

(1) Determine the power series representations of the following functions. On what intervals is each representation valid (converges to the value of the function)?

(a) $\frac{1}{120-x}$ in powers of x

Soln:

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n \text{ if } |x| < 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{1}{120-x} = \frac{1}{120(1-\frac{x}{120})} = \frac{1}{120} \frac{1}{1-\frac{x}{120}} = \frac{1}{120} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{x}{120}\right)^n \text{ if } \left|\frac{x}{120}\right| < 1 \\ &= \frac{1}{120} \sum \frac{x^n}{120^n} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{120^{n+1}} \text{ if } |x| < 120 \end{aligned}$$

Let's check the convergence of $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{120^{n+1}}$ when

$x = -120$ and $x = 120$:

- If $x = -120$, then we'll consider $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-120)^n}{120^{n+1}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{120}$

So $b_n = \frac{(-1)^n}{120}$. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_{2n} = \frac{1}{120} \neq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_{2n+1} = -\frac{1}{120}$

$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n$ d.n.e. By the "nth term test", $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{120}$ diverges

• If $x=120$, then we have $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(120)^n}{120^{n+1}} = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{120}$

which is also divergent by the "nth term test"

(say $c_n = \frac{1}{120}$. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{120} = \frac{1}{120} \neq 0$.)

Thus, $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{120^{n+1}}$ converges to $f(x) = \frac{1}{120-x}$ if

$$-120 < x < 120.$$

b) $\frac{1}{(120-x)^2}$ in powers of x .

Soln:

$$\frac{1}{120-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{120^{n+1}} \quad \text{for } |x| < 120$$

Take the derivative both sides:

$$\frac{1}{(120-x)^2} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n \cdot x^{n-1}}{120^{n+1}}, \quad |x| < 120$$

End points:

- If $x=120$, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n \cdot (120)^{n-1}}{120^{n+1}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \cdot \frac{1}{120^2}$ is divergent by the n -th term test.

- If $x=-120$, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \cdot \frac{(-120)^{n-1}}{120^{n+1}} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \cdot \frac{n}{120^2}$ is divergent by the n -th term test.

- $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \cdot \frac{x^{n-1}}{120^{n+1}} = \frac{1}{(120-x)^2}$ if $|x| < 120$. test.

(Q) ~~$\ln(1+x)$~~ in powers of $x-120$

Soln:

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n \quad \text{if } |x| < 1$$

$$\frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{x-120+120} = \frac{1}{120 \left(1 + \frac{x-120}{120}\right)} = \frac{1}{120} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{(x-120)}{120}\right)^n$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \cdot \frac{(x-120)^n}{120^{n+1}} \cdot \left(1 - \left(-\frac{(x-120)}{120}\right)\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{(x-120)^n}{120^{n+1}} \quad \text{if } \left|\frac{x-120}{120}\right| < 1$$

- Take integral both sides:

$$\ln|x| = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \cdot \frac{1}{120^{n+1}} \frac{(x-120)^{n+1}}{n+1} + C \quad \text{if } |x-120| < 120$$

$$x=120, \Rightarrow C = \ln 120$$

$$\text{If } x=0, \text{ then } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{1}{120^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{(-120)^{n+1}}{n+1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n+1} + \ln 120$$

which is divergent (harmonic series)

$$\text{If } x=240, \text{ then } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \cdot \frac{1}{120^{n+1}} \cdot \frac{(120)^{n+1}}{n+1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \cdot \frac{1}{n+1} + \ln 120$$

which is convergent by AST.

$$\therefore \ln|x| = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \cdot \frac{(x-120)^n}{120^{n+1}} + \ln 120 \text{ if } 0 < x \leq 240.$$

② For each of the following series, find the sum.

$$a) \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n \cdot 2^n}$$

Soln:

$$\ln|1-x| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} -\frac{x^n}{n} \quad \text{for } |x| < 1 \quad (*)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n \cdot 2^n} &= \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n \cdot 2^n} \right) - \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{8} \right) \\ &= -\frac{5}{8} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n \cdot 2^n} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{If } x = \frac{1}{2} < 1 \quad \text{then} \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n \cdot 2^n} = -\ln|1-\frac{1}{2}| = -\ln|\frac{1}{2}|$$

$$\text{So, } \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n \cdot 2^n} = -\frac{5}{8} - \ln(\frac{1}{2}).$$

$$(*) \quad \frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n \quad \text{if } |x| < 1$$

Take integral both sides'

$$-\ln|1-x| = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} + C \Rightarrow \boxed{\ln|1-x| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} -\frac{x^n}{n}}$$

$$\text{If } x=0 \Rightarrow C=0$$

$$b) \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{n^2}{2^n}$$

Soln:

$$\begin{aligned} & 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots \\ & 0 + 1 + 2x + 3x^2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n \quad \text{for } |x| < 1$$

Take the derivative of both sides:

$$x \cdot \frac{1}{(1-x)^2} = x \cdot \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \cdot x^{n-1} \quad \text{for } |x| < 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x}{(1-x)^2} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \cdot x^n \quad \text{for } |x| < 1$$

Take the derivative of both sides:

$$x \cdot \frac{1 \cdot (1-x)^{-1} - x \cdot 2 \cdot (1-x)^{-2} \cdot (-1)}{(1-x)^3} = x \cdot \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^2 \cdot x^{n-1} \quad \text{for } |x| < 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x \cdot \frac{(1-x) + 2x}{(1-x)^3} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^2 x^n \quad \text{for } |x| < 1$$

If $x = \frac{1}{2} < 1$, then

$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\left(1-\frac{1}{2}\right) + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2}}{\left(1-\frac{1}{2}\right)^3}}_{=6} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n = \frac{1}{2} + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n^2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n \Rightarrow \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n^2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n = 6 - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{11}{2}$$

Math 120 - RECITATION PROBLEMS - WEEK 01

- ③ Determine the first three terms of the Maclaurin series of $f(x) = (1 + \alpha x)^{\alpha}$

where $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$.

