

Math-1050

Session #34

Sequences

What is a sequence?

Sequence: an ordered progression of numbers (a list)

Finite sequence: a sequence that has a final term, therefore the total terms in the sequence can be counted.

example 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35

Infinite sequence: sequence that does not have a final term, so the number of terms is uncountable.

Example: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, ...

5, 10, 15, ..., 35 number pattern continues
between 15 and 35

2, 5, 8, ... number pattern continues after '8' infinitely

How is a sequence a relation between input and output?

5, 10, 15, 20, 25

What are the input values?

The domain of a sequence is the “natural numbers”

k	a_k
1	-9
2	-6
3	-3
4	0
5	3
6	6
7	9
8	12
9	15

The input value refers to the relative position of the term in the sequence (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.)

The range is the sequence itself (the set of all the individual numbers of the sequence).

a_k Represents a “generic” number in a sequence named “a” which has subscript “k” to identify the “kth” term of the sequence.

$a_3 = 5$ No French brackets and subscript ‘3’ means the 3rd term of sequence ‘a’.

Is the sequence given in the table finite or infinite?

finite

$$b_2 = ?$$

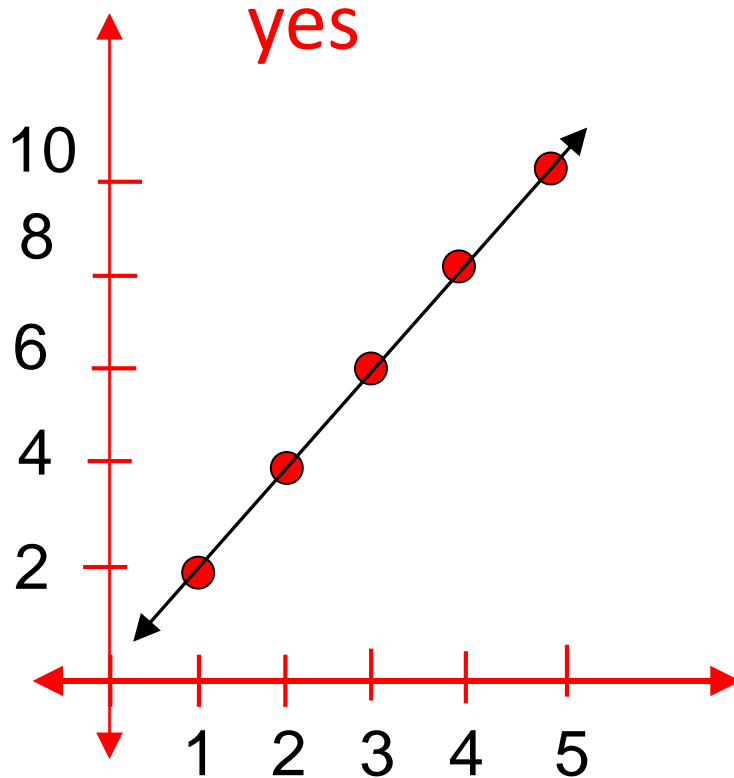
$$b_2 = 4$$

n	1	2	...	5
b_n	2	4	...	10

$\{b_n\} = \{2, 4, 6, \dots\}$ Is a sequence a relation? **yes**

Graph the relation.

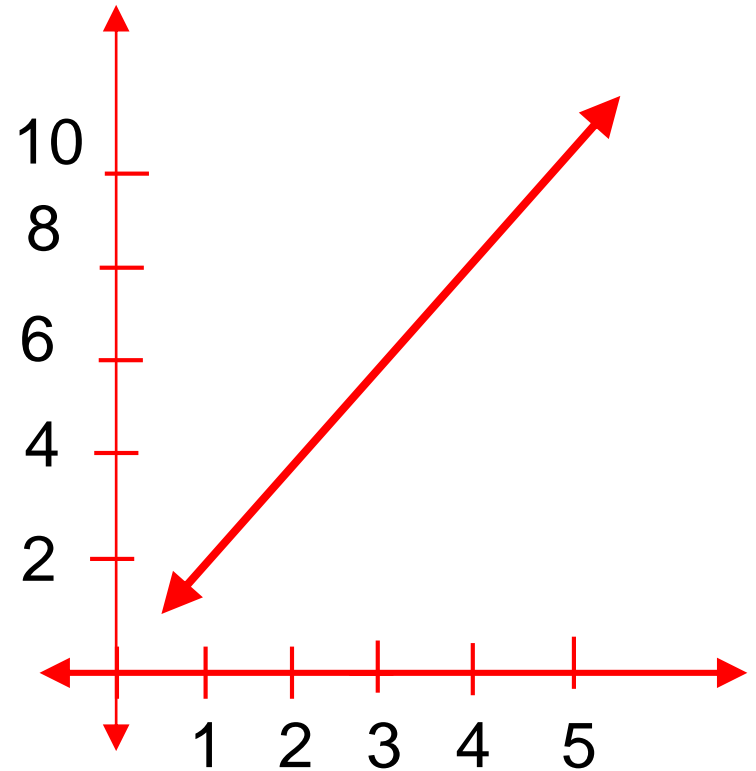
Is this sequence a linear relation?



domain = ? **Discrete domain**

$$D = \{x = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$$

Is this sequence a line?



