

Sequences and Series

ARITHMETIC PROGRESSION

Section - 1

1.1 Definition

When the sequence of (or numbers) $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, \dots$ increases or decreases by a fixed quantity, then the sequence is in *arithmetic progression (A.P.)*. The fixed quantity is called as *common difference*. For an A.P., we define its first term as a and the common difference as d ; the general expression for an A.P. is :

$$a, a + d, a + 2d, a + 3d, a + 4d, \dots$$

If T_r represents the general term of an A.P. (or the r^{th} term), then

$$T_r = a + (r - 1) d \quad \text{where } r \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$$

It is also denoted by a_r . If the total number of terms be n , then n^{th} term is also known as the last term of A.P. and is denoted by l , i.e.,

$$l = T_n = a + (n - 1) d$$

In an A.P., the difference of any two consecutive terms is d and is given by:

$$d = T_r - T_{r-1}$$

1.2 Sum of n terms of an A.P

Consider n terms of an A.P. with first term as a and the common difference as d . Let S_n denotes the sum of the first n terms, then

$$S_n = a + (a + d) + (a + 2d) + (a + 3d) + \dots + (a + (n - 1)d)$$

$$S_n = \frac{n}{2} [2a + (n - 1) d]$$

or $S_n = \frac{n}{2} (a + l) \quad \text{as} \quad l = a + (n - 1) d \quad [\text{where } a \text{ be the first term and } l \text{ be the last term}]$

1.3 Arithmetic mean (A)

When three quantities are in A.P., then the middle one is called as *arithmetic mean* of other two. If a and b are two numbers and A be the arithmetic mean of a and b , then a, A, b are in A.P.

$$\Rightarrow A - a = b - A \quad \Rightarrow \quad A = \frac{a + b}{2}$$

1.4 Inserting n arithmetic means between two numbers

$A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots, A_n$ are called n arithmetic means between two numbers a and b , if the sequence $a, A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots, A_n, b$ in an A.P.

For this A.P., first term is a , number of terms is $(n + 2)$, & the last term is $b = T_{n+2}$.

Let d be the common difference of this A.P., then

$$\Rightarrow T_{n+2} = b = a + \{(n + 2) - 1\} d$$

$$\Rightarrow b = a + (n + 1) d$$

$$\Rightarrow d = \frac{b - a}{n + 1} \quad \Rightarrow \quad A_1 = a + d = a + \frac{b - a}{n + 1}, \quad A_2 = a + 2d = a + 2 \left(\frac{b - a}{n + 1} \right) \text{ and so on.}$$

In general k^{th} arithmetic mean is $\equiv A_k = a + kd = a + k \left(\frac{b - a}{n + 1} \right)$

1.5 Important Points

- (i) If a, b, c are in A.P., then : ak, bk, ck are also in A.P. ($k \neq 0$)
 $a/k, b/k, c/k$ are also in A.P. ($k \neq 0$)
 $a \pm k, b \pm k, c \pm k$ are also in A.P.
- (ii) Three terms in an A.P. are taken as : $a - d, a, a + d$
- (iii) Four terms in an A.P. are taken as : $a - 3d, a - d, a + d, a + 3d$
- (iv) The sum of any two terms (of an A.P.) equidistant from beginning and end is equal to the sum of the first and the last term. Hence, $(a + md) + (\ell - md) = a + \ell$

Illustrating the Concept :

- The third term of an A.P. is 18 and 7th term is 30. Find the 17th term.

Let the first term of A.P. is a and the common difference be d .

$$T_r = a + (r - 1) d$$

$$\Rightarrow T_3 = a + 2d = 18 \quad \dots \text{(i)}$$

$$T_7 = a + 6d = 30 \quad \dots \text{(ii)}$$

Solve (i) and (ii) to get : $a = 12$ and $d = 3$

$$T_{17} = a + 16d = 12 + 16 \times 3 = 60$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{17} = 60$$

- Find the sum of n terms of a series whose 7th term is 30 and 13th term is 54. Hence or otherwise find the sum of r terms and 50 terms of the series. Assume the series is A.P.

Let the first term of A.P. is a and the common difference be d .

$$T_r = a + (r - 1) d$$

$$T_7 = a + 6d = 30 \quad \dots \text{(i)}$$

$$T_{13} = a + 12d = 54 \quad \dots \text{(ii)}$$

On solving (i) and (ii) we get, $a = 6$ and $d = 4$

Now using :

$$S_n = \frac{n}{2} [2a + (n - 1) d]$$

$$S_n = \frac{n}{2} [2 \times 6 + (n - 1) \times 4] = 2n (n + 2)$$

Now find the sum of r terms, S_r .

In $S_n = 2n (n + 2)$, we replace n by r to get S_r .

$$\Rightarrow S_r = 2r(r + 2)$$

To find the sum of 50 terms, we can use

$$S_n = 2n(n + 2).$$

$$\Rightarrow S_{50} = 2 \times 50 (50 + 2) = 5200$$

Illustration - 1

The sum of n terms of an A.P. whose first term is x , the last term is y and the common difference is 1, is :

(A) $\frac{1}{2}(x + y)(1 - x + y)$

(B) $(x + y)(1 - x + y)$

(C) $\frac{1}{2}(x - y)(1 - x + y)$

(D) $(x - y)(1 - x + y)$

SOLUTION : (A)

$$S_n = \frac{n}{2} [a + l]$$

[where a is the first term and l is the last term]

$$\Rightarrow S_n = \frac{n}{2} [x + y] \quad \dots \text{(i)}$$

Now in the required answer, note that term n is not there, so eliminate n .

$$\text{Using: } l = a + (n - 1) d$$

$$\Rightarrow y = x + (n - 1) \times 1$$

$$\Rightarrow n = 1 - x + y$$

Substitute the value of n in (i), we get :

$$S_n = \frac{1}{2}(x + y)(1 - x + y)$$

Illustration - 2

If x, y, z are in A.P., then $(x + 2y - z)(2y + z - x)(z + x - y)$ is :

(A) xyz

(B) $4xyz$

(C) $2xyz$

(D) $8xyz$

SOLUTION : (B)

Since x, y and z are in A.P.

$$\Rightarrow 2y = x + z$$

Substituting for $2y$ in the given expression, to get :

$$\begin{aligned} & (x + x + z - z)(x + z + z - x)(2y - y) \\ &= (2x)(2z)(y) = 4xyz \end{aligned}$$

Illustration - 3 If a, b, c are the $x^{\text{th}}, y^{\text{th}}$ and z^{th} terms of an A.P., then :

- (i) $a(y-z) + b(z-x) + c(x-y)$ is :
 (A) 0 (B) abc (C) $a+b+c$ (D) $a(b+c)$
- (ii) $x(b-c) + y(c-a) + z(a-b)$ is :
 (A) abc (B) 0 (C) $a+b+c$ (D) $a(b+c)$

SOLUTION : (i) - (A) (ii) - (B)

Let A be the first term and D be the common difference,

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow T_x &= A + (x-1)D = a & \dots \text{(i)} \\ T_y &= A + (y-1)D = b & \dots \text{(ii)} \\ T_z &= A + (z-1)D = c & \dots \text{(iii)} \end{aligned}$$

Operating [(ii) - (iii)], [(iii) - (i)] and [(i) - (ii)] we get :

$$\begin{aligned} b - c &= (y - z)D, \quad c - a = (z - x)D, \\ a - b &= (x - y)D \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow y - z = \frac{b - c}{D}, \quad z - x = \frac{c - a}{D},$$

$$x - y = \frac{a - b}{D}$$

(i) Now substituting the values of $(y-z)$, $(z-x)$ and $(x-y)$ in part (i) of the question to get :

$$\frac{a(b-c)}{D} + \frac{b(c-a)}{D} + \frac{c(a-b)}{D} = 0$$

(ii) Now substitute the values of $(b-c)$, $(c-a)$ and $(a-b)$ in part (ii) of the question to get :

$$\begin{aligned} x(y-z)D + y(z-x)D + z(x-y)D \\ = \{xy - xz + yz - yx + zx - zy\}D = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Illustration - 4 The sum of n terms of two series in A.P. are in the ratio $5n + 4 : 9n + 6$. Find the ratio of their 13th terms.

