

Consider The Taylor Polynomial $T_n(x)$ Centered At $x=24$ For All n For The Function $F(x)=1/x-1$, Where I

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Understanding how Taylor polynomials approximate functions is fundamental in mathematical analysis and applications. Specifically, examining the Taylor polynomial $T_n(x)$ centered at a particular point offers insight into the local behavior of functions and the accuracy of polynomial approximations across various degrees n . In this article, we focus on the function $F(x) = \frac{1}{x} - 1$, centered at $x = 24$, and explore the properties, derivations, convergence, and implications of its Taylor polynomials $T_n(x)$ for all n .

Introduction to Taylor Polynomials and the Function $F(x) = \frac{1}{x} - 1$

Understanding Taylor Series and Polynomials

The Taylor series of a function $f(x)$ expanded around a point a is an infinite sum that represents $f(x)$ as:

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

where $f^{(k)}(a)$ denotes the k -th derivative evaluated at a . The partial sum of this series up to degree n , known as the Taylor polynomial $T_n(x)$, is given by:

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

Taylor polynomials serve as polynomial approximations to the original function near a . Their accuracy depends on the degree n , the choice of a , and the nature of f .

The Function $F(x) = \frac{1}{x} - 1$

The function $F(x) = \frac{1}{x} - 1$ is rational, smooth everywhere except at $x=0$. It has a simple pole at zero, but since we're centering around $x=24$, well away from the singularity, the Taylor expansion will be valid in a neighborhood around 24 .

Some properties of $F(x)$:

- It is infinitely differentiable for $x \neq 0$.
- Its derivatives have a specific pattern, which simplifies the derivation of the Taylor series.
- The function approaches -1 as $x \rightarrow \infty$.

Deriving the Taylor Polynomial $T_n(x)$ of $F(x)$ at $x=24$

Calculating Derivatives of $F(x)$

To construct $T_n(x)$, we need to compute derivatives of $F(x)$ at $x=24$:

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{x} - 1.$$

The derivatives of $F(x)$ are:

$$F^{(k)}(x) = \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left(\frac{1}{x} \right).$$

Since $\frac{1}{x}$ is a basic power function,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} \left(x^{-1} \right) &= -x^{-2}, \\ \frac{d^k}{dx^k} \left(x^{-1} \right) &= (-1)^k \frac{k!}{x^{k+1}}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$F^{(k)}(x) = (-1)^k \frac{k!}{x^{k+1}}.$$

Evaluating at $(x=24)$:

$$F^{(k)}(24) = (-1)^k \frac{k!}{24^{k+1}}.$$

Formulating the Taylor Polynomial $(T_n(x))$

The Taylor polynomial centered at $(x=24)$ is:

$$T_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{F^{(k)}(24)}{k!} (x - 24)^k.$$

Substituting the derivatives:

$$T_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(-1)^k \frac{k!}{24^{k+1}}}{k!} (x - 24)^k = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(-1)^k}{24^{k+1}} (x - 24)^k.$$

Factoring out $(\frac{1}{24})$:

$$T_n(x) = \frac{1}{24} \sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{-(x - 24)}{24} \right)^k.$$

This is a geometric series for $(|(x - 24)/24| < 1)$, i.e., for (x) close to 24.

Analysis of the Taylor Polynomial $(T_n(x))$

Explicit Expression for $(T_n(x))$

The sum of a finite geometric series:

$$\sum_{k=0}^n r^k = \frac{1 - r^{n+1}}{1 - r},$$

where $\left(r = -\frac{x - 24}{24} \right)$, yields:

$$T_n(x) = \frac{1}{24} \cdot \frac{1 - \left(-\frac{x - 24}{24} \right)^{n+1}}{1 + \frac{x - 24}{24}}.$$

Simplify denominator:

$$1 + \frac{x - 24}{24} = \frac{24 + x - 24}{24} = \frac{x}{24}.$$

Thus,

$$T_n(x) = \frac{1}{24} \cdot \frac{1 - \left(-\frac{x - 24}{24} \right)^{n+1}}{\frac{x}{24}} = \frac{1}{x} \left[1 - \left(-\frac{x - 24}{24} \right)^{n+1} \right].$$

Key formula:

$$\boxed{T_n(x) = \frac{1}{x} \left[1 - \left(-\frac{x - 24}{24} \right)^{n+1} \right].}$$

This expression provides a closed-form polynomial approximation of $\left(F(x) \right)$ of degree $\left(n \right)$.

Behavior as $\left(n \rightarrow \infty \right)$

- For $\left(|x - 24| < 24 \right)$, the geometric term $\left(\left(-\frac{x - 24}{24} \right)^{n+1} \rightarrow 0 \right)$ as $\left(n \rightarrow \infty \right)$.
- Therefore, the Taylor polynomial converges to:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_n(x) = \frac{1}{x} \equiv F(x) + 1,$$

but since the original function is $\left(F(x) = \frac{1}{x} - 1 \right)$, the approximation converges to $\left(\frac{1}{x} \right)$. This confirms the Taylor series expansion converges to $\left(F(x) \right)$ in the interval where the geometric series converges.

