

微積分 MA1002-A 上課筆記 (精簡版)

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Definition 9.80: Power Series

Let c be a real number. A power series (of one variable x) centered at c is an infinite series of the form

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k(x-c)^k = a_0 + a_1(x-c)^1 + a_2(x-c)^2 + \cdots,$$

where a_k is independent of x and is called the coefficient of the k -th term.

Theorem 9.81

Let $\{a_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of real numbers. If $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k d^k$ converges, then $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k(x-c)^k$ converges absolutely for all $x \in (c-|d|, c+|d|)$.

Corollary 9.82

For a power series centered at c , precisely one of the following is true.

1. The series converges only at c .
2. There exists $R > 0$ such that the series converges absolutely for $|x-c| < R$ and diverges for $|x-c| > R$.
3. The series converges absolutely for all x .

Definition 9.83: Radius of Convergence and Interval of Convergence

Let a power series centered at c be given. If the power series converges only at c , we say that the radius of convergence of the power series is 0. If the power series converges for $|x-c| < R$ but diverges for $|x-c| > R$, we say that the radius of convergence of the power series is R . If the power series converges for all x , we say that the radius of convergence of the power series is ∞ . The set of all values of x for which the power series converges is called the interval of convergence of the power series.

Example 9.88. Consider the power series $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k}$. Note that for each $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\left| \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} \right|}{\left| \frac{x^n}{n} \right|} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n|x|}{n+1} = |x|;$$

thus the ratio test implies that the power series $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k}$ converges absolutely if $|x| < 1$ and diverges if $|x| > 1$. Therefore, the radius of convergence is 1.

To see the interval of convergence, we note that $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k}$ diverges since it is a p -series with $p = 1$, and $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{k^2}$ converges since it is an alternating series. Therefore, the interval of convergence of the power series is $[-1, 1)$.

Similarly, the power series $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k x^k}{k}$ has interval of convergence $(-1, 1]$.

Example 9.89. Consider the power series $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k^2}$. Note that for each $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

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

thus the ratio test implies that the power series $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k^2}$ converges absolutely if $|x| < 1$ and diverges if $|x| > 1$. Therefore, the radius of convergence is 1.

To see the interval of convergence, we note that $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^2}$ converges since it is a p -series with $p = 2$, and $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{k^2}$ also converges since it converges absolutely (or because of Abel's test). Therefore, the interval of convergence of the power series is $[-1, 1]$.

Remark 9.90. Even though the examples above all has radius of convergence 1, it is not necessary that the radius of convergence of a power series is always 1. For example, the power series $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{2^k k}$ is obtained by replacing x by $\frac{x}{2}$ in Example 9.88; thus

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{2^k k} \text{ converges for } \frac{x}{2} \in [-1, 1)$$

or equivalent, the interval of convergence of $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{2^k k}$ is $[-2, 2)$; thus the radius of convergence of this power series is 2.

Example 9.91. The radius of convergence of the power series $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!}$ is ∞ since for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\left| \frac{(-1)^{n+1} x^{2(n+1)+1}}{[2(n+1)+1]!} \right|}{\left| \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} \right|} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\left| \frac{(-1)^{n+1} x^{2n+3}}{(2n+3)!} \right|}{\left| \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} \right|} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2}{(2n+3)(2n+2)} = 0.$$

• **Differentiation and Integration of Power Series**

Let $\{a_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of real numbers and $c \in \mathbb{R}$. If the power series $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k(x-c)^k$ converges in an interval $(c-r, c+r)$, we can ask ourselves whether the function $f : (c-r, c+r)$ defined by $f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k(x-c)^k$ is differentiable or not. We note that even though the power series is an infinite sum of differentiable functions (in fact, monomials) it is not clear if the limiting process $\frac{d}{dx}$ commutes with $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty}$ since

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} nh^2 = 0 \quad \text{but} \quad \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} nh^2 = \infty.$$

Theorem 9.92: Properties of Functions Defined by Power Series

Suppose that the function f defined by power series

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k(x-c)^k = a_0 + a_1(x-c) + a_2(x-c)^2 + \dots$$

has a radius of convergence of $R > 0$. Then

1. f is differentiable on $(c-R, c+R)$ and

$$f'(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k a_k(x-c)^{k-1} = a_1 + 2a_2(x-c) + 3a_3(x-c)^2 + \dots$$

2. an anti-derivative of f on $(c-R, c+R)$ is given by

$$\int f(x) dx = C + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_k}{k+1} (x-c)^{k+1} = C + a_0(x-c) + \frac{a_1}{2}(x-c)^2 + \dots$$

The radius of convergence of the power series obtained by differentiating or integrating a power series term by term is the same as the original power series.

