

# Mathematical analysis I

**Conf.univ.,dr. Elena Cojuhari**

*[elena.cojuhari@mate.utm.md](mailto:elena.cojuhari@mate.utm.md)*

Technical University of Moldova



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## 1 Infinite Series

- Sequences ✓
- Summing an Infinite Series ✓
- Convergence of Series with Positive Terms
- Absolute and Conditional Convergence
- The Ratio and Root Tests
- Power Series
- Taylor Series

## Subsection 1

### Sequences

# Sequences

- A **sequence** is an ordered collection of numbers defined by a function  $f(n)$  on a set of integers;  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow M, a_n = f(n)$
- The values  $a_n = f(n)$  are the **terms** of the sequence and  $n$  the **index**;
- We think of  $\{a_n\}$  as a list  $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, \dots$
- The sequence may not start at  $n = 1$ ; It may start at  $n = 0, n = 2$  or any other integer;
- When  $a_n$  is given by a formula, then it is referred to as the **general term** of the sequence;
- **Examples:**

General Term	Domain	Sequence
$a_n = 1 - \frac{1}{n}$	$n \geq 1$	$0, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{4}{5}, \dots$
$a_n = (-1)^n n$	$n \geq 0$	$0, -1, 2, -3, 4, \dots$
$a_n = \frac{n^2}{n^2 - 4}$	$n \geq 3$	$\frac{9}{5}, \frac{16}{12}, \frac{25}{21}, \frac{36}{32}, \frac{49}{45}, \dots$

# Recursively Defined Sequences

- A sequence is defined **recursively** if one or more of its first few terms are given and the  $n$ -th term  $a_n$  is computed in terms of one or more of the preceding terms  $a_{n-1}, a_{n-2}, \dots$ ;
- **Example:** Compute  $a_2, a_3, a_4$  for the sequence defined recursively by

$$a_1 = 1, \quad a_n = \frac{1}{2} \left( a_{n-1} + \frac{2}{a_{n-1}} \right);$$

$$a_2 = \frac{1}{2} \left( a_1 + \frac{2}{a_1} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{2}{1} \right) = \frac{3}{2};$$

$$a_3 = \frac{1}{2} \left( a_2 + \frac{2}{a_2} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{3}{2} + \frac{2}{3/2} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{17}{6} = \frac{17}{12};$$

$$a_4 = \frac{1}{2} \left( a_3 + \frac{2}{a_3} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{17}{12} + \frac{2}{17/12} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{577}{204} = \frac{577}{408};$$

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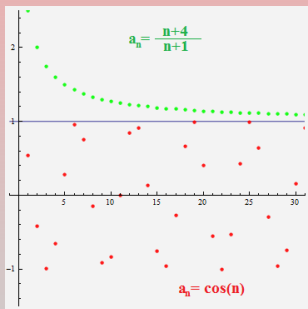
Fibonacci sequences

Stewart, p.691

1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, ...

# Limit of a Sequence

- We say that the sequence  $\{a_n\}$  **converges** to a limit  $L$ , written  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$  or  $a_n \rightarrow L$ , if the values of  $a_n$  get arbitrarily close to the value  $L$  when  $n$  is taken sufficiently large;
- If a sequence does not converge, we say it **diverges**;
- If the terms increase without bound,  $\{a_n\}$  **diverges to infinity**;



# Sequence Defined by a Function

## Theorem (Limit of a Sequence Defined by a Function)

If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$  exists, then the sequence  $a_n = f(n)$  converges to the same limit, i.e.,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$ ;

- **Example:** Show that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 1$ , where  $a_n = \frac{n+4}{n+1}$ ;

We consider the function  $f(x) = \frac{x+4}{x+1}$ ; Clearly,  $a_n = f(n)$ ;

Therefore, by the Theorem, it suffices to show that  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = 1$ ;

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x+4}{x+1} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + \frac{4}{x}}{1 + \frac{1}{x}} = \frac{1+0}{1+0} = 1;$$



# Example I

- Find the limit of the sequence  $\frac{2^2 - 2}{2^2}, \frac{3^2 - 2}{3^2}, \frac{4^2 - 2}{4^2}, \frac{5^2 - 2}{5^2}, \dots$ ;

The general term of the given sequence is  $a_n = \frac{n^2 - 2}{n^2}$ ; We consider

the function  $f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 2}{x^2} = 1 - \frac{2}{x^2}$ ; Clearly,  $a_n = f(n)$ ; Therefore, it suffices to find the limit  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$ ;

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{2}{x^2}\right) = 1 - 0 = 1;$$

Thus,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 1$ ;

