

The Taylor Approximation to a Function

If

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{0}{0}$$

or

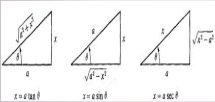
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\infty}{\infty}$$

Then

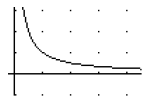
$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$$

provided that the latter limit exists.

$$f(x) = f(x_1) + f'(x_1)(x-x_1) + \frac{f''(x_1)}{2!}(x-x_1)^2 + \frac{f'''(x_1)}{3!}(x-x_1)^3 + \frac{f^{(4)}(x_1)}{4!}(x-x_1)^4 + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(x_1)}{n!}(x-x_1)^n$$



$$\ln(x) = \int_1^x \frac{1}{t} dt \Rightarrow \ln(2) = \int_1^2 \frac{1}{t} dt \cong 0.69315$$



$$\int u dv = uv - \int v du$$

where it comes from:

the product rule for differentiation

$$\frac{d}{dx}(uv) = u \frac{dv}{dx} + v \frac{du}{dx}$$

put into reverse

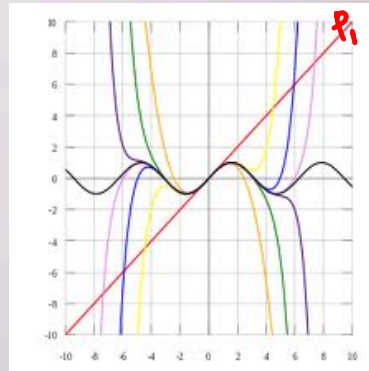
$$\int \frac{d}{dx}(uv) = \int \left(u \frac{dv}{dx} + v \frac{du}{dx} \right)$$

and then

$$uv = \int u \frac{dv}{dx} + \int v \frac{du}{dx}$$

rearranged

$$\int u \frac{dv}{dx} = uv - \int v \frac{du}{dx}$$



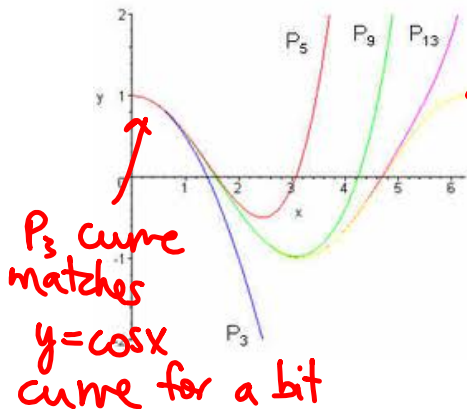
blade
curve
 $y = \sin x$

Taylor Approximations to a Function

Many math problems that occur in applications cannot be solved exactly, like $\int_0^b \sin(x^2) dx$. We need to approximate them.

Taylor Polynomial of order n (based at a)

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



← ex $f(x) = \cos x$
(in yellow)

$P_3 = 3^{\text{rd}}$ order Taylor
polynomial for $f(x) = \cos x$
centered at $a=0$.

EX 1 For $f(x) = e^{-3x}$, find the Maclaurin polynomial of order 4 and approximate $f(0.12)$.

We already know $e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$, for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$\Rightarrow e^{-3x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-3x)^n}{n!}, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-3x} &\approx \sum_{n=0}^4 \frac{(-3x)^n}{n!} = 1 + (-3x) + \frac{(-3x)^2}{2!} + \frac{(-3x)^3}{3!} + \frac{(-3x)^4}{4!} \\ &= 1 - 3x + \frac{9}{2}x^2 + \frac{-9}{2}x^3 + \frac{27}{8}x^4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(0.12) = e^{-3(0.12)} &\approx 1 - 3(0.12) + 4.5(0.12)^2 - 4.5(0.12)^3 \\ &\quad + \frac{27}{8}(0.12)^4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\approx 0.69772384$$

Note: If we put in $y = e^{-3x}$ on calculator, we get 0.6976763261 at $x = 0.12$

Lagrange Error for Taylor Polynomials

We know $f(x) = P_n(x) + R_n(x)$.

error

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

$$c \in (a, x) \quad \left(\text{or } c \in (x, a) \right)$$

$$\text{if } a < x \quad \left(\text{if } x < a \right)$$

EX 2 Find the error in estimating $f(0.12)$ in the last example, $f(x) = e^{-3x}$.

since it's a Maclaurin series ($a=0$)

error: $R_4(x) = \frac{f^{(5)}(c)}{5!} (x-0)^5$

$x = 0.12$ $R_4(0.12) = \frac{f^{(5)}(c)}{5!} (0.12)^5$ $c \in [0, 0.12]$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= e^{-3x} \\ f'(x) &= -3e^{-3x} \\ f''(x) &= (-3)^2 e^{-3x} \\ f'''(x) &= (-3)^3 e^{-3x} \\ \vdots \\ f^{(5)}(x) &= (-3)^5 e^{-3x} \end{aligned}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} R_4(0.12) = \frac{(-3)^5 e^{-3c} (0.12)^5}{5!} \\ |R_4(0.12)| = \frac{3^5 (0.12)^5 e^{-3c}}{5!} \\ = \frac{0.36^5}{5!} (e^{-3c}) = \frac{0.36^5}{5! e^{3c}} \end{array} \right\}$$

