

Maclaurin Series: Standard Expansion Examples

From $e^x = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots + \frac{x^r}{r!} + \dots$, this standard expansion can be applied to

$$e^{kx} = 1 + kx + \frac{(kx)^2}{2!} + \frac{(kx)^3}{3!} + \dots$$

$$a^x = e^{x \ln a} = 1 + x \ln a + \frac{(x \ln a)^2}{2!} + \frac{(x \ln a)^3}{3!} + \dots$$

Other applications of the standard expansions include

$$\sin kx = kx - \frac{(kx)^3}{3!} + \frac{(kx)^5}{5!} - \dots$$

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

Example 1

$$\begin{aligned} & \ln\left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right) \\ &= \ln(1+x) - \ln(1-x) \\ &= \left(x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4} + \dots\right) - \left(-x - \frac{x^2}{2} - \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^4}{4} - \dots\right) \\ &\approx 2x + \frac{2x^3}{3} \end{aligned}$$

Since the expansion of $\ln(1+x)$ is valid for $-1 < x \leq 1$ and the expansion of $\ln(1-x)$ is valid for $-1 \leq x < 1$, taking the intersection of the range of values of x , the expansion of $\ln\left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right)$ is valid for $-1 < x < 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} & e^{\ln\left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right)} \\ &\approx e^{2x + \frac{2x^3}{3}} \\ &\approx 1 + \left(2x + \frac{2x^3}{3}\right) + \frac{\left(2x + \frac{2x^3}{3}\right)^2}{2!} + \frac{\left(2x + \frac{2x^3}{3}\right)^3}{3!} + \dots \\ &\approx 1 + 2x + \frac{2x^3}{3} + \frac{4x^2 + \frac{8x^4}{3}}{2} + \frac{8x^3}{6} + \dots \\ &\approx 1 + 2x + 2x^2 + 2x^3 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Using Binomial Series to verify,

$$\begin{aligned} & e^{\ln\left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right)} = \frac{1+x}{1-x} = -1 + \frac{2}{1-x} \\ &= -1 + 2(1-x)^{-1} \\ &\approx -1 + 2 \left[1 + (-1)(-x) + \frac{(-1)(-2)}{2!}(-x)^2 + \frac{(-1)(-2)(-3)}{3!}(-x)^3 + \frac{(-1)(-2)(-3)(-4)}{4!}(-x)^4 \right] \\ &\approx -1 + 2(1 + x + x^2 + x^3) \\ &\approx 1 + 2x + 2x^2 + 2x^3 + \dots \end{aligned}$$