- (A) $\frac{129}{231}$ (B) $\frac{12}{13}$ (C) $\frac{131}{229}$ (D) $\frac{13}{12}$

SOLUTION : (A)

Let a_1, a_2 be the first terms of two A.P.'s and d_1, d_2 are their respective common differences.

$$\text{Now } \frac{S_n}{S_n'} = \frac{5n + 4}{9n + 6}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\frac{n}{2} [2a_1 + (n-1)d_1]}{\frac{n}{2} [2a_2 + (n-1)d_2]} = \frac{5n + 4}{9n + 6}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a_1 + \frac{(n-1)}{2}d_1}{a_2 + \frac{(n-1)}{2}d_2} = \frac{5n + 4}{9n + 6} \quad \dots \text{(i)}$$

$$\text{Now the ratio of 13th terms} = \frac{a_1 + 12d_1}{a_2 + 12d_2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Substitute } \frac{(n-1)}{2} = 12$$

$$\Rightarrow n = 25 \text{ in (i)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a_1 + 12d_1}{a_2 + 12d_2} = \frac{5(25) + 4}{9(25) + 6} = \frac{129}{231}$$

Illustration - 5 If the sum of n terms of a series is $S_n = n(5n - 3)$, then find the n^{th} term.

- (A) $10n - 8$ (B) $10n + 8$ (C) $10n + 4$ (D) $10n - 4$

SOLUTION : (A)

$$\text{Let } S_n = T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + T_4 + \dots + T_{n-1} + T_n$$

$$S_n = \{\text{sum of } (n-1) \text{ terms}\} + T_n$$

$$\Rightarrow T_n = S_n - S_{n-1}$$

[Learn it as standard result]

Now in the given problem :

$$S_n = n(5n - 3)$$

$$\text{and } S_{n-1} = (n-1)[5(n-1) - 3]$$

$$\Rightarrow T_n = S_n - S_{n-1} = 10n - 8$$

Illustration - 6 If a, b, c are in A.P., then $b + c, c + a, a + b$ are also in :

- (A) A.P. (B) G.P. (C) H.P. (D) None of these

SOLUTION : (A)

If a, b, c are in A.P., then

$$\Rightarrow -(b+c), -(c+a), -(a+b) \text{ are also in A.P.}$$

$a - (a+b+c), b - (a+b+c), c - (a+b+c)$

$$\Rightarrow (b+c), (c+a), (a+b) \text{ are also in A.P.}$$

are also in A.P. (subtracting $a + b + c$ from each term)

Note: If a, b, c are in A.P., then $a \pm k, b \pm k, c \pm k$ are also in A.P. and $-a, -b, -c$ are also in A.P.



Illustration - 7 If p times the p^{th} term of an A.P. be equal to q times the q^{th} term, then $(p + q)^{\text{th}}$ term is:

- (A) $p + q$ (B) 0 (C) $p - q$ (D) $2p + 3q$

SOLUTION : (B)

Let a be the first term and d be the common difference of A.P.

$$\Rightarrow T_p = a + (p-1)d$$

$$\text{and } T_q = a + (q-1)d$$

Now to find $T_{(p+q)}$, we have

$$T_{(p+q)} = a + (p+q-1)d \quad \dots \text{(i)}$$

$$\text{Since : } p(T_p) = q(T_q) \quad \text{(Given)}$$

$$\Rightarrow p[a + (p-1)d] = q[a + (q-1)d]$$

$$\Rightarrow pa + p(p-1)d = qa + q(q-1)d$$

$$\Rightarrow (p-q)a + (p^2 - q^2)d - (p-q)d = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (p-q)[a + (p+q-1)d] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a + (p+q-1)d = 0 \quad (\text{since } p \neq q)$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{(p+q)} = 0 \quad [\text{from (i)}]$$

Illustration - 8 The sum of three consecutive terms of an A.P. is 15 and the sum of their squares is 83, find the terms.

- (A) 3, 6, 9 (B) 2, 4, 6 (C) 3, 5, 7 (D) 2, 7, 10

SOLUTION : (C)

Three consecutive terms of an A.P are taken as :

$$(a - d), a, (a + d).$$

$$\Rightarrow (a - d) + a + (a + d) = 15 \quad \dots (i)$$

$$(a - d)^2 + a^2 + (a + d)^2 = 83 \quad \dots (ii)$$

From eqn (i), we get : $a = 5$.

Substituting for $a = 5$ in eqn (ii), we get :

$$d^2 = 4. \quad \Rightarrow \quad d = \pm 2$$

Hence the terms are :

$$3, 5, 7 \text{ or } 7, 5, 3.$$

Illustration - 9 How many terms of the series : $24 + 20 + 16. \dots$ totals 72 ?

- (A) 9 (B) 3 (C) 6 (D) 8

SOLUTION : (A)

$$S_n = \frac{n}{2} [2a + (n - 1) d]$$

Now $a = 24$, $d = -4$ and $S_n = 72$.

$$\Rightarrow 72 = \frac{n}{2} [2 \times 24 + (n - 1) \times (-4)]$$

On solving, we get, $n = 4$ or 9 .

Note: Since the series is decreasing with $d = -4$, it contains some negative numbers, so the sum of first 4 terms is same as the sum of 9 terms.

Illustration - 10 If the sum of first p, q, r terms of an A.P. is a, b, c respectively, then :

$$\frac{a}{p} (q - r) + \frac{b}{q} (r - p) + \frac{c}{r} (p - q) \text{ is equal to:}$$

- (A) -1 (B) 0 (C) 1 (D) None of these

SOLUTION : (B)

Let A be the first term and D be the common difference of the A.P.

$$\Rightarrow a = \frac{p}{2} [2A + (p - 1) D]$$

We can write

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a}{p} (q - r) + \frac{b}{q} (r - p) + \frac{c}{r} (p - q) \\ = \sum \frac{a}{p} (q - r) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{L.H.S.} = \sum \frac{a}{p} (q - r)$$

$$= \sum \frac{1}{2} (q - r) [2A + (p - 1) D]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum 2A (q - r) + \frac{1}{2} \sum (q - r) D (p - 1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} = A \sum (q - r) + \frac{D}{2} \sum [p (q - r)] - \frac{D}{2} \sum (q - r) \\ = 0 + 0 - 0 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

GEOMETRICAL PROGRESSION

Section - 2

If the sequence of numbers a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots decrease or increase by a constant factor, they are said to be in *geometrical progression (G.P.)*. The constant factor is called as *common ratio*. For a G.P., we define the first term as a and the common ratio as r ; the general expression for a G.P. is a, ar, ar^2, ar^3, \dots

In G.P., the common ratio (r) is the ratio of any two consecutive terms. If T_k represents the general term (or

$$k^{\text{th}} \text{ term) of a G.P., then } r = \frac{T_k}{T_{k-1}} \quad \text{and} \quad T_k = ar^{k-1} \quad \text{where } k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

2.2 Sum of n terms of a G.P.

Consider n terms of a G.P. with a as the first term and r as the common ratio. Let S_n denote the sum of n terms. Then $S_n = a + ar + ar^2 + ar^3 + \dots + ar^{n-1}$

$$S_n = \frac{a(1 - r^n)}{1 - r}, \quad (r \neq 1)$$

2.3 Geometric Mean (G)

When three quantities are in G.P., the middle one is called as *geometric mean* between the other two. If a and b are two numbers, G is the geometric mean between the two, then a, G, b follows a G.P.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{b}{G} = \frac{G}{a} \quad \Rightarrow \quad G^2 = ab \quad \Rightarrow \quad G = \sqrt{ab}$$

2.4 Inserting n geometric means between two numbers :

$G_1, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_n$ are called n geometric means between two numbers a and b ,

If the sequence $a, G_1, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_n, b$ is a G.P.

