

## Note on geometric series

Partial sum with  $N$  terms of the geometric series is

$$S(N) = \sum_{n=0}^N x^n = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^N \quad (1)$$

If we multiply both sides of equation (1) by  $x$ , we receive

$$xS(N) = \sum_{n=0}^N x^{n+1} = x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots + x^N + x^{N+1} \quad (2)$$

Now let us subtract the equation (2) from equation (1)

$$\begin{aligned} S(N) - xS(N) &= 1 - x^{N+1} \\ S(N)(1 - x) &= 1 - x^{N+1} \\ S(N) &= \frac{1 - x^{N+1}}{1 - x} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

We see that if  $N \rightarrow \infty$  and  $|x| < 1$

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} S(N) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 - x^{N+1}}{1 - x} = \frac{1}{1 - x} \quad (4)$$

Then if  $|x| < 1$ , the series

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

converges and the expansion is possible.

If the expansion in infinite power series is possible there should be a possibility to obtain it as the Maclaurin series expansion. Let us have

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1 - x} \quad (6)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} f^{(0)}(x) &= (1 - x)^{-1} \\ f^{(1)}(x) &= ((1 - x)^{-1})' = (1 - x)^{-2} \\ f^{(2)}(x) &= ((1 - x)^{-2})' = 2(1 - x)^{-3} \\ f^{(3)}(x) &= (2(1 - x)^{-3})' = 2 \cdot 3(1 - x)^{-4} \\ f^{(4)}(x) &= (2 \cdot 3(1 - x)^{-4})' = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4(1 - x)^{-5} \\ &\dots \\ f^{(n)}(x) &= n!(1 - x)^{-(n+1)} \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

The expansion in Maclaurin series is defined as

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x - a)^n \quad (8)$$

with  $a = 0$ . We see that for  $f(x) = 1/(1 - x)$  we will receive

$$f^{(n)}(a) = n!(1 - a)^{-(n+1)} \quad (9)$$

Substituting  $a = 0$

$$f^{(n)}(a = 0) = n!(1 - 0)^{-(n+1)} = n! \quad (10)$$

and then

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1 - x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a = 0)}{n!} x^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots \quad (11)$$

and we have to remember that this expansion is valid only if it is possible and it is possible when  $|x| < 1$ .

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