

ESC195 Notes

QiLin Xue

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1 Power Series

- We can introduce the power series:

Definition: A power series is a series in the form:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n = c_0 + c_1 x + c_2 x^2 + c_3 x^3 + \cdots \quad (1)$$

- For example, if we let $c_n = 1$. Then for all n , we get:

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

and converges if $|x| < 1$.

- A power series about a can be written as:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (x-a)^n = c_0 + c_1 (x-a) + c_2 (x-a)^2 + \cdots \quad (3)$$

- Note that for $x = a$, the sum will always converge. However, we are interested for the entire range of values at which it converges..

Example 1: Suppose we have the power series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n^2}$. To test when it converges, we can apply the ratio test:

$$\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \left| \frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+1)^2} \cdot \frac{n^2}{x^n} \right| \quad (4)$$

$$= |x| \frac{n^2}{n+1} \quad (5)$$

As $n \rightarrow \infty$, we get $|x|$. Therefore, the series converges when $|x| < 1$. However, the test says nothing about the endpoints, so we have to test them separately. If $x = 1$, we have:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \quad (6)$$

We can apply a p-series test to show it converges. For $x = -1$, we have:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^2} \quad (7)$$

and apply the alternating series test to show that it converges. Therefore, the power series converges for:

$$-1 \leq x \leq 1 \quad (8)$$

Example 2: Suppose we have the power series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(1+5^n)x^n}{n!}$. Using the ratio test, we have:

$$\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \left| \frac{(1+5^{n+1})x^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \cdot \frac{n!}{(1+5^n)x^n} \right| = \frac{1+5^{n+1}}{1+5^n} \cdot \left| \frac{x}{n+1} \right| \quad (9)$$

which approaches 0 as $n \rightarrow \infty$ so it is convergent for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

Example 3: Take the power series $\sum n!x^n$. The ratio test then gives:

$$\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \left| \frac{(n+1)!}{n!} \cdot \frac{x^{n+1}}{x^n} \right| = (n+1)|x| \quad (10)$$

This approaches ∞ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ so it diverges except for $x = 0$.

Theorem: For a power series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n$, there are three possibilities with respect to convergence:

1. The series converges only when $x = a$
2. The series converges for all x
3. The series converges in some interval $|x-a| < R$ where R is the **radius of convergence**. However, the endpoints must be tested separately.

Example 4: Take the power series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-2)^n(x-1)^n}{n+2}$. The ratio test gives us:

$$\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \left| \frac{2^{n+1}(x-1)^{n+1}}{n+3} \cdot \frac{n+2}{2^n(x-1)^n} \right| = 2 \left(\frac{n+2}{n+3} \right) |x-1| \quad (11)$$

As $n \rightarrow \infty$, we get:

$$|x-1| < \frac{1}{2} \therefore R = \frac{1}{2} \quad (12)$$

We now need to check the endpoints. Test $x = \frac{1}{2}$. We get:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-2)^n \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^n}{n+2} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n+2} = \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{i} \quad (13)$$

which diverges as it is the harmonic series. We now need to test $x = \frac{3}{2}$. We then get:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-2)^n \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n}{n+2} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n+2} \quad (14)$$

Using the alternating series test, we see that this converges. Therefore, the interval of convergence is $\left[\frac{1}{2}, \frac{3}{2}\right]$.

- It is possible to represent functions as a power series. We saw that for $|x| < 1$, the infinite series:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 1 + x + x^2 + \cdots = \frac{1}{1-x} \quad (15)$$

If we let $f(x) = \frac{1}{1-x}$, then we can *approximate* it using a truncated power series representation for between $-1 < x < 1$.

