

## Geometric progression( geometric sequence)

Head from the following two examples:

Example 1) 3, 6, 12, 24, 48 ...

Example 2) 81, 27, 9, 3, ...

If we carefully observe the **first example**, we notice that each next member of the progression we get when the previous multiply with 2. So, the next few members are  $48 * 2 = 96, \dots, 96 * 2 = 192, \dots$

In **example 2** note that each member ,of the following, is three times lower than previous. So , the next few members will be  $3 : 3 = 1, \dots, 1 : 3 = \frac{1}{3}, \dots, \frac{1}{3} : 3 = \frac{1}{9}, \dots$

**Geometric progression( geometric sequence)** is a sequence of numbers where each term after the first is found by multiplying the previous one by a fixed non-zero number called the **common ratio**.

As we see, geometric progression may be increasing or decreasing.

In example 1. common ratio  $q = 2$  (increas)

In example 2. common ratio  $q = \frac{1}{3}$  (decreas)

The first member of geometric progression is marked with  $b_1$ , and member on n-th place is  $b_n$ .

$$b_n = b_1 \cdot q^{n-1}$$

The sum of the terms of a geometric progression is known as a **geometric series**.

i) for  $q > 1$

$$S_n = \frac{b_1(q^n - 1)}{q - 1}$$

ii) for  $q < 1$

$$S_n = \frac{b_1(1 - q^n)}{1 - q}$$

For this progression is:

$$b_n = \sqrt{b_{n-1} * b_{n+1}}$$

## EXAMPLES:

1. Find the geometric progression if :  $b_1 + b_3 = 15 \wedge b_2 + b_4 = 30$

**Solution:**

$$\begin{array}{l} b_1 + b_3 = 15 \\ b_2 + b_4 = 30 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Use : } b_n = b_1 * q^{n-1} \\ b_3 = b_1 * q^2 \\ b_2 = b_1 * q \\ b_4 = b_1 * q^3 \end{array}$$

Replace this in system :

$$b_1 + b_1 * q = 15$$

$$b_1 q + b_1 q^3 = 30$$

$$b_1(1 + q^2) = 15$$

$$b_1 q(1 + q^2) = 30 \quad \text{Here is a "trick" to divide equations.}$$

$$\frac{b_1(1 + q^2)}{b_1 q(1 + q^2)} = \frac{15}{30} \rightarrow \frac{\cancel{b_1} (1 + q^2)}{\cancel{b_1} q (1 + q^2)} = \frac{15}{30} \rightarrow \text{Simplify...}$$

$$\frac{1}{q} = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow q = 2$$

Let's go back to one of the equation (of course, choose easy one).

$$b_1(1 + q^2) = 15$$

$$b_1(1 + 4) = 15 \Rightarrow b_1 = 3$$

So: 3, 6, 12, 24, 48, ... is solution

**2. Calculate the tenth member of geometric progression 1, 3, 9, 27...**

**Solution:**

$$\begin{array}{cccc} 1, & 3, & 9, & 27, \dots \\ \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 & b_4 \end{array} \quad \text{From here we can conclude that: } b_1 = 1 \text{ and } q = 3$$

Next, we will use formula:  $b_n = b_1 * q^{n-1}$

$$b_n = b_1 * q^{n-1}$$

$$b_{10} = b_1 * q^{10-1}$$

$$b_{10} = b_1 * q^9$$

$$b_{10} = 1 * 3^9$$

$$b_{10} = 3^9$$

$$b_{10} = 19683$$

**3. In geometric progression we have:  $b_6 - b_4 = 216 \wedge b_3 - b_1 = 8 \wedge S_n = 40$  Find  $b_1$ ,  $q$  and  $n$ .**

**Solution:**

$$b_6 - b_4 = 216$$

$$b_3 - b_1 = 8$$

$$S_n = 40$$

$$b_n = b_1 * q^{n-1}$$

$$b_6 = b_1 * q^5$$

$$b_4 = b_1 * q^3$$

$$b_3 = b_1 * q^2$$

Replace in the first two equations!

