

Key result on geometric series:

If the absolute value of the common ratio is less than 1, the series converges.

Otherwise, it diverges.

If it converges, it will converge to the number:

$$S = \frac{\text{first term of series}}{1 - \text{common ratio}}.$$


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$$S = 5 - \frac{10}{3} + \frac{20}{9} - \frac{40}{27} + \dots$$

$$\text{Common ratio} = -\frac{2}{3}. \quad \left| -\frac{2}{3} \right| < 1 \rightarrow \text{converges.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Converges to } S &= \frac{5}{1 - \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)} = \frac{5}{1 + \frac{2}{3}} \\ &= \frac{5}{\frac{5}{3}} = 5 \cdot \frac{3}{5} = \boxed{3}. \end{aligned}$$

E.x.  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2 - 5^n}{10^n}$

Q: Does this series converge?

If it does, what does it converge to?

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{2}{10^n} - \frac{5^n}{10^n} \right) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{10^n} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{5^n}{10^n} \\
 &= \left( \frac{2}{10} + \frac{2}{10^2} + \frac{2}{10^3} + \dots \right) - \left( \frac{5}{10} + \frac{5^2}{10^2} + \frac{5^3}{10^3} + \dots \right) \\
 &= \frac{\frac{2}{10}}{1 - \frac{1}{10}} - \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{1 - \frac{1}{2}} \\
 &= \frac{\frac{2}{10}}{\frac{9}{10}} - \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{2}{9} - 1 = \boxed{-\frac{7}{9}}
 \end{aligned}$$

E.g. 
$$\sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{(\ln(x))^{n-3}}{6^n}$$

Q: Find the value(s) of  $x$  for which this series converges.

$$\sum_{n=3}^{\infty} \frac{(\ln(x))^{n-3}}{6^n} = \frac{1}{6^3} + \frac{\ln(x)}{6^4} + \frac{[\ln(x)]^2}{6^5} + \dots$$

→ geometric with common ratio =  $\frac{\ln(x)}{6}$ .

For it to converge,  $\left| \frac{\ln(x)}{6} \right| < 1$ .

$$-1 < \frac{\ln(x)}{6} < 1$$

$$-6 < \ln(x) < 6$$

$$e^{-6} < x < e^6$$

Q: If it converges, what does it converge to?

$$A = \frac{\frac{1}{6^3}}{1 - \frac{\ln(x)}{6}}$$

Telescoping Series:

E.g.  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(i+1)(i+2)}$

$$\frac{1}{(i+1)(i+2)} = \frac{A}{i+1} + \frac{B}{i+2}$$

→ Solve for A and B:  $A = 1, B = -1$ .

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{1}{i+1} - \frac{1}{i+2} \right]$$

$$S_1 = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} \quad \begin{array}{l} \nearrow i=1 \\ \nearrow i=2 \end{array}$$

$$S_2 = \left[ \frac{1}{2} - \cancel{\frac{1}{3}} \right] + \left[ \cancel{\frac{1}{3}} - \frac{1}{4} \right]$$

$$S_3 = \left[ \frac{1}{2} - \cancel{\frac{1}{3}} \right] + \left[ \cancel{\frac{1}{3}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{4}} \right] + \left[ \cancel{\frac{1}{4}} - \frac{1}{5} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} \nearrow i=1 \\ \nearrow i=2 \\ \nearrow i=3 \end{array}$$

$$S_n = \left[ \frac{1}{2} - \cancel{\frac{1}{3}} \right] + \left[ \cancel{\frac{1}{3}} - \cancel{\frac{1}{4}} \right] + \dots + \left[ \cancel{\frac{1}{n+1}} - \frac{1}{n+2} \right]$$

$$S_n = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{n+2} \quad \leftarrow \text{formula for } n^{\text{th}} \text{ partial sum.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(i+1)(i+2)} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left[ \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{n+2} \right] = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$