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Lecture Examples — Friday, July 27thPower Series - Interval and Radius of Convergence

$$\textcircled{1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x^{n-1}$$

Geometric series with $a=1, r=x$.

From geometric series, we know that this converges when $|x| < 1$ ($|r| < 1$) and diverges when $|x| \geq 1$ ($|r| \geq 1$).

So, $R=1$, and the interval of convergence is

$$(-1, 1) \leftarrow \text{all } x\text{-values for which } |x| < 1.$$

② For which values of x does $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(x-7)^n}{n}$ converge?

Use Ratio Test (to test for absolute convergence):

$$\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \left| \frac{\left(\frac{(x-7)^{n+1}}{n+1} \right)}{\left(\frac{(x-7)^n}{n} \right)} \right| = \left| \frac{(x-7)^{n+1}}{n+1} \cdot \frac{n}{\cancel{(x-7)^n}} \right| = |x-7| \cdot \frac{n}{n+1}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \underbrace{|x-7|}_{\text{doesn't depend on } n} \cdot \frac{n}{n+1} \\ &= |x-7| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{n+1} \\ &= |x-7| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\cancel{n} \cdot (1)}{\cancel{n} (1 + 1/n)} = |x-7| \end{aligned}$$

So, from the Ratio Test, we know that the series converges (absolutely) if $|x-7| < 1$ and diverges if $|x-7| > 1$.

Note: The Ratio Test is inconclusive when $|x-7|=1$.

So, the radius of convergence is $R=1$.

To find the interval of convergence, we first expand the inequality $|x-7| < 1$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & -1 < x-7 < 1 \\
 & \quad +7 \quad +7 \quad +7 \\
 \Leftrightarrow & 6 < x < 8
 \end{aligned}$$

} Ratio Test \Rightarrow converges for all x such that $6 < x < 8$.

\Rightarrow The endpoints of the interval of convergence are $x=6$ and $x=8$. These are the points where the Ratio Test is inconclusive (i.e. $|x-7|=1$), so we need to test them separately using other tests for convergence.

Plug the endpoints into the series:

When $x=6$:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(6-7)^n}{n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n}$$

] Alternating Series with $b_n = \frac{1}{n}$.

Now, $1/n$ is always positive and is a decreasing function. Furthermore

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} = 0,$$

so by the Alternating series Test, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n}$ converges.

Since the series converges at $x=6$, 6 should be included in the interval of convergence.

When $x=8$: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(8-7)^n}{n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$] p-series with $p=1 \Rightarrow$ divergent.

Since the series diverges at $x=8$, 8 should be excluded from the interval of convergence.

Therefore, the interval of convergence is $[6, 8)$.

③ Find the radius and interval of convergence of $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n(x+4)^n}{2^{n+1}}$

Ratio Test:

$$\left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \left| \frac{\left(\frac{(n+1)(x+4)^{n+1}}{2^{n+2}} \right)}{\left(\frac{n(x+4)^n}{2^{n+1}} \right)} \right| = \left| \frac{(n+1)(x+4)^{n+1}}{2^{n+2}} \cdot \frac{2^{n+1}}{n(x+4)^n} \right|$$

$$= |x+4| \cdot \frac{(n+1)}{2n}$$

So, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |x+4| \cdot \left(\frac{n+1}{2n} \right)$

$$= |x+4| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(1+1/n)}{n(2)} = \frac{|x+4|}{2}$$

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So, by Ratio Test, the series converges (absolutely) when

$$\frac{|x+4|}{2} < 1 \Leftrightarrow |x+4| < 2.$$

(and diverges when $\frac{|x+4|}{2} > 1 \Leftrightarrow |x+4| > 2$).

\therefore the radius of convergence is $R=2$.

Expand the inequality:

Now $|x+4| < 2$ is the same as.

$$-2 < x+4 < 2.$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} -4 & -4 & -4 \end{array}$$

$$-6 < x < -2. \quad (\text{so endpoints are } x=-6, -2).$$

Plug endpoints into series:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{When } x=-6: \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n(-6+4)^n}{2^{n+1}} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n(-2)^n}{2^{n+1}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n(-1)^n \cdot 2^n}{2^{n+1}} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n(-1)^n}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

So, since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(-1)^n}{2}$ DNE (and $\therefore \neq 0$),

from Divergence Test we must have that the

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n(-1)^n}{2} \quad \underline{\text{diverges}}.$$

When $n = -2$:
$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n(-2+4)^n}{2^{n+1}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n \cdot 2^n}{2^{n+1}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2}.$$

So, since $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{2} = \infty \neq 0$, again, it follows from the Divergence Test that $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n}{2}$ diverges.

Thus, the interval of convergence is $(-6, -2)$.

Finding Power Series representations of functions.

① $\frac{1}{1-x}$] = sum of geometric series with $a=1$ and $r=x$.

So,
$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n \quad \left(\text{or } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x^{n-1} - \text{either is fine} \right)$$

② $\frac{1}{2+x^2}$] Need to make this look like the sum of a geometric series $\left(\frac{a}{1-r}\right)$ for some a and r .

Algebraic Trickery:

$$\frac{1}{2+x^2} = \frac{1}{2(1+x^2/2)} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{1+x^2/2} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{1-(-x^2/2)}$$

replace with geometric series.

$\frac{a}{1-r}$ with $a=1$
 $r = -\frac{x^2}{2}$

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

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

③ ~~2 + x^2~~ $\frac{x^3}{2+x^2}$

Since x^3 is a power of x , we can write this as.

$$\frac{x^3}{2+x^2} = x^3 \cdot \frac{1}{2+x^2}$$

then replace $\frac{1}{2+x^2}$ with its power series representation (from ②), and then multiply the x^3 through the series:

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

replace with series from ②

multiply the x^3 through the series.

④ $\frac{1}{(1-x)^2}$] Trick: Notice that $\frac{1}{(1-x)^2}$ is the derivative of $\frac{1}{1-x}$ (check: $(\frac{1}{1-x})' = \frac{1}{(1-x)^2}$ ✓)

i.e. $\frac{d}{dx} \frac{1}{1-x} = \frac{1}{(1-x)^2}$

this is the sum of a geometric series with $a=1, r=x$.

So, we have that

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

replace with geometric series

(Differentiate term-by-term)

$$= \frac{d}{dx} \left(1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \dots \right)$$

$$= 0 + 1 + 2x + 3x^2 + 4x^3 + \dots$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n x^{n-1}$$

sum starts at 1, since the derivative of the $n=0$ term was 0.

(5) $\ln(1+x)$] Trick: Notice that $\ln(1+x)$ is equal

to the integral $\int_0^x \frac{1}{1+t} dt$. Alternatively, it is the antiderivative of $\frac{1}{1+x}$ with the choice of constant $C=0$.

Furthermore, $\frac{1}{1+t} = \frac{1}{1-(-t)}$ is the sum of a

geometric series with $a=1$, $r=-t$.

$$\text{So, } \ln(1+x) = \int_0^x \frac{1}{1+t} dt = \int_0^x \frac{1}{1-(-t)} dt$$

$$= \int_0^x \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-t)^n \cdot dt$$

$$= \int_0^x \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n t^n \right) dt$$

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

Integrate term-by-term. Sum still starts at $n=0$ because integrating didn't make $n=0$ term ~~go~~ vanish like differentiating did.