Ch 0: Review

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Limits, Continuity and Differentiability

Definition 1.1 A function f defined on a set X of real numbers has the **limit** L at x_0, written

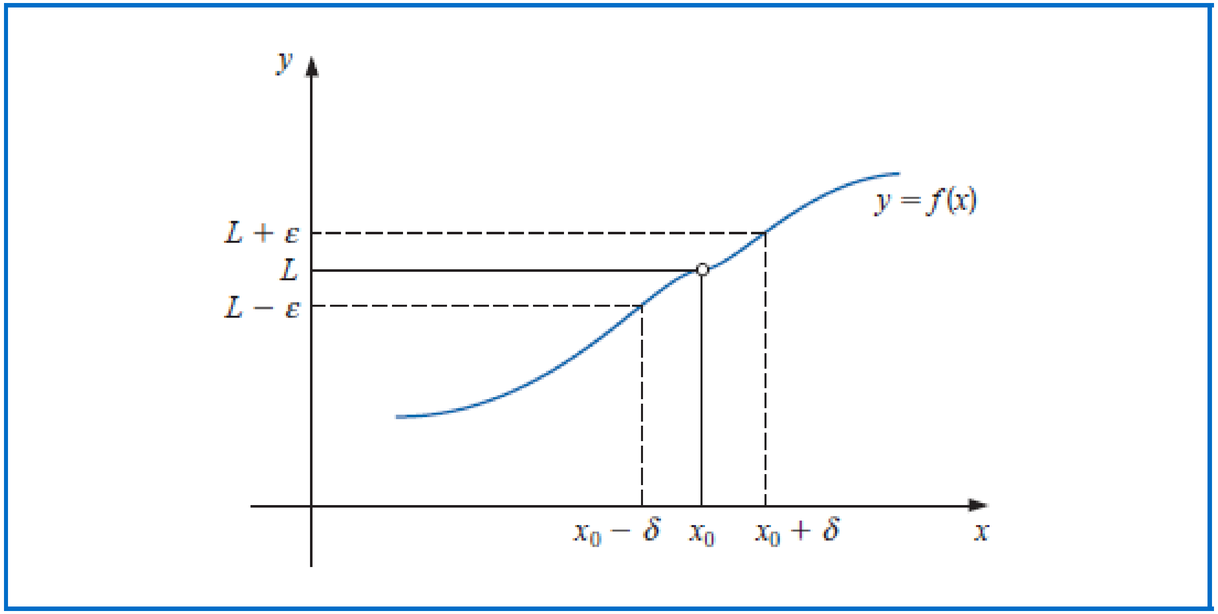
$$\lim_{x \to x_0} f(x) = L,$$

if, given any real number $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists a real number $\delta > 0$ such that

$$|f(x) - L| < \varepsilon, \quad \text{whenever} \quad x \in X \quad \text{and} \quad 0 < |x - x_0| < \delta.$$

(See Figure 1.1.) ■

Figure 1.1



Definition 1.2 Let f be a function defined on a set X of real numbers and $x_0 \in X$. Then f is **continuous at** x_0 if

