

4. Find the Taylor Series representation of  $f(x)$ , centered at the given value of  $a$ .

b)  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ ,  $a = \frac{1}{2}$

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

$$f'(x) = -1x^{-2} = \frac{-1}{x^2} = \frac{-1 \cdot 1!}{x^2}$$

$$f''(x) = 2x^{-3} = \frac{2}{x^3} = \frac{2!}{x^3}$$

$$f'''(x) = -6x^{-4} = \frac{-6}{x^4} = \frac{-1 \cdot 3!}{x^4}$$

$$f^{(4)}(x) = 24x^{-5} = \frac{24}{x^5} = \frac{4!}{x^5}$$

$$f^{(5)}(x) = -120x^{-6} = \frac{-120}{x^6} = \frac{-1 \cdot 5!}{x^6}$$

$$f\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}} = 2$$

$$f'\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{-1 \cdot 1!}{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2} = -1 \cdot 2^2$$

$$f''\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{2!}{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3} = 2! \cdot 2^3$$

$$f'''\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{-1 \cdot 3!}{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4} = -1 \cdot 3! \cdot 2^4$$

$$f^{(4)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{+1 \cdot 4!}{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5} = 1 \cdot 4! \cdot 2^5$$

I think I see the pattern

$$f^{(n)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = (-1)^n \cdot n! \cdot 2^{n+1}$$

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

$$\frac{1}{x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \cdot 2^{n+1} \cdot (x - \frac{1}{2})^n$$

If desired, we can simplify a little further by recognizing

(i)  $2 \cdot (x - \frac{1}{2}) = (2x - 1)$

(ii)  $2^n (x - \frac{1}{2})^n = [2(x - \frac{1}{2})]^n = (2x - 1)^n$

So  $2^{n+1} (x - \frac{1}{2})^n = 2 \cdot 2^n (x - \frac{1}{2})^n = 2 \cdot (2x - 1)^n$

$$\text{So, } \frac{1}{x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \cdot 2 \cdot (2x - 1)^n$$

Alternative form