

Taylor's Series I

Power Series (The short form) [Virtual cookies if you get the movie reference]

A series of the form $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ or $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-c)^n$

such a series has a radius of convergence $0 \leq R \leq \infty$

- If $R=0$, the series converges only at $x=0$ (or $x=c$)
- Otherwise, it converges absolutely for $|x| < R$ (or $|x-c| < R$) & diverges for any $|x| \geq R$ (or $|x-c| > R$)

at $x = \pm R$ the series may converge or may diverge

within the radius of convergence you can differentiate & integrate term by term (& not change the radius of convergence)

If $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-c)^n$ is a power series and we think of it as a function $f(x)$

then for each $n \geq 0$

$$a_n = \frac{f^{(n)}(c)}{n!} \quad n^{\text{th}} \text{ derivative of } f(x)$$

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

Thus Taylor's Formula:

Given $f(x)$, if it can be expanded as a power series

around $x=c$, the series is $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(c)}{n!} (x-c)^n$

WARNING: the series might not converge to $f(x)$ (except at $x=c$). Examples of this are rare.

Example: Find the Taylor series of $\cos(x)$ at 0

n	$f^{(n)}(x)$	$f^{(n)}(0)$
0	$\cos(x)$	1
1	$-\sin(x)$	0
2	$-\cos(x)$	-1
3	$\sin(x)$	0
4	$\cos(x)$	1

$$\text{So } f^{(n)}(0) = \begin{cases} (-1)^{n/2} & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ 0 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd (ie } n=2k+1) \end{cases}$$

So the series is

$$\frac{1}{0!}x^0 + \frac{-1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{1}{4!}x^4 + \frac{-1}{6!}x^6 + \frac{1}{8!}x^8 + \dots$$

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

$$R = ?$$

Ratio test

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(-1)^{k+1} x^{2k+2}}{(2k+2)!} \cdot \frac{(2k)!}{(-1)^k x^{2k}} \right|$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(-1)^{k+1} x^{2k+2}}{(2k+2)!} \cdot \frac{(2k)!}{(-1)^k x^{2k}} \right| \quad (2k+2)(2k+1) \underbrace{(2k)(2k-1)\dots}_{(2k)}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{x^2}{(2k+2)(2k+1)} \right| \quad \begin{array}{l} \rightarrow x^2 \\ \rightarrow \infty \end{array}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} = 0 \quad \text{So by the Ratio test, the series converges for all } |x| < \infty \text{ (ie all } x)$$

ie $R = \infty$

If L is the limit coming from the ratio test, then you get R by solving for when $L < 1$.

Without doing all this again, how do we get a power series for $\sin(x)$?

$$-\sin(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \cos(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sin(x) &= (-1) \frac{d}{dx} \cos(x) \\ &= (-1) \frac{d}{dx} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n)!} x^{2n} \right) \\ &= (-1) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{(-1)^n}{(2n)!} x^{2n} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= (-1) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2k)!} \frac{d}{dx} x^{2k}$$

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

→ since $\frac{d}{dx} (x^{2 \cdot 0}) = 0$

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

$$\begin{aligned} &(2k)! \\ &(2k)(2k-1)(2k-2)\dots \\ &(2k)(2k-1)! \end{aligned}$$

If we set $k = n+1$ ie $n = k-1$, then this series looks like

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{(2n+1)!} x^{2n+1} \quad \text{usual series at 0 for } \sin(x).$$