

Taylor's and Maclaurin's Series

(For B.Sc./B.A. Part-I, Subsidiary Course of Mathematics)

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1. Introduction

In order to understand Taylor's and Maclaurin's series, we first need to define a power series.

A series of the form

$$a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 + \dots + a_nx^n + \dots$$

where x is a variable and the coefficients $a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n, \dots$ are independent of x is called a power series in x . For example, the series

$$1 + 2x + 3x^2 + 4x^3 + \dots + (n+1)x^n + \dots$$

is a power series in x .

Taylor's and Maclaurin's series are used for representing a function in the form of a power series.

2. Taylor's Series

Statement : Let f be a function of x . If $f(x+h)$ can be expanded in a series of positive integral powers of h , then

$$f(x+h) = f(x) + \frac{h}{1!} f'(x) + \frac{h^2}{2!} f''(x) + \frac{h^3}{3!} f'''(x) + \dots + \frac{h^n}{n!} f^n(x) + \dots$$

Proof : By supposition, $f(x+h)$ can be expanded in a series of positive integral powers of h . Therefore we can suppose that

$$f(x+h) = A_0 + A_1h + A_2h^2 + A_3h^3 + A_4h^4 + A_5h^5 + \dots + A_nh^n + \dots \quad \dots(1)$$

where $A_0, A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5, \dots, A_n, \dots$ are independent of h , whose values are to be determined.

Putting $h = 0$ in equation (1), we get

$$f(x) = A_0 \quad \dots(2)$$

Differentiating both sides of equation (1) w. r. t. h , we get

$$f'(x+h) = 0 + A_1(1) + A_2(2h) + A_3(3h^2) + A_4(4h^3) + A_5(5h^4) + \dots + A_n(nh^{n-1}) + \dots$$

i.e., $f'(x+h) = A_1 + 2A_2h + 3A_3h^2 + 4A_4h^3 + 5A_5h^4 + \dots + nA_nh^{n-1} + \dots \quad \dots(3)$

Putting $h = 0$ in equation (3), we get

$$f'(x) = A_1 \quad \dots(4)$$

Differentiating both sides of equation (3) w. r. t. h , we get

$$f''(x+h) = 0 + 2A_2(1) + 3A_3(2h) + 4A_4(3h^2) + 5A_5(4h^3) + \dots + nA_n((n-1)h^{n-2}) + \dots$$

i.e.,

$$f''(x+h) = 2A_2 + (3.2)A_3h + (4.3)A_4h^2 + (5.4)A_5h^3 + \dots + n(n-1)A_nh^{n-2} + \dots \quad \dots(5)$$

Putting $h = 0$ in equation (5), we get

$$f''(x) = 2A_2$$

$$\text{i.e., } A_2 = \frac{f''(x)}{2}$$

$$\text{or } A_2 = \frac{f''(x)}{2!} \quad \dots(6)$$

Differentiating both sides of equation (5) w. r. t. h , we get

$$f'''(x+h) = 0 + (3.2)A_3(1) + (4.3)A_4(2h) + (5.4)A_5(3h^2) + \dots + n(n-1)A_n((n-2)h^{n-3}) + \dots$$

i.e.,

$$f'''(x+h) = (3.2.1)A_3 + (4.3.2)A_4h + (5.4.3)A_5h^2 + \dots + n(n-1)(n-2)A_nh^{n-3} + \dots \quad \dots(7)$$

Putting $h = 0$ in equation (7), we get

$$f'''(x) = (3.2.1)A_3$$

$$\text{i.e., } A_3 = \frac{f'''(x)}{3.2.1}$$

$$\text{or } A_3 = \frac{f'''(x)}{3!} \quad \dots(8)$$

Proceeding in this way, it can be proved that

$$A_4 = \frac{f^{iv}(x)}{4!}, \quad A_5 = \frac{f^v(x)}{5!}, \dots, \dots, A_n = \frac{f^n(x)}{n!}, \dots \quad \dots(9)$$