$$\lim_{x \to x_0} f(x) = f(x_0).$$

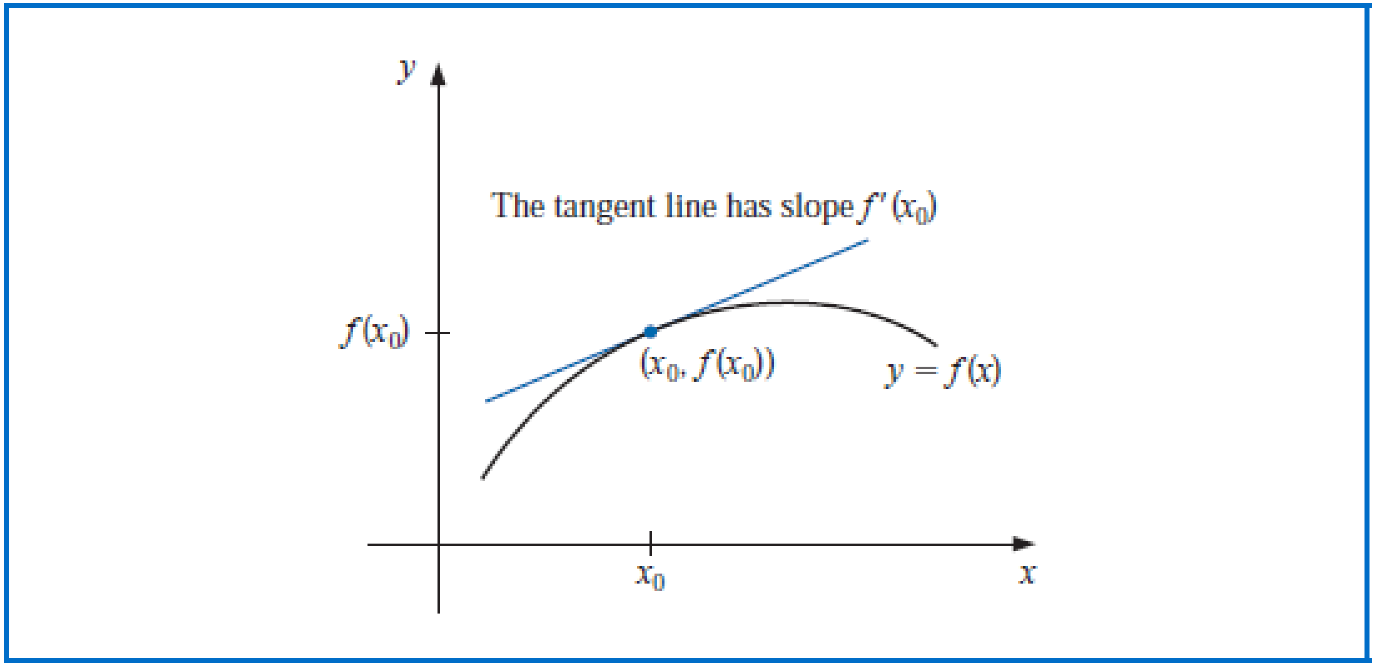
The function f is **continuous on the set** X if it is continuous at each number in X. ■

Definition 1.5 Let f be a function defined in an open interval containing x_0. The function f is **differentiable at** x_0 if

$$f'(x_0) = \lim_{x \to x_0} \frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0}$$

exists. The number $f'(x_0)$ is called the **derivative** of f at x_0. A function that has a derivative at each number in a set X is **differentiable on** X. ■

