

1. Suppose that $f, g \in C^n[a - \delta, a + \delta]$ and $f^{(k)}(a) = g^{(k)}(a) = 0$ for $0 \leq k < n$ and $g^{(n)}(a) \neq 0$ then use Taylor polynomials to prove that

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{g^{(n)}(a)}$$

Let $F_n(x)$ be the Taylor polynomial for f and $G_n(x)$ be the Taylor polynomial for g . Further note that because f, g, F_n, G_n are all continuous on $[a - \delta, a + \delta]$ and $f(a) = F_n(a)$ and $g(a) = G_n(a)$ then $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{F_n(x)}{G_n(x)}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{F_n(x)}{G_n(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{f^{(k)}(a)}{k!} (x-a)^k}{\sum_{k=0}^n \frac{g^{(k)}(a)}{k!} (x-a)^k} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{\frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{f^{(k)}(a)}{k!} (x-a)^k}{\frac{g^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{g^{(k)}(a)}{k!} (x-a)^k} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{\frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{0}{k!} (x-a)^k}{\frac{g^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{0}{k!} (x-a)^k} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{\frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n + 0}{\frac{g^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n + 0} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{g^{(n)}(a)} = \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{g^{(n)}(a)} \end{aligned}$$

2. Find the Taylor polynomial of order 3 for each of the following functions at the given point a , and estimate the error at the point b

- (a) $f(x) = \sqrt{1+x^2}$ about $a = 0$ and $b = 0.1$.

First we need the first three derivatives:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \sqrt{1+x^2} & f''(x) &= \frac{1}{(1+x^2)^{3/2}} \\ f'(x) &= \frac{x}{\sqrt{1+x^2}} & f'''(x) &= -\frac{3x}{(1+x^2)^{5/2}} \end{aligned}$$

And about a :

$$f(a) = 1 \quad f'(a) = 0 \quad f''(a) = 1 \quad f'''(a) = 0$$

And finally the polynomial:

$$P_3(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{2}x^2$$

Now we need to find the bounds of the fourth derivative, so we will need the fourth and fifth derivatives also.

$$f^{(4)}(x) = \frac{3(4x^2 - 1)}{(1 + x^2)^{7/2}} \quad f^{(5)}(x) = \frac{45x - 60x^3}{(1 + x^2)^{9/2}} = \frac{15x(-4x^2 + 3)}{(1 + x^2)^{9/2}}$$

And using the quadratic formula: $x = \frac{\pm\sqrt{16 \cdot 3}}{-8} = \pm\sqrt{3}/2$.

So we are interested in the points 0 and $\sqrt{3}/2$. Now $f^{(4)}(0) = -3$ and $f^{(4)}(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}) = \frac{3(4 \cdot 3/4 - 1)}{\text{something positive}} = \frac{6}{\text{something positive}} > -3$

Because $f^{(4)}$ is increasing in the interval $[0, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}]$ we can just focus on $[0, 0.1]$. Now $4x^2 - 1 = 4(x^2 - \frac{1}{4}) = 4(x + \frac{1}{2})(x - \frac{1}{2})$ and so $0 > f^{(4)}(0.1) > -3$ and so $|f^{(4)}| \leq 3 = M$. Using Taylor's Theorem we know that the error of our P_3 estimate is at least as close to zero as $\frac{3|0.1|^4}{4!} = \frac{0.0003}{24} = 0.125 \cdot 0.0001 = 0.0000125$

(b) $g(x) = \tan x$ about $a = \frac{\pi}{4}$ and $b = 0.75$.

Get the first several derivatives:

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) &= \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} & g'(x) &= \frac{1}{(\cos x)^2} & g''(x) &= \frac{2 \sin x}{(\cos x)^3} \\ g'''(x) &= \frac{2}{\cos^2 x} + \frac{6 \sin^2 x}{\cos^4 x} & g^{(4)}(x) &= \frac{16 \sin x}{\cos^3 x} + \frac{24 \sin^3 x}{\cos^5 x} \\ g^{(5)}(x) &= 8 \left(\frac{2}{\cos^2 x} + \frac{6 \sin^2 x}{\cos^4 x} \right) + 24 \left(\frac{3 \sin^4 x}{\cos^4 x} + \frac{5 \sin^4 x}{\cos^6 x} \right) \end{aligned}$$

And now the derivatives at $\frac{\pi}{4}$:

$$g(a) = 1 \quad g'(a) = 2 \quad g''(a) = 2g'(a) = 4 \quad g'''(a) = 4 + 12 = 16$$

And so our $P_3(x) = 1 + 2(x - \frac{\pi}{4}) + 2(x - \frac{\pi}{4})^2 + \frac{8}{3}(x - \frac{\pi}{4})^3$

Now we are interested in the range $[0.75, \frac{\pi}{4}]$. Looking at $g^{(5)}$ we see no zeros and critical points at $n\pi - \frac{\pi}{2}$. Further $g^{(4)}(0) = 0$ and $g^{(4)}(\frac{\pi}{4}) = 16g'(a) + 24g'(a) = 80$ and so that is our bound. Now then with Taylor's Theorem we have an error of less than $\frac{80|\frac{\pi}{4} - \frac{3}{4}|^4}{4!} = \frac{5(\pi-3)^4}{6 \cdot 4^3} \approx 5 \cdot 10^{-6}$

References

1. I used www.wolframalpha.com to do the derivatives in 1a and to calculate decimal approximation in 1b.