

6. [5 points] For the function  $f(x) = \cos(\sin(x))$ , find  $P_2(x)$ , the Taylor polynomial of degree 2 for  $f(x)$  centered about  $x = \pi$ . Show all your work.

*Solution:* To find the Taylor polynomial of degree 2 centered at  $x = \pi$ , we need to evaluate the function and its first two derivatives at  $x = \pi$ . First, we compute the derivatives:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \cos(\sin(x)) \\ f'(x) &= -\sin(\sin(x)) \cos(x) \\ f''(x) &= -\cos(\sin(x)) \cos^2(x) + \sin(\sin(x)) \sin(x) \end{aligned}$$

Now, we evaluate these at  $x = \pi$ :

$$\begin{aligned} f(\pi) &= \cos(\sin(\pi)) = \cos(0) = 1 \\ f'(\pi) &= -\sin(\sin(\pi)) \cos(\pi) = -\sin(0)(-1) = 0 \\ f''(\pi) &= -\cos(\sin(\pi)) \cos^2(\pi) + \sin(\sin(\pi)) \sin(\pi) = -\cos(0)(-1)^2 + 0 = -1 \end{aligned}$$

Using the formula for the Taylor polynomial  $P_2(x) = f(\pi) + f'(\pi)(x - \pi) + \frac{f''(\pi)}{2!}(x - \pi)^2$ , we get:

$$P_2(x) = 1 + 0(x - \pi) + \frac{-1}{2!}(x - \pi)^2 = 1 - \frac{1}{2}(x - \pi)^2$$

**Answer:**  $P_2(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{2}(x - \pi)^2$