

# Chapter 8:

Sequences and summation

# Definitions

- Sequence: an ordered list of elements
  - Like a set, but:
    - Elements can be duplicated
    - Elements are ordered
- A sequence is a function from a subset of  $\mathbf{Z}$  (integer numbers) to a set  $S$ 
  - $a_n$  is the image of  $n$
  - $a_n$  is a term in the sequence
  - $\{a_n\}$  means the entire sequence

# Sequence examples

- $a_n = 3n$ 
  - The terms in the sequence are  $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots$
  - The sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is  $\{3, 6, 9, 12, \dots\}$
- $b_n = 2^n$ 
  - The terms in the sequence are  $b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots$
  - The sequence  $\{b_n\}$  is  $\{2, 4, 8, 16, 32, \dots\}$
- Note that sequences are indexed from 1
  - Not in all other textbooks, though!

# Geometric vs. arithmetic sequences

- The difference is in how they grow
- Arithmetic sequences increase by a constant *amount*
  - it is a sequence of form  $a, a+d, a+2d, \dots, a + nd$   
where the initial term **a** and the common difference **d** are real numbers

*Ex:*  $a_n = 3n$

- The sequence  $\{a_n\}$  is  $\{3, 6, 9, 12, \dots\}$
- Each number is 3 more than the last
- **initial term** **a** = 3
- **common difference** **d** = 3

# Geometric vs. arithmetic sequences

- Geometric sequences increase by a constant *factor*
- it is a sequence of form  $a, ar, ar^2, ar^3, \dots, ar^n$   
where the initial term is **a** and the common ratio **r** are real numbers.

EX:  $b_n = 2^n$

- The sequence  $\{b_n\}$  is  $\{2, 4, 8, 16, 32, \dots\}$
- Each number is twice the previous
- **initial term a** = 2
- **common ratio r** = 2

# Geometric vs. arithmetic sequences

- Ex: the sequence  $\{b_n\}$  with  $b_n = (-1)^n$ ,  $\{C_n\}$  with  $C_n = 2 \cdot 5^n$  are geometric progression
  - $b_n = -1, 1, -1, 1, \dots$   
initial term = -1,  
common ratio = -1
  - $C_n = 10, 50, 250, 1250, \dots$   
initial term = 10,  
common ratio = 5

# Geometric vs. arithmetic sequences

- Ex: the sequence  $\{S_n\}$  with  $S_n = -1 + 4n$  is arithmetic sequence where  
 $S_n = 3, 7, 11, \dots$   
initial term = 3,  
common Difference = 4

# Special, Integer Sequences

- Ex: Find a formula for the following sequences:

**A. 1,  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{8}$ ,  $\frac{1}{16}$**

Sol:  $a_n = 1/2^{n-1}$  it a geometric progression with initial term = 1 and common ration =  $\frac{1}{2}$

**B. 5, 11, 17, 23, 29 ...**

Sol:  $a_n = 6n - 1$  is arithmetic progression with  $a = 5$ , and  $d = 6$



## Useful sequences

Nth term	First 5 terms
$n^2$	1, 4, 9, 16, 25,.....
$2^n$	2, 4, 8, 16, 32,.....
$n!$	1, 2, 6, 24, 120, .....

Note: to know more useful sequences go to page 228 table 1

# Summations

A summation:

$$\sum_{j=m}^n a_j \quad \text{or} \quad \sum_{j=m}^n a_j$$

is like a for loop:

```
int sum = 0;
for ( int j = m; j <= n; j++ )
    sum += a(j);
```

# Evaluating sequences

$$\sum_{k=1}^5 (k+1) = 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 = 20$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^4 (-2)^j = (-2)^0 + (-2)^1 + (-2)^2 + (-2)^3 + (-2)^4 = 11$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{10} 3 = 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 + 3 = 30$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n c = c * n \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^{10} 3 = 10 * 3 = 30$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^8 (2^{j+1} - 2^j) = (2^1 - 2^0) + (2^2 - 2^1) + (2^3 - 2^2) + \dots + (2^9 - 2^8) = 511$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^5 j^2 = \sum_{k=0}^4 (K+1)^2 = \sum_{L=2}^6 (L-1)^2 = 1 + 4 + 9 + 16 + 25 = 55$$

# Double summations

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{i=1}^4 \sum_{j=1}^3 ij &= \sum_{i=1}^4 \left( \sum_{j=1}^3 ij \right) = \sum_{i=1}^4 i \left( \sum_{j=1}^3 j \right) = \sum_{i=1}^4 i(1 + 2 + 3) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^4 6i = 6 \sum_{i=1}^4 i = 6(1 + 2 + 3 + 4) = 6 * 10 = 60\end{aligned}$$

Is equivalent to:

```
int sum = 0;
for ( int i = 1; i <= 4; i++ )
    for ( int j = 1; j <= 3; j++ )
        sum += i*j;
```

# Useful summation formulae

$$\sum_{k=0}^n ar^k = a(r^{n+1} - 1) / (r - 1), r \neq 1$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k = n(n + 1) / 2$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k^2 = n(n + 1)(2n + 1) / 6$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k^3 = n^2(n + 1)^2 / 4$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k = 1 / (1 - x), |x| < 1$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} kx^{k-1} = 1 / (1 - x)^2, |x| < 1$$

# Evaluating sequences

**Ex:** find the value of

$$\sum_{k=50}^{100} k^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{k=1}^{100} k^2 &= \left( \sum_{k=1}^{49} k^2 \right) + \sum_{k=50}^{100} k^2 \\ \sum_{k=50}^{100} k^2 &= \left( \sum_{k=1}^{100} k^2 \right) - \sum_{k=1}^{49} k^2 \\ &= \frac{100 \cdot 101 \cdot 201}{6} - \frac{49 \cdot 50 \cdot 99}{6} \\ &= 338,350 - 40,425 \\ &= 297,925.\end{aligned}$$

# Evaluating sequences

**Ex:** find the value of

$$\sum_{k=2}^{100} k^2$$

$$\sum_{k=2}^{100} k^2 = \sum_{k=1}^{100} k^2 - (1)^2$$

# Evaluating sequences

**Ex:** find the value of

$$\sum_{k=-2}^{100} k^2$$

$$\sum_{k=-2}^{100} k^2 = \sum_{k=1}^{100} k^2 + (-2)^2 + (-1)^2 + (0)^2$$



# Evaluating sequences

Ex : Given that  $\sum_{k=1}^{100} k^2 = 338,350$  find the value of :

$$A. \sum_{k=1}^{99} k^2$$

$$B. \sum_{k=1}^{101} k^2$$

$$A. \sum_{k=1}^{99} k^2 = \sum_{k=1}^{100} k^2 - (100)^2 = 338,350 - 10,000 = 328,350$$

$$B. \sum_{k=1}^{101} k^2 = \sum_{k=1}^{100} k^2 + (101)^2 = 338,350 + 10,201 = 348,551$$

Ex : Given that  $\sum_{k=1}^{100} k^2 = 338,350$  find the value of :  $\sum_{k=1}^{100} k^2 + 10 =$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{100} k^2 + 10 = \sum_{k=1}^{100} 10 + \sum_{k=1}^{100} k^2 = 100 * 10 + 338,350 = 339,350$$