

§ Infinite Series

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A series is a sum of numbers:

SERIES $a_0 + a_1 + \dots + a_k$ w/ $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$

INFINITE SERIES $a_0 + a_1 + \dots$

PARTIAL SUM $S_k = a_0 + \dots + a_k = \sum_{i=0}^k a_i$

INFINITE SUM $S = a_0 + \dots + a_k + \dots = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_i = \sum a_i$
↑
empty limits implies infinite.

We are interested in two things:

- ① Convergence/Divergence behaviour
- ② The exact/closed form.

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WARNING: Take care with indexes. We often (out of necessity) switch from $k=0$ to $k=1$ as the lower bound.

There is no general method for finding the exact sum of arbitrary sums/series.

We are usually satisfied to find an approx or lower/upper bound

Something like $\sum \frac{1}{2^k}$ is not a closed form because we cannot compute w/ it.

QUESTION Is $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^k}$ divergent or convergent? (27)

If convergent what is the "closed form" or precise sum.

$$S_1 = \frac{1}{2^1}$$

$$S_2 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$S_3 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{3}{4} + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{7}{8}$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{4}$$

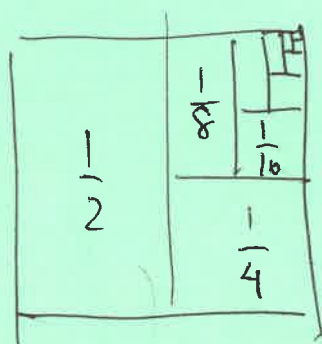
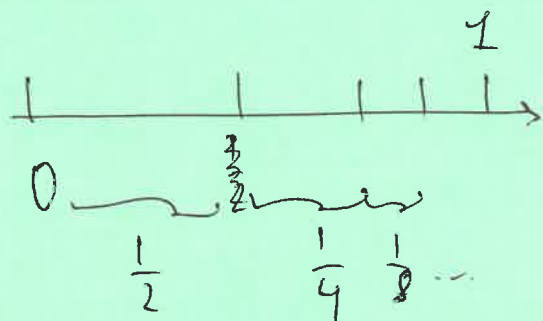
$$1 - \frac{1}{8}$$

$$\Rightarrow P_k = 1 - \frac{1}{2^k} \Rightarrow S = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} 1 - \frac{1}{2^k} = 1 - 0 = 1$$

(closed form)

Thus $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^k}$ converges to 1. (precise sum)

Visually:



Defⁿ Geometric Series

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$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} ar^k = ar^0 + ar^1 + \dots$$

w/ $a, r \in \mathbb{R}$ and $|r| < 1$.

EXAMPLE $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^k} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k$ has $a = \frac{1}{2}$ and $r = \frac{1}{2}$.

Thm When $|r| < 1$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c \cdot r^n = \frac{c}{1-r} < \infty$$

and it diverges otherwise.

Proof: $S_n = a + ar + ar^2 + \dots + ar^n$

$$\Rightarrow rS_n = \cancel{ar} + ar^2 + ar^3 + \dots + ar^{n+1}$$

Thereby $S_n - rS_n = a - ar + ar - ar^2 + ar^2 - ar^3 + \dots - ar^{n+1}$
 $= a - ar^{n+1}$

$$\text{Thereby } S_n(1-r) = a(1-r^{n+1})$$

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$$\Rightarrow S_n = \frac{a(1-r^{n+1})}{(1-r)}$$

$$\text{and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = \frac{a(1-0)}{(1-r)} = \frac{a}{1-r}$$

provided $|r| < 1$.

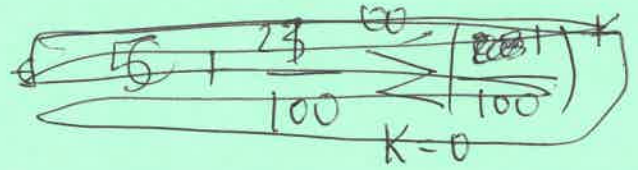
$$\text{EXAMPLE } \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^k} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k = \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{2}} = 2.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EXAMPLE } \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{k+1} &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{k+2} = \frac{1}{9} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^k \\ &= \frac{1}{9} \cdot \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{3}{2 \cdot 9} = \frac{1}{6}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EXAMPLE } \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k \cdot 5}{4^k} &= 5 \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)^k \\ &= 5 \cdot \frac{1}{1-\left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)} = 4. \end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLE What fraction has decimal expansion $5.232323\overline{23}$?

$$5.232323\overline{23} = 5 + \frac{23}{100} + \frac{23}{(100)^2} + \frac{23}{(100)^3} + \dots$$

$$= 5 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{23}{100^k}$$


$$= 5 + \frac{23}{100} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{100}\right)^k = 5 + \frac{23}{100} \cdot \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{100}}$$

$$= 5 + \frac{23}{99} = \left(\frac{518}{99}\right)$$

Defⁿ Telescoping Series

A telescoping series is one where "most" terms cancel, simplifying the sum.

EXAMPLE $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k(k+1)} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1}$ (7)

~~$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k(k+1)}$~~ = ~~$(1 - \frac{1}{2}) + (\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3}) + \dots + (\frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{k+1})$~~

= $1 - \frac{1}{k+1}$ (a "closed form")

thereby $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k(k+1)} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} 1 - \frac{1}{k+1} = 1.$

Divergence Testing

Suppose $S_n = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k$ and $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} a_k = L > 0.$

This means $S = \dots + L + L + L + \dots$ which diverges.

Nth Divergence Test

Thm $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ converges $\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0.$

Notice the contrapositive is

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$ diverges

We do not have

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$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0 \quad \not\Rightarrow \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \text{ converges}$$

EXAMPLE $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n$ diverges as $n \rightarrow \infty \neq 0$

EXAMPLE Consider $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \ln\left(\frac{k+2}{k+1}\right)$. and notice

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \ln\left(\frac{k+2}{k+1}\right) = 0. \text{ What does } n^{\text{th}} \text{ divergence}$$

tell us about the sum?

NOTHING! $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \ln\left(\frac{k+2}{k+1}\right) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \ln(k+2) - \ln(k+1)$

So ~~the sum diverges~~

$$S_1 = \ln(3) - \ln(2)$$

$$S_2 = \ln(3) - \ln(2) + \ln(4) - \ln(3) \\ = \ln(4) - \ln(2)$$

$$S_3 = \ln(4) - \ln(2) + \ln(5) - \ln(4) \\ = \ln(5) - \ln(2)$$

\vdots

$$S_k = \ln(k+2) - \ln(2) \Rightarrow S_k \rightarrow \infty \text{ and } \underline{\text{diverges}}.$$

EXERCISE:

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$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{3^{k-1} - 1}{6^{k-1}}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{4}{2^n}$$

EXERCISE: Find a "closed form" (i.e. an equation for)

$$1 - 2 + 4 - 8 + \dots + (-1)^{n-1} 2^{n-1} + \dots$$

$$\frac{5}{1 \cdot 2} + \frac{5}{2 \cdot 3} + \frac{5}{3 \cdot 4} + \dots + \frac{5}{n(n+1)} + \dots$$

EXERCISE: Which series converge/diverge

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^k + 3^k}{4^k}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{3^k + 4^k}{3^k + 4^k}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \ln\left(\frac{k}{2k+1}\right)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{e^{k\pi}}{\pi^k e}$$