Figure 1.2

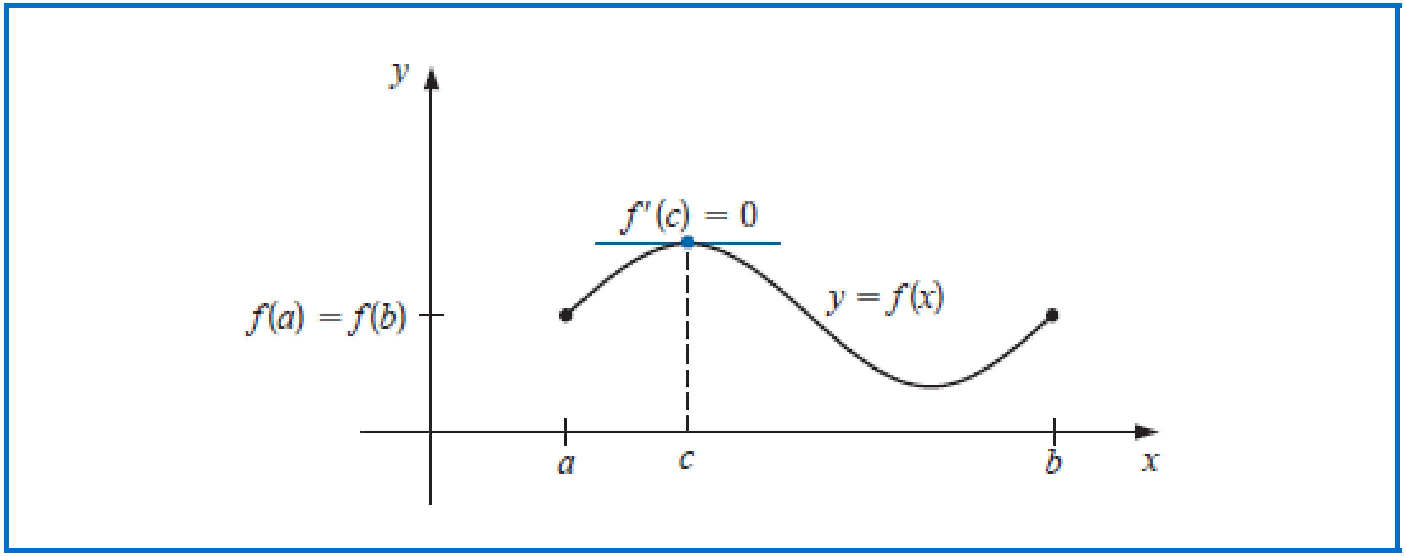


Rolle’s Theorem

Theorem 1.7 **(Rolle’s Theorem)**

Suppose $f \in C[a, b]$ and f is differentiable on (a, b). If $f(a) = f(b)$, then a number c in (a, b) exists with $f'(c) = 0$. (See Figure 1.3.) ■

