

Packet D: Infinite Series (corresponds to Section 9.1)

I. Geometric Series. A series of the form $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} ar^{k-1} = a + ar + ar^2 + ar^3 + \dots$ where $a \neq 0$ is called a geometric series. This series converges with sum $S = a/(1-r)$ if $|r| < 1$, but diverges if $|r| \geq 1$.

Indicate whether the given series converges or diverges. If it converges, find its sum. *Hint:* it may help you to write out the first few terms of the series.

1. $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^k$

Geometric series

where $\frac{1}{5} < 1$

$$S = \frac{\frac{1}{5}}{1 - \frac{1}{5}} = \frac{\frac{1}{5}}{\frac{4}{5}} = \frac{1}{4}$$

\therefore Series converges with a sum of $\frac{1}{4}$.

2. $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left[2\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^k + 3\left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^k \right]$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 2\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^k + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 3\left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^k$$

Both are geometric series where $r < 1$.

$$S = \frac{2}{1 - \frac{1}{3}} = 3 \quad \left\} \quad S = \frac{3}{1 - \frac{1}{6}} = \frac{18}{5}$$

\therefore Series converges to a sum of $\frac{18}{5}$.

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

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

As k approach infinity, $\frac{3}{k} \rightarrow 0$, and the series is essentially an infinity sum of 1's \Rightarrow Diverges.

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

A geometric series where $\frac{4}{3} > 1$

\therefore Diverges.

$$5. \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{k!}{10^k}$$

When k is less than 25,
 $k! < 10^k$. But when
 $k \geq 25$, $k! > 10^k$.

Therefore, the series
 diverges because the
 terms are increasing
 for $k \geq 25$.

$$6. \sum_{k=3}^{\infty} \left(\frac{e}{\pi}\right)^{k-1}$$

Geometric Series where
 $\frac{e}{\pi} < 1$.

$$S = \frac{e^2/\pi^2}{1 - e/\pi} \cdot \frac{\pi^2}{\pi^2}$$

$$= \frac{e^2}{\pi^2 - e\pi}$$

\therefore Series converges with a
 sum of $e^2/(\pi^2 - e\pi) \approx$
 5.55622

$$7. \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{(k+1)^2} - \frac{3}{k^2} \right)$$

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

$$\left(\frac{3}{4^2} - \frac{3}{3^2} \right) + \dots$$

Re-associating, we get

$$= -3 + \left(\frac{3}{2^2} - \frac{3}{2^2} \right) + \left(\frac{3}{3^2} - \frac{3}{3^2} \right) + \dots$$

$$= -3 + 0 + 0 + \dots$$

$$= -3$$

\therefore Series converges to -3 .

$$8. \sum_{k=4}^{\infty} \frac{4}{k-3}$$

We know the harmonic
 series $\sum \frac{1}{k}$ diverges
 and $\frac{1}{k} < \frac{4}{k-3}$, therefore
 the series diverges, also.

COLLAPSING SERIES. A geometric series is one of the few series where we can actually calculate S_n ; a collapsing series is another.

Example. Show that the following series converges and find its sum.

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

Solution. Use a partial fraction decomposition to write

$$\frac{1}{(k+2)(k+3)} = \frac{1}{k+2} - \frac{1}{k+3}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} S_n &= \sum_{k=1}^n \left(\frac{1}{k+2} - \frac{1}{k+3} \right) = \left(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{5} \right) + \dots + \left(\frac{1}{n+2} - \frac{1}{n+3} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{n+3} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n = \frac{1}{3}$$

Use the above example to determine whether the given series converges or diverges. If it converges, find its sum.

<p>9. $\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{2}{k(k-1)} \right) = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{2}{k-1} - \frac{2}{k} \right)$</p> $= \left(\frac{2}{1} - \frac{2}{2} \right) + \left(\frac{2}{2} - \frac{2}{3} \right) + \left(\frac{2}{3} - \frac{2}{4} \right) + \dots$ $= \frac{2}{1} + \left(\frac{2}{2} - \frac{2}{2} \right) + \left(\frac{2}{3} - \frac{2}{3} \right) + \dots$ $= 2$ <p>\therefore Series converges to 2.</p>	<p>10. $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{4}{(4k-3)(4k+1)} \right)$</p> $= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{4k-3} - \frac{1}{4k+1} \right)$ $= \left(\frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{5} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{9} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{13} \right) + \dots$ $= 1 + \left(\frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{5} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{9} \right) + \dots$ $= 1$ <p>\therefore Series converges to 1.</p>
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$$11. \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{6}{(2k-1)(2k+1)} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{2k-1} - \frac{3}{2k+1} \right) = \left(3 - \frac{3}{2} \right) + \left(\frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{3} \right) + \left(\frac{3}{3} - \frac{3}{5} \right) + \left(\frac{3}{5} - \frac{3}{7} \right) + \dots$$

$$= 3 + \left(\frac{3}{3} - \frac{3}{3} \right) + \left(\frac{3}{5} - \frac{3}{5} \right) + \dots$$

$$= 3 \Rightarrow \therefore \text{Series converges to } 3$$

$$12. \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{40k}{(2k-1)^2(2k+1)^2} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{5}{(2k-1)^2} - \frac{5}{(2k+1)^2} \right) = \left(\frac{5}{1^2} - \frac{5}{3^2} \right) + \left(\frac{5}{3^2} - \frac{5}{5^2} \right) + \dots$$

$$= 5$$

$$\therefore \text{Series converges to } 5.$$

$$13. \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{2k+1}{k^2(k+1)^2} \right)$$

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

$$= 1$$

$$\therefore \text{Converges to } 1.$$

$$14. \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{\ln(k+2)} - \frac{1}{\ln(k+1)} \right)$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{\ln 3} - \frac{1}{\ln 2} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{\ln 4} - \frac{1}{\ln 3} \right) + \dots$$

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

$$\therefore \text{Series converges to } -(\ln 2)^{-1}, \text{ or around } -1.4427.$$

$$15. \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\tan^{-1}(k) - \tan^{-1}(k+1))$$

$$= \tan^{-1}(1) - \tan^{-1}(2) + \tan^{-1}(2) - \dots$$

$$= \tan^{-1}(1)$$

$$= \pi/4$$

$$\therefore \text{Series converges to } \pi/4.$$

$$16. \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{2^{2k}}{(2k)!} - \frac{2^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!} \right)$$

$$= \frac{(-2)^2}{2!} + \frac{(-2)^3}{3!} + \frac{(-2)^4}{4!} + \frac{(-2)^5}{5!} + \frac{(-2)^6}{6!} + \dots$$

We know $e^x = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \dots$

so if $x = -2$ we get

$$e^{-2} = 1 - 2 + \frac{2^2}{2!} - \frac{2^3}{3!} + \frac{2^4}{4!} - \frac{2^5}{5!} + \frac{2^6}{6!} \dots$$

Add 1 we get:

$$\boxed{e^{-2} + 1}$$