

Lecture 9.6: Taylor and Maclaurin series

Let a power series

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

has a radius of convergence $R > 0$. Then the power series is convergent if $x \in (c - R, c + R)$ and the sum of the series is a function $f(x)$,

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

\implies We now determine the coefficients a_n directly from $f(x)$:

- set $x = c \implies$

$$f(c) = a_0 \implies a_0 = f(c)$$

- differentiate once (the series remains convergent for $|x-c| < R$!) and set $x = c$:

$$f'(c) = 1 \cdot a_1 + 2a_2 \cdot (x-c) + 3a_3 \cdot (x-c)^2 + \dots \Big|_{x=c} = 1 \cdot a_1$$

$$\implies a_1 = \frac{f'(c)}{1}$$

- differentiate twice set $x = c$:

$$f''(c) = 2 \cdot 1 \cdot a_2 + 3 \cdot 2 \cdot a_3 \cdot (x-c) + \dots \Big|_{x=c} = 2 \cdot 1 \cdot a_2 = 2! \cdot a_2$$

$$\implies a_2 = \frac{f''(c)}{2!}$$

- and so on \implies

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

Def: if $f(x)$ has derivatives of all orders at $x = c$ then

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

- is called the **Taylor series** of $f(x)$ about $x = c$, or in powers of $(x-c)$;
- if $c = 0$, is called the **Maclaurin series**

Example 1: Find the Taylor series of

$$f(x) = e^x$$

around $x = c$.

\Rightarrow

- $f(x)$ is infinitely differentiable for $x \in \mathbb{R}$

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$$f(c) = e^c, \quad f'(c) = (e^x)' \Big|_{x=c} = e^x \Big|_{x=c} = e^c$$

- \Rightarrow

$$f^n(c) = \frac{d^n}{dx^n} e^x \Big|_{x=c} = e^x \Big|_{x=c} = e^c$$

- \Rightarrow

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

- What is R for this Taylor series? \Rightarrow

$$\rho = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{e^c}{(n+1)!} |x - c|^{n+1}}{\frac{e^c}{n!} |x - c|^n} = |x - c| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n+1} = 0$$

$\Rightarrow R = \infty$, and the Taylor series is convergent for

$$x \in \mathbb{R}$$

- Remember the Maclaurin series for e^x :

$$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

Def: If $f(x)$ has a Taylor series expansion around c such that the Taylor series converges to $f(x)$ on an open interval containing $c \Rightarrow f(x)$ is called **analytic** at c .
 $f(x)$ is analytic on an interval \mathcal{I} if it is analytic at any $x \in \mathcal{I}$.

\Rightarrow From the example 1, e^x is analytic for $x \in \mathbb{R}$

Example 2: Find the Maclaurin series of

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

and its analyticity interval

\Rightarrow

- Recall the geometric series:

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

- \Rightarrow

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

Example 3: Find the Maclaurin series of

$$f(x) = \sin(x)$$

and its analyticity interval

\Rightarrow

- Note: $\sin(0) = 0$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \left. \frac{d}{dx} \sin(x) \right|_{x=0} &= \cos x \Big|_{x=0} = 1 \\ \left. \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \sin(x) \right|_{x=0} &= -\sin x \Big|_{x=0} = 0 \\ \left. \frac{d^3}{dx^3} \sin(x) \right|_{x=0} &= -\cos x \Big|_{x=0} = -1 \\ \left. \frac{d^4}{dx^4} \sin(x) \right|_{x=0} &= \sin x \Big|_{x=0} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

- \Rightarrow for any integer n

$$f^{(2n)}(0) = (\sin(x))^{(2n)} \Big|_{x=0} = 0, \quad f^{(2n+1)}(0) = (\sin(x))^{(2n+1)} \Big|_{x=0} = (-1)^n$$

• \Rightarrow

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

• apply the ratio test directly to the power series above:

$$\rho = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{1}{(2(n+1)+1)!} |x|^{2(n+1)+1}}{\frac{1}{(2n+1)!} |x|^{2n+1}} = |x|^2 \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(2n+1)!}{(2n+3)!} = |x|^2 \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{(2n+2)(2n+3)} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow R = \infty$$

• \Rightarrow

$$\boxed{\sin x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)!} x^{2n+1}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}}$$

Example 4: Find the Maclaurin series of

$$f(x) = e^{-x^2/2}$$

and its analyticity interval

\Rightarrow

• set

$$u = -\frac{x^2}{2}$$

• \Rightarrow

$$\begin{aligned} f &= e^u = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \left(\underbrace{u}_{u=-x^2/2} \right)^n, \quad u \in \mathbb{R} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \left(-\frac{x^2}{2} \right)^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^n n!} x^{2n}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$

Example 5: Find the Taylor series of

$$f(x) = \ln x$$

in terms of $(x-2)$ and its analyticity interval

\Rightarrow

- **WARNING!** Do not attempt to derive the general formula for $f^{(n)}$ — this approach works only for simple functions: $\{\sin x, \cos x, e^x\}$
- set $u = x - 2 \implies$

$$f = \ln(u + 2)$$

and we are after the Maclaurin series for the above function

- Note

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{du} \ln(u + 2) &= \frac{1}{2 + u} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{1 - \underbrace{(-u/2)}_{=w}} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{1 - w} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} w^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \left(-\frac{u}{2}\right)^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{n+1}} u^n \end{aligned}$$

- above manipulations are valid when

$$|w| < 1 \implies \left|\frac{u}{2}\right| < 1 \implies |u| < 2 \implies |x - 2| < 2$$

- at this stage we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \ln(t + 2) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{n+1}} t^n$$

- integrate both sides:

$$\int_0^u dt \frac{d}{dt} \ln(t + 2) = \int_0^u dt \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{n+1}} t^n$$

- LHS:

$$\ln(t + 2) \Big|_0^u = \ln(u + 2) - \ln 2$$

- RHS:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{n+1}} \int_0^u dt t^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{n+1}} \frac{t^{n+1}}{n+1} \Big|_0^u = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{n+1}} \frac{u^{n+1}}{n+1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{n+1}(n+1)} u^{n+1}$$

- LHS=RHS \implies

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

or

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

or

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

- redefine the summation index in the last formula $n+1 = k$

$$\ln x = \ln 2 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{2^k k} (x-2)^k, \quad 0 < x < 4$$