

11.9 Representation of Functions as Power Series

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Definitions & Theorems:

1. Theorem:

If the power series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n$ has radius of converges $R > 0$, then the function f defined by

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

is differentiable (and therefore continuous) on the interval $(a-R, a+R)$ and

$$(i) \quad f'(x) = c_1 + 2c_2(x-a) + 3c_3(x-a)^2 + \cdots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nc_n(x-a)^{n-1}$$

(term-by-term differentiation)

$$(ii) \quad \int f(x) dx = C + c_0(x-a) + c_1 \frac{(x-a)^2}{2} + c_2 \frac{(x-a)^3}{3} + \cdots = C + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n \frac{(x-a)^{n+1}}{n+1}$$

(term-by-term integration)

The radii of convergence of the power series in Equation (i) and (ii) are both R .

Proofs or Explanations:

1. By geometric series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$ converges when $|x| < 1$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = \frac{1}{1-x} = \frac{\text{first term}}{1-\text{ratio}}$$

Extra topics:

1. Conventions for power series

a. $0^0 = 1$

b. $(0)(\infty) = 0$

Examples:

$$1. \quad \frac{1}{1+x^2} = \frac{1}{1-(-x^2)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-x^2)^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n x^{2n}$$

$$|-x^2| < 1 \Rightarrow -1 < x < 1 \Rightarrow R = 1$$

$$2. \quad \frac{1}{1+x} = \frac{1}{1-(-x)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-x)^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n x^n$$

$$|-x| < 1 \Rightarrow -1 < x < 1 \Rightarrow R = 1$$

$$3. \quad \frac{4x}{9+x} = (4x) \left(\frac{1}{9+x} \right) = \left(\frac{4x}{9} \right) \left(\frac{1}{1+\frac{x}{9}} \right) = \left(\frac{4x}{9} \right) \left(\frac{1}{1-(-\frac{x}{9})} \right) = \left(\frac{4x}{9} \right) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{x}{9} \right)^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n 4x^{n+1}}{9^{n+1}}$$

$$\left| -\frac{x}{9} \right| < 1 \Rightarrow -9 < x < 9 \Rightarrow R = 9$$

Represent the following as a power series, and find the radii of convergence.

$$4. \quad \frac{1}{(1-x)^2}$$

$$\frac{1}{(1-x)^2} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{1-x} \right) = \frac{d}{dx} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{d}{dx} (x^n) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1}$$

$$|x| < 1 \Rightarrow -1 < x < 1 \Rightarrow R = 1$$

5. $\ln(1+x)$

$$\ln(1+x) = \int \frac{1}{1+x} dx = \int \frac{1}{1-(-x)} dx = \int \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-x)^n dx = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{n+1}}{n+1} + C$$

$$x = 0 \Rightarrow \ln(1+x) = \ln 1 = 0 + C = 0 \Rightarrow C = 0$$

$$\ln(1+x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{n+1}}{n+1}$$

$$R = 1$$

6. $\arctan x$

$$\arctan x = \int \frac{1}{1+x^2} dx = \int \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-x^2)^n dx = \int \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n x^{2n} dx = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n+1}}{2n+1} + C$$

$$x = 0 \Rightarrow \arctan 0 = 0 + C = 0 \Rightarrow C = 0$$

$$\arctan x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n+1}}{2n+1}$$

$$R = 1$$