$c \in [0, 0.12]$

↑
monotonically decreasing

⇒ choose $c=0$.

$$\Rightarrow |R_4(0.12)| \leq \frac{0.36^5}{5!} (e^{-3(0)}) = \frac{0.36^5}{5!} = 0.0000504$$

EX 3 Find a good bound for the maximum value of $\left| \frac{4c}{c+4} \right|$ given $c \in [0,1]$.

$$\left| \frac{4c}{c+4} \right| = \frac{4c}{c+4} \quad (\text{we want a reasonable } \overset{\text{upper}}{\wedge} \text{ bound.})$$

idea 1: look at numerator & denominator separately.

$$\bullet \quad 0 \leq c \leq 1 \Rightarrow 0 \leq 4c \leq 4 \Rightarrow 4c \leq 4$$

$$\bullet \quad 4 \leq c+4 \leq 5 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{4} \geq \frac{1}{c+4} \geq \frac{1}{5} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{c+4} \leq \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{4c}{c+4} = 4c \left(\frac{1}{c+4} \right) \leq 4 \left(\frac{1}{4} \right) = 1$$

idea 2:

$$\frac{4c}{c+4} = 4 - \frac{16}{c+4}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} c+4 \overline{) 4c} \\ \underline{-(4c+16)} \\ -16 \end{array}$$

$$\left| \frac{4c}{c+4} \right| = \left| 4 - \frac{16}{c+4} \right| \leq |4| + \left| \frac{16}{c+4} \right|$$

$$\leq 4 + 16 \left(\frac{1}{4} \right) = 4 + 4 = 8$$

I would choose idea 1.

EX 4 Find a good bound for the maximum value of $\left| \frac{c^2 - c}{\cos c} \right|$ given $c \in [0, \pi/4]$.

$$\left| \frac{c^2 - c}{\cos c} \right| \quad \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \leq |\cos c| \leq 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2}{\sqrt{2}} \geq \frac{1}{|\cos c|} \geq 1$$

$$c \in [0, \pi/4] \quad \left(\sqrt{2} \geq \frac{1}{|\cos c|} \geq 1 \right)$$

upper bound for $\frac{1}{|\cos c|}$

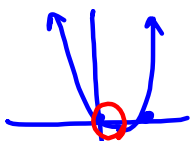
$|c^2 - c|$ idea 1: use triangle inequality
 $|a \pm b| \leq |a| + |b|$

$$\Rightarrow |c^2 - c| \leq |c^2| + |c| \leq \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^2 + \frac{\pi}{4} \approx 1.4$$

idea 2:

look at $y = x^2 - x$

$x \in [0, \pi/4]$



vertex is at

$\left(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{4}\right)$ is the furthest distance from x -axis on $[0, \pi/4]$

we want an upper bound (max) of $y = x^2 - x$ on $[0, \pi/4]$

$$\Rightarrow |c^2 - c| \leq \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\left| \frac{c^2 - c}{\cos c} \right| = |c^2 - c| \left| \frac{1}{\cos c} \right| \leq \frac{1}{4} (\sqrt{2}) \approx 0.35355$$

EX 5 Find n such that the Maclaurin polynomial for $f(x) = e^x$ has $f(1)$ approximated to five decimal places, i.e. $|R_n(1)| \leq 0.000005$.

$$|R_n(1)| = \left| \frac{f^{(n+1)}(c)}{(n+1)!} (1)^n \right| \leq 0.000005$$

$$c \in [0, 1]$$

$$f^{(n+1)}(x) = e^x \Rightarrow \left| \frac{e^c}{(n+1)!} \right| \leq 0.000005$$

$$e^0 \leq e^c \leq e^1 \Rightarrow \text{upper bound is } e^c \leq e$$

$$\frac{e}{(n+1)!} \leq 0.000005$$

$$\frac{e}{0.000005} \leq (n+1)!$$

$$\approx 343,656.36 \leq (n+1)!$$

try $n=8$, not big enough

$$\text{if } n=9, (n+1)! = 10! = 3,628,800$$

\Rightarrow we need Maclaurin polynomial of order 9.

Conclusion:

We've discussed bound on error of the method. It doesn't tell us anything about rounding errors.

ex $S = 1,000,000$

$$S = a_1 - a_2 - a_3 - a_4 - \dots - a_n \quad \Delta_i = 0.001$$

$$1,000,000 - 0.001 - 0.001 - \dots - 0.001$$

If we do $\left(\left(\left(\left(s - a_1\right) - a_2\right) - a_3\right) \dots - a_n\right)$, then we have too many error problems, and our answer will still be almost 1,000,000.

But if we do $S = (a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n)$, then we'll get a closer answer. (avoid more errors this way).