

Class_24 Dec 1 - Geometric Sequences and Series

Sunday, November 20, 2022 3:21 PM

Tonight's Class:

- Geometric Sequences (G.1)
- Geometric Series (G.2)

Coming up next Wednesday-Thursday, "Ugly Xmas Sweater Days" at LEC



G.1 Geometric Sequences and Series

A sequence of numbers is a list of numbers in a specific order. They are referred to as the **terms** in the sequence. What is the next term for each sequence below?

1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, **128**
5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, **35**

1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, **64**
1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, **34** Fibonacci

There are many types of sequences. The ones shown below are all the same kind. What do they have in common?

6, 12, 24, 48... $\times 2$

-5, 15, -45, 135... $\times -3$

16, 4, 1, $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{16}$... $\times \frac{1}{4}$

-3, -12, -48, -192... $\times 4$

Multiplying by a specific number gives the next term in the sequence.

All are numbers ---

Geometric sequences are created by multiplying each term after the first one by a constant number which is called the **common ratio**. In formulas, they use the letter **r** to stand for the common ratio.

How can you figure out the value of r ?

Divide any term by the one immediately before it, in the sequence.

We use the notation t_n to identify terms in a sequence.

In the sequence beginning 3, 6, 12, 24, 48...

$t_3 = 12$, because 12 is the third term of the sequence

$t_5 = 48$, because 48 is the fifth term of the sequence

$t_4 = 24$

The **first term** in the sequence could be referred to correctly as t_1 , but often we refer to it as "**a**". In the sequence 3, 6, 12, 24, 48... we say $a = 3$.

To try:

Find these terms, for the sequence that begins: 3, 6, 12, 24, 48...

a) $t_6 = 96 = 3(2)^5 = 96$

b) $t_{10} = 384 = 3(2^7) = 384$ 3×2 a bunch of times

c) $t_{26} = 3(\underbrace{2 \times 2 \times \dots \times 2}_{25 \text{ times}}) = 3(2)^{25} = 100,663,296$

For any geometric sequence the n^{th} term, t_n , is given by the formula:

$$t_n = ar^{n-1}$$

where a = first term
 r = common ratio, $r \neq 0$
 n = the term number

To try:

1. Which sequences are geometric? If a sequence is geometric, state its common ratio, r , and give the next 3 terms of the sequence.

- a) 5, 10, 15, 20...
not geometric
- b) 2, -4, 8, -16, 32...
 $32x - 2 = -64$
 128
 -256
 $r = \frac{-4}{2} = -2$
- c) 8, 2, $\frac{1}{2}$, ...
 $\frac{1}{2} \div \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{8}$
 $r = \frac{2}{8} = \frac{1}{4}$
 $\frac{1}{32}$
 $\frac{1}{128}$
- d) $x, 5x^2, 25x^3$...
 $125x^4, 625x^5, 3125x^6$
 $r = \frac{5x^2}{x} = 5x$
 $r = 5x$

2. For each geometric sequence, find the requested value.

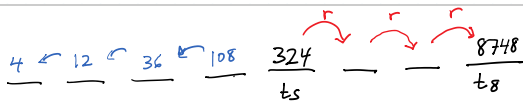
- a) 8, 2, $\frac{1}{2}$, ... Write the defining statement for this sequence in the form $t_n = ar^{n-1}$
 $t_n = ar^{n-1}$ $t_n = 8\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{n-1}$ not ~~$t_n = 2^{n-1}$~~
- b) 20, 10, 5... find t_6
 $r = \frac{10}{20} = \frac{1}{2}$ $t_6 = 20\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^5 = 20\left(\frac{1}{32}\right) = \frac{20}{32}$ or $\frac{5}{8}$ or 0.625
- c) 21, -42, 84... find t_{10}
 $r = \frac{-42}{21} = -2$ $t_{10} = 21(-2)^9 = -10752$
- d) $2x^2, 4x^3, 8x^4$... find t_9
 $r = \frac{4x^3}{2x^2} = 2x$ $t_9 = ar^8 = (2x^2)(2x)^8 = (2x^2)(256x^8) = 512x^{10}$