Example 5: Suppose we have the function $\frac{x}{x-3}$. If we want to write it as a power series, we can write it as:

$$x \cdot \frac{1}{x-3} = -x \frac{1}{3-x} \quad (16)$$

$$= -\frac{x}{3} \frac{1}{1-\frac{x}{3}} \quad (17)$$

$$= -\frac{x}{3} \left[1 + \frac{x}{3} + \left(\frac{x}{3}\right)^2 + \cdots \right] \quad (18)$$

$$= -\frac{x}{3} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{x}{3}\right)^n \quad (19)$$

$$= -\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{x}{3}\right)^{n+1} \quad (20)$$

$$= -\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{x}{3}\right)^n \quad (21)$$

and it converges for $|x| < 3$.

Theorem: Term by Term Differentiation and Integration: Consider the power series $\sum c_n(x-a)^n$ with $R = R_0 > 0$, then

$$f(x) = c_0 + c_1(x-a) + c_2(x-a)^2 + \cdots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n \quad (22)$$

is differentiable and continuous on $(a-R_0, a+R_0)$ and:

$$f'(x) = c_1 + 2c_2(x-a) + 3c_3(x-a)^2 + \cdots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n c_n(x-a)^{n-1} \quad (23)$$

We can also take the integral:

$$\int f(x) dx = C + c_0(x-a) + \frac{c_1(x-a)^2}{2} + \frac{c_2(x-a)^3}{3} + \cdots = C + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_n(x-a)^{n+1}}{n+1} \quad (24)$$

Notice that derivatives and infinite sums can be interchanged. Specifically:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{d}{dx} c_n(x-a)^n \quad (25)$$

$$\int \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n dx = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int c_n(x-a)^n dx \quad (26)$$

Warning: The radius of convergence between derivatives will always be the same, but the endpoints may change.

Example 6: Suppose we have the function $f(x) = \frac{1}{(1+x)^2}$. Note that:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \frac{-1}{1+x} = -\frac{1}{(1+x)^2} \quad (27)$$

so we can write it in terms of its derivative:

$$\frac{d}{dx} -\frac{1}{1+x} = \frac{d}{dx} \left[-\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-x)^n \right] = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} n x^{n-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n (n+1) x^n \quad (28)$$

Example 7: Let's find the power series representation of $\ln(1-x)$. We notice that it can be written as an integral:

$$\ln(1-x) = -\int \frac{dx}{1-x} = -\int \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n dx = C - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} \quad (29)$$

We can determine the constant of integration by setting $x = 0$, which gives $\ln(1) = 0 = C$. Therefore, we can write:

$$\ln(1-x) = -\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n} \quad (30)$$

For $x = 1$, this diverges and for $x = -1$, it conditionally converges.

Example 8: Let us attempt to evaluate $\int_0^{0.1} \frac{dx}{1+x^4}$ to 6 decimal places without a calculator. We first write it as a power series:

$$\frac{1}{1-(-x)^4} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-x^4)^n = 1 - x^4 + x^8 - \dots \quad (31)$$

which converges for $|x| < 1$. Therefore, the integral is:

$$\int \frac{dx}{1+x^4} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int (-x^4)^n dx \quad (32)$$

$$= C + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{4n+1}}{4n+1} \quad (33)$$

$$= C + x - \frac{x^5}{5} + \frac{x^9}{9} - \dots \quad (34)$$

The integral is then:

$$\int_0^{0.1} \frac{dx}{1+x^4} = 0.1 - \frac{0.1^5}{5} + \frac{0.1^9}{9} - \dots = 0.099998 \pm 1.1 \times 10^{-10} \quad (35)$$

Example 9: Let us try to write the power series representation of the inverse tangent function $f(x) = \tan^{-1}(x)$. Note that:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \tan^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2} \quad (36)$$

We can write $f(x)$ as the integral:

$$\tan^{-1}(x) = \int \frac{dx}{1+x^2} = \int (1 - x^2 + x^4 - x^6 + \dots) dx = C + x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} - \dots \quad (37)$$

We can calculate the constant of integration to be $C = \tan^{-1}(0) = 0$ such that we have:

$$\tan^{-1}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{2n+1} \quad (38)$$

with a radius of convergence of $R = 1$.

