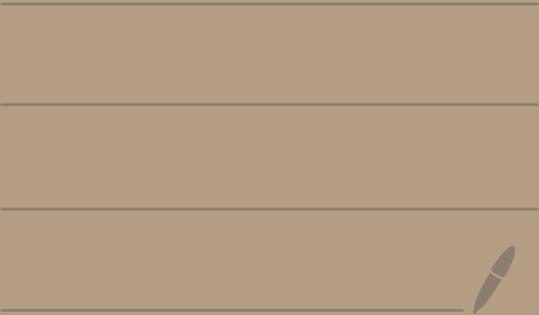


Math 2150-02

4/7/25



Topic II - Review of power series

Def: An infinite sum is a sum of the form

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n = a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots$$

[Here we started at $n=0$, but you can start at any number]

We say that the sum converges to a number S if

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=0}^N a_n = S$$

called a partial sum

$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} [a_0 + a_1 + \dots + a_N]$

If there is no such S ,
then the sum diverges.

Ex: Consider

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{2^3} + \frac{1}{2^4} + \dots$$

Let's look at the partial sums:

N	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^N}$
1	$\frac{1}{2} = 0.5$
2	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} = 0.75$
3	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{2^3} = 0.875$
4	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{2^3} + \frac{1}{2^4} = 0.9375$
5	0.96875

...	...
50	0, <u>9999999...99</u> 11182...
	15 9's
...	...
100	0, <u>999...999</u> 11139...
	30 9's

In Calculus 2120 you
show that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n = 1$$

Def: A power series is an infinite sum of the form

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-x_0)^n$$

$$= a_0 + a_1(x-x_0) + a_2(x-x_0)^2 + \dots$$

where the a_i and x_0 are constants, and x is a variable.

We say that the power series is centered at x_0 .

Ex: (Geometric series)

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots$$

$$\underbrace{1}_{a_0} + \underbrace{1 \cdot (x-0)}_{a_1} + \underbrace{1 \cdot (x-0)^2}_{x_0} + \underbrace{1 \cdot (x-0)^3}_{a_3} + \dots$$

(center is $x_0=0$)

From Calculus:

• If $-1 < x < 1$, then

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = \frac{1}{1-x}$$

• The sum diverges for other values of x .

For example,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^n = 1 + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{3^3} + \dots$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 - \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)} = \frac{1}{2/3} = \frac{3}{2}$$

9

$\frac{3}{2}$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} x = \frac{1}{3} \\ -1 < x < 1 \end{array} \right\}$$

And

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{10}{3}\right)^n = 1 + \frac{10}{3} + \left(\frac{10}{3}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{10}{3}\right)^3 + \dots$$

diverges since $x = \frac{10}{3}$ does not satisfy $-1 < x < 1$.

You can think of the power series as a function of x .

