

An infinite crowd of mathematicians enters a bar. The first one orders a pint, the second one a half pint, the third one a quarter pint... "I understand", says the bartender - and pours two pints.



## MAT 132

8.7 Taylor and Maclaurin Series  
8.8 Applications of Taylor Polynomials

Why we would ever want to express a function as a sum of **infinitely** many terms? Are we trying to make your life even more difficult?

$$f(x) = c_0 + c_1 x + c_2 x^2 \dots \text{ with convergence radius } R > 0.$$

- It is easy to integrate polynomials than certain functions.  $\int e^{x^2} dx$
- It might help to find certain limits.  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - 1 - x}{x^2}$
- Often we do not have a formula for functions whose values we are trying to predict. In those cases, it is useful to know that we can approximate these functions by polynomials.

Suppose we have a function defined by a series

$$f(x) = c_0 + c_1 x + c_2 x^2 \dots \text{ with convergence radius } R > 0.$$

- Find  $f(0)$ ,  $f'(0)$ ,  $f''(0)$ , ...,  $f^{(n)}(0)$ .
- Can you determine the values of the coefficients  $c_n$  in terms of the values of the function  $f$ ?
- If  $f(x) = e^x$ , find an expression of  $f$  as a power series. What is the radius of convergence?

Suppose we have a function defined by a series

$$f(x) = c_0 + c_1 (x - a) + c_2 (x - a)^2 \dots \text{ with convergence radius } R > 0.$$

- Find  $f(a)$ ,  $f'(a)$ ,  $f''(a)$ , ...,  $f^{(n)}(a)$ .
- Can you determine the values of the coefficients  $c_n$  in terms of  $f$ ?
- If  $f(x) = \sin(x)$ , can you find an expression of  $f$  as a power series centered at  $\pi/2$ ?

**5 Theorem** If  $f$  has a power series representation (expansion) at  $a$ , that is, if

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

then its coefficients are given by the formula

$$c_n = \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!}$$

The series

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n \\ &= f(a) + \frac{f'(a)}{1!} (x-a) + \frac{f''(a)}{2!} (x-a)^2 + \frac{f'''(a)}{3!} (x-a)^3 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

is called the Taylor series of  $f$  at  $a$ .

When  $a=0$ , the series (below) is called the Maclaurin series

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

In the case of the Taylor series, the partial sums are

$$\begin{aligned} T_n(x) &= \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{f^{(i)}(a)}{i!} (x-a)^i \\ &= f(a) + \frac{f'(a)}{1!} (x-a) + \frac{f''(a)}{2!} (x-a)^2 + \dots + \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n \end{aligned}$$

Notice that  $T_n$  is a polynomial  $n$  of degree  $n$  called the  **$n$ th degree Taylor polynomial** of  $f$  at  $a$ .

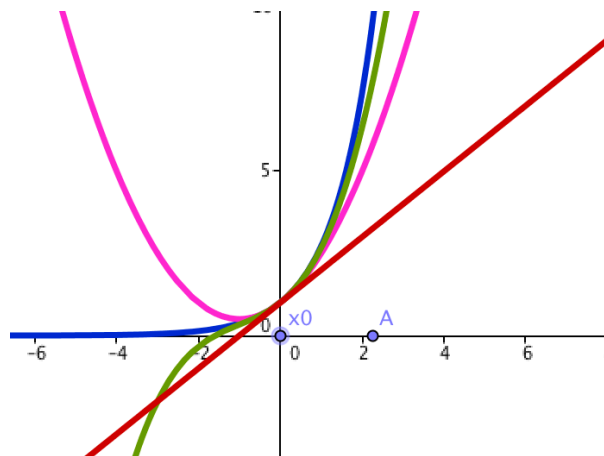
The remainder of order  $n$  of the Taylor series is

$$R_n(x) = f(x) - T_n(x)$$

Recall the Taylor series,

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n \\ &= f(a) + \frac{f'(a)}{1!} (x-a) + \frac{f''(a)}{2!} (x-a)^2 + \frac{f'''(a)}{3!} (x-a)^3 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

In blue the graph of the function  $f(x)=e^x$ .  
In brown, pink and green the Taylor polynomials  $P_1(x)$ ,  $P_2(x)$  and  $P_3(x)$  respectively (centered at 0)



**SUMMARY:** Recall, given a function  $f$ , and a number  $a$ , the **Taylor polynomial of  $f$  of order  $n$  centered at  $a$**  and remainder are

$$\begin{aligned} T_n(x) &= \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{f^{(i)}(a)}{i!} (x-a)^i \\ &= f(a) + \frac{f'(a)}{1!} (x-a) + \frac{f''(a)}{2!} (x-a)^2 + \dots + \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n \end{aligned} \quad R_n(x) = f(x) - T_n(x)$$

• We want to approximate  $f(x)$  by  $T_n(x)$  (for some  $n$ ). Thus we need to know.

- For a given  $n$ , how good is our approximation? Estimate how far are we from the actual value of the function.
- If we want the "error" to be less than a given number, how large does  $n$  have to be?

The remainder ("error") is  $R_n(x) = f(x) - T_n(x)$ .

