

Why does  $e^{i\pi} + 1 = 0$ ?

Recall the Taylor and McLaurin series expansions for  $e^x$ ,  $\sin x$ ,  $\cos x$  :

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

$$\sin x = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \dots + (-1)^{n-1} \frac{x^{2n-1}}{(2n-1)!} + \dots \quad (2)$$

$$\cos x = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \dots + (-1)^{n-1} \frac{x^{2n-2}}{(2n-2)!} + \dots \quad (3)$$

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Let  $x = i\theta$  in equation #1:

$$e^{i\theta} = 1 + i\theta - \frac{\theta^2}{2!} - i\frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^4}{4!} + \dots \quad (4)$$

Let  $x = \theta$  in equation #2, then multiply by  $i$  :

$$i \sin \theta = i\theta - \frac{i\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{i\theta^5}{5!} - \dots \quad (5)$$

Let  $x = \theta$  in equation #3,

$$\cos \theta = 1 - \frac{\theta^2}{2!} + \frac{\theta^4}{4!} - \dots \quad (6)$$

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By adding equations #5 and #6, we get equation #4, so

$$e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta \quad (7)$$

(This is known as Euler's Identity)

Now substitute  $\pi$  for  $\theta$  in equation #7:

$$e^{i\pi} = \cos \pi + i \sin \pi$$

$$e^{i\pi} = -1 + i(0)$$

Hence,  $e^{i\pi} + 1 = 0$