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## Mathematics 1

### Lecture 7

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# 1 Sequence and Series

## 1.1 Sequence

**Definition 1.1.** A **sequence** is a function  $a : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , where  $\mathbb{N}$  represents the set of natural numbers and  $\mathbb{R}$  represents the set of real numbers. The sequence is denoted as  $\{a_n\}$ , where  $a_n$  is the value of the function at  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , referred to as the  $n$ -th term of the sequence.

In expanded form, a sequence can be written as:

$$\{a_n\} = \{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n, \dots\}.$$

**Example 1.1.** Some type of sequences

1. A constant sequence:  $a_n = c$  for all  $n$ , e.g.,  $\{5, 5, 5, \dots\}$ .
2. A linear sequence:  $a_n = 2n + 1$ , e.g.,  $\{3, 5, 7, 9, \dots\}$ .
3. A geometric sequence:  $a_n = 3 \cdot 2^{n-1}$ , e.g.,  $\{3, 6, 12, 24, \dots\}$ .

**Example 1.2.** The explicit values of the sequences from are as follows:

(a)  $\{a_n\} = \left\{\frac{1}{n}\right\}$

Explicit values:

$$\{a_n\} = \left\{\frac{1}{1}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \dots\right\} = \left\{1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \dots\right\}.$$

(b)  $\{a_n\} = \{\sqrt{n}\}$

Explicit values:

$$\{a_n\} = \{\sqrt{1}, \sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}, \sqrt{4}, \dots\} = \{1, \sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}, 2, \dots\}.$$

(c)  $\{a_n\} = \left\{\frac{1}{n!}\right\}$

Explicit values:

$$\{a_n\} = \left\{\frac{1}{1!}, \frac{1}{2!}, \frac{1}{3!}, \frac{1}{4!}, \dots\right\} = \left\{1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{24}, \dots\right\}.$$

(d)  $\{a_n\} = \{\sin n\}$

Explicit values:

$$\{a_n\} = \{\sin 1, \sin 2, \sin 3, \sin 4, \dots\}.$$

(Since  $\sin n$  depends on the angle  $n$  in radians, the exact numeric values can be computed as needed.)

(e)  $\{a_n\} = \left\{\frac{e^n}{n!}\right\}$

Explicit values:

$$\{a_n\} = \left\{\frac{e^1}{1!}, \frac{e^2}{2!}, \frac{e^3}{3!}, \frac{e^4}{4!}, \dots\right\}.$$

Approximate values for initial terms:

$$\{a_n\} \approx \left\{e, \frac{e^2}{2}, \frac{e^3}{6}, \frac{e^4}{24}, \dots\right\}.$$

(f)  $\{a_n\} = \left\{\frac{n-1}{n}\right\}$

Explicit values:

$$\{a_n\} = \left\{\frac{1-1}{1}, \frac{2-1}{2}, \frac{3-1}{3}, \frac{4-1}{4}, \dots\right\} = \left\{0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{3}{4}, \dots\right\}.$$

**Example 1.3.** Finding the General Term of the Sequence Consider the sequence:

$$\{-1, 1, -1, 1, -1, 1, \dots\}$$

**Solution:**

We observe the following values for the first few terms:

$$a_1 = -1, \quad a_2 = 1, \quad a_3 = -1, \quad a_4 = 1, \dots$$

This sequence alternates between  $-1$  and  $1$ . Hence, the general term of the sequence can be expressed as:

$$a_n = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd,} \\ 1 & \text{if } n \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

A more concise way to write this term is:

$$a_n = (-1)^n$$

## 1.2 Series

**Definition 1.2.** A **series** is the sum of the terms of a sequence. If  $\{a_n\}$  is a sequence, the series is given by:

$$S = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$$

**Definition 1.3** (Power series). If  $\{a_n\}$  is a sequence of constants, the expression:

$$a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 + \dots + a_nx^n + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_nx^n$$

is called a power series in  $x$ .

### 1.2.1 Convergence of a Series

A series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges if the sequence of its partial sums  $\{S_n\}$  has a finite limit as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . That is:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = S \quad (\text{finite})$$

where

$$S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k$$

If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n$  does not exist or is infinite, the series diverges.

