Math 181, Exam 2, Study Guide 2 Problem 1 Solution

1. Use the trapezoid rule with n = 2 to estimate the arc-length of the curve $y = \sin x$ between x = 0 and $x = \pi$.

Solution: The arclength is:

$$L = \int_{a}^{b} \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^{2}} dx$$
$$= \int_{0}^{\pi} \sqrt{1 + (\cos x)^{2}} dx$$
$$= \int_{0}^{\pi} \sqrt{1 + \cos^{2} x} dx$$

We now use the trapezoid rule with n = 2 to estimate the value of the integral. The formula we will use is:

$$T_2 = \frac{\Delta x}{2} \left[f(0) + 2f\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) + f(\pi) \right]$$

where $f(x) = \sqrt{1 + \cos^2 x}$ and the value of Δx is:

$$\Delta x = \frac{b-a}{n} = \frac{\pi - 0}{2} = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

The value of T_2 is then:

$$T_{2} = \frac{\Delta x}{2} \left[f(0) + 2f\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) + f(\pi) \right]$$
$$= \frac{\frac{\pi}{2}}{2} \left[\sqrt{1 + \cos^{2} 0} + 2\sqrt{1 + \cos^{2} \frac{\pi}{2}} + \sqrt{1 + \cos^{2} \pi} \right]$$
$$= \frac{\pi}{4} \left[\sqrt{1 + 1} + 2\sqrt{1 + 0} + \sqrt{1 + 1} \right]$$
$$= \left[\frac{\pi}{4} \left(2 + \sqrt{2} \right) \right]$$

Math 181, Exam 2, Study Guide 2 Problem 2 Solution

2.

- (a) Let R be the region between $y = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ and the x-axis with $x \ge 0$. Does R have finite area? If so, what is the area?
- (b) Let S be the solid obtained by revolving R around the y-axis. Does S have finite volume? If so, what is the volume?

Solution:

(a) The area of R is given by the improper integral:

$$Area = \int_0^{+\infty} \frac{1}{x^2 + 1} \, dx$$

We evaluate the integral by turning it into a limit calculation.

$$\int_{0}^{+\infty} \frac{dx}{x^{2}+1} = \lim_{R \to +\infty} \int_{0}^{R} \frac{dx}{x^{2}+1}$$

The integral has a simple antiderivative so its value is:

$$\int_0^R \frac{dx}{x^2 + 1} = \left[\arctan x\right]_0^R$$
$$= \arctan R - \arctan 0$$
$$= \arctan R$$

We now take the limit of the above function as $R \to +\infty$.

$$\int_{0}^{+\infty} \frac{dx}{x^{2}+1} = \lim_{R \to +\infty} \int_{0}^{R} \frac{dx}{x^{2}+1}$$
$$= \lim_{R \to +\infty} \arctan R$$
$$= \frac{\pi}{2}$$
Thus, the area is finite and its value is $\left\lceil \frac{\pi}{2} \right\rceil$.

(b) The volume of S is obtained by using the Shell Method. The formula is

$$V = \int_0^\infty 2\pi x \cdot \frac{1}{x^2 + 1} \, dx$$

To compute the integral we first turn it into a limit calculation.

$$V = \pi \lim_{b \to \infty} \int_0^b \frac{2x}{x^2 + 1} \, dx$$

The value of the integral is

$$\int_0^b \frac{2x}{x^2 + 1} \, dx = \left[\ln |x^2 + 1| \right]_0^b = \ln(b^2 + 1)$$

The volume is then

$$V = \lim_{b \to \infty} \ln(b^2 + 1) = \infty$$

That is, the volume is not finite.

Math 181, Exam 2, Study Guide 2 Problem 3 Solution

3. Evaluate the following integrals:

(a)
$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin^4 x \, dx$$

(b) $\int_{0}^{1} \frac{dx}{2x^2 + 5x + 2}$
(c) $\int_{0}^{1} \frac{dx}{2x^2 + 4x + 3}$
(d) $\int_{0}^{\infty} x^2 e^{-x} \, dx$

Solution:

(a) We solve this integral using a reduction formula.

$$\int \sin^n x \, dx = -\frac{1}{n} \sin^{n-1} x \cos x + \frac{n-1}{n} \int \sin^{n-2} x \, dx$$

