

MAU23203: Analysis in Several Real Variables  
Michaelmas Term 2021  
Disquisition VIII: A Version of Taylor's  
Theorem with Integral Remainder

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We state and prove a version of Taylor's Theorem, applicable to functions that are  $k$  times differentiable and whose derivatives of order up to and including  $k$  are continuous functions, where the remainder term expressing the difference between the sum of the first  $k$  terms of the Taylor expansion of the function and the function itself is expressed in the form of an integral.

**Theorem A (Taylor's Theorem with Integral Remainder)** *Let  $s$  and  $h$  be real numbers, and let  $f$  be a function whose first  $k$  derivatives are continuous on an open interval containing  $s$  and  $s + h$ . Then*

$$f(s + h) = f(s) + \sum_{n=1}^{k-1} \frac{h^n}{n!} f^{(n)}(s) + \frac{h^k}{(k-1)!} \int_0^1 (1-t)^{k-1} f^{(k)}(s+th) dt.$$

**Proof** Let

$$r_m(s, h) = \frac{h^m}{(m-1)!} \int_0^1 (1-t)^{m-1} f^{(m)}(s+th) dt$$

for  $m = 1, 2, \dots, k-1$ . Then

$$r_1(s, h) = h \int_0^1 f'(s+th) dt = \int_0^1 \frac{d}{dt} f(s+th) dt = f(s+h) - f(s).$$

Let  $m$  be an integer between 1 and  $k-2$ . It follows from the rule for Integration by Parts (Corollary 7.24) that

$$r_{m+1}(s, h) = \frac{h^{m+1}}{m!} \int_0^1 (1-t)^m f^{(m+1)}(s+th) dt$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{h^m}{m!} \int_0^1 (1-t)^m \frac{d}{dt} (f^{(m)}(s+th)) dt \\
&= \frac{h^m}{m!} [(1-t)^m f^{(m)}(s+th)]_0^1 \\
&\quad - \frac{h^m}{m!} \int_0^1 \frac{d}{dt} ((1-t)^m) f^{(m)}(s+th) dt \\
&= -\frac{h^m}{m!} f^{(m)}(s) + \frac{h^m}{(m-1)!} \int_0^1 (1-t)^{m-1} f^{(m)}(s+th) dt \\
&= r_m(s, h) - \frac{h^m}{m!} f^{(m)}(s).
\end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$r_m(s, h) = \frac{h^m}{m!} f^{(m)}(s) + r_{m+1}(s, h)$$

for  $m = 1, 2, \dots, k-1$ . It follows by induction on  $k$  that

$$\begin{aligned}
f(s+h) &= f(s) + \sum_{n=1}^{k-1} \frac{h^n}{n!} f^{(n)}(s) + r_k(s, h) \\
&= f(s) + \sum_{n=1}^{k-1} \frac{h^n}{n!} f^{(n)}(s) + \frac{h^k}{(k-1)!} \int_0^1 (1-t)^{k-1} f^{(k)}(s+th) dt,
\end{aligned}$$

as required. ■