

Name: _____

1. What is the Taylor polynomial $T_2(x)$ centered at $a = 0$ for $\cos x$? Use it to estimate $\cos \frac{1}{2}$. You don't have to show any work for this problem.

$$T_2(x) = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2}$$

$$\cos\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \approx T_2\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 1 - \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2}{2} = \frac{7}{8}$$

2. Estimate the accuracy of your estimate by using either Taylor's Inequality or the Alternating Series Estimation Theorem. State clearly which method you use.

Method 1: $\left| \frac{d^3}{dx^3} \cos(x) \right| \leq 1 = M$ ~~for~~ for all $|x| \leq \frac{1}{2} = d$.

By Taylor's Inequality,

$$|R_2(x)| \leq \frac{M}{(2+1)!} |x|^{2+1} = \frac{1}{3!} |x|^3 \leq \frac{1}{3!} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 = \frac{1}{48} \text{ for } |x| \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{7}{8} - \frac{1}{48} \leq \cos\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \leq \frac{7}{8} + \frac{1}{48}$$

Method 2: $\cos(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n)!} x^{2n}$ for all $|x| < \infty$,

$$\text{So } s = \cos\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n)!} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{2n}. \quad \text{This is an alternating}$$

$$\text{series with } b_n = \frac{1}{(2n)!} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{2n}. \quad T_2(x) = 1 - \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2}{2} = b_0 - b_1 = s_2.$$

By the Alternating series Estimation Theorem,

$$|s - s_2| \leq b_3 = \frac{1}{4!} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4. \quad \text{So } \frac{7}{8} - \frac{1}{4! \cdot 2^4} \leq \cos\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \leq \frac{7}{8} + \frac{1}{4! \cdot 2^4}$$