

Math 342 Workshop - Taylor Polynomials

Name: _____

1. Write a Python program to find and sum the terms of the 20th degree Maclaurin polynomial to approximate e^6 . Instead of writing a for-loop, I recommend using a **generator expression**:

(expression for item in iterable).

For example, the code below would estimate e^1 using a 9th degree Maclaurin polynomial:

```
from math import *  
sum(1/factorial(n) for n in range(10))
```

2. Use the `exp` function in the Python math library to find the “exact” value of e^6 . Compare this with your approximation. What is the relative error in your approximation?
3. Adjust your program to find the 20th degree Maclaurin polynomial approximation for e^{-6} .
4. Compare your answer to the actual value of e^{-6} . What is the relative error?

5. The Maclaurin polynomial of degree $2n + 1$ for $\sin x$ is

$$P_{2n+1}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \frac{x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!}.$$

- (a) Write a Python function to evaluate the 21st degree Maclaurin polynomial for $\sin x$ and use it to approximate $\sin(4\pi)$. What do you get?
- (b) What is $\sin(4\pi)$ according to Python (using the `sin()` function and `pi` from the `math` library)?
- (c) What is the actual value of $\sin(4\pi)$ without using a computer?
6. Use the Maclaurin series for $\cos x$ to find the Maclaurin series for $\cos \sqrt{x}$. Then integrate to find the Maclaurin series for $\int \cos \sqrt{x} dx$.

7. Use Python to approximate $\int_0^1 \cos \sqrt{x} dx$.