Substituting the values of $A_0, A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5, \dots, A_n, \dots$ from equations (2), (4), (6), (8), (9) in equation (1), we get

$$f(x+h) = f(x) + hf'(x) + h^2\left(\frac{f''(x)}{2!}\right) + h^3\left(\frac{f'''(x)}{3!}\right) + \dots + h^n\left(\frac{f^n(x)}{n!}\right) + \dots$$

i.e.,

$$f(x+h) = f(x) + \frac{h}{1!}f'(x) + \frac{h^2}{2!}f''(x) + \frac{h^3}{3!}f'''(x) + \dots + \frac{h^n}{n!}f^n(x) + \dots$$

3. Maclaurin's Series

Statement : Let f be a function of x . If $f(x)$ can be expanded in a series of positive integral powers of x , then

$$f(x) = f(0) + \frac{x}{1!}f'(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!}f''(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!}f'''(0) + \dots + \frac{x^n}{n!}f^n(0) + \dots$$

Proof : By supposition, $f(x)$ can be expanded in a series of positive integral powers of x . Therefore we can suppose that

$$f(x) = A_0 + A_1x + A_2x^2 + A_3x^3 + A_4x^4 + A_5x^5 + \dots + A_nx^n + \dots \quad \dots(1)$$

where $A_0, A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5, \dots, A_n, \dots$ are independent of x , whose values are to be determined.

Putting $x = 0$ in equation (1), we get

$$f(0) = A_0 \quad \dots(2)$$

Differentiating both sides of equation (1) w. r. t. x , we get

$$f'(x) = 0 + A_1(1) + A_2(2x) + A_3(3x^2) + A_4(4x^3) + A_5(5x^4) + \dots + A_n(nx^{n-1}) + \dots$$

$$\text{i.e., } f'(x) = A_1 + 2A_2x + 3A_3x^2 + 4A_4x^3 + 5A_5x^4 + \dots + nA_nx^{n-1} + \dots \quad \dots(3)$$

Putting $x = 0$ in equation (3), we get

$$f'(0) = A_1 \quad \dots(4)$$

Differentiating both sides of equation (3) w. r. t. x , we get

$$f''(x) = 0 + 2A_2(1) + 3A_3(2x) + 4A_4(3x^2) + 5A_5(4x^3) + \dots + nA_n((n-1)x^{n-2}) + \dots$$

$$\text{i.e., } f''(x) = 2A_2 + (3.2)A_3x + (4.3)A_4x^2 + (5.4)A_5x^3 + \dots + n(n-1)A_nx^{n-2} + \dots \quad \dots(5)$$

Putting $x = 0$ in equation (5), we get

$$f''(0) = 2A_2$$

$$\text{i.e., } A_2 = \frac{f''(0)}{2}$$

$$\text{or } A_2 = \frac{f''(0)}{2!} \quad \dots(6)$$

Differentiating both sides of equation (5) w. r. t. x , we get

$$f'''(x) = 0 + (3.2)A_3(1) + (4.3)A_4(2x) + (5.4)A_5(3x^2) + \dots + n(n-1)A_n((n-2)x^{n-3}) + \dots$$

$$\text{i.e., } f'''(x) = (3.2.1)A_3 + (4.3.2)A_4x + (5.4.3)A_5x^2 + \dots + n(n-1)(n-2)A_nx^{n-3} + \dots \quad \dots(7)$$

Putting $x = 0$ in equation (7), we get

$$f'''(0) = (3.2.1)A_3$$

$$\text{i.e., } A_3 = \frac{f'''(0)}{3.2.1}$$

$$\text{or } A_3 = \frac{f'''(0)}{3!} \quad \dots(8)$$

Proceeding in this way, it can be proved that

$$A_4 = \frac{f^{iv}(0)}{4!}, \quad A_5 = \frac{f^v(0)}{5!}, \dots, A_n = \frac{f^n(0)}{n!}, \dots \quad \dots(9)$$

