

Proof of Function Representation with Taylor Series

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We know that a power series is:

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1(x - a) + a_2(x - a)^2 + a_3(x - a)^3 + a_4(x - a)^4 + a_5(x - a)^5 + \dots + a_n(x - a)^n \dots [\text{where } |x - a| < R]$$

0.1 Section (1)

Now: $f(a) = a_0$

$$\therefore a_0 = \frac{f^{(0)}(a)}{0!} \text{ where } f^{(0)}(a) = f(a) \text{ and } 0! = 1$$

0.2 Section (2)

Taking the first derivative of $f(x)$:

$$f^{(1)}(x) = a_1 + 2a_2(x - a) + 3a_3(x - a)^2 + 4a_4(x - a)^3 + 5a_5(x - a)^4 + \dots$$

$$f^{(1)}(a) = a_1 \dots (i)$$

$$a_1 = \frac{f^{(1)}(a)}{1!} \dots [\text{rearranging (i)}]$$

0.3 Section (3)

Same way taking the second derivative of $f(x)$:

$$f^{(2)}(x) = 2a_2 + 6a_3(x - a) + 12a_4(x - a)^2 + 20a_5(x - a)^3 + \dots$$

$$f^{(2)}(a) = 2a_2 \dots \text{(ii)}$$

$$a_2 = \frac{f^{(2)}(a)}{2!} \dots [\text{rearranging (ii)}]$$

0.4 Section (4)

Taking third derivative:

$$f^{(3)}(x) = 6a_3 + 24a_4(x - a) + 60a_5(x - a)^2 + \dots$$

$$f^{(3)}(a) = 6a_3 \dots \text{(iii)}$$

$$a_3 = \frac{f^{(3)}(a)}{3!} \dots [\text{rearranging (iii)}]$$

0.5 Section (5)

Taking fourth derivative:

$$f^{(4)}(x) = 24a_4 + 120a_5(x - a) + \dots$$

$$f^{(4)}(a) = 24a_4 \dots (\text{iv})$$

$$a_4 = \frac{f^{(4)}(a)}{4!} \dots [\text{rearranging (iv)}]$$

0.6 Section (6)

Taking fifth derivative:

$$f^{(5)}(x) = 120a_5 + \dots$$

$$f^{(5)}(a) = 120a_5 \dots (\text{iv})$$

$$a_5 = \frac{f^{(5)}(a)}{5!} \dots [\text{rearranging (v)}]$$

By plugging in values of a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4 and a_5 into $f(x)$ we get:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) = & \frac{f^{(0)}(a)(x-a)^0}{0!} + \frac{f^{(1)}(a)(x-a)^1}{1!} + \frac{f^{(2)}(a)(x-a)^2}{2!} + \frac{f^{(3)}(a)(x-a)^3}{3!} \\ & + \frac{f^{(4)}(a)(x-a)^4}{4!} + \frac{f^{(5)}(a)(x-a)^5}{5!} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

So the pattern is:

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

And that's it. That's the Taylor series. [Q.E.D]