

Power Series

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

\uparrow constant \uparrow

a: center

Trivial example: polynomial: (consists of a finite # terms, no convergence issues)

$$p(x) = 3x^2 - 5x + 7 = 7 - 5(x-0) + 3(x-0)^2 + 0(x-0)^3 + \dots$$

Can recenter it to -2. Let $u = x - a = x + 2$, $x = u - 2$

$$\begin{aligned} p(x) &= 3(u-2)^2 - 5(u-2) + 7 \\ &= 3u^2 - 17u + 29 \\ &= 29 - 17(x+2) + 3(x+2)^2 \end{aligned}$$

When does a power series converge?

Theorem Let $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (x-a)^n$ be a power series,

Let q be the convergence parameter of $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n$.

Then the convergence parameter q_x of $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (x-a)^n$ is

$$q_x = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x = a \\ q|x-a| & \text{if } q \neq \infty \\ \infty & \text{if } q = \infty, x \neq a. \end{cases}$$

Proof: q is the largest cluster point of $\{|c_n|^{1/n}\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$.

q_x is the largest cluster point of $\{|c_n(x-a)^n|^{1/n}\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$
 \parallel
 $|c_n|^{1/n} |x-a|$

if $x=a$, all terms are 0 ✓

if $q \neq \infty$, then cluster points are the same as those of this
 but are multiplied by $|x-a|$

if $q = \infty$, then the divergent subsequence still diverges. ■

Definition: The radius of convergence of a power series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n$ is

$$R = \begin{cases} \infty & \text{if } \rho = 0 \\ \frac{1}{\rho} & \text{if } 0 < \rho < \infty \\ 0 & \text{if } \rho = \infty \end{cases} \quad R = \frac{1}{\rho}$$

Theorem Let R be the radius of convergence of $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x-a)^n$. Then,

- (a) if $|x-a| < R$, the series converges absolutely ($\rho < 1$)
- (b) if $|x-a| > R$, the series diverges ($\rho > 1$)
- (c) if $0 < |x-a| = R < \infty$ the series may or may not converge. ($\rho = 1$)
 ↑ absolutely/conditionally.
- (d) if $R = 0$, the series only converges if $x = a$, converges absolutely.

Note: $|x-a| < R \Leftrightarrow x \in (a-R, a+R)$.

Corollary The values of x for which a power series converges form an interval called the interval of convergence.

If $R = \infty$, then interval is $(-\infty, \infty)$

If $R = 0$, interval is degenerate: $[a, a] = \{a\}$

if $0 < R < \infty$, interval is open, closed, or half open w/ endpoints $a-R$ and $a+R$.

Example:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$$

geometric series, interval of convergence = $(-1, 1)$.

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n}$$

interval of convergence = $[-1, 1)$.
 ↳ cond. @ -1 ↳ abs. @ 1 ↳ Harm. / p-series.

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

" " " = $(-1, 1]$.
 ↳ cond. @ -1 ↳ abs. @ 1

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n^2}$$

" " " = $[-1, 1]$.
 ↳ abs. @ -1 ↳ abs. @ 1

absolute convergence @ one endpoint \Rightarrow absolute convergence at both endpoints.

Mistake to avoid: What is the radius of convergence of $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{2n}}{4^n}$

$$\hookrightarrow c_n = \frac{1}{4^n} \Rightarrow c_n^{1/n} = \frac{1}{4} \text{ so } \rho = \frac{1}{4}, R = 4.$$

actually, $c_n = 0$ if n odd, $\frac{1}{4^m}$ if $n=2m$. so $c_n^{1/n} = \begin{cases} 0 & n \text{ odd} \\ (\frac{1}{4})^{1/2} = (\frac{1}{4})^{1/2} = \frac{1}{2} & n \text{ even.} \end{cases}$

so $\rho = \frac{1}{2}, R = 2$ (cluster pts are $0, \frac{1}{2}$).

More Reliable: Compute ρ_x directly w/ root or ratio test.

determine for which x $\rho_x < 1$

$$\rho_x = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{x^{2^n}}{4^n} \right|^{1/n} = \frac{x^2}{4} < 1 \Leftrightarrow |x|^2 < 4 \Leftrightarrow |x| < 2$$

Consistency question: $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{2^n}}{4^n} = 1 + \frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{x^4}{16} + \frac{x^6}{64} + \dots$

If we think of this as a special case of a general power series,

then should think of it as $1 + 0x + \frac{x^2}{4} + 0x^3 + \frac{x^4}{16} + \dots$

This converges "more slowly" than other series.

Proposition If a series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ is obtained by interpolating 0s into a series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n$, both series either converge or diverge.

Suppose $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n = b_0 + 0 + b_1 + 0 + \dots$

Look at partial sums:

$$S_0 = b_0$$

$$S_1 = b_0 + b_1$$

$$S_2 = b_0 + b_1 + b_2$$

\vdots

$$S'_0 = S_0$$

$$S'_1 = S_0$$

$$S'_2 = S_1$$

$$S'_3 = S_1$$

\vdots

they both approach the same limit



Proposition let $\{S_n\}$ be a sequence and $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ and suppose that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(n) = \infty$. If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = L$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (S \circ f) = L$ as well.

$$S_{f(1)}, S_{f(2)}, \dots$$