

Challenge: compute the integral:


$$\int Si(x) dx$$

The integral from last class:  $\int xSi(x) dx$ . Integrate by parts, letting  $u = Si(x)$  and  $v' = x$ . This gives:

$$\int xSi(x) dx = \frac{x^2}{2} Si(x) - \frac{1}{2} \int x \sin(x) dx$$

Integrating by parts again yields:

$$\int xSi(x) dx = \frac{x^2}{2} Si(x) - \sin(x) + x \cos(x) + C$$



# Computer Algebra Systems & Taylor Approximations

Assaf Bar-Natan

“It’s automated computer speech  
It’s automated computer speech  
It’s a Casio on a plastic beach  
It’s a Casio”

– “Plastic Beach”, Gorillaz

Jan. 29, 2020

# Functions Defined by Integrals

Recall: we can define functions using integrals. For example:

$$\operatorname{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt$$

$$F(x) = \int_0^x (1+t)e^t \sqrt{1+t^2 e^{2t}} dt$$

# Functions Defined by Integrals

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Today: explore how to work with these functions and with computer algebra systems.

Submissions Closed

Which of the following may be a plot of

$$\operatorname{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt$$



✓ 57% Answered Correctly

A	Top left	<div style="width: 10%; background-color: #00aaff;"></div>	24
B	Top right	<div style="width: 40%; background-color: #008000;"></div>	109
C	Bottom left	<div style="width: 10%; background-color: #00aaff;"></div>	41
D	Bottom right	<div style="width: 5%; background-color: #00aaff;"></div>	18

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192/192 answered

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Q 100% [⌵](#)

# Taylor Approximations Using C.A.S

The third-order Taylor approximation of a function,  $f$  around 0 is given by:

$$T_3(x) = f(0) + f'(0)x + \frac{f''(0)}{2}x^2 + \frac{f'''(0)}{3!}x^3$$

WolframAlpha can be used to compute derivatives quickly!



4th derivative of  $e^{-(t^2)}$  at  $t=0$

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Assuming "at" is a word | Use as concatenated variables instead

Input interpretation:


$$\frac{\partial^4 e^{-t^2}}{\partial t^4} \text{ where } t = 0$$

Result:

12



Use the third-order Taylor approximation of  $\operatorname{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt$  to estimate  $\operatorname{erf}(0.5)$ .



Use the third-order Taylor approximation of  $\operatorname{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt$  to estimate  $\operatorname{erf}(0.5)$ .

$$\operatorname{erf}(x) \approx \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( x - \frac{x^3}{3} \right)$$

$$\operatorname{erf}(0.5) \approx 0.517$$

Compute  $\operatorname{erf}(0.5)$  directly using WolframAlpha.



Use the third-order Taylor approximation of  $\operatorname{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt$  to estimate  $\operatorname{erf}(0.5)$ .

$$\operatorname{erf}(x) \approx \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left( x - \frac{x^3}{3} \right)$$
$$\operatorname{erf}(0.5) \approx 0.517$$

Compute  $\operatorname{erf}(0.5)$  directly using WolframAlpha.

erf(0.5)

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Input: erf(0.5)

Result: 0.520500...

$\frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{0.5} e^{-t^2} dt$

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Input:  $\frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{0.5} e^{-t^2} dt$

Result: 0.5205

# Takeaway





**Computer algebra systems can do some of the work for us, even if we have to stitch it together at the end.**


 Submissions Closed

Which of the following is an antiderivative of  $(1 + t)e^t\sqrt{1 + t^2e^{2t}} dt$ ? You may use any computer algebra system to solve this.

