

MATHEMATICS 2023 - INFINITE SERIES I
ACADIA UNIVERSITY

1. EXERCISES

1. [15 marks] Find the first 5 terms of the Taylor series for $f(x) = \ln(x)$ expanded about the point $x = e$. From these terms predict what the n^{th} term will be and use the ratio test to determine the open interval on which the series converges.

Solution: $f(x) = 1 + \frac{x-e}{e} - \frac{(x-e)^2}{2e^2} + \frac{(x-e)^3}{3e^3} - \frac{(x-e)^4}{4e^4} + \dots$ (5 marks) hence the n^{th} term will be $\frac{(-1)^{n+1}(x-e)^n}{ne^n}$ (for $n > 0$) (5 marks). Ratio test gives $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(x-e)^{n+1}}{(n+1)e^{n+1}} \frac{ne^n}{(x-e)^n} \right| = \frac{|x-e|}{e} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{n}{n+1} \right| = \frac{|x-e|}{e}$ hence the series will converge for $x \in (0, 2e)$ (5 marks).

2. [6 marks] Suppose we approximate $e^x \cong 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} = P_5(x)$
 (a) Use the Taylor remainder term to bound the error $|e^x - P_5(x)|$ in this estimate if we restrict $-2 \leq x \leq 2$.

Solution: $|e^x - P_5(x)| \leq \frac{e^{2 \cdot 2^6}}{6!}$

- (b) If we take $x = 1$, then we have $e \cong 1 + 1 + \frac{1^2}{2!} + \frac{1^3}{3!} + \frac{1^4}{4!} + \frac{1^5}{5!} = \frac{163}{60}$. Use the Taylor remainder term to bound the error in this approximation.

Solution: $|e^x - P_5(x)| \leq \frac{e^{1 \cdot 1^6}}{6!} \cong 0.003775$

- (c) Use your calculator to calculate the error in $e \cong \frac{163}{60}$ and compare it with the bound found in part (b).

Solution: $e - \frac{163}{60} \cong 0.001615 \leq \frac{e^{1 \cdot 1^6}}{6!}$

3. [5 marks] To find the Taylor series for $\arctan(x)$ expanded about the point $x = 0$ you could proceed to differentiate $\arctan(x)$ many times, but the derivatives quickly become cumbersome. (Try a few and see!) An alternate way to find this series is to note that

$$\int_0^x \frac{1}{1+z^2} dz = \arctan(x).$$

But we can expand $\frac{1}{1+z^2}$ in a geometric series

$$\frac{1}{1+z^2} = 1 - z^2 + z^4 - z^6 + \dots$$

Now integrate this series from 0 to x term by term, to arrive at the series for $\arctan(x)$.

Solution: $\arctan(x) = \int_0^x \frac{1}{1+z^2} dz = \int_0^x 1 - z^2 + z^4 - z^6 + \dots dz = x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} - \dots$

4. [15 marks] Using only the definition, prove that a Cauchy sequence is bounded.

Solution: (Warning: must show that the sequence is bounded from above and from below!!!

Take off 5 marks if student forgets.) Given any $\varepsilon > 0$, there exist N such that $|a_{N+1} - a_j| < \varepsilon$ for any $j > N$ hence all $a_j < a_{N+1} + \varepsilon$ and $a_j > a_{N+1} - \varepsilon$. Therefore, we have the upper bound $\max \{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_N, a_{N+1} + \varepsilon\}$ and the lower bound $\min \{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_N, a_{N+1} - \varepsilon\}$ and this works no matter which ε we chose.

5. [30 marks - 6 marks for each part] Use the ratio test to determine the radius of convergence and open interval on which the following series converge:

Solution: We give R , the interval of convergence and the radius of convergence. For full marks, student must provide all three. Giving x instead of $|x|$ for R is a major mistake.

(a) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{2^n} = 1 + \frac{x}{2} + \frac{x^2}{2^2} + \frac{x^3}{2^3} + \dots$

Solution: $R = \frac{|x|}{2}$ and $(-2, 2)$. Radius of convergence is 2.

(b) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n^2} = x + \frac{x^2}{2^2} + \frac{x^3}{3^2} + \frac{x^4}{4^2} + \dots$

Solution: $R = |x|$ and $(-1, 1)$. Radius of convergence is 1.

(c) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(3x)^n}{n!} = 1 + \frac{3x}{1!} + \frac{9x^2}{2!} + \frac{27x^3}{3!} + \dots$

Solution: $R = 0$ and $(-\infty, \infty)$. Radius of convergence is ∞ .

(d) $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(2x-1)^n}{2 \cdot n^3} = \frac{(2x-1)}{2 \cdot 1^3} + \frac{(2x-1)^2}{2 \cdot 2^3} + \frac{(2x-1)^3}{2 \cdot 3^3} + \frac{(2x-1)^4}{2 \cdot 4^3} + \dots$

Solution: $R = |2x - 1|$ and $(0, 1)$. Radius of convergence is $1/2$.

(e) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n!x^n}{2^n} = 1 + \frac{1!x}{2} + \frac{2!x^2}{2^2} + \frac{3!x^3}{2^3} + \dots$

Solution: $R \rightarrow \infty$ except when $x = 0$. Radius of convergence is 0.

6. [10 marks] Consider the series $4 - 4/3 + 4/5 - 4/7 + 4/9 + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n 4}{2n+1}$. Show that the conditions of the alternating series test are satisfied and hence the series converges. It is known that this series converges to the value of π . Suppose we wanted to approximate π by using the n^{th} partial sum of the series. If we wanted the error to be less than 0.001, how many terms of the series do we need to use?

Solution: It is an alternating series because the signs alternate and $\frac{4}{2n+1}$ is decreasing as n increases (5 marks). AST estimate gives $\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \frac{(-1)^n 4}{2n+1}$ is $\frac{4}{2N+1}$ close to π hence we need $\frac{4}{2N+1} \leq 0.001$ or $N \geq \frac{3999}{2}$ so a good answer is 2000 (5 marks). (However $N = 1999$ is not a good answer according to AST because it allows an error of 0.00100025 which is bigger than the threshold.)

7. [10 marks] The function $si(x) = \int_0^x \frac{\sin(t)}{t} dt$ is called the "sine integral" function. Since the anti-derivative of $\frac{\sin(t)}{t}$ is not expressible in terms of elementary functions, we can't use the fundamental theorem of integral calculus to evaluate the definite integral. To find the Taylor series for $si(x)$ proceed as follows:

- (a) [2 marks] Using the series for $\sin(t)$, divide it by t to get the series for $\frac{\sin(t)}{t}$.

Solution: $\frac{\sin(t)}{t} = 1 - \frac{t^2}{3!} + \frac{t^4}{4!} - \dots$

- (b) [2 marks] Integrate the series for $\frac{\sin(t)}{t}$ to evaluate the definite integral in the definition of $si(x)$.

Solution: $\int_0^x \frac{\sin(t)}{t} dt = \int_0^x 1 - \frac{t^2}{3!} + \frac{t^4}{4!} - \dots dt = x - \frac{x^3}{3 \times 3!} + \frac{x^5}{5 \times 5!} - \dots$

- (c) [6 marks] What is the radius of convergence of the series for $si(x)$?

Solution: Using the ratio test, we get $R = 0$ and hence the radius of convergence is ∞ and the interval of convergence is $(-\infty, \infty)$.