

# Ch5 Power series solutions

So far mainly equations w/ constant coefficients

$$ay'' + by' + cy = g(t)$$

$$y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0$$

$$R(x) \frac{dy^2}{dx^2} + P(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + Q(x)y = 0$$

Example:  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - xy = 0$  Airy's Diff. Eqn.

Study second order linear non constant coeff.

Basic Idea: look for solutions of the form

$$y = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots$$

ending index

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x - x_0)^n$$

Annotations:   
 -  $\infty$  is labeled "ending index"   
 -  $a_n$  is labeled "coefficients"   
 -  $x_0$  is labeled "center of series"   
 -  $n=0$  is labeled "starting index"

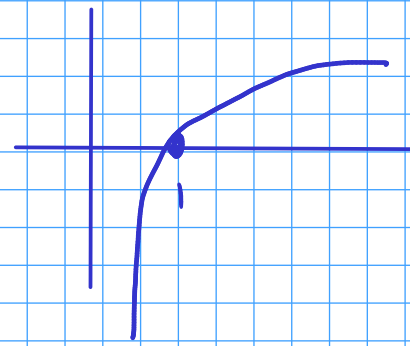
n = index of summation

Ex  $e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!} = 1 + \frac{x}{1} + \frac{x^2}{1 \cdot 2} + \frac{x^3}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3} + \frac{x^4}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4} + \dots$

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

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

$$\ln x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{(x-1)^n}{n}$$



formula valid for  
 $0 < x \leq 2$

Convergence  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-x_0)^n$  converges at  $x$

if  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=0}^N a_n (x-x_0)^n$  exists.

Absolute convergence:  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-x_0)^n$  converges absolutely

if  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |a_n| |x-x_0|^n$  converges

Use ratio test:  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n$

look at  $L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|b_{n+1}|}{|b_n|}$

if  $L < 1$  then series converges absolutely

if  $L > 1$  then series diverges

if  $L = 1$  inconclusive

Apply to  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-x_0)^n$

$$L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|a_{n+1}| |x-x_0|^{n+1}}{|a_n| |x-x_0|^n} = \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|a_{n+1}|}{|a_n|} \right) |x-x_0|$$

To get convergence, need  $L < 1$

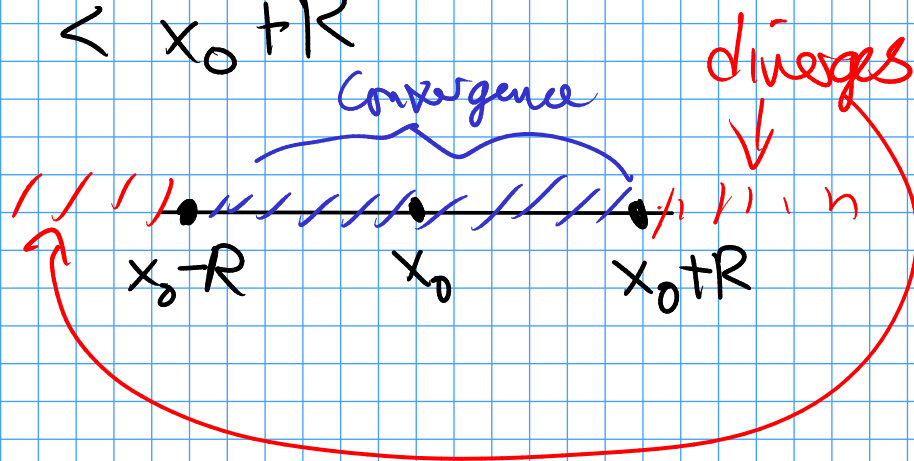
$$\left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|a_{n+1}|}{|a_n|} \right) |x-x_0| < 1 \quad \rightarrow \text{solve for } x$$

$$|x-x_0| < \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|a_{n+1}|}{|a_n|} \right)^{-1} =: R = \text{Radius of convergence}$$

$$-R < x-x_0 < R$$

$$x_0 - R < x < x_0 + R$$

graph this set:



Example:  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2^n x^n$  center =  $x_0 = 0$

$$L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^{n+1} |x|^{n+1}}{2^n |x|^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2|x| = 2|x|$$

$L < 1$  if and only if  $2|x| < 1$

$|x| < \frac{1}{2} = R = \text{radius of convergence}$

$$-\frac{1}{2} < x < \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\ln x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{(x-1)^n}{n} \quad \text{center} = x_0 = 1$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{|x-1|^{n+1}}{n+1}}{\frac{|x-1|^n}{n}} = \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{n+1} \right) |x-1| = |x-1|$$

converges when  $|x-1| < 1$

$$-1 < x-1 < 1$$

$$0 < x < 2$$

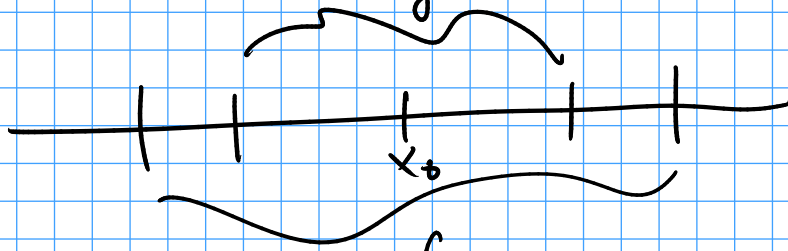
$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n! x^n \quad \text{radius of convergence} = 0$$