Figure 1.3



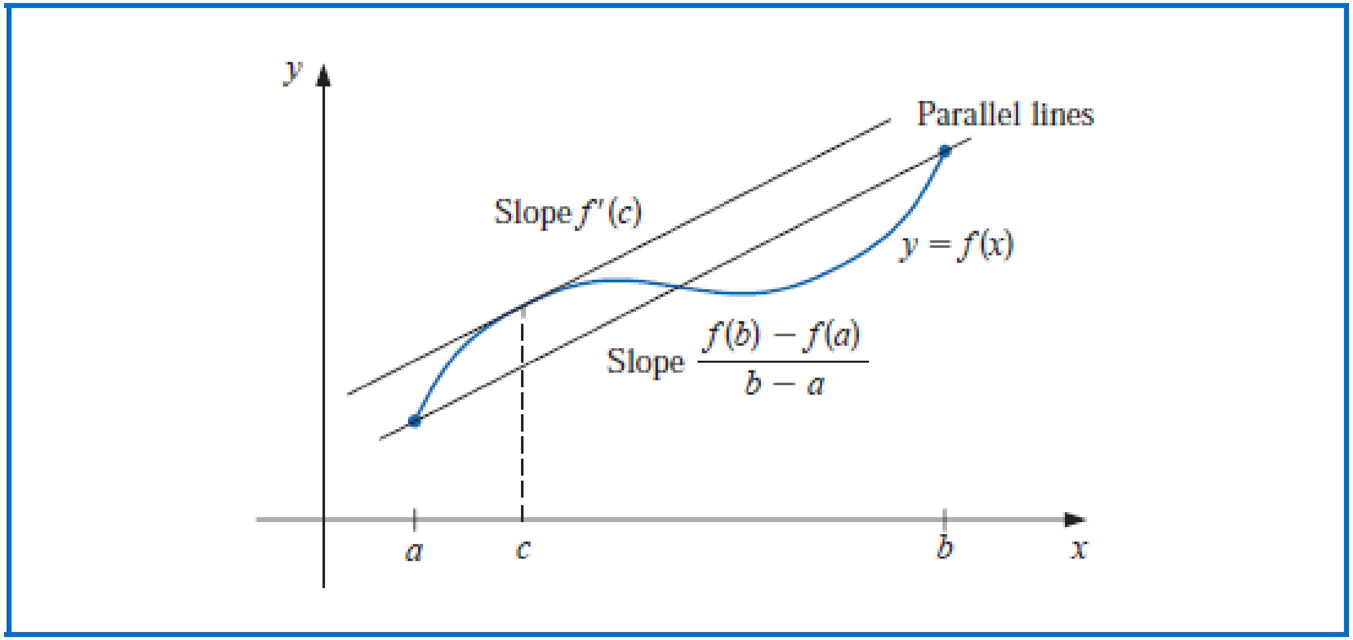
Mean Value Theorem

Theorem 1.8 **(Mean Value Theorem)**

If $f \in C[a,b]$ and f is differentiable on (a,b), then a number c in (a,b) exists with (See Figure 1.4.)

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}.$$

Figure 1.4

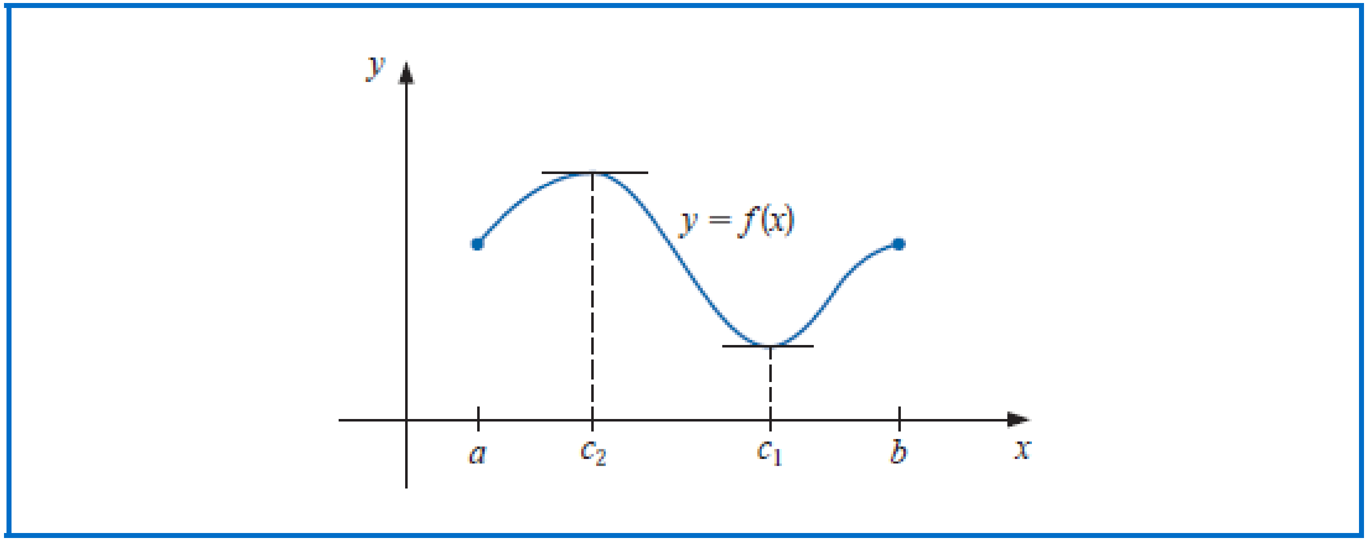


Extreme Value Theorem

Theorem 1.9 **(Extreme Value Theorem)**

If $f \in C[a,b]$, then $c_1, c_2 \in [a,b]$ exist with $f(c_1) \leq f(x) \leq f(c_2)$, for all $x \in [a,b]$. In addition, if f is differentiable on (a,b), then the numbers c_1 and c_2 occur either at the endpoints of $[a,b]$ or where f' is zero. (See Figure 1.5.) ■

