

DIFFERENTIAL CALCULUS - 2

2.1 Taylor's and Maclaurin's series expansion for a function of one variable

The infinite series expansion of a differentiable function $y = f(x)$ about the point, $x = a$ will be a series in powers of $(x - a)$ known as *Taylor's series expansion*. In particular if $a = 0$, the series will be in ascending power of x , known as *Maclaurin's series expansion*.

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

This is called *Taylor's series expansion* of $f(x)$ about the point ' a '.

In particular, if $a = 0$ we have,

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

This is called *Maclaurin's series expansion* of $f(x)$.

Note : For convenience we shall use the following alternative notation.

$y(x)$ for $f(x)$ and $y_1(x)$, $y_2(x)$, $y_3(x)$... respectively for $f'(x)$, $f''(x)$, $f'''(x)$, ... so that we have,

$$y(x) = y(a) + (x-a)y_1(a) + \frac{(x-a)^2}{2!}y_2(a) + \dots \quad [\text{Taylor's expansion}]$$

$$y(x) = y(0) + x y_1(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!} y_2(0) + \dots \quad [\text{Maclaurin's expansion}]$$

Note for solving problems (Expansion of functions)

We need to find successive derivatives of the given $y(x)$ and evaluate them at the given point $x = a$ for obtaining the Taylor's expansion and evaluate at $x = 0$ for obtaining the Maclaurin's expansion.

WORKED PROBLEMS

[1] Obtain the Taylor's expansion of $\log_e x$ about $x = 1$ upto the term containing fourth degree and hence obtain $\log_e (1.1)$. [June 2017, 18, Dec 17]

☞ We have Taylor's expansion about $x = a$ given by

$$y(x) = y(a) + (x-a)y_1(a) + \frac{(x-a)^2}{2!}y_2(a) + \dots$$

By data, $y(x) = \log_e x$; $a = 1$

$y(1) = \log_e 1 = 0$. Differentiating $y(x)$ successively we get,

$$y_1(x) = \frac{1}{x} \quad \therefore y_1(1) = 1 ; \quad y_2(x) = -\frac{1}{x^2} \quad \therefore y_2(1) = -1$$

$$y_3(x) = \frac{2}{x^3} \quad \therefore y_3(1) = 2 ; \quad y_4(x) = -\frac{6}{x^4} \quad \therefore y_4(1) = -6$$

Taylor's series upto fourth degree term with $a = 1$ is given by,

$$\begin{aligned} y(x) = y(1) + (x-1)y_1(1) + \frac{(x-1)^2}{2!}y_2(1) \\ + \frac{(x-1)^3}{3!}y_3(1) + \frac{(x-1)^4}{4!}y_4(1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{ie., } \log_e x = 0 + (x-1)1 + \frac{(x-1)^2}{2}(-1) + \frac{(x-1)^3}{6}(2) + \frac{(x-1)^4}{24}(-6)$$

$$\text{Thus, } \boxed{\log_e x = (x-1) - \frac{(x-1)^2}{2} + \frac{(x-1)^3}{3} - \frac{(x-1)^4}{4}}$$

We shall now substitute $x = 1.1$ to obtain $\log (1.1)$

$$\text{Also } \log_e (1.1) = (0.1) - \frac{(0.1)^2}{2} + \frac{(0.1)^3}{3} - \frac{(0.1)^4}{4} = 0.0953$$

$$\text{Thus, } \boxed{\log_e (1.1) = 0.0953}$$

[3] Obtain Taylor's series expansion of $\log(\cos x)$ about the point $x = \pi/3$ up to the fourth degree term.