Within the Interval of convergence, power series work like polynomials

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-x_0)^n \quad g(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n (x-x_0)^n$$

suppose both converge on intervals containing

$$|x-x_0| < \rho_g$$



$$f(x) + g(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a_n + b_n) (x-x_0)^n$$

valid where both  $f$  and  $g$  converge

multiply (infinite FOIL)

$$\begin{aligned} f(x)g(x) &= \left[ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-x_0)^n \right] \left[ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n (x-x_0)^n \right] \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n (x-x_0)^n \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} C_n &= a_0 b_n + a_1 b_{n-1} + a_2 b_{n-2} + \dots + a_n b_0 \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n a_k b_{n-k} \end{aligned}$$

Can divide power series, but interval of convergence may be smaller.

Differentiation:  $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-x_0)^n$

$$f'(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cdot n \cdot (x-x_0)^{n-1}$$

$$f''(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cdot n \cdot (n-1) (x-x_0)^{n-2}$$

Take  
Derivative  
term by term  
(valid within  
interval  
of convergence)

Taylor coefficients:  $a_n = \frac{f^{(n)}(x_0)}{n!}$

Uniqueness if  $f=g$  then  $a_n = b_n$  for all  $n$

if  $f=0$  then  $a_n = 0$  for all  $n$

Shift of index of summation

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^n x^n}{n!} = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^j x^j}{j!}$$

index of summation  
is a dummy  
variable.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^n x^n}{n!} \xrightarrow{\substack{k=n+1 \\ n=k-1}} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{2^{k-1} x^{k-1}}{(k-1)!}$$

Use this trick  $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-x_0)^n$

$$f'(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n a_n (x-x_0)^{n-1} = \sum_{\substack{k=n-1 \\ n=k+1}}^{\infty} (k+1) a_{k+1} (x-x_0)^k$$

$$= \sum_{n=-1}^{\infty} (n+1) a_{n+1} (x-x_0)^n \quad \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{different} \\ n \end{array} \right)$$

$$= \cancel{(-1+1)} a_{-1+1} (x-x_0)^{-1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1) a_{n+1} (x-x_0)^n$$

Final answer  $f'(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1) a_{n+1} (x-x_0)^n$

$$f''(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1)(n+2) a_{n+2} (x-x_0)^n$$

Example 1  $y' - y = 0$   $\boxed{y = ce^x}$

Step 1 Suppose solution is a power series centered at  $x_0$   
(deferring the question of convergence)

Let's take  $x_0 = 0$

$$y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n \quad y' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1)a_{n+1} x^n$$

$$0 \stackrel{?}{=} y' - y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1)a_{n+1} x^n - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{[(n+1)a_{n+1} - a_n]}_{\text{need this } = 0 \text{ for every } n} x^n$$

need this = 0 for every  $n$

We get  $(n+1)a_{n+1} - a_n = 0$  for every  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

$$a_{n+1} = \frac{a_n}{(n+1)} \quad \text{for every } n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$a_0 = \text{something} \quad a_1 = \frac{a_0}{1} \quad a_2 = \frac{a_1}{2} = \frac{a_0}{1 \cdot 2}$$

$$a_3 = \frac{a_2}{3} = \frac{a_0}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3} \quad a_4 = \frac{a_3}{4} = \frac{a_0}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4}$$

(Recurrence relation)

$$a_n = \frac{a_0}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot n} = \frac{a_0}{n!}$$



Solution  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_0}{n!} x^n$

$$= \boxed{a_0} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!} = a_0 e^x$$

arbitrary constant in the general solution.

Should check for convergence at this point.

Example 2  $y'' + y = 0$   $y = C_1 \cos x + C_2 \sin x$

suppose  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$   $y'' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+2)(n+1) a_{n+2} x^n$

$$y'' + y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left[ (n+2)(n+1) a_{n+2} + a_n \right] x^n = 0$$

Need  $(n+2)(n+1) a_{n+2} + a_n = 0$  for every  $n$

Recurrence Relation  $a_{n+2} = \frac{-a_n}{(n+1)(n+2)}$

$$a_0, a_2 = \frac{-a_0}{1 \cdot 2}, a_4 = \frac{-a_2}{3 \cdot 4} = \frac{a_0}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4}, a_6 = \frac{-a_4}{5 \cdot 6} = \frac{-a_0}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 6}$$

$$a_1, a_3 = \frac{-a_1}{2 \cdot 3}, a_5 = \frac{-a_3}{4 \cdot 5} = \frac{a_1}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5}, a_7 = \frac{-a_5}{6 \cdot 7} = \frac{-a_1}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 6 \cdot 7}$$

$$a_{\text{even}}: a_{2n} = \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n)!} a_0$$

$$a_{\text{odd}}: a_{2n+1} = \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)!} a_1$$

$$y = a_0 \underbrace{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n)!} x^{2n}}_{\cos x} + a_1 \underbrace{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)!} x^{2n+1}}_{\sin x}$$

$$y = a_0 \cos x + a_1 \sin x$$