Remarks: If we substitute in $x = 1$, then we can a special series:

$$\tan^{-1}(1) = \frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \cdots \quad (39)$$

and is known as Leibniz's formula for π .

2 Taylor and Maclaurin Series

- Recall that the power series can be written as:

$$f(x) = c_0 + c_1(x-a) + c_2(x-a)^2 + \cdots \quad (40)$$

for $|x-a| < R$, we note that $f(a) = c_0$. However, if we take the derivative:

$$f'(x) = c_1 + 2c_2(x-a) + 3c_3(x-a)^2 + \cdots \quad (41)$$

and we similarly get $f'(a) = c_1$. For the second derivative:

$$f''(x) = 2c_2 + 6c_3(x-a) + \cdots \quad (42)$$

we get $f''(a) = 2c_2$.

- In general:

$$f^{(n)}(a) = n!c_n \quad (43)$$

Theorem: If $f(x)$ has a power series representation about a :

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n \quad (44)$$

with $|x-a| < R$. Then the coefficients of the series are $c_n = \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!}$

- For a Taylor series of f about a , we have:

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n = f(a) + \frac{f'(a)(x-a)}{1!} + \frac{f''(a)(x-a)^2}{2!} + \cdots \quad (45)$$

- For the Maclaurin Series, it is simply a Taylor series taken at $x = a$:

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!} x^n = f(0) + \frac{f'(0)}{1!} x + \frac{f''(0)}{2!} x^2 + \cdots \quad (46)$$

Definition: A definition is called **analytic at a** if it can be represented as a power series about a .

Example 10: Let us attempt to write out the Maclaurin series of $f(x) = e^x$. First note that:

$$f'(x) = e^x = f''(x) = f'''(x) = f^{(n)}(x) \quad (47)$$

Therefore: $f^{(n)}(0) = e^0 = 1$. Therefore, we can write it as the series:

$$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!} = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \cdots \quad (48)$$

We can check that this converges using the ratio test. Let $a_n = \frac{x^n}{n!}$. Then:

$$\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \left| \frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \cdot \frac{n!}{x^n} \right| = \frac{|x|}{n+1} \quad (49)$$

which approaches zero as $n \rightarrow \infty$. As a result, $R = \infty$

- We ask ourselves the question: When is it true that $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n$

Definition: The n th degree Taylor polynomial of f about a can be written as:

$$T_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{f^{(i)}(a)}{i!} (x-a)^i = f(a) + \frac{f'(a)}{1!} (x-a) + \cdots + \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n \quad (50)$$

Example 11: Let us take a look at e^x about $a = 0$. Then the first, second, third degree series can be written as:

$$T_1(x) = 1 + x \quad (51)$$

$$T_2(x) = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} \quad (52)$$

$$T_3(x) = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3!} \quad (53)$$

We can then define the remainder function as:

$$R_n(x) = f(x) - T_n(x) \quad (54)$$

Theorem: If $f(x) = T_n(x) + R_n(x)$ and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n(x) = 0$ for $|x-a| < R$. Then f is equal to the sum of its Taylor series.

Given that f has $n+1$ continuous derivatives on an open interval I containing a , then for all $x \in I$:

$$f(x) = f(a) + f'(a)(x-a) + \frac{f''(a)(x-a)^2}{2!} + \cdots + \frac{f^{(n)}(a)(x-a)^n}{n!} + R_n(x) \quad (55)$$

where

$$R_n(x) = \frac{1}{n!} \int_a^x f^{(n+1)}(t)(x-t)^n dt \quad (56)$$

Proof. Consider the fundamental theorem of calculus:

$$\int_a^b f'(t) dt = f(b) - f(a) \quad (57)$$

Suppose we evaluate this via integration by parts:

$$\begin{aligned} u &= f'(t) & dv &= dt \\ du &= f''(t) & v &= t - b \end{aligned}$$