## Example II

- Find the limit  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n + \ln n}{n^2}$ ;

We consider the function  $f(x) = \frac{x + \ln x}{x^2}$ ; Clearly,  $a_n = f(n)$ ;

Therefore, it suffices to find the limit  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$ ;

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x + \ln x}{x^2} = \\ \left( \frac{\infty}{\infty} \right) &\stackrel{\text{L'Hôpital}}{=} \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(x + \ln x)'}{(x^2)'} = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 + (1/x)}{2x} = 0;\end{aligned}$$

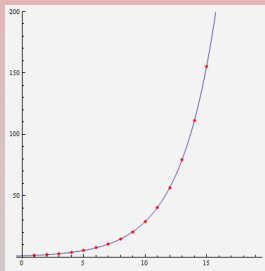
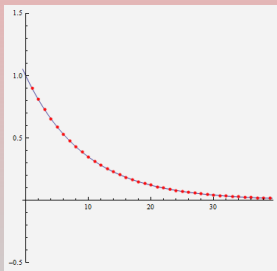
Thus,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n + \ln n}{n^2} = 0$ ;

# Geometric Sequences

- For  $r \geq 0$  and  $c > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} cr^n = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } 0 \leq r < 1 \\ c, & \text{if } r = 1 \\ \infty, & \text{if } r > 1 \end{cases}$$

To see this, one considers the corresponding function  $f(x) = cr^x$ ; If  $r < 1$ , then,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} cr^x = 0$ , and, if  $r > 1$ , then,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} cr^x = \infty$ ;



# Limits Laws for Sequences

## Limit Laws for Sequences

Assume  $\{a_n\}$  and  $\{b_n\}$  are convergent sequences with

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = M;$$

Then, we have:

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (a_n \pm b_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \pm \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = L \pm M;$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n b_n = \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \right) \left( \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n \right) = LM;$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = \frac{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n}{\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n} = \frac{L}{M}, \text{ if } M \neq 0;$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c a_n = c \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = cL, \text{ (} c \text{ a constant);}$$

# Squeeze Theorem for Sequences

## Squeeze Theorem for Sequences

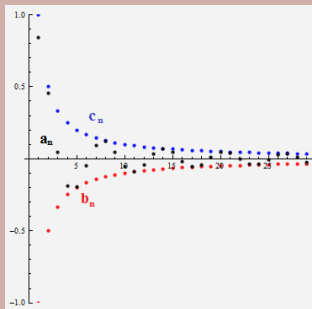
Let  $\{a_n\}$ ,  $\{b_n\}$  and  $\{c_n\}$  be sequences, such that, for some number  $M$ ,

$$b_n \leq a_n \leq c_n, \text{ for all } n > M$$

and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} c_n = L;$$

Then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$ ;



- **Example:** Show that if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n| = 0$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ .

Note that  $-|a_n| \leq a_n \leq |a_n|$ ; By hypothesis  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n| = 0$ ; This also implies  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (-|a_n|) = -\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n| = 0$ ; Now, by the Squeeze Theorem for Sequences,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ ;

# Geometric Sequences with $r < 0$

- For  $c \neq 0$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} cr^n = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } -1 < r < 0 \\ \text{diverges,} & \text{if } r \leq -1 \end{cases}$$

- If  $-1 < r < 0$ , then  $0 < |r| < 1$  and, therefore  
 $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |cr^n| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |c| \cdot |r|^n = 0$ ; Thus, since  $-|cr^n| \leq cr^n \leq |cr^n|$ , by the Squeeze Theorem, we get  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} cr^n = 0$ ;
- If  $r = -1$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (-1)^n c$  diverges, since  $|(-1)^n c| = |c|$  and its sign keeps alternating;
- If  $r < -1$ , then  $|r| > 1$ , whence  $|cr^n| = |c| \cdot |r|^n \rightarrow \infty$ , whence  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} cr^n$  diverges in this case also;

# Exploiting Continuity

## Theorem

If  $f(x)$  is a continuous function and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$ , then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(a_n) = f\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n\right) = f(L);$$

This says, informally speaking, that if  $f$  is continuous, we can “push the limit in”;

- **Example:** Since  $f(x) = e^x$  and  $g(x) = x^2$  are both continuous, we may use this theorem to compute:

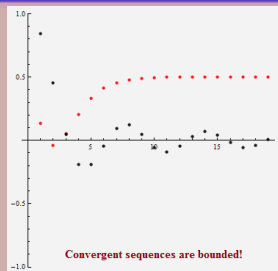
- $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{\frac{3n}{n+1}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f\left(\frac{3n}{n+1}\right) = f\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3n}{n+1}\right) = f(3) = e^3;$
- $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{3n}{n+1}\right)^2 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} g\left(\frac{3n}{n+1}\right) = g\left(\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{3n}{n+1}\right) = g(3) = 9;$

