



Math 1050 ~ College Algebra

29 Series

$$-3x + 4y = 5$$

$$2x - y = -10$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 4 \\ 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -10 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^m k = \frac{m(m+1)}{2}$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n z^k = \frac{1 - z^{n+1}}{1 - z}$$

Learning Objectives

- Use summation notation.
- Find the sum of a finite arithmetic sequence.
- Solve applications of arithmetic series.
- Find the value of an infinite geometric series with a finite sum.
- Find the sum of a finite geometric sequence.
- Solve applications of geometric series.

Σ is a capital sigma

Summation Notation

- ① $\sum_{n=1}^p a_n = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_p$
- ② $\sum_{n=j}^p a_n = a_j + a_{j+1} + a_{j+2} + \dots + a_{p-1} + a_p$
- ③ $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots$

Ex 1: Find the following sums.

a) $\sum_{n=2}^6 (2n-1)$ b) $\sum_{k=1}^4 (-1)^k (2k)$ c) $\sum_{k=0}^5 2^k$

$= (2(2)-1) + (2(3)-1) + (2(4)-1) + (2(5)-1) + (2(6)-1)$
 $= 3 + 5 + 7 + 9 + 11 = 35$

$= (-1)^1(2(1)) + (-1)^2(2(2)) + (-1)^3(2(3)) + (-1)^4(2(4))$
 $= -2 + 4 - 6 + 8 = 4$

$= 2^0 + 2^1 + 2^2 + 2^3 + 2^4 + 2^5$
 $= 1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + 16 + 32 = 63$

Ex 2: Write the following sums using summation notation. Assume the terms in each result from an arithmetic or geometric sequence

a) $9 - 6 + 4 - \frac{8}{3} + \frac{16}{9}$ b) $\frac{19}{2} + \frac{11}{2} + \frac{3}{2} - \frac{5}{2} + \dots - \frac{29}{2}$ c) $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16} + \dots$

geometric, $r = -\frac{2}{3}$
 $9, -6, 4, -\frac{8}{3}, \frac{16}{9}$
 $a_n = 9 \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)^{n-1}, n=1, \dots, 5$
 Sum: $\sum_{n=1}^5 9 \left(-\frac{2}{3}\right)^{n-1}$
 finite geom. series

arithmetic, $d = -\frac{8}{2} = -4$
 $\sum_{n=1}^? \left[\frac{19}{2} + (n-1)(-4) \right]$
 $n = ?$ when $a_n = -\frac{29}{2}$
 $\frac{19}{2} + (n-1)(-4) = -\frac{29}{2}$
 $-4n + 4 = -24$
 $-4n = -28$
 $n = 7$
 $\sum_{n=1}^7 \left[\frac{19}{2} + (n-1)(-4) \right]$

geometric, $r = \frac{1}{2}$
 $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-1}$
 $= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$

Properties of Summation

$$\textcircled{1} \sum_{n=j}^p (a_n \pm b_n) = \sum_{n=j}^p a_n \pm \sum_{n=j}^p b_n$$

$$\textcircled{2} \sum_{n=j}^p a_n = \sum_{n=j}^h a_n + \sum_{n=h+1}^p a_n, \text{ for any integer } j \leq h < p$$

$$\textcircled{3} \sum_{n=j}^p c a_n = c \sum_{n=j}^p a_n \quad c \text{ is a constant}$$

$$\textcircled{4} \sum_{n=j}^p a_n = \sum_{n=j+h}^{p+h} a_{n-h} \text{ for any integer } h \text{ (if } p = \infty, \text{ replace } p+h \text{ with } \infty)$$

Ex 3: Use the properties above to state these in another way.

$$\text{a) } \sum_{k=1}^8 \frac{k^2}{3}$$

$$\textcircled{3} \frac{1}{3} \sum_{k=1}^8 k^2$$

$$\text{b) } \sum_{k=1}^{10} \left(2k - \frac{1}{k^2} \right)$$

$$\textcircled{1} \sum_{k=1}^{10} (2k) - \sum_{k=1}^{10} \frac{1}{k^2}$$

$$\text{c) } \sum_{j=2}^5 (j+1) + \sum_{j=2}^5 \frac{2}{j^2}$$

$$j=2, \\ m=1 \\ j=m+1$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \textcircled{1} \sum_{j=2}^5 \left(j+1 + \frac{2}{j^2} \right) \\ & \textcircled{4} \sum_{m=1}^4 \left((m+1)+1 + \frac{2}{(m+1)^2} \right) \\ & = \sum_{m=1}^4 \left(m+2 + \frac{2}{(m+1)^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Arithmetic Series

Ex 4: Add the first hundred integers.

$$1+2+3+4+\dots+99+100 = \sum_{n=1}^{100} n = 50(101) = 5050$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 1+100=101 \\ 2+99=101 \\ 3+98=101 \\ \vdots \\ 50+51=101 \end{array} \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} 1+100=101 \\ 2+99=101 \\ 3+98=101 \\ \vdots \\ 50+51=101 \end{array}} \right\} 50 \text{ groups}$$

Qn: what is $\sum_{k=1}^n k$?