This gives:

$$\int_a^b f'(t) dt = [f'(t)(t-b)]_a^b - \int_a^b f''(t)(t-b) dt \quad (58)$$

$$= (b-a)f'(a) + \int_a^b (b-t)f''(t) dt \quad (59)$$

We integrate by parts again:

$$u = f''(t) \quad dv = (b-t) dt \quad (60)$$

$$du = f'''(t) dt \quad v = -\frac{(b-t)^2}{2} \quad (61)$$

which gives:

$$\int_a^b f''(t)(b-t) dt = \left[-\frac{(b-t)^2}{2} f''(t) \right]_a^b + \int_a^b \frac{(b-t)^2}{2} f'''(t) dt \quad (62)$$

If we continue this a total of n times, then we eventually get:

$$\int_a^b f'(t) dt = (b-a)f'(a) + \frac{(b-a)^2}{2!} f''(a) + \frac{(b-a)^3}{3!} f'''(a) + \cdots + \frac{(b-a)^n}{n!} f^{(n)}(a) + \int_a^b \frac{(b-t)^n}{n!} f^{(n+1)}(t) dt \quad (63)$$

However, remember that this integration is equal to $f(b) - f(a)$. If we let $x = b$, then we get:

$$f(x) = f(a) + (x-a)f'(a) + \frac{(x-a)^2}{2!} f''(a) + \cdots + \frac{(x-a)^n}{n!} f^{(n)}(a) + R_n(x) \quad (64)$$

where from our previous work, we have

$$R_n(x) = \int_a^x \frac{(x-t)^n}{n!} f^{(n+1)}(t) dt \quad (65)$$

□

- For $|f^{(n+1)}(t)| \leq M$ for $a < t < x$ we can bound the remainder function by:

$$|R_n(x)| \leq \left| \int_a^x \frac{M(x-t)^n}{n!} dt \right| = \left| M \left[\frac{(x-t)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \right]_a^x \right| = M \frac{|x-a|^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \quad (66)$$

- If we instead use the MVT, we can obtain a slightly different expression for the remainder:

$$R_n(x) = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(c)(x-a)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \quad (67)$$

with $a < c < x$.

Example 12: Suppose we wish to continue the proof that e^x is indeed equal to the sum of its Taylor series, we note again that $f^{(n+1)}(t) = e^t$. For $x > 0$, we can pick an x such that $0 < t < x$ where $e^t < e^x$. The remainder can then be written as:

$$R_n(x) < \frac{e^x x^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \quad (68)$$

As $n \rightarrow \infty$, the remainder approaches zero and as a result:

$$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!} \quad (69)$$

for all x is a true statement.

Example 13: Let us now find the Maclaurin series for $\cos x$. We have:

$$f(x) = \cos x \qquad f(0) = 1 \qquad (70)$$

$$f'(x) = -\sin x \qquad f'(0) = 0 \qquad (71)$$

$$f''(x) = -\cos x \qquad f''(0) = -1 \qquad (72)$$

$$f'''(x) = \sin x \qquad f'''(0) = 0 \qquad (73)$$

$$f^{(4)}(x) = \cos x \qquad f^{(4)}(0) = 1 \qquad (74)$$

and it repeats. Therefore, we propose that:

$$\cos x = f(0) + f'(0)x + \frac{f''(0)x^2}{2} + \dots \qquad (75)$$

$$= 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots \qquad (76)$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n}}{(2n)!} \qquad (77)$$

We can use the ratio test to show that the radius of convergence is $R = \infty$. Finally, we need to prove that this sum is $\cos x$. We note that:

$$|f^{n+1}(t)| = \pm \cos t \text{ or } \pm \sin t \leq 1 \qquad (78)$$

so we can bound the remainder by:

$$|R_n(x)| \leq \left| \frac{Mx^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \right| = \left| \frac{x^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \right| \qquad (79)$$