# Bounded Sequences

- A sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is
  - **bounded from above** if there is a number  $M$ , such that  $a_n \leq M$ , for all  $n$ ; In this case  $M$  is called an **upper bound**;
  - **bounded from below** if there is a number  $m$ , such that  $a_n \geq m$ , for all  $n$ ; In this case  $m$  is called a **lower bound**;
- $\{a_n\}$  is **bounded** if it is bounded from above and from below; A sequence is **unbounded** if it is not bounded;

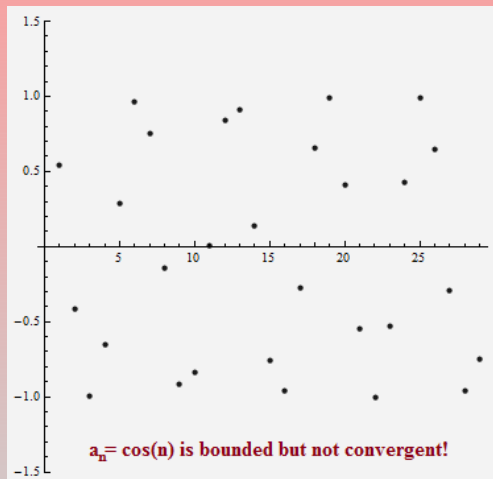
## Theorem

If  $\{a_n\}$  converges, then  $\{a_n\}$  is bounded;





# Is Every Bounded Sequence Convergent?



# Bounded Monotonic Sequences

- A sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is
  - **increasing** if  $a_n < a_{n+1}$ , for all  $n$ ;
  - **decreasing** if  $a_n > a_{n+1}$ , for all  $n$ ;
  - **monotonic** if it is either increasing or decreasing;

## Theorem (Bounded Monotonic Sequences Converge)

- If  $\{a_n\}$  is increasing and  $a_n \leq M$ , then  $a_n$  converges and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \leq M$ ;
- If  $\{a_n\}$  is decreasing and  $a_n \geq m$ , then  $a_n$  converges and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \geq m$ ;

# Example I

- Show that  $a_n = \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n}$  is decreasing and bounded from below; Does  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  exist? [ $\infty - \infty$ ]

We show that  $a_n$  is decreasing by two different methods; The first uses the sequence itself, the second uses the corresponding function;

- **Method 1:** Rewrite  $a_n = \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n} = \frac{(\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n})(\sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n})}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} = \frac{n+1-n}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}}$ ;

Now we see

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1} + \sqrt{n}} > \frac{1}{\sqrt{(n+1)+1} + \sqrt{n+1}} = a_{n+1};$$

So  $\{a_n\}$  is decreasing;

- **Method 2:** Consider  $f(x) = \sqrt{x+1} - \sqrt{x}$  and compute

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x+1}} - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} < 0, \text{ for } x > 0; \text{ Thus, since } f' < 0, \text{ we get}$$

that  $f \searrow [0, \infty)$ , showing that  $\{a_n\}$  is a decreasing sequence;

Clearly  $a_n = \sqrt{n+1} - \sqrt{n} > 0$ , which shows that  $\{a_n\}$  is bounded from below;

## Example II

- Show that the following sequence is bounded and increasing; Then find its limit:

St.p.701  
Ex.79,80

$$a_1 = \sqrt{2}, \quad a_2 = \sqrt{2\sqrt{2}}, \quad a_3 = \sqrt{2\sqrt{2\sqrt{2}}}, \quad \dots$$

The key here is to realize that  $a_{n+1} = \sqrt{2a_n}$ , for all  $n$ ;

We show  $\{a_n\}$  is bounded: Clearly,  $a_1 = \sqrt{2} < 2$ ; If  $a_n < 2$ , then  $a_{n+1} = \sqrt{2a_n} < \sqrt{2 \cdot 2} = 2$ ; Therefore,  $a_n < 2$ , for every  $n \geq 1$ ;

Next, we show that  $\{a_n\}$  is increasing:

$$a_n = \sqrt{a_n \cdot a_n} < \sqrt{2 \cdot a_n} = a_{n+1};$$

Since  $\{a_n\}$  is increasing and bounded from above, the theorem asserts that it converges; Let  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = L$ ; Then

$$\begin{aligned} a_{n+1} = \sqrt{2a_n} &\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{n+1} = \sqrt{2 \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n} \Rightarrow L = \sqrt{2L} \Rightarrow L^2 = 2L \Rightarrow \\ L^2 - 2L &= 0 \Rightarrow L(L - 2) = 0 \Rightarrow L = 0 \text{ or } L = 2; \text{ So } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 2; \end{aligned}$$