For this G.P. : first term = a , total number of terms = $n + 2$,

Last term = $b = T_{n+2} = (n + 2)^{\text{th}}$ term, let r be the common ratio of this G.P.

$$\Rightarrow T_{n+2} = b = ar^{n+1} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{b}{a} = r^{n+1} \quad \Rightarrow \quad r = \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^{\frac{1}{n+1}}$$

$$\text{Hence } G_1 = ar = a\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^{\frac{1}{n+1}} \quad \text{and} \quad G_2 = ar^2 = a\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^{\frac{2}{n+1}} \dots \dots \dots$$

$$\text{In general } k^{\text{th}} \text{ geometric mean } G_k = ar^k = a\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^{\frac{k}{n+1}}$$

2.5 Infinite Geometric series :

If for $G.P.$, the common ratio r lies between -1 and 1 i.e., $-1 < r < 1$, it is called as *decreasing geometric series*. The sum of the infinite terms of such a sequence (called as infinite geometric series) is denoted by S_{∞} and is given as :

$$S_{\infty} = \frac{a}{1-r} \quad [\text{where } a \text{ is the first term and } r \text{ is the common ratio}]$$

Note: $S_n = \frac{a(1-r^n)}{1-r} = \frac{a}{1-r} - \frac{ar^n}{1-r}$. If $n \rightarrow \infty$ then $r^n \rightarrow 0$ for $-1 < r < 1 \Rightarrow S_{\infty} = \frac{a}{1-r}$

2.6 Important Points

- (i) If a, b, c are in $G.P.$, then : ak, bk, ck are also in $G.P.$ ($k \neq 0$)
 $a/k, b/k, c/k$ are also on $G.P.$ ($k \neq 0$)
- (ii) Three terms in a $G.P.$ are taken as : $ar, a, a/r$
- (iii) Four terms in a $G.P.$ are taken as : $ar^3, ar, a/r, a/r^3$
- (iv) If a, b, c, d are in $G.P.$, then : $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{b}{c} = \frac{c}{d} \Rightarrow b^2 = ac, c^2 = bd, ad = bc$
 Also $b = ar, c = ar^2, d = ar^3$ (where r is the common ratio)

Illustrating the Concept :

- If 5th term of a $G.P$ is $1/3$ and the 9th term is $16/243$, then find the 4th term. Also find the sum of first 10 terms of the $G.P$.

Let a be the first term and r be the common ratio.

$$\Rightarrow T_4 = ar^3 = \frac{27}{16} \left(\pm \frac{2}{3} \right)^3 = \pm \frac{1}{2}$$

$$T_5 = ar^4 = \frac{1}{3} \quad \dots (i)$$

We have, $S_n = \frac{a(1-r^n)}{1-r}$

$$T_9 = ar^8 = \frac{16}{243} \quad \dots (ii)$$

Divide (i) and (ii) to get $r = \pm \frac{2}{3}$

Substitute for r in eqn (i) to get $a = \frac{27}{16}$

$$S_{10} = \frac{\frac{27}{16} \left[1 - \left(\frac{2}{3} \right)^{10} \right]}{1 - \frac{2}{3}}, \frac{\frac{27}{16} \left[1 - \left(\frac{-2}{3} \right)^{10} \right]}{1 - \left(\frac{-2}{3} \right)}$$

$$= \frac{81}{16} \left(\frac{3^{10} - 2^{10}}{3^{10}} \right), \frac{81}{80} \left(\frac{3^{10} - 2^{10}}{3^{10}} \right)$$

- Find the sum of the series :

$3, \sqrt{3}, 1, \dots$ to infinity.

First term, $a = 3$ and the common ratio,

$$r = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \quad (|r| < 1)$$

$$S_{\infty} = \frac{a}{1-r} \Rightarrow S_{\infty} = \frac{3}{1-\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}} = \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}-1} = \frac{3(3+\sqrt{3})}{2}$$

Illustration - 11

How many terms of the series : $\sqrt{3}, 3, 3\sqrt{3}, \dots$ amounts to $39 + 13\sqrt{3}$?

(A) 8

(B) 9

(C) 6

(D) 10

SOLUTION : (C)

Here, the first term a is $\sqrt{3}$ and the common ratio r is $\sqrt{3}$.

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

$$\Rightarrow 39 + 13\sqrt{3} = \frac{\sqrt{3}[1-(\sqrt{3})^n]}{1-\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(39+13\sqrt{3})(1-\sqrt{3})}{\sqrt{3}} = 1 - (\sqrt{3})^n$$

$$\Rightarrow (\sqrt{3})^n - 1 = 26 \Rightarrow n = 6$$

Illustration - 12

If a, b, c, d are in G.P., then find the following :

(i) $(b-c)^2 + (c-a)^2 + (d-b)^2$

(A) $(a-d)^2$

(B) $(a-b)^2$

(C) $(c-d)^2$

(D) None of these

(ii) $(a^2 - b^2)(c^2 - d^2)$

(A) $(a^2 - b^2)^2$

(B) $(b^2 - c^2)^2$

(C) $(b^2 - d^2)^2$

(D) $(a-d)^2$

SOLUTION : (i) - (A) (ii) - (B) :

(a) a, b, c, d are in G.P.,

$$\Rightarrow b^2 = ac, c^2 = bd, bc = ad \quad \dots (i)$$

Now expanding the given terms, we get:

$$(b^2 + c^2 - 2bc) + (c^2 + a^2 - 2ac) + (d^2 + b^2 - 2bd)$$

$$= 2(b^2 - ac) + 2(c^2 - bd) + a^2 + d^2 - 2bc$$

$$= 2(0) + 2(0) + a^2 + d^2 - 2ad \quad [\text{Using (i)}]$$

$$= (a-d)^2$$

(b) Now expanding the given terms :

$$(a^2 - b^2)(c^2 - d^2) = a^2c^2 - b^2c^2 - a^2d^2 + b^2d^2$$

$$= b^4 - b^2c^2 - b^2c^2 + c^4 \quad [\text{Using (i)}]$$

$$= (b^2 - c^2)^2$$



Illustration - 13 If a, b, c are in A.P. and x, y, z are in G.P., then find the value of $x^{b-c} y^{c-a} z^{a-b}$.

- (A) 0 (B) 1 (C) 4 (D) 2

SOLUTION : (B)

$$\begin{aligned} a, b, c \text{ are in A.P.} &\Rightarrow a - b = b - c &= (xz)^{b-c} y^{c-a} = y^{2(b-c)} y^{c-a} \quad (\because xz = y^2) \\ x, y, z \text{ are in G.P.} &\Rightarrow y^2 = xz &= y^{2(b-c) + (c-a)} \\ \text{Now, the given expression becomes} &&= y^{2b-a-c} = y^0 = 1 \quad (\because 2b = a + c) \\ &&x^{b-c} z^{b-c} y^{c-a} \quad (\because b - c = a - b) \end{aligned}$$

Illustration - 14 The sum of infinite terms of a G.P is 15 and the sum of their squares is 45. Find the series.