Remark 9.93. Theorem 9.92 states that, in many ways, a function defined by a power series behaves like a polynomial; that is, the derivative (or anti-derivative) of a power series can be obtained by term-by-term differentiation (or integration). However, it is not true for general functions defined by series of the form $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} b_k(x)$. For example, we have talked about (but did not prove) the series $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin kx}{k}$ which is the same as $\frac{\pi-x}{2}$ on $(0, 2\pi)$; that is,

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin kx}{k} = \frac{\pi-x}{2} \quad \forall x \in (0, 2\pi).$$

Then

$$-\frac{1}{2} = \frac{d}{dx} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin kx}{k} \quad \forall x \in (0, 2\pi)$$

but

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin kx}{k} \neq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{d}{dx} \frac{\sin kx}{k} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \cos kx \quad \forall x \in (0, 2\pi)$$

since the series $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \cos kx$ does not converge for all $x \in (0, 2\pi)$.

Example 9.94. Consider the function f defined by power series

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k} = x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} + \cdots \quad \forall x \in [-1, 1].$$

Then the function

$$g(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x^{k-1} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k = 1 + x + x^2 + \cdots,$$

obtained by term-by-term differentiation, converges for $x \in (-1, 1)$, and the function

$$h(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^{k+1}}{k(k+1)} = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k(k-1)} = \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{6} + \frac{x^4}{12} + \cdots$$

obtained by term-by-term differentiation, converges for $x \in [-1, 1]$.

Corollary 9.95

For a function defined by power series

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k(x-c)^k$$

(on a certain interval of convergence), the n -th Taylor polynomial for f at c is the

n -th partial sum $\sum_{k=0}^n a_k(x-c)^k$ of the power series.

Proof. Let R be the radius of convergence of the power series. By Theorem 9.92,

$$f'(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k a_k (x-c)^{k-1} \quad \forall x \in (c-R, c+R),$$

$$f''(x) = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} k(k-1) a_k (x-c)^{k-2} \quad \forall x \in (c-R, c+R),$$

thus

$$f(c) = a_0, \quad f'(c) = a_1, \quad f''(c) = 2a_2, \quad \dots \quad f^{(k)}(c) = k!a_k.$$

Therefore, $a_k = \frac{f^{(k)}(c)}{k!}$ and the n -th Taylor polynomial for f at c is $\sum_{k=0}^n a_k(x-c)^k$. \square

9.9 Representation of Functions by Power Series

We have shown the following identities:

$$\begin{aligned} \exp(x) &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{k!} && \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \\ \sin x &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!} && \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \\ \cos x &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k x^{2k}}{(2k)!} && \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \\ \ln(1+x) &= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k-1} x^k}{k} && \forall x \in (-1, 1]. \end{aligned}$$

In this section, we are interested in finding the power series representation (centered at c) of functions of the form

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{b-x}.$$

(without differentiating the function). In other words, for a given $c \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{b\}$ we would like to find $\{a_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ (which usually depends on c) such that $f(x)$ agrees with the power series

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k(x-c)^k$$

on a certain interval of convergence without differentiating f . For example, we know that

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k \quad \forall x \in (-1, 1);$$

thus to “expand the function about $\frac{1}{2}$ ”; that is, to write the function $y = \frac{1}{1-x}$ as a power series centered at $\frac{1}{2}$, we have

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2} - (x - \frac{1}{2})} = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{1 - 2(x - \frac{1}{2})} = 2 \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left[2(x - \frac{1}{2}) \right]^k \quad \forall x \text{ satisfying } 2|x - \frac{1}{2}| < 1.$$

In other words, we obtain

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 2^{k+1} \left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)^k \quad \forall x \in (0, 1)$$

without computing the derivatives of the function $y = \frac{1}{1-x}$ at $\frac{1}{2}$.