

Review:

What is the formula for the n^{th} degree Taylor polynomial approximation of a function $f(x)$ centered at $x=a$?

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

$$P_{n,a}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{f^{(k)}(a)}{k!} (x-a)^k$$

Question: Which expansions should you know by heart?

$\sin(x)$, $\cos(x)$, e^x
centered at $x=0$.

Also others...

New

How do we estimate the error associated with approximating a function $f(x)$ with its n^{th} degree Taylor polynomial approximation centered at $x=a$?

Note: $f(x) = P_{n,a}(x) + \text{error}$

\downarrow
 $e_{n,a}(x)$

i.e. $\text{error} = e_{n,a}(x) = f(x) - P_{n,a}(x)$

Error Estimation

Let a and x be fixed values and suppose f is $n+1$ times differentiable on the interval connecting a and x . Then there is a value c between x and a so that

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

i.e. $f(x) - P_n(x) = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(c)}{(n+1)!} (x-a)^{n+1}$

i.e. $f(x) = P_n(x) + \frac{f^{(n+1)}(c)}{(n+1)!} (x-a)^{n+1}$

Typically, we work with an upper bound for this error, since c is not readily available.

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

$$\leq \frac{M}{(n+1)!} |x-a|^{n+1}$$

bound for the error

c btwn x and a

where M is an upper bound for $|f^{(n+1)}(t)|$ with t btwn x and a .

Example: Let $f(x) = \cos(x)$. Determine the value of n so that $P_{n,0}(x)$ approximates $f(x)$ within $1/10$ on the interval $[-2,2]$.

We know possible x values are btwn -2 and 2

$$|f(x) - P_{n,0}(x)| \leq \frac{M}{(n+1)!} |x-0|^{n+1}$$

where $|f^{(n+1)}(t)| \leq M$

for t between x and 0 .

Caused us to get M for all $-2 \leq t \leq 2$.

$f(x) = \cos(x)$

Note: $f^{(n)}(x) = \pm \cos(x)$ or $\pm \sin(x)$

$\Rightarrow |f^{(n+1)}(t)| \leq M$

$\therefore |f(x) - P_{n,0}(x)| \leq \frac{1}{(n+1)!} |x|^{n+1}$

Force $\frac{1}{(n+1)!} |x|^{n+1} \leq \frac{1}{10}$
for $-2 \leq x \leq 2$.

To account for all of these x values,
we need $\frac{2^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \leq \frac{1}{10}$.

n	$2^{n+1}/(n+1)!$
6	128/5040
5	64/720 $< \frac{1}{10}$
4	32/120 $> \frac{1}{10}$

$n=5$ works

But, since $P_{5,0}(x) = P_{4,0}(x)$
for $f(x) = \cos(x)$,
 $n=4$ will work.

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Example: Give the smallest value of n so that the n^{th} degree Taylor polynomial approximation centered at 0 approximates $\exp(-2)$ within 10^{-1} on the interval.

(see the video) $f(x) = e^x$, $f^{(k)}(x) = e^x$

$|e^{-2} - P_{n,0}(-2)| \leq \frac{M}{(n+1)!} |-2-0|^{n+1} \leq \frac{1}{10}$

Force

$M \geq |f^{(n+1)}(t)| = |e^t|$
for t b/w -2 and 0 .

$M=1$ works.

Need $\frac{2^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \leq \frac{1}{10}$.

From earlier, $n=5$ works.

Question: What does the error estimate tell us about using Taylor polynomials to rewrite a polynomial centered at $x=a$, for some fixed value of a ?

Spse $f(x) = n^{\text{th}}$ degree polynomial

Then $|f(x) - P_{n,a}(x)| \leq \frac{M}{(n+1)!} |x-a|^{n+1}$

where $M \geq |f^{(n+1)}(t)|$
where t b/w x and a .

Note: $f^{(n+1)}(t) \equiv 0$
since $f(x)$ is an n^{th} degree poly. So $M=0$.

$\therefore f(x) = P_{n,a}(x)$
 \uparrow
 n^{th} degree

Example: Rewrite the polynomial $f(x) = 2x^3 - 4x^2 + 5x + 2$ as an expansion in $x-1$. i.e. centered at $x=1$.

From earlier $f'(x) = 6x^2 - 8x + 5$ (3rd degree)
 $f''(x) = 12x - 8$
 $f'''(x) = 12$

$f(x) = P_{3,1}(x)$

$= f(1) + f'(1)(x-1) + \frac{f''(1)}{2}(x-1)^2 + \frac{f'''(1)}{6}(x-1)^3$

$= 5 + 3(x-1) + \frac{4}{2}(x-1)^2 + \frac{12}{6}(x-1)^3$

$= 5 + 3(x-1) + 2(x-1)^2 + 2(x-1)^3$

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1. Find the 5th degree Taylor polynomial centered at $x = 0$ for $\sin(x)$, and evaluate this polynomial at $x = 1$.
2. Find the 4th degree Taylor polynomial centered at $x = 0$ for $\cos(x)$, and evaluate this polynomial at $x = 1$.
3. Find the 4th degree Taylor polynomial centered at $x = 0$ for $\exp(x)$, and evaluate this polynomial at $x = 1$.

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