- (A) $1, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{4}{9}, \dots$ (B) 5, 15, 45 (C) $15, \frac{15}{2}, \frac{45}{4}, \dots$ (D) $5, \frac{10}{3}, \frac{20}{9}, \dots$

SOLUTION : (D)

Let the first term of infinite series be a and the common ratio be r . Now for the series with squares of each term, the first term will be a^2 and the common ratio will be r^2 .

We have, $S_{\infty} = \frac{a}{1-r}$ (where a is the term and r is common ratio ($|r| < 1$))

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a}{1-r} = 15 \quad \dots (i)$$

$$\text{and } \frac{a^2}{1-r^2} = 45 \quad \dots (ii)$$

On dividing equation (ii) by equation (i), we get :

$$\frac{a}{1+r} = 3 \quad \dots (iii)$$

From eqn. (i) and eqn (iii), we get :

$$\frac{1+r}{1-r} = 5 \quad r = \frac{2}{3} \quad \text{and} \quad a = 5$$

Hence the series is : $5, \frac{10}{3}, \frac{20}{9}, \dots$

Illustration - 15 Find the value of $x^{1/2} \cdot x^{1/4} \cdot x^{1/8} \dots$ upto infinity.

- (A) x^3 (B) x^2 (C) x (D) x^{-1}

SOLUTION : (C)

The given expression can be written as : $\frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots \infty$

Now, $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots \infty$ is an infinite geometric series with $a = \frac{1}{2}$ and $r = \frac{1}{2}$.

$$\Rightarrow x^{\left(\frac{1/2}{1-1/2}\right)} = x^1 = x \quad \text{[Using } S_{\infty} = \frac{a}{1-r} \text{]}$$

Illustration - 16 If the continued product of three numbers in G.P. is 216 and the sum of the products taken in pairs is 156, then find the numbers.

- (A) 2, 6, 18 (B) 18, 6, 4 (C) 3, 8, 9 (D) None of these

SOLUTION : (A)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } \frac{a}{r}, a, ar \text{ be the three numbers.} & \Rightarrow a^2 \left(\frac{1}{r} + r + 1 \right) = 156 \\ \Rightarrow \frac{a}{r} \cdot a \cdot ar = 216 \Rightarrow a = 6 & \Rightarrow 6^2 (r^2 + r + 1) = 156r \\ \text{Also } \frac{a}{r}(a) + a(ar) + \frac{a}{r}(ar) = 156 & \Rightarrow 3r^2 + 3r + 3 = 13r \Rightarrow r = 3, \frac{1}{3} \\ \text{Hence the numbers are 2, 6, 18 or 18, 6, 2.} \end{aligned}$$

Illustration - 17 If a, b, c are in G.P., then

$$\frac{a^2 + ab + b^2}{bc + ca + ab} \text{ is:}$$

- (A) $\frac{b+c}{a+b}$ (B) $\frac{a+c}{a+b}$ (C) $\frac{a+b}{b+c}$ (D) $\frac{a-c}{a-b}$

SOLUTION : (C)

As a, b, c are in G.P., let us consider $b = ar$ and $c = ar^2$ where r is common ratio

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a^2 + ab + b^2}{bc + ca + ab} &= \frac{a^2 + a^2r + a^2r^2}{a^2r^3 + a^2r^2 + a^2r} \\ &= \frac{a^2(1+r+r^2)}{a^2r(r^2+r+1)} = \frac{1}{r} \\ &= \frac{a+ar}{ar+ar^2} = \frac{a+b}{b+c} \end{aligned}$$

Illustration - 18 If $a^x = b^y = c^z$ and x, y, z are in G.P., then :

- (A) $\log_b a = \log_c b$ (B) $\log_a a = \log_c b$ (C) $\log_b a = \log_b c$ (D) None of these

SOLUTION : (A)

Given $a^x = b^y = c^z$. Operating log, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} x \log a &= y \log b = z \log c \\ \Rightarrow \frac{x}{y} &= \frac{\log b}{\log a} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{y}{z} = \frac{\log c}{\log b} \end{aligned}$$

As x, y, z are in G.P.,

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \frac{x}{y} &= \frac{y}{z} \Rightarrow \frac{\log b}{\log a} = \frac{\log c}{\log b} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\log a}{\log b} &= \frac{\log b}{\log c} \Rightarrow \log_b a = \log_c b \end{aligned}$$

Illustration - 19 If S_n is the sum of first n terms of a G.P. : $\{a_n\}$ and S'_n is the sum of another G.P. : $\{1/a_n\}$, then show that : $S_n = kS'_n$ where k is :

- (A) $\frac{1}{a_1 a_n}$ (B) $a_1 a_n$ (C) $\frac{a_1}{a_n}$ (D) $\frac{a_n}{a_1}$

SOLUTION : (B)

$$S_n = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_n$$

$$S'_n = \frac{1}{a_1} + \frac{1}{a_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{a_n}$$

For the first G.P. (a_n), $a_n = a_1 r^{n-1}$... (i)

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

[where r is the common ratio]

For the second G.P. $\left(\frac{1}{a_n}\right)$, common ratio = $\frac{1}{r}$

$$S'_n = \frac{1}{a_1} \frac{\left(1 - \frac{1}{r^n}\right)}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{r}\right)} = \frac{(r^n - 1)}{a_1 (r - 1) r^{n-1}} = \frac{r^n - 1}{a_n (r - 1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow S'_n = \frac{1}{a_1 a_n} \times \frac{a_1 (r^n - 1)}{r - 1} \quad \text{[using (i)]}$$

$$\Rightarrow S'_n = \frac{1}{a_1 a_n} S_n \quad \Rightarrow S_n = S'_n a_1 a_n.$$

HARMONICAL PROGRESSION

Section - 3

A sequence $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, \dots$ is said to be in *harmonic progression (H.P.)* if

$\frac{1}{a_1}, \frac{1}{a_2}, \frac{1}{a_3}, \frac{1}{a_4}$ forms an arithmetic progression

$$\text{i.e., } \frac{1}{a_2} - \frac{1}{a_1} = \frac{1}{a_3} - \frac{1}{a_2} = \frac{1}{a_4} - \frac{1}{a_3} = \dots$$

Three quantities a, b, c are said to be in H.P., when $\frac{1}{a}, \frac{1}{b}, \frac{1}{c}$ are in A.P.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{b} - \frac{1}{a} = \frac{1}{c} - \frac{1}{b} \quad \Rightarrow \frac{a - b}{ab} = \frac{b - c}{bc} \quad \Rightarrow \frac{a}{c} = \frac{a - b}{b - c}$$

3.2 Harmonic mean(H)

When three quantities are in H.P., the middle one is called as the *harmonic mean* between the other two.

