

## Taylor/Maclaurin Series and Taylor Polynomials

Example 1:

Write the third-degree Taylor Polynomial for  $f(x) = e^{-x}$ .

$$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!} = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots + \frac{x^n}{n!} + \dots$$

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

$$f(x) = e^{-x} \approx 1 + (-x) + \frac{(-x)^2}{2!} + \frac{(-x)^3}{3!}$$

$$e^{-x} \approx 1 - x + \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6}$$

Example 2:

Write the Taylor Series, centered at  $x = 0$ , for  $g(x) = \frac{x}{3x-1}$ .

$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$$

$$= \frac{x}{-1(1-3x)} = -x \left( \frac{1}{1-3x} \right)$$

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

$$\frac{-x}{1-3x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} -x(3x)^n \quad \leftarrow \text{also ok}$$

$$\text{OR}$$

$$\frac{-x}{1-3x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} -13^n \cdot x^{n+1}$$

Example 3:

Write the Taylor Series for  $h(x) = \sin x$ , centered at  $x = \frac{3\pi}{2}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} h'(x) &= \cos x & h'''(x) &= -\cos x \\ h''(x) &= -\sin x & h^{(4)}(x) &= \sin x \\ h^{(5)}(x) &= \cos x \end{aligned}$$

$$h(x) = h\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}\right) + h'\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}\right)\left(x - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right) + \frac{h''\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}\right)}{2!}\left(x - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{h'''\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}\right)}{3!}\left(x - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right)^3 + \frac{h^{(4)}\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}\right)}{4!}\left(x - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right)^4 + \dots$$

$\rightarrow$  need to do Taylor Series work

$$= -1 + 0 + \frac{1}{2!}\left(x - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right)^2 + 0 + \frac{-1}{4!}\left(x - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right)^4 + 0 + \dots + \frac{h^{(n)}\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}\right)}{n!}\left(x - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right)^n + \dots$$

$$h(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{(2n)!} \left(x - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right)^{2n}$$

Example 4:

Write the Taylor Polynomial for  $f(x) = 7x^2 - 6x + 1$  about  $x = 2$ .

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

$\rightarrow$  need to do Taylor Series work

$\leftarrow$  stop @ degree 2  $\dots$  ☺

$$= 17 + 22(x-2) + \frac{14}{2!}(x-2)^2$$

$$f(x) = 17 + 22(x-2) + 7(x-2)^2$$

$$f(2) = 7(2)^2 - 6(2) + 1 = 17$$

$$f'(x) = 14x - 6$$

$$f'(2) = 14(2) - 6 = 22$$

$$f''(x) = 14$$

$$f''(2) = 14$$

Now you try...

1) Write the Taylor Polynomial of order 7 for  $f(x) = \sin(3x)$ .

$$\sin x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots$$

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

$$\sin 3x \approx 3x - \frac{(3x)^3}{3!} + \frac{(3x)^5}{5!} - \frac{(3x)^7}{7!}$$

$$\sin 3x \approx 3x - \frac{9}{2}x^3 + \frac{3^5}{5!}x^5 - \frac{3^7}{7!}x^7$$

2) Write the Taylor Series, centered at  $x = 0$ , for  $g(x) = x^6 e^{2x^3}$ .

$$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

$$e^{2x^3} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(2x^3)^n}{n!}$$

$$x^6 e^{2x^3} = x^6 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(2x^3)^n}{n!}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^6 \cdot 2^n \cdot x^{3n}}{n!}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^6 e^{2x^3} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^n x^{3n+6}}{n!}$$

3) Write the Taylor Series for  $h(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$ , centered at  $x = -1$ .

$$h(x) = h(-1) + h'(-1)(x+1) + \frac{h''(-1)}{2!}(x+1)^2 + \frac{h'''(-1)}{3!}(x+1)^3 + \dots$$

$$\dots + \frac{h^{(n)}(-1)}{n!}(x+1)^n + \dots$$

$$= 1 + 2!(x+1) + \frac{3!}{2!}(x+1)^2 + \frac{4!}{3!}(x+1)^3 + \dots + \frac{(n+1)!}{n!}(x+1)^n + \dots$$

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

$$\Rightarrow h(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1)(x+1)^n$$

$h(x) = x^{-2}$	$h(-1) = 1 \rightarrow 1!$
$h'(x) = -2x^{-3}$	$h'(-1) = 2 \rightarrow 2!$
$h''(x) = 6x^{-4}$	$h''(-1) = 6 \rightarrow 3!$
$h'''(x) = -24x^{-5}$	$h'''(-1) = 24 \rightarrow 4!$

4) Write the Taylor Polynomial for  $f(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 - 1$  about  $x = 3$ .

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

$$= -19 + -3(x-3) + \frac{8}{2!}(x-3)^2 + \frac{6}{3!}(x-3)^3$$

$$f(x) = -19 + -3(x-3) + 4(x-3)^2 + (x-3)^3$$

$f(3) = 3^3 - 5(3)^2 - 1 = -19$	
$f'(x) = 3x^2 - 10x$	$f'(3) = -3$
$f''(x) = 6x - 10$	$f''(3) = 8$
$f'''(x) = 6$	$f'''(3) = 6$