Figure 1.5



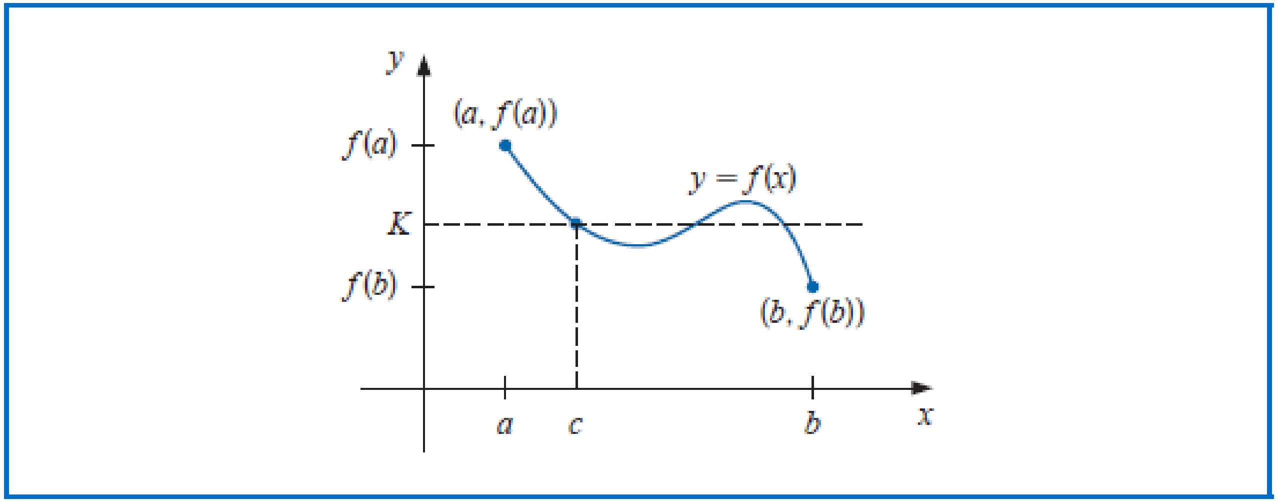
Intermediate Value Theorem

Theorem 1.11 **(Intermediate Value Theorem)**

If $f \in C[a, b]$ and K is any number between $f(a)$ and $f(b)$, then there exists a number c in (a, b) for which $f(c) = K$. ■

Figure 1.7 shows one choice for the number that is guaranteed by the Intermediate Value Theorem. In this example there are two other possibilities.

Figure 1.7



Example 2 Show that $x^5 - 2x^3 + 3x^2 - 1 = 0$ has a solution in the interval $[0, 1]$.

Solution Consider the function defined by $f(x) = x^5 - 2x^3 + 3x^2 - 1$. The function f is continuous on $[0, 1]$. In addition,