If a and b are two numbers, H is harmonic mean between the two, then a, H, b must be in H.P.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{a}, \frac{1}{H}, \frac{1}{b} \text{ must be in A.P.} \quad \Rightarrow \frac{1}{H} - \frac{1}{a} = \frac{1}{b} - \frac{1}{H}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2}{H} = \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} \quad \Rightarrow \quad H = \frac{2ab}{a+b}$$

3.3 Inserting n harmonic means between two numbers

$H_1, H_2, H_3, \dots, H_n$ are called n harmonic means between two numbers a and b , if the sequence :
 $a, H_1, H_2, H_3, \dots, H_n, b$ is an H.P.

$$\frac{1}{a}, \frac{1}{H_1}, \frac{1}{H_2}, \frac{1}{H_3}, \dots, \frac{1}{H_n}, \frac{1}{b} \text{ forms an A.P.}$$

For this A.P., first term = $1/a$, number of terms = $n+2$ and the last term = $1/b = T_{n+2}$.

$$\Rightarrow T_{n+2} = \frac{1}{b} = \frac{1}{a} + [(n+2) - 1]d \quad \Rightarrow \quad d = \frac{\frac{1}{b} - \frac{1}{a}}{n} = \frac{a-b}{ab(n+1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{H_1} = \frac{1}{a} + d = \frac{1}{a} + \frac{a-b}{ab(n+1)} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{H_2} = \frac{1}{a} + 2d = \frac{1}{a} + 2 \frac{a-b}{ab(n+1)} \dots$$

If H_k be the k^{th} harmonic mean, then :

$$\frac{1}{H_k} = \frac{1}{a} + kd = \frac{1}{a} + k \frac{a-b}{ab(n+1)} \quad \Rightarrow \quad H_k = \frac{ab(n+1)}{b(n+1) + k(a-b)}$$

3.4 Relation among A, G, H

If A, G, H are arithmetic, geometric and harmonic means respectively between two positive numbers a and b , then

$$A = \frac{a+b}{2}, \quad G = \sqrt{ab} \quad \text{and} \quad H = \frac{2ab}{a+b} \quad \Rightarrow \quad AH = \left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right)\left(\frac{2ab}{a+b}\right) = ab = G^2$$

$$\Rightarrow G^2 = AH \text{ i.e. } G \text{ is the geometric mean between } A \text{ and } H.$$

Hence, G lies between A and H .

$$A - G = \frac{a+b}{2} - \sqrt{ab} = \frac{a+b-2\sqrt{ab}}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow A - G = \left(\frac{\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b}}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^2 \text{ now R.H.S. is positive if } a \text{ and } b \text{ are positive}$$

$$\Rightarrow A - G > 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad A > G$$

As G lies between A and H , this means $A > G > H$

Illustration - 20

The 10th term of the series : $8, \frac{8}{3}, \frac{8}{5}, \dots$

(A) $8/17$

(B) $8/15$

(C) $8/19$

(D) $8/21$

SOLUTION : (C)

The given series is an H.P.

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{8}, \frac{3}{8}, \frac{5}{8}$ is an A.P. with first term $a = \frac{1}{8}$

and common difference $d = \frac{1}{4}$.

Now n th term of the H.P.

$$= 1/(\text{nth term of the A.P.})$$

$$\Rightarrow T_n (\text{H.P.}) = \frac{1}{T_n (\text{A.P.})}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\frac{1}{8} + \frac{n-1}{4}} = \frac{8}{2n-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_{10} = \frac{8}{2 \times 10 - 1} = \frac{8}{19}$$

Illustration - 21

The m th term of an H.P. is n and n th term is m . The ratio of $(m+n)^{\text{th}}$ and $(mn)^{\text{th}}$ terms of H.P. is :

(A) $\frac{mn}{m+n}$

(B) $\frac{m+n}{mn}$

(C) 1

(D) 2

SOLUTION : (A)

Assume a and d be the first term and common difference of corresponding A.P. respectively.

$$\text{Using } T_r (\text{H.P.}) = \frac{1}{T_r (\text{A.P.})}$$

$$T_m = n = \frac{1}{a + (m-1)d}$$

$$\Rightarrow a + (m-1)d = \frac{1}{n} \quad \dots (i)$$

$$T_n = m = \frac{1}{a + (n-1)d}$$

$$\Rightarrow a + (n-1)d = \frac{1}{m} \quad \dots (ii)$$

Subtracting (ii) from (i), we get :

$$(n-m)d = \frac{n-m}{mn} \Rightarrow d = \frac{1}{mn}$$

Substituting for d in eqn (i), we get :

$$a = \frac{1}{mn}$$

$$\begin{aligned} T_{m+n} &= \frac{1}{a + (m+n-1)d} \\ &= \frac{1}{\frac{1}{mn} + (m+n-1)\frac{1}{mn}} = \frac{mn}{m+n} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Similarly, } T_{mn} = \frac{mn}{mn} = 1$$

$$\text{Hence, } \frac{T_{m+n}}{T_{mn}} = \frac{mn}{m+n}$$

Illustration - 22 If the sum of three numbers in H.P. is 26 and the sum of their reciprocals is $3/8$. then the number are :

- (A) 6, 8, 10 (B) 6, 9, 12 (C) 6, 8, 12 (D) 8, 10, 12

SOLUTION : (C)

Three numbers in H.P. are taken as :

$$\frac{1}{a-d}, \frac{1}{a}, \frac{1}{a+d}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{a-d} + \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{a+d} = 26 \quad \dots (i)$$

$$\text{Also } (a-d) + a + (a+d) = 3/8 \dots (ii)$$

From (i) and (ii)

$$a = \frac{1}{8} \text{ and } d = \pm \frac{1}{24}$$

\Rightarrow The numbers are 12, 8, 6 or 6, 8, 12.

Illustration - 23 In an H.P., the p^{th} term is qr and q^{th} term is rp . Show that the r^{th} term is pq .

- (A) $\frac{p}{q}$ (B) pq (C) $\frac{1}{pq}$ (D) $\frac{q}{p}$

SOLUTION: (B)

Let A, D be the first term and the common difference of the A.P. formed by the reciprocals of given H.P.

p^{th} term of A.P. is $\frac{1}{qr}$ and q^{th} term of A.P.

is $\frac{1}{rp}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{qr} = A + (p-1)D$$

$$\text{and } \frac{1}{rp} = A + (q-1)D$$

We will solve these two equation to get

A and D .

Subtracting, we get,

$$\frac{p-q}{pqr} = (p-q)D \Rightarrow D = \frac{1}{pqr}$$

$$\text{Hence, } \frac{1}{qr} = A + \frac{p-1}{pqr} \Rightarrow A = \frac{1}{pqr}$$

Now the r^{th} term of A.P. = $T_r = A + (r-1)D$

$$\Rightarrow T_r = \frac{1}{pqr} + \frac{r-1}{pqr} = \frac{1}{pq}$$

Hence r^{th} term of the given H.P. is pq .

Illustration - 24 If a, b, c are respectively $p^{\text{th}}, q^{\text{th}},$ and r^{th} terms of H.P., then :

$bc(q-r) + ca(r-p) + ab(p-q)$ is equal to :

- (A) abc (B) 0 (C) pqr (D) None of these

SOLUTION : (B)

Let A and D be the first term and common difference of the A.P. formed by the reciprocals of the given H.P.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{a} = A + (p-1)D \quad \dots \text{(i)}$$

$$\frac{1}{b} = A + (q-1)D \quad \dots \text{(ii)}$$

$$\frac{1}{c} = A + (r-1)D \quad \dots \text{(iii)}$$

Subtracting (iii) from (ii) we get:

$$\frac{c-b}{bc} = (q-r)D$$

$$\Rightarrow bc(q-r) = -\frac{(b-c)}{D}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } \sum bc(q-r) &= -\sum \frac{b-c}{D} = -\frac{1}{D} \sum (b-c) \\ &= -\frac{1}{D} [b-c + c-a + a-b] = 0 \end{aligned}$$



Illustration - 25

If $\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{c} + \frac{1}{a-b} + \frac{1}{c-b} = 0$, then which of the following is (are) true?