Substituting the values of $A_0, A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5, \dots, A_n, \dots$ from equations (2), (4), (6), (8), (9) in equation (1), we get

$$f(x) = f(0) + x f'(0) + x^2 \left(\frac{f''(0)}{2!} \right) + x^3 \left(\frac{f'''(0)}{3!} \right) + \dots + x^n \left(\frac{f^n(0)}{n!} \right) + \dots$$

$$\text{i.e., } \boxed{f(x) = f(0) + \frac{x}{1!} f'(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!} f''(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!} f'''(0) + \dots + \frac{x^n}{n!} f^n(0) + \dots}$$

Alternative Proof of Maclaurin’s Series :

Maclaurin’s series can also be deduced from Taylor’s series as follows :

We know that Taylor’s series is

$$f(x + h) = f(x) + \frac{h}{1!} f'(x) + \frac{h^2}{2!} f''(x) + \frac{h^3}{3!} f'''(x) + \dots + \frac{h^n}{n!} f^n(x) + \dots$$

Replacing h by x and x by 0 in this series, we get

$$f(x) = f(0) + \frac{x}{1!} f'(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!} f''(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!} f'''(0) + \dots + \frac{x^n}{n!} f^n(0) + \dots$$

which is Maclaurin’s series.

Example 1 : Expand e^x using Maclaurin’s series.

Solution : We know that Maclaurin’s series is

$$f(x) = f(0) + \frac{x}{1!} f'(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!} f''(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!} f'''(0) + \dots + \frac{x^n}{n!} f^n(0) + \dots \quad \dots (1)$$

Let $f(x) = e^x \quad \dots\dots\dots(2)$

Then $f(0) = 1$.

Differentiating both sides of equation (2) w. r. t. x successively and putting $x=0$, we get

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

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

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

.....

$$f^n(x) = e^x \quad \therefore f^n(0) = 1$$

Substituting the values of $f(x)$ and $f(0), f'(0), f''(0), f'''(0), \dots, f^n(0)$ in equation (1), we get

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

Example 2 : Expand $\log(1+x)$ using Maclaurin’s series.

Solution : We know that Maclaurin’s series is

$$f(x) = f(0) + \frac{x}{1!} f'(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!} f''(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!} f'''(0) + \dots + \frac{x^n}{n!} f^n(0) + \dots \quad \dots (1)$$

Let $f(x) = \log(1+x) \quad \dots\dots\dots(2)$

Then $f(0) = 0$.

Differentiating both sides of equation (2) w. r. t. x successively and putting $x=0$, we get

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{1+x} \quad \therefore f'(0) = 1$$

$$f''(x) = -\frac{1}{(1+x)^2} \quad \therefore f''(0) = -1$$

$$f'''(x) = \frac{(-1)(-2)}{(1+x)^3} = \frac{(-1)^2 2!}{(1+x)^3} \quad \therefore f'''(0) = 2$$

.....

$$f^n(x) = \frac{(-1)(-2)\dots\dots\dots(-n-1)}{(1+x)^n} = \frac{(-1)^{n-1} (n-1)!}{(1+x)^n} \quad \therefore f^n(0) = (-1)^{n-1} (n-1)!$$

Substituting the values of $f(x)$ and $f(0), f'(0), f''(0), f'''(0), \dots, f^n(0)$ in equation (1), we get

$$\log(1+x) = 0 + \frac{x}{1!}(1) + \frac{x^2}{2!}(-1) + \frac{x^3}{3!}(2) + \dots + \frac{x^n}{n!}((-1)^{n-1}(n-1)!) + \dots$$

i.e., $\log(1+x) = x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} + \dots + (-1)^{n-1} \frac{x^n}{n} + \dots$

Example 3 : Apply Maclaurin's series to find the expansion of $\sin x$.

Solution : We know that Maclaurin's series is

$$f(x) = f(0) + \frac{x}{1!} f'(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!} f''(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!} f'''(0) + \frac{x^4}{4!} f^{iv}(0) + \frac{x^5}{5!} f^v(0) + \dots \quad \dots \quad (1)$$

Let $f(x) = \sin x \quad \dots \dots \dots (2)$

Then $f(0) = 0$.

Differentiating both sides of equation (2) w. r. t. x successively and putting $x=0$, we get

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

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

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

$$f^{iv}(x) = \sin x \quad \therefore f^{iv}(0) = 0$$

$$f^v(x) = \cos x \quad \therefore f^v(0) = 1$$

.....