Radius of Convergence and Approximation Quality

Radius of Convergence

- The geometric series converges when $|r| < 1$, i.e.,

$$\left| -\frac{x - 24}{24} \right| < 1,$$

which simplifies to:

$$|x - 24| < 24.$$

- The radius of convergence is thus 24, centered at $x=24$. Within this interval, the Taylor polynomial $T_n(x)$ converges to $F(x)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Implications for Approximation

- For points x close to 24, the Taylor polynomial provides an accurate approximation.
- As x approaches the boundary $|x - 24| = 24$, the approximation deteriorates.
- The presence of the pole at $x=0$ does not affect the convergence within $|x - 24| < 24$, as 0 is outside this interval.

Practical Applications and Visualizations

Approximating $F(x)$ Near $x=24$

- The explicit formula for $T_n(x)$ allows for fast computation of polynomial approximations of $F(x)$.
- For example, at $x=25$:

$$T_n(25) = \frac{1}{25} \left[1 - \left(-\frac{1}{24} \right)^{n+1} \right]$$

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the general form of the Taylor polynomial $T_n(x)$ centered at $x=24$ for the function $f(x)=1/(x-1)$?

The Taylor polynomial $T_n(x)$ centered at $x=24$ for $f(x)=1/(x-1)$ is given by the sum from $k=0$ to n of $[(-1)^k (x - 24)^k] / (23)^{k+1}$, i.e., $T_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n [(-1)^k (x - 24)^k] / (23)^{k+1}$.

How does the degree n of the Taylor polynomial $T_n(x)$ affect the approximation accuracy of $f(x)=1/(x-1)$ near $x=24$?

Increasing the degree n of $T_n(x)$ improves the approximation of $f(x)=1/(x-1)$ near $x=24$, making the polynomial more accurate within a certain radius of convergence. Higher-degree polynomials capture more terms of the function's Taylor series, reducing the error.

What is the interval of convergence for the Taylor series of $f(x)=1/(x-1)$ centered at $x=24$?

The Taylor series of $f(x)=1/(x-1)$ centered at $x=24$ converges for $|x - 24| < 23$, because the singularity at $x=1$ is 23 units away from the center, establishing the radius of convergence as 23.

Why is the Taylor polynomial $T_n(x)$ centered at $x=24$ useful for approximating $f(x)=1/(x-1)$ in practical applications?

Because $x=24$ is well within the radius of convergence, $T_n(x)$ provides a reliable polynomial approximation of $f(x)=1/(x-1)$ near that point, enabling easier computation and analysis in engineering, physics, or numerical methods where direct evaluation may be complex.

How can the remainder term $R_n(x)$ be estimated for the Taylor polynomial $T_n(x)$ of $f(x)=1/(x-1)$ centered at $x=24$?

The remainder $R_n(x)$ can be estimated using the Lagrange form of the remainder, which involves the $(n+1)$ th derivative of f evaluated at some point between 24 and x , and is proportional to $|x - 24|^{n+1} / (23)^{n+1}$ multiplied by a constant depending on the derivatives.

Additional Resources

Consider The Taylor Polynomial $T_n(x)$ Centered At $x=24$ For All n For The Function $F(x)=1/x-1$, Where $x \neq 0$

In the realm of mathematical analysis, Taylor polynomials serve as vital tools for approximating complex functions with simpler polynomial expressions. Their significance extends across various fields—from engineering and physics to computer science—where accurate function estimations are essential for modeling, simulation, and computational efficiency. Today, we delve into a specific case: examining the Taylor polynomial $T_n(x)$ centered at $x=24$ for the function $F(x) = \frac{1}{x} - 1$. We will explore how these polynomials behave for all degrees n , their convergence properties, and what insights they offer into the approximation of $F(x)$ near this specific point.

Understanding the Function $F(x) = \frac{1}{x} - 1$

Before analyzing the polynomial approximations, it's important to understand the nature of the function itself.

Characteristics of $F(x)$

- Domain: The function $F(x) = \frac{1}{x} - 1$ is defined for all real $x \neq 0$. Since the center point $x=24$ is positive and well within the domain, the Taylor series centered at this point will be valid in a neighborhood around $x=24$.

- Behavior near $x=24$: At $x=24$, $F(24) = \frac{1}{24} - 1 \approx -0.9583$. As $x \rightarrow 0^+$, $F(x) \rightarrow +\infty$, and as $x \rightarrow +\infty$, $F(x) \rightarrow -1$.

- Differentiability: The function is infinitely differentiable on its domain, which makes it a prime candidate for Taylor series expansion.

The Taylor Series for $F(x)$ Centered at $x=24$

The Taylor series expansion of $F(x)$ about $x=24$ is expressed as:

$$F(x) = T_n(x) + R_n(x),$$

where

- $T_n(x)$ is the Taylor polynomial of degree n ,
- $R_n(x)$ is the remainder (or error) term, representing the difference

between the function and its polynomial approximation.