Letting n = 4 we get:

$$\int \sin^4 x \, dx = -\frac{1}{4} \sin^3 x \cos x + \frac{3}{4} \int \sin^2 x \, dx$$
$$= -\frac{1}{4} \sin^3 x \cos x + \frac{3}{4} \int \frac{1}{2} [1 - \cos(2x)] \, dx$$
$$= -\frac{1}{4} \sin^3 x \cos x + \frac{3}{8} \int [1 - \cos(2x)] \, dx$$
$$= -\frac{1}{4} \sin^3 x \cos x + \frac{3}{8} x - \frac{3}{16} \sin(2x)$$

To evaluate $\int \sin^2 x \, dx$ we used the double angle identity $\cos(2x) = 1 - 2\sin^2 x$.

We now solve the definite integral.

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin^4 x \, dx = \left[-\frac{1}{4} \sin^3 x \cos x + \frac{3}{8} x - \frac{3}{16} \sin(2x) \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi}$$
$$= \left[-\frac{1}{4} \sin^3 \pi \cos \pi + \frac{3}{8} \pi - \frac{3}{16} \sin(2\pi) \right] - \left[-\frac{1}{4} \sin^3(-\pi) \cos(-\pi) + \frac{3}{8}(-\pi) - \frac{3}{16} \sin(-2\pi) \right]$$
$$= \left[0 + \frac{3}{8} \pi - 0 \right] - \left[0 - \frac{3}{8} \pi - 0 \right]$$
$$= \left[\frac{3}{4} \pi \right]$$

(b) We will evaluate the integral using Partial Fraction Decomposition. First, we factor the denominator and then decompose the rational function into a sum of simpler rational functions.

$$\frac{1}{2x^2 + 5x + 2} = \frac{1}{(2x+1)(x+2)} = \frac{A}{2x+1} + \frac{B}{x+2}$$

Next, we multiply the above equation by (2x + 1)(x + 2) to get:

$$1 = A(x+2) + B(2x+1)$$

Then we plug in two different values for x to create a system of two equations in two unknowns (A, B). We select $x = -\frac{1}{2}$ and x = -2 for simplicity.

$$x = -\frac{1}{2}: A\left(-\frac{1}{2}+2\right) + B\left(2\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)+1\right) = 1 \implies A = \frac{2}{3}$$
$$x = -2: A(-2+2) + B(2(-2)+1) = 1 \implies B = -\frac{1}{3}$$

Finally, we plug these values for A and B back into the decomposition and integrate.

$$\int \frac{1}{2x^2 + 5x + 2} \, dx = \int \left(\frac{A}{2x + 1} + \frac{B}{x + 2}\right) \, dx$$
$$= \int \left(\frac{\frac{2}{3}}{2x + 1} + \frac{-\frac{1}{3}}{x + 2}\right) \, dx$$
$$= \frac{1}{3} \ln|2x + 1| - \frac{1}{3} \ln|x + 2|$$

We now solve the definite integral.

$$\int_{0}^{1} \frac{dx}{2x^{2} + 5x + 2} = \left[\frac{1}{3}\ln|2x + 1| - \frac{1}{3}\ln|x + 2|\right]_{0}^{1}$$
$$= \left[\frac{1}{3}\ln|2(1) + 1| - \frac{1}{3}\ln|1 + 2|\right] - \left[\frac{1}{3}\ln|2(0) + 1| - \frac{1}{3}\ln|0 + 2|\right]$$
$$= \frac{1}{3}\ln 3 - \frac{1}{3}\ln 3 - \frac{1}{3}\ln 1 + \frac{1}{3}\ln 2$$
$$= \left[\frac{1}{3}\ln 2\right]$$

(c) We begin by completing the square in the denominator.

$$\int \frac{dx}{2x^2 + 4x + 3} = \int \frac{dx}{2(x+1)^2 + 1}$$

We then evaluate the integral using the *u*-substitution method. Let $u = \sqrt{2}(x+1)$. Then $du = \sqrt{2} dx \implies \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} du = dx$ and we get:

$$\int \frac{dx}{2x^2 + 4x + 3} = \int \frac{dx}{2(x+1)^2 + 1} \\ = \int \frac{dx}{[\sqrt{2}(x+1)]^2 + 1} \\ = \int \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} du}{u^2 + 1} \\ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \int \frac{du}{u^2 + 1} \\ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \arctan u + C \\ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \arctan \left[\sqrt{2}(x+1)\right]$$

