

Quiz 6

A Term, 2017

Show all work needed to reach your answers. For questions #1 and #2, please find a power series representation for each function, then for #1, give the radius of convergence.

1. (6 points) $f(x) = x^2 e^{-3x} = x^2 \left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-3x)^k}{k!} \right)$
 $= x^2 \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-3)^k x^k}{k!}$

Series: $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-3)^k x^{k+2}}{k!}$ $R = +\infty$

2. (6 points) $f(x) = \int_0^x \frac{1}{1-t^2} dt = \int_0^x \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (t^2)^k dt = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \int_0^x t^{2k} dt$
 $= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^{2k+1}}{2k+1} \Big|_0^x$

Series: $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{2k+1}}{2k+1}$

3. (8 points) If one approximates $\cos(x/3)$ on the interval $[-1, 1]$ by $1 - \frac{(x/3)^2}{2} = 1 - x^2/18$ (the first two terms of the Taylor series), what is a bound on the error? Explain.

Because the Taylor series for \cos is an alternating series, the error is bounded by the next term in the series: $|E| \leq \left| \frac{x^4}{3^4 \cdot 4!} \right|$. Since $|x| \leq 1$ on $[-1, 1]$,
 $|E| \leq \frac{1}{3^4 4!} = \frac{1}{2^3 3^5} = \frac{1}{1944} \approx 0.0005$