

ICS141: Discrete Mathematics for Computer Science I

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Chapter 2. Basic Structures

2.4 Sequences and Summations



Summation Notation



Given a sequence {a_n}, an integer lower bound (or limit) j ≥ 0, and an integer upper bound k ≥ j, then the summation of {a_n} from a_j to a_k is written and defined as follows:

$$\sum_{i=j}^{k} a_i = a_j + a_{j+1} + \dots + a_k$$

Here, i is called the index of summation.

$$\sum_{i=j}^{k} a_i = \sum_{m=j}^{k} a_m = \sum_{l=j}^{k} a_l$$



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Generalized Summations

For an infinite sequence, we write:

$$\sum_{i=j}^{\infty} a_i = a_j + a_{j+1} + \cdots$$

To sum a function over all members of a set $X = \{x_1, x_2,...\}$:

$$\sum_{x \in X} f(x) = f(x_1) + f(x_2) + \cdots$$

• Or, if $X = \{x | P(x)\}$, we may just write:

$$\sum_{P(x)} f(x) = f(x_1) + f(x_2) + \cdots$$





Simple Summation Example

$$\sum_{i=2}^{4} (i^2 + 1) =$$

$$1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots + \frac{1}{100} = \sum_{i=1}^{100} \frac{1}{i}$$



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More Summation Examples

An infinite sequence with a finite sum:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} 2^{-i} = 2^0 + 2^{-1} + \dots = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots = 2$$

Using a predicate to define a set of elements to sum over:

$$\sum_{\substack{(x \text{ is prime}) \\ x < 10}} x^2 = 2^2 + 3^2 + 5^2 + 7^2$$

$$= 4 + 9 + 25 + 49 = 87$$



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Summation Manipulations

- Some handy identities for summations:
 - Summing constant value

$$\sum_{n=i}^{j} c = (j-i+1) \cdot c$$

Number of terms in the summation

$$\sum_{n=1}^{3} 2 =$$

$$\sum_{n=-1}^{2} 2i$$



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Summation Manipulations

Distributive law

$$\sum_{n=i}^{j} cf(n) = c \sum_{n=i}^{j} f(n)$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{3} (4 \cdot n^2) = 4 \cdot 1^2 + 4 \cdot 2^2 + 4 \cdot 3^2$$
$$= 4 \cdot (1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2)$$
$$= 4 \sum_{n=1}^{3} n^2$$



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Summation Manipulations

An application of commutativity

$$\sum_{n=i}^{j} (f(n) + g(n)) = \sum_{n=i}^{j} f(n) + \sum_{n=i}^{j} g(n)$$

$$\sum_{n=2}^{4} (n+2n) = (2+2\cdot2) + (3+2\cdot3) + (4+2\cdot4)$$
$$= (2+3+4) + (2\cdot2+2\cdot3+2\cdot4)$$
$$= \sum_{n=2}^{4} n + \sum_{n=2}^{4} 2n$$



Index Shifting



$$\sum_{i=j}^{m} f(i) = \sum_{k=j+n}^{m+n} f(k-n)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{4} i^2 = 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + 4^2$$

• Let k = i + 2, then i = k - 2

$$\sum_{k=1+2}^{4+2} (k-2)^2 = \sum_{k=3}^{6} (k-2)^2$$
$$= (3-2)^2 + (4-2)^2 + (5-2)^2 + (6-2)^2$$



More Summation Manipulations

Sequence splitting

$$\sum_{i=j}^{k} f(i) = \sum_{i=j}^{m} f(i) + \sum_{i=m+1}^{k} f(i) \quad \text{if } j \le m < k$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^{4} i^3 = 0^3 + 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + 4^3$$

$$= (0^3 + 1^3 + 2^3) + (3^3 + 4^3)$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{2} i^3 + \sum_{i=3}^{4} i^3$$