Substituting the values of $f(x)$ and $f(0), f'(0), f''(0), f'''(0), \dots$ in equation (1), we get

$$\sin x = 0 + \frac{x}{1!}(1) + \frac{x^2}{2!}(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!}(-1) + \frac{x^4}{4!}(0) + \frac{x^5}{5!}(1) + \dots \dots$$

i.e., $\sin x = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \dots \dots$

Example 4 : Apply Maclaurin's series to find the expansion of $\cos x$.

Solution : We know that Maclaurin's series is

$$f(x) = f(0) + \frac{x}{1!} f'(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!} f''(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!} f'''(0) + \frac{x^4}{4!} f^{iv}(0) + \frac{x^5}{5!} f^v(0) + \dots \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Let } f(x) = \cos x \quad \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

$$\text{Then } f(0) = 1.$$

Differentiating both sides of equation (2) w. r. t. x successively and putting $x=0$, we get

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

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

$$f'''(x) = \sin x \quad \therefore f'''(0) = 0$$

$$f^{iv}(x) = \cos x \quad \therefore f^{iv}(0) = 1$$

$$f^v(x) = -\sin x \quad \therefore f^v(0) = 0$$

.....
.....

Substituting the values of $f(x)$ and $f(0), f'(0), f''(0), f'''(0), \dots$, in equation (1), we get

$$\cos x = 1 + \frac{x}{1!}(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!}(-1) + \frac{x^3}{3!}(0) + \frac{x^4}{4!}(1) + \frac{x^5}{5!}(0) + \dots \dots$$

$$\text{i.e., } \cos x = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \dots \dots \dots$$

Example 5 : Apply Maclaurin's series to find the expansion of $\tan x$.

Solution : We know that Maclaurin's series is

$$f(x) = f(0) + \frac{x}{1!} f'(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!} f''(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!} f'''(0) + \frac{x^4}{4!} f^{iv}(0) + \frac{x^5}{5!} f^v(0) + \dots \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Let } y = f(x) = \tan x \quad \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

$$\text{Then } (y)_0 = f(0) = 0.$$

Differentiating equation (2) w. r. t. x , we get

$$y_1 = f'(x) = \sec^2 x \quad \therefore (y_1)_0 = f'(0) = 1$$

Clearly, y_1 can be written as

$$y_1 = 1 + \tan^2 x = 1 + y^2$$

Differentiating the above equation w. r. t. x successively and putting $x=0$, we get

$$y_2 = 2yy_1 \quad \therefore (y_2)_0 = f''(0) = 2(y)_0(y_1)_0 = 2(0)(1) = 0$$

$$y_3 = 2(y_2 y_1 + y_1^2) \quad \therefore (y_3)_0 = f'''(0) = 2[(y_2)_0 (y_1)_0 + \{(y_1)_0\}^2] = 2(0+1) = 2$$

$$y_4 = 2\{(y_3 + y_1 y_2) + 2y_1 y_2\} = 2(y_3 + 3y_1 y_2)$$

$$\therefore (y_4)_0 = f^{iv}(0) = 2[(y_3)_0 + 3(y_1)_0 (y_2)_0] = 2(0+0) = 0$$

$$y_5 = 2\{(y_4 + y_1 y_3) + 3(y_1 y_3 + y_2^2)\} = 2(y_4 + 4y_1 y_3 + 3y_2^2)$$

$$\therefore (y_5)_0 = f^v(0) = 2[(y_4)_0 + 4(y_1)_0 (y_3)_0 + 3\{(y_2)_0\}^2] = 2[0 + 4(1)(2) + 0] = 16$$

Substituting the values of $f(x)$ and $f(0), f'(0), f''(0), f'''(0), \dots$ in equation (1), we get

$$\tan x = 0 + \frac{x}{1!}(1) + \frac{x^2}{2!}(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!}(2) + \frac{x^4}{4!}(0) + \frac{x^5}{5!}(16) + \dots$$

i.e., $\tan x = x + \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{2}{15}x^5 + \dots$

Example 6 : Expand $\log \sin(x+h)$ in ascending powers of h as far as the term involving h^3 .