We now solve the definite integral.

$$\int_0^1 \frac{dx}{2x^2 + 4x + 3} = \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\arctan\left[\sqrt{2}(x+1)\right]\right]_0^1$$
$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\arctan\left[\sqrt{2}(1+1)\right] - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\arctan\left[\sqrt{2}(0+1)\right]$$
$$= \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\left[\arctan\left(2\sqrt{2}\right) - \arctan\left(\sqrt{2}\right)\right]\right]$$

(d) We evaluate the integral using Integration by Parts. Let $u = x^2$ and $v' = e^{-x}$. Then u' = 2x and $v = -e^{-x}$. Using the Integration by Parts formula:

$$\int uv' \, dx = uv - \int u'v \, dx$$

we get:

$$\int x^2 e^{-x} dx = -x^2 e^{-x} - \int 2x (-e^{-x}) dx$$
$$= -x^2 e^{-x} + 2 \int x e^{-x} dx$$

A second Integration by Parts must be performed. Let u = x and $v' = e^{-x}$. Then u' = 1 and $v = -e^{-x}$. Using the Integration by Parts formula again we get:

$$\int x^2 e^{-x} dx = -x^2 e^{-x} + 2 \left[-x e^{-x} - \int (-e^{-x}) dx \right]$$
$$= -x^2 e^{-x} - 2x e^{-x} + 2 \int e^{-x} dx$$
$$= -x^2 e^{-x} - 2x e^{-x} - 2e^{-x}$$

We now solve the definite integral. We recognize that it is an improper integral so we turn it into a limit and evaluate.

$$\int_{0}^{\infty} x^{2} e^{-x} dx = \lim_{b \to \infty} \int_{0}^{b} x^{2} e^{-x} dx$$
$$= \lim_{b \to \infty} \left[-x^{2} e^{-x} - 2x e^{-x} - 2e^{-x} \right]_{0}^{b}$$
$$= \lim_{b \to \infty} \left[-b^{2} e^{-b} - 2b e^{-b} - 2e^{-b} + 2 \right]$$
$$= \lim_{b \to \infty} \left[-\frac{b^{2}}{e^{b}} - \frac{2b}{e^{b}} - \frac{2}{e^{b}} + 2 \right]$$
$$= -0 - 0 - 0 + 2$$
$$= \boxed{2}$$

When computing the limits above, we used the fact that:

$$\lim_{x \to 0} \frac{x^n}{e^x} = 0$$

by repeated application of L'Hopital's Rule.

Math 181, Exam 2, Study Guide 2 Problem 4 Solution

4. Use a Taylor polynomial for $y = e^x$ to calculate e to two decimal places. Explain (using the remainder formula) why you have used sufficiently many terms.

Solution: We will find the *n*th degree Maclaurin polynomial of $f(x) = e^x$ so that the error $|T_n(1) - f(1)| = |T_n(1) - e|$ is less than 10^{-2} . That is, we must find a value of *n* that ensures that the Error Bound satisfies the inequality:

Error =
$$|T_n(1) - e| \le K \frac{|x - a|^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} < 10^{-2}$$

where x = 1, a = 0, and K satisfies the inequality $|f^{(n+1)}(u)| \le K$ for all $u \in [0, 1]$. Since $|f^{(n+1)}(u)| = e^u < 3$ for all $u \in [0, 1]$ we choose K = 3. We now want to satisfy the inequality:

Error =
$$|T_n(1) - e| \le 3 \frac{|1 - 0|^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} < 10^{-2}$$

Error = $|T_n(1) - e| \le \frac{3}{(n+1)!} < 10^{-2} = \frac{1}{100}$

We will find an appropriate value of n by a trial and error process.