- (A) $a+c=2b$ (B) $\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{c} = \frac{2}{b}$ (C) $\frac{1}{a} - \frac{1}{c} = \frac{2}{b}$ (D) $a-c=2b$

SOLUTION : (B)

$$\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{c} + \frac{1}{a-b} + \frac{1}{c-b} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{c-b} \right) \left(\frac{1}{c} + \frac{1}{a-b} \right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a+c-b}{a(c-b)} + \frac{c+a-b}{c(a-b)} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (a+c-b) \left\{ \frac{1}{a(c-b)} + \frac{1}{c(a-b)} \right\} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a(c-b) = -c(a-b) \text{ or } a+c-b=0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2ac = ab+bc \text{ or } a+c=b$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2}{b} = \frac{1}{c} + \frac{1}{a} \text{ or } a+c=2b$$

$$\Rightarrow a, b, c \text{ are in H.P. or } a+c=b.$$

Illustration - 26 If $a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n$ are in H.P., then $a_1 a_2 + a_2 a_3 + \dots + a_{n-1} a_n = k a_1 a_n$ where k is:

- (A) $n - 1$ (B) n (C) 1 (D) $1/n$

SOLUTION : (A)

Let D be the common difference of the A.P. corresponding to the given H.P.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{a_n} = \frac{1}{a_1} + (n-1)D \quad \dots (i)$$

Now $\frac{1}{a_1}, \frac{1}{a_2}, \frac{1}{a_3}, \dots$ are in A.P.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{a_2} - \frac{1}{a_1} = D \Rightarrow a_1 a_2 = \frac{a_1 - a_2}{D}$$

and $a_2 a_3 = \frac{a_2 - a_3}{D}$ and so on.

$$\Rightarrow a_{n-1} a_n = \frac{a_{n-1} - a_n}{D}$$

Adding all such expressions we get :

$$\Rightarrow a_1 a_2 + a_2 a_3 + a_3 a_4 + \dots + a_{n-1} a_n = \frac{a_1 - a_n}{D}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1 a_2 + a_2 a_3 + \dots + a_{n-1} a_n = \frac{a_1 - a_n}{D}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1 a_2 + a_2 a_3 + \dots + a_{n-1} a_n = \frac{a_1 a_n}{D} [(n-1)D] \quad [\text{Using (i)}]$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1 a_2 + a_2 a_3 + \dots + a_{n-1} a_n = (n-1) a_1 a_n$$

Hence, $k = n-1$

Illustration - 27 If A and G are arithmetic mean (AM) and geometric mean (GM) between two numbers a and b , then roots of the equation : $x^2 - 2Ax + G^2 = 0$ are :

- (A) $a, 2b$ (B) $2a, b$ (C) a, b (D) $2a, 2b$

SOLUTION : (C)

Since A is the A.M. between a and b and G is G.M. between a and b .

$$\Rightarrow A = \frac{a+b}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad G = \sqrt{ab}$$

Equation: $x^2 - 2Ax + G^2 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - (a+b)x + ab = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x-a)(x-b) = 0$$

Hence, roots are a and b .

Illustration - 28 If a, b, c are in an A.P., x is the GM of a, b and y is GM of b, c , then the AM of x^2 and y^2 is:

- (A) a^2 (B) b^2 (C) c^2 (D) None of these

SOLUTION : (B)

a, b, c are in A.P.

$$\Rightarrow 2b = a + c \quad \dots \text{(i)}$$

x is G.M. of a, b

$$\Rightarrow x = \sqrt{ab} \quad \dots \text{(ii)}$$

y is G.M. of b, c

$$\Rightarrow y = \sqrt{bc} \quad \dots \text{(iii)}$$

Squaring (ii) and (iii) and adding, we get :

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = ab + bc = b(a + c)$$

From (i) $a + c = 2b$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = 2b^2 \Rightarrow b^2 = \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}$$

Hence b^2 is arithmetic mean (AM) of x^2 and y^2 .

SUMMATION OF SERIES

Section - 4

4.1 Sum of first n natural numbers

$$\sum_{r=1}^n r = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n$$

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

4.2 Sum of squares of first n natural numbers

$$\sum_{r=1}^n r^2 = 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2$$

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

4.3 Sum of cubes of first n natural numbers:

$$\sum_{r=1}^n r^3 = 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + n^3$$

$$\sum_{r=1}^n r^3 = \left[\frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right]^2$$

4.4 Arithmetic-Geometric Series :

A series in which each term is the product of corresponding terms in an arithmetic and geometric series.

The general expression for such a series :

$$a, (a + d)r, (a + 2d)r^2, (a + 3d)r^3, \dots$$

Note: a : first term of A.P. d : common difference of A.P. r : common ratio of G.P.

k^{th} term of such a series : $T_k = [a + (k - 1)d] r^{k-1}$

Sum of n terms of arithmetico - geometric series :

Let S = sum of series.

$$S = a + (a + d)r + (a + 2d)r^2 + \dots + [a + (n - 1)d] r^{n-1} \quad \dots \text{(i)}$$

Multiply each term by r (on both the sides) and write as follows.

$$rS = 0 + ar + (a + d)r^2 + (a + 2d)r^3 + \dots + [a + (n - 1)d] r^n \quad \dots \text{(ii)}$$

Operating (i) - (ii) we get :

$$\Rightarrow S(1-r) = a + dr + dr^2 + dr^3 + \dots + dr^{n-1} - [a + (n-1)d]r^n$$

$$\Rightarrow S(1-r) = a + d(r + r^2 + r^3 + \dots + r^{n-1}) - [a + (n-1)d]r^n$$

$$\Rightarrow S(1-r) = a + \frac{dr(1-r^{n-1})}{1-r} - [a + (n-1)d]r^n$$

$$\Rightarrow S = \frac{a}{1-r} + \frac{dr(1-r^{n-1})}{(1-r)^2} - \frac{[a + (n-1)d]r^n}{1-r}$$

Sum of an infinite Arithmetico - Geometric series

If $|r| < 1$ i.e., $-1 < r < 1$ then, $S_{\infty} = \frac{a}{1-r} + \frac{dr}{(1-r)^2}$

Illustration - 29 The sum of the series : $1.2 + 2.3 + 3.4 + \dots$ upto n terms is :

(A) $\frac{n(n+2)(n+3)}{6}$ (B) $\frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3}$ (C) $\frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{6}$ (D) $\frac{n(n+2)(n+3)}{3}$

SOLUTION : (B)

In such questions, find out n^{th} term and try to use the formulae for $\sum r$, $\sum r^2$, $\sum r^3$.

In the given problem, the n^{th} term is $\Rightarrow S_n = (1^2 + 1) + (2^2 + 2) + (3^2 + 3) + \dots + (n^2 + n)$

$$n(n+1) = n^2 + n$$

$$T_1 = 1^2 + 1, T_2 = 2^2 + 2$$

$$T_3 = 3^2 + 3 \text{ and so on } \dots$$

Let S_n denotes the sum of n terms.

$$S_n = T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + \dots + T_n$$

$$\Rightarrow S_n = (1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2) + (1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n)$$

$$\Rightarrow S_n = \sum_{r=1}^n r^2 + \sum_{r=1}^n r$$

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

$$S_n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \left[\frac{2n+1}{3} + 1 \right] = \frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{3}$$

Illustration - 30 The sum of the series : $1^2 + 3^2 + 5^2 + \dots$ n terms is :

- (A) $\frac{n}{3}(4n^2 - 1)$ (B) $\frac{n^2}{3}(4n - 1)$ (C) $\frac{n^2}{3}(4n + 1)$ (D) $\frac{n}{3}(4n^2 + 1)$

SOLUTION : (A)

First try to determine the n^{th} term of the given expression.

