

MAT1002 Lecture 5 , Thursday , Feb/09/2023

Outline

- Power series (10.7)
 - ↳ Overview
 - ↳ Convergence
 - ↳ Operations
- Taylor series (10.8)

Power Series

We now shift our attention to series of functions. Consider the

$$f(x) := 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n.$$

By geometric series,

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{1-x}, & \text{if } |x| < 1; \\ \text{D.N.E.}, & \text{if } |x| \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

(divergent)

This means that the series is not always convergent (not for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$), and the domain of the function is $(-1, 1)$.

Definition

A **power series about $x = a$** is a series of the form

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

$\{c_n\}$ sequence of real numbers

The number a above is called the **center** of the power series. In particular, a power series about $x = 0$ is a series of the form

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n = c_0 + c_1 x + c_2 x^2 + \dots$$

Remark: A power series can be thought of as a polynomial of infinite degree, but it may not converge for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

Graphical intuition: For the power series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$, its partial sums are

$$S_0(x) = 1, S_1(x) = 1 + x, \dots, S_k(x) = \sum_{n=0}^k x^n$$

Graph them using Desmos and observe the pattern.

- Try the same for $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-\frac{1}{2})^n (x-2)^n$. Note that

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

given that $\left|-\frac{1}{2}(x-2)\right| < 1$, i.e., $0 < x < 4$.

$(0, 4)$ is an interval centered at 2

Remark: In power series notation, $0^0 := 1$, e.g. if

$$f(x) := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n, \text{ then } f(0) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 0^n = 0^0 + 0^1 + 0^2 + \dots = 1.$$

Indeed, $f(x) = \frac{1}{1-x}$ for $|x| < 1$, so $f(0) = 1$.

- Any power series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (x-a)^n$ always converges at its center a , since

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (a-a)^n = c_0.$$

Q: For which values of x does a given power series converge?

A: Try Ratio Test / Root Test.

Example

For what values of x do the following power series converge?

(a) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{x^n}{n}$. Ans: Converges $\Leftrightarrow x \in (-1, 1]$.

(b) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$. Ans: Converges $\Leftrightarrow x \in (-\infty, \infty)$.

(c) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n! x^n$. Ans: Converges $\Leftrightarrow x = 0$.

Note that all three series converges for $x=0$. Fix x with $x \neq 0$.

(a) $\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{|x|^{n+1}}{n+1} \cdot \frac{n}{|x|^n} = |x| \cdot \frac{n}{n+1} \rightarrow |x| \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$

By Ratio Test, if $|x| < 1$, series converges (absolutely); if $|x| > 1$, series diverge. If $x = 1$, series converges (alt. harmonic); if $x = -1$, series diverges (negative harmonic).

(b) $\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{|x|^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \cdot \frac{n!}{|x|^n} = \frac{|x|}{n+1} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$.

By Ratio Test, series always converges (i.e., converges for all x).

(c) $\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{(n+1)! |x|^{n+1}}{n! |x|^n} = (n+1)|x| \rightarrow \infty \text{ (since } x \neq 0\text{)}$.

By Ratio Test, series diverges for every $x \neq 0$.

Convergence

From the three examples above, we saw that they all converge on intervals. What is the general pattern?

Theorem (10.7.18) If $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n(x-a)^n$ converges at $x=x_0$, then it converges absolutely for all x with $|x-a| < |x_0-a|$. If it diverges at $x=x_0$, then it diverges for all x with $|x-a| > |x_0-a|$.

Proof: Suppose series converges at $x=x_0$. May assume $x_0 \neq a$.

So $|x_0-a| > 0$. Since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} C_n(x_0-a)^n = 0$, $\exists N$ s.t. $\forall n \geq N$,

$$|C_n(x_0-a)^n| < 1 \Rightarrow |C_n| < \frac{1}{|x_0-a|^n}.$$

For any x , with $|x-a| < |x_0-a|$, we have

$$0 \leq |C_n||x-a|^n < \frac{|x-a|^n}{|x_0-a|^n} = \left| \frac{x-a}{x_0-a} \right|^n. \quad \text{Direct comparison}$$

Since $\sum_{n=N}^{\infty} \left| \frac{x-a}{x_0-a} \right|^n$ converges, $\sum_{n=N}^{\infty} |C_n||x-a|^n$ converges, so

$\sum C_n(x-a)^n$ converges absolutely for all x with $|x-a| < |x_0-a|$.

