

# Series

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8.2Series

## 8.2 Series

Lecturer: Sarah Arpin

## Series

Indefinite  
Integrals:

## Recall Notation

If you want to write out a sum:

$$1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9 + 10$$

you may want to save space. To do this, you can use  $\sum$  notation:

stop  $\rightarrow$  10  
start  $\rightarrow$  1

$$\sum_{i=1}^{10} i = 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9 + 10$$

What about if the thing you're adding up is more complicated? Just figure out how to use that "counter"  $i$  to your advantage:

$$\frac{2}{3} + \frac{3}{4} + \frac{4}{5} + \frac{5}{6} = \sum_{i=2}^5 \frac{i}{i+1}.$$

We can also use this to add up the terms of a sequence:

$$a_1 + a_2 + \cdots + a_n = \sum_{i=1}^n$$

Recall that our sequences can be infinite. How do we add them up in this case?

Take a sequence  $a_1, a_2, \dots$ . Adding up all of the (infinitely many) terms gives us an (infinite) series:

1, 2, 3, 4, ... sequence

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + ... sum

list of values

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i = a_1 + a_2 + \cdots$$

one value determined by the sum of values in a sequence.

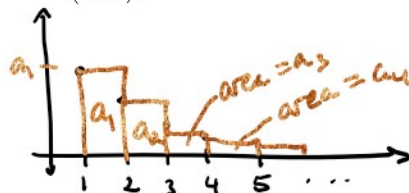
Notice the difference between a sequence and a series. In a sequence, we just list all the terms. In a series, we add them all up.

How do we do this infinitely many times? Limits. The value of an infinite series is defined by its partial sums:

$$a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \cdots = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^N a_i \right] \quad \text{Nth partial sum - stop at term N}$$

- If  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$ , we say the series **converges**.  
is finite
- If  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i$  is infinite or DNE, we say the series **diverges**.
- We can think of this geometrically by imagining an infinite series as the integral of a step function (draw).

$$f(n) = a_n$$



## Geometric Series

$$a = 1, r = 2 \quad \leftarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1-2^n}{1-2}$$

$$1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + \dots$$

$$a = \frac{1}{3}, r = -\frac{2}{3} \quad \frac{1}{3} - \frac{2}{9} + \frac{4}{9} - \frac{8}{27} + \dots$$

$$a + ar + ar^2 + ar^3 + \dots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ar^{n-1}$$

Converges if  $|r| < 1$   
 Diverges if  $|r| \geq 1$

To investigate convergence, subtract the partial sums  $S_N$  and  $rS_N$  and solve for  $S_N$ :

$$\star S_N = \sum_{n=1}^N ar^{n-1} = a + ar + ar^2 + \dots + ar^{N-2} + ar^{N-1}$$

$$\star r \cdot S_N = r \sum_{n=1}^N ar^{n-1} = ar + ar^2 + ar^3 + \dots + ar^{N-1} + ar^N$$

$$S_N - rS_N = a - ar^N$$

$$S_N(1-r) = a - ar^N$$

$$S_N = \frac{a - ar^N}{1-r} \quad \text{partial sum of a geo series}$$

Example

Is the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 5^{1-n} 2^{2n}$  convergent or divergent?

Want in the form:  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ar^{n-1}$

$$5^{1-n} = (5^{-1})^{n-1} \text{ or } \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^{n-1}$$

$$2^{2n} = (2^2)^n = 4^n = 4^{(n-1)+1} = 4 \cdot 4^{n-1}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^{n-1} \cdot 4 \cdot (4)^{n-1} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (4) \cdot \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^{n-1}$$

is a geometric series  
 $a = 4$   
 $r = \frac{4}{5}$  since  $r = \frac{4}{5}$ ,  $|r| < 1$   
 and the series converges

Take  $r = \frac{1}{2}$  and see what happens

If the geo series converges, the value will be:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ar^{n-1} = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a - ar^N}{1-r} = \frac{a}{1-r}$$

when does this limit converge?

If  $|r| < 1$ , then  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} r^N$  will converge, and so will

our series

Example

Is the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{12}{3^n}$  convergent or divergent? If it is convergent, find the sum.