Note that each term of the series is equal to the square of the corresponding term of series,

1, 3, 5, 7,

So the n^{th} term of the given series should be the square of the n^{th} term of the series

1, 3, 5, 7,

The n^{th} term of the series 1, 3, 5, 7, is $(2n - 1)$.

$$\Rightarrow T_n = (2n - 1)^2 = 4n^2 - 4n + 1$$

$$\text{Now } T_1 = 4(1^2) - 4(1) + 1$$

$$T_2 = 4(2^2) - 4(2) + 1$$

$\vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots$

$$T_n = 4(n^2) - 4(n) + 1$$

On adding, we get :

$$S_n = T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + \dots + T_n$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_n &= 4(1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2) \\ &\quad - 4(1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n) \\ &\quad + (1 + 1 + 1 + \dots \text{ } n \text{ times}) \end{aligned}$$

$$S_n = 4 \sum_{r=1}^n n^2 - 4 \sum_{r=1}^n r + n$$

$$S_n = \frac{4n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} - \frac{4n(n+1)}{2} + n$$

$$S_n = \frac{n}{3}(4n^2 - 1)$$

Illustration - 31 The sum of the series : $1^2 + (1^2 + 2^2) + (1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2) + \dots$ to n terms is :

- (A) $\frac{n(n+1)(n+2)}{12}$ (B) $\frac{n(n+1)(n+2)^2}{12}$ (C) $\frac{n(n+1)^2(n+2)}{12}$ (D) $\frac{n^2(n+1)(n+2)}{12}$

SOLUTION : (C)

First determine the r^{th} term.

$$\Rightarrow T_r = (1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + r^2) \Rightarrow T_r = \sum_{r=1}^r r^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} \Rightarrow T_r = \frac{1}{3}r^3 + \frac{1}{2}r^2 + \frac{1}{6}r$$

$$\text{Now } S_n = \sum_{r=1}^n T_r = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{r=1}^n r^3 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{r=1}^n r^2 + \frac{1}{6} \sum_{r=1}^n r = \frac{1}{3} \frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} + \frac{1}{6} \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

$$\text{Simplify to get : } S_n = \frac{n(n+1)^2(n+2)}{12}$$

Illustration - 32 The Sum the n th term of the series : $3.7 + 5.10 + 7.13 + \dots$ to n terms is :

- (A) $\frac{n}{2}(4n^2 + 17n + 21)$ (B) $\frac{n^2}{4}(4n + 17n + 19)$ (C) $\frac{n}{2}(4n^2 + 17n + 19)$ (D) $\frac{n}{4}(4n^2 + 17n + 21)$

SOLUTION : (A)

As usual, find the r^{th} term. Note that 3, 5, 7, ... i.e., the first number of each term is in A.P. and 7, 10, 13, ... i.e. second number of each term is also in A.P.

$$\Rightarrow T_r = (2r + 1)(3r + 4)$$

[product of r terms of two A.P.(s)]

$$\Rightarrow T_r = 6r^2 + 11r + 4$$

Taking summation of both sides,

$$S_n = \sum_{r=1}^n T_r = 6 \sum_{r=1}^n r^2 + 11 \sum_{r=1}^n r + 4 \sum_{r=1}^n 1$$

$$\Rightarrow S_n = \frac{6n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} + \frac{11n(n+1)}{2} + 4n$$

$$\Rightarrow S_n = \frac{n}{2}(4n^2 + 17n + 21)$$

Illustration - 33 Sum the series : $1 + 3x + 5x^2 + 7x^3 + \dots$

(i) to n terms

(A) $\frac{1}{1-x} + \frac{2x(1-x^n)}{(1-x)^2} - \frac{(2n-1)x^n}{1-x}$

(B) $\frac{1}{1-x} + \frac{2x(1-x^{n-1})}{(1-x)^2} - \frac{(2n-1)x^n}{1-x}$

(C) $\frac{1}{1-x} + \frac{2x(1-x^n)}{(1-x)^2} + \frac{(2n-1)x^n}{1-x}$

(D) $\frac{1}{1-x} + \frac{2x(1-x^{n-1})}{(1-x)^2} + \frac{(2n-1)x^n}{1-x}$

(ii) to infinity if $(|x| < 1)$

(A) $\frac{1+x}{1-x}$

(B) $\frac{1-x}{1+x}$

(C) $\frac{1+x}{(1-x)^2}$

(D) $\frac{1-x}{(1-x)^2}$

SOLUTION : (i) - (B) (ii) - (C)

Note that the given series is an Arithmetico-Geometric series.

1, 3, 5, ... are in A.P.

$$\Rightarrow T_r = 2r - 1$$

1, x , x^2 , ... are in G.P.

$$\Rightarrow T_r = x^{r-1}$$

- (a) This means that r^{th} term of A-G series
 $= (2r - 1)x^{r-1}$

$$S_n = 1 + 3x + 5x^2 + \dots$$

$$+ (2n - 3)x^{n-2} + (2n - 1)x^{n-1} \dots \text{(i)}$$

$$xS_n = x + 3x^2 + 5x^3 + \dots$$

$$+ (2n - 3)x^{n-1} + (2n - 1)x^n \dots \text{(ii)}$$

$$\Rightarrow (1 - x)S_n = 1 + 2x + 2x^2 + \dots$$

$$+ 2x^{n-1} - (2n - 1)x^n$$

$$\Rightarrow (1 - x)S_n = 1 + \frac{2x(1 - x^{n-1})}{1 - x} - (2n - 1)x^n$$

$$\Rightarrow S_n = \frac{1}{1-x} + \frac{2x(1-x^{n-1})}{(1-x^2)} - \frac{(2n-1)x^n}{1-x} \Rightarrow (1-x)S_\infty = 1 + 2x \left(\frac{1}{1-x} \right) = \frac{1+x}{1-x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(b)} \quad S_\infty &= 1 + 3x + 5x^2 + \dots \text{to } \infty \\ xS_\infty &= x + 3x^2 + 5x^3 + \dots \text{to } \infty \\ \Rightarrow (1-x)S_\infty &= 1 + 2x + 2x^2 + \dots \text{to } \infty \\ \Rightarrow (1-x)S_\infty &= 1 + 2x(1+x+x^2+\dots \text{to } \infty) \end{aligned} \Rightarrow S_\infty = \frac{1+x}{(1-x)^2}$$

Illustration - 34

The sum of the series : $1 + \frac{4}{5} + \frac{7}{5^2} + \frac{10}{5^3} + \dots$ to ∞ terms is :

(A) $\frac{35}{4}$

(B) $\frac{5}{16}$

(C) $\frac{7}{16}$

(D) $\frac{35}{16}$

SOLUTION : (D)

The given series is arithmetico - geometric series.

$$\text{Let } S = 1 + \frac{4}{5} + \frac{7}{5^2} + \dots + \frac{3n-2}{5^{n-1}} \quad \dots \text{(i)}$$

$$\frac{1}{5}S = \frac{1}{5} + \frac{4}{5^2} + \dots + \frac{3n-5}{5^{n-1}} + \frac{3n-2}{5^n} \quad \dots \text{(ii)}$$

[\because Multiply both side $r = \frac{1}{5}$]