For the second part, suppose $\sum C_n(x_0-a)^n$ diverges. If $\exists x$, such that $|x-a| > |x_0-a|$ but $\sum C_n(x-a)^n$ converges, then by the first part, $\sum C_n(x_0-a)^n$ would converge (absolutely). This is a contradiction, so no such x can exist, i.e., if $|x-a| > |x_0-a|$ then $\sum C_n(x-a)^n$ must diverge. \square

Radius of Convergence

Theorem (Existence of the Radius of Convergence)

For any power series $\sum c_n(x - a)^n$, one of the following three statements holds:

- (i) There exists a positive real number R such that the series converges absolutely for all x with $|x - a| < R$ but diverges for all x with $|x - a| > R$. The series may or may not converge for x with $|x - a| = R$.
- (ii) The series converges absolutely for all x ($R = \infty$).
- (iii) The series converges at $x = a$ and diverges elsewhere ($R = 0$).

This R is called the radius of convergence

Remark

- The radius of convergence may be found by the Ratio Test (or the Root test).
- If R is the radius of convergence for $\sum c_n(x-a)^n$, where $R \neq 0$ and $R \neq \infty$, then $\sum c_n(x-a)^n$ may or may not converge at $x = a \pm R$.

e.g. $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{x^n}{n}$ cugs for $x \in (-1, 1]$.

e.g. $\sum x^n$ cugs for $x \in (-1, 1)$.

One needs to test $x = a \pm R$ separately.

Proof: See proof of "corollary of theorem 18" in Chap 10.7 in the book.

Operations on Power Series

Addition/Subtraction

This is done in the same way as series of numbers.

Multiplication

Let $\sum a_n(x-c)^n$ and $\sum b_n(x-c)^n$ be power series with radii of convergence R_a and R_b , respectively. Let $R := \min\{R_a, R_b\}$. Define

$$c_n = a_0b_0 + a_1b_1 + \dots + a_nb_n = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k b_{n-k} \text{ for } n \geq 0.$$

Then

$$\left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(x-c)^n \right) \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n(x-c)^n \right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-c)^n$$

for all x with $|x-c| < R$.

Substitution

10.7.20

THEOREM 20 If $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ converges absolutely for $|x| < R$, then $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (f(x))^n$ converges absolutely for any continuous function f on $|f(x)| < R$.

e.g., Since $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = \frac{1}{1-x}$ for all $x \in (-1, 1)$, we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (3x)^n = \frac{1}{1-3x} \text{ valid for } |3x| < 1, \text{ i.e., } x \in \left(-\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}\right).$$

Differentiation and Integration

Theorem (Term-by-Term Differentiation and Integration)

Suppose that $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n$ has a radius of convergence R , with $R > 0$. Define f on $(a-R, a+R)$ by

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

Then on $(a-R, a+R)$, the function f is differentiable and has an antiderivative, with

$$(i) \quad f'(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n c_n (x-a)^{n-1}.$$

$$(ii) \quad \int f(x) dx = C + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_n}{n+1} (x-a)^{n+1}.$$

The theorem above may be useful in converting a function between its elementary form and power series form.

e.g. $\frac{1}{1+x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-x)^n = \sum_n (-1)^n x^n \quad \text{for } |x| < 1$

$$\Rightarrow \int \frac{1}{1+x} dx = C + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n+1} (-1)^n x^{n+1} \quad \text{for } |x| < 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln(1+x) = C + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n+1} (-1)^n x^{n+1} \quad \text{for } |x| < 1$$

(=\ln|1+x|)

$$\text{For } x=0, \quad 0 = \ln 1 = C + 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad C = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n+1} (-1)^n x^{n+1} = \ln(1+x) \quad \text{for } x \in (-1, 1).$$

For an approach using definite integrals, see e.g. 10.7.6.

e.g. Let $f(x) := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{2n+1}$. (x ≠ 0)

• By Ratio Test, $\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{|x|^{2n+3}}{|x|^{2n+1}} \cdot \frac{2n+1}{2n+3} = \left(\frac{2n+1}{2n+3} \right) |x|^2 \rightarrow |x|^2$,

so Series converges when $|x|^2 < 1 \Rightarrow |x| < 1$
and diverges when $|x|^2 > 1 \Rightarrow |x| > 1$

• f is defined on $(-1, 1)$. What is an elementary function expression?