### Examples of Series

#### 1. Geometric Series:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} ar^n = \begin{cases} \frac{a}{1-r}, & \text{if } |r| < 1 \\ \text{diverges,} & \text{if } |r| \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

#### 2. Harmonic Series:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \quad \text{diverges.}$$

#### 3. $p$ -Series:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p} = \begin{cases} \text{converges,} & \text{if } p > 1 \\ \text{diverges,} & \text{if } p \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

### Tests for Convergence

**1. Comparison Test:** If  $0 \leq a_n \leq b_n$  for all  $n$  and  $\sum b_n$  converges, then  $\sum a_n$  converges.

**2. Ratio Test:** For a series  $\sum a_n$ , define:

$$L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|.$$

If  $L < 1$ , the series converges. If  $L > 1$ , the series diverges.

## 2 Taylor and Maclaurin Series

### Taylor Series

If a function  $f$  can be represented by a power series in  $(x - a)$ , it is called Taylor's series and has the form:

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

**Example 2.1.** Find Taylor series expansion of  $\cos x$  about a point  $a = 2\pi$ .

*Sol.*

$$f(x) = \cos x, \quad f(2\pi) = \cos(2\pi) = 1$$

$$f'(x) = -\sin x, \quad f'(2\pi) = -\sin 2\pi = 0$$

$$f''(x) = -\cos x, \quad f''(2\pi) = -\cos 2\pi = -1$$

$$f'''(x) = \sin x, \quad f'''(2\pi) = \sin 2\pi = 0$$

$$f^{(iv)}(x) = \cos x, \quad f^{(iv)}(2\pi) = \cos 2\pi = 1$$

$$\cos x = 1 - \frac{(x - 2\pi)^2}{2!} + \frac{(x - 2\pi)^4}{4!} - \frac{(x - 2\pi)^6}{6!} + \dots$$

**Final Function:**

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

□

## Maclaurin series

When  $a = 0$ , Taylor's series is called the Maclaurin series.

**Example 2.2.** Find Maclaurin series for the function  $f(x) = e^x$ .

*Sol.*

$$f(x) = e^x \Rightarrow f(0) = e^0 = 1$$

$$f'(x) = e^x \Rightarrow f'(0) = e^0 = 1$$

$$f''(x) = e^x \Rightarrow f''(0) = e^0 = 1$$

$$f'''(x) = e^x \Rightarrow f'''(0) = e^0 = 1$$

$$e^x = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \cdots$$

**Final Function:**

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

□

**Example 2.3.** Find the Maclaurin series expansion for  $\sin x$ .

*Sol.* Let  $f(x) = \sin x$ . At  $x = 0$ , we calculate the derivatives:

$$f(x) = \sin x, \quad f(0) = 0$$

$$f'(x) = \cos x, \quad f'(0) = 1$$

$$f''(x) = -\sin x, \quad f''(0) = 0$$

$$f'''(x) = -\cos x, \quad f'''(0) = -1$$

The Maclaurin series expansion is:

$$\sin x = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \cdots$$

**Final Function:**

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

□

Function, $f(x)$	Maclaurin Series ( $b = 0$ )	Taylor Series ( $b \neq 0$ )
$e^x$	$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$	$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{e^b(x-b)^n}{n!}$
$\sin x$	$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!}$	$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(2n+1)}(b)(x-b)^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!}$
$\cos x$	$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n}}{(2n)!}$	$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(2n)}(b)(x-b)^{2n}}{(2n)!}$
$\ln(1+x)$	$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{x^n}{n}$	-
$\frac{1}{1+x}$	$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n x^n$	$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n (x-b)^n}{(1+b)^{n+1}}$
$\frac{1}{1-x}$	$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$	$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(x-b)^n}{(1-b)^{n+1}}$
$\sinh(x)$	$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!}$	-
$\cosh(x)$	$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{2n}}{(2n)!}$	-
$\ln(x)$	$\ln(b) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{(x-b)^n}{nb^n}$	Not defined for Maclaurin series

Table 1: Expanded Table of Taylor and Maclaurin Series for Common Functions