## Subsection 2

## Summing an Infinite Series

Stewart, 11.2, p.703

$$\pi = 3 + \frac{1}{10} + \frac{4}{100} + \dots$$
$$\pi = 3,14\dots$$

# Introducing Infinite Series and Partial Sums

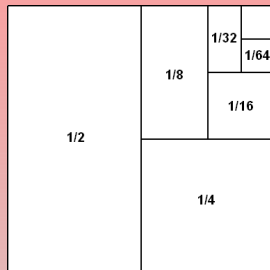
- If we look carefully at the figure on the right we realize that

$$1 = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{32} + \cdots ;$$

Infinite sums of this type are called **infinite series**;

- The **partial sum**  $S_N$  of an infinite series is the sum of the terms up to and including the  $N$ -th term:

$$\begin{aligned} S_1 &= \frac{1}{2}; \\ S_2 &= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}; \\ S_3 &= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8}; \\ S_4 &= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16}; \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$



# Definition of Infinite Series and Partial Sums

- An **infinite series** is an expression of the form

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + \cdots,$$

where  $\{a_n\}$  is any *sequence*;

- Example:**

Sequence	General Term	Infinite Series
$\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{9}, \frac{1}{27}, \dots$	$a_n = \frac{1}{3^n}$	$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{3^n} = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{27} + \dots$
$\frac{1}{1}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{9}, \frac{1}{16}, \dots$	$a_n = \frac{1}{n^2}$	$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} + \dots$

- The  **$N$ -th partial sum**  $S_N$  is defined as the finite sum of the terms up to and including  $a_N$ :

$$S_N = \sum_{n=1}^N a_n = a_1 + a_2 + \cdots + a_N;$$

# Convergence of an Infinite Series

## Convergence of an Infinite Series

An infinite series  $\sum_{n=k}^{\infty} a_n$  **converges** to the sum  $S$  if its partial sums converge to  $S$ :

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} S_N = S;$$

In this case, we write  $S = \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} a_n$ ;

- If the limit  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} S_N$  does not exist, then we say the infinite series **diverges**;
- If  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} S_N = \infty$ , then we say that the infinite series **diverges to infinity**;



# Telescoping Series

- Compute the sum  $S$  of the infinite series Stewart, p.707, example 7

$$S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(n+1)} = \frac{1}{1(2)} + \frac{1}{2(3)} + \frac{1}{3(4)} + \frac{1}{4(5)} + \cdots;$$

Note that  $\frac{1}{n(n+1)} = \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+1}$ ; Therefore, we have

$$\frac{1}{1 \cdot 2} = 1 - \frac{1}{2}, \quad \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3}, \quad \frac{1}{3 \cdot 4} = \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4}, \quad \cdots$$

Now, we compute the  $N$ -th partial sum:

$$S_N = \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{n(n+1)} = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4}\right) + \cdots + \left(\frac{1}{N} - \frac{1}{N+1}\right) = 1 - \frac{1}{N+1};$$

Therefore,  $S = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} S_N = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{1}{N+1}\right) = 1 - 0 = 1$ ; conv.,  $S=1$

# Sequence $\{a_n\}$ versus Series $\sum a_n$

- The previous example provides an opportunity to discuss the difference between the sequence  $\{a_n\}$  and the infinite series

$$S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \cdots;$$

- The sequence  $a_n = \frac{1}{n(n+1)}$  is the list of numbers

$$\frac{1}{1 \cdot 2}, \quad \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3}, \quad \frac{1}{3 \cdot 4}, \quad \dots \quad \text{Clearly } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n(n+1)} = 0;$$

- On the other hand, for the *sum of the infinite series*  $S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$ , we

look **not** at  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ , but rather at  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} S_N$ , where

$$S_N = \sum_{n=1}^N a_n = \frac{1}{1(2)} + \frac{1}{2(3)} + \frac{1}{3(4)} + \cdots + \frac{1}{N(N+1)};$$

We saw that this limit is 1, not 0!