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} b_1 \cdot q^5 - b_1 \cdot q^3 = 216 \\ b_1 q^2 - b_1 = 8 \end{array} \right\} \text{common...}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} b_1 q^3 (q^2 - 1) = 216 \\ b_1 (q^2 - 1) = 8 \end{array} \right\} \text{divide them}$$

$$\frac{b_1 q^3 (q^2 - 1)}{b_1 (q^2 - 1)} = \frac{216}{8} \rightarrow \frac{\cancel{b_1} q^3 (\cancel{q^2 - 1})}{\cancel{b_1} (\cancel{q^2 - 1})} = \frac{216}{8}$$

$$q^3 = 27 \Rightarrow q^3 = 3^3 \Rightarrow q = 3$$

$$b_1 (q^2 - 1) = 8$$

$$b_1 (3^2 - 1) = 8 \Rightarrow b_1 \cdot 8 = 8 \Rightarrow b_1 = 1$$

$$\frac{1 \cdot (3^n - 1)}{3 - 1} = 40$$

$$\frac{3^n - 1}{2} = 40$$

$$\text{Because } q = 3 > 1, \text{ we will use formula: } S_n = \frac{b_1(q^n - 1)}{q - 1} \Rightarrow 3^n - 1 = 80$$

$$3^n = 81$$

$$3^n = 3^4 \Rightarrow n = 4$$

4. We have three numbers  $b_1, b_2$  and  $b_3$  (members of geometric progression) and for them is :  $b_1 + b_2 + b_3 = 26$

If you add them 1, 6 and 3 they become members of arithmetical progression. Find  $b_1, b_2$  and  $b_3$ .

**Solution:**

$b_1, b_2, b_3$  and  $b_1 + b_2 + b_3 = 26$  we know that  $b_2 = b_1q$  and  $b_3 = b_1q^2$  then

$$b_1 + b_1q + b_1q^2 = 26 \longrightarrow \boxed{b_1(1 + q + q^2) = 26}$$

If we add them 1, 6 and 3 we will receive:

$$a_1 = b_1 + 1$$

$$a_2 = b_2 + 6 = b_1q + 6$$

$$a_3 = b_3 + 3 = b_1q^2 + 3$$

Because they are members of arithmetical progression, must be:  $a_2 = \frac{a_1 + a_3}{2}$

$$a_1 + a_3 = 2a_2$$

$$(b_1 + 1) + (b_1q^2 + 3) = 2(b_1q + 6) \rightarrow \text{simplify...}$$

$$b_1 + 1 + b_1q^2 + 3 = 2b_1q + 12$$

$$b_1q^2 - 2b_1q + b_1 = 12 - 1 - 3$$

$$\boxed{b_1(q^2 - 2q + 1) = 8}$$

Now, we can make system:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} b_1(q^2 + q + 1) = 26 \\ b_1(q^2 - 2q + 1) = 8 \end{array} \right\} \text{divide them}$$

$$\frac{q^2 + q + 1}{q^2 - 2q + 1} = \frac{26}{8}$$

$$26(q^2 - 2q + 1) = 8(q^2 + q + 1) / : 2$$

$$13(q^2 - 2q + 1) = 4(q^2 + q + 1)$$

$$13q^2 - 26q + 13 = 4q^2 + 4q + 4$$

$$9q^2 - 30q + 9 = 0$$

$$3q^2 - 10q + 3 = 0 \rightarrow \text{square equation "by } q\text{"}$$

$$q_{1,2} = \frac{10 \pm 8}{3 \cdot 2} = \frac{10 \pm 8}{6}$$

$$q_1 = 3 \wedge q_2 = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$q = 3$$

$$b_1 = \frac{26}{q^2 + q + 1} = \frac{26}{13} = 2$$

or

$$q = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$b_1 = \frac{26}{\frac{1}{9} + \frac{1}{3} + 1} = \frac{26}{\frac{13}{9}} = 18$$

**Solution (for q = 3):**

2, 6, 18, ... geometric progression

3, 12, 21, ... arithmetical progression

**Solution (for q = 1/3):**

18, 6, 2 ... geometric progression

19, 12, 5 ... arithmetical progression

5. Calculate the sum of n numbers in form 1, 11, 111, 1111, 11111,.....

**Solution:**

“Trick” is to write numbers in different manner:

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

$$11 = \frac{100-1}{9} = \frac{10^2-1}{9}$$

$$111 = \frac{1000-1}{9} = \frac{10^3-1}{9}$$

.....

