

Last time: We defined the n^{th} degree Taylor polynomial of f at x_0 :

$$P_{n,x_0} = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x-x_0) + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)(x-x_0)^2 + \dots + \frac{1}{n!}f^{(n)}(x_0)(x-x_0)^n$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{f^{(k)}(x_0)}{k!} (x-x_0)^k$$

Note: $P_{1,x_0}(x) = L(x)$, the linear approximation.

Ex.

Find $P_{2,1}(x)$ for $f(x) = \ln x$ and use it to estimate $\ln(1.2)$. Compare with the linear approximation.

Solⁿ $P_{2,1}(x) = f(1) + f'(1)(x-1) + \frac{f''(1)}{2}(x-1)^2$

$$f(1) = \ln 1 = 0$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{x} \Rightarrow f'(1) = 1$$

$$f''(x) = -\frac{1}{x^2} \Rightarrow f''(1) = -1$$

$$\Rightarrow P_{2,1}(x) = (x-1) - \frac{1}{2}(x-1)^2$$

Then our estimate is $\ln(1.2) \approx P_{2,1}(1.2)$

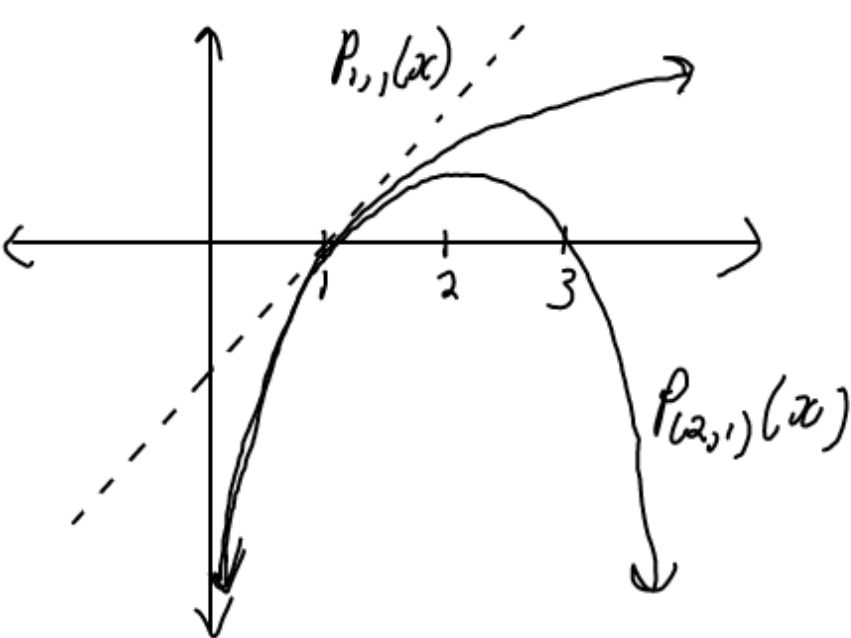
$$\begin{aligned} &= (1.2-1) - \frac{1}{2}(1.2-1)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{50} \\ &= \frac{9}{50} \\ &= 0.18 \end{aligned}$$

calculator value: $\ln 1.2 = 0.1823$

$$L(x) = P_{1,1}(x) = x-1$$

$$P_{1,1}(1.2) = \frac{1}{5} = 0.2$$

$\Rightarrow P_{2,1}$ gives a better estimate. (not always the case)



Turns out we get a better approx. with higher degree polynomial for $x \in (0, 2]$

without a discussion of the error, this is still not very useful.

Before the error discussion, let's compute some Taylor polynomials for familiar functions.

Ex. ① $f(x) = e^x$ about $x=0$

Find $P_{n,0}(x)$

$$P_{n,0}(x) = f(0) + f'(0)x + \frac{f''(0)}{2}x^2 + \frac{f'''(0)}{3!}x^3 + \dots + \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!}x^n$$

$$f(0) = 1, f'(x) = e^x = f''(x) = f^{(n)}(x) \text{ for all } n.$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(0) = 1 = f^{(n)}(0), \text{ for all } n.$$

$$\Rightarrow P_{n,0}(x) = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots + \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

$$\text{or } = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{x^k}{k!} \text{ (where } 0! = 1)$$

② Find $P_{2n+1,0}(x)$ for $f(x) = \sin x$.

$$f(x) = \sin x$$

$$f'(x) = \cos x$$

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

$$f'''(x) = -\cos x$$

$$f^{(4)}(x) = \sin x$$

$$f(0) = 0$$

$$f'(0) = 1$$

$$f''(0) = 0$$

$$f'''(0) = -1$$

$$f^{(4)}(0) = 0$$

repeats in a cycle of 4

$$\Rightarrow f^{(2n)}(0) = 0 \quad \forall n$$

$$f^{(2n+1)}(0) = (-1)^n \text{ for all } n.$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_{2n+1,0}(x) &= f(0) + f'(0)x + \frac{f''(0)}{2}x^2 + \dots + \frac{f^{(2n+1)}(0)}{(2n+1)!}x^{2n+1} \\ &= x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots + \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} \\ \text{or } &= \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(-1)^k x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!} \end{aligned}$$

③ Find $P_{2n,0}(x)$ for $f(x) = \cos x$

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

$$f(0) = 1$$

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

$$f'(0) = 0$$

$$f''(x) = -\cos x$$

$$f''(0) = -1$$

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

$$f'''(0) = 0$$

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

$$f^{(4)}(0) = 1$$

$$f^{(2n+1)}(0) = 0 \quad \forall n$$

$$f^{(2n)}(0) = (-1)^n$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore P_{2n,0}(x) &= 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots + \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n}}{(2n)!} \\ \text{or } &= \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(-1)^k x^{2k}}{k!} \end{aligned}$$

④ Find $P_{n,0}(x)$ for $f(x) = \frac{1}{1-x}$

$$f(x) = (1-x)^{-1}$$

$$f(0) = 1$$

$$f'(x) = (-1)(1-x)^{-2}(-1) = (1-x)^{-2}$$

$$f'(0) = 1$$

$$f''(x) = 2(1-x)^{-3}$$

$$f''(0) = 2$$

$$f'''(x) = 6(1-x)^{-4}$$

$$f'''(0) = 6$$

$$f^{(4)}(x) = 24(1-x)^{-5}$$

$$f^{(4)}(0) = 24$$

In general, $f^{(k)}(0) = k!$

$$P_{n,0}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{f^{(k)}(0)}{k!} x^k = \sum_{k=0}^n x^k = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^n$$

Note: We can get $P_{n,0}(x)$ for $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x}$ easily.

$$\frac{1}{1+x} = \frac{1}{1-(-x)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Then } P_{n,0}(x) &= \sum_{k=0}^n (-x)^k = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k x^k \\ &= 1 - x + x^2 - x^3 + x^4 - \dots + (-1)^n x^n\end{aligned}$$

We can also integrate and differentiate to obtain Taylor polynomials for new functions.

Since $\frac{d}{dx} (\ln(1+x)) = \frac{1}{1+x}$, then

$$\int \frac{1}{1+x} dx = \ln(1+x)$$