✓ 7% Answered Correctly

A  $\frac{1}{2}(te^t\sqrt{1 + t^2e^{2t}} + t^2e^t\sqrt{1 + t^2e^{2t}})$   81

B  $\frac{1}{2}(te^t\sqrt{1 - t^2e^{2t}} - \cosh^{-1}(te^t))$   37

**C**  $\frac{1}{2}(te^t\sqrt{1 + t^2e^{2t}} + \sinh^{-1}(te^t))$   14

D I can't use WolframAlpha for this.  68

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200/200 answered

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Responses

✓ Correct



Q 100%



# What Went Wrong?

WolframAlpha could not solve:

$$\int (1+t)e^t \sqrt{1+t^2 e^{2t}} dt$$

The integral was too complex. What can we do?

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$$\int (1+t)e^t \sqrt{1+t^2 e^{2t}} dt$$

The integral was too complex. What can we do?





- Ask for a definite integral instead.
- Use a Taylor polynomial to estimate the integrand
- Change the input to something nicer

 Submissions Closed

For which value of  $n$  do we have

$$2000 > \int_0^n (1+t)e^t \sqrt{1+t^2} e^{2t} dt > 1000?$$

✓ 66% Answered Correctly









A	1		11
B	2		52
C	3		132
D	4		6

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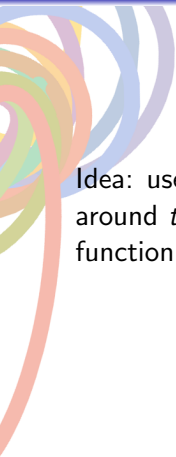
       

Q 100% 



**Computer algebra systems can do definite integrals like it's nobody's business. Remember: it's just sums!**

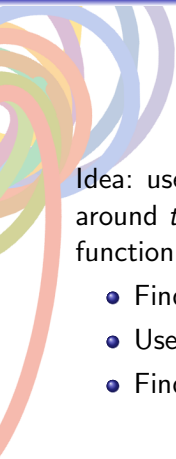
# Using Taylor Polynomials on the Integrand



Idea: use a Taylor polynomial to approximate  $(1 + t)e^t\sqrt{1 + t^2}e^{2t}$  around  $t = 0$ , then integrate that. If the polynomial and the function are close, then their integrals will be close too.




# Using Taylor Polynomials on the Integrand



Idea: use a Taylor polynomial to approximate  $(1 + t)e^t\sqrt{1 + t^2}e^{2t}$  around  $t = 0$ , then integrate that. If the polynomial and the function are close, then their integrals will be close too.

- Find the Taylor polynomial of the function
- Use it to estimate the function for small values of  $x$
- Find an antiderivative of the Taylor polynomial

# Estimating Integrals With Taylor Polynomials



Use WolframAlpha to compute the Taylor polynomial of  $(1 + t)e^t\sqrt{1 + t^2e^{2t}}$  around  $t = 0$  to fourth order.

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Use WolframAlpha to compute the Taylor polynomial of  $(1+t)e^t\sqrt{1+t^2}e^{2t}$  around  $t=0$  to fourth order.

$$T_3(t) = 1 + 2t + 2t^2 + 8\frac{t^3}{3} + 23\frac{t^4}{6}$$

# Estimating Integrals With Taylor Polynomials



$(1+t)e^{t^2}\sqrt{1+t^2}e^{2t} - (1 + 2t + 2t^2 + (8t^3)/3 + (23t^4)/6)$  at  $t=1$

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Examples

Random

Assuming "at" is a word | Use as [concatenated variables](#) instead

Input interpretation:

$(1+t)e^{t^2}\sqrt{1+t^2}e^{2t} - \left(1 + 2t + 2t^2 + \frac{1}{3}(8t^3) + \frac{1}{6}(23t^4)\right)$  where  $t = 1$

Result:

$2e\sqrt{1+e^2} - \frac{23}{2}$

This error ends up being approximately 4.2.