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc}
n & \frac{3}{(n+1)!} \\
\hline 1 & \frac{3}{2!} = \frac{3}{2} \\
2 & \frac{3}{3!} = \frac{1}{6} \\
3 & \frac{3}{4!} = \frac{1}{8} \\
4 & \frac{3}{5!} = \frac{1}{40} \\
5 & \frac{3}{6!} = \frac{1}{240} < \frac{1}{100}
\end{array}$$

Therefore, we choose n = 5. The Maclaurin polynomial $T_5(x)$ for $f(x) = e^x$ is:

$$T_5(x) = 1 + x + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{1}{3!}x^3 + \frac{1}{4!}x^4 + \frac{1}{5!}x^5$$

Evaluating at x = 1 we get:

$$T_5(1) = 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{1}{3!} + \frac{1}{4!} + \frac{1}{5!}$$
$$T_5(1) = \frac{163}{60} \approx \boxed{2.71\overline{6}}$$

Math 181, Exam 2, Study Guide 2 Problem 5 Solution

5. Let S be the surface obtained by revolving the curve $y = \sin x$ between x = 0 and $x = \pi$ around the x-axis. What is the surface area of S?

Solution: The surface area formula is:

Surface Area =
$$2\pi \int_{a}^{b} f(x)\sqrt{1+f'(x)^2} dx$$

Using $a = 0, b = \pi, f(x) = \sin x$, and $f'(x) = \cos x$ we get:

Surface Area =
$$2\pi \int_0^\pi \sin x \sqrt{1 + (\cos x)^2} dx$$

= $2\pi \int_0^\pi \sin x \sqrt{1 + \cos^2 x} dx$

To evaluate the integral we use the *u*-substitution $u = \cos x$. Then $-du = \sin x \, dx$, the lower limit of integration changes from 0 to 1, and the upper limit changes from π to -1. Making these substitutions we get:

Surface Area =
$$-2\pi \int_{1}^{-1} \sqrt{1+u^2} \, du$$

= $2\pi \int_{-1}^{1} \sqrt{1+u^2} \, du$
= $4\pi \int_{0}^{1} \sqrt{1+u^2} \, du$

where, in the last step, we used the fact that $\sqrt{1+u^2}$ is symmetric with respect to the *y*-axis. To evaluate this integral we'll use the trigonometric substitution $u = \tan \theta$ and $du = \sec^2 d\theta$. We get:

$$\int \sqrt{1 + u^2} \, du = \int \sqrt{1 + \tan^2 \theta} \sec^2 \theta \, d\theta$$
$$= \int \sqrt{\sec^2 \theta} \sec^2 \theta \, d\theta$$
$$= \int \sec^3 \theta \, d\theta$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \tan \theta \sec \theta + \frac{1}{2} \ln |\sec \theta + \tan \theta|$$

where the integral of $\sec^3 \theta$ is determined via a reduction formula. Using the fact that $u = \tan \theta$ we find that $\sec \theta = \sqrt{1 + u^2}$ using a Pythagorean identity. Therefore,

$$\int \sqrt{1+u^2} \, du = \frac{1}{2}u\sqrt{1+u^2} + \ln\left|\sqrt{1+u^2} + u\right|$$

The surface area is then:

Surface Area =
$$4\pi \int_0^1 \sqrt{1+u^2} \, du$$

= $4\pi \left[\frac{1}{2} u \sqrt{1+u^2} + \ln \left| \sqrt{1+u^2} + u \right| \right]_0^1$
= $4\pi \left[\frac{1}{2} (1) \sqrt{1+1^2} + \ln \left| \sqrt{1+1^2} + 1 \right| \right] - 4\pi \left[\frac{1}{2} (0) \sqrt{1+0^2} + \ln \left| \sqrt{1+0^2} + 0 \right| \right]$
= $4\pi \left[\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + \ln 2 \right] - 4\pi \left[0 + \ln 1 \right]$
= $\left[2\pi \sqrt{2} + 2\pi \ln 2 \right]$

Math 181, Exam 2, Study Guide 2 Problem 6 Solution

6.

- (a) Estimate $\ln \frac{3}{2}$ using the degree two Taylor polynomial for $y = \ln x$ around x = 1.
- (b) Estimate $\ln \frac{3}{2}$ using the Midpoint rule with n = 2 for the integral $\int_{1}^{3/2} \frac{dx}{x}$.
- (c) Calculate the error bounds for the two estimates. Does this tell you which is closer to the exact answer?