- 3a) Consider the geometric sequence 2, -6, 18, -54, ...
13 122 is a term in this sequence. What term number is it?
 $r = \frac{-6}{2} = -3$
 $t_n = ar^{n-1}$
 $\frac{13122}{2} = \frac{2}{2}(-3)^{n-1}$
 $6561 = (-3)^{n-1}$
 $(-3)^8 = (-3)^{n-1} \Rightarrow 8 = n-1$
 $n = 9$

- b) Consider the geometric sequence 1.25, 5, 20...
327 680 is a term in this sequence. What term number is it? (Don't brute-force it!)

$r = \frac{5}{1.25} = 4$
 $t_n = ar^{n-1}$
 $\frac{327680}{1.25} = \frac{(1.25)}{1.25}(4)^{n-1}$
 $262144 = 4^{n-1}$
 $\log 262144 = \log 4^{n-1}$
 $\log 262144 = (n-1) \log 4$
 $n-1 = \frac{\log 262144}{\log 4}$
 $n-1 = 9$
 $n = 10$

OR
 $4^9 = 4^{n-1}$
 $\Rightarrow 9 = n-1$
 $n = 10$



4a) In a geometric sequence, $t_5 = 324$ and $t_8 = 8748$. Find the first two terms.

Use r , and divide to go backwards:

$$\frac{324(r^3)}{324} = \frac{8748}{324}$$

$$r^3 = 27$$

$$r = 3$$

$t_1 \text{ or } a = 4$
 $t_2 = 12$

Another way to do it:

$$t_8 = 8748$$

$$t_5 = 324$$

$t_n = ar^{n-1}$

$$t_8 = ar^7 = 8748$$

$$t_5 = ar^4 = 324$$

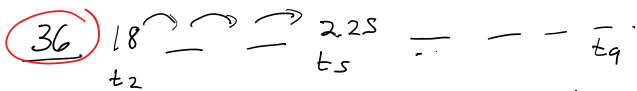
$$\frac{ar^7}{ar^4} = \frac{8748}{324}$$

$$r^3 = 27$$

$$r = 3$$

2nd term: $a \times r = 4 \times 3$
 $2^{\text{nd}} \text{ term} = 12$

b) In a geometric sequence, $t_2 = 18$ and $t_5 = 2.25$. Determine the value of t_9 .



$$\frac{18r^3}{18} = \frac{2.25}{18}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{r^3} = \sqrt[3]{0.125}$$

$$r = 0.5 \text{ or } \frac{1}{2}$$

$$t_9 = ar^8$$

$$= 36 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^8$$

$$= 0.140625 = \frac{9}{64}$$

6. Between the Canadian censuses in 2001 and 2006, the number of people who could speak in Cree had increased by 7%. In 2006, 87 285 people could converse in Cree. Assume the 5-year increase continues to be 7%. To the nearest hundred, how many people will be able to converse in Cree in 2036?

$$1 + 0.07$$

$$r = 1.07$$

| | | | | | | | |
|----------|--------|-------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| # people | 87,285 | 87285(1.07) | | | | | (?) |
| year | 2006 | 2011 | 2016 | 2021 | 2026 | 2031 | 2036 |
| | t_1 | | | | | | |

$$t_n = ar^{n-1}$$

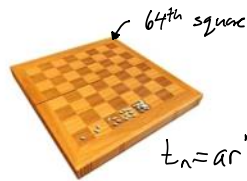
$$t_7 = 87285 (1.07)^6$$

$$= 130991.2488$$

$$\approx 131000 \text{ people}$$

G.2 Geometric Series

A chessboard has 64 squares on it. Legend has it that the inventor of the game asked for the following reward from the King: "One grain of wheat on the first square, two on the second, 4 on the third, and so on, doubling the amount on every square until the board is complete."



How many grains of wheat did the inventor ask for?

$$1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + \dots + 2^{63}$$

64 terms

$$t_n = ar^{n-1}$$

$$t_{64} = 1(2)^{63}$$

A geometric series is the sum of the first n terms of a geometric sequence, written as S_n .

