

Sequences and Series – (Finite) Geometric Series and Sigma Notation (W/ Calc)

Specific Series # 2 – (Finite) Geometric Series

- geometric series → the indicated sum of terms in a geometric sequence

where it's represented by the following formula:

$$S_n = \frac{a_1(1 - r^n)}{(1 - r)}$$

\swarrow sum of first n terms \downarrow first term \searrow common ratio raised to nth power

* Reminder – Don't forget to put () around any "r" that is a negative # or a fractional #

Example 1: Find S_n for each geometric series described.

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| <p>a.) $a_1 = 8$, $r = -3$, $n = 7$</p> $S_7 = \frac{8(1 - (-3)^7)}{(1 - (-3))}$ $S_7 = 4376$ | <p>b.) $a_1 = -6$, $a_5 = 96$, $r = 2$ $\rightarrow n = 5$</p> $S_5 = \frac{-6(1 - 2^5)}{(1 - 2)}$ $S_5 = -186$ | <p>c.) $81 + 27 + 9 + \dots$ to 10 terms $a_1 = 81$, $r = \frac{27}{81} = \frac{1}{3}$, $n = 10$</p> $S_{10} = \frac{81(1 - (\frac{1}{3})^{10})}{(1 - (\frac{1}{3}))}$ $S_{10} = 121.498 \text{ or } \frac{29524}{243}$ |
| <p>d.) $a_8 = -458,752$ and $r = -4$ $a_1 = ?$ $-458752 = a_1(-4)^{8-1}$ $-458752 = a_1(-16384)$ $a_1 = 28$</p> $S_8 = \frac{28(1 - (-4)^8)}{(1 - (-4))}$ $S_8 = -366996$ | <p>e.) $a_1 = 1,280$ and $a_9 = 5$, $r = ?$ $\rightarrow n = 9$</p> $S = \frac{1280(r^9 - 1)}{r - 1}$ $\frac{1}{256} = r^8$ $\sqrt[8]{\frac{1}{256}} = \sqrt[8]{r^8} \rightarrow r = \frac{1}{2}$ $S_9 = \frac{1280(1 - (\frac{1}{2})^9)}{(1 - (\frac{1}{2}))}$ $S_9 = 2555$ | <p>f.) $4 + 24 + 144 + \dots + 31,104$ $a_1 = 4$, $r = \frac{24}{4} = 6$, $a_n = 31104$, $n = ?$</p> $\frac{31104}{4} = \frac{4(6)^{n-1}}{4}$ $7776 = 6^{n-1}$ $1 + \frac{\log 7776}{\log 6} = \frac{(n-1)\log 6}{\log 6} + 1$ $\rightarrow n = 6$ $S_6 = \frac{4(1 - 6^6)}{(1 - 6)}$ $S_6 = 37324$ |

Example 2: Find the indicated part of a (finite) geometric series given the series sum and other info.

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| <p>Given: $S_8 = 39,360$ and $r = 3$ Find: a_1</p> $39360 = \frac{a_1(1 - 3^8)}{(1 - 3)}$ $-2 \cdot 39360 = \frac{a_1 \cdot 6560}{-2}$ $-78720 = \frac{a_1 \cdot 6560}{-6560}$ $a_1 = 12$ | <p>Given: $S_n = -16,383$, $r = 4$, $a_1 = -3$ Find: n</p> $-16383 = \frac{-3(1 - 4^n)}{(1 - 4)}$ $-16383 = \frac{-3(1 - 4^n)}{-3}$ $-16383 = 1 - 4^n$ $-16384 = -4^n$ $\frac{-1}{-1} = \frac{-4^n}{-1}$ $16384 = 4^n$ $\frac{\log 16384}{\log 4} = \frac{n \log 4}{\log 4}$ $n = 7$ |
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Sigma Notation (By Calculator Method)

| TI-8x Calculator (old operating system) | TI-8x Calculator (new operating system) |
|--|--|
| 1.) 2 nd STAT (LIST) – highlight MATH and press # 5 which should say sum (2.) 2 nd STAT (LIST) – highlight OPS and press # 5 which should say seq (3.) Then type in the following: a.) sequence written in terms of “x”, b.) x , lower limit # , upper limit #) c.) ENTER 1 time 4.) number shown on the screen is the “answer” 5.) write your FINAL ANSWER as... S _n = final answer , fill in “n” and “answer” * To figure out “n” = upper – lower + 1 | 1.) 2 nd STAT (LIST) – highlight MATH and press # 5 which should say sum (2.) 2 nd STAT (LIST) – highlight OPS and press # 5 which should say seq (3.) Then fill out the following information: a.) Variable: x b.) Start: lower limit # ; End: upper limit # c.) ENTER 4 times 4.) number shown on the screen is the “answer” 5.) write your FINAL ANSWER as... S _n = final answer , fill in “n” and “answer” * To figure out “n” = upper – lower + 1 |
| No matter which “system” (old or new) must show the calculator screen to represent your “work”! Example: $\sum_{k=4}^{23} 4k^2 - 5 \rightarrow$ Calc Steps/Screen: sum (seq (4x² - 5, x, 4, 23) → S₂₀ = 17,140 | |

Example 3: Find the sum of the given geometric finite series using the three methods learned
 All 3 methods should be the SAME EXACT ANSWER.
 Make sure to write your answer as S_n = sum where you fill in “n” and the series’ sum.

Given geometric finite series $\rightarrow \sum_{n=4}^7 2(3)^{n-1}$

| Method # 1 – Sigma Notation By Hand | Method # 2 – Geometric Finite Series Formula | Method # 3 – Sigma Notation By Calculator |
|--|---|---|
| $= [2(3)^{4-1}] + [2(3)^{5-1}]$ $+ [2(3)^{6-1}] + [2(3)^{7-1}]$ $= 54 + 162 + 486 + 1458$ <p style="text-align: center;">4 terms to add up so n=4</p> $\Rightarrow \boxed{S_4 = 2160}$ | $S_n = \frac{a_1(1-r^n)}{(1-r)}$ <p>(n=4) a₁ = 2(3)⁴⁻¹ = 54</p> <p>(n=5) a₂ = 2(3)⁵⁻¹ = 162</p> $r = \frac{162}{54} = 3$ $S_4 = \frac{54(1-3^4)}{(1-3)}$ $\boxed{S_4 = 2160}$ | $= \text{sum}(\text{seq}(2(3)^{(x-1)}, x, 4, 7)$ $\Rightarrow \boxed{S_4 = 2160}$ |

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matched ✓