

EXAMPLE 3 Find the Taylor series for $f(x) = e^x$ at $a = 2$.

SOLUTION We have $f^{(n)}(2) = e^2$ and so, putting $a = 2$ in the definition of a Taylor series (6), we get

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

Again it can be verified, as in Example 1, that the radius of convergence is $R = \infty$. As in Example 2 we can verify that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n(x) = 0$, so

$$(14) \quad e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{e^2}{n!} (x - 2)^n \quad \text{for all } x$$

We have two power series expansions for e^x , the Maclaurin series in Equation 12 and the Taylor series in Equation 14. The first is better if we are interested in values of x near 0 and the second is better if x is near 2.

EXAMPLE 4 Find the Maclaurin series for $\sin x$ and prove that it represents $\sin x$ for all x .

SOLUTION We arrange our computation in two columns as follows:

$$f(x) = \sin x \quad f(0) = 0$$

$$f'(x) = \cos x \quad f'(0) = 1$$

$$f''(x) = -\sin x \quad f''(0) = 0$$

$$f'''(x) = -\cos x \quad f'''(0) = -1$$

$$f^{(4)}(x) = \sin x \quad f^{(4)}(0) = 0$$

Since the derivatives repeat in a cycle of four, we can write the Maclaurin series as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} f(0) + \frac{f'(0)}{1!}x + \frac{f''(0)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{f'''(0)}{3!}x^3 + \dots \\ = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} \end{aligned}$$

Using the remainder term (10) with $a = 0$, we have

$$R_n(x) = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(z)}{(n+1)!} x^{n+1}$$

where $f(x) = \sin x$ and z lies between 0 and x . But $f^{(n+1)}(z)$ is $\pm \sin z$ or $\pm \cos z$. In any case, $|f^{(n+1)}(z)| \leq 1$ and so

$$(15) \quad |R_n(x)| = \frac{|f^{(n+1)}(z)|}{(n+1)!} |x^{n+1}| \leq \frac{|x|^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}$$

By Equation 11 the right side of this inequality approaches 0 as $n \rightarrow \infty$, so $|R_n(x)| \rightarrow 0$ by the Squeeze Theorem. It follows that $R_n(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, so $\sin x$ is equal to the sum of its Maclaurin series by Theorem 8.

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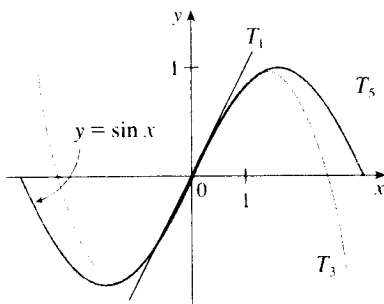


FIGURE 2

Figure 2 shows the graph of $\sin x$ and its first three Taylor (or Maclaurin) polynomials.

As n increases, the Taylor polynomials $T_n(x)$ approximate $\sin x$ more closely. In fact, $T_n(x) \rightarrow \sin x$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

We state the result of Example 4 for future reference:

$$(16) \quad \begin{aligned} \sin x &= x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} \quad \text{for all } x \end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLE 5 Find the Maclaurin series for $\cos x$.

SOLUTION We could proceed directly as in Example 4 but it is easier to use Theorem 10.9.2 to differentiate the Maclaurin series for $\sin x$ given by Equation 16:

$$\begin{aligned} \cos x &= \frac{d}{dx} (\sin x) = \frac{d}{dx} \left(x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots \right) \\ &= 1 - \frac{3x^2}{3!} + \frac{5x^4}{5!} - \frac{7x^6}{7!} + \dots = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Since the Maclaurin series for $\sin x$ converges for all x , Theorem 10.9.2 tells us that the differentiated series for $\cos x$ also converges for all x . Thus

$$(17) \quad \begin{aligned} \cos x &= 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n}}{(2n)!} \quad \text{for all } x \end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLE 6 Find the Maclaurin series for the function $f(x) = x \cos x$.

SOLUTION Instead of computing derivatives and substituting in Equation 7, it is easier to multiply the series for $\cos x$ (Equation 17) by x :

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

EXAMPLE 7 Represent $f(x) = \sin x$ as the sum of its Taylor series centered at $\pi/3$.

SOLUTION Arranging our work in columns, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \sin x & f\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) &= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ f'(x) &= \cos x & f'\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) &= \frac{1}{2} \\ f''(x) &= -\sin x & f''\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) &= -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ f'''(x) &= -\cos x & f'''\left(\frac{\pi}{3}\right) &= -\frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$