

Chapter 11: Sequences and Series

11-1 Types of Sequences

Sequence: is an ordered set of numbers which could be defined as a function whose domain (x-values) consists of consecutive positive integers and the corresponding value is the range (y-values) of the sequence.

Term number: is an ordered set of numbers which could be defined as a function whose domain (x-values) consists of consecutive positive integers.

Term: the corresponding value (the range y-value) of the sequence

Finite: a sequence with a limited number of terms

Infinite: a sequence with an unlimited number of terms

Arithmetic sequence: a sequence in which a constant d (common difference) can be added to each term to get the next term.

Common difference: the constant difference, usually denoted as d

Geometric Sequence: a sequence in which a constant r can be multiplied by each term to get the next term

Common ratio: the constant ratio, usually denoted by r .

11-2 Arithmetic sequence:

$$t_n = t_1 + (n - 1)d$$

Arithmetic Mean: the average between 2 numbers

$$\frac{(a + b)}{2}$$

11-3 Geometric Sequence:

$$t_n = t_1 \cdot r^{n-1}$$

Geometric Mean: the term between two given terms of a geometric sequence as defined by the following formula:

$$\sqrt{ab}$$

11-4 Series and Sigma Notation

Arithmetic series: The sum of the terms of an arithmetic sequence.

Geometric Series: The sum of the terms of a geometric sequence.

Sigma: A series can be written in a shortened form using the Greek letter

$$\sum \quad (\text{Sigma})$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{50} 2n$$

Summand

$$\sum_{n=1}^{50} 2n$$

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11-5 Sums of arithmetic and geometric series

Sum of an Arithmetic series:

$$S_n = \frac{n(t_1 + t_n)}{2} \quad \text{if you know the first and last term.}$$

or $S_n = \frac{n}{2} [2t_1 + (n-1)d]$ if you know the first term and the common difference.

Sum of a geometric series:

$$S_n = \frac{t_1(1 - r^n)}{1 - r}$$

11-6 Infinite Geometric Series

Theorem: an infinite geometric series is convergent and has a sum “ S ” if and only if its common ratio, r meets the following condition: $|r| < 1$

If our infinite series is convergent ($|r| < 1$), we can calculate its sum by the formula:

$$S = \frac{t_1}{1 - r}$$

11-7 Binomial Expansions and Powers of Binomials

Binomial expansion: $(a + b)^n$

You can use Pascal’s Triangle to find the coefficients of the expansion.

11-8 The General Binomial Expansion

The Binomial Theorem: for any binomial $(a + b)$ and any whole number n , then

$$(a + b)^n = {}_n C_0 a^n + {}_n C_1 a^{n-1} b + {}_n C_2 a^{n-2} b^2 + {}_n C_3 a^{n-3} b^3 + \dots + {}_n C_n b^n$$

Combinations:

$$\binom{n}{r} = {}_n C_r = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!r!}$$

Factorial:

$$n! = n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2) \cdot \dots \cdot 2 \cdot 1$$

To find the r th term of a binomial expansion raised to the n th power, use the following formula:

$$\binom{n}{r-1} a^{(n-r+1)} b^{(r-1)}$$

Which is the same as:

$$\binom{n}{r-1} a^{(n-r+1)} b^{(r-1)}$$

	Arithmetic	Note:
Sequence	$t_n = t_1 + (n-1)d$	Arithmetic Sequence
Series (Find the sum)	$S_n = \frac{n(t_1 + t_n)}{2}$	When you know the first and last term.
	$S_n = \frac{n}{2}[2t_1 + (n-1)d]$	When you know the first term and the common difference.
	Geometric	Note:
Sequence	$t_n = t_1 \bullet r^{n-1}$	Geometric Sequence
Series (Find the sum)	$S_n = \frac{t_1(1-r^n)}{1-r}$	A finite Geometric Series (a limited number of terms, or Partial Sum)
	$S = \frac{t_1}{1-r}$	An infinite Geometric Series, if our infinite series is convergent ($ r < 1$)