

## TAYLOR POLYNOMIALS AND TAYLOR SERIES (CONTD.)

## MAIN CONCEPTS

- Recall that for an infinitely differentiable function  $f$ , we can define its Taylor series centred at a point  $x = a$ ,  $T_f(x)$ .
- For each  $x$ , the Taylor series is an infinite series of real numbers and it may or may not converge.
- Consider a Taylor series of the form

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k \cdot (x - a)^k$$

and denote the limit of the ratio:

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|c_{k+1}|}{|c_k|} = L.$$

- If  $L = 0$ : The series converges on the whole real line  $(-\infty, \infty)$ .
- If  $L = \infty$ : The series converges only at the point  $x = a$ .
- If  $0 < L < \infty$ : The Taylor series converges absolutely for all  $x$  in the interval  $(a - \frac{1}{L}, a + \frac{1}{L})$ .
- The interval  $(a - \frac{1}{L}, a + \frac{1}{L})$  is called the **interval of convergence** and  $\frac{1}{L}$  is called the **radius of convergence**.
- The Taylor polynomial of a function  $f$  centred at  $a$  approximates  $f$  at points close to  $a$ . The **Lagrange error bounds** tell us how good this approximation is at some point  $c$  that is close to  $a$ :

Suppose  $f$  is continuous and has  $n + 1$  continuous derivatives. Suppose also that  $|f^{(n+1)}(x)| \leq M$  on the interval  $[a, c]$ . If  $P_n(x)$  is the  $n^{\text{th}}$  degree Taylor polynomial of  $f$  centred at  $a$ , then

$$|P_n(c) - f(c)| \leq M \frac{|c - a|^{n+1}}{(n + 1)!}.$$

## ACTIVITIES

### ACTIVITY 8.5.5

(a) Use the Ratio test to explicitly determine the interval of convergence of the Taylor series for  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1-x}$  centered at  $x = 0$ .

(b) Use the Ratio test to explicitly determine the interval of convergence of the Taylor series for  $f(x) = \cos(x)$  centered at  $x = 0$ .

(c) Use the Ratio test to explicitly determine the interval of convergence of the Taylor series for  $f(x) = \sin(x)$  centered at  $x = 0$ .

### ACTIVITY 8.5.6

Let  $P_n(x)$  be the  $n$ -th order Taylor polynomial for  $\sin(x)$  centered at  $x = 0$ . Determine how large we need to choose  $n$  such that  $P_n(2)$  approximates  $\sin(2)$  to 20 decimal places.

ACTIVITY 8.5.7

(a) Show that the Taylor series centered at 0 for  $\cos(x)$  converges to  $\cos(x)$  for every real number  $x$ .

(b) Next we consider the Taylor series for  $e^x$ .

(i) Show that the Taylor series centered at 0 for  $e^x$  converges to  $e^x$  for every nonnegative value of  $x$ .

(ii) Show that the Taylor series centered at 0 for  $e^x$  converges to  $e^x$  for every nonnegative value of  $x$ .

(iii) Explain why the Taylor series centered at 0 for  $e^x$  converges to  $e^x$  for every real number  $x$ . Recall that we earlier showed that the Taylor series centered at 0 for  $e^x$  converges for all  $x$ , and we have now completed the argument that the Taylor series for  $e^x$  actually converges to  $e^x$  for all  $x$ .

(c) Let  $P_n(x)$  be the  $n$ -th order Taylor polynomial for  $e^x$  centered at 0. Find a value of  $n$  such that  $P_n(5)$  approximates  $e^5$  correct to 8 decimal places.