# Linearity of Infinite Series

Theorem 8, p.709 Stewart

## Linearity of Infinite Series

If the infinite series  $\sum a_n$  and  $\sum b_n$  converge, then the series  $\sum(a_n \pm b_n)$  and  $\sum ca_n$  also converge and we have

- $\sum a_n + \sum b_n = \sum(a_n + b_n);$
  - $\sum a_n - \sum b_n = \sum(a_n - b_n);$
  - $\sum ca_n = c \sum a_n;$
- 
- In the sequel, we will be interested in establishing techniques for determining whether an infinite series converges or diverges;

# Geometric Series

- A **geometric series** with **ratio**  $r \neq 0$  is a series defined by the geometric sequence  $cr^n$ , where  $c \neq 0$ ;
- The series looks like

$$S = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} cr^n = c + cr + cr^2 + cr^3 + cr^4 + \cdots ;$$

- The following work determines the  $N$ -th partial sum  $S_N$  of the geometric series:

$$\begin{aligned} S_N &= c + cr + cr^2 + cr^3 + \cdots + cr^N \\ rS_N &= cr + cr^2 + cr^3 + \cdots + cr^N + cr^{N+1} \\ S_N - rS_N &= c - cr^{N+1} \\ S_N(1 - r) &= c(1 - r^{N+1}) && \text{the sum of the first } N \text{ terms of} \\ &&& \text{the geometric progression} \\ S_N &= \frac{c(1 - r^{N+1})}{1 - r}; \end{aligned}$$

- If  $|r| < 1$ , the the Geometric Series converges and  $S = \frac{c}{1 - r}$ ;
- If  $|r| \geq 1$ , it diverges;

Stewart, example 2, p.705-706

# Examples I

- Evaluate  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 5^{-n}$ ; Stewart, p.707, examples 3-6

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 5^{-n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^n \quad c=1, r=\frac{1}{5} < 1 \quad \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{5}} = \frac{5}{4};$$

- Evaluate  $\sum_{n=3}^{\infty} 7 \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)^n$ ;

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=3}^{\infty} 7 \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)^n &= 7 \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)^3 + 7 \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)^4 + 7 \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)^5 + \dots \\ &= 7 \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)^3 [1 + \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right) + \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 + \dots] \\ &\stackrel{c=1, r=-\frac{3}{4}}{=} 7 \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)^3 \frac{1}{1 - \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)} \\ &= -\frac{189}{64} \cdot \frac{4}{7} = -\frac{27}{16}; \end{aligned}$$

## Examples II

- Evaluate  $S = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2 + 3^n}{5^n}$ ;

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2 + 3^n}{5^n} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2}{5^n} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{3^n}{5^n} \\ &= 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^n + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^n \\ &= 2 \cdot \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{5}} + \frac{1}{1 - \frac{3}{5}} \\ &= 2 \cdot \frac{5}{4} + \frac{5}{2} \\ &= 5; \end{aligned}$$

Theorem.  
If the series

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

is convergent,  
then

to  $S$

$$a_n \rightarrow 0, n \rightarrow \infty$$

Proof

$$S_n = a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{n-1} + a_n$$

$$n \rightarrow \infty$$

$$a_n = S_n - S_{n-1}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$S$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$S - S$$

---

$$P \rightarrow Q \Leftrightarrow \neg Q \rightarrow \neg P$$

# Divergence Test

Stewart, Theorem 7, p.709

## Divergence Test

If the  $n$ -th term  $a_n$  does not converge to 0, i.e., if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$ , then the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  diverges; or does not exist

- **Example:** Prove the divergence of  $S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n}{4n+1}$ ;

Clearly,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n}{4n+1} = \frac{1}{4} \neq 0$ ; Thus, by the Divergence Test,  $S$  diverges;



## Another Example

- **Example:** Determine the convergence or divergence of

$$S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{n}{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{2}{3} + \frac{3}{4} - \frac{4}{5} + \cdots;$$

The  $n$ -th term  $a_n = (-1)^{n-1} \frac{n}{n+1}$  does not approach a limit; To see this, note that:

- for even indices,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{2n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (-1)^{2n-1} \frac{2n}{2n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{-2n}{2n+1} = -1;$$

- for odd indices,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_{2n+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (-1)^{2n+1-1} \frac{2n+1}{2n+1+1} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2n+1}{2n+2} = 1;$$

Since  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$ , by the Divergence Test,  $S$  diverges;

## If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ , Cannot Apply Divergence Test

- Prove the divergence of  $S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} + \cdots$ ;

Note that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} = 0$ ; Therefore, the Divergence Test cannot be applied; We must find another way to prove that the series diverges; We will use **comparison** instead!

$$\begin{aligned} S_N &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \\ &\geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \\ &= N \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} = \sqrt{N}; \end{aligned}$$

Now note that  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{N} = \infty$ ; Therefore, since  $S_N \geq \sqrt{N}$ , we also have  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} S_N = \infty$ , showing that  $S$  diverges to infinity;