# Estimating Integrals With Taylor Polynomials



$(1+t)e^{t^2}\sqrt{1+t^2}e^{2t} - (1 + 2t + 2t^2 + (8t^3)/3 + (23t^4)/6)$  at  $t=1$

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Examples

Random

Assuming "at" is a word | Use as [concatenated variables](#) instead

Input interpretation:

$$(1+t)e^t\sqrt{1+t^2}e^{2t} - \left(1 + 2t + 2t^2 + \frac{1}{3}(8t^3) + \frac{1}{6}(23t^4)\right) \text{ where } t=1$$


Result:

$$2e\sqrt{1+e^2} - \frac{23}{2}$$

This error ends up being approximately 4.2.

Estimate  $\int_0^1 (1+t)e^t\sqrt{1+t^2}e^{2t} dt$  using the Taylor approximation you found. How good is this approximation?

# Estimating Integrals With Taylor Polynomials


$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^1 (1+t)e^t \sqrt{1+t^2 e^{2t}} dt &\approx \int_0^1 T_3(t) dt \\ &= \int_0^1 \left( 1 + 2t + 2t^2 + 8\frac{t^3}{3} + 23\frac{t^4}{6} \right) dt\end{aligned}$$

# Estimating Integrals With Taylor Polynomials

$$\int_0^1 (1+t)e^t \sqrt{1+t^2 e^{2t}} dt \approx \int_0^1 T_3(t) dt$$
$$= \int_0^1 \left( 1 + 2t + 2t^2 + 8\frac{t^3}{3} + 23\frac{t^4}{6} \right) dt$$



integrate from 0 to 1 (1 + 2 t + 2 t^2 + (8 t^3)/3 + (23 t^4)/6)

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Examples Random

Definite integral:

Step-by-step solution

$$\int_0^1 \left( 1 + 2t + 2t^2 + \frac{8t^3}{3} + \frac{23t^4}{6} \right) dt = \frac{41}{10} = 4.1$$

What is the true value of the integral?

# Estimating Integrals With Taylor Polynomials

$$\int_0^1 (1+t)e^t \sqrt{1+t^2 e^{2t}} dt \approx \int_0^1 T_3(t) dt$$
$$= \int_0^1 \left( 1 + 2t + 2t^2 + 8\frac{t^3}{3} + 23\frac{t^4}{6} \right) dt$$

 **WolframAlpha** computational intelligence.

integrate from 0 to 1 (1 + 2 t + 2 t^2 + (8 t^3)/3 + (23 t^4)/6)

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Definite integral:

Step-by-step solution

$$\int_0^1 \left( 1 + 2t + 2t^2 + \frac{8t^3}{3} + \frac{23t^4}{6} \right) dt = \frac{41}{10} = 4.1$$

What is the true value of the integral? 4.78



# Simplifying the Integral with Substitution

We wish to compute:

$$\int (1+t)e^t \sqrt{1+t^2e^{2t}} dt$$

Make the substitution  $u = te^t$ .

# Simplifying the Integral with Substitution

We wish to compute:

$$\int (1+t)e^t \sqrt{1+t^2 e^{2t}} dt$$

Make the substitution  $u = te^t$ . The integral then becomes:

$$\int \sqrt{1+u^2} du$$

Plug this integral into a computer algebra system

Submissions Closed

Which of the following is an antiderivative of  $(1 + t)e^t\sqrt{1 + t^2e^{2t}} dt$ ? You may use any computer algebra system to solve this.

✓ 61% Answered Correctly

A  $\frac{1}{2}(te^t\sqrt{1 + t^2e^{2t}} + t^2e^t\sqrt{1 + t^2e^{2t}})$  33

B  $\frac{1}{2}(te^t\sqrt{1 - t^2e^{2t}} - \cosh^{-1}(te^t))$  29

C  $\frac{1}{2}(te^t\sqrt{1 + t^2e^{2t}} + \sinh^{-1}(te^t))$  116

D I can't use WolframAlpha for this. 12

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190/190 answered

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Open Closed Responses Correct

Q 100%

# Plans for the Future



For next time:

**WeBWork 7.6 and read section 7.6**