

6.5.9 If  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n x^n$  prove that  $a_n = b_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Proof. Consider  $0 = h(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a_n - b_n)x^n$ . Since both power series are continuous on the interval  $(-R, R)$  then  $h(x)$  is defined for 0. Therefore  $0 = h(0) = (a_0 - b_0) + (a_1 - b_1)0 + \cdots = a_0 - b_0$ . Therefore  $a_0 = b_0$ . Since each power series is differentiable, and the sum of differentiable functions is differentiable, then we have that  $0 = h'(0) = (a_1 - b_1) + 2(a_2 - b_2)0 + \cdots$ . Therefore by the principle of mathematical induction, for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , if  $k < n$ , then  $a_k = b_k$ . Consider the  $n$ th derivative of  $h(x)$ , therefore  $\frac{d^n}{dx^n} h(x) = \sum_{l=n}^{\infty} \frac{(l)!}{(l-n)!} (a_l - b_l) x^{l-n}$ . We know by theorem 6.5.7 that convergent power series are infinitely differentiable, since  $h(x)$  is defined on  $(-R, R)$  then  $\frac{d^n}{dx^n} h(0)$  is defined. Therefore  $0 = \frac{d^n}{dx^n} h(0) = n!(a_n - b_n) + (n+1)!(a_{n+1} - b_{n+1})0 + \cdots$ . Thus  $0 = a_n - b_n$ ,  $a_n = b_n$ . Therefore the power series are equivalent.