

**Math 201**  
**Preparation for Quiz #2**

**I. Binomial theorem**

**Example 1** Write down the first four terms in the Maclaurin series expansion of  $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{1+2x}$ .

**Solution 2**

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= (1+2x)^{1/3} = 1 + \frac{1}{3}(2x) + \frac{\frac{1}{3}(\frac{1}{3}-1)}{2!}(2x)^2 + \frac{\frac{1}{3}(\frac{1}{3}-1)(\frac{1}{3}-2)}{3!}(2x)^3 + \dots \\ &= 1 + \frac{2}{3}x - \frac{4}{9}x^2 + \frac{\frac{1}{3}(\frac{1}{3}-1)(\frac{1}{3}-2)}{3!}(2x)^3 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

**II. Remainders**

**Example 3** Estimate the remainder (that is give an inequality) after 10 terms of each of the following series

$$(a) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{1.7}}; (b) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n^{0.6}}.$$

**Solution 4** (a) In the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{1.7}}$ , the remainder after 10 terms is  $R_{10} = \sum_{n=11}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{1.7}}$ . Since the function  $\frac{1}{x^{1.7}}$  is positive and decreasing on  $[1, \infty)$  we have

$$R_{10} = \sum_{n=11}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^{1.7}} < \int_{10}^{\infty} \frac{1}{x^{1.7}} dx = \int_{10}^{\infty} x^{-1.7} dx = \frac{x^{-0.7}}{-0.7} \Big|_{10}^{\infty} = \frac{(10)^{-0.7}}{0.7} \approx 0.28504.$$

(b) The series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n^{0.6}}$  is strictly alternating and the  $n^{\text{th}}$  term decreases in absolute value and tends to 0, therefore the remainder after 10 terms  $R_{10} = \sum_{n=11}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n^{0.6}}$ , has the same sign as  $\frac{(-1)^{12}}{(12)^{0.6}}$  and is less than  $\frac{1}{(12)^{0.6}} \approx 0.22516$ . This means that if we approximate the full infinite sum with just the sum of the first 10 terms, we would be over estimating it by about 0.22516.

**Example 5** For what values of  $x$  can we replace  $\cos x$  by  $1 - \frac{x^2}{2!}$  with an error of magnitude no greater than  $3 \times 10^{-4}$

**Solution 6** According to the Alternating Series Estimation Theorem (section 10.6), the error in truncating the series for  $\cos x$  which is

$$\cos x = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \dots$$

after  $\frac{x^2}{2!}$ , is (for small values of  $x$ ), no greater than

$$\left| \frac{x^4}{4!} \right| = \frac{|x|^4}{120}.$$

So all we need is to find  $x$  so that this is less than  $3 \times 10^{-4}$ . So we solve the inequality

$$\frac{|x|^4}{120} < 3 \times 10^{-4}$$

and we obtain

$$|x| < \sqrt[4]{360 \times 10^{-4}} = 0.43559.$$

### III. Polar coordinates

1. **Example 7** Sketch the two curves given in polar coordinates by the equations  $r = 3(1 - \sin \theta)$ , and  $r = 3 \sin \theta$  and find all their points of intersection..

### IV. Partial derivatives

**Example 8** Does  $\lim_{(x,y) \rightarrow (0,0)} \frac{x^2 y}{x^4 + \sin^2 y}$  exist? Justify your answer.

**Example 9** Let  $f(x, y) = x^2 y + e^x \cos y$ . Compute  $\nabla f$  and  $\Delta f$ .

**Example 10** Find the domain of definition of the function  $f(x, y) = \sqrt{4 - x - x^2}$ . Also describe the level curves of this function.

**Example 11** Give an example of a function which possesses partial derivatives but is not continuous at  $(0, 0)$ . Prove your answer (don't just give the example).

**Example 12** Suppose that  $f$  is a differentiable function of two variables and  $w = f(ts^2, \frac{s}{t})$ ,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x, y) = xy$ ,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x, y) = \frac{x^2}{2}$ . Find  $\frac{\partial w}{\partial t}$  and  $\frac{\partial w}{\partial s}$ .

**Example 13** Problem 44 page 783 in textbook.

**Example 14** The derivative of a function  $f(x, y)$  at  $P_0(1, 2)$  in the direction of  $\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}$  is  $2\sqrt{2}$ , and in the direction  $-2\mathbf{j}$  is  $-3$ . What is the derivative in the direction of  $-\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j}$ ? Justify your answer.

**Example 15** Find an equation of the plane tangent to the surface  $x^2 + y^2 - 4y = 0$  at the point  $P(2, 2, \sqrt{8})$ . Then find equations for the line of intersection of this plane with the  $xy$  plane.

**Example 16** The directional derivative of  $f(x, y, z)$  at a point  $P$  is greatest in the direction of  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$ . In this direction, the value of the derivative is  $2\sqrt{3}$ . Find  $\nabla f(P)$ , and then find the directional derivative of  $f$  at  $P$  in the direction of  $\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j}$ .