

**Section 11.11**      **The Binomial Series**

From algebra, how do we expand two – term – expression → Pascal Triangle → Binomial for positive integer exponent.

$$(a + b)^n = \binom{n}{0}a^n + \binom{n}{1}a^{n-1}b + \binom{n}{2}a^{n-2}b^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{k}a^{n-k}b^k + \dots + \binom{n}{n}b^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k}a^{n-k}b^k$$

One of Newton’s accomplishments was to extend the Binomial Theorem to the case in which k is no longer a positive integer. In this case for  $(a + b)^k$  is no longer a finite sum; it becomes an infinite series. Let’s exam the Maclaurin series of  $(1 + x)^k$ .

**The Binomial Series:** If  $k$  is any real number and  $|x| < 1$ , then  $(1+x)^k = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{k}{n} x^n$  where

$$\binom{k}{n} = \frac{k!}{n!(k-n)!} = \frac{k(k-1)(k-2)\cdots(k-n+1)}{n!} \quad \text{and} \quad \binom{k}{0} = 1$$

**Binomial Series:**  $(1+x)^m = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \binom{m}{k} x^k$  where we define  $\binom{m}{1} = m$ ;  $\binom{m}{2} = \frac{m(m-1)}{2!}$

And  $\binom{m}{k} = \frac{m(m-1)(m-2)\cdots(m-k+1)}{k!}$  for  $k \geq 3$

**Ex:** Using Binomial series to expand:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{(1+x)^2}$

b)  $f(x) = \sqrt{1+x}$

c)  $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{1+x}$

d)  $f(x) = \frac{1}{(3+8x^3)^3}$

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**Section 11.12 Applications of Taylor Polynomials**

**Approximating Functions by polynomials**

Suppose that  $f(x)$  is equal to the sum of its Taylor series at  $a$ :  $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n$

So, we let  $T_n(x)$  be the first  $n$ th partial sum of this series and called it the  $n$ th-degree Taylor polynomial of  $f$  at  $a$ .

$$T_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{f^{(i)}(a)}{i!} (x-a)^i \text{ and let the error be } R_n(x) = \sum_{i=n+1}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(i)}(a)}{i!} (x-a)^i = |f(x) - T_n(x)|$$

We have from Taylor Inequality

$$|R_n(x)| \leq \frac{M}{(n+1)!} |x-a|^{n+1} \text{ where } |f^{(n+1)}(x)| \leq M$$

Ex: a) Approximate the function  $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x}$  by Taylor polynomial of degree 2 at  $a = 8$

b) How accurate is this approximation when  $7 \leq x \leq 9$ ?

Ex: The third Maclaurin polynomial for  $\sin x$  is given by:  $\sin x \approx x - \frac{x^3}{3!}$ . Use Taylor's Theorem to approximate  $\sin(0.1)$  by  $T_3(0.1)$  and determine the accuracy of the approximation:

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Ex: Determine the degree of the Taylor polynomial  $T_n(x)$  expanded about  $a = 1$  that should be used to approximate  $\ln(1.2)$  so that the error is less than 0.001.

**Ex:** Approximate  $\sin 2^\circ$  accurate to four decimal places.

Ex: a) What is the maximum error possible in using the approximation  $\sin x = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!}$  where  $-0.3 \leq x \leq 0.3$ ? Use this approximation to find  $\sin 12^\circ$  correct to six decimal places?

b) For what values of  $x$  is this approximation accurate to within 0.00005?