Soln:



Recall (Taylor and Maclaurin Series)

If $f(x)$ has derivative of all orders at $x=c$

(i.e., if $f^{(k)}(c)$ exists for $k=0, 1, 2, \dots$), then the

series
$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(k)}(c)}{k!} (x-c)^k = f(c) + f'(c)(x-c) + \frac{f''(c)}{2!} (x-c)^2 + \frac{f^{(3)}(c)}{3!} (x-c)^3 + \dots$$

is called the Taylor series of f about c .

If $c=0$, the term Maclaurin series is usually used

in place of Taylor series.



Consider $f(x) = (1+x)^\alpha$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ that has a derivative of all orders at $x=0$.

$$f(x) = (1+x)^\alpha \Rightarrow f(0) = 1$$

$$f'(x) = \alpha \cdot (1+x)^{\alpha-1} \Rightarrow f'(0) = \alpha$$

$$f''(x) = \alpha \cdot (\alpha-1) (1+x)^{\alpha-2} \Rightarrow f''(0) = \alpha \cdot (\alpha-1)$$

$$f'''(x) = \alpha \cdot (\alpha-1) (\alpha-2) (1+x)^{\alpha-3} \Rightarrow f'''(0) = \alpha \cdot (\alpha-1) (\alpha-2)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$f^{(k)}(x) = \alpha \cdot (\alpha-1) \cdots (\alpha-(k-1)) (1+x)^{\alpha-k} \Rightarrow f^{(k)}(0) = \alpha \cdot (\alpha-1) \cdots (\alpha-(k-1))$$

Then, the MacLaurin series of f is

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\alpha \cdot (\alpha-1) \cdots (\alpha-(k-1))}{k!} (x-0)^k$$

$$= 1 + \underbrace{\frac{\alpha}{1!} x + \frac{\alpha \cdot (\alpha-1)}{2!} x^2}_{\text{the first three terms}} + \frac{\alpha \cdot (\alpha-1) (\alpha-2)}{3!} x^3 + \dots$$

for $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$

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Starting from the formula

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n \text{ for } |x| < 1,$$

find the Maclaurin series of the following functions, and determine their intervals of convergence:

(a) $f(x) = \frac{3}{x^2+4}$

Soln:

$$f(x) = \frac{3}{x^2+4} = \frac{3}{4\left(\frac{x^2}{4}+1\right)} = \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{1-\left(-\frac{x^2}{4}\right)}$$

Then,

$$f(x) = \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{1-\left(-\frac{x^2}{4}\right)} = \frac{3}{4} \cdot \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{x^2}{4}\right)^n = \frac{3}{4} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{4^n} \cdot x^{2n}$$

$$= \frac{3}{4} \left[1 - \frac{1}{4} x^2 + \frac{1}{4^2} x^4 - \frac{1}{4^3} x^6 + \frac{1}{4^4} x^8 - \dots \right]$$

$$\text{if } \left| -\frac{x^2}{4} \right| < 1 \Leftrightarrow |x^2| < 4 \Leftrightarrow 0 < x^2 < 4 \\ \Leftrightarrow -2 < x < 2$$

So, the Maclaurin series of f is $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \cdot 3}{4^{n+1}} x^{2n}$

if $-2 < x < 2$.

• If $x = -2$, then $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \cdot 3}{4^{n+1}} (-2)^{2n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \cdot 3}{4^{n+1}} \cdot 4^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{3}{4}$

is divergent by the "nth term test".

• If $x = 2$, then $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \cdot 3}{4^{n+1}} \cdot (2)^{2n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{3}{4}$ is divergent

by the "n-th term test".

So, the interval of convergence is $(-2, 2)$.

$$(b) f(x) = x \ln(1+2x)$$

solt:

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n \quad \text{if } |x| < 1$$

Take the integral both sides:

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

$$\Rightarrow \ln|1-x| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} -\frac{x^n}{n} \quad \text{if } |x| < 1$$

Then,

$$\ln|1+2x| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} -\frac{(-2x)^n}{n} \quad \text{if } |-2x| < 1$$

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

Multiply by "x" both sides:

$$f(x) = x \cdot \ln|1+2x| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{2^n \cdot x^n}{n}$$

$$= 2 \cdot x^2 - \frac{2^2}{2} x^3 + \frac{2^3}{3} x^4 - \frac{2^4}{4} x^5 + \dots$$

$$\text{if } |-2x| < 1 \Leftrightarrow -1 < 2x < 1 \Leftrightarrow -\frac{1}{2} < x < \frac{1}{2}$$

So, the Maclaurin series of f is $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{2^n}{n} x^{n+1}$

if $-\frac{1}{2} < x < \frac{1}{2}$.

• If $x = -\frac{1}{2}$, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{2^n}{n} \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n+1} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n}$ is divergent

since it is harmonic.

• If $x = \frac{1}{2}$, then $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{2^n}{n} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n+1} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{2^n}$ is

convergent by AST.

So, the interval of convergence is $(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]$.

⑤ Use the Maclaurin series of $f(x) = \arctan x$
to find the sum S of the series

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

Soln:

Recall: The Maclaurin series of $f(x) = \arctan x$

is $\arctan x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2n+1} x^{2n+1}$ if $-1 \leq x \leq 1$. —

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2n+1} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2n+1} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)^{2n} \\ &= \sqrt{3} \cdot \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2n+1} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)^{2n+1} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \sqrt{3} \cdot \arctan\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)$$

since $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \in [-1, 1]$

$$= \sqrt{3} \cdot \frac{\pi}{6}$$