

## Section 8.8: Power Series

**Theorem:** Let  $\sum a_n(x - c)^n$  have positive radius of convergence  $R$ , and let the function  $f$  be defined by this power series

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(x - c)^n = a_0 + a_1(x - c) + a_2(x - c)^2 + \cdots$$

Then  $f$  is differentiable on  $(c - R, c + R)$ . Moreover,

$$f'(x) = a_1 + 2a_2(x - c) + 3a_3(x - c)^2 + \cdots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} na_n(x - c)^{n-1}.$$

## Theorem Continued

Moreover,  $f$  can be integrated term by term

$$\begin{aligned}\int f(x) dx &= C + a_0(x - c) + a_1 \frac{(x - c)^2}{2} + a_2 \frac{(x - c)^3}{3} + \dots \\ &= C + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \frac{(x - c)^{n+1}}{n+1}\end{aligned}$$

The radius of convergence for each of these series is  $R$ .

# Finding Power Series Representations

Find a power series representation for  $f(x)$ , and state the interval of convergence.

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

Recall  $\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$   
for  $-1 < x < 1$

Note  $\frac{d}{dx} \frac{1}{1-x} = \frac{d}{dx} (1-x)^{-1} = -1(1-x)^{-2} \cdot (-1) = \frac{1}{(1-x)^2}$

So for  $-1 < x < 1$

$$f(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n \right)$$

$$= \frac{d}{dx} (1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \dots)$$

$$= 1 + 2x + 3x^2 + 4x^3 + \dots$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n x^{n-1}$$

# Finding Power Series Representations

Find a power series representation for  $g(x)$ , and state the interval of convergence.

$$g(x) = \tan^{-1} x$$

Recall  $\frac{1}{1+x^2} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n x^{2n}$   
for  $-1 < x < 1$

For  $-1 < x < 1$

$$\tan^{-1} x = \int \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx$$

$$= \int \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n x^{2n} \right) dx$$

$$= C + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{2n+1}$$

$$\tan^{-1} x = C + x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} - \frac{x^7}{7} + \dots$$

To find  $C$ , let  $x=0$

$$\tan^{-1} 0 = C + 0 - \frac{0^3}{3} + \dots \Rightarrow 0 = C$$

$\tan^{-1} 0 = 0$   
↓

$$\text{So } \tan^{-1} x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{2n+1} \quad \text{for } -1 < x < 1$$

## Section 8.9: Taylor and Maclaurin Series

Suppose  $f$  has a power series representation for  $|x - c| < R$ . Try to determine a relationship between the coefficients  $a_n$  and the values of  $f$  and its derivatives as  $x = c$ .

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1(x-c) + a_2(x-c)^2 + a_3(x-c)^3 + a_4(x-c)^4 + a_5(x-c)^5 + \dots$$

$$f(c) = a_0 + a_1(c-c) + a_2(c-c)^2 + \dots = a_0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{a_0 = f(c)}$$

$$f'(x) = a_1 + 2a_2(x-c) + 3a_3(x-c)^2 + 4a_4(x-c)^3 + 5a_5(x-c)^4 + \dots$$

$$f'(c) = a_1 + 0 + 0 \dots \Rightarrow \boxed{a_1 = f'(c)}$$

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1(x-c) + a_2(x-c)^2 + a_3(x-c)^3 + a_4(x-c)^4 + a_5(x-c)^5 + \dots$$

$$f''(x) = 2a_2 + 3 \cdot 2a_3(x-c) + 4 \cdot 3a_4(x-c)^2 + 5 \cdot 4a_5(x-c)^3 + \dots$$

$$f''(c) = 2a_2 + 0 + 0 + \dots \Rightarrow a_2 = \frac{f''(c)}{2}$$

$$f'''(x) = 3 \cdot 2a_3 + 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2a_4(x-c) + 5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3a_5(x-c)^2 + \dots$$

$$f'''(c) = 3 \cdot 2a_3 + 0 + 0 + \dots \Rightarrow a_3 = \frac{f'''(c)}{2 \cdot 3}$$



$$a_0 = \frac{f(c)}{0!}, \quad a_1 = \frac{f'(c)}{1!}, \quad a_2 = \frac{f''(c)}{2!}$$

$$a_3 = \frac{f'''(c)}{3!}$$

In general

$$a_n = \frac{f^{(n)}(c)}{n!}$$

# Theorem

**Theorem:** If  $f$  has a power series representation (a.k.a. *expansion*) centered at  $c$ ,

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(x - c)^n, \quad \text{for } |x - c| < R,$$

then the coefficients are given by the formula

$$a_n = \frac{f^{(n)}(c)}{n!}.$$

**Remark** This notation makes use of the traditional convention that the *zeroth* derivative of  $f$  is  $f$  itself. That is,

$$\frac{f^{(0)}(c)}{0!} = f(c) = a_0.$$

# The Taylor Series

**Definition:** If  $f$  has a power series representation centered at  $c$ , we can write it as

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(c)}{n!} (x - c)^n \\ &= f(c) + \frac{f'(c)}{1!} (x - c) + \frac{f''(c)}{2!} (x - c)^2 + \frac{f'''(c)}{3!} (x - c)^3 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

This is called the **Taylor series of  $f$  centered at  $c$**  (or **at  $c$**  or **about  $c$** ).