More Summation Manipulations

Order reversal

$$\sum_{i=0}^{k} f(i) = \sum_{i=0}^{k} f(k-i)$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^{3} i^3 = 0^3 + 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3$$

$$= (3-0)^3 + (3-1)^3 + (3-2)^3 + (3-3)^3$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{3} (3-i)^3$$

Example: Geometric Progression

- A geometric progression is a sequence of the form a, ar, ar^2 , ar^3 , ..., ar^n ,... where a, $r \in \mathbb{R}$.
- The sum of such a sequence is given by:

$$S = \sum_{i=0}^{n} ar^{i}$$

 We can reduce this to closed form via clever manipulation of summations...



Geometric Sum Derivation

Here we go...

$$S = \sum_{i=0}^{n} ar^{i}$$

$$PS = P\sum_{i=0}^{n} ar^{i} = \sum_{i=0}^{n} rar^{i} = \sum_{i=0}^{n} ar^{i} = \sum_{i=0}^{n} ar^{1}r^{i}$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{n} ar^{1+i} = \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} ar^{1+(j-1)} = \sum_{j=1}^{n+1} ar^{j}$$

$$= \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} ar^{j}\right) + \sum_{j=n+1}^{n+1} ar^{j} = \left(\sum_{j=1}^{n} ar^{j}\right) + ar^{n+1} = \dots$$



Derivation Example Cont...

$$rS = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} ar^{i}\right) + ar^{n+1} = \left(ar^{0} - ar^{0}\right) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} ar^{i}\right) + ar^{n+1}$$

$$= ar^{0} + \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} ar^{i}\right) + ar^{n+1} - ar^{0}$$

$$= \left(\sum_{i=0}^{n} ar^{i}\right) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} ar^{i}\right) + ar^{n+1} - a$$

$$= \left(\sum_{i=0}^{n} ar^{i}\right) + a(r^{n+1} - 1) = S + a(r^{n+1} - 1)$$





Concluding Long Derivation... University of Hawaii

$$rS = S + a(r^{n+1} - 1)$$

$$rS - S = a(r^{n+1} - 1)$$

$$S(r - 1) = a(r^{n+1} - 1)$$

$$S = \frac{a(r^{n+1} - 1)}{r - 1} \quad \text{when } r \neq 1$$

When
$$r = 1$$
, $S = \sum_{i=0}^{n} ar^{i} = \sum_{i=0}^{n} a1^{i} = \sum_{i=0}^{n} a \cdot 1 = (n+1)a$



Example: Impress Your Friends

- Boast, "I'm so smart; give me any 2-digit number n, and I'll add all the numbers from 1 to n in my head in just a few seconds."
- I.e., Evaluate the summation:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} i$$

- There is a simple closed-form formula for the result, discovered by Gauss at age 10!
 - And frequently rediscovered by many...





Gauss' Trick, Illustrated

Consider the sum:

We have n/2 pairs of elements, each pair summing to n+1, for a total of (n/2)(n+1).





Symbolic Derivation of Trick

k = n/2

For case where *n* is even...

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} i = \sum_{i=1}^{2k} i = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} i\right) + \sum_{i=k+1}^{n} i = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} i\right) + \sum_{j=0}^{n-(k+1)} (j+(k+1))$$

$$= \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} i\right) + \sum_{j=0}^{n-(k+1)} (n-(k+1)) - j + (k+1)$$

$$= \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} i\right) + \sum_{j=0}^{n-(k+1)} (n-j) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} i\right) + \sum_{l=1}^{n-k} (n-(l-1))$$

$$= \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} i\right) + \sum_{l=1}^{n-k} (n+1-l) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} i\right) + \sum_{l=1}^{k} (n+1-l) = \dots$$



Concluding Gauss' Derivation University of Hawaii

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} i = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k} i\right) + \sum_{i=1}^{k} (n+1-i) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} (i+n+1-i)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{k} (n+1) = k(n+1) = \frac{n}{2}(n+1)$$

$$= \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

- So, you only have to do 1 easy multiplication in your head, then cut in half.
- Also works for odd n (prove this at home).