Domain = ?

$D = (-\infty, \infty)$
continuous domain

Discrete set of numbers: a countable set of numbers

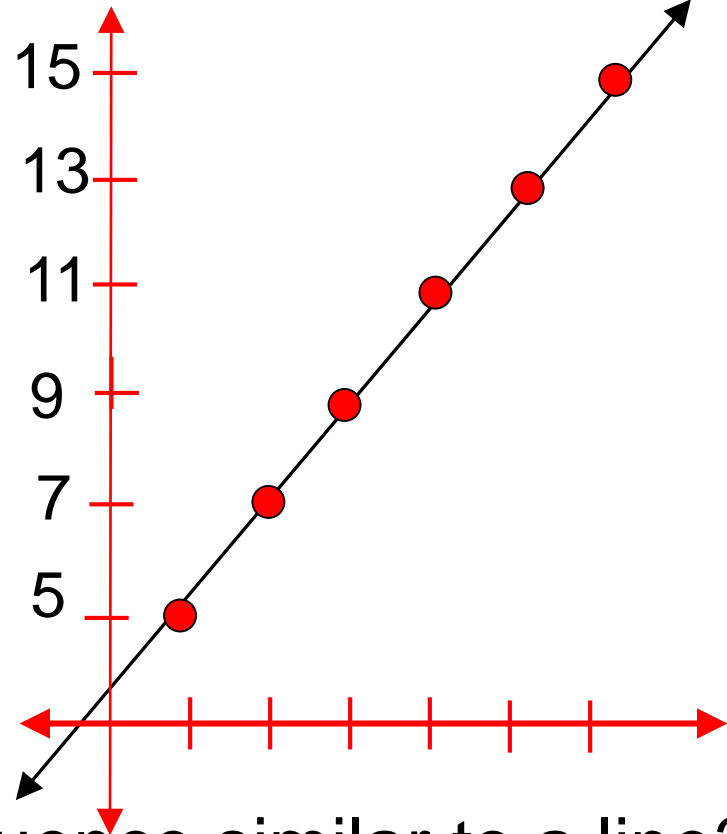
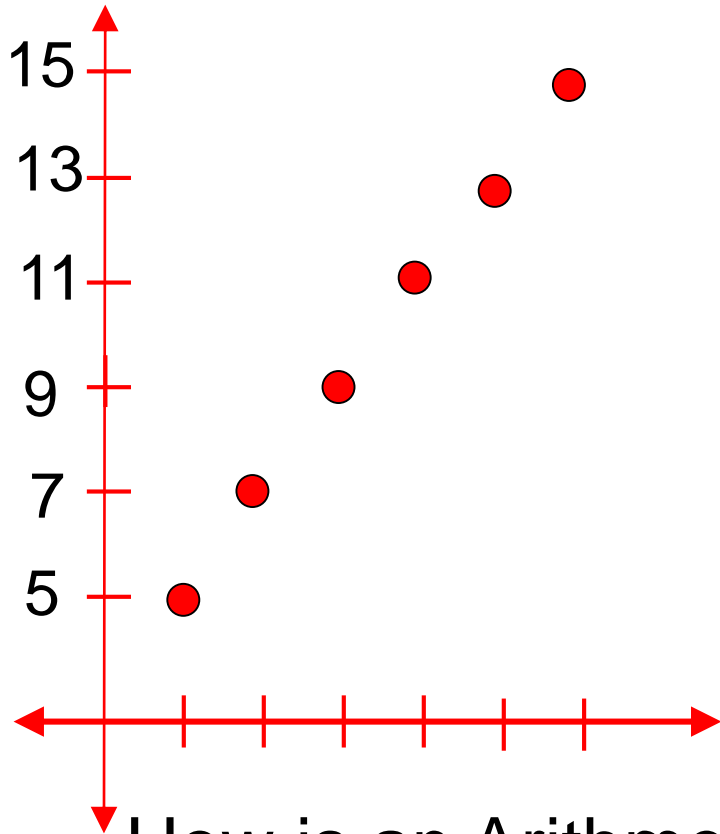
Example: $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$

Continuous set of numbers: an infinite set of numbers that includes every number in an interval of numbers (with no “gaps”). Example $(-5, 3]$

Arithmetic Sequence: a sequence that is a linear relation.

$$\{a_k\} = \{5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15\}$$

k	1	2	3	4	5	6
a_k	5	7	9	11	13	15



How is an Arithmetic sequence similar to a line?