**Definition:** If  $c = 0$ , the series is called the **Maclaurin series of  $f$** . In this case, the series above appears as

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!} x^n = f(0) + \frac{f'(0)}{1!} x + \frac{f''(0)}{2!} x^2 + \dots$$

## Example

Determine the Maclaurin series for  $f(x) = e^x$ . Find its radius of convergence.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!} x^n$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} f(x) = e^x, \quad f(0) = e^0 = 1 \\ f'(x) = e^x, \quad f'(0) = e^0 = 1 \\ f''(x) = e^x, \quad \vdots \\ f'''(x) = e^x, \quad \vdots \\ \vdots \\ f^{(n)}(x) = e^x, \quad f^{(n)}(0) = e^0 = 1 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} x^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

Use the ratio test to find the radius of convergence.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \cdot \frac{n!}{x^n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{x}{n! (n+1)} \right|$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|x|}{n+1} = 0 \quad L = 0 < 1 \quad \text{for all real } x$$

$R = \infty$ . The interval of convergence is  $(-\infty, \infty)$ .

## $e^x$ Approximated by terms in its Maclaurin Series

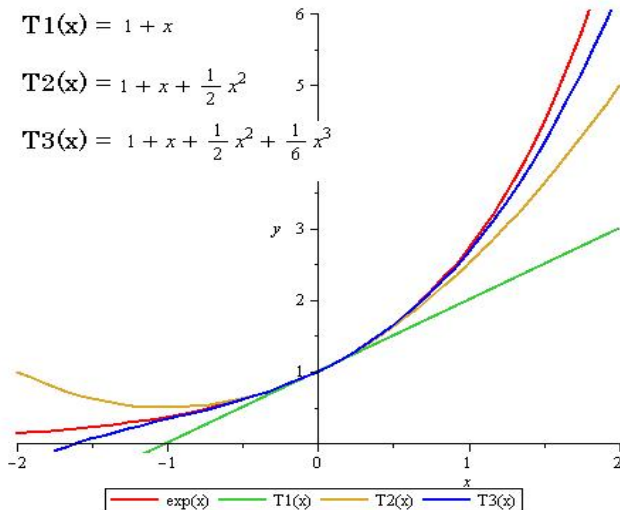


Figure: Plot of  $f$  along with the first 2, 3, and 4 terms of the Maclaurin series.

# Taylor Polynomials

**Definition:** Suppose  $f$  is at least  $n$  times differentiable at  $x = c$ . The  $n^{\text{th}}$  **degree Taylor Polynomial of  $f$  centered at  $c$** , denoted by  $T_n$ , is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} T_n(x) &= \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{f^{(k)}(c)}{k!} (x - c)^k \\ &= f(c) + \frac{f'(c)}{1!} (x - c) + \frac{f''(c)}{2!} (x - c)^2 + \cdots + \frac{f^{(n)}(c)}{n!} (x - c)^n. \end{aligned}$$

**Remark:** Note that if  $f$  has a Taylor series centered at  $c$ , then the Taylor polynomials are what you get if you just take a finite number of terms, and discard the rest.

**Remark:** A Taylor **series** is like a *polynomial of infinite degree*, but a Taylor **polynomial** will have a well defined finite degree.

## Example

Write out the first four Taylor polynomials of  $f(x) = e^x$  centered at zero.