Some Shortcut Expressions

TABLE 2 Some Useful Summation Formulae.

Sum	Closed Form
$\sum_{k=0}^{n} ar^k \ (r \neq 0)$	$\frac{ar^{n+1}-a}{r-1}, r \neq 1$
$\sum_{k=1}^{n} k$	$\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$
$\sum_{k=1}^{n} k^2$	$\frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$
$\sum_{k=1}^{n} k^3$	$\frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4}$
$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k, x < 1$	$\frac{1}{1-x}$
$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty}, kx^{k-1}, x < 1$	$\frac{1}{(1-x)^2}$

Geometric sequence

Gauss' trick

Quadratic series

Cubic series

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Using the Shortcuts

Example: Evaluate

$$\sum_{k=50}^{100} k^2$$

• Use series splitting.
$$\sum_{k=1}^{100} k^2 = \left(\sum_{k=1}^{49} k^2\right) + \sum_{k=50}^{100} k^2$$

= 297,925.

- Solve for desired summation.
- Apply quadratic series rule.
- Evaluate.

$$\sum_{k=50}^{100} k^2 = \left(\sum_{k=1}^{100} k^2\right) - \sum_{k=1}^{49} k^2$$

$$= \frac{100 \cdot 101 \cdot 201}{6} - \frac{49 \cdot 50 \cdot 99}{6}$$

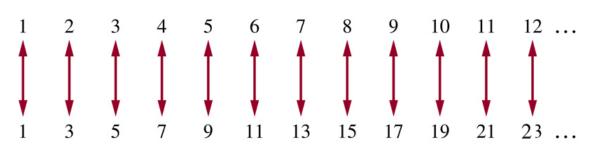
$$= 338,350 - 40,425$$



Cardinality

- The sets A and B have the same cardinality if and only if there is a one-to-one correspondence from A to B.
- A set that is either finite or has the same cardinality as the set of positive integers is called countable.
- A set that is not countable is called uncountable.
- Example: Show that the set of odd positive integers is a countable set.
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Consider the function f(n) = 2n - 1 from \mathbb{Z}^+ to the set of odd positive integers

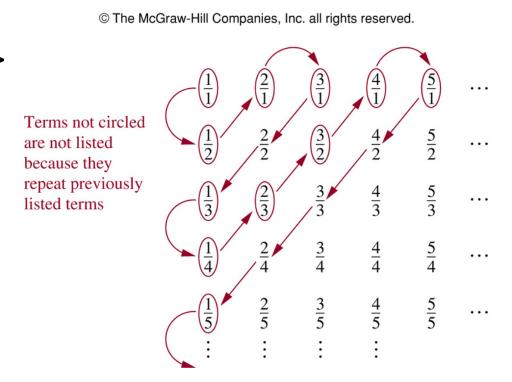


A one-to-one correspondence between **Z**⁺ and the set of odd positive integers.



Cardinality (cont.)

- An infinite set S is countable iff it is possible to list the elements of the set in a sequence (indexed by the positive integers)
 - $a_1, a_2,...,a_n,...$ is oneto-one mapping $f: \mathbb{Z}^+ \to S$ where $a_1 = f(1), a_2 = f(2),..., a_n = f(n),...$
- Example: Show that the set of positive rational numbers is countable (see figure)





Summation Manipulations

Useful identities:

$$\sum_{i=j}^{k} f(i) = \sum_{i=j}^{m} f(i) + \sum_{i=m+1}^{k} f(i) \quad \text{if } j \le m < k$$
(Sequence splitting.)

$$\sum_{i=0}^{k} f(i) = \sum_{i=0}^{k} f(k-i)$$
 (Order reversal.)

$$\sum_{i=1}^{2k} f(i) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} (f(2i-1) + f(2i))$$
 (Grouping.)