Solution:

(a) The degree two Taylor polynomial for $f(x) = \ln x$ around x = 1 has the formula:

$$T_2(x) = f(1) + f'(1)(x-1) + \frac{f''(1)}{2!}(x-1)^2$$

The derivatives of f(x) evaluated at x = 1 are:

The Taylor polynomial $T_2(x)$ is then:

$$T_2(x) = f(1) + f'(1)(x-1) + \frac{f''(1)}{2!}(x-1)^2$$
$$T_2(x) = 0 + (x-1) - \frac{1}{2!}(x-1)^2$$
$$T_2(x) = (x-1) - \frac{1}{2}(x-1)^2$$

We will now estimate $\ln \frac{3}{2}$ using $T_2(\frac{3}{2})$.

$$\ln \frac{3}{2} \approx T_2 \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)$$
$$\approx \left(\frac{3}{2} - 1\right) - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{3}{2} - 1\right)^2$$
$$\approx \boxed{\frac{3}{8}}$$

(b) The value of Δx in the Midpoint rule is:

$$\Delta x = \frac{b-a}{n} = \frac{\frac{3}{2}-1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

The Midpoint estimate M_2 is:

$$M_2 = \Delta x \left[f\left(\frac{9}{8}\right) + f\left(\frac{11}{8}\right) \right]$$
$$= \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{1}{\frac{9}{8}} + \frac{1}{\frac{11}{8}} \right]$$
$$= \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{8}{9} + \frac{8}{11} \right]$$
$$= \boxed{\frac{40}{99}}$$

(c) The error bound for part (a) is given by the formula:

$$\operatorname{Error} \le K \frac{|x-a|^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}$$

where $x = \frac{3}{2}$, a = 1, n = 2, and K satisfies the inequality $|f'''(u)| \le K$ for all $u \in [1, \frac{3}{2}]$. One can show that $f'''(x) = \frac{2}{x^3}$. We conclude that $|f'''(u)| = |\frac{2}{u^3}| < 2$ for all $u \in [1, \frac{3}{2}]$. So we choose K = 2 and the error bound is:

Error
$$\leq 2 \frac{|\frac{3}{2} - 1|^3}{3!} = \frac{1}{24}$$

The error bound for part (b) is given by the formula:

$$\operatorname{Error}(M_n) \le \frac{K(b-a)^3}{24n^2}$$

where a = 1, $b = \frac{3}{2}$, n = 2, and K satisfies the inequality $|(\frac{1}{x})''| \le K$ for all $x \in [1, \frac{3}{2}]$. We conclude that $|(\frac{1}{x})''| = |\frac{2}{x^3}| \le 2$ for all $x \in [1, \frac{3}{2}]$. So we choose K = 2 and the error bound is:

Error(
$$M_2$$
) $\leq \frac{2 \cdot (\frac{3}{2} - 1)^3}{24(2)^2} = \frac{1}{384}$

We cannot tell which of $\frac{3}{8}$ and $\frac{40}{99}$ is closer to the exact answer. All we know is that both errors are smaller than $\frac{1}{24}$.

Math 181, Exam 2, Study Guide 2 Problem 7 Solution

7. Does the improper integral $\int_0^{+\infty} \frac{dx}{1+x^3}$ converge or diverge? Justify your answer.

Solution: We begin by rewriting the integral as follows:

$$\int_0^{+\infty} \frac{dx}{1+x^3} = \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{1+x^3} + \int_1^{+\infty} \frac{dx}{1+x^3}$$

The first integral on the right hand side is a proper integral so we know that it converges. We will use the Comparison Test to show that the second integral converges. Let $g(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^3}$. We must choose a function f(x) that satisfies:

(1)
$$\int_{1}^{+\infty} f(x) dx$$
 converges and (2) $0 \le g(x) \le f(x)$ for $x \ge 1$

We choose $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^3}$. This function satisfies the inequality:

$$0 \le g(x) \le f(x)$$
$$0 \le \frac{1}{1+x^3} \le \frac{1}{x^3}$$

for $x \ge 1$ because the denominator of g(x) is greater than the denominator of f(x) for these values of x. Furthermore, the integral $\int_{1}^{+\infty} f(x) dx = \int_{1}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{x^3} dx$ converges because it is a p-integral with p = 3 > 1. Therefore, the integral $\int_{1}^{+\infty} g(x) dx = \int_{1}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{1+x^3} dx$ converges by the Comparison Test and the integral $\int_{0}^{+\infty} \frac{dx}{1+x^3}$ converges.