Taylor's expansion of $y(x)$ about $x = \pi/3$ is given by

$$y(x) = y(\pi/3) + (x - \pi/3)y_1(\pi/3) + \frac{(x - \pi/3)^2}{2!}y_2(\pi/3)$$

$$+ \frac{(x - \pi/3)^3}{3!}y_3(\pi/3) + \frac{(x - \pi/3)^4}{4!}y_4(\pi/3) + \dots$$

Let, $y(x) = \log(\cos x) \quad \therefore y(\pi/3) = \log(1/2) = -\log 2$

$$y_1 = \frac{1}{\cos x} \cdot -\sin x$$

$$\text{ie., } y_1 = -\tan x \quad \therefore y_1(\pi/3) = -\tan(\pi/3) = -\sqrt{3}$$

$$y_2 = -\sec^2 x = -(1 + \tan^2 x)$$

$$\text{ie., } y_2 = -(1 + y_1^2) \quad \therefore y_2(\pi/3) = -[1 + (\sqrt{3})^2] = -4$$

$$y_3 = -2y_1 y_2 \quad \therefore y_3(\pi/3) = -2 \cdot -\sqrt{3} \cdot -4 = -8\sqrt{3}$$

$$y_4 = -2[y_1 y_3 + y_2^2] \quad \therefore y_4(\pi/3) = -2[-\sqrt{3} \cdot -8\sqrt{3} + 16] = -80$$

Substituting these values in (1) we have,

$$\begin{aligned} \log(\cos x) = & -\log 2 - (x - \pi/3)\sqrt{3} - \frac{(x - \pi/3)^2}{2} \cdot 4 \\ & - \frac{(x - \pi/3)^3}{6} \cdot 8\sqrt{3} - \frac{(x - \pi/3)^4}{24} \cdot 80 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Thus,
$$\log(\cos x) = -\log 2 - \sqrt{3}(x - \pi/3) - 2(x - \pi/3)^2 - \frac{4}{\sqrt{3}}(x - \pi/3)^3 - \frac{10}{3}(x - \pi/3)^4$$

Note : Similar problem

Expand $\sin x$ in power of $\left(x - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$ upto fourth degree terms. [Dec 2015, June 16]

☞ We need to evaluate $y(x) = \sin x$ and its successive derivatives at $x = \pi/2$.

They are, $y(\pi/2) = 1$, $y_1(\pi/2) = 0$, $y_2(\pi/2) = -1$, $y_3(\pi/2) = 0$, $y_4(\pi/2) = 1$

Thus,
$$y(x) = \sin x = 1 - \frac{\left(x - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)^2}{2!} + \frac{\left(x - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)^4}{4!} + \dots$$

[5] Expand $e^{\sin x}$ as Maclaurin's series upto the terms containing x^4 . [Dec 2017]

☞ We have Maclaurin's expansion,

$$y(x) = y(0) + xy_1(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!}y_2(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!}y_3(0) + \frac{x^4}{4!}y_4(0) + \dots$$

Let, $y = e^{\sin x}$

$$\therefore y(0) = e^0 = 1$$

$$y_1 = e^{\sin x} \cos x \text{ or } y_1 = y \cos x$$

$$\therefore y_1(0) = y(0) \cdot \cos 0 = 1$$

$$y_2 = -y \sin x + \cos x \cdot y_1$$

$$\therefore y_2(0) = 0 + 1 = 1$$

$$y_3 = -(y \cos x + y_1 \sin x) + (\cos x y_2 - y_1 \sin x)$$

$$= -y_1 - 2y_1 \sin x + \cos x \cdot y_2$$

$$\therefore y_3(0) = -1 - 0 + 1 = 0$$

$$y_4 = -y_2 - 2(y_1 \cos x + \sin x y_2) + (\cos x y_3 - \sin x y_2)$$

$$= -y_2 - 2y_1 \cos x - 3 \sin x y_2 + \cos x \cdot y_3$$

$$y_4(0) = -1 - 2 - 0 + 0 = -3$$

$$\therefore y_4(0) = -3$$

Thus by substituting these values in the expansion of $y(x)$ we get,

$$e^{\sin x} = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^4}{8}$$

[7] Expand $\log(\sec x)$ upto the term containing x^6 using Maclaurin's series
or [Dec 20]

