

4.4 Answers

Further A-Level Pure Mathematics, Core 2 Maclaurin Series

4.4.1 Solution to 4.1 Example #1 (Teaching Video)

A Proof that the derivative of $\arcsin x$ is $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$

$$y = \arcsin x$$

$$\therefore x = \sin y$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \cos y$$

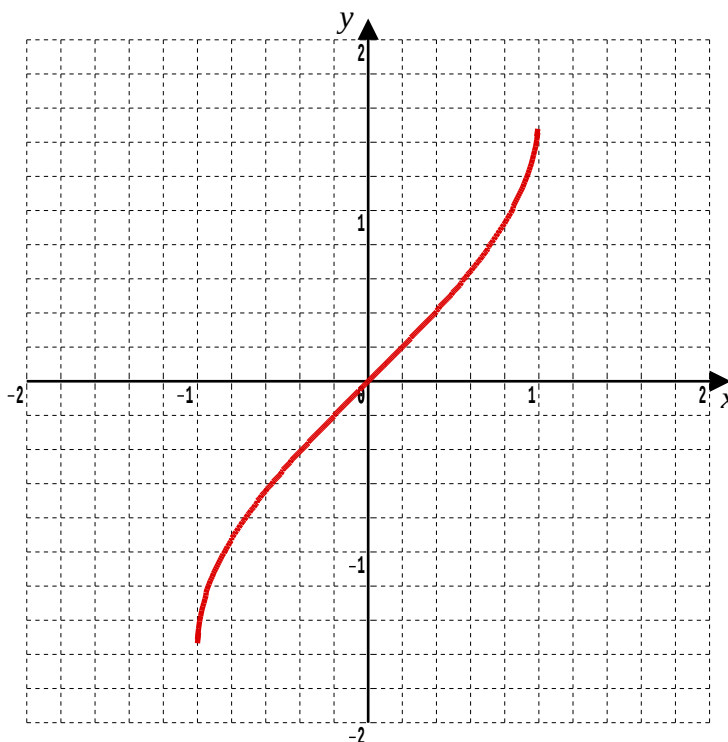
Now use the fact that $\cos^2 y + \sin^2 y = 1$ to get...

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \pm \sqrt{1 - \sin^2 y}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}}$$

From the graph of $y = \arcsin x$ we can see that the gradient is always positive

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}} \quad \square$$



[5 marks]

4.4.2 Solution to 4.2 Example #2 (Teaching Video)

With the help of the Binomial Theorem, find the first four non-zero terms in the Maclaurin series for $\arcsin x$

The Binomial Theorem begins;

$$(1 + x)^n = 1 + nx + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{3!}x^3 + \dots$$

and it's known that the derivative of $\arcsin x$ is $\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$$

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

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

$$= 1 + \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)(-x^2) + \frac{1}{2!}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)(-x^2)^2 + \frac{1}{3!}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)\left(-\frac{5}{2}\right)(-x^2)^3 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{3}{8}x^4 + \frac{5}{16}x^6 + \dots \quad \text{valid for } -1 < x < 1$$

$$\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx = \int 1 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{3}{8}x^4 + \frac{5}{16}x^6 + \dots dx$$

$$\arcsin x + c = x + \frac{x^3}{6} + \frac{3x^5}{40} + \frac{5x^7}{112} + \dots$$

As $\arcsin x = 0$ when $x = 0$, the constant of the integration, $c = 0$

$$\therefore \arcsin x = x + \frac{x^3}{6} + \frac{3x^5}{40} + \frac{5x^7}{112} + \dots \quad \text{valid for } -1 < x < 1$$

Note :

In fact the series is valid for $-1 \leq x \leq 1$ but proving that is outwith the course.

[8 marks]

4.4.3 Solutions to 4.3 Exercise

Answer 1

$$y = \arccos x$$

$$\therefore x = \cos y$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = -\sin y$$

Now use the fact that $\cos^2 y + \sin^2 y = 1$ to get...

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \pm \sqrt{1 - \cos^2 y}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}}$$

From the graph of $y = \arccos x$ it can be seen that the gradient is always negative

$$\therefore \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}} \quad \square$$

[5 marks]

Answer 2

$$(i) \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}} + \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}} \right) = 0$$

$$\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}} dx + \int \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}} \right) dx = \int 0 dx$$

$$\arcsin x + \arccos x = c$$

$$\text{When } x = 0, \arcsin x = 0 \text{ and } \arccos x = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow c = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\therefore \arcsin x + \arccos x = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

[3 marks]

(ii) Given that, from Example #2,

$$\arcsin x = x + \frac{x^3}{6} + \frac{3x^5}{40} + \frac{5x^7}{112} + \dots \quad \text{valid for } -1 < x < 1$$

the part (i) relationship gives,

$$\arccos x = \frac{\pi}{2} - \arcsin x$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{2} - \left(x + \frac{x^3}{6} + \frac{3x^5}{40} + \frac{5x^7}{112} + \dots \right) \text{ valid for } -1 < x < 1$$

Note :

In fact the series is valid for $-1 \leq x \leq 1$ but proving that is outwith the course.

