

Theorem 9.14 Alternating Series Test

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Let $a_n > 0$. The alternating series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} a_n$$

converge if the following two conditions are met.

1. $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$
2. $a_{n+1} \leq a_n$, for all n

Theorem 9.15 Alternating Series Remainder

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If a convergent alternating series satisfies the condition $a_{n+1} \leq a_n$, then the absolute value of the remainder R_N involved in approximating the sum S by S_N is less than (or equal to) the first neglected term. That is,

$$|S - S_N| = |R_N| \leq a_{N+1}.$$

Guidelines for Testing a Series for Convergence or Divergence

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1. Does the n th term approach 0? If not, the series diverges.
2. Is the series one of the special types—geometric, p -series, telescoping, or alternating?
3. Can the Integral Test, the Root Test, or the Ratio Test be applied?
4. Can the series be compared favorably to one of the special types?

Definitions of n th Taylor Polynomial and n th Maclaurin Polynomial

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If f has n derivatives at c , then the polynomial

$$P_n(x) = f(c) + f'(c)(x - c) + \frac{f''(c)}{2!}(x - c)^2 + \cdots + \frac{f^{(n)}(c)}{n!}(x - c)^n$$

is called the **n th Taylor polynomial for f at c** . If $c = 0$, then

$$P_n(x) = f(0) + f'(0)x + \frac{f''(0)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{f'''(0)}{3!}x^3 + \cdots + \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!}x^n$$

is also called the **n th Maclaurin polynomial for f** .

Theorem 9.19 Taylor's Theorem

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If a function f is differentiable through order $n + 1$ in an interval I containing c , then, for each x in I , there exists z between x and c such that

$$f(x) = f(c) + f'(c)(x - c) + \frac{f''(c)}{2!}(x - c)^2 + \cdots + \frac{f^{(n)}(c)}{n!}(x - c)^n + R_n(x)$$

where

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

Theorem 9.20 Convergence of a Power Series

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

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

The number R is the **radius of convergence** of the power series. If the series converges only at c , the radius of convergence is $R = 0$, and if the series converges for all x , the radius of convergence is $R = \infty$. The set of all values of x for which the power series converges is the **interval of convergence** of the power series.

Theorem 9.22 The Form of a Convergent Power Series

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If f is represented by a power series $f(x) = \sum a_n(x - c)^n$ for all x in an open interval I containing c , then $a_n = f^{(n)}(c)/n!$ and

$$f(x) = f(c) + f'(c)(x - c) + \frac{f''(c)}{2!}(x - c)^2 + \cdots + \frac{f^{(n)}(c)}{n!}(x - c)^n + \cdots$$

Definitions of Taylor and Maclaurin Series

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If a function f has derivatives of all orders at $x = c$, then the series

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

is called the **Taylor series for $f(x)$ at c** . Moreover, if $c = 0$, then the series is the **Maclaurin series for f** .

Theorem 9.23 Convergence of Taylor Series

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If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R_n = 0$ for all x in the interval I , then the Taylor series for f converges and equals $f(x)$,

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

Guidelines for Finding a Taylor Series

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1. Differentiate $f(x)$ several times and evaluate each derivative at c .

$$f(c), f'(c), f''(c), f'''(c), \dots, f^{(n)}(c), \dots$$

Try to recognize a pattern in these numbers.

2. Use the sequence developed in the first step to form the Taylor coefficients $a_n = f^{(n)}(c)/n!$, and determine the interval of convergence for the resulting power series

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

3. Within this interval of convergence, determine whether or not the series converges to $f(x)$.

Power Series for Elementary Functions

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Function	Interval of Convergence
$\frac{1}{x} = 1 - (x - 1) + (x - 1)^2 - (x - 1)^3 + (x - 1)^4 - \cdots + (-1)^n (x - 1)^n + \cdots$	$0 < x < 2$
$\frac{1}{1 + x} = 1 - x + x^2 - x^3 + x^4 - x^5 + \cdots + (-1)^n x^n + \cdots$	$-1 < x < 1$
$\ln x = (x - 1) - \frac{(x - 1)^2}{2} + \frac{(x - 1)^3}{3} - \frac{(x - 1)^4}{4} + \cdots + \frac{(-1)^{n-1}(x - 1)^n}{n} + \cdots$	$0 < x \leq 2$
$e^x = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} + \cdots + \frac{x^n}{n!} + \cdots$	$-\infty < x < \infty$
$\sin x = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \frac{x^9}{9!} - \cdots + \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} + \cdots$	$-\infty < x < \infty$
$\cos x = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \frac{x^8}{8!} - \cdots + \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n}}{(2n)!} + \cdots$	$-\infty < x < \infty$
$\arctan x = x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} - \frac{x^7}{7} + \frac{x^9}{9} - \cdots + \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n+1}}{2n+1} + \cdots$	$-1 \leq x \leq 1$
$\arcsin x = x + \frac{x^3}{2 \cdot 3} + \frac{1 \cdot 3x^5}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 5} + \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5x^7}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot 7} + \cdots + \frac{(2n)!x^{2n+1}}{(2^n n!)^2(2n+1)} + \cdots$	$-1 \leq x \leq 1$
$(1 + x)^k = 1 + kx + \frac{k(k-1)x^2}{2!} + \frac{k(k-1)(k-2)x^3}{3!} + \frac{k(k-1)(k-2)(k-3)x^4}{4!} + \cdots$	$-1 < x < 1^*$

* The convergence at $x = \pm 1$ depends on the value of k .