6. The Maclaurin series for $\ln(1 + x)$ is given by

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

On its interval of convergence, this series converges to $\ln(1 + x)$. Let f be the function defined by

$f(x) = x \ln\left(1 + \frac{x}{3}\right).$

(a) Write the first four nonzero terms and the general term of the Maclaurin series for f.

(b) Determine the interval of convergence of the Maclaurin series for f. Show the work that leads to your answer.

(c) Let $P_4(x)$ be the fourth-degree Taylor polynomial for f about $x = 0$. Use the alternating series error bound to find an upper bound for $\left|P_4(2) - f(2)\right|$.

STOP

END OF EXAM

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Question 6

(a) The first four nonzero terms are $\frac{x^2}{3} - \frac{x^3}{2 \cdot 3^2} + \frac{x^4}{3 \cdot 3^3} - \frac{x^5}{4 \cdot 3^4}$.

The general term is $(-1)^{n+1} \frac{x^{n+1}}{n \cdot 3^n}$.

$2 : \begin{cases} 1 : \text{first four terms} \\ 1 : \text{general term} \end{cases}$

(b) $$\lim_{n\to\infty} \left| \frac{\frac{(-1)^{n+2} x^{n+2}}{(n+1)\left(3^{n+1}\right)}}{\frac{(-1)^{n+1} x^{n+1}}{n \cdot 3^n}} \right| = \lim_{n\to\infty} \left| \frac{-x}{3} \cdot \frac{n}{(n+1)} \right| = \left| \frac{x}{3} \right|$$

$\left| \frac{x}{3} \right| < 1$ for $|x| < 3$

Therefore, the radius of convergence of the Maclaurin series for f is 3.

— OR —

The radius of convergence of the Maclaurin series for $\ln(1 + x)$ is 1, so the series for $f(x) = x \ln\left(1 + \frac{x}{3}\right)$ converges absolutely for $\left| \frac{x}{3} \right| < 1$.

$\left| \frac{x}{3} \right| < 1 \Rightarrow |x| < 3$

Therefore, the radius of convergence of the Maclaurin series for f is 3.

When $x = -3$, the series is $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{(-3)^{n+1}}{n \cdot 3^n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3}{n}$, which diverges by comparison to the harmonic series.

When $x = 3$, the series is $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{3^{n+1}}{n \cdot 3^n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{3}{n}$, which converges by the alternating series test.

The interval of convergence of the Maclaurin series for f is $-3 < x \le 3$.

$5 : \begin{cases} 1 : \text{sets up ratio} \\ 1 : \text{computes limit of ratio} \\ 1 : \text{radius of convergence} \\ 1 : \text{considers both endpoints} \\ 1 : \text{analysis and interval of convergence} \end{cases}$

— OR —

$5 : \begin{cases} 1 : \text{radius for } \ln(1 + x) \text{ series} \\ 1 : \text{substitutes } \frac{x}{3} \\ 1 : \text{radius of convergence} \\ 1 : \text{considers both endpoints} \\ 1 : \text{analysis and interval of convergence} \end{cases}$

(c) By the alternating series error bound, an upper bound for $|P_4(2) - f(2)|$ is the magnitude of the next term of the alternating series.

$|P_4(2) - f(2)| < \left| -\frac{2^5}{4 \cdot 3^4} \right| = \frac{8}{81}$

$2 : \begin{cases} 1 : \text{uses fifth-degree term as error bound} \\ 1 : \text{answer} \end{cases}$