S_3 is the sum of the first 3 terms of a geometric sequence: $S_3 = t_1 + t_2 + t_3$

For the sequence above, $S_3 = 1 + 2 + 4 = 7$

S_4 is the sum of the first 4 terms of a geometric sequence: $S_4 = t_1 + t_2 + t_3 + t_4$

For the chessboard sequence, $S_4 = 1 + 2 + 4 + 8 = 15$

For this question, we need to know the value of S_{64}

Here's a way to find the value of a sum of n terms for any geometric series, S_n

$$S_n = a + ar + ar^2 + ar^3 + \dots + ar^{n-2} + ar^{n-1}$$

$$-rS_n = ar + ar^2 + ar^3 + \dots + ar^{n-2} + ar^{n-1} + ar^n$$

$$S_n - rS_n = a - ar^n$$

Subtracting, we get: $S_n - rS_n = a - ar^n$

Factor: $S_n(1-r) = a(1-r^n)$

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

Divide: $S_n = \frac{a(1-r^n)}{1-r}$

$$1 + 2 + 4 + \dots$$

$r = 2$

$$S_{15} = \frac{1(1-2^{15})}{1-2}$$

$$= \frac{(1-2^{15})}{-1} = \frac{-32767}{-1} = 32767$$

$$S_{64} = \frac{1(1-2^{64})}{1-2} = 1.844 \times 10^{19} \text{ (quintillion!)}$$

$$= 18,446,744,073,709,551,615$$

grains of wheat !!

For any geometric sequence, the sum of the first n terms is found using:

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

$a = \text{first term}$
 $r = \text{common ratio, } r \neq 1$
 $n = \text{number of terms to add up}$

Another form of the formula: $S_n = \frac{a-lr}{1-r}$ $l = \text{the last term}$

To Try:

1. Given the geometric series: $4 + 12 + 36 + \dots$ find the sum of the first 9 terms.

$$S_9 = \frac{4(1-3^9)}{1-3} = 39364$$

$$S_9 = \frac{4(1-3^9)}{1-3} = \boxed{39\,364}$$

2. The sum of the first 12 terms of a geometric series is 24 570. The common ratio is -2 . What is the first term? $n=12$

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

$$24\,570 = \frac{a(1-(-2)^{12})}{1-(-2)}$$

$$24\,570 = \frac{a(1-4096)}{3}$$

$$3 \times 24\,570 = a(-4095) \Rightarrow$$

3a) Find the sum of this series: $0.025 + 0.075 + \dots + 54.675$

$$S_n = \frac{a-lr}{1-r}$$

$$S_n = \frac{0.025 - (54.675)(3)}{1-3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{73\,710}{-4095} &= \frac{-4095a}{-4095} \\ r = \frac{0.075}{0.025} &= 3 \\ \boxed{a = -18} \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{S_n = 82}$$

b) Use an algebraic method to determine how many terms there are in the above sum.

$$t_n = ar^{n-1}$$

$$2187 = 3^{n-1}$$

$$3^7 = 3^{n-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow 7 = n-1 \Rightarrow \boxed{n=8}$$

$$\frac{54.675}{0.025} = \frac{0.025(3)^{n-1}}{0.025}$$

4. An oil well produced 10 000 barrels of oil in the first month of production. Each month production is reduced by 10%. What is the total amount of barrels of oil produced by this oil well in its first two years of production?

10 000, 10 000(0.9), ...

$$r = 0.9$$

$$S_{24} = \frac{10\,000(1-0.9^{24})}{1-0.9}$$

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

$$= 92\,023 \text{ barrels}$$

Worksheets

- More Sequences & Series Practice (optional)

Tuesday, Dec 6

- Chapter 9 Test
- Chapter 9 hand-in due
- We'll finish up the unit

Thursday, Dec 8

- Geometric Sequences & Series hand-in due
- Unit 4 Test
- LAST day to hand in any assignments

Tuesday, Dec 13

Optional class, for Unit 4 re-write