Constant slope (or 1st difference is constant)

How is an Arithmetic sequence different from a line?

Discrete domain vs. continuous domain

$$\{a_k\} = \{2k + 3 : k = 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

Defines a “rule” so that you can find the “kth” term

We call this method of defining the sequence “set-builder” notation.

Spoken: “the sequence ‘a’ is defined as $2k + 3$ with ‘k’ taking on the values 1, 2, 3, and so forth”

Explicitly Defined Sequence: a formula that you can use to directly find any term in the sequence without having to find the preceding terms.

$$a_1 = (-1)^{1+1} \left(\frac{2}{1}\right)$$

$$a_1 = 2$$

$$a_2 = (-1)^{1+2} \left(\frac{2}{2}\right)$$

$$\{a_k\} = \left\{ (-1)^{k+1} \left(\frac{2}{k}\right) \right\}$$

Write down the 1st six terms of the following sequence.

k	1	2	3	4	5	6
a_k	2	-1	$\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{2}{5}$	$-\frac{1}{3}$

Examples Sequences

Running total: if your car payment is \$200/month, a running total would look like:

Month	1	2	3	4
Total (\$)	200	400	600	800

1. Define this sequence explicitly and name it “C”.

$$C_m = 200m \quad (m = 1, 2, 3, 4)$$

Recursively Defined Sequences have two parts.

$$b_1 = 4$$



Specifies the initial element of the sequence.

$$b_n = b_{n-1} + 2$$



Gives a way to show the relation between adjacent elements of the sequence.

Recursively Defined Sequences

$$b_1 = 4$$

$$b_n = b_{n-1} + 2$$

Find the 1st 5-terms
of the sequence.

$$b_2 = b_1 + 2$$

$$b_3 = b_2 + 2$$

**In order to find the 3rd term, we need to find out
what the 2nd term is:**

$$b_2 = b_1 + 2 \quad b_2 = 4 + 2 = 6 \quad b_3 = 6 + 2 = 8$$

4, 6, 8, 10, 12, ...

Define the following sequence of numbers recursively.

-9, -6, -3, 0, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15

$$b_1 = -9 \quad b_n = b_{n-1} + 3 \quad \text{For } 1 < n \leq 9$$

Explicitly defined:

$$b_n = \{3(n - 1) - 9\} : \text{for } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots, 9\}$$

$$\{a_k\} = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\} \quad \sum_{k=1}^5 a_k = 1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + 9$$

If we add together all the terms of the sequence we get something called a *series*.

$$\sum_{k=1}^5 a_k = 26$$

Summation Notation uses Greek letter (capital) sigma

Carl Friedrich Gauss (1777 – 1855)

As a young student (7-10 years old) his class was asked to add the first 100 numbers,

$$1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + 98 + 99 + 100 = ?$$

You have one minute → what's the answer?

Karl immediately gave the answer: 5050.

How did he do it so fast?

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} \textcircled{1} & + & \textcircled{2} & + & \textcircled{3} & + & \dots & + & \textcircled{48} & + & \textcircled{49} & + & \textcircled{50} \\ \textcircled{100} & + & \textcircled{99} & + & \textcircled{98} & + & \dots & + & \textcircled{53} & + & \textcircled{52} & + & \textcircled{51} \\ 101 & & 101 & & 101 & & & & 101 & & 101 & & 101 \end{array}$$
$$= 50(101) = 5050$$

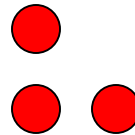
Triangular Numbers

Why are they called “triangular numbers”?