Want:  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ar^{n-1}$

$$\frac{12}{3^n} = 12 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^n = 12 \cdot \frac{1}{3} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n-1} = 4 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n-1}$$

$$\rightarrow = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 4 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n-1}$$

geometric series

$$a = 4, r = \frac{1}{3}$$

Since  $r = \frac{1}{3}$ ,  $|r| < 1$   
 and the series converges

$$\text{The sum is } \frac{a}{1-r} = \frac{4}{1-\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$= \frac{4}{\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$= 4 \cdot \frac{3}{2} = 6$$

### Telescoping Series

Consider the series:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+1} \right) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left( \sum_{n=1}^N \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+1} \right) \right)$$

$$= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{1} - \cancel{\frac{1}{2}} \right) + \left( \cancel{\frac{1}{2}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{3}} \right) + \left( \cancel{\frac{1}{3}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{4}} \right) + \left( \cancel{\frac{1}{4}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{5}} \right) + \dots + \left( \cancel{\frac{1}{N-2}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{N-1}} \right) + \left( \cancel{\frac{1}{N-1}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{N}} \right) + \left( \cancel{\frac{1}{N}} - \frac{1}{N+1} \right) \right]$$

$$= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{N+1} \right) = \boxed{1} \quad \boxed{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+1} \right) = 1}$$

### Example

Express the following series as a telescoping sum and determine if it converges or diverges:

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

$$= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^N \left( \frac{1}{k+1} - \frac{1}{k+3} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left( \left( \frac{1}{2} - \cancel{\frac{1}{4}} \right) + \left( \cancel{\frac{1}{3}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{5}} \right) + \left( \cancel{\frac{1}{4}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{6}} \right) + \left( \cancel{\frac{1}{5}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{7}} \right) + \dots + \left( \cancel{\frac{1}{N-1}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{N+1}} \right) + \left( \cancel{\frac{1}{N}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{N+2}} \right) + \left( \cancel{\frac{1}{N+1}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{N+3}} \right) \right)$$

$$= \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \cancel{\frac{1}{N+2}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{N+3}} \right) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} = \left( \frac{5}{6} \right) \quad \boxed{\text{converges to } 5/6}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{k^2 - 4k + 3} \rightarrow \frac{2}{(k+3)(k+1)} = \left( \frac{A}{k+3} + \frac{B}{k+1} \right)$$

$$2 = A(k+1) + B(k+3)$$

$$k = -1: \quad 2 = B(-1+3) \\ 2 = 2B \rightarrow B = 1$$

$$k = -3: \quad 2 = A(-3+1) \\ 2 = A(-2) \rightarrow A = -1$$

## Series with Variables

### Example

Find the value(s) of  $x$  for which the following series converges:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{(x+3)^i}{2^i}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a \cdot r^{i-1}$$

$$(x+3)^i = (x+3)(x+3)^{i-1}$$

$$2^i = 2 \cdot 2^{i-1}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{x+3}{2} \right) \left( \frac{x+3}{2} \right)^{i-1}$$

is geometric w/  $a = \frac{x+3}{2}$   
 $r = \frac{x+3}{2}$

Geometric series converge for  $|r| < 1$

$$\left| \frac{x+3}{2} \right| < 1$$

The series converges for  $-5 < x < -1$ .

$$-1 < \frac{x+3}{2} < 1$$

$$-2 < x+3 < 2$$

$$-5 < x < -1$$

### Expressing a decimal as a series

### Example

Express the repeating decimal 0.14 as a series.

$$0.\overline{141414} \dots$$

$$= \frac{14}{100} + \frac{14}{10000} + \frac{14}{1000000} + \dots$$

$$= \frac{14}{10^2} + \frac{14}{10^4} + \frac{14}{10^6} + \dots$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{14}{10^{2n}} \quad \leftarrow \text{geo!}$$

$$14 \cdot \frac{1}{10^{2n}}$$

$$\frac{1}{10^{2n}} = \left( \frac{1}{100} \right)^n = \frac{1}{100} \cdot \left( \frac{1}{100} \right)^{n-1}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{14}{100} \left( \frac{1}{100} \right)^{n-1}$$

$$\text{geo w/ } a = \frac{14}{100}, r = \frac{1}{100}$$

converges b/c  $|r| < 1$

$$\frac{a}{1-r} = \frac{14/100}{1-1/100} = \frac{14}{99}$$