Solution : We know that Taylor's series is

$$f(x+h) = f(x) + \frac{h}{1!}f'(x) + \frac{h^2}{2!}f''(x) + \frac{h^3}{3!}f'''(x) + \dots \quad (1)$$

Let $f(x) = \log \sin x \quad \dots \dots \dots (2)$

Then $f(x+h) = \log \sin(x+h)$

Differentiating both sides of equation (2) w. r. t. x successively, we get

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{\sin x} \cdot \cos x = \cot x$$

$$f''(x) = -\operatorname{cosec}^2 x$$

$$f'''(x) = -(2 \operatorname{cosec} x)(-\operatorname{cosec} x \cot x) = 2 \operatorname{cosec}^2 x \cot x$$

.....
.....

Substituting the values of $f(x+h)$ and $f(x), f'(x), f''(x), f'''(x), \dots$ in equation (1), we get

$$\log \sin(x+h) = \log \sin x + \frac{h}{1!}(\cot x) + \frac{h^2}{2!}(-\operatorname{cosec}^2 x) + \frac{h^3}{3!}(2 \operatorname{cosec}^2 x \cot x) + \dots$$

i.e., $\log \sin(x+h) = \log \sin x + h \cot x - \frac{h^2}{2} \operatorname{cosec}^2 x + \frac{h^3}{3} \operatorname{cosec}^2 x \cot x + \dots$

Example 7 : Expand $\log \cos x$ using Maclaurin's series.

Solution : We know that Maclaurin's series is

$$f(x) = f(0) + \frac{x}{1!} f'(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!} f''(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!} f'''(0) + \frac{x^4}{4!} f^{iv}(0) + \frac{x^5}{5!} f^v(0) + \dots \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Let } y = f(x) = \log \cos x \quad \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

$$\text{Then } (y)_0 = f(0) = 0.$$

Differentiating equation (2) w. r. t. x , we get

$$y_1 = f'(x) = \frac{1}{\cos x} (-\sin x) = -\tan x \quad \therefore (y_1)_0 = f'(0) = 0$$

Differentiating y_1 w. r. t. x , we get

$$y_2 = -\sec^2 x \quad \therefore (y_2)_0 = f''(0) = -1$$

Clearly, y_2 can be written as

$$y_2 = -(1 + (-\tan x)^2) = -(1 + y_1^2)$$

Differentiating the above equation w. r. t. x successively and putting $x=0$, we get

$$y_3 = -2y_1y_2 \quad \therefore (y_3)_0 = f'''(0) = -2(y_1)_0(y_2)_0 = -2(0)(-1) = 0$$

$$y_4 = -2(y_1y_3 + y_2^2) \quad \therefore (y_4)_0 = f^{iv}(0) = -2[(y_1)_0(y_3)_0 + \{(y_2)_0\}^2] = -2(0+1) = -2$$

$$y_5 = -2\{(y_1y_4 + y_2y_3) + 2y_2y_3\} = -2(y_1y_4 + 3y_2y_3)$$

$$\therefore (y_5)_0 = f^v(0) = -2[(y_1)_0(y_4)_0 + 3(y_2)_0(y_3)_0] = -2(0+0) = 0$$

$$y_6 = -2\{(y_1y_5 + y_2y_4) + 3(y_2y_4 + y_3^2)\} = -2(y_1y_5 + 4y_2y_4 + 3y_3^2)$$

$$\therefore (y_6)_0 = f^{vi}(0) = -2[(y_1)_0(y_5)_0 + 4(y_2)_0(y_4)_0 + 3\{(y_3)_0\}^2] = -2[0 + 4(-1)(-2) + 0] = -16$$

Substituting the values of $f(x)$ and $f(0), f'(0), f''(0), f'''(0), \dots$ in equation (1), we get

$$\log \cos x = 0 + \frac{x}{1!}(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!}(-1) + \frac{x^3}{3!}(0) + \frac{x^4}{4!}(-2) + \frac{x^5}{5!}(0) + \frac{x^6}{6!}(-16) + \dots \dots \dots$$

$$\text{i.e., } \log \cos x = -\frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^4}{12} - \frac{x^6}{45} - \dots \dots \dots$$

Example 8 : Expand $\log(1 + \sin x)$ in ascending powers of x using Maclaurin's series up to x^4 .

