

## MATH299M/CMSC389W

Spring 2019 – Ajeet Gary, Devan Tamot, Vlad Dobrin

### Model H4: Calculate Terms of Taylor Expansion

Assigned: February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Due: March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019 11:59PM

This week's assignment will be short and straightforward, since it's a part of Project 1. The objective is to create a model that calculates the N<sup>th</sup> term of the Taylor Expansion of a function. There's a Mathematica function that will do this for you, but I want you to make it yourself; it's an instructive application of the computation tools from Lesson 4.

The N<sup>th</sup> term in the *Taylor Expansion* of a function together with the preceding N terms (the "first" term is the 0<sup>th</sup> term when N=0) makes the N<sup>th</sup> order *Taylor Approximation* of a function. This is the N<sup>th</sup> order polynomial that fits the function best. The full infinite sum is called a *Taylor Series*. Taylor Approximations are done around a *center*, denoted a, which is the point the approximation is around. When a=0 we call this a *Maclaurin Series*. This is what the n<sup>th</sup> term of the Taylor expansion centered at a of a function f(x) is:

$$f^{(n)}(a) \frac{(x - a)^n}{n!}$$

Note that  $f^{(n)}(a)$  is notation for  $\frac{d^n f(a)}{dx^n}$ .

Note that for  $\frac{d^n f(a)}{dx^n}$  you take the n<sup>th</sup> derivative of f wrt x first, then substitute x=a.

If you want a more thorough write-up of how the Taylor Expansion works, check out the Project 1 description!