$$f(0) = -1 < 0 \quad \text{and} \quad 0 < 1 = f(1).$$

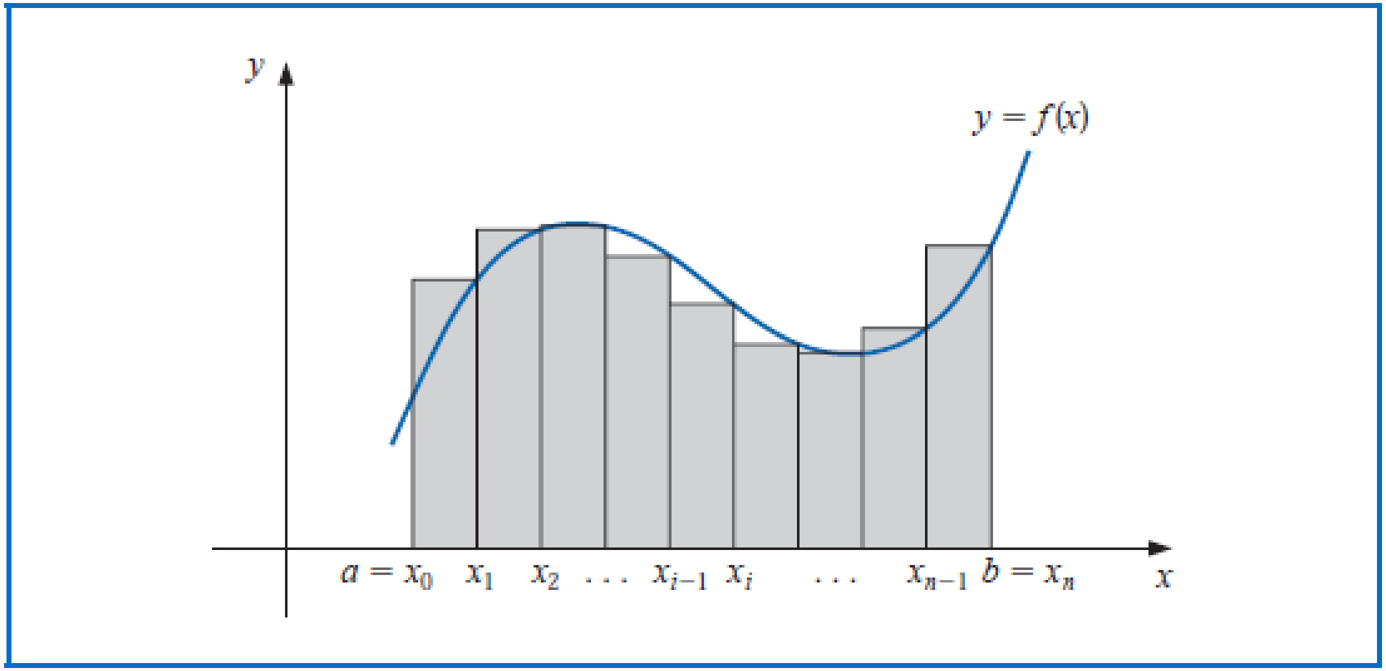
The Intermediate Value Theorem implies that a number x exists, with $0 < x < 1$, for which $x^5 - 2x^3 + 3x^2 - 1 = 0$. ■

As seen in Example 2, the Intermediate Value Theorem is used to determine when solutions to certain problems exist. It does not, however, give an efficient means for finding these solutions. This topic is considered in Chapter 2.

Integration

$$\int_a^b f(x)\,dx = \lim_{\max \Delta x_i \to 0} \sum_{i=1}^{n} f(z_i)\,\Delta x_i,$$

Figure 1.8



Taylor Polynomials and Series

(Taylor's Theorem)

Suppose $f \in C^n[a,b]$, that $f^{(n+1)}$ exists on $[a,b]$, and $x_0 \in [a,b]$. For every $x \in [a,b]$, there exists a number $\xi(x)$ between x_0 and x with

$$f(x) = P_n(x) + R_n(x),$$

where

$$P_n(x) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0) + \frac{f''(x_0)}{2!}(x - x_0)^2 + \cdots + \frac{f^{(n)}(x_0)}{n!}(x - x_0)^n$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{n} \frac{f^{(k)}(x_0)}{k!}(x - x_0)^k$$

and

$$R_n(x) = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\xi(x))}{(n+1)!}(x - x_0)^{n+1}.$$

Pn(x) is called the ***nth Taylor polynomial for f about x0, and Rn(x) is called*** **the remainder term (or truncation error) associated with** ***Pn(x).***

The infinite series obtained by taking the limit of *Pn(x) as n→∞ is called the* ***Taylor*** **series for *f about x0. In the case x0 = 0, the Taylor polynomial is often called a Maclaurin* polynomial, and the Taylor series is often called a Maclaurin series.**

Example 3 Let $f(x) = \cos x$ and $x_0 = 0$. Determine

(a) the second Taylor polynomial for f about x_0; and

(b) the third Taylor polynomial for f about x_0.

