



## Taylor series

**(1)** Derive the Taylor series for  $\sin(x + \pi/6)$  for small  $x$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } f(x) &= \sin x & \therefore f(\pi/6) &= 1/2 \\ \therefore f'(x) &= \cos x & f'(\pi/6) &= \sqrt{3}/2 \\ f''(x) &= -\sin x & f''(\pi/6) &= -1/2 \\ f'''(x) &= -\cos x & f'''(\pi/6) &= -\sqrt{3}/2 \\ f''''(x) &= \sin x & f''''(\pi/6) &= 1/2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{But } f(x+a) = f(a) + x f'(a) + \frac{x^2}{2!} f''(a) + \frac{x^3}{3!} f'''(a) + \dots$$

$$\therefore \underline{\sin(x + \frac{\pi}{6}) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}x - \frac{1}{4}x^2 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{12}x^3 + \frac{1}{48}x^4 + \dots}$$

This Taylor series could also be ascertained by expanding  $\sin(x + \pi/6)$  with the compound-angle formula for sines

$$\sin(x + \frac{\pi}{6}) = \sin x \cos(\frac{\pi}{6}) + \cos x \sin(\frac{\pi}{6}) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \sin x + \frac{1}{2} \cos x$$

and then using the well-known series for  $\sin x$  and  $\cos x$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \sin(x + \frac{\pi}{6}) &= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} (x - \frac{1}{6}x^3 + \dots) + \frac{1}{2} (1 - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{24}x^4 - \dots) \\ &= \underline{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}x - \frac{1}{4}x^2 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{12}x^3 + \frac{1}{48}x^4 + \dots} \end{aligned}$$