Solution : We know that Maclaurin's series is

$$f(x) = f(0) + \frac{x}{1!} f'(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!} f''(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!} f'''(0) + \frac{x^4}{4!} f^{iv}(0) + \dots \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Let } y = f(x) = \log(1 + \sin x) \quad \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

$$\text{Then } (y)_0 = f(0) = 0.$$

From equation (2), we have

$$e^y = 1 + \sin x \quad \dots(3)$$

Differentiating both sides of equation (3) w. r. t. x , we get

$$e^y y_1 = \cos x \quad \dots(4)$$

Therefore $e^{(y)_0} (y_1)_0 = 1$

This $\Rightarrow e^0 (y_1)_0 = 1$

$$\Rightarrow 1(y_1)_0 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow (y_1)_0 = 1, \text{ i.e., } f'(0) = 1.$$

Differentiating equation (4) w. r. t. x , we get

$$e^y y_2 + e^y y_1^2 = -\sin x \quad \dots(5)$$

$$\therefore e^{(y)_0} (y_2)_0 + e^{(y)_0} \{(y_1)_0\}^2 = 0$$

This $\Rightarrow e^0 (y_2)_0 + e^0 (1) = 0$

$$\Rightarrow 1(y_2)_0 + 1(1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (y_2)_0 + 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (y_2)_0 = -1, \text{ i.e., } f''(0) = -1.$$

Differentiating equation (5) w. r. t. x , we get

$$(e^y y_3 + e^y y_1 y_2) + (2y_1 y_2 e^y + e^y y_1^3) = -\cos x$$

$$\text{i.e., } e^y y_3 + 3e^y y_1 y_2 + e^y y_1^3 = -\cos x \quad \dots(6)$$

$$\therefore e^{(y)_0} (y_3)_0 + 3e^{(y)_0} (y_1)_0 (y_2)_0 + e^{(y)_0} \{(y_1)_0\}^3 = -1$$

This $\Rightarrow e^0 (y_3)_0 + 3e^0 (1)(-1) + e^0 (1) = -1$

$$\Rightarrow 1(y_3)_0 + 3(1)(-1) + 1(1) = -1$$

$$\Rightarrow (y_3)_0 - 3 + 1 = -1$$

$$\Rightarrow (y_3)_0 - 2 = -1$$

$$\Rightarrow (y_3)_0 = 2 - 1 = 1, \text{ i.e., } f'''(0) = 1.$$

Again, differentiating equation (6) w. r. t. x , we get

$$(e^y y_4 + e^y y_1 y_3) + 3(e^y y_1 y_3 + e^y y_2^2 + e^y y_1^2 y_2) + (3y_1^2 y_2 e^y + e^y y_1^4) = \sin x$$

$$\text{i.e., } e^y y_4 + 4e^y y_1 y_3 + 3e^y y_2^2 + 6e^y y_1^2 y_2 + e^y y_1^4 = \sin x$$

$$\therefore e^{(y)_0} (y_4)_0 + 4e^{(y)_0} (y_1)_0 (y_3)_0 + 3e^{(y)_0} \{(y_2)_0\}^2 + 6e^{(y)_0} \{(y_1)_0\}^2 (y_2)_0 + e^{(y)_0} \{(y_1)_0\}^4 = 0$$

This $\Rightarrow e^0 (y_4)_0 + 4e^0 (1)(1) + 3e^0 (1) + 6e^0 (1)(-1) + e^0 (1) = 0$

$$\Rightarrow 1(y_4)_0 + 4(1)(1)(1) + 3(1)(1) + 6(1)(1)(-1) + 1(1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (y_4)_0 + 4 + 3 - 6 + 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (y_4)_0 + 2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (y_4)_0 = -2, \quad \text{i.e., } f^{iv}(0) = -2.$$

Substituting the values of $f(x)$ and $f(0), f'(0), f''(0), f'''(0), \dots$ in equation (1), we get

$$\log(1 + \sin x) = 0 + \frac{x}{1!}(1) + \frac{x^2}{2!}(-1) + \frac{x^3}{3!}(1) + \frac{x^4}{4!}(-2) + \dots$$

$$\text{i.e., } \log(1 + \sin x) = x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{6} - \frac{x^4}{12} + \dots$$

Example 9 : Obtain the expansion of $e^{ax} \cos bx$ in ascending powers of x .

