

Mean Value Theorem (MVT): For  $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , if  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$  and differentiable on  $(a, b)$ , there is  $c \in (a, b)$  such that

$$f'(c) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$$

↑  
Gradient of  $f$  at  $(c, f(c))$ 
└───┬───┘  
Gradient of chord between  $(a, f(a))$  and  $(b, f(b))$

Rearranging,  $f(b) = f(a) + (b - a)f'(c)$ .

Use the mean value theorem on  $f: [n, n+1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  where  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $f(x) = \ln x$  to show that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \ln(1 + \frac{1}{n}) < 1$ .

We know that  $\ln x$  is differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}_{>0}$ , so  $f$  is continuous on  $[n, n+1]$  and differentiable on  $(n, n+1)$ .

By the mean value theorem, there is  $c \in (n, n+1)$  such that  $f(n+1) = f(n) + (n+1) - n)f'(c)$   
 $= f(n) + \underbrace{f'(c)}$

want to bound this using  $n < c < n+1$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Since } f'(c) &= \frac{1}{c}, \quad \ln(n+1) = \ln(n) + \frac{1}{c} \\ \ln(n+1) - \ln(n) &= \frac{1}{c} \\ \ln\left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right) &= \frac{1}{c} \\ \ln\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) &= \frac{1}{c} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $n < c < n+1$ ,  $\frac{1}{n+1} < \frac{1}{c} < \frac{1}{n}$  so

$$\ln\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) < \frac{1}{n} \Rightarrow n \ln\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) < 1$$

Taylor's Theorem ( $n^{\text{th}}$  MVT): For  $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , if

- $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$
- $f^{(k)}$  exists and is continuous on  $[a, b]$  for  $k \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$
- $f^{(n)}$  exists on  $(a, b)$

then there is  $c \in (a, b)$  such that

$$f(b) = f(a) + (b-a)f'(a) + \frac{(b-a)^2}{2!}f''(a) + \dots + \frac{(b-a)^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}f^{(n-1)}(a) + \frac{(b-a)^n}{n!}f^{(n)}(c)$$

$R_n$

$R_n = \text{Lagrange form of the remainder}$

$$= \left( \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{(b-a)^k}{k!} f^{(k)}(a) \right) + R_n$$

For  $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  where  $f$  satisfies the conditions above for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the Taylor series at  $x=c$  for  $c \in [a, b]$  is the series

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

The range of values of  $x$  where the series converges to  $f(x)$  is the interval of convergence.

1. Find the Taylor series at  $x=-1$  of  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$ .

2. Determine the interval of convergence.

1. Find the derivatives:

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

$$f(-1) = 1 = 1!$$

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

$$f'(-1) = 2 = 2!$$

$$f''(x) = 6x^{-4}$$

$$f''(-1) = 6 = 3!$$

$$f^{(3)}(x) = -24x^{-5}$$

$$f^{(3)}(-1) = 24 = 4!$$

$$f^{(3)}(x) = -24x^{-5}$$

$$f^{(3)}(-1) = 24 = 4!$$

⋮

⋮

$$f^{(n)}(x) = (-1)^n (n+1)! x^{-(n+2)}$$

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

The Taylor series of  $f$  at  $x = -1$  is

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

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (x+1)^n (n+1) = 1 + 2(x+1) + 3(x+1)^2 + 4(x+1)^3 + \dots$$

2. Let  $a_n = (x+1)^n (n+1)$  so we can use the ratio test.

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

$$= \left| \frac{n+2}{n+1} (x+1) \right|$$

$$= \frac{n+2}{n+1} \underbrace{|x+1|}_{x \in \mathbb{R} \text{ so this is a constant}}$$

$$= \frac{1 + \frac{2}{n}}{1 + \frac{1}{n}} |x+1|$$

By the sum, quotient and product rules,  $\left( \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right| \right) \rightarrow |x+1|$ .

By the ratio test, the series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$

- converges when  $|x+1| < 1$   $-2 < x < 0$

- diverges when  $|x+1| > 1$   $x < -2, x > 0$

When  $|x+1| = 1$ ,  $x = 0$  or  $x = -2$ .

If  $x = 0$ ,  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1)$  which diverges  $\rightarrow \dots \dots \dots$

If  $x=0$ ,  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1)$  which diverges

If  $x=-2$ ,  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n (n+1)$  which diverges

} by null  
sequence  
test

Hence, the interval of convergence is  $(-2, 0)$ .