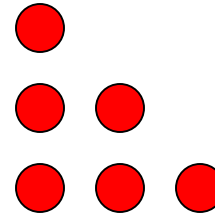
1



$1 + 2 = 3$

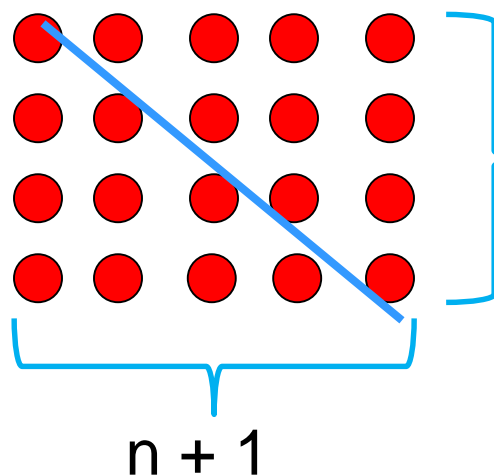
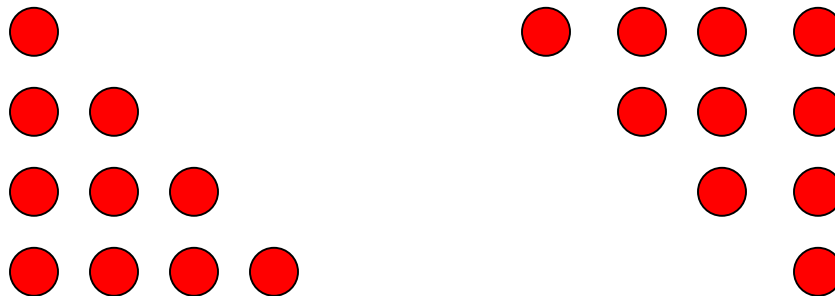


$1 + 2 + 3 = 6$



How can we calculate the 100th triangular number?

Triangular Numbers $T_N = \frac{N(N+1)}{2}$ $T_{100} = \frac{100(100+1)}{2} = 5050$



Total number in the rectangle = $n(n+1)$

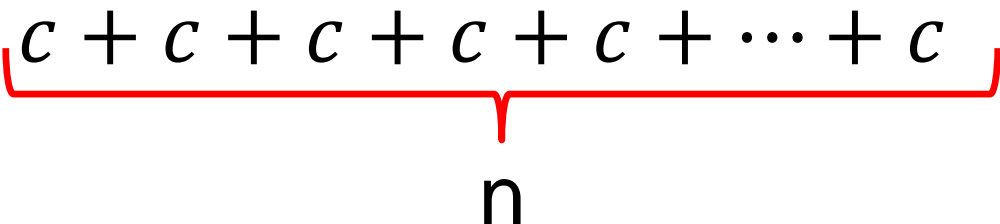
The rectangle is one triangular number added to itself.

This is Gauss's number!

The sum of the first 'n' integers is a triangular number.

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

$$\sum_{k=1}^n c \quad (\text{Where 'c' is a constant})$$



$$\sum_{k=1}^n c = cn$$

The sum of the first 'n' "perfect square integers"

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k^2 = 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 = 1 + 4 + 9 + \dots + n^2$$

$$= \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

The sum of the first 'n' "perfect square integers"

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k^3 = 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + n^3 = 1 + 8 + 27 + \dots + n^3$$

$$= \left(\frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right)^2$$

Properties of Series

$$\boxed{\#1} \quad \sum_{k=1}^n (ca_k) = ca_1 + ca_2 + \cdots + ca_n = c \sum_{k=1}^n a_k$$

$$\boxed{\#2} \quad \sum_{k=1}^n (a_k + b_k) = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k + \sum_{k=1}^n b_k$$

$$\boxed{\#3} \quad \sum_{k=1}^n (a_k - b_k) = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k - \sum_{k=1}^n b_k$$

$$\boxed{\#4} \quad \sum_{k=j+1}^n a_k = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k - \sum_{k=1}^j b_k \quad \text{Where: } 0 < j < n$$

Using Properties of Series

$$\sum_{k=1}^6 (2k) \quad \boxed{\#1} \quad = 2 \sum_{k=1}^6 a_k = \frac{2(n)(n+1)}{2} = \frac{2(6)(6+1)}{2} \quad \boxed{= 42}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^7 (k^2 + 3k + 2) \quad \boxed{\#2} = \sum_{k=1}^7 k^2 + \sum_{k=1}^7 3k + 2$$
$$\quad \boxed{\#1} = \sum_{k=1}^7 k^2 + 3 \sum_{k=1}^7 k + 2$$

$$= \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} + \frac{3(n)(n+1)}{2} + 2n$$

$$= \frac{7(7+1)[2(7)+1]}{6} + \frac{3(7)(7+1)}{2} + 2(7) \quad \boxed{= 5138}$$

Using Properties of Series

$$\sum_{k=4}^{10} (2k^3) \quad \boxed{\#1} = 2 \sum_{k=4}^{10} k^3 \quad \boxed{\#4} = 2 \left(\sum_{k=1}^{10} k^3 - \sum_{k=1}^3 k^3 \right)$$

$$= 2 \left(\frac{10(10+1)}{2} \right)^2 - 2 \left(\frac{3(3+1)}{2} \right)^2$$

$$= 2(55)^2 - 2(6)^2 \quad \boxed{= 5978}$$