• $f'(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n x^{2n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-x^2)^n = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$, for $|x| < 1$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) = \int f'(x) dx = \int \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = \arctan x + C$$

• $0 = \overset{\text{Series expression}}{\overbrace{f(0)}} = \arctan 0 + C = C \Rightarrow C = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \underset{\text{elementary expression for } f \text{ on } (-1, 1)}{\overbrace{f(x) = \arctan x}}, \quad x \in (-1, 1).$$

Remark: After term-by-term differentiation/integration, convergence at endpoints $a \pm R$ is NOT guaranteed; e.g. $\sum \frac{x^n}{n^2}$.

$$\bullet \frac{|x|^{n+1}}{(n+1)^2} \cdot \frac{n^2}{|x|^n} = \left(\frac{n}{n+1} \right)^2 |x| \rightarrow |x| \Rightarrow R = 1.$$

- At $x=1$, $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n^2}$ converges.
- But $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \frac{x^{n-1}}{n^2} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^{n-1}}{n}$ does not converge at $x=1$.

Taylor Series

Suppose $\sum_n C_n(x-a)^n$ converges to $f(x)$ on some open interval I . i.e.,

$f(x) = \sum_n C_n(x-a)^n \quad \forall x \in I$. By the previous theorem,

$$f'(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n C_n (x-a)^{n-1}, \quad f''(x) = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1) C_n (x-a)^{n-2}, \dots$$

i.e., if f has a power series representation^{on I} , it must be infinitely differentiable on I ($f^{(n)}$ exists for all $n \geq 0$).

Conversely, given an infinitely differentiable function f on I :

Q1: Can f be represented as a power series on I ?

Q2: If so, what is the form of this power series?

We look at Q2 first. Suppose $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n(x-a)^n$ on some open interval I containing a . What are the values of C_n ?

- $f(a) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n (a-a)^n = C_0$.
- $f'(a) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n C_n (a-a)^{n-1} \Rightarrow f'(a) = C_1$.

$$\begin{aligned} \cdot f''(a) &= \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1)C_n (x-a)^{n-2} \Rightarrow f''(a) = 2 \cdot 1 \cdot C_2 \\ \Rightarrow C_2 &= \frac{f''(a)}{2!} \\ \cdot f^{(k)}(a) &= \left. \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} n(n-1)\dots(n-k+1) C_n (x-a)^{n-k} \right|_{x=a} = k(k-1)\dots 1 \cdot C_k \\ \Rightarrow C_k &= \frac{f^{(k)}(a)}{k!} \end{aligned}$$

Hence, if $f(x)$ has a power series representation $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n (x-a)^n$ on I , then it must be

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

Definition

Let f be a function such that for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $f^{(n)}$ exists on some open interval containing a . The Taylor series of f centered at a is the series

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n. \quad \text{or "Taylor series generated by } f\text{"}$$

The Maclaurin series of f is the Taylor series of f centered at 0:

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

Example

(a) The Maclaurin series of $f(x) := e^x$ is $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$.

(b) The Maclaurin series of $f(x) := \cos x$ is $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n}}{(2n)!}$.

Partial sums of a Taylor series are *Taylor polynomials*. More generally:

Definition

Let f be a function such that for all $n \in \{0, 1, \dots, N\}$, $f^{(n)}$ exists on some open interval containing a . The **Taylor polynomial of f (of order n) centered at a** is the polynomial

$$P_n(x) := \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{f^{(k)}(a)}{k!} (x - a)^k.$$