So:

$$\begin{aligned} S_n &= 1+11+111+\dots = \\ &= \frac{10-1}{9} + \frac{10^2-1}{9} + \frac{10^3-1}{9} + \dots + \frac{10^n-1}{9} \\ &= \frac{1}{9} [10-1+10^2-1+10^3-1+\dots+10^n-1] \\ &= \frac{1}{9} [\underbrace{10+10^2+\dots+10^n}_n - n] \end{aligned}$$

geometric progression  $\rightarrow b_1 = 10 \wedge q = 10$  and  $S_n = \frac{b_1(q^n-1)}{q-1}$

$$S_n = \frac{1}{9} \left[ \frac{10 \cdot (10^n - 1)}{10 - 1} - n \right]$$

$$S_n = \frac{1}{9} \left[ \frac{10(10^n - 1)}{9} - n \right] = \frac{1}{81} [10(10^n - 1) - 9n]$$

6. Calculate the sum of n numbers in form  $\frac{5}{6}, \frac{11}{12}, \frac{23}{24}, \frac{47}{48}, \dots$

**Solution:**

“Trick” is, same as in the previous task, to write numbers in different manner:

$$\frac{5}{6} = \frac{6-1}{6} = 1 - \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\frac{11}{12} = \frac{12-1}{12} = 1 - \frac{1}{12}$$

$$\frac{23}{24} = \frac{24-1}{24} = 1 - \frac{1}{24}$$

.....

$$S_n = \frac{5}{6} + \frac{11}{12} + \frac{23}{24} + \dots = 1 - \frac{1}{6} + 1 - \frac{1}{12} + 1 - \frac{1}{24} + \dots = n - \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{24} + \dots\right)}$$

geometric progression

$$b_1 = \frac{1}{6} \quad q = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$S_{n^*} = \frac{b_1(1-q^n)}{1-q}$$

$$S_{n^*} = \frac{\frac{1}{6}\left(1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n\right)}{1 - \frac{1}{2}}$$

$$S_{n^*} = \frac{1}{3}\left(1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n\right)$$

So:

$$S_n = n - S_{n^*}$$

$$S_n = n - \frac{1}{3}\left[1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n\right] \text{ is solution}$$

## Infinite geometric series

If we have real numbers  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, \dots$

Form  $a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_n + \dots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is called infinite series

For  $a, aq, aq^2, \dots, aq^n, \dots$  is  $a(1 + q + q^2 + \dots + q^n + \dots) = a \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q^n$

$$S = \frac{a}{1-q} \quad \text{for } |q| < 1$$

**7. Decimal number  $0,7777777\dots$  write in form of fraction**

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} 0,7777\dots &= \frac{7}{10} + \frac{7}{100} + \frac{7}{1000} + \dots \\ &= \frac{7}{10} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{100} + \frac{1}{1000} + \dots \right) \\ &= \frac{7}{10} \underbrace{\left( 1 + \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{10^2} + \frac{1}{10^3} + \dots \right)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{geometric series : } a = \frac{7}{10}, q = \frac{1}{10}$$

$$S = \frac{a}{1-q} = \frac{\frac{7}{10}}{1 - \frac{1}{10}} = \frac{\frac{7}{10}}{\frac{9}{10}} = \frac{7}{9}$$

$$\text{So: } 0,7777777\dots = \frac{7}{9}$$



8. **Decimal number** 0,3444.... **write in form of fraction**

**Solution:**

$$0,3444\dots = \frac{3}{10} + \frac{4}{100} + \frac{4}{1000} + \frac{4}{10000} + \dots$$

$$= \frac{3}{10} + \frac{4}{100} \cdot \underbrace{\left(1 + \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{100} + \dots\right)}$$

$$a = \frac{4}{100}, q = \frac{1}{10}$$

$$S = \frac{3}{10} + \frac{\frac{4}{100}}{1 - \frac{1}{10}}$$

$$= \frac{3}{10} + \frac{\frac{4}{100}}{\frac{9}{10}}$$

$$= \frac{3}{10} + \frac{4}{90} = \frac{31}{90}$$

So:  $0,3444\dots = \boxed{\frac{31}{90}}$

9. **Decimal number** 2,717171.... **write in form of fraction.**

**Solution:**

$$2,717171\dots = 2 + \frac{7}{10} + \frac{1}{100} + \frac{7}{1000} + \frac{1}{10000} + \dots$$

Here we see 2 geometric series:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{7}{10} + \frac{7}{1000} + \frac{7}{100000} + \dots &= \frac{7}{10} \left(1 + \frac{1}{100} + \dots\right) \\ \frac{1}{100} + \frac{1}{10000} + \frac{1}{1000000} + \dots &= \frac{1}{100} \left(1 + \frac{1}{100} + \dots\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$S_1 = \frac{\frac{7}{10}}{1 - \frac{1}{100}} = \frac{\frac{7}{10}}{\frac{99}{100}} = \frac{70}{99}$$

$$S_2 = \frac{\frac{1}{100}}{1 - \frac{1}{100}} = \frac{\frac{1}{100}}{\frac{99}{100}} = \frac{1}{99}$$

Let's go back to the task:

$$2,717171\dots = 2 + \frac{70}{99} + \frac{1}{99} = \frac{269}{99} \text{ is solution}$$