Expand $\log(\sec x)$ in ascending powers of x upto the first three non vanishing terms.

$$y(x) = y(0) + xy_1(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!}y_2(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!}y_3(0) + \frac{x^4}{4!}y_4(0) + \dots$$

$$y = \log(\sec x)$$

$$\therefore y(0) = \log 1 = 0$$

$$y_1 = \frac{\sec x \tan x}{\sec x}$$

$$\text{or } y_1 = \tan x$$

$$\therefore y_1(0) = 0$$

$$y_2 = \sec^2 x$$

$$\therefore y_2(0) = 1$$

$$\text{Now, } y_2 = 1 + \tan^2 x = 1 + y_1^2$$

Differentiating w.r.t. x successively we have,

$$y_3 = 2y_1 y_2$$

$$\therefore y_3(0) = 0$$

$$y_4 = 2(y_1 y_3 + y_2^2)$$

$$\therefore y_4(0) = 2$$

$$y_5 = 2(y_1 y_4 + y_2 y_3 + 2y_2 y_3) = 2y_1 y_4 + 6y_2 y_3$$

$$\therefore y_5(0) = 0$$

$$y_6 = 2(y_1 y_5 + y_2 y_4) + 6(y_2 y_4 + y_3^2)$$

$$\text{ie., } y_6 = 2y_1 y_5 + 8y_2 y_4 + 6y_3^2$$

$$\therefore y_6(0) = 16$$

Substituting these values in the expansion of $y(x)$ we get,

$$\log(\sec x) = \frac{x^2}{2} * 1 + \frac{x^4}{24} * 2 + \frac{x^6}{720} * 16 = \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^4}{12} + \frac{x^6}{45}$$

[11] Expand, $\tan(\pi/4 + x)$ upto the fourth degree terms.

$$\hookrightarrow y(x) = y(0) + xy_1(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!}y_2(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!}y_3(0) + \frac{x^4}{4!}y_4(0) \dots$$

$$\text{Let, } y = \tan(\pi/4 + x) \quad \therefore y(0) = \tan(\pi/4) = 1$$

$$y_1 = \sec^2(\pi/4 + x) = 1 + y^2 \quad \therefore y_1(0) = 2$$

$$y_2 = 2yy_1 \quad \therefore y_2(0) = 4$$

$$y_3 = 2(yy_2 + y_1^2) \quad \therefore y_3(0) = 2(4 + 4) = 16$$

$$y_4 = 2(yy_3 + 3y_1y_2) \quad \therefore y_4(0) = 2(16 + 24) = 80$$

Substituting these values in the expansion of $y(x)$ we have,

$$\tan(\pi/4 + x) = 1 + x \cdot 2 + \frac{x^2}{2} \cdot 4 + \frac{x^3}{6} \cdot 16 + \frac{x^4}{24} \cdot 80$$

$$\text{Thus, } \boxed{\tan(\pi/4 + x) = 1 + 2x + 2x^2 + \frac{8}{3}x^3 + \frac{10}{3}x^4}$$

[13] Obtain the Maclaurin's expansion of $\log (1 + e^x)$ as far as the fourth degree terms. [June 2016]

$$y(x) = y(0) + xy_1(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!} y_2(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!} y_3(0) + \frac{x^4}{4!} y_4(0) + \dots$$

Let, $y = \log (1 + e^x)$

$$\therefore y(0) = \log_e 2$$

$$y_1 = \frac{e^x}{1 + e^x}$$

$$\therefore y_1(0) = \frac{1}{2}$$

ie., $(1 + e^x) y_1 = e^x$... (1)

