

## MA305 – Classwork #2

### Loops and Control Flow in Python

Write your name, classwork/lab number and date in each Python program.

---

1. The Python code ("classwork2c.py") posted at your course Canvas computes the sum of the first  $n$  terms of the following infinite series.

a.  $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \cdots + \frac{1}{2^n} + \cdots$  (Geometric Series)

b.  $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n} + \cdots$  (Harmonic Series)

c.  $1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \cdots + \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} + \cdots$  (Alternating Series)

Run the code for  $n = 100, 1000, 100000$ . What can you say about convergence of these series?

2. Sum of the geometric series (1.a) can be found by using the formula

$$S = \underbrace{a + ar + \cdots + ar^{n-1}}_{S_n} + \cdots = \frac{a}{1 - r}.$$

Copy the code "classwork2c.py" to "cw2.py" and find the number of terms ( $n$ ) required to approximate the sum of the geometric series within the error of  $|S - S_n| < 10^{-6}$ .

3. Make a log of your work using the Unix command `script`.

(i) `$ script`  
`$ cat cw2.py`  
`$ chmod u+x cw2.py`  
`$ ./cw2.py`  
`$ exit` (exit from script)

(ii) Rename file "typescript" to "cw2script.txt".  
`$ cp typescript cw2script.txt`

(iii) Edit and CLEAN up the "cw2script.txt" file.

Now, open your cw2script.txt file:

`$ vi cw2script.txt`

You can delete all the annoying control characters `^M`, `^G`, `^[` manually. In the command mode of **vi-Editor**, `x` deletes single character, `dw` deletes a word and `dd` deletes a line. You can also search a string and replace it by another string globally within `vi` typing the following command

```
:1,$s/string1/string2/g
```

For example the following command within `vi`

```
:1,$s/^V^M//g
```

 (`^V^M` is [CTRL V CTRL M])

says in lines 1 to last(\$), substitute the string `^M` by nothing, globally (all occurrences in a line). The `^V` allows insertion of the control character `^M`.

```
:1,$s/^V^G//g
```

 (`^V^G` is CTRL V CTRL G)

```
:1,$s/^V^[///g
```

 (`^V^[` is CTRL V CTRL [ )

**Note:** To insert `^M` [CTRL V CTRL M] in MobaXterm, you may need to redefine the MobaXterm's hot key (CTRL+M) to something else.

4. Submit the script "cw2script.txt" using the following mail command from **wxsession**.

```
$ ssh wxsession
```

```
$ cd MA305/Classwork/CW2
```

```
$ mail -s "305:cw2" 305 < cw2script.txt
```

5. Submit the code "cw2.py" through your course Canvas.

---

**6. (Homework)** Sum of the alternating series (1.c) can be found by putting  $x = 1$  in the following Taylor series formula.

$$\ln(1+x) = x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{3} - \cdots + \frac{(-1)^{n+1}x^n}{n} + \cdots$$

Determine the number of terms required to approximate the sum of the series,  $S = 1 - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} - \cdots + \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} + \cdots = \ln 2$ , within the error of 0.001. Does your result agree with the fact (from Calculus II) that the error of approximation to the sum of a convergent alternating series cannot exceed the absolute value of the first neglected term in the series?