(Taylor's Theorem)

Suppose $f \in C^n[a,b]$, that $f^{(n+1)}$ exists on $[a,b]$, and $x_0 \in [a,b]$. For every $x \in [a,b]$, there exists a number $\xi(x)$ between x_0 and x with

$$f(x) = P_n(x) + R_n(x),$$

where

$$P_n(x) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x-x_0) + \frac{f''(x_0)}{2!}(x-x_0)^2 + \cdots + \frac{f^{(n)}(x_0)}{n!}(x-x_0)^n$$
$$= \sum_{k=0}^{n} \frac{f^{(k)}(x_0)}{k!}(x-x_0)^k$$

Solution Since $f \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$, Taylor's Theorem can be applied for any $n \geq 0$. Also,

$$f'(x) = -\sin x,\ f''(x) = -\cos x,\ f'''(x) = \sin x, \quad \text{and} \quad f^{(4)}(x) = \cos x,$$

so

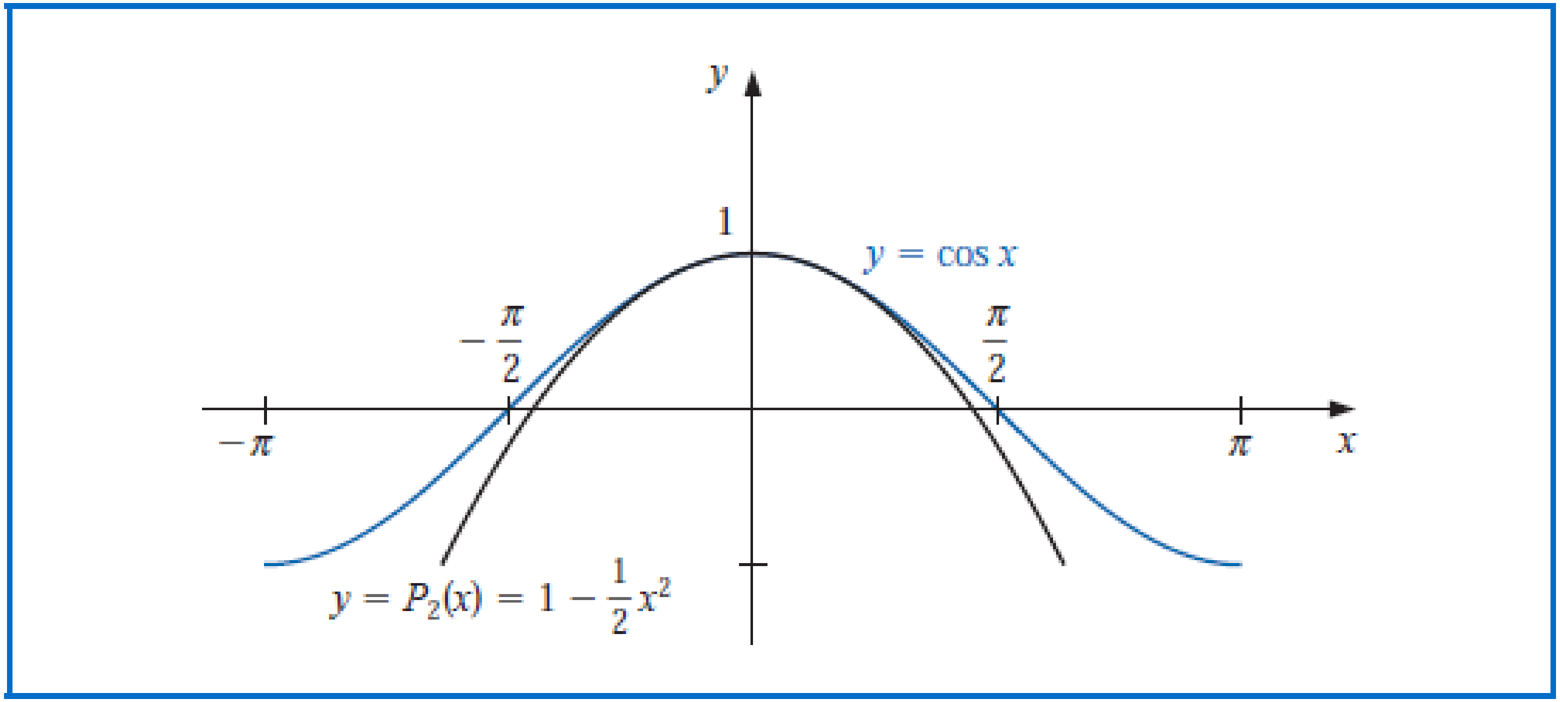
$$f(0) = 1,\ f'(0) = 0,\ f''(0) = -1, \quad \text{and} \quad f'''(0) = 0.$$

