

## Section 10.7 Taylor and Maclaurin series

Let  $f$  be any function that can be represented by a power series

$$f(x) = c_0 + c_1(x-a) + c_2(x-a)^2 + \dots + c_n(x-a)^n + \dots (|x-a| < R)$$

Let us try to determine coefficients  $c_n$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

$$c_0 = f(a)$$

We can differentiate the series for  $f$  term-by-term.

$$f'(x) = c_1 + 2c_2(x-a) + \dots + nc_n(x-a)^{n-1} + \dots$$

$$c_1 = f'(a)$$

$$f''(x) = 2c_2 + 3 \cdot 2c_3(x-a) + \dots + n(n-1)(x-a)^{n-2} + \dots$$

$$c_2 = \frac{f''(a)}{2}$$

$$f'''(x) = 3 \cdot 2c_3 + \dots + n(n-1)(n-2)(x-a)^{n-3} + \dots$$

$$c_3 = \frac{f'''(a)}{3 \cdot 2} = \frac{f'''(a)}{3!}$$

So,

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

**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

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

Thus,

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

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

**Example 1.** (a) Find the Taylor series for the function  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  at  $a = 1$ .

$$f(x) = x^{-1}, \quad f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(1)}{n!} (x-1)^n$$

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

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

$$f'''(x) = (-1)(-2)(-3)x^{-4} = (-1)^3(1)(2)(3)x^{-4}$$

$$= (-1)^3 3! x^{-3-1}$$

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

$$f^{(n)}(1) = (-1)^n n!$$

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

$$= \boxed{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n (x-1)^n}$$

(6) Find the Taylor series for  $f(x) = xe^{2x}$  at  $a = 2$ .

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

$$f(x) = xe^{2x}$$

$$f'(x) = e^{2x} + 2xe^{2x}$$

$$f''(x) = 2e^{2x} + 4xe^{2x} + 2e^{2x} = 4e^{2x} + 2^2xe^{2x}$$

$$f'''(x) = 8e^{2x} + 8xe^{2x} + 4e^{2x} = 12e^{2x} + 2^3xe^{2x} = 3 \cdot 2^2e^{2x} + 2^3xe^{2x}$$

$$f^{(n)}(x) = n2^{n-1}e^{2x} + 2^nxe^{2x}$$

$$f^{(n)}(2) = n2^{n-1}e^4 + 2 \cdot 2^n e^4$$

$$= 2^{n-1}e^4(n+2) = 2^{n-1}e^4(n+4)$$

$$xe^{2x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(2)}{n!} (x-2)^n = \boxed{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^{n-1}e^4(n+4)}{n!} (x-2)^n}$$

If we plug 0 for  $a$  in the Taylor series, we'll get a series

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!} x^n$$

which is called the **Maclauren series**.

Suppose that

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

Let

$$T_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{f^{(k)}(a)}{k!} (x-a)^k - \text{partial sum for a Taylor series.}$$

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

In general,  $f(x)$  is the sum of its Taylor series if  $f(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_n(x)$ .

If we let  $R_n(x)$  be the remainder of the series, then

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

If we can show that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n(x) = 0$ , then it follows that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_n(x) = f(x)$ . For trying to show that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n = 0$  for a specific function  $f$ , we usually use the following fact.

**Taylor's Inequality.** If  $|f^{(n+1)}(x)| \leq M$ , then

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

Important Maclaurin series and their intervals of convergence.

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n, \quad (-1, 1)$$

$$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}, \quad (-\infty, \infty)$$

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

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

$$(1+x)^m = 1 + mx + \frac{m(m-1)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{m(m-1)(m-2)}{3!}x^3 + \dots + \frac{m(m-1)\dots(m-n+1)}{n!}x^n + \dots, \quad [-1, 1]$$

Example 2. Find the Maclaurin series for  $f(x) = x^2 \cos(x^3)$ .

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

$$\bullet \cos(x^3) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{(x^3)^{2n}}{(2n)!}$$
$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{6n}}{(2n)!}$$

$$\bullet x^2 \cos(x^3) = x^2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{6n}}{(2n)!}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^2 x^{6n}}{(2n)!} = \boxed{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{6n+2}}{(2n)!}}$$

Example 3. Find the sum of the series

$$1. \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{3^n}{n!}$$

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

$$= 1 + x + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!} = e^x - 1 - x$$

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{3^n}{n!} = e^3 - 1 - 3 = \boxed{e^3 - 4}$$

$$2. \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \pi^{2n+1}}{6^{2n+1} (2n+1)!} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right)^{2n+1} \frac{1}{(2n+1)!} = \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{6}\right) = \frac{1}{2}$$

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

$$3. \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \pi^{2n}}{4^{2n} (2n)!} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^{2n} \frac{1}{(2n)!} = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

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

Example 4. Use series to evaluate the limit

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos x}{1 + x - e^x}$$

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos x}{1 + x - e^x} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^4}{24} - \dots\right)}{1 + x - \left(1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{6} + \dots\right)} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^4}{24} + \dots}{-\frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6} - \dots} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 \left[ \frac{1}{2} - \frac{x^2}{24} + \dots \right]}{x^2 \left[ -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{x}{6} - \dots \right]} \\ &= \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{-\frac{1}{2}} = \boxed{-1} \end{aligned}$$



**Example 5.** Find the Maclaurin series for  $\ln(1+x)$  and use it to calculate  $\ln 1.1$  correct to five decimal places.

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n \Rightarrow \ln |1-x| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1}, \quad |x| < 1$$

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

$$\ln(1+x) = \int \frac{1}{1+x} dx = \int \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n x^n \right) dx = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \left( \int x^n dx \right)$$

$$\ln(1+x) = C + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1}$$

Plug  $x=0$ :  $\ln 1 = C \Rightarrow C=0$

$$\ln(1+x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1}$$

$$\ln(1.1) = \ln(1+.1) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{(0.1)^{n+1}}{n+1}$$

$$\approx \underbrace{0.1}_{n=0} - \underbrace{\frac{(0.1)^2}{2}}_{n=1} + \underbrace{\frac{(0.1)^3}{3}}_{n=2} - \underbrace{\frac{(0.1)^4}{4}}_{n=3} + \underbrace{\frac{(0.1)^5}{5}}_{n=4} - \underbrace{\frac{(0.1)^6}{6}}_{n=5}$$

**Example 6.** Use series to approximate the definite integral  $\int_0^{0.05} \cos(x^2) dx$  correct to three decimal places.

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

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

$$\int \cos(x^2) dx = \int_0^{0.05} \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{4n}}{(2n)!} \right) dx$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n)!} \left( \int_0^{0.05} x^{4n} dx \right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n)!} \frac{x^{4n+1}}{4n+1} \Big|_0^{0.05}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n)!(4n+1)} (0.05)^{4n+1}$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{0!} (0.05) - \frac{1}{2!(5)} (0.05)^5$$

$$= \boxed{0.05} - \frac{(0.05)^5}{10} < 10^{-3}$$