

For the following sequences take partial sums in Maple and see if the sequence of partial sums converge. As an example consider .333333... which is the sum of .3 + .03 + .003 + .0003 + .... The sequence we are summing is .3, .03, .003, .0003 .... The sequence of partial sums are .3, .3+.03, .3+.03+.003, .3+.03+.003+.0003 which can be written as the sequence .3, .33, .333, .3333... which converges to 1/3. To write this example in Maple we have (you must enter this to work)

> *Digits* := 50;

> *s* :=  $\langle \text{seq}(\text{evalf}(3 \cdot 10^{-n}), n = 1 .. 1000) \rangle$ ;  
 # when you double click table open up to see the  
 scientific notation e-5 is  $10^{-5}$

> *s*[3]; #etc

> *partialSums* :=  $\langle \text{seq}(\text{add}(s[i], i = 1 .. n), n = 1 .. 1000) \rangle$ ;

We would really like to write the above as  $\langle \text{seq} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n s[i], n \right.$

$\left. = 1 .. 1000 \right) \rangle$ ; but  $\sum_{i=k}^n f$  tries to actually do the sum

. It works for this example but not in general . It is not quite the same thing as in mathematics and can confuse the issue

. In mathemaics we should write this with the sigma sign

. We can use the sigma notation to get the sum

to *infinity* if we just put in our formula for the sequence.

$$\begin{aligned} > \sum_{i=1}^{\text{infinity}} 3 \cdot 10^{-i}; \\ & \qquad \qquad \qquad \frac{1}{3} \qquad \qquad \qquad (1) \end{aligned}$$

**Problems:**

> 1. Let  $s$  be the sequence  $1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots$   
.. where the  $n$ th term is  $\frac{1}{n}$ .

> 2. Let  $s$  be the sequence  $1, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{9}, \dots$   
.. where the  $n$ th term is  $\frac{1}{n^2}$ .

> 3. Let  $s$  be the sequence  $\frac{1}{\ln(1)}, \frac{1}{\ln(2)}, \frac{1}{\ln(3)} \dots$   
. where the  $n$ th term is  $\frac{1}{\ln(n)}$ .

> 4. Let  $s$  be the sequence  $\frac{1}{e}, \frac{1}{e^2}, \frac{1}{e^3} \dots$   
. where the  $n$ th term is  $\frac{1}{e^n}$ .

> 5. Let  $s$  be the sequence  $88 \cdot \left(\frac{4}{5}\right), 88 \cdot \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^2, 88 \cdot \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^3 \dots$   
. where the  $n$ th term is  $88 \cdot \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^n$ .

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