f''(0), f'''(0), \text{ and } f^{(4)}(0) \\ 1 : \text{verify terms} \\ 1 : \text{general term} \end{cases}$

The first four nonzero terms are

$$0 + 1x + \frac{-1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{2}{3!}x^3 + \frac{-6}{4!}x^4 = x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4}.$$

The general term is $\frac{(-1)^{n+1}x^n}{n}$.

(b) For $x = 1$, the Maclaurin series becomes $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n}$.

2 : converges conditionally
with reason

The series does not converge absolutely because the harmonic series diverges.

The series alternates with terms that decrease in magnitude to 0, and therefore the series converges conditionally.

$$\begin{aligned} (c) \int_0^x f(t) dt &= \int_0^x \left(t - \frac{t^2}{2} + \frac{t^3}{3} - \frac{t^4}{4} + \dots + \frac{(-1)^{n+1} t^n}{n} + \dots \right) dt \\ &= \left[\frac{t^2}{2} - \frac{t^3}{3 \cdot 2} + \frac{t^4}{4 \cdot 3} - \frac{t^5}{5 \cdot 4} + \dots + \frac{(-1)^{n+1} t^{n+1}}{(n+1)n} + \dots \right]_{t=0}^{t=x} \\ &= \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6} + \frac{x^4}{12} - \frac{x^5}{20} + \dots + \frac{(-1)^{n+1} x^{n+1}}{(n+1)n} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

3 : $\begin{cases} 1 : \text{two terms} \\ 1 : \text{remaining terms} \\ 1 : \text{general term} \end{cases}$

(d) The terms alternate in sign and decrease in magnitude to 0. By the alternating series error bound, the error $\left| P_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - g\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \right|$ is bounded by the magnitude of the first unused term, $\left| -\frac{(1/2)^5}{20} \right|$.

1 : error bound

$$\text{Thus, } \left| P_4\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - g\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \right| \leq \left| -\frac{(1/2)^5}{20} \right| = \frac{1}{32 \cdot 20} < \frac{1}{500}.$$