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Introduction to series

Definition (Sequences)

A (infinite) sequence a_n is a list of infinite many numbers in a pre-dfined order.

• A sequence a_n can be treated as a function defined for integer numbers,

$$a_n = f(n): \mathcal{N} \to \mathcal{R}$$

Definition (Series)

Given a sequence $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$, the series is $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \cdots$

• A partial sum of the series is defined by

$$S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k$$



Introduction to series

Definition

A series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is convergent if the limit $\lim_{n\to\infty} S_n$ exists. If the series does not converge it is called divergent

Theorem

If a series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ converges, then $\lim_{n\to\infty} a_n = 0$.

- $\lim_{n\to\infty} a_n = 0$ is not enough to guarantee that a series converges.
- Consider $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n$, $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} ar^n$, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1/n$, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1/(n^2 + n)$.

Ratio test

We will not cover proof of the results in this class. Let $\lim_{n\to\infty}|a_{n+1}/a_n|=L$.

- If L < 1, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is convergent.
- If L > 1, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ is divergent.
- When L = 1, carefully apply the result.



Power series

Definition

A power series centered at x = a has the form of $f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n (x-a)^n$, i.e. a series where the terms are $a_n = b_n (x-a)^n$.

 The domain of the function f(x) consists of all real numbers x such that the power series is convergent, i.e.

$$D(f) = \left\{ x : \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n (x - a)^n \text{ is convergent} \right\}$$

· Let's apply the ratio test to study domain of power series.

Radius of convergencs

With $a_n = b_n(x - a)^n$, compute

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \to \infty} \left| \frac{b_{n+1}(x-a)^{n+1}}{b_n(x-a)^n} \right|$$
$$= |x-a| \lim_{n \to \infty} \left| \frac{b_{n+1}}{b_n} \right|.$$

Define a number R by

$$R=\lim_{n\to\infty}\left|\frac{b_n}{b_{n+1}}\right|.$$

Thus, we have

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\left|\frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n}\right|=\frac{|x-a|}{R},$$

and the power series is convergent if

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \frac{|x-a|}{R} < 1, \quad i.e. \quad |x-a| < R.$$



Radius of convergences

Definition (Radius of convergence)

The radius of convergence R of a power series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n(x-a)^n$: A power series is convergent for all x with |x-a| < R and diverges for all x with |x-a| > R.

- There is no general rule for |x a| = R.
- If R = 0 the series converges only at x = a.
- If $R = \infty$ the series converges for all $x \in \mathcal{R}$.
- ex 1.) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n!) x^n$.
- ex 2.) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(x-3)^n}{n}$.
- ex 3.) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(x+1)^n}{n!}$.

Derivatives and Integrals

Theorem

Supposet that a power series

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n (x-a)^n,$$

has the radius of convergence R. Then, if differentiation and summation in the power series for f can be interchanged, for all x with |x - a| < R, we have

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (b_n(x-a)^n,)' = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nb_n(x-a)^{n-1}$$

$$\frac{d^2f(x)}{dx^2} = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1)b_n(x-a)^{n-2}$$

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Derivatives and Integrals

Theorem

Supposet that a power series

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n (x-a)^n,$$

has the radius of convergence R. Then, if integration and summation in the power series for f can be interchanged, for all x with |x-a| < R, we have

$$\int f(x)dx = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \int b_n(x-a)^n dx + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{b_n}{n+1} (x-a)^{n+1}$$

- Using $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n(x-a)^n$, what is f(a)?
- Using $\frac{df(x)}{dx} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nb_n(x-a)^{n-1}$, what is f'(a)?
- f''(a) = ?
- $f^{(k)}(a) = ?$

Definition (Taylor series expansion around x = a)

The Taylor expansion around x = a of a function f has the following form,

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

• When a = 0, we call it Maclaurin series of f(x):

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

• Find Maclaurin series for

1
$$f(x) = e^x$$

2
$$f(x) = a^x, (a > 0)$$

$$(x) = \sin' x$$

$$f(x) = \cos^4 x$$

• Find the value $\lim_{x\to 0} \frac{e^x - 1 - x - x^2/2}{x^3}$.

Taylor's theorem

Theorem

The Taylor expansion to order N around x = a of a function f has the following form,

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

If $f^{(n+1)}$ is continuous on an interval I that contains a, and x is in I, then there exists a number c between a and x such that

$$R_N(x) = \frac{1}{N!} \int_a^x (x-t)^N f^{(N+1)}(t) dt = \frac{f^{(N+1)}(c)}{(N+1)!} (x-a)^{N+1},$$

- $R_N(x)$ is called the remainder of the Taylor series.
- For x with |x-a| < R, $\lim_{n \to \infty} R_n(x) = 0$, since the series is convergent.

Q & A

Thank You!

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