(a) For $n = 2$ and $x_0 = 0$, we have

$$\cos x = f(0) + f'(0)x + \frac{f''(0)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{f'''(\xi(x))}{3!}x^3$$
$$= 1 - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{6}x^3 \sin \xi(x),$$

where $\xi(x)$ is some (generally unknown) number between 0 and x. (See Figure 1.10.)

Figure 1.10



When $x = 0.01$, this becomes

$$\cos 0.01 = 1 - \frac{1}{2}(0.01)^2 + \frac{1}{6}(0.01)^3 \sin \xi(0.01) = 0.99995 + \frac{10^{-6}}{6} \sin \xi(0.01).$$

The approximation to $\cos 0.01$ given by the Taylor polynomial is therefore 0.99995. The truncation error, or remainder term, associated with this approximation is

$$\frac{10^{-6}}{6} \sin \xi(0.01) = 0.1\overline{6} \times 10^{-6} \sin \xi(0.01),$$

where the bar over the 6 in $0.1\overline{6}$ is used to indicate that this digit repeats indefinitely. Although we have no way of determining $\sin \xi(0.01)$, we know that all values of the sine lie in the interval $[-1, 1]$, so the error occurring if we use the approximation 0.99995 for the value of $\cos 0.01$ is bounded by

$$|\cos(0.01) - 0.99995| = 0.1\overline{6} \times 10^{-6} |\sin \xi(0.01)| \leq 0.1\overline{6} \times 10^{-6}.$$

Hence the approximation 0.99995 matches at least the first five digits of $\cos 0.01$, and

$$\begin{aligned} 0.9999483 < 0.99995 - 1.\overline{6} \times 10^{-6} &\leq \cos 0.01 \\ &\leq 0.99995 + 1.\overline{6} \times 10^{-6} < 0.9999517. \end{aligned}$$

The error bound is much larger than the actual error. This is due in part to the poor bound we used for $|\sin \xi(x)|$. It is shown in Exercise 24 that for all values of x, we have $|\sin x| \leq |x|$. Since $0 \leq \xi < 0.01$, we could have used the fact that $|\sin \xi(x)| \leq 0.01$ in the error formula, producing the bound $0.1\overline{6} \times 10^{-8}$.

(b) Since $f'''(0) = 0$, the third Taylor polynomial with remainder term about $x_0 = 0$ is

$$\cos x = 1 - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{24}x^4 \cos \tilde{\xi}(x),$$

where $0 < \tilde{\xi}(x) < 0.01$. The approximating polynomial remains the same, and the approximation is still 0.99995, but we now have much better accuracy assurance. Since $|\cos \tilde{\xi}(x)| \leq 1$ for all x, we have

$$\left|\frac{1}{24}x^4 \cos \tilde{\xi}(x)\right| \leq \frac{1}{24}(0.01)^4(1) \approx 4.2 \times 10^{-10}.$$

So

$$|\cos 0.01 - 0.99995| \leq 4.2 \times 10^{-10},$$

and

$$0.99994999958 = 0.99995 - 4.2 \times 10^{-10}$$
$$\leq \cos 0.01 \leq 0.99995 + 4.2 \times 10^{-10} = 0.99995000042.$$

■

Example 3 illustrates the two objectives of numerical analysis:

(i) Find an approximation to the solution of a given problem.

(ii) Determine a bound for the accuracy of the approximation.

The Taylor polynomials in both parts provide the same answer to (i), but the third Taylor polynomial gave a much better answer to (ii) than the second Taylor polynomial.