

Sequences and Series Review

Some formulas you may find useful . . .				
$a_n = a_1 + (n-1)d$	$a_n = a_1 \cdot r^{n-1}$	$\sum a_n = \left(\frac{a_1 + a_n}{2}\right)n$	$\sum a_n = \frac{a_1(1-r^n)}{1-r}$	$\sum a_n = \frac{a_1}{1-r}$

1. Find the 21<sup>st</sup> term of the sequence 16, 8, 4, ... geom.

$a_1 = 16$   $r = \frac{1}{2}$   $n = 21$   $a_n = 16\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-1}$

$a_{21} = 16\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{21-1}$

$a_{21} = 0.000015$  OR  $\frac{1}{65536}$

2. Determine the 19<sup>th</sup> term of the sequence -2, 1, 4, 7, ... arith.

$a_1 = -2$   $d = +3$   $n = 19$

$a_{19} = -2 + (19-1)(3)$

$= -2 + 54$

$= 52$

3. The fifteenth and thirtieth terms of an arithmetic sequence are -27 and -102, respectively. Find the common difference, the first term and the Explicit Rule for the sequence.

$a_{15} = -27$   $-27 = a_1 + 14d \rightarrow -27 - 14d = a_1$

$a_{30} = -102$   $-102 = a_1 + 29d$   $-27 - 14(-5) = a_1$

$-102 = -27 - 14d + 29d$   $-27 + 70 = a_1$

$-75 = 15d$

$-5 = d$

$43 = a_1$

$a_n = 43 + (n-1)(-5)$

$a_n = -5n + 48$

4. The fourth and eleventh terms of a geometric sequence are 3 and 192, respectively. Find the common ratio, the first term and the Explicit Rule for the sequence.

$a_4 = 3$   $3 = a_1(r^3)$   $\rightarrow \frac{3}{r^3} = a_1$

$a_{10} = 192$   $192 = a_1(r^9)$

$\frac{3}{2^3} = a_1$

$192 = \frac{3}{r^3} \cdot r^9$

$\frac{3}{8} = a_1$

$192 = 3r^6$

$\sqrt[6]{64} = \sqrt[6]{r^6}$

$2 = r$

$a_n = \frac{3}{8}(2^{n-1})$

For Questions 5 – 10;

- a) Determine whether the infinite sequence is arithmetic or geometric.  
 b) Determine whether the sequence converges or diverges, and  
 c) If it converges, find the limit/sum (what it converges to).

$|r| < 1$   
converges

$\rightarrow a \Sigma = \frac{a_1}{1-r}$

5.  $1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{8}, \frac{1}{16}, \dots, \frac{1}{2^n}, \dots$

a) geometric

b) converge

c)  $\Sigma = \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}} = 2$

6. 2, 5, 8, 11, ...

a) arithmetic

b) diverge

7.  $\frac{1}{27}, \frac{1}{9}, \frac{1}{3}, 1, \dots$

a) geometric,  $r=3$

b) diverge

8.  $3n-1$

$-1, 2, 5, 8, \dots$

a) arithmetic

b) diverge

9.  $1(0.5)^{n-1}$   $1, 0.5, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{8}$

a) geometric,  $r=0.5$

b) converge to 0

c)  $\Sigma = \frac{1}{1-0.5} = 2$

10.  $6(-0.9)^n$   $-5.4, +4.86, -4.374, +3.9366, \dots$

a) geometric,  $r=-0.9$

b)  $|-0.9| < 1$ ?  $0.9 < 1$  so converge

c)  $\Sigma = \frac{6}{1+0.9} = 3.16$

11. Given the sequence 1, 7, 13, ...

a. Write the Explicit Formula that represents this sequence.

$a_1 = 1$   $d = 6$

$a_n = 1 + (n-1)(6)$

$a_n = 6n - 5$

b. Find the 7<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 55<sup>th</sup> terms of the sequence.

$a_7 = 6(7) - 5$     $a_{12} = 6(12) - 5$     $a_{55} = 6(55) - 5$

$a_7 = 37$

$= 67$

$= 325$

c. Find the sum of the finite sequence if it has 55 terms.

$\Sigma_{n=0} = \left( \frac{1 + 325}{2} \right) (55) = (163)(55) = 8965$

d. If possible, find the sum of the sequence if it is infinite.

Not possible

12. Given the sequence 125, 25, 5, ...

a. Write the Explicit Formula that represents this sequence.

$$a_1 = 125 \quad r = \frac{1}{5} \quad a_n = 125 \left( \frac{1}{5} \right)^{n-1}$$

b. Find the 7<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> terms of the sequence.

$$a_7 = 125 \left( \frac{1}{5} \right)^{7-1} = \frac{1}{125}$$

$$a_{15} = 125 \left( \frac{1}{5} \right)^{15-1} = \frac{1}{48828125}$$

c. Find the sum of the finite sequence if it has 21 terms.

$$\sum = \frac{125 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{5}^{21} \right)}{1 - \frac{1}{5}} = \frac{125 \left( \frac{474837158203124}{476837158203125} \right)}{\frac{4}{5}} = \frac{119209289550781}{762939453125} \approx 156.25$$

d. If possible, find the sum of the sequence if it is infinite.

$$\sum = \frac{125}{1 - \frac{1}{5}} = \frac{125}{\frac{4}{5}} = \frac{625}{4} \approx 156.25$$

13. Jacob is planning a trapezoid shaped patio that has 21 rows. His plan calls for 10 blocks in the first row and 60 in the last row. How many blocks does Jacob need to buy for this project?

$$a_1 = 10 \quad a_n = 60 \quad n = 21$$

$$\sum = 21 \left( \frac{10 + 60}{2} \right) = 735$$

Sum.

14. In his piggy bank, Bingo dropped \$1.00 on May 1, \$1.75 on May 2, \$2.50 on May 3 and so on until the last day of May 31 days

a) How much did he drop in his piggy bank on May 19?

$$a_1 = 1$$

$$d = .75$$

$$a_n = 1 + 18(.75)$$

$$= 14.50$$

$$a_n = 1 + (n-1)(.75)$$

$$= 1 + .75n - .75$$

$$= .75n + .25$$

b) What was his total deposit in his piggy bank for the month of May?

$$\sum = \left( \frac{1 + 23.50}{2} \right) (31)$$

$$= 379.75$$

$$a_{31} = 1 + 30(.75)$$

$$= 23.50$$

20. Tarzan, while swinging from vine to vine in the jungle, misses a vine and has to swing back and forth on his vine until he comes to a complete stop. If he travels 75 feet on his initial swing and each subsequent swing is 10% smaller, how many total feet does Tarzan travel until his swinging stops?

$$a_1 = 75 \text{ ft.}$$

$$r = 0.9 \leftarrow$$

$$r = 90\% \text{ left}$$

$$\Sigma = \frac{75}{1 - 0.90} = 750 \text{ ft.}$$