Solution : We know that Maclaurin's series is

$$f(x) = f(0) + \frac{x}{1!}f'(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!}f''(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!}f'''(0) + \frac{x^4}{4!}f^{iv}(0) + \dots \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Let } y = f(x) = e^{ax} \cos bx \quad \dots (2)$$

$$\text{Then } (y)_0 = f(0) = 1.$$

Differentiating both sides of equation (2) w. r. t. x , we get

$$y_1 = f'(x) = ae^{ax} \cos bx + e^{ax}(-b \sin bx) = ay - be^{ax} \sin bx \quad \dots (3)$$

From equation (3), we have

$$(y_1)_0 = f'(0) = a(y)_0 - 0 = a(1) - 0 = a.$$

Differentiating equation (3) w. r. t. x , we get

$$\begin{aligned} y_2 &= a y_1 - b(ae^{ax} \sin bx + be^{ax} \cos bx) \\ &= a y_1 - a(be^{ax} \sin bx) - b^2 e^{ax} \cos bx \\ &= a y_1 - a(a y - y_1) - b^2 y \quad [\text{using equations (2) and (3)}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e., } y_2 = 2a y_1 - (a^2 + b^2)y \quad \dots (4)$$

From equation (4), We have

$$(y_2)_0 = f''(0) = 2a(y_1)_0 - (a^2 + b^2)(y)_0 = 2a(a) - (a^2 + b^2)(1) = a^2 - b^2.$$

Differentiating both sides of equation (4) w. r. t. x , we get

$$y_3 = 2a y_2 - (a^2 + b^2)y_1 \quad \dots (5)$$

From equation (5), We have

$$(y_3)_0 = f'''(0) = 2a(y_2)_0 - (a^2 + b^2)(y_1)_0 = 2a(a^2 - b^2) - (a^2 + b^2)(a) = a^3 - 3ab^2.$$

Differentiating both sides of equation (5) w. r. t. x , we get

$$y_4 = 2a y_3 - (a^2 + b^2)y_2 \quad \dots (6)$$

From equation (6), We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 (y_4)_0 &= f^{iv}(0) = 2a(y_3)_0 - (a^2 + b^2)(y_2)_0 \\
 &= 2a(a^3 - 3ab^2) - (a^2 + b^2)(a^2 - b^2) \\
 &= (2a^4 - 6a^2b^2) - (a^4 - b^4) \\
 &= a^4 - 6a^2b^2 + b^4
 \end{aligned}$$

Substituting the values of $f(x)$ and $f(0), f'(0), f''(0), f'''(0), \dots$ in equation (1), we get

$$e^{ax} \cos bx = 1 + \frac{x}{1!}(a) + \frac{x^2}{2!}(a^2 - b^2) + \frac{x^3}{3!}(a^3 - 3ab^2) + \frac{x^4}{4!}(a^4 - 6a^2b^2 + b^4) + \dots$$

$$\text{i.e., } e^{ax} \cos bx = 1 + ax + \frac{x^2}{2}(a^2 - b^2) + \frac{x^3}{6}(a^3 - 3ab^2) + \frac{x^4}{24}(a^4 - 6a^2b^2 + b^4) + \dots$$

Example 10 : Expand $\tan^{-1} x$.