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k = 1+2+3+\dots+n = \frac{(1+n)n}{2}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 1+n=1+n \\ 2+(n-1)=1+n \\ 3+(n-2)=1+n \\ \vdots \end{array} \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} 1+n=1+n \\ 2+(n-1)=1+n \\ 3+(n-2)=1+n \\ \vdots \end{array}} \right\} \frac{n}{2} \text{ groups}$$

Sum of a Finite Arithmetic Sequence

$$S_n = \sum_{j=1}^n a_j = \frac{n}{2}(a_1 + a_n) = \frac{n}{2}(2a_1 + (n-1)d), \quad n \geq 2$$

where $a_j = a_1 + (j-1)d$ *arithmetic seq.*

Ex 5: Find the n^{th} partial sum for each of these.

a) $\sum_{n=2}^{20} (2n-1)$ *sum of arithmetic seq.*

$m=1$ when $n=2$
 $m=19$ when $n=20$
 $20 \quad n=m+1$
 $\sum_{n=2}^{20} (2n-1) = \sum_{m=1}^{19} (2(m+1)-1) = \sum_{m=1}^{19} (2m+1)$
 $= \frac{19}{2} [(2(1)+1) + (2(19)+1)] = 399$

b) $\frac{19}{2} + \frac{11}{2} + \frac{3}{2} - \frac{5}{2} + \dots, n=10$ $d=-4$
 $= \sum_{k=1}^{10} \left[\frac{19}{2} + (k-1)(-4) \right]$
 $= \frac{10}{2} \left[\frac{19}{2} + \frac{19}{2} + (9)(-4) \right]$
 $= -85$

c) The sequence $\{a_n\}$ where $a_1 = 15, a_{10} = 312, n = 50$

(assume it's arithmetic)

$$a_n = 15 + (n-1)(33)$$

$$a_n = 33n - 18$$

$$a_n = 15 + (n-1)d$$

$$312 = 15 + 9d$$

$$297 = 9d \Rightarrow d = 33$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{50} a_n = \frac{50}{2} (a_1 + a_{50}) = 25 (15 + (33(50) - 18)) = 41,75$$

Sum of a Finite Geometric Sequence

$$S_n = \sum_{j=1}^n a_j = a_1 \frac{(1-r^n)}{1-r} \quad \text{where } a_j = a_1(r^{j-1})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & a_1 + \cancel{a_1 r} + \cancel{a_1 r^2} + \cancel{a_1 r^3} + \dots + \cancel{a_1 r^{n-1}} = S_n \\
 - & (\cancel{a_1 r} + \cancel{a_1 r^2} + \cancel{a_1 r^3} + \dots + \cancel{a_1 r^{n-1}} + a_1 r^n = r S_n) \\
 \hline
 & a_1 - a_1 r^n = S_n - r S_n \\
 & a_1(1-r^n) = S_n(1-r) \iff S_n = \frac{a_1(1-r^n)}{1-r} \quad r \neq 1
 \end{aligned}$$

Sum of an Infinite Geometric Sequence

$$S = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} a_j = \frac{a_1}{1-r}, \quad -1 < r < 1 \quad \text{where } a_j = a_1(r^{j-1})$$

Ex 6: Determine each sum.

a) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{10}\right)^n$ *geometric series, $r = \frac{1}{10}$, $a_1 = 1$*

$$= \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{10}} = \frac{1}{\frac{9}{10}} = \frac{10}{9}$$

b) $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^n$ *geometric series, $r = \frac{2}{3}$, $a_1 = 2$*

$$= \frac{2}{1 - \frac{2}{3}} = \frac{2}{\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{2}{1} = 2$$

c) $1.3\bar{8}$ Hint: $1.3\bar{8} = 1.3 + 0.08 + 0.008 + 0.0008 + \dots$

$$\begin{aligned}
 1.3\bar{8} &= 1.3 + \frac{8}{10^2} + \frac{8}{10^3} + \frac{8}{10^4} + \dots \\
 &= 1.3 + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{8}{10^n} = 1.3 + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} 8\left(\frac{1}{10}\right)^n \quad \text{geom. series } r = \frac{1}{10}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= 1.3 + \frac{\text{first term}}{1 - \frac{1}{10}} = 1.3 + \frac{\frac{8}{100}}{\frac{9}{10}}$$

$$= 1.3 + \frac{8}{100} \cdot \frac{10}{9} = \frac{13}{10} + \frac{8}{90} = \frac{13(9) + 8}{90}$$

$$= \frac{125}{90} = \frac{25}{18}$$

d) $\sum_{k=0}^5 3^k$

finite sum of geom. seq.

$$S_n = a_1 \left(\frac{1-r^n}{1-r}\right) = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k \quad r=3$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^5 3^k = \sum_{n=1}^6 3^{n-1}$$

$k=0, m=1$

$m=k+1$

$k=5, m=6$

$$= 1 \left(\frac{1-3^6}{1-3}\right)$$

$$= \frac{-728}{-2} = \boxed{364}$$

Applications of Series

Ex 7: You are trying to break a bad habit. Two relatives offer to help with a financial incentive, but you must choose only one. How much is each offer? Which would you take?

a) Your Great Auntie Mare offers to give you \$1.00 on the first day of February and each day thereafter, she will give you one dollar more than she did the day before.

28 days

$$1+2+3+4+\dots+28 = \sum_{n=1}^{28} n$$

Sum of arith. seq.

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{28(28+1)}{2} \\ &= 14(29) = \$406 \end{aligned}$$

b) Your Uncle Ulysses offers to give you 1 cent on the first day of February and each day thereafter, he will give you double what he gave you the day before.

$$0.01 + 0.02 + 0.04 + 0.08 + \dots + 0.01(2)^{27}$$

Sum of geom. seq.

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{28} (0.01(2^{n-1}))$$

$$= 0.01 \left(\frac{1-2^{28}}{1-2} \right)$$

$$= -0.01(-268,435,455)$$

$$= \$268,435.55$$