

Example 39.13. Going back to the function f of Example 39.10 given by $f(A) = \log \det(A)$, we know from Example 39.12 that

$$D^m f(A)(X_1, \dots, X_m) = (-1)^{m-1} \sum_{\sigma \in \mathfrak{S}_{m-1}} \operatorname{tr}(A^{-1} X_1 A^{-1} X_{\sigma(1)+1} \cdots A^{-1} X_{\sigma(m-1)+1}) \quad (*)$$

for all $m \geq 1$, with $A \in \mathbf{GL}^+(n, \mathbb{R})$. If we make the stronger assumption that A is symmetric positive definite, then for any other symmetric positive definite matrix B , since the symmetric positive definite matrices form a convex set, the matrices $A + \theta(B - A) = (1 - \theta)A + \theta B$ are also symmetric positive definite for $\theta \in [0, 1]$. Theorem 39.25 applies with $H = B - A$ (a symmetric matrix), and using $(*)$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \log \det(A + H) &= \log \det(A) + \operatorname{tr} \left(A^{-1} H - \frac{1}{2} (A^{-1} H)^2 + \cdots + \frac{(-1)^{m-1}}{m} (A^{-1} H)^m \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{(-1)^m}{m+1} ((A + \theta H)^{-1} H)^{m+1} \right), \end{aligned}$$

for some θ such that $0 < \theta < 1$. In particular, if $A = I$, for any symmetric matrix H such that $I + H$ is symmetric positive definite, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \log \det(I + H) &= \operatorname{tr} \left(H - \frac{1}{2} H^2 + \cdots + \frac{(-1)^{m-1}}{m} H^m \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{(-1)^m}{m+1} ((I + \theta H)^{-1} H)^{m+1} \right), \end{aligned}$$

for some θ such that $0 < \theta < 1$. In the special case when $n = 1$, we have $I = 1$, H is a real such that $1 + H > 0$ and the trace function is the identity, so we recognize the partial sum of the series for $x \mapsto \log(1 + x)$,

$$\begin{aligned} \log(1 + H) &= H - \frac{1}{2} H^2 + \cdots + \frac{(-1)^{m-1}}{m} H^m \\ &\quad + \frac{(-1)^m}{m+1} (1 + \theta H)^{-(m+1)} H^{m+1}. \end{aligned}$$

We also mention for “mathematical culture,” a version with integral remainder, in the case of a real-valued function. This is usually called *Taylor’s formula with integral remainder*.

Theorem 39.26. (*Taylor’s formula with integral remainder*) Let E be a normed affine space, let A be an open subset of E , and let $f: A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a real-valued function on A . Given any $a \in A$ and any $h \neq 0$ in \vec{E} , if the closed segment $[a, a + h]$ is contained in A , and if f is a C^{m+1} -function on A , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(a + h) &= f(a) + \frac{1}{1!} D^1 f(a)(h) + \cdots + \frac{1}{m!} D^m f(a)(h^m) \\ &\quad + \int_0^1 \frac{(1-t)^m}{m!} [D^{m+1} f(a + th)(h^{m+1})] dt. \end{aligned}$$