Math 181, Exam 2, Study Guide 2 Problem 8 Solution

8. What is the arc-length of the segment of the parabola $y = 4 - x^2$ above the x-axis?

Solution: The arclength is:

$$L = \int_{a}^{b} \sqrt{1 + f'(x)^{2}} dx$$

= $\int_{-2}^{2} \sqrt{1 + (-2x)^{2}} dx$
= $\int_{-2}^{2} \sqrt{1 + 4x^{2}} dx$
= $2 \int_{0}^{2} \sqrt{1 + 4x^{2}} dx$

We solve the integral using the trigonometric substitution $x = \frac{1}{2} \tan \theta$, $dx = \frac{1}{2} \sec^2 \theta \, d\theta$. The indefinite integral is then:

$$\int \sqrt{1+4x^2} \, dx = \int \sqrt{1+4\left(\frac{1}{2}\tan\theta\right)^2} \left(\frac{1}{2}\sec^2\theta \, d\theta\right)$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \int \sqrt{1+\tan^2\theta} \sec^2\theta \, d\theta$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \int \sqrt{\sec^2\theta} \sec^2\theta \, d\theta$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \int \sec^3\theta \, d\theta$$
$$= \frac{1}{4}\tan\theta \sec\theta + \frac{1}{4}\ln|\sec\theta + \tan\theta|$$

Using the fact that $x = \frac{1}{2} \tan \theta$ we find that $\tan \theta = 2x$ and $\sec \theta = \sqrt{1 + 4x^2}$ either using a triangle or a Pythagorean identity. The integral in terms of x is then:

$$\int \sqrt{1+4x^2} \, dx = \frac{1}{4} \tan \theta \sec \theta + \frac{1}{4} \ln |\sec \theta + \tan \theta| = \frac{1}{2}x\sqrt{1+4x^2} + \frac{1}{4} \ln \left|\sqrt{1+4x^2} + 2x\right|$$

The arclength is then:

$$\begin{split} L &= 2 \int_{0}^{2} \sqrt{1 + 4x^{2}} \, dx \\ &= 2 \left[\frac{1}{2}x\sqrt{1 + 4x^{2}} + \frac{1}{4} \ln \left| \sqrt{1 + 4x^{2}} + 2x \right| \right]_{0}^{2} \\ &= \left[x\sqrt{1 + 4x^{2}} + \frac{1}{2} \ln \left| \sqrt{1 + 4x^{2}} + 2x \right| \right]_{0}^{2} \\ &= \left[2\sqrt{1 + 4(2)^{2}} + \frac{1}{2} \ln \left| \sqrt{1 + 4(2)^{2}} + 2(2) \right| \right] - \left[0 \cdot \sqrt{1 + 4(0)^{2}} + \frac{1}{2} \ln \left| \sqrt{1 + 4(0)^{2}} + 2(0) \right| \right] \\ &= \left[2\sqrt{17} + \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\sqrt{17} + 4 \right) \right] \end{split}$$

Math 181, Exam 2, Study Guide 2 Problem 9 Solution

9. Find a formula for the general Taylor polynomial $T_n(x)$ for the following functions around the specified points:

- (a) e^{-x^2} around x = 0
- (b) \sqrt{x} around x = 1

Solution:

(a) We'll use a shortcut to find $T_n(x)$. We'll start with the general Maclaurin polynomial for e^x which is:

$$T_n(x) = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots + \frac{x^n}{n!} = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{x^k}{k!}$$

and replace x with $-x^2$ to get:

$$T_n(x) = 1 - x^2 + \frac{x^4}{2!} - \frac{x^6}{3!} + \dots + \frac{(-x^2)^n}{n!} = \left| \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(-x^2)^k}{k!} \right|$$

(b) The function f(x) and its derivatives evaluated at a = 1 are:

The Taylor polynomial of degree n is:

$$T_n(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{2}(x-1) - \frac{1}{2^2 2!}(x-1)^2 + \frac{1 \cdot 3}{2^3 3!}(x-1)^3 - \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5}{2^4 4!} + \dots$$
$$= \boxed{1 + \frac{1}{2}(x-1) + \sum_{k=2}^n (-1)^{k-1} \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot (2k-3)}{2^k k!} (x-1)^k}$$