



# Section 9.8 Power Series

Series Part 2!

# Geometric Series

Example:  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 3\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-1}$  Converges to \_\_\_\_\_ when

a =

r =

Both a and r are constants.

But what if they weren't?

# Series as functions

Example:  $f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 3(x)^{n-1}$

n is the counter that creates each term in a single series.

x is a variable that creates different series.

$$f\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) =$$

$$f(2) =$$

When will  $f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 3(x)^{n-1}$  converge?

# Vocabulary

Interval of Convergence: the interval of the domain values,  $x$ , for which the resulting series will converge

Center of Convergence: midpoint of interval of convergence

Radius of Convergence: distance from the center of convergence to the endpoints of the interval of convergence

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

Interval of convergence:  $(-1, 1)$

Center of Convergence:  $x = 0$

Radius of convergence:  $R = 1$

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 3(2x - 6)^{n-1}$$

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 5(2x + 4)^{n-1}$$

Interval of convergence:

Interval of convergence:

Center of Convergence:

Center of Convergence:

Radius of convergence:

Radius of convergence:

# Geometric Series are subsets of Power Series

Theses are geometric series

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ar^{n-1} = a + ar + ar^2 + ar^3 + \cdots + ar^{n-1} + \cdots$$

a and r are constants.

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ax^{n-1} = a + ax + ax^2 + ax^3 + \cdots + ax^{n-1} + \cdots$$

a is a constant, r is a variable

In a power series, the coefficients do not have to be constant.

# Power Series

General form usually starts with  $n = 0$

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n x^n = C_0 + C_1 x + C_2 x^2 + C_3 x^3 + \cdots + C_n x^n + \cdots$$

This power series is centered at zero.

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n (x-a)^n = C_0 + C_1 (x-a) + C_2 (x-a)^2 + C_3 (x-a)^3 + \cdots + C_n (x-a)^n + \cdots$$

This power series is centered at  $a$ .

For each power series find  $C_n$  and the center of convergence

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

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



In a geometric series, you use the condition that in order to converge,  $|r| < 1$  .

Geometric series diverge at 1 and  $-1$ .

For a general power series, you must use the ratio test (or occasionally the root test).

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

Once you find the interval of convergence, **you must check the endpoints** because the ratio test is inconclusive if the limit equals 1 or  $-1$ .

# There are 3 possible outcomes.

1. The series converges over some finite interval, centered at  $a$ ,  $|x - a| < R$ ,  $R$  is the radius of convergence.  
(Diverges for  $|x - a| > R$ )
2. The series converges only at the center point,  $x = a$ .  
(Diverges everywhere else)  $R = 0$ .
3. Converges for all real numbers.  $R = \infty$ .

# Case I:

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

## Case 2:

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

## Case 3:

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

This is a type of Bessel Function. Among other applications, Bessel Functions are used to model vibrating surfaces like drum heads and heat conduction of circular surfaces.

You try:

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{nx^n}{2^{n+1}}$$

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