Differentiating w.r.t x we get,

$$(1 + e^x) y_2 + e^x y_1 = e^x$$

At $x = 0$, $2y_2(0) + 1/2 = 1$... (2)

$$\therefore y_2(0) = 1/4$$

Differentiating (2) w.r.t x we get,

$$(1 + e^x) y_3 + 2e^x y_2 + e^x y_1 = e^x$$

At $x = 0$, $2y_3(0) + 1/2 + 1/2 = 1$... (3)

$$\therefore y_3(0) = 0$$

Differentiating (3) w.r.t x we get,

$$(1 + e^x) y_4 + 3e^x y_3 + 3e^x y_2 + e^x y_1 = e^x$$

$$\dots (4)$$

At $x = 0$, $2y_4(0) + 3/4 + 1/2 = 1 \quad \therefore y_4(0) = -1/8$

Thus by substituting these values in the expansion of $y(x)$ we get,

$$\log(1+e^x) = \log_e 2 + \frac{x}{2} + \frac{x^2}{8} - \frac{x^4}{192}$$

Note : Similar problem

Expand $\frac{e^x}{1+e^x}$ using Maclaurin's series upto and including third degree terms.

[Dec 2016]

☞ The given $y = \frac{e^x}{1+e^x}$ is same as y_1 of the earlier problem. $y(0) = 1/2$ and proceeding on the same lines the other values will be

$$y_1(0) = 1/4, y_2(0) = 0, y_3(0) = -1/8$$

Thus the required expansion is given by

$$\frac{e^x}{1+e^x} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{x}{4} - \frac{x^3}{48}$$

[14] Expand $\log(1+\cos x)$ by Maclaurin's series upto the term containing x^4 .

[June 2018]

☞ Maclaurin's series is given by

$$y(x) = y(0) + xy_1(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!}y_2(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!}y_3(0) + \frac{x^4}{4!}y_4(0) + \dots$$

Consider, $y(x) = \log(1+\cos x)$; $y(0) = \log_e 2$

We prefer to simplify the given functions

$$y = \log(1+\cos x) = \log[2\cos^2(x/2)]$$

$$\text{ie., } y = \log 2 + 2\log \cos(x/2)$$

$$\therefore y(0) = \log_e 2$$

$$\text{Now, } y_1 = -\tan(x/2)$$

$$\therefore y_1(0) = 0$$

$$y_2 = -(1/2)\sec^2(x/2)$$

$$\therefore y_2(0) = -1/2$$

$$\text{Also, } y_2 = -\frac{1}{2}[1+\tan^2(x/2)] = -\frac{1}{2}(1+y_1^2)$$

$$\therefore y_3 = -\frac{1}{2}(2y_1y_2) = -y_1y_2$$

$$\therefore y_3(0) = 0$$

$$y_4 = -y_1y_3 - y_2^2$$

$$\therefore y_4(0) = -1/4$$

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Thus by substituting these values in the expansion of $y(x)$ we get,

$$\log_e(1 + \cos x) = \log_e 2 - \frac{x^2}{4} - \frac{x^4}{96}$$

[15] Obtain the Maclaurin's expansion of a^x .

$$y(x) = y(0) + xy_1(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!} y_2(0) + \dots$$

$$\text{Let, } y = a^x$$

$$\therefore y(0) = 1$$

$$y_1 = a^x \log a = y \log a$$

$$\therefore y_1(0) = \log a$$

$$y_2 = y_1 \log a$$

$$\therefore y_2(0) = (\log a)^2$$

$$y_3 = y_2 \log a$$

$$\therefore y_3(0) = (\log a)^3 \text{ and so on.}$$

Thus by substituting these values in the expansion of $y(x)$ we get,

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

Note : Maclaurin's expansions of the functions $\sin x$, $\cos x$, $\sinh x$, $\cosh x$, e^x can be found easily and it is advisable to remember them. They are as follows.

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

$$(ii) \cos x = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots$$

$$(iii) \sinh x = x + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} + \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots$$

$$(iv) \cosh x = 1 + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \frac{x^6}{6!} + \dots$$

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