

11.3 Geometric Sequences

A sequence whose consecutive terms have a common ratio, is geometric.

* you multiply or divide to get the next term in the sequence

ex) 5, 15, 45, 135, ...

$$\frac{15}{5} = 3 \quad \frac{45}{15} = 3 \quad \frac{135}{45} = 3$$

common ratio: $r = 3$ ← integer # multiplication
is geometric

if the ratio is a fraction it's division or multiplication of a fraction.

ex) 15, 30, 45, 60, ...

$$\frac{30}{15} = 2 \quad \frac{45}{30} = 1.5 \quad \text{NOT geometric}$$

$$30 - 15 = 15 \quad 45 - 30 = 15$$

$$60 - 45 = 15$$

Arithmetic
 $d = 15$

p. 613 Quick ✓ #1

Arithmetic, Geometric, or Neither?

b) 6, -24, 96, -384, ... → geometric
alternating signs $r = -4$

c) 8, 20, 32, 44, ... arithmetic
 $d = 12$

Geometric Sequence Formulas

Recursive $a_n = a_{n-1} \cdot R$

Explicit $a_n = a_1 \cdot R^{n-1}$

a_1 = 1st term

R = common ratio

Quick v #2 p. 613

Find the 19th term. (Explicit)

a) 11, 33, 99, 297, ... $R = 3$ $a_1 = 11$

Geometric $a_n = 11(3)^{n-1}$ explicit formula

$a_{19} = 11(3)^{19-1}$ $a_{19} = 11(3)^{18}$

$a_{19} = 4,261,625,379$

b) 20, 17, 14, 11, 8, ... Arithmetic
 $d = -3$

$a_n = a_1 + (n-1)d$

$a_n = 20 + (n-1)(-3)$ explicit formula

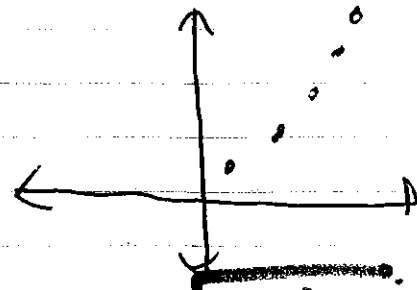
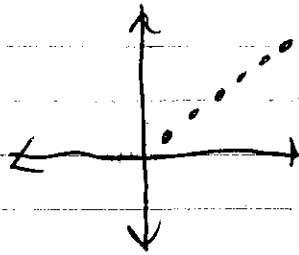
$a_{19} = 20 + (19-1) \cdot -3$

$a_{19} = -34$

Geometric Mean of any 2 positive #'s is taken by finding the positive square root of the product of the 2 #'s.

The graph is exponential.

(Arithmetic is linear)



$$g.m. = \sqrt{a \cdot b}$$

$$a, \overset{\pm}{\underset{\pm}{\uparrow}}, b$$

Quick \checkmark #3. Find the geometric mean.

a) 20, \square , 80, ... $\sqrt{(20 \cdot 80)}$

$$g.m. = 40 \text{ or } -40$$

$$= \pm 40$$

b) 3, \square , 18.75, ... $\sqrt{(3 \cdot 18.75)}$

$$g.m. = \pm 7.5$$

Examples: p. 615

#15 $a_1 = \frac{1}{2}$ $r = \frac{2}{3}$

$$a_n = a_1 r^{n-1}$$

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

Explicit Formula
Find 1st 5 terms.

$$a_2 = a_1 r^{2-1}$$

$$a_2 = a_1 r = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$a_3 = \frac{2}{9} \quad r_4 = \frac{4}{27} \quad r_5 = \frac{8}{81}$$

$$\#52) a_9 = -\frac{1}{3} \quad r = -\frac{1}{6}$$

Find the 10th term.

$$a_n = a_{n-1} \cdot R$$

$$a_{10} = a_{9} \cdot R$$

$$a_{10} = \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)\left(-\frac{1}{6}\right)$$

$$a_{10} = \frac{1}{18}$$

$$\#53) a_{11} = -\frac{1}{3} \quad r = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$a_{11} = a_{10} \cdot R \quad \leftarrow \text{recursive formula}$$

$$\frac{2}{1} \cdot -\frac{1}{3} = a_{10} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \cdot \frac{2}{1}$$

$$-\frac{2}{3} = a_{10}$$

p. 614-615 (2-42 Even, 42-44,
48-51)