

11.4. Summation Notations and Series

* Summation Notation

$\{2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, \dots\}$ ← infinite Sequence.

General term $a_n = 2^n$

$2 + 4 + 8 + 16 + 32 + 64 + \dots + 2^{20}$

$S = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_{20}$

Summation Notation (Sigma Notation)

$\sum_{n=1}^{20} a_n$

upper limit of summation: 20
 lower limit of summation: 1
 index of summation: n
 summand: a_n

Nov 9-6:30 PM

$\sum_{n=1}^{20} a_n = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_{20}$

$\sum_{n=1}^{20} 2^n = 2^1 + 2^2 + 2^3 + 2^4 + \dots + 2^{20}$

Ex: (1) Evaluate: (a) $\sum_{k=1}^7 k^2$ (b) $\sum_{j=2}^6 (3j-1)$

(2) Write the sum in summation notation

(a) $5 + 10 + 15 + 20 + \dots + 50$

(b) $\frac{3}{2} + \frac{3}{4} + \frac{3}{6} + \frac{3}{8} + \frac{3}{10} + \dots + \frac{3}{100}$

(1) (a) 140 ; (b) 55

Nov 9-6:36 PM

(2) (a) $5 + 10 + 15 + 20 + \dots + 50$

$\sum_{x=1}^{10} 5x$

(b) $\frac{3}{2} + \frac{3}{4} + \frac{3}{6} + \dots + \frac{3}{100}$

$\sum_{x=1}^{50} \frac{3}{2x}$

Series is "the" sum of all the terms of an infinite sequence

Nov 9-6:44 PM

$\{2, 4, 8, 16, 32, \dots\}$ $a_n = 2^n$

$2 + 4 + 8 + 16 + \dots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^n = \infty$

$\{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{16}, \frac{1}{32}, \dots\}$ $a_n = \frac{1}{2^n}$

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n} = 1$

Partial Sum of a series

Diagram showing a unit square divided into four quadrants, each containing a smaller square of side length $\frac{1}{2}$, illustrating the partial sum $1 - \frac{1}{2^n}$.

Nov 9-6:47 PM

$\{\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{16}, \frac{1}{32}, \dots\}$

$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n}$

$S_1 = \frac{1}{2}$ (first partial sum of the series)

$S_2 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}$ (second partial sum of the series = sum of first 2 terms)

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

$S_4 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16}$

$S_n = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^n}$

$S_n = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{2^j}$ (n^{th} partial sum of the series)

Nov 9-6:53 PM

Why do we care about series?

$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$

$\{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n, \dots\}$ ← infinite sequence

$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k$ ← series

Partial Sums: $S_1 = a_1$; $S_2 = a_1 + a_2$; $S_3 = a_1 + a_2 + a_3$

$S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k$ (sum of first n terms)

Nov 9-6:59 PM