

## WARM UP - Calculator Inactive

1. Find the exact area of the region bounded by the graph of  $f(x) = \sin x$ ,  $g(x) = \cos x$ , and the lines  $y=0$  to  $x = \pi/2$ .
2. Find the equation of the tangent line for  $f(x) = \sin x$  at  $x = 0$ , and then use it to approximate  $\sin(0.1)$ .

# Taylor Polynomials

## Objective:

- Find polynomial approximation of basic functions and compare with the actual function.
- Find Taylor and Maclaurin polynomials for basic functions.

The equation of the tangent line used in the warm up is called a **first-degree Taylor polynomial**.

Taylor polynomials of higher degree can be used to obtain increasingly better approximations of non-polynomial functions within a certain **radius** from a **center of approximation**  $x = c$ .

Example 1: (window X [-9,9], Y [-4,4] )

Graph  $y_1 = \sin x$

$$y_2 : x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!}$$

adding an extra term each time

## Definition of an $n$ th-degree Taylor polynomial:

If  $f$  has  $n$  derivatives at  $x = c$ , then the polynomial

$$P_n(x) = f(c) + f'(c)(x-c) + \frac{f''(c)}{2!}(x-c)^2 + \cdots + \frac{f^{(n)}(c)}{n!}(x-c)^n$$

is called the  $n$ th-degree Taylor polynomial for  $f$  centered at  $c$ , named after Brook Taylor, an English mathematician.

**Note 1: A first-degree Taylor polynomial is a tangent line to  $f$  at  $c$ .**

**Note 2:  $\frac{f^{(n)}(c)}{n!}$  is the coefficient of the  $(x-c)^n$  term**

If  $c = 0$ , then  $P_n(x) = f(0) + f'(0)(x) + \frac{f''(0)}{2!}x^2 + \cdots + \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!}x^n$  is called the  $n$ th-degree Maclaurin polynomial for  $f$ , named after Scottish mathematician, Colin Maclaurin.

### Example 2:

Find the Maclaurin polynomial of degree  $n = 5$  for  $f(x) = \sin x$ . Then approximate the value of  $\sin(0.1)$ .

Example 3:

Find the Taylor polynomial of degree  $n=6$  for  $f(x) = \ln x$  at  $c = 1$ . Then use  $P_6(x)$  to approximate  $\ln(1.1)$

Example 4:

Suppose that  $g$  is a function which has continuous derivatives, and that  $g(2) = 3$ ,  $g'(2) = -4$ ,  $g''(2) = 7$ , and  $g'''(2) = -5$ . Write the Taylor polynomial of degree 3 for  $g$  centered at 2.

### Example 5

Let  $f$  be a function with derivatives of all orders and for which  $f(2) = 7$ . When  $n$  is odd, the  $n$ th derivative of  $f$  is 0. When  $n$  is even the  $n$ th derivative is

$$f^{(n)}(2) = \frac{(n-1)!}{3^n}$$

Write the sixth-degree Taylor polynomial for  $f$  about  $x=2$ .

### Example 6:

Use a third-degree Taylor approximation of  $e^x$  for  $x$  near 0 to

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - 1}{2x}$$

## CLASSWORK:

Find the  $n$ th Maclaurin polynomial for each function.

1.  $f(x) = e^{4x}$ ,  $n=4$

2.  $f(x) = \cos(2x)$ ,  $n = 6$

Find the  $n$ th Taylor polynomial centered at  $c$  and then find the approximation using your answer.

3.  $f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 + 2$ ,  $n=3$ ,  $c=3$ ,  $f(3.2)$

4.  $f(x) = \ln x$ ,  $n=4$ ,  $c=2$ ,  $f(2.1)$