

1.6 Taylor and Maclaurin Series (8.7)

We look to represent more functions as series. Consider that a function f has a representation as power series in some interval $|x - a| < R$. If so we looking for a way to find the coefficients of the expansion

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (x-a)^n = c_0 + c_1(x-a) + c_2(x-a)^2 + c_3(x-a)^3 + \dots$$

We note that $f(a) = c_0$, furthermore

$$f'(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n c_n (x-a)^{n-1} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n c_n (x-a)^{n-1} = c_1 + 2c_2(x-a) + 3c_3(x-a)^2 + \dots, \text{ and therefore } f'(a) = c_1,$$

$f''(x) = 2c_2 + 2 \cdot 3c_3(x-a) + 3 \cdot 4c_4(x-a)^2 + \dots$, and therefore $f''(a) = 2c_2$ and so on:

$$f^{(n)}(a) = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdots n c_n = n! c_n \Rightarrow c_n = \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!}$$

Thm: If a function f has a power series representation (expansion) about a , that is

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (x-a)^n, \text{ then } c_n = \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!}, \text{ i.e. } f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n.$$

Def: the series $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n$ are called **Taylor series/expansion** of the function f

(about/centered at) at a . For a special case $a=0$ the series $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!} x^n$ called **Maclaurin series**.

Ex 1. Find Maclaurin (Taylor about 0) expansion for $e^x : f^{(n)}(x) = e^x, \forall n \geq 0$ therefore

$$e^x = e^0 + e^0(x-0) + \frac{e^0}{2}(x-0)^2 + \frac{e^0}{6}(x-0)^3 + \dots = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{6} + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}, R = \infty$$

Ex 2. Find Maclaurin (Taylor about 0) expansion for $\sin x$:

$$f(x) = \sin x, \quad f'(x) = \cos x, \quad f''(x) = -\sin x, \quad f'''(x) = -\cos x$$

$$f^{(n)}(x) = \begin{cases} (-1)^m \sin(x) & n = 2m \\ (-1)^m \cos(x) & n = 2m+1 \end{cases}, m = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow f^{(n)}(0) = \begin{cases} 0 & n = 2m \\ (-1)^m & n = 2m+1 \end{cases}, m = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \sin x &= 0 + \frac{1}{1}x + \frac{0}{2}x^2 - \frac{1}{6}x^3 + \frac{0}{24}x^4 + \frac{1}{5!}x^5 + \frac{0}{6!}x^6 - \frac{1}{7!}x^7 + \dots = \\ &= x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!}, R = \infty \end{aligned}$$

Ex 3. Find Maclaurin (Taylor about 0) expansion for $\cos x$:

$$f(x) = \cos x, \quad f'(x) = -\sin x, \quad f''(x) = -\cos x, \quad f'''(x) = \sin x$$

$$f^{(n)}(x) = \begin{cases} (-1)^m \cos(x) & n = 2m \\ (-1)^{m+1} \sin(x) & n = 2m+1 \end{cases}, m = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow f^{(n)}(0) = \begin{cases} (-1)^m & n = 2m \\ 0 & n = 2m+1 \end{cases}, m = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \cos x &= 1 + \frac{1}{1}x - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{0}{6}x^3 + \frac{1}{24}x^4 + \frac{0}{5!}x^5 - \frac{1}{6!}x^6 + \frac{0}{7!}x^7 + \dots = \\ &= 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{x^{2k}}{(2k)!}, R = \infty \end{aligned}$$

Another way $\cos x = \frac{d}{dx} \sin x = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{d}{dx} \frac{x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{(2k+1)x^{2k}}{(2k+1)!} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{x^{2k}}{(2k)!}, R = \infty$

Ex 4. $x \cos x = x \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{x^{2k}}{(2k)!} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{x^{2k+1}}{(2k)!}, R = \infty$

$$f(x) = \frac{\sin x}{x} = \frac{1}{x} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{x^{2k}}{(2k+1)!}, R = \infty$$

Ex 5. Find Taylor series for $\frac{1}{x}$ about 1:

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x} = 1; \quad f' = -\frac{1}{x^2} = -1; \quad f'' = \frac{2}{x^3} = 2; \quad f^3 = -\frac{6}{x^4} = -6; \quad f^4 = \frac{24}{x^5} = 4!; \quad f^{(n)}(1) = (-1)^n n!$$

$$\frac{1}{x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n (x-1)^n = 1 - (x-1) + (x-1)^2 - (x-1)^3 + (x-1)^4 - (x-1)^5 \dots$$

Def: Taylor\Maclaurin polynomial is a partial sum of Taylor\Maclaurin series, i.e.

$$T_m = \sum_{n=0}^m \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!} x^n. \text{ The remainder is defined as } R_m(x) = f(x) - T_m(x)$$

Thm: If $f(x) = T_m(x) + R_m(x)$ and $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} R_m(x) = 0, \forall x \in (a-R, a+R)$ then

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n, \forall x \in (a-R, a+R).$$

