

1. Write a MatLab function `exp1` to approximate  $e^x$  by summing the series

$$1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots$$

from left to right until the accumulated sum stops changing.

Test your program by computing `exp1(x)` for  $x = -25, -24, -23, \dots, 25$ .

For each value of  $x$ , compute the relative error

$$\frac{\text{exp1}(x) - \exp(x)}{\exp(x)}$$

where `exp(x)` is the MatLab function that approximates  $e^x$ .

For the purpose of this question, assume `exp(x) = e^x`.

Format your output neatly.

2. For what values of  $x$  does your function produce accurate approximations to  $e^x$  and for what values of  $x$  does your function produce poor approximations to  $e^x$ ?

Explain why your function works well in the cases where it produces accurate approximations to  $e^x$  and also explain why your function works poorly in the cases where it produces poor approximations to  $e^x$ .

Don't just say that it works poorly because there is rounding error. There is rounding error in your computations for all values of  $x$  (except possibly  $x = 0$ ). However, in some cases the rounding errors are insignificant and you obtain a good approximation to  $e^x$ , while in other cases the rounding errors are significant and you obtain a poor approximation to  $e^x$ . Explain why.

3. Make a small change to your function `exp1` so that it produces accurate approximations to  $e^x$  for all  $x = -25, -24, -23, \dots, 25$ . Call your new function `exp2`.

Call your new function `exp2`.

For each value of  $x$ , compute the relative error

$$\frac{\text{exp2}(x) - \exp(x)}{\exp(x)}$$

where `exp(x)` is the MatLab function that approximates  $e^x$ .

Format your output neatly.

Hint: note  $e^x = 1/e^{-x}$ .