Solution : We know that Maclaurin's series is

$$f(x) = f(0) + \frac{x}{1!}f'(0) + \frac{x^2}{2!}f''(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!}f'''(0) + \frac{x^4}{4!}f^{iv}(0) + \dots \quad \dots (1)$$

$$\text{Let } y = f(x) = \tan^{-1} x \quad \dots (2)$$

$$\text{Then } (y)_0 = f(0) = 0.$$

Differentiating equation (2) w. r. t. x , we get

$$y_1 = f'(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2} \quad \dots (3)$$

From equation (3), we have

$$(y_1)_0 = f'(0) = 1.$$

Also, from equation (3), we have

$$(1+x^2)y_1 = 1 \quad \dots (4)$$

Differentiating both sides of equation (4) w. r. t. x , we get

$$(1+x^2)y_2 + 2xy_1 = 0 \quad \dots (5)$$

From equation (5), we have

$$(y_2)_0 = 0, \quad \text{i.e., } f''(0) = 0.$$

Differentiating both sides of equation (5) n times w. r. t. x and using Leibnitz's Theorem, we get

$$[y_{n+2}(1+x^2) + {}^nC_1 y_{n+1}(2x) + {}^nC_2 y_n(2)] + 2[y_{n+1}x + {}^nC_1 y_n(1)] = 0$$

$$\text{(by Leibnitz's Theorem, } (uv)_n = u_n v + {}^nC_1 u_{n-1} v_1 + {}^nC_2 u_{n-2} v_2 + \dots + {}^nC_n u v_n)$$

$$\text{This } \Rightarrow \left[y_{n+2}(1+x^2) + n y_{n+1}(2x) + \frac{n(n-1)}{2} y_n(2) \right] + 2[y_{n+1}x + n y_n] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (1+x^2)y_{n+2} + 2(n+1)xy_{n+1} + n(n+1)y_n = 0 \quad \dots (6)$$

Putting $x=0$ in equation (6), we get

$$(y_{n+2})_0 = -n(n+1)(y_n)_0 \quad \dots(7)$$

We have already proved that

$$\left. \begin{aligned} f(0) &= (y_0)_0 = 0 \\ f'(0) &= (y_1)_0 = 1 \\ f''(0) &= (y_2)_0 = 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad \dots(8)$$

Putting $n=1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$ successively in equation (7) and using equation (8), we get

$$\left. \begin{aligned} f'''(0) &= (y_3)_0 = -2 \\ f^{iv}(0) &= (y_4)_0 = 0 \\ f^v(0) &= (y_5)_0 = 24 \\ f^{vi}(0) &= (y_6)_0 = 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad \dots(9)$$

Substituting the values of $f(x)$ and $f(0), f'(0), f''(0), f'''(0), \dots$ in equation (1), we get

$$\tan^{-1} x = 0 + \frac{x}{1!}(1) + \frac{x^2}{2!}(0) + \frac{x^3}{3!}(-2) + \frac{x^4}{4!}(0) + \frac{x^5}{5!}(24) + \frac{x^6}{6!}(0) + \dots$$

i.e., $\tan^{-1} x = x - \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{x^5}{5} - \dots$

Exercises

1. Find the expansion of $(1+x)^n$, where n is either negative or fractional.
2. Apply Maclaurin's series to find the expansion of $\sec x$.
3. Expand $\log(1+\tan x)$ in ascending powers of x using Maclaurin's series.
4. Expand $\log(1+e^x)$ in ascending powers of x using Maclaurin's series up to the term of x^3 .
5. Expand $e^{\sin x}$ in ascending powers of x using Maclaurin's series up to the term involving x^4 .
6. Expand $\sin^{-1} x$.

Answers

1. $(1+x)^n = 1 + nx + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{3!}x^3 + \dots$
2. $\sec x = 1 + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{5}{24}x^4 + \dots$
3. $\log(1+\tan x) = x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{2}{3}x^3 - \dots$
4. $\log(1+e^x) = \log 2 + \frac{x}{2} + \frac{x^2}{8} - \frac{x^4}{192} + \dots$
5. $e^{\sin x} = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^4}{8} + \dots$
6. $\sin^{-1} x = x + \frac{1}{2} \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{1.3}{2.4} \frac{x^5}{5} + \frac{1.3.5}{2.4.6} \frac{x^7}{7} + \dots$