We discussed two methods for estimating  $|R_n(x)|$  (each needs hypothesis)

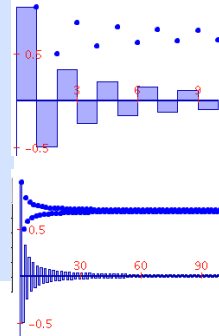
- If the series is alternating, by the Alternating Series Estimation Theorem.
- If  $|f^{(n)}(x)| \leq M$ , then  $|R_n(x)| \leq \frac{M}{(n+1)!} |x-a|^{n+1}$  for  $|x-a| \leq d$

## REVIEW The alternating series test

If we have a sequence  $\{a_n\}$ ,  
 where  $a_n > 0$ ,  $a_n \geq a_{n+1}$ , and  $a_n \rightarrow 0$  when  $n \rightarrow \infty$   
 then the series

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

converges



**Alternating Series Estimation Theorem** If  $s = \sum (-1)^{n-1} b_n$  is the sum of an alternating series that satisfies

$$(i) b_{n+1} \leq b_n \quad \text{and} \quad (ii) \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$$

then

$$|R_n| = |s - s_n| \leq b_{n+1}$$

- Find the Taylor series for  $f(x) = e^x$  at  $a = -3$ .

b0=0.049  
 b1=0.0049  
 b2=0.00002

- Use the series to approximate  $e^{-3.1}$  correct to four decimal places. (you are given  $e^{-3}$ )
- Find the Maclaurin series for  $f(x) = \cos(x)$  and prove the series represents  $f(x)$  for all values of  $x$ .
- Find the Maclaurin series for  $f(x) = \sin(x)$  and prove the series represents  $f(x)$  for all values of  $x$ .

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots \quad R=1$$

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

$$\sin x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots \quad R=\infty$$

$$\cos x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n}}{(2n)!} = x - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots \quad R=\infty$$

$$\tan^{-1} x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{2n+1} = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots \quad R=\infty$$

$$(1+x)^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{k}{n} x^n = 1 + kx + \frac{k(k-1)}{2!} x^2 + \frac{k(k-1)(k-2)}{3!} x^3 + \dots \quad R=\infty$$

- Find the Maclaurin series for  $f(x) = (1+x)^k$ , where  $k$  is any real number.

**17 The Binomial Series** If  $k$  is any real number and  $|x| < 1$ , then

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

- Prove that the binomial series converges when  $|x| < 1$ .
- Use the binomial series to expand  $1/(1+x)^{0.5}$ , as a power series. Use this to estimate  $1/\sqrt{1.1}$  correct to three decimal places.

b0=1  
 b1=0.-5  
 b2=0.00375  
 b3~0.00027

$$1 - \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1 \cdot 3}{2^2 \cdot 2!} x^2 - \frac{1 \cdot 3}{2^3 \cdot 3!} x^3 + \dots + (-1)^n \frac{1 \cdot 3 \dots (2n-1)}{2^n \cdot n!} x^n + \dots$$

- 8.7.50 Use series to approximate the definite integral within the indicated accuracy correct to four decimal places.

$$\int_0^{0.5} x^2 e^{-x^2} dx$$

- Use series to evaluate the limit  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x) - x + \frac{1}{6}x^3}{x^5}$
- Evaluate the integral below, correct up to two decimal places.

$$\int_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 \frac{\sin(x)}{x} dx$$

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots \quad R = 1$$

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

$$\sin x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots \quad R = \infty$$

$$\cos x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n}}{(2n)!} = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots \quad R = \infty$$

$$\tan^{-1}x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{2n+1} = x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} - \frac{x^7}{7} + \dots \quad R = 1$$

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

$$(1+x)^k = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{k}{n} x^n = 1 + kx + \frac{k(k-1)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{k(k-1)(k-2)}{3!}x^3 + \dots \quad R = 1$$

- The powers series representation of a function a given center "a" is unique.
- If f is a function and we know that f has a representation as a power series, then the Taylor series converges to f in the interval of convergence.
- If we are given a function f (we don't know whether f has a representation as a power series,) the theorem below gives necessary conditions that imply that f has a representation as a power series:

$$T_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{f^{(i)}(a)}{i!} (x-a)^i$$

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

$$R_n(x) = f(x) - T_n(x)$$

**8 Theorem** If  $f(x) = T_n(x) + R_n(x)$ , where  $T_n$  is the  $n$ th-degree Taylor polynomial of  $f$  at  $a$  and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n(x) = 0$$

for  $|x-a| < R$ , then  $f$  is equal to the sum of its Taylor series on the interval  $|x-a| < R$ .

**8 Theorem** If  $f(x) = T_n(x) + R_n(x)$ , where  $T_n$  is the  $n$ th-degree Taylor polynomial of  $f$  at  $a$  and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n(x) = 0$$

for  $|x-a| < R$ , then  $f$  is equal to the sum of its Taylor series on the interval  $|x-a| < R$ .

$$T_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{f^{(i)}(a)}{i!} (x-a)^i$$

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

$$R_n(x) = f(x) - T_n(x)$$

**9 Taylor's Inequality** If  $|f^{(n+1)}(x)| \leq M$  for  $|x-a| \leq d$ , then the remainder  $R_n(x)$  of the Taylor series satisfies the inequality

$$|R_n(x)| \leq \frac{M}{(n+1)!} |x-a|^{n+1} \quad \text{for } |x-a| \leq d$$

This implies that the Taylor series converges in this case. Why?