From before  $e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$  (Maclaurin Series)

$$T_0(x) = \frac{x^0}{0!} = 1$$

$$T_2(x) = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!}$$

$$T_1(x) = 1 + \frac{x^1}{1!} = 1 + x$$

$$T_3(x) = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!}$$



## Example

Find the Taylor polynomial of degree  $n = 4$  centered at  $c = 1$  for  $g(x) = e^{3x}$ .

$$T_4(x) = \sum_{k=0}^4 \frac{g^{(k)}(1)}{k!} (x-1)^k$$

$$= \frac{g(1)}{0!} + \frac{g'(1)}{1!} (x-1) + \frac{g''(1)}{2!} (x-1)^2 + \frac{g'''(1)}{3!} (x-1)^3 + \frac{g^{(4)}(1)}{4!} (x-1)^4$$

$$g(x) = e^{3x}, \quad g(1) = e^3$$

$$g'(x) = 3e^{3x}, \quad g'(1) = 3e^3$$

$$g''(x) = 3^2 e^{3x}, \quad g''(1) = 9e^3$$

$$g'''(x) = 3^3 e^{3x}, \quad g'''(1) = 27e^3$$

$$g^{(4)}(x) = 3^4 e^{3x}, \quad g^{(4)}(1) = 81e^3$$

$$T_4(x) = e^3 + 3e^3(x-1) + \frac{9e^3}{2}(x-1)^2 + \frac{27e^3}{6}(x-1)^3 + \frac{81e^3}{24}(x-1)^4$$

$$T_4(x) = e^3 + 3e^3(x-1) + \frac{9e^3}{2}(x-1)^2 + \frac{9e^3}{2}(x-1)^3 + \frac{27e^3}{8}(x-1)^4$$

# Well Known Series and Results

$$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!} \quad \text{for all real } x$$

A consequence of this is:

$$e = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} = 1 + \frac{1}{1!} + \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{1}{3!} + \cdots$$

And with the radius of convergence being infinite, the following limit is useful:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^n}{n!} = 0 \quad \text{for every real number } x$$

## Maclaurin Series for $\sin x$

Derive the Maclaurin series of  $f(x) = \sin x$ . Find its radius of convergence.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!} x^n$$

$$f(x) = \sin x, \quad f(0) = \sin(0) = 0$$

$$f'(x) = \cos x, \quad f'(0) = \cos(0) = 1$$

$$f''(x) = -\sin x, \quad f''(0) = -\sin(0) = 0$$

$$f'''(x) = -\cos x, \quad f'''(0) = -\cos(0) = -1$$

$$f^{(4)}(x) = \sin x, \quad f^{(4)}(0) = 0 \dots$$

$$\sin x = \frac{0}{0!} x^0 + \frac{1}{1!} x^1 + \frac{0}{2!} x^2 + \frac{-1}{3!} x^3 + \frac{0}{4!} x^4 + \frac{1}{5!} x^5 + \frac{0}{6!} x^6 + \frac{-1}{7!} x^7 + \dots$$

$$= x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \frac{x^9}{9!} - \dots$$

To get odd's use the formula  $2n+1$

$$\sin x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!}$$

To find the radius of convergence, use ratio test.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(-1)^{n+1} x^{2(n+1)+1}}{(2(n+1)+1)!} \cdot \frac{(2n+1)!}{(-1)^n x^{2n+1}} \right|$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(-1) x^{2n+1+2}}{(2n+3)!} \cdot \frac{(2n+1)!}{x^{2n+1}} \right|$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2 (2n+1)!}{(2n+1)! (2n+2)(2n+3)}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2}{(2n+2)(2n+3)} = 0 \quad |r| < 1 \text{ for all real } x$$

The series converges for all real  $x$ .

The radius  $R = \infty$ , the

interval is  $(-\infty, \infty)$ .

## Maclaurin Series for $\cos x$

Use the fact that  $\cos x = \frac{d}{dx} \sin x$ .

$$\sin x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!}$$

$$\cos x = \frac{d}{dx} \sin x = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)!} \left[ (2n+1) x^{2n+1-1} \right]$$



$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)!} (2n+1) x^{2n}$$

$$(2n+1)! = (2n)! (2n+1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\cos x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n}}{(2n)!}}$$

$$\cos x = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots$$

# Well Known Series and Results

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n, \quad |x| < 1$$

$$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}, \quad \text{for all } x$$

$$\sin x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!}, \quad \text{for all } x$$

$$\cos x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n}}{(2n)!}, \quad \text{for all } x$$

$$\ln(1+x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{x^n}{n}, \quad -1 < x \leq 1$$

$$\tan^{-1} x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{2n+1}, \quad -1 \leq x \leq 1$$

# Compositions, Products and Quotients

If we stay well within the radius of convergence, we can form compositions, products and quotients with Taylor and Maclaurin series.

**Example:** Find a Maclaurin series for  $f(x) = e^{-x^2}$ .

$$e^t = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^n}{n!} \quad \text{for all real } t$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Set } t &= -x^2 & e^{-x^2} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-x^2)^n}{n!} \\ & & &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n}}{n!} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (-x^2)^n &= (-1 \cdot x^2)^n \\ &= (-1)^n (x^2)^n \\ &= (-1)^n x^{2n} \end{aligned}$$