

Useful Fact for Geometric Series

Fact. For $\delta \in (0, 1)$ and any constant K , $\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} K\delta^t = \frac{K}{1-\delta}$.
Now let's show this. Let

$$S_T = \sum_{t=0}^T \delta^t.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}(1 - \delta) S_T &= (1 - \delta) \sum_{t=0}^T \delta^t \\ &= \sum_{t=0}^T \delta^t - \sum_{t=0}^T \delta^{t+1} \\ &= \sum_{t=0}^T \delta^t - \sum_{t=1}^{T+1} \delta^t \\ &= \delta^0 - \delta^{T+1} \\ &= 1 - \delta^{T+1}.\end{aligned}$$

So

$$S_T = \frac{1 - \delta^{T+1}}{(1 - \delta)}.$$

Now look at the limit at $T \rightarrow \infty$.

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} S_T &= \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1 - \delta^{T+1}}{(1 - \delta)} \\ &= \frac{1}{1 - \delta}\end{aligned}$$

since $\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \delta^{T+1}$ is zero.

So, since $\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \delta^t = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} S_T$, $\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} K\delta^t = \frac{K}{1-\delta}$.