For example, let

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots$$

Then

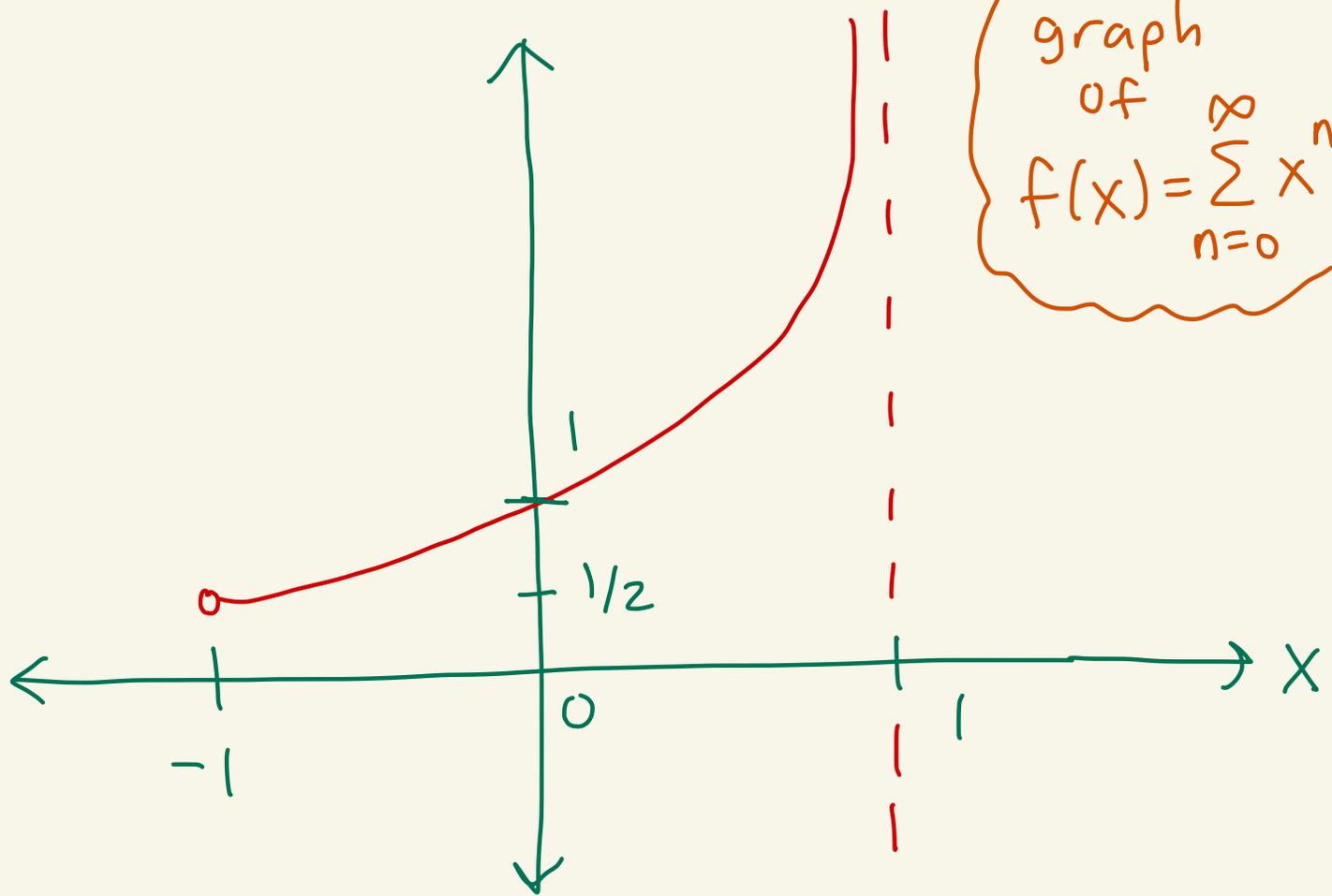
$$f(0) = 1 + 0 + 0^2 + 0^3 + \dots = 1$$

$$f\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) = 1 + \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) + \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 + \dots = \frac{1}{1 - (-2/3)}$$

