

6.1 Power series solutions of DEs (and review)

a lesson for MATH F302 Differential Equations

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for textbook: D. Zill, *A First Course in Differential Equations with Modeling Applications*, 11th ed.

we already use power series

- the exponential function is *defined* by an infinite series:

$$e^x = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots$$

- there are other ways to define it but series is the default def.
 - see “[characterizations of the exponential function](#)” at wikipedia
- a *power series* is an infinite sum of coefficients times powers of x ; the above is a power series
- *exercise*. from the above series for $y(x) = e^x$, show

$$y' = y \quad \text{and} \quad y(0) = 1$$

a series with unknown coefficients

exercise. find the coefficients in the power series

$$y(x) = c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2 + c_3x^3 + c_4x^4 + \dots$$

so that $y(x)$ solves the IVP:

$$y' + 3y = 0, y(0) = 7$$

series solutions of DEs: the basic idea

- the last slide, and the next slide, show the basic idea:

*substitute a series with unknown coefficients into the DE,
and thereby find the coefficients*

- with appropriate initial conditions one can get *one* series solution
- without initial conditions one gets a family of series solutions, i.e. the general solution

exercise #37 in §6.1

exercise. find the general solution by using a power series with unknown coefficients:

$$y' = xy$$

review of series

- you already have the main idea
- reviewing only needed to be faster/clearer/smarter
- must recall knowledge from calculus II:
 - ① some familiar series
 - including little tricks for fiddling with familiar series to get other series
 - ② how summation notation works
 - including shifting the index of summation
 - ③ what are the *radius of convergence* and the *interval of convergence*, and how to find them
- I'll do some reviewing in these slides, but ...
- to do *your* review, start by **reading the text in section 6.1!!**

exponential and related series

- we know that for any x ,

$$e^x = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \cdots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k!}$$

- $0! = 1$ and $1! = 1$ by definition
 - factorial $n!$ grows faster than b^n for any $b \dots$ why? so what?
- split even and odd terms:

$$\cosh x =$$

$$\sinh x =$$

- $\cosh x = \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2}, \quad \sinh x = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{2}$

- use $e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$:

$$\cos x =$$

$$\sin x =$$

geometric series

- recall:

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$$

- why?
- for which x ?

related to geometric series

- geometric series for $x \in (-1, 1)$:

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$$

- substitution gives other series:

$$\frac{1}{1+x^2} =$$

- integration gives other series:

$$\ln(1+x) =$$

$$\arctan(x) =$$

familiar series worth knowing

- somewhat by accident I've explained all of these 8 series:

Maclaurin Series	Interval of Convergence
$e^x = 1 + \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} x^n$	$(-\infty, \infty)$
$\cos x = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n)!} x^{2n}$	$(-\infty, \infty)$
$\sin x = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)!} x^{2n+1}$	$(-\infty, \infty)$
$\tan^{-1} x = x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} - \frac{x^7}{7} + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2n+1} x^{2n+1}$	$[-1, 1] \quad (2)$
$\cosh x = 1 + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n)!} x^{2n}$	$(-\infty, \infty)$
$\sinh x = x + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} + \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n+1)!} x^{2n+1}$	$(-\infty, \infty)$
$\ln(1+x) = x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4} + \dots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} x^n$	$(-1, 1]$
$\frac{1}{1-x} = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$	$(-1, 1)$

exercise #14 in §6.1

exercise. Use a familiar series to find the Maclaurin series of the given function. Write your answer in summation notation.

$$f(x) = \frac{x}{1+x^2}$$

base point

- a general power series is

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

- a is the *base point*; the series is *centered at a*
 - note that $f(a) = c_0$
- *exercise.* find a power series centered at $a = 5$:

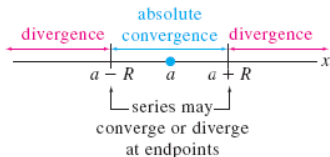
$$f(x) = \sin(2x)$$

convergence of power series

- *fact.* for the series there is a value $0 \leq R \leq \infty$ where the series converges if $a - R < x < a + R$ and it diverges if $x < a - R$ or $x > a + R$
 - equivalently " $|x - a| < R$ " and " $|x - a| > R$ " resp.
- *exercise.* substitute $x = \pm 1$ into

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

do the resulting series converge?



exercise #31 in §6.1

exercise. Verify by substitution that the given power series is a solution; use summation notation. Radius of convergence?

$$y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!} x^{2n}, \quad y' + 2xy = 0$$

exercise #31, cont.

exercise #5 in §6.1

exercise. Find the interval and radius of convergence:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{10^k} (x - 5)^k$$

- using ratio test:

- using geometric series:

expectations

- just watching this video is *not* enough!
 - see “found online” videos at bueler.github.io/math302/week9.html
 - *read* section 6.1 and 6.2 in the textbook
 - *do* the WebAssign exercises for section 6.1