

# Methods of Applied Mathematics I

## HW3

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### 1 EXERCISE3.1

*Proof.* Let  $\phi(x) = (x^2 - 1)^n$ , then

$$\phi(\pm 1) = \phi^{(1)}(\pm 1) = \cdots = \phi^{(n-1)}(\pm 1) = 0 \quad (1.1)$$

The  $L^2$  norm of  $P_n(x)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \|P_n\|_2 &= \sqrt{\int_{-1}^1 P_n^2(x) dx} \\ &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{2^n n!}\right)^2 \int_{-1}^1 [\phi^{(n)}(x)]^2 dx} \\ &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{2^n n!}\right)^2 (-1)^n \int_{-1}^1 \phi^{(2n)}(x) \phi(x) dx} \quad (\text{Integrate by parts}) \\ &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{2^n n!}\right)^2 (-1)^n (2n)! \int_{-1}^1 (x^2 - 1)^n dx} \\ &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{2^n n!}\right)^2 (-1)^n (2n)! \cdot 2 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} (\sin^2(x) - 1)^n \cos(x) dx} \\ &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{2^n n!}\right)^2 (2n)! \cdot 2 \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos^{2n+1}(x) dx} \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

Since

$$\int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \cos^{2n+1}(x) dx = \frac{2 \times 4 \times \cdots \times (2n)}{1 \times 3 \times \cdots \times (2n+1)} \quad (1.3)$$

substitute it into the norm equation of  $P_n$  yields

$$\|P_n\|_2 = \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{2^n n!}\right)^2 (2n)! \cdot 2 \cdot \frac{2 \times 4 \times \cdots \times (2n)}{1 \times 3 \times \cdots \times (2n+1)}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{2n+1}} \quad (1.4)$$

□

## 2 EXERCISE3.2

1. Consider the projection of  $f(x)$  onto  $P_0(x)$ ,  $P_1(x)$  and  $P_2(x)$  correspondingly

$$(f, P_0) = \int_{-1}^1 e^x dx = e - \frac{1}{e} \quad (2.1)$$

$$(f, P_1) = \int_{-1}^1 x e^x dx = \frac{2}{e} \quad (2.2)$$

$$(f, P_2) = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{3x^2 - 1}{2} e^x dx = e - \frac{7}{e} \quad (2.3)$$

As  $(P_i, P_j) = 0$  when  $i \neq j$ ,  $p(x)$  can be written as linear combination of  $P_i$

$$p(x) = a_0 P_0(x) + a_1 P_1(x) + a_2 P_2(x) \quad (2.4)$$

with coefficient  $a_i$  given as

$$a_i = \frac{(f, P_i)}{(P_i, P_i)} = \frac{2i+1}{2} (f, P_i) \quad (2.5)$$

Finally

$$p(x) = 1.1752 P_0(x) + 1.1036 P_1(x) + 0.3578 P_2(x) \quad (2.6)$$

2. The plot(Fig 2.1) is provided for comparsion.

The distinction is quite obvious and Legendre polynomials does better than taylor series expansion at zero point.

## 3 EXERCISE3.3

- 1.
- 2.

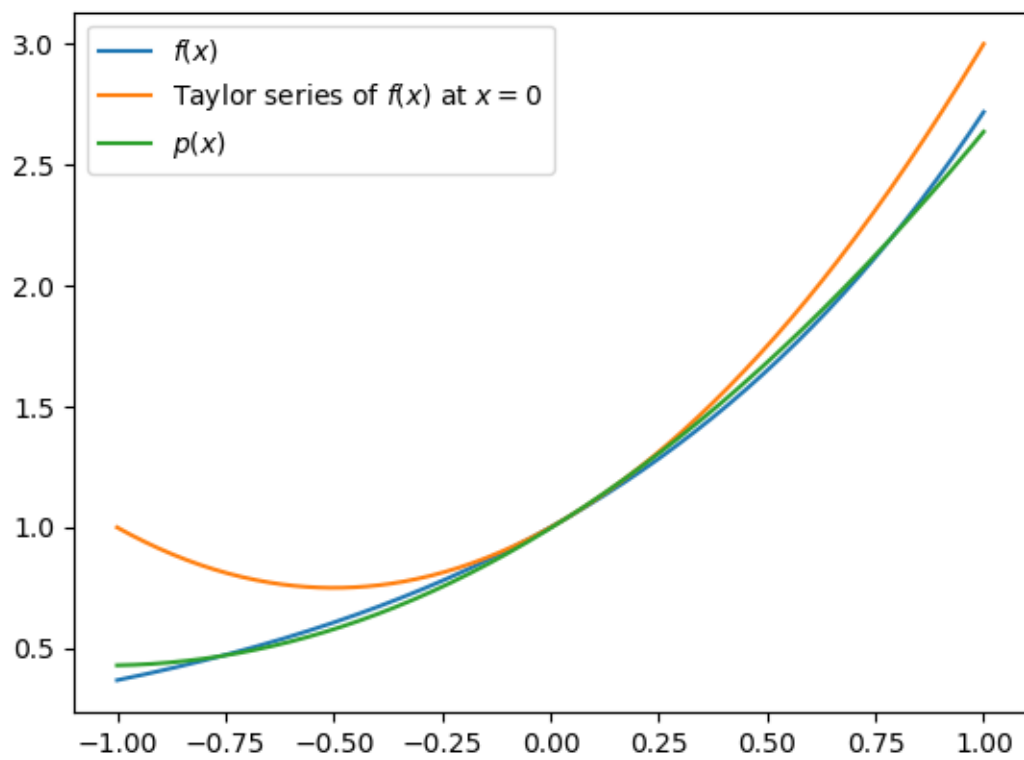


Figure 2.1: Comparison of different approximation for  $e^x$