$$= 3/5$$

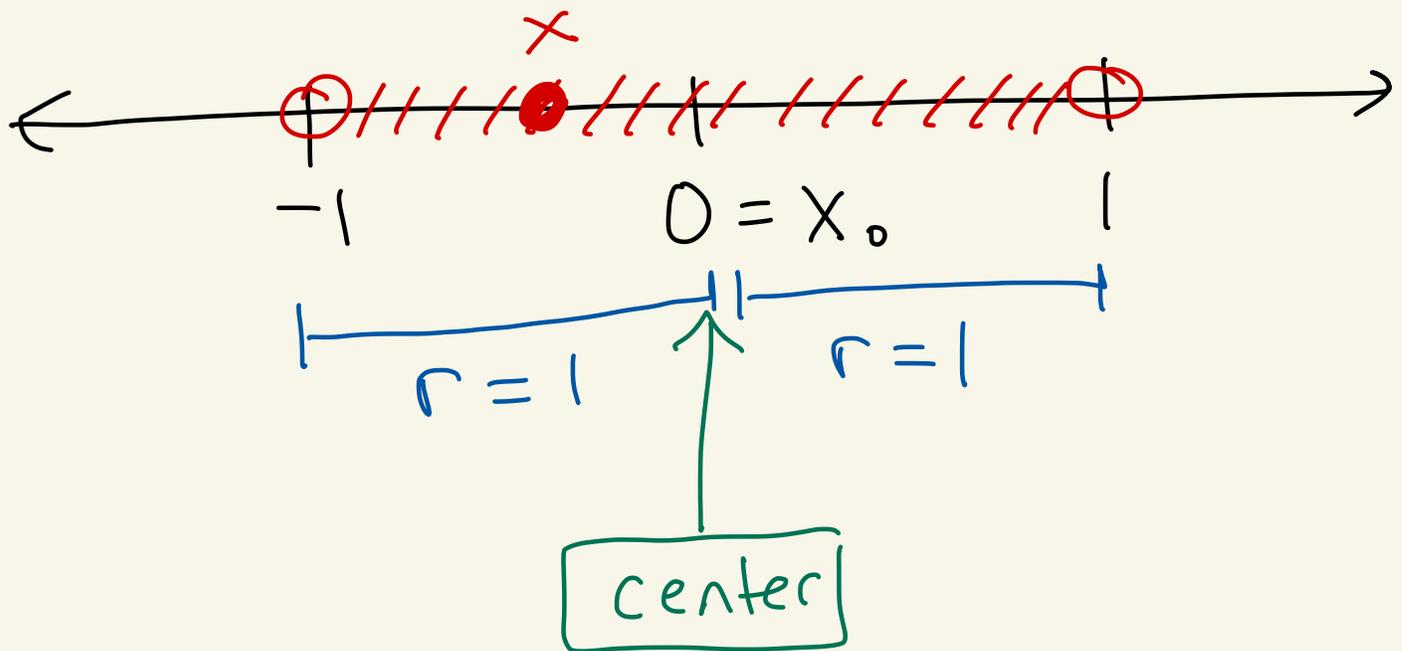
$$x = -2/3$$
$$-1 < x < 1$$

$$f(100) = 1 + 100 + 100^2 + 100^3 + \dots = \infty$$



$f(x)$ is only defined for $-1 < x < 1$
and it equals $\frac{1}{1-x}$ there.

This function converges for these x 's :



$r = 1$ is called the radius of convergence.

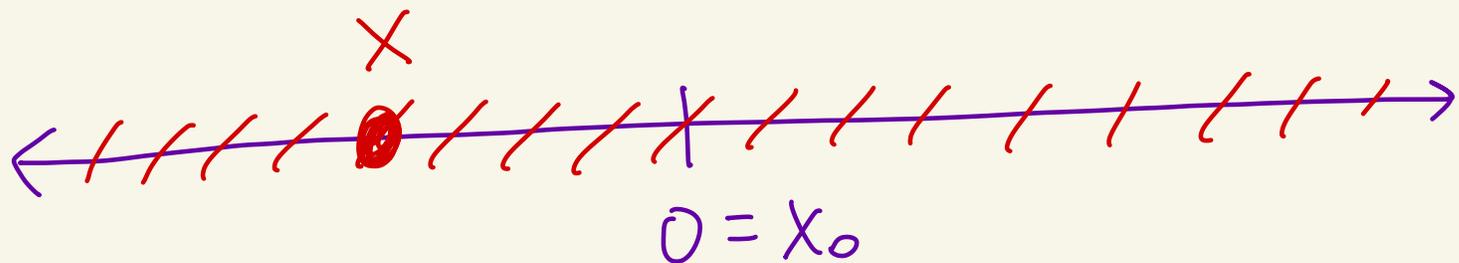
Ex: Recall from Math 2120,
(Calc II)

$$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!} = 1 + \frac{1}{1!}x^1 + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{1}{3!}x^3 + \frac{1}{4!}x^4 + \dots$$

$$= 1 + x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{6}x^3 + \frac{1}{24}x^4 + \dots$$

(center is $x_0 = 0$)

This series converges for all x .



The radius of convergence is $r = \infty$