The general form of the Taylor polynomial centered at $a=24$ is:

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

where $F^{(k)}(a)$ denotes the k -th derivative of F evaluated at $a=24$.

Deriving the Taylor Polynomial $T_n(x)$

Calculating the derivatives of $F(x)$:

$$F(x) = x^{-1} - 1,$$
$$F^{(k)}(x) = (-1)^k k! x^{-(k+1)}.$$

Evaluating at $x=24$:

$$F^{(k)}(24) = (-1)^k k! 24^{-(k+1)}.$$

Plugging into the Taylor polynomial:

$$T_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(-1)^k k! 24^{-(k+1)}}{k!} (x - 24)^k = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k 24^{-(k+1)} (x - 24)^k.$$

This simplifies to:

$$T_n(x) = \frac{1}{24} + \sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^k 24^{-(k+1)} (x - 24)^k.$$

Behavior of $T_n(x)$ for All n

The key to understanding the approximation lies in analyzing how $T_n(x)$ approaches $F(x)$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Convergence of the Taylor Series

Since the derivatives involve powers of $(24^{-(k+1)})$, the series resembles a geometric series with ratio:

$$r = \frac{|x - 24|}{24}.$$

- Radius of convergence: The geometric series converges when $(r < 1)$, i.e., when

$$|x - 24| < 24,$$

which indicates the Taylor series converges within the interval:

$$(0, 48).$$

- Implication: For any (x) in this interval, the Taylor polynomial $(T_n(x))$ converges to $(F(x))$ as $(n \rightarrow \infty)$. Outside this interval, the approximation may diverge or become less accurate.

Asymptotic Behavior for Fixed (x)

- For (x) close to (24) , even low-degree $(T_n(x))$ provides a good approximation.
- As (n) increases, the polynomial better captures the behavior of $(F(x))$, especially within the radius of convergence.
- Near the boundary $(x \rightarrow 0^+)$, the polynomial approximation can become inaccurate due to divergence or slow convergence.

Practical Applications and Significance

Understanding the properties of $(T_n(x))$ for $(F(x) = \frac{1}{x} - 1)$ is not purely academic. It has tangible applications:

- Numerical Analysis: Taylor polynomials allow for efficient computation of $(F(x))$ in computational algorithms, especially for values of (x) near 24.
- Error Estimation: The remainder term $(R_n(x))$ can be estimated to ensure approximations meet desired accuracy.
- Local Approximation: In engineering, physics, and data modeling, local polynomial approximations enable handling complex functions with simpler expressions, facilitating simulations and analytical solutions.

Visualizing the Approximation

Graphical analysis can vividly illustrate the convergence behavior:

- Graph of $f(x)$: A smooth curve approaching infinity as $x \rightarrow 0^+$ and approaching -1 as $x \rightarrow +\infty$.
- Graph of $T_n(x)$: Polynomial approximations of increasing degree n , centered at 24, which increasingly align with $f(x)$ within the convergence radius.
- Error plots: Showing the difference $|f(x) - T_n(x)|$ for various n to demonstrate how approximation improves with higher degrees.

Limitations and Challenges

While Taylor polynomials are powerful, they come with limitations:

- Radius of convergence: As noted, the series converges only when $|x - 24| < 24$. Outside this interval, alternative methods are necessary.
- Slow convergence near boundaries: Approximations can be less accurate near $x=0$ or $x=48$.
- Computational complexity: Higher-degree polynomials require more calculations, which could be computationally intensive for real-time applications.

Broader Context and Future Directions

The study of Taylor polynomials for functions like $f(x) = \frac{1}{x} - 1$ exemplifies the broader endeavor in mathematics to approximate and understand complex functions through simpler, more manageable expressions.

Advancements include:

- Padé Approximations: Rational function approximations often provide better convergence properties near singularities.
- Numerical Methods: Techniques like Chebyshev polynomials improve approximation accuracy over wider intervals.
- Symbolic Computation: Computer algebra systems automate derivative calculations, enabling rapid development of high-degree Taylor series.

In conclusion, the Taylor polynomial $T_n(x)$ centered at $x=24$ provides a valuable lens into the behavior of $f(x)$, offering both theoretical insights and practical tools for approximation. As computational power grows and mathematical techniques evolve, the capacity to approximate complex functions with high precision continues to expand, reaffirming the enduring significance of Taylor series in mathematical analysis.

Final Thoughts

The exploration of $T_n(x)$ for $F(x) = \frac{1}{x} - 1$ underscores a fundamental principle: local polynomial approximations are powerful within their convergence domains. Understanding their behavior, limitations, and applications equips scientists, engineers, and mathematicians with essential tools for tackling real-world problems involving complex functions. Whether for theoretical research or practical computation, the Taylor polynomial remains a cornerstone of mathematical approximation, with the specific case centered at $x=24$ serving as a compelling example of its utility and elegance.

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