

Chapter 6. Integrals  
Section 6.1 Sigma notation

**Definition.** If  $a_m, a_{m+1}, a_{m+2}, \dots, a_n$  are real numbers and  $m$  and  $n$  are integers such that  $m \leq n$ , then

$$a_m + a_{m+1} + a_{m+2} + \dots + a_n = \sum_{i=m}^n a_i, \quad a_i = f(i)$$

**Example 1.** Write the sum in sigma notation.

1.  $1+2+3+\dots+10 = \sum_{i=1}^{10} i$   
 $a_1 = 1$   
 $a_2 = 2$   
 $a_3 = 3$   
 $\dots$   
 $a_{10} = 10$   
 $a_i = i$

2.  $1+2+4+8+16+32 = \sum_{i=1}^6 2^{i-1} = \sum_{i=0}^5 2^i$   
 $a_1 = 1 = 2^0$   
 $a_2 = 2 = 2^1$   
 $a_3 = 4 = 2^2$   
 $a_4 = 8 = 2^3$   
 $a_5 = 16 = 2^4$   
 $a_6 = 32 = 2^5$   
 $a_i = 2^{i-1}$

3.  $1 + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{25} = \sum_{i=1}^5 \frac{1}{i^2}$   
 $a_1 = 1$   
 $a_2 = \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2^2}$   
 $a_3 = \frac{1}{9} = \frac{1}{3^2}$   
 $a_4 = \frac{1}{16} = \frac{1}{4^2}$   
 $a_5 = \frac{1}{25} = \frac{1}{5^2}$   
 $a_i = \frac{1}{i^2}, \quad i=1, \dots, 5$

4.  $\frac{3}{7} + \frac{4}{8} + \frac{5}{9} + \frac{6}{10} + \dots + \frac{23}{27} = \sum_{i=3}^{23} \frac{i}{i+4}$   
 $a_3 = \frac{3}{7} = \frac{3}{3+4}$   
 $a_4 = \frac{4}{8} = \frac{4}{4+4}$   
 $\dots$   
 $a_{23} = \frac{23}{23+4}$   
 $a_i = \frac{i}{i+4}, \quad i=3, \dots, 23$

5.  $1+3+5+7+9+11+\dots+35 = \sum_{i=0}^{17} 2i+1$   
 $a_0 = 1 = 2(0)+1$   
 $a_1 = 3 = 2(1)+1$   
 $a_2 = 5 = 2(2)+1$   
 $a_{17} = 2(17)+1$   
 $a_i = 2i+1, \quad i=0, \dots, 17$

**Example 2.** Write the sum in expanded form

$$1. \sum_{i=4}^9 \sqrt{i} = \boxed{\sqrt{4} + \sqrt{5} + \sqrt{6} + \sqrt{7} + \sqrt{8} + \sqrt{9}}$$

1

$$2. \sum_{i=0}^4 3^i = 3^0 + 3^1 + 3^2 + 3^3 + 3^4 \\ = \boxed{1 + 3 + 9 + 27 + 81}$$

$$3. \sum_{i=1}^6 \frac{1}{i+1} = \frac{1}{1+1} + \frac{1}{2+1} + \frac{1}{3+1} + \frac{1}{4+1} + \frac{1}{5+1} + \frac{1}{6+1} \\ = \boxed{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{7}}$$

$$4. \sum_{i=1}^n 2i, \text{ here } n \text{ is an integer} \\ = 2 + 2(2) + 2(3) + 2(4) + \dots + 2n \\ = \boxed{2 + 4 + 6 + 8 + \dots + 2n}$$

**Theorem.** If  $c$  is any constant (this means that  $c$  does not depend on  $i$ ), then

$$1. \sum_{i=1}^n ca_i = c \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$$

$$2. \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i + b_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i + \sum_{i=1}^n b_i$$

$$3. \sum_{i=1}^n (a_i - b_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i - \sum_{i=1}^n b_i$$

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

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

- $\sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$

- $\sum_{i=1}^n i^3 = \left[ \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right]^2$

2

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- $\sum_{i=1}^n i^4 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)(3n^2+3n-1)}{30}$

- $\sum_{i=1}^n ar^{i-1} = \frac{a(r^n - 1)}{r - 1}$

**Example 3. Evaluate**

$$\begin{aligned} 1. \sum_{i=1}^n (3+2i)^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^n (9+12i+4i^2) = \sum_{i=1}^n 9 + \sum_{i=1}^n 12i + \sum_{i=1}^n 4i^2 \\ &= 9 \sum_{i=1}^n 1 + 12 \sum_{i=1}^n i + 4 \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 \\ &= \boxed{9n + 12 \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + 4 \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2. \sum_{i=1}^n i(i+1)(i+2) &= \sum_{i=1}^n (i^2+i)(i+2) = \sum_{i=1}^n (i^3+2i^2+i^2+2i) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (i^3+3i^2+2i) = \sum_{i=1}^n i^3 + 3 \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^n i \\ &= \boxed{\left[ \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right]^2 + 3 \cdot \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} + 2 \frac{n(n+1)}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\sum_{i=1}^n ar^{i-1} = \frac{a(r^n-1)}{r-1}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3. \sum_{i=1}^n (2i+2^i) &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^n i + \sum_{i=1}^n 2^i = 2 \sum_{i=1}^n i + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{2 \cdot 2^{i-1}}{2} = 2 \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + \frac{2(2^n-1)}{2-1} \\ &= \boxed{n(n+1) + 2(2^n-1)} \end{aligned}$$

**Example 4.** Find  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \left(\frac{i}{n}\right)^2 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \frac{i^2}{n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{i^2}{n^3}$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^3} \sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n^3} \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(n+1)(2n+1)}{6n^2} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(1+\frac{1}{n})n(2+\frac{1}{n})}{6n^2} = \frac{2}{6} = \boxed{\frac{1}{3}}$$