[2 marks]

Answer 3

$$y = \arctan x$$

$$\therefore x = \tan y$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \sec^2 y$$

Now use the fact that $1 + \tan^2 y = \sec^2 y$ to get...

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = 1 + \tan^2 y$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = 1 + x^2$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{1 + x^2} \quad \square$$

[5 marks]

Answer 4

With the help of the Binomial Theorem, find the first four non-zero terms in the Maclaurin series for $\arcsin x$

The Binomial Theorem begins;

$$(1 + x)^n = 1 + nx + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{3!}x^3 + \dots$$

and it's known that the derivative of $\arctan x$ is $\frac{1}{1+x^2}$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1+x^2} &= (1+x^2)^{-1} \\ &= 1 + (-1)(x^2) + \frac{1}{2!}(-1)(-2)(x^2)^2 + \frac{1}{3!}(-1)(-2)(-3)(x^2)^3 + \dots \\ &= 1 - x^2 + x^4 - x^6 + \dots \quad \text{valid for } -1 < x < 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\int \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = \int 1 - x^2 + x^4 - x^6 + \dots dx$$

$$\arctan x + c = x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} - \frac{x^7}{7} + \dots$$

As $\arctan x = 0$ when $x = 0$, the constant of the integration, $c = 0$

$$\therefore \arctan x = x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} - \frac{x^7}{7} + \dots \quad \text{valid for } -1 < x < 1$$

Note :

In fact the series is valid for $-1 \leq x \leq 1$ but proving that is outwith the course.

[8 marks]

Answer 5

$$y = \operatorname{arccot} x$$

$$\therefore x = \cot y$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = -\csc^2 y$$

Now use the fact that $\cot^2 y + 1 = \csc^2 y$ to get...

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = (-1)(\cot^2 y + 1)$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = (-1)(x^2 + 1)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{1+x^2} \quad \square$$

[5 marks]

Answer 6

$$(i) \quad \frac{1}{1+x^2} + \left(-\frac{1}{1+x^2}\right) = 0$$

$$\int \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx + \int \left(-\frac{1}{1+x^2}\right) dx = \int 0 dx$$

$$\arctan x + \operatorname{arccot} x = c$$

$$\text{When } x = 0, \arctan x = 0 \text{ and } \operatorname{arccot} x = \frac{\pi}{2} \Rightarrow c = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\therefore \arctan x + \operatorname{arccot} x = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

Note :

$$\operatorname{arccot}(0) = X \Rightarrow \cot(X) = 0 \Rightarrow \cos(X) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \arccos(0) = X \Rightarrow X = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

[3 marks]

(ii) Given that, from Question 4,

$$\arctan x = x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} - \frac{x^7}{7} + \dots \quad \text{valid for } -1 < x < 1$$

the part (i) relationship gives,

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{arccot} x &= \frac{\pi}{2} - \arctan x \\ &= \frac{\pi}{2} - \left(x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} - \frac{x^7}{7} + \dots\right) \text{ valid for } -1 < x < 1 \end{aligned}$$

Note :

In fact the series is valid for $-1 \leq x \leq 1$

but proving that is beyond the Further A-Level course.

[2 marks]

Answer 7

$$y = \operatorname{arcsec} x$$

$$\therefore x = \sec y$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \sec y \tan y$$

Now use the fact that $1 + \tan^2 y = \sec^2 y$ to get...

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \pm \sec y \sqrt{\sec^2 y - 1}$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \pm x \sqrt{x^2 - 1}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \pm \frac{1}{x \sqrt{x^2 - 1}}$$

From the graph of $y = \operatorname{arcsec} x$ it can be seen that the gradient is always positive

(Each of its two parts are an increasing function)

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x \sqrt{x^2 - 1}} \quad \square$$

[5 marks]

Answer 8

The quickest reason to give to explain why no Maclaurin series can exist for $\operatorname{arcsec} x$ is simply to observe that the function does not have a crossing point of the y-axis, the graph having been provided in question 7.

Another reason that is easily given is to observe that for a Maclaurin series to exist, all of $f(0)$, $f'(0)$, $f''(0)$, ..., $f^{(r)}(0)$, ... must have finite values, a fact clearly stated when the theorem “Maclaurin Series” was given. So, simply observe that $\operatorname{arcsec}(0)$ does not exist or, using the derivative from question 7, that $f'(0)$ is undefined due to a division by zero.

[2 marks]

Graph Plotting

To draw the graphs of $\operatorname{arcsec} x$, $\operatorname{arccsc} x$ and $\operatorname{arccot} x$, or calculate their value at a particular point, use the relationships,

$$\operatorname{arcsec} x = \arccos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$$

$$\operatorname{arccsc} x = \arcsin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$$

$$\operatorname{arccot} x = \arctan\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$$

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