

# CH 11.9 POWER SERIES REPRESENTATION OF FUNCTIONS

**GOAL:** We are going to learn about an important application of power series. Using what we know about geometric series, we can represent certain functions (on particular intervals) as power series!

## PART 1: FINDING POWER SERIES REPRESENTATIONS

**GEO SERIES:**  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} ar^n = a + ar + ar^2 + ar^3 + \dots$

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{CONVERGES TO } \frac{a}{1-r} \\ \text{if } |r| < 1 \\ \text{DIVERGES if } |r| \geq 1 \end{array} \right.$

\*\* Replace r with the variable x and let a=1 and we get the following:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots = \frac{1}{1-x} \quad \text{PROVIDED } |x| < 1 \quad (\text{i.e. } x \in (-1, 1))$$

## POWER SERIES

REPRESENTATION of  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1-x}$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1-x} = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$$

if  $x \in (-1, 1)$ .  
 ↑ "in"

**WHY DO WE CARE?**

- \*  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1-x}$  YUK!
- \*  $1 + x + x^2 + \dots$  YAY!

\*\* We can use this to find **POWER SERIES REPRESENTATIONS** and corresponding intervals of convergence for other functions that have a "similar" form.

**Ex 1.** Find the **POWER SERIES REPRESENTATION** of each of the following functions and indicate the interval of convergence.

**A**  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1-2x} = \frac{1}{1-\square}$

**sol:**

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (2x)^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2^n x^n$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\square)^n = \frac{1}{1-\square}$$

if  $-1 < \square < 1$

I.o.C  $-1 < 2x < 1 \Rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} < x < \frac{1}{2}$

$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2^n x^n$  when  $x \in (-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$

**B**  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2} = \frac{1}{1-(-x^2)}$

sol:

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

I.o.C  $-1 < -x^2 < 1$

$1 > x^2 > -1$

$\Rightarrow |x^2| < 1 \Rightarrow$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\square)^n = \frac{1}{1-\square}$$

if  $-1 < \square < 1$  (or  $|\square| < 1$ )

$|x| < 1$  I.o.C  $(-1, 1)$

**C**  $f(x) = \frac{4}{x+5} = \frac{4}{5+x} = 4 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{5+x}\right)$

sol:

$$= 4 \left(\frac{\frac{1}{5}}{\frac{5}{5} + \frac{x}{5}}\right) = \frac{4}{5} \left(\frac{1}{1 - \left(-\frac{x}{5}\right)}\right)$$

$$= \frac{4}{5} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{x}{5}\right)^n = \frac{4}{5} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^n}{5^n}$$

I.o.C  $\left|-\frac{x}{5}\right| < 1 \Rightarrow |x| < 5$

I.o.C  $(-5, 5)$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\square)^n = \frac{1}{1-\square}$$

if  $-1 < \square < 1$  (or  $|\square| < 1$ )

$\left(-\frac{x}{5}\right)^n = \left(\frac{-1 \cdot x}{5}\right)^n$

**D**  $f(x) = \frac{6}{x^2-2x-8}$  HINT: PARTIAL FRACTIONS.

sol:

**E**  $f(x) = \frac{x}{1-x^5} = x \cdot \left( \frac{1}{1-x^5} \right)$

**Sol:**

$$= x \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (x^5)^n$$

$$= x \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^{5n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^{5n+1}$$

I.o.C  $-1 < x^5 < 1$   
 $-1 < x < 1$

$(-1, 1)$

$$\sum (\square)^n = \frac{1}{1-\square}$$

if  $|\square| < 1$

## PART 2: CALCULUS w/ POWER SERIES

**RECALL:**  $\frac{d}{dx} [f_1(x) \pm f_2(x)] = \frac{d}{dx} [f_1(x)] \pm \frac{d}{dx} [f_2(x)]$   
 $\int [f_1(x) \pm f_2(x)] dx = \int f_1(x) dx \pm \int f_2(x) dx$

**TERM-BY-TERM DIFFERENTIATION / INTEGRATION.**

\* This property of derivatives and Integrals still holds for an infinite sum!

### THM: [DERIVATIVES/INTEGRALS of POWER SERIES]

If the power series  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n(x-a)^n$  has radius of convergence  $R > 0$ , then the function:

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n(x-a)^n = C_0 + C_1(x-a) + C_2(x-a)^2 + \dots$$

is differentiable (and hence continuous) on the interval  $(a-R, a+R)$  and:

- The **DERIVATIVE** is  $\frac{d}{dx} [f(x)] = \frac{d}{dx} [C_0 + C_1(x-a) + C_2(x-a)^2 + \dots]$   
**\* TERM BY TERM.**
- The **INTEGRAL** is  $\int f(x) dx = \int (C_0 + C_1(x-a) + C_2(x-a)^2 + \dots) dx$ .

**NOTE:** if power series of  $f(x)$  HAS R.o.C "R" THEN  $\frac{d}{dx} [f(x)]$  ;  $\int f(x) dx$  HAVE R.o.C "R" **MAY NOT PRESERVE I.o.C @ ENDS.**

# A SHORTCUT

w/ SUMMATION NOTATION

Ex.  $\frac{d}{dx} \left[ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n \right]$  METHOD 1:  $\frac{d}{dx} \left[ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n \right] = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{d}{dx} [x^n]$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n x^{n-1}$$

METHOD 2:

$$\frac{d}{dx} [1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \dots] = 0 + 1 + 2x + 3x^2 + \dots$$

Ex 2: Consider the function  $f(x) = \frac{1}{(1-x)^2}$

**A** Use differentiation to find a **POWER SERIES REPRESENTATION** for  $f(x)$ .  
What is the radius of convergence of this new power series?

Sol:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{1}{1-x} \right] = \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n \right]$$



$$\frac{1}{1-x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$$

TAKE DER. BOTH SIDES.  
R.o.C. = 1

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

So  $f(x) = \frac{1}{(1-x)^2} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n x^{n-1}$  (R.o.C. = 1)

**B** Use part [A] to find a **POWER SERIES REPRESENTATION** for  $g(x) = \frac{1}{(1-x)^3}$ .  
What is the new radius of convergence?

Sol:

der of both sides of [A]

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{1}{(1-x)^2} \right] = \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n x^{n-1} \right]$$

$$(1-x)^{-2} \\ -2(1-x)^{-3} \cdot -1$$

$$\frac{2}{(1-x)^3} = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1) x^{n-2}$$

So  $g(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1) x^{n-2}$  R.o.C. = 1.

C

Use part [B] to find a **POWER SERIES REPRESENTATION** for  $h(x) = \frac{x}{(1-x)^3}$   
What is the new radius of convergence?

sol:

$$h(x) = x \cdot g(x) = x \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1) x^{n-2}$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1) x^{n-1} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{R.o.C} \\ = 1 \end{array}$$

Ex 3. Evaluate the integral as a power series and indicate the radius of convergence.

$$\int \frac{x}{1-x^5} dx$$

sol: