

11.2 Series

1. (infinite) series
2. find the sum of series

0.1 Infinite series

Define: A **series** 級數 is written in a definite order:

$$\underbrace{a_1}_{\text{1st term}} + \underbrace{a_2}_{\text{2nd term}} + \dots + \underbrace{a_n}_{\text{n-th term}} + \dots$$

Notation: 級數寫法: (沒寫通常代表從 $n = 1$ 到 ∞ 。)

$$\bullet \boxed{a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots} \quad \bullet \boxed{\sum a_n} \text{ or } \boxed{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n} \quad \bullet \boxed{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n \text{ 的公式})}$$

Question: 無窮多項怎麼加? 不能加, 用極限。

Define: The ***n*-th partial sum** s_n of a series is the sum of its **first n terms**. 一個級數的第 n 個部分和是它的**前 n 項**和。(不是加到第 n 項。)

級數 $\sum a_n$ 的部分和們: (a_n 從 $n = 1$ 開始, s_n 剛好是加到第 n 項。)

$$s_1 = a_1,$$

$$s_2 = a_1 + a_2,$$

\vdots

$$s_n = a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i.$$

從一個序列 $\{a_n\}$ 產生另一個序列 $\{s_n\}$,
用 $\{s_n\}$ 的收發來定義 $\sum a_n$ 的收發。

Define: Given a series $\sum a_n$, let s_n denote its n -th partial sum. If the sequence $\{s_n\}$ is convergent and $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = s$, then $\sum a_n$ is called **convergent** 收斂 and written $\sum a_n = s$. The number s is called the **sum** 和 of the series. If $\{s_n\}$ is divergent, then $\sum a_n$ is called **divergent** 發散. (級數不講發散至無窮 (diverges to ∞)。)

Note: $\sum a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$. Compare $\int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \int_1^t f(x) dx$.

Example 0.1 *Geometric series* 幾何 (等比) 級數

$$a + ar + ar^2 + \dots + ar^{n-1} + \dots = \sum ar^{n-1}, a \neq 0,$$

where r is the **common ratio** 公比.

When $r = 1$, $s_n = na \rightarrow \pm\infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, **divergent**.

$$\text{When } r \neq 1, s_n = \frac{a(1-r^n)}{1-r}.$$

If $-1 < r < 1$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} r^n = 0$ and hence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a(1-r^n)}{1-r} = \frac{a}{1-r} - \frac{a}{1-r} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} r^n = \frac{a}{1-r}, \text{ is } \text{convergent}.$$

If $r \leq -1$ or $r > 1$, then $\{r^n\}$ is divergent, and so $\{s_n\}$ is **divergent**. ■

Fact: $\sum ar^{n-1}$ is $\begin{cases} \text{convergent with the sum } \frac{a}{1-r} & \text{if } r < 1 \\ \text{divergent} & \text{if } r \geq 1 \end{cases}$

Example 0.2 Find the sum of the geometric series $5 - \frac{10}{3} + \frac{20}{9} - \frac{40}{27} + \dots$

$$a = 5, r = -\frac{2}{3} \text{ and } |r| < 1, \sum 5\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)^{n-1} = \frac{5}{1 - (-\frac{2}{3})} = 3. \quad \blacksquare$$

Example 0.3 Is $\sum 2^{2n}3^{1-n}$ convergent or divergent?

$$\sum 2^{2n}3^{1-n} = \sum 4\left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^{n-1}, a = 4 \text{ and } |r| = \left|\frac{4}{3}\right| \geq 1, \text{ } \text{divergent}. \quad \blacksquare$$

Example 0.4 Find the sum of the series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n$, where $|x| < 1$.

(Adopt the convention $x^0 = 1$ even when $x = 0$)

$$a = x^0 = 1, |r| = |x| < 1, \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = 1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^n + \dots = \frac{1}{1-x}. \quad \blacksquare$$

Fact: $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n = \frac{1}{1-x}$ for $ x < 1$.

1. 你我約定 x 的零次等於一, 也答應永遠都不為 $x = 0$ 擔心。
2. 說好不寫的是從 $n = 1$ 開始, 從 $n = 0$ 開始的要寫。

Example 0.5 *Recurring/Repeating decimal (循環小數是有理數 $\in \mathbb{Q}$):*

(a) $0.\bar{9} = 1$ (Exercise 11.2.49); (b) $2.3\bar{17} = \frac{1147}{495}$.

$$(a) 0.\bar{9} = 0.999\dots = \frac{9}{10} + \frac{9}{100} + \dots = \sum \frac{9}{10} \left(\frac{1}{10}\right)^{n-1} = \frac{\frac{9}{10}}{1 - \frac{1}{10}} = \frac{9}{9} = 1.$$

$$(b) 2.3\bar{17} = 2.3171717\dots = 2.3 + \sum \frac{17}{1000} \left(\frac{1}{100}\right)^{n-1} = 2.3 + \frac{\frac{17}{1000}}{1 - \frac{1}{100}} \\ = 2.3 + \frac{17}{990} = 2 + \frac{317 - 3}{990} = 2\frac{157}{495} = \frac{1147}{495}.$$

$$0.\overline{a_1 a_2 \dots a_s b_1 b_2 \dots b_t} = \frac{\overline{a_1 a_2 \dots a_s b_1 b_2 \dots b_t} - \overline{a_1 a_2 \dots a_s}}{\underbrace{99\dots 9}_t \underbrace{00\dots 0}_s}$$

($\frac{\text{全部} - \text{不循環}}{|\text{全部}|_s 9 - |\text{不循環}|_s 9}$, 不要背。)

Example 0.6 (前後相消) *Show that the series $\sum \frac{1}{n(n+1)}$ is convergent and find its sum.*

$$\begin{aligned} s_n &= \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{i(i+1)} = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{1}{i} - \frac{1}{i+1} \right) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{2} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} \right) + \left(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} \right) + \dots + \left(\frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{n+1} \right) \\ &= 1 - \frac{1}{n+1}, \quad (\text{算出部分和的公式}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n+1} \right) = 1 - 0 = 1.$$

So $\sum \frac{1}{n(n+1)}$ is *convergent* with the sum 1. ■

$$\text{Skill: } s_n = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i = \sum_{i=1}^n (b_i - b_{i+1}) = (b_1 - b_2) + \dots + (b_n - b_{n+1}) = b_1 - b_{n+1},$$

$$\sum a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = b_1 - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_{n+1} \text{ if the limit exists.}$$

Example 0.7 Show that the *harmonic series* 調和級數

$$\sum \frac{1}{n} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots$$

is divergent.

Proof. Consider s_{2^n} . (直接看 s_n 算不出來)

$$\begin{aligned} s_2 &= 1 + \frac{1}{2}, \\ s_4 &= 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} > 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}\right) = 1 + \frac{2}{2}, \\ s_8 &= 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} \\ &> 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8}\right) = 1 + \frac{3}{2}, \\ s_{16} &= 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{10} + \dots + \frac{1}{16} \\ &> 1 + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}}_{1\text{項}} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}\right)}_{2\text{項}} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8}\right)}_{4\text{項}} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{16} + \dots + \frac{1}{16}\right)}_{8\text{項}} \\ &= 1 + \frac{4}{2}, s_{32} > 1 + \frac{5}{2}, s_{64} > 1 + \frac{6}{2}, \dots, \implies s_{2^n} > 1 + \frac{n}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

$s_{2^n} \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, so $\{s_n\}$ is *divergent*.

Therefore, the harmonic series $\sum \frac{1}{n}$ is *divergent*. ■

Fact: $\sum \frac{1}{n}$ is *divergent*.

◆ First proof by Nicole Oresme in 1350s, there are 45+ proofs.

Honsberger: $s_9 > \frac{9}{10}$, $s_{99} > \frac{9}{10} + \frac{90}{100} = 2\frac{9}{10}$, $s_{10^n-1} > n\frac{9}{10} \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Leonard Gillman: $\sum \frac{1}{n} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \dots$
 $> \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} + \dots$
 $= \underset{1}{1} + \underset{\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{2}} + \underset{\frac{1}{3}}{\frac{1}{3}} + \dots = \sum \frac{1}{n}. (\rightarrow \leftarrow)$

0.2 Find the sum of series

Theorem 1 (級數收斂單項歸零)

If the series $\sum a_n$ is **convergent**, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$.

Proof. Let $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n = s$, then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_{n-1} = s$ since $n-1 \rightarrow \infty$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.
Then $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (s_n - s_{n-1}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_n - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} s_{n-1} = s - s = 0$. ■

Attention: 反過來不對! $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$ ~~does not imply~~ $\sum a_n$ converges, ex: $\sum \frac{1}{n}$.

Theorem 2 (Test for Divergence) (單項不歸零則級數**發散**)

If $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$ does not exist or if $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$, then the series $\sum a_n$ is divergent.

Example 0.8 $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^2}{5n^2 + 4} = \frac{1}{5} \neq 0$ (單項不歸零), $\sum \frac{n^2}{5n^2 + 4}$ **diverges**. ■

Theorem 3 If $\sum a_n$ and $\sum b_n$ are convergent series, $\sum a_n = s$ and $\sum b_n = t$, and c is a constant, then so are $\sum ca_n$, $\sum (a_n + b_n)$ and $\sum (a_n - b_n)$, and

$$\begin{aligned}\sum ca_n &= c \sum a_n = cs, \\ \sum (a_n + b_n) &= \sum a_n + \sum b_n = s + t, \\ \sum (a_n - b_n) &= \sum a_n - \sum b_n = s - t.\end{aligned}$$

Note: 加減常數倍, 沒有乘除! Compare with $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x)$ & $\int_a^\infty f(x) dx$.

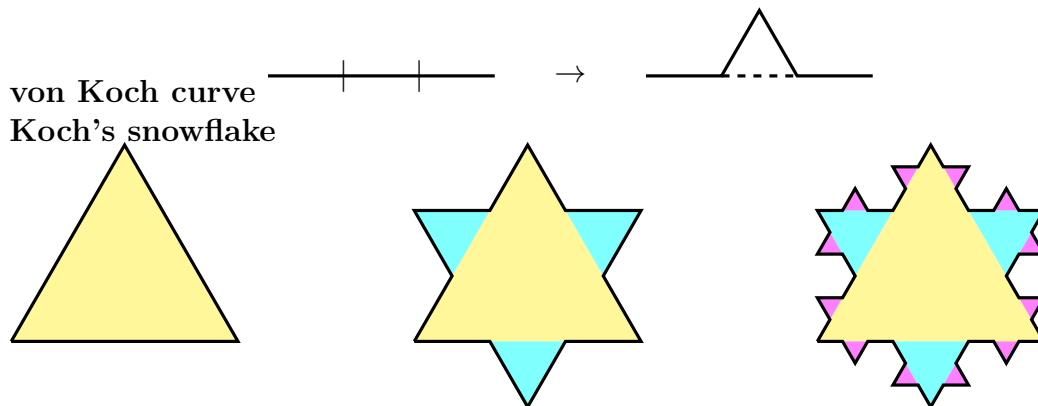
Example 0.9 Find the sum of the series $\sum \left(\frac{3}{n(n+1)} + \frac{1}{2^n} \right)$.

$\sum \frac{1}{n(n+1)} = 1$ and $\sum \frac{1}{2^n} = \sum \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^{n-1} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{1 - \frac{1}{2}} = 1$,
so $\sum \left(\frac{3}{n(n+1)} + \frac{1}{2^n} \right) = 3 \sum \frac{1}{n(n+1)} + \sum \frac{1}{2^n} = 3 \cdot 1 + 1 = 4$. ■

Note: 有限項**不影響**級數的收斂或發散!

If $\sum_{N+1}^\infty a_n$ is convergent/divergent, so is $\sum a_n = \sum_1^N a_n + \sum_{N+1}^\infty a_n$.

◆ Additional: Fractals 碎形



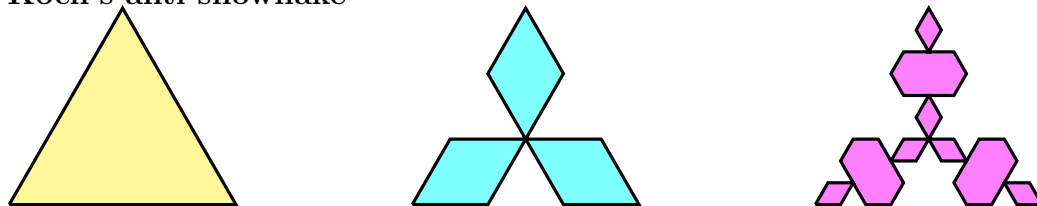
Length: $L_1 = 3$, $L_2 = 3 \cdot (\frac{4}{3})^1$, $L_3 = 3 \cdot (\frac{4}{3})^2$, \dots , $L_n = 3(\frac{4}{3})^{n-1}$.

Total length $L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L_n = \infty$. ($|r| = |\frac{4}{3}| > 1$)

Increased Area: $A_1 = \Delta$, $A_2 = (\frac{1}{9})^1 \cdot 3 \cdot 4^0 \Delta$, $A_3 = (\frac{1}{9})^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4^1 \Delta$, \dots ,
 $A_n = (\frac{1}{9})^{n-1} \cdot 3 \cdot 4^{n-2} \Delta = \frac{1}{3}(\frac{4}{9})^{n-2} \Delta$.

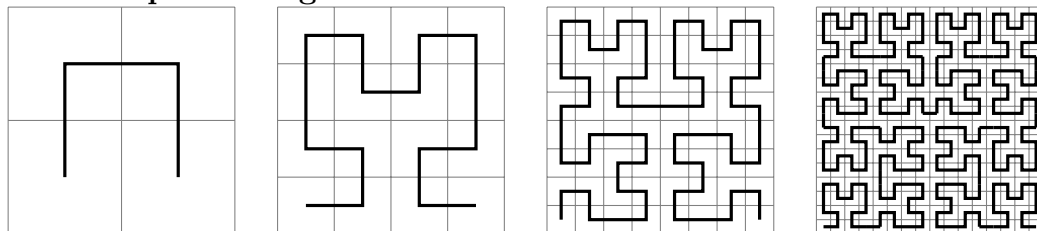
Total area $A = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = (1 + \frac{1/3}{1 - 4/9}) \Delta = \frac{8}{5} \Delta$. ($|r| = |\frac{4}{9}| < 1$)

Koch's anti-snowflake



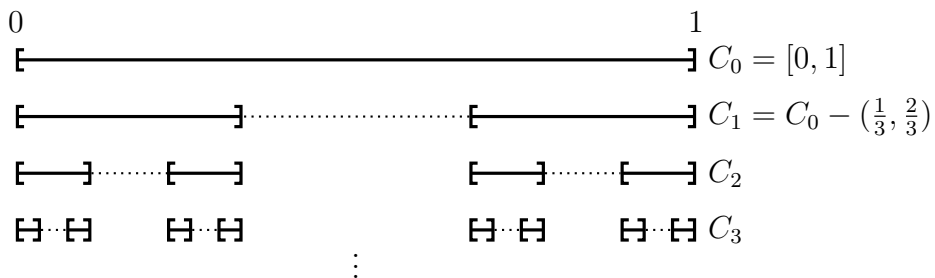
Total length $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L_n = \infty$, total area $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = (1 - \frac{1/3}{1 - 4/9}) \Delta = \frac{2}{5} \Delta$.

Hilbert space-filling curve



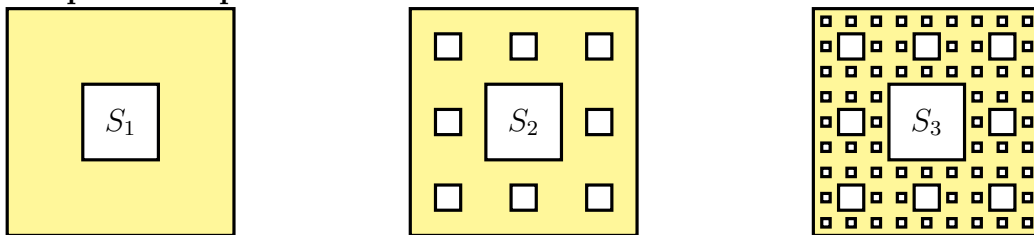
Length: $2^n - \frac{1}{2^n}$.

Cantor set (Exercise 11.2.89)

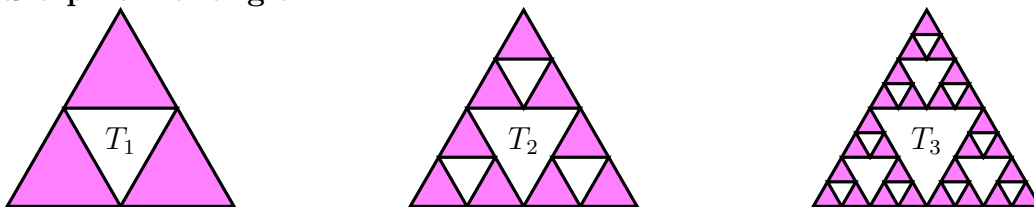


Cantor set $\mathcal{C} = \bigcap_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} C_n$, infinite many points, but zero length.

Sierpinski carpet

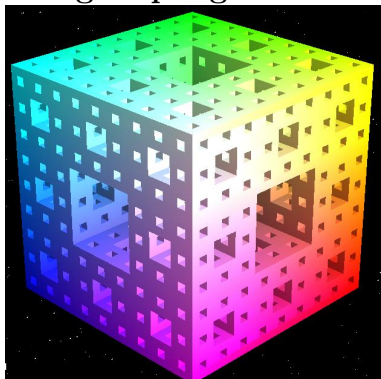


Sierpinski triangle

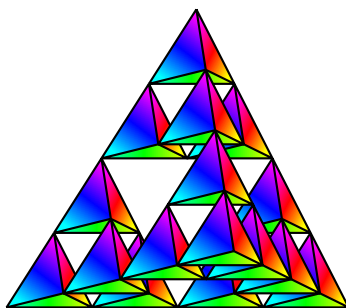


$S = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n$ has zero area. $T = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T_n$ has zero area.

Menger sponge



Sierpinski tetrahedron



Hausdorff dimension:

$\mathcal{C} : \log_3 2 \approx 0.63.$

$S : \log_3 8 \approx 1.89.$

$T : \log_2 3 \approx 1.58.$

$MS : \log_3 20 \approx 2.73.$

$ST : \log_2 4 = 2.$

◆ **Additional: $1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + \cdots = -1/2$?**

在某一年裡有兩位物理學家分別在巴賽隆納演講不同主題, 但是他們

在介紹時都說了一句令人難忘的話:

「大家都知道, $1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + \cdots = -1/2$ 。」

或許意味著「如果你不知道, 那你繼續聽下去也沒用。」

黎曼 ζ 函數 Riemann zeta function: $\zeta(s) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^s} = \frac{1}{1^s} + \frac{1}{2^s} + \frac{1}{3^s} + \frac{1}{4^s} + \cdots$.

格蘭迪級數 Grandi's series: $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n = 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \cdots$.

- $1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \cdots = 1/2$.

Let $S = 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \cdots$,

$$1 - S = 1 - (1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \cdots) = 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \cdots = S,$$

$$S = 1/2.$$

- $1 - 2 + 3 - 4 + \cdots = 1/4$.

Let $T = 1 - 2 + 3 - 4 + \cdots$,

$$T + T = (1 - 2 + 3 - 4 + \cdots) + (1 - 2 + 3 - 4 + \cdots)$$

$$= 1 - (2 - 1) + (3 - 2) - (4 - 3) + \cdots = 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \cdots = S = 1/2,$$

$$T = 1/4.$$

歐拉 Euler 在 1749 給出:

- $\zeta(0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 1 = 1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + \cdots = -1/2$.

$$\zeta(0) - 2\zeta(0) = (1 + 1 + 1 + 1 + \cdots) - (2 + 2 + 2 + 2 + \cdots)$$

$$= 1 + (1 - 2) + 1 + (1 - 2) + \cdots = 1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \cdots = S = 1/2,$$

$$\zeta(0) = -1/2.$$

- $\zeta(-1) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n = 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + \cdots = -1/12$.

$$\zeta(-1) - 4\zeta(-1) = (1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + \cdots) - (4 + 8 + 12 + 16 + \cdots)$$

$$= 1 + (2 - 4) + 3 + (4 - 8) + \cdots = 1 - 2 + 3 - 4 + \cdots = T = 1/4,$$

$$\zeta(-1) = -1/12.$$

(想想看, 到底是哪裡出了問題? 如果你不知道, 那你還是得繼續聽下去。)

◆ **Additional: Euclid's theorem: Infinitely many primes.**

質數/素數 (prime [number]): 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23, 29, 31, 37, 41, 43, 47, 53, 59, 61, 67, 71, 73, 79, 83, 89, 97, ...

Proof.

- (Euclid)

如果有限多個質數 p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n , 則 $\prod_{i=1}^n p_i + 1$ 是新的質數, 矛盾! ■

- (Euler)

根據數論基本定理 (Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic):
每個正整數 n 有唯一的質因數分解 (unique prime factorization).

Assume $n = 2^k 3^\ell 5^m \dots$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{\text{prime } p} \frac{1}{1 - 1/p} &= \prod_{\text{prime } p} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{p^i} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^k} \times \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{3^\ell} \times \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{5^m} \times \dots \\ &= \sum_{k, \ell, m, \dots \geq 0} \frac{1}{2^k 3^\ell 5^m \dots} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n}. \end{aligned}$$

(如果有限多個質數, 則調和級數收斂。)
因為調和級數發散, 所以質數有無限多個。 ■