

## MATH 155 - Chapter 9.8 - Power Series:

Dr. Nakamura

1. **Definition: (Power Series)** If  $x$  is a variable, then an infinite series of the form

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n \\ &= a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x^3 + \cdots + a_n x^n + \cdots \end{aligned}$$

is called a **power series**. More generally, an infinite series of the form

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x - c)^n \\ &= a_0 + a_1 (x - c) + a_2 (x - c)^2 + a_3 (x - c)^3 + \cdots + a_n (x - c)^n + \cdots \end{aligned}$$

is called a **power series centered at  $c$** , where  $c = \text{constant}$ .

**NOTE:** To simplify the notation for power series, we need to agree that  $(x - c)^0 = 1$ , even if  $x = c$ . (ie.  $0^0 = 1$ )

2. **Definition: (Domain of a Series)** Let  $f(x)$  be a power series centered at  $c$ . Then we say that the **domain of  $f(x)$** ,

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x - c)^n,$$

is set of all  $x$  for which the power series converges. The set of all  $x$  values for which the power series converge is called the **interval of convergence**.

3. **Theorem (Convergence of a Power Series):**

Let  $R > 0$  be a real number. The convergence set for a power series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x - c)^n$  is always an interval of one of the following three types:

1. A single point  $x = c$ . In this case, the Radius of Convergence is  $R=0$ .
2. An interval  $(c - R, c + R)$  (ie.  $|x - c| < R$ ), plus possible one or both endpoints. In this case, the Radius of Convergence is  $R$  itself.
3. The whole real line. In this case, the Radius of Convergence is  $R = \infty$ .

Furthermore, a power series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(x-c)^n$  converges absolutely on the interior of its interval of convergence, and outside of the given interval, the power series diverges.

#### 4. Theorem (Properties of Functions Defined by Power Series):

Suppose that  $f(x)$  is the sum of a power series on an interval  $(c-R, c+R)$ . That is

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(x-c)^n = a_0 + a_1(x-c) + a_2(x-c)^2 + a_3(x-c)^3 + \cdots + a_n(x-c)^n + \cdots$$

Then  $f(x)$  is differentiable (hence continuous) on the interval  $(c-R, c+R)$  and

1.

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{d}{dx} [a_n(x-c)^n] \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n a_n (x-c)^{n-1} \\ &= a_1 + 2a_2(x-c) + 3a_3(x-c)^2 + \cdots \end{aligned}$$

2.

$$\begin{aligned} \int f(x) dx &= \int \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(x-c)^n dx \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \int (x-c)^n dx \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_n(x-c)^{n+1}}{n+1} + C \\ &= C + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \frac{(x-c)^{n+1}}{n+1} \\ &= C + a_0(x-c) + a_1 \frac{(x-c)^2}{2} + a_2 \frac{(x-c)^3}{3} + \cdots \end{aligned}$$

The radius of convergence of the  $f'(x)$  and  $\int f(x)dx$  is the same as that of the original power series. However, **the interval of convergence may be different at the end points.**