

May 14 Lecture Schedule

Taylor's theorem ([1] p.40 Theorem 11, [2] p.83-84, [3] p.132 Theorem 3.14)
 t that exists between a and x satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) = f(a) + f'(a)(x-a) &+ f''(a)\frac{(x-a)^2}{2} + f^{(3)}(a)\frac{(x-a)^3}{3!} + \dots \\ &+ f^{(n)}(a)\frac{(x-a)^n}{n!} + f^{(n+1)}(t)\frac{(x-a)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Consider a case for $x \geq a$. We take

$$F(x) = f(x) - \left(f(a) + f'(a)(x-a) + f''(a)\frac{(x-a)^2}{2} + \dots + f^{(n)}(a)\frac{(x-a)^n}{n!} \right)$$

Knowing that $F(a) = F'(a) = \dots = F^{(n)}(a) = 0$, $F^{(n+1)}(x) = f^{(n+1)}(x)$, we repeat generalization of the mean-value theorem and repeat applying it to find $x \geq x_1 \geq x_2 \dots x_{n+1} = t \geq a$ that satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{F(x)}{(x-a)^{n+1}} &= \frac{F'(x_1)}{(n+1)(x_1-a)^n} = \frac{F^{(2)}(x_2)}{(n+1)n(x_2-a)^{n-2}} = \dots \\ &= \frac{F^{(n)}(x_n)}{(n+1)!(x_n-a)} = \frac{F^{(n+1)}(x_{n+1})}{(n+1)!} = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(t)}{(n+1)!} \end{aligned}$$

Before we go to the final step, we take the limit of $x \rightarrow a$, and which gives us

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{F(x)}{(x-a)^{n+1}} = \frac{F^{(n+1)}(a)}{(n+1)!} = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(a)}{(n+1)!}$$

Rewrite the above by replacing $n+1$ with n , we obtain

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - \left(f(a) + f'(a)(x-a) + f''(a)\frac{(x-a)^2}{2} + \dots + f^{(n)}(a)\frac{(x-a)^n}{n!} \right)}{(x-a)^n} = 0$$

For example,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x - \left(x - \frac{x^3}{6} \right)}{x^4} = 0$$

This can be also expressed as

$$\sin x - \left(x - \frac{x^3}{6} \right) = o(x^4)$$

Interpretations of the Taylor's rule.

$f(x)$: true value

$f(a) + f'(a)(x-a) + f''(a)\frac{(x-a)^2}{2} + \cdots + f^{(n)}(a)\frac{(x-a)^n}{n!}$: approximate value
 $f^{(n+1)}(t)\frac{(x-a)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}$: error

For example,

$$e - \left(1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3!} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n!} \right) = \frac{e^t}{(n+1)!} \leq \frac{e}{(n+1)!}.$$

Recall that

$$\begin{aligned} e - \left(1 + 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3!} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n!} \right) &= \sum_{k=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} \\ &< \frac{1}{(n+1)!} \frac{1}{1 - 1/(n+2)} = \frac{1}{(n+1)!} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n+1} \right). \end{aligned}$$

The integral form of remainder terms ([2] p.85)

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= f(a) + \int_a^x f'(t)dt \\ &= f(a) - [(x-t)f'(t)]_a^x + \int_a^x (x-t)f''(t)dt \\ &= f(a) + (x-a)f'(a) - \left[\frac{(x-t)^2}{2} f^{(2)}(t) \right]_a^x + \int_a^x \frac{(x-t)^2}{2} f^{(3)}(t)dt \\ &\quad \dots \\ &= f(a) + f'(a)(x-a) + f''(a)\frac{(x-a)^2}{2} + \cdots + f^{(n)}(a)\frac{(x-a)^n}{n!} \\ &\quad + \int_a^x \frac{(x-t)^n}{n!} f^{(n+1)}(t)dt \end{aligned}$$