Furthermore, if $\max_{|x-a|<d} |f^{(m+1)}(x)| = M$ (i.e. $|f^{(m+1)}(x)| \leq M, \forall |x-a| < d$), where $d > 0$ is small positive

number then $|R_m(x)| \leq \frac{M}{(m+1)!} |x-a|^{m+1}, \forall |x-a| < d$

Ex 6. Approximate $\sqrt{2}$ using 3rd order Taylor polynomial about 1, bound the remainder:

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x} = 1; f'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} = \frac{1}{2}; f''(x) = -\frac{1}{4x^{3/2}} = -\frac{1}{4}; f'''(x) = \frac{3}{8x^{5/2}} = \frac{3}{8}$$

$$1.41421 = \sqrt{2} \approx 1 + \frac{1}{2}(2-1) - \frac{1}{4} \frac{(2-1)^2}{2} + \frac{3}{8} \frac{(2-1)^3}{6} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{8} + \frac{3}{48} = \frac{23}{16} = 1.4375$$

$$|R_m(2)| \leq \frac{\max_{x \in (1,2)} |f^{(4)}(x)|}{4!} |2-1|^4 = \frac{\max_{x \in (1,2)} \left| -\frac{15}{16x^{7/2}} \right|}{24} = \frac{5}{16 \cdot 8} = \frac{5}{128} \approx 0.039$$

$$err = |1.4375 - 1.41421| = 0.02329 < 0.039$$

Ex 7. Approximate $\ln \frac{1}{2}$ using order Taylor polynomial about 1:

$$f(x) = \ln x = 0; f'(x) = \frac{1}{x} = 1; f''(x) = -\frac{1}{x^2} = -1; f'''(x) = \frac{2}{x^3} = 2;$$

$$-0.693 \approx \ln \frac{1}{2} = 0 + \left(\frac{1}{2} - 1\right) - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} - 1\right)^2 + \frac{2}{6} \left(\frac{1}{2} - 1\right)^3 = -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{8} - \frac{1}{24} = -\frac{2}{3} \approx -0.666$$

$$\left| R_m\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \right| \leq \frac{\max_{x \in (0.5,1)} |f^{(4)}(x)|}{4!} \left| \frac{1}{2} - 1 \right|^4 = \frac{\max_{x \in (0.5,1)} \left| -\frac{6}{x^4} \right|}{24} \frac{1}{2^4} = \frac{6}{24} \frac{1}{2^4} = \frac{6}{24} \frac{1}{16} = \frac{1}{64} = 0.015625$$

$$err = |0.693 - 0.666| = 0.027 < 0.25$$

Ex 8. Find Maclaurin series for $f(x) = (1+x)^k$

$$f(x) = (1+x)^k \Big|_{x=0} = 1; f'(x) = k(1+x)^{k-1} \Big|_{x=0} = k; f''(x) = k(k-1)(1+x)^{k-2} \Big|_{x=0} = k(k-1)$$

$$f^{(n)}(0) = k(k-1)(k-2) \cdots (k-n+1)$$

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

Def: The numbers $\binom{k}{n} = \frac{k(k-1)(k-2) \cdots (k-n+1)}{n!}$ called binomial coefficients.

Ex 9.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{36-x}} &= \frac{1}{3\sqrt[3]{\left(1-\frac{x}{27}\right)}} = \frac{1}{3}\left(1-\frac{x}{27}\right)^{-1/3} = \frac{1}{3}\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\binom{-1/3}{n}\left(-\frac{x}{27}\right)^n = \\
 &= \frac{1}{3}\left(1 + \binom{-1/3}{1}\left(-\frac{x}{27}\right) + \frac{\binom{-1/3}{2}\binom{-1/3-1}{1}}{2!}\left(-\frac{x}{27}\right)^2 + \frac{\binom{-1/3}{3}\binom{-4/3}{2}\binom{-4/3-1}{1}}{3!}\left(-\frac{x}{27}\right)^3 + \dots \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{\binom{-1/3}{n}\binom{-4/3}{n-1}\binom{-4/3-1}{n-2}\dots\binom{-1/3-n+1}{1}}{n!}\left(-\frac{x}{27}\right)^n \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Ex 10. Neat example

$$\begin{aligned}
 \cos x + i \sin x &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty}(-1)^k \frac{x^{2k}}{(2k)!} + i \sum_{k=0}^{\infty}(-1)^k \frac{x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!} = \\
 &= \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots\right) + i \left(x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots\right) = \\
 &= 1 + ix - \frac{x^2}{2!} - i \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + i \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} - i \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots = \\
 &= 1 + ix + \frac{(ix)^2}{2!} + \frac{(ix)^3}{3!} + \frac{(ix)^4}{4!} + \frac{(ix)^5}{5!} + \frac{(ix)^6}{6!} + \frac{(ix)^7}{7!} + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(ix)^k}{k!} = e^{ix} \\
 i &= \sqrt{-1}; \quad i^2 = -1; \quad i^3 = i^2 i = -i; \quad i^4 = i^2 i^2 = (-1)(-1) = 1 \\
 i^5 &= i^4 i = i; \quad i^6 = i^4 i^2 = -1; \quad i^7 = i^6 i = -i
 \end{aligned}$$