

**2016 AP<sup>®</sup> CALCULUS BC FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS**

6. The function  $f$  has a Taylor series about  $x = 1$  that converges to  $f(x)$  for all  $x$  in the interval of convergence. It is known that  $f(1) = 1$ ,  $f'(1) = -\frac{1}{2}$ , and the  $n$ th derivative of  $f$  at  $x = 1$  is given by  $f^{(n)}(1) = (-1)^n \frac{(n-1)!}{2^n}$  for  $n \geq 2$ .
- Write the first four nonzero terms and the general term of the Taylor series for  $f$  about  $x = 1$ .
  - The Taylor series for  $f$  about  $x = 1$  has a radius of convergence of 2. Find the interval of convergence. Show the work that leads to your answer.
  - The Taylor series for  $f$  about  $x = 1$  can be used to represent  $f(1.2)$  as an alternating series. Use the first three nonzero terms of the alternating series to approximate  $f(1.2)$ .
  - Show that the approximation found in part (c) is within 0.001 of the exact value of  $f(1.2)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 a. f^{(2)}(1) &= (-1)^2 \frac{(2-1)}{2^2} = \frac{1}{4} \\
 f^{(3)}(1) &= (-1)^3 \frac{(3-1)!}{2^3} = -\frac{1}{4} \\
 p_4(1) &= 1 - \frac{1}{2}(x-1) + \frac{(x-1)^2}{8} - \frac{(x-1)^3}{24} \\
 &+ \dots + \frac{(-1)^n(x-1)^n}{2^n \cdot n}
 \end{aligned}$$

2 point:  $\begin{cases} 1: \text{first four nonzero term} \\ 1: \text{general term} \end{cases}$

b. The series centered at  $x = 1$ , radius of convergence is 2:  $|x - 1| < 2 \rightarrow -1 < x < 3$

2 points: 1: find the end point, state if converge or diverge

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{When } x = 3: & \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n(x-1)^n}{2^n \cdot n} \\
 &= \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n 2^n}{2^n \cdot n} = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \left( \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \right) \text{ converge}
 \end{aligned}$$

1: interval of convergence

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{When } x = -1: & \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n(x-1)^n}{2^n \cdot n} = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n(-2)^n}{2^n \cdot n} \\
 &= \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{n} \right) \text{ diverge}
 \end{aligned}$$

The interval of convergence:  $-1 < x < 3$

c.  $f(1.2) = 1 - \frac{(1.2-1)}{2} + \frac{(1.2-1)^2}{2 \cdot 2^2} = \frac{181}{200}$

d.  $|E_n(x)| = |f(x) - P_n(x)| < \frac{1}{1000}$

Because 1.2 lies in the interval of convergence  $-1 \leq x \leq 3$ , so by the Alternating Series

Estimation Theorem, the approximation differs from the exact value by less than the absolute value of the fourth term.

The fourth term:  $\frac{|(-1)^3(1.2-1)^3|}{2^3 \cdot 3} = \frac{1}{3000}$

Because:  $\frac{1}{3000} < \frac{1}{1000}$

Therefore: the approximation in part (c) is within 0.0001 of the exact value of  $f(1.2)$

1 point: writing out three terms

1 point: writing out  $\frac{181}{200}$

1 point: Stating the Alternating Series

2 points: calculating the fourth term

and state  $\frac{1}{3000} < \frac{1}{1000}$