

## Lesson 23 Geometric Series

I. Sigma ( $\Sigma$ )/Summation Notation

II. Geometric Series

A. Form

B. Sum

C. Examples

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Reminder - Quiz Fri (10/27) - 1st-order linear differential equations

## I. Sigma/Summation Notation

**Ex 1** Evaluate

add results together  $\rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^4 n^2 = 1 + 4 + 9 + 16 = 30$

$n=1$  formula

plug in integers from 1 to 4

$$n=1 \quad n=2 \quad n=3 \quad n=4 \\ 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + 4^2 = 30$$

**Ex** Use summation notation to write the sum in compact form

$$2 + 4 + 6 + 8 + \dots + 50$$

$n$	1	2	3	4	...	$n$	25
$n^{\text{th}}$ term	2	4	6	8		$2n$	50

Ans:  $\sum_{n=1}^{25} 2n$

Today, we start to explore infinite sums (Series)

[Ex] Write the sum in compact form using summation notation.

a)  $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \dots$  A sign of infinite sum

n	1	2	3	4	...	n
n <sup>th</sup> term	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{4}$		$\frac{1}{n}$

Ans:  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}$

b)  $1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{6} + \dots$

alternating series

n	1	2	3	4	...	n
n <sup>th</sup> term	1	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{4}$		$(-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n}$

Alternating:  $(-1)^n$  or  $(-1)^{n+1} / (-1)^{n-1}$

Key:  $(-1)^{\text{odd}} = -1$

$(-1)^{\text{even}} = 1$

Ans:  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{1}{n}$

c)  $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{24} + \frac{1}{48} + \dots$

geometric series

You multiply by same ratio every time to get to next term

first term =  $\frac{1}{3}$   
ratio =  $\frac{1}{2}$

n	0	1	2	3	...	n
n <sup>th</sup> term	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^1$	$\frac{1}{12} = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2$	$\frac{1}{24} = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3$		$\frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$
		$= \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^0$				

Ex Write the first 5 terms of the series

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

$n!$  only defined for nonnegative integers

$$= 1 + 3 + \frac{9}{2} + \frac{27}{6} + \frac{81}{24} + \dots$$

$$0! = 1$$

$$1! = 1$$

$$2! = 1 \cdot 2 = 2$$

$$3! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 = 6$$

$$4! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 = 24$$

$$n! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot \dots \cdot n$$

## II. Geometric Series

### A. Form

(D) A series of the form

$$a + \underbrace{ar}_{xr} + \underbrace{ar^2}_{xr} + \underbrace{ar^3}_{xr} + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} ar^n$$

is called a **geometric series**

$a$  - 1st term

$r$  - common ratio

Ex

$$a) \quad 2 + \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{9} + \frac{2}{27} + \frac{2}{81} + \dots$$

is geometric  $a=2$

$$r = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\underbrace{\times \frac{1}{2}} \quad \underbrace{\times \frac{2}{3}}$$

$$b) \quad 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots$$

is NOT geometric  $\frac{1}{2} \neq \frac{2}{3}$

$$c) \quad 4 - 1 + \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{64} - \dots$$

is geometric  $a=4$   
 $r = -\frac{1}{4}$

## Big theorem

Ⓘ The geometric series

easier for students than  $\Sigma$

$$a + ar + ar^2 + ar^3 + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} ar^n$$

• converges to  $\frac{a}{1-r}$  if  $|r| < 1$

• diverges if  $|r| \geq 1$

What does  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  mean?  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^k a_n}_{k\text{th partial sums}}$

## Examples

$$\boxed{\text{Ex}} \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{e^{(0.5)n}}{3^{n+2}} = \frac{e^{(0.5)2}}{3^4} + \frac{e^{(0.5)3}}{3^5} + \frac{e^{(0.5)4}}{3^6} + \dots$$

$$\frac{e/81}{1 - \frac{e^{0.5}}{3}}$$

geometric  $a = \frac{e}{3^4} = \frac{e}{81}$

$$r = \frac{e^{0.5}}{3} \quad |r| < 1$$

$$\boxed{\text{Ex}} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^n + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{n+1} \right]$$

If  $\sum \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^n$  converges and  $\sum \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{n+1}$  converges,  
then we can add their answers to get the

ans for this problem

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

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{n+1} = \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^3 + \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^4 + \dots = \frac{1/16}{1 - 1/4} = \frac{1 \cdot 4}{16 \cdot 3} = \frac{1}{12}$$

$$a = \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{16}$$

$$r = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Ans: } 2 + \frac{1}{12}}$$

Ex Use summation notation to write the number  $4.\overline{25}$ .

$$4.\overline{25} = 4.25252525 \dots$$

$$= 4 + 0.25 + 0.0025 + 0.000025 + \dots$$

$$= 4 + \frac{25}{100} + \frac{25}{10,000} + \frac{25}{1,000,000} + \dots$$

$$= 4 + \frac{25}{10^2} + \frac{25}{10^4} + \frac{25}{10^6} + \dots$$

geometric  $a = \frac{25}{10^2}$   $r = \frac{1}{10^2}$

At least

Two possible answers. Both are correct.

$$4.\overline{25} = 4 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{25}{10^{2n}}$$

$$4.\overline{25} = 4 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{25}{10^2} \left(\frac{1}{10^2}\right)^n$$