Subtracting (ii) from (i)

$$\Rightarrow \frac{4}{5}S_n = 1 + \left(\frac{3}{5} + \frac{3}{5^2} + \dots + \frac{3}{5^{n-1}} \right) - \left(\frac{3n-2}{5^n} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow S_n = \frac{5}{4} + \frac{5}{4} \times \frac{3}{5} \left(\frac{1 - \frac{1}{5^{n-1}}}{1 - \frac{1}{5}} \right) - \left(\frac{3n-2}{5^n} \times \frac{5}{4} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow S_n = \frac{5}{4} + \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{5^{n-1} - 1}{4} \right) \frac{1}{5^{n-2}} - \frac{3n-2}{4 \cdot 5^{n-1}}$$

$$\Rightarrow S_n = \frac{5}{4} + \frac{15}{16} - \frac{3}{16 \cdot 5^{n-2}} - \frac{3n-2}{20 \cdot 5^{n-2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow S_n = \frac{35}{16} - \left(\frac{12n+7}{80(5^{n-2})} \right)$$

$$\text{Now } S_{\infty} = 1 + \frac{4}{5} + \frac{7}{5^2} + \dots \infty ;$$

$$\frac{1}{5} S_{\infty} = \frac{1}{5} + \frac{4}{5^2} + \dots \infty$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{4}{5} S_{\infty} = 1 + \frac{3}{5} + \frac{3}{5^2} + \dots \infty$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{4}{5} S_{\infty} = 1 + \frac{3/5}{1 - 1/5} \Rightarrow S_{\infty} = \frac{5}{4} \left(1 + \frac{3}{4} \right) = \frac{35}{16}$$

Illustration - 35

The sum of the series : $\frac{1^3}{1} + \frac{1^3 + 2^3}{1 + 3} + \frac{1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3}{1 + 3 + 5} + \dots$ to n terms is :

- (A) $\frac{n}{12}(2n^2 + 9n + 13)$ (B) $\frac{n}{24}(2n^2 + 9n + 13)$ (C) $\frac{n}{12}(2n^2 + 6n + 13)$ (D) $\frac{n}{24}(n^2 + 6n + 13)$

SOLUTION : (B)

$$T_r = \frac{1^3 + 2^3 + \dots + r^3}{1 + 3 + 5 + \dots \text{to } r \text{ terms}}$$

$$T_r = \frac{\sum r^3}{\frac{r}{2} [2 + (r-1) 2]} = \frac{(r+1)^2}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_r = \frac{r^2 + 2r + 1}{4}$$

$$S_n = \sum_{r=1}^{r=n} T_r = \frac{1}{4} \left[\sum_{r=1}^n r^2 + 2 \sum_{r=1}^n r + \sum_{r=1}^n 1 \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} + n(n+1) + n \right]$$

$$= \frac{n}{24} [2n^2 + 3n + 1 + 6n + 6 + 6]$$

$$\Rightarrow S_n = \frac{n}{24} [2n^2 + 9n + 13]$$

Illustration - 36 Find the sum of the products of every pair of the first n natural numbers .

(A) $\frac{n(n+1)^2(3n-2)}{24}$

(B) $\frac{n(n+1)(3n-2)(n-1)}{24}$

(C) $\frac{n(n+1)(3n+2)(n-1)}{24}$

(D) $\frac{n(n+1)^2(3n+2)}{24}$

SOLUTION : (C)

The required sum is given as follows.

$$S = 1.2 + 1.3 + 1.4 + \dots + 2.3 + 2.4 + \dots \\ + 3.4 + 3.5 + \dots + \dots + (n-1)n$$

Using : $S = \frac{(\sum n)^2 - \sum n^2}{2}$, we get :

$$S = \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4} - \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} \right]$$

$$= \frac{n(n+1)}{24} [3n(n+1) - 2(2n+1)]$$

$$= \frac{n(n+1)}{24} [3n^2 - n - 2]$$

$$\Rightarrow S_n = \frac{n(n+1)(3n+2)(n-1)}{24}$$

Illustration - 37 Sum the series to n terms : $4 + 44 + 444 + 4444 + \dots$ is :

(A) $\frac{4}{81} [10(10^n - 1) - 9n]$

(B) $\frac{4}{81} [10(10^n + 1) - 9n]$

(C) $\frac{4}{81} [10(10^n - 1) + 9n]$

(D) $\frac{4}{81} [10(10^n + 1) + 9n]$

SOLUTION : (A)

Let $S_n = 4 + 44 + 444 + 4444 + \dots$ to n terms.

$$\Rightarrow S_n = 4/9 \{ (10 + 10^2 + 10^3 + \dots n \text{ terms}) - (1 + 1 + 1 + \dots n \text{ terms}) \}$$

$$\Rightarrow S_n = 4(1 + 11 + 111 + 1111 + \dots n \text{ terms})$$

$$\Rightarrow S_n = 4/9 \{ (10 - 1) + (100 - 1) + (1000 - 1) + \dots n \text{ terms} \}$$

$$\Rightarrow S_n = \frac{4}{81} [10(10^n - 1) - 9n]$$

Illustration - 38 If a, b, c are distinct such that $ab + bc + ca \neq 0$ and in A.P., then $a^2(b+c), b^2(c+a), c^2(a+b)$ are in :

- (A) A.P. (B) G.P. (C) H.P. (D) None of these

SOLUTION : (A)

As a, b, c are in A.P., then $a(ab+bc+ca), b(ab+bc+ca), c(ab+bc+ca)$ are in A.P.

$\Rightarrow a^2(b+c) + abc, b^2(c+a) + abc, c^2(a+b) + abc$ are in A.P.

$\Rightarrow a^2(b+c) + abc - abc, b^2(c+a) + abc - abc, c^2(a+b) + abc - abc$ are in A.P.

Hence, $a^2(b+c), b^2(c+a), c^2(a+b)$ are in A.P.

Alternate Approach :

As a, b, c are in A.P., we get : $a - b = b - c$... (i)

Consider $a^2(b+c) - b^2(c+a) = (a^2b - b^2a) + (a^2c - b^2c) = (a-b)(ab+ac+bc)$... (ii)

Also $b^2(c+a) - c^2(a+b) = (b^2c - c^2b) + (b^2a - c^2a) = (b-c)(bc+ba+ca)$... (iii)

From (i), (ii), (iii) we get :

$$a^2(b+c) - b^2(c+a) = b^2(c+a) - c^2(a+b)$$

$\Rightarrow a^2(b+c), b^2(c+a), c^2(a+b)$ are in A.P.



Illustration - 39 If $\sqrt[3]{a} = \sqrt[4]{b} = \sqrt[5]{c}$ and if a, b, c are in G.P., then x, y, z are in :

- (A) A.P. (B) G.P. (C) H.P. (D) None of these

SOLUTION : (A)

Let $\frac{1}{a^x} = \frac{1}{b^y} = \frac{1}{c^z}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\log a}{x} = \frac{\log b}{y} = \frac{\log c}{z} = k$$

$$\Rightarrow \log a = kx, \log b = ky, \log c = kz \quad [\because b^2 = ac]$$

$$\Rightarrow 2 \log b = \log a + \log c \quad [\because b^2 = ac]$$

We have $2ky = kx + kz$

$$\Rightarrow 2y = x + z \quad \Rightarrow x, y, z \text{ are in A.P.}$$

Illustration - 40 At what values of parameter a are there values of x such that the numbers :

$(5^{1+x} + 5^{1-x}), (a/2), (25^x + 25^{-x})$ form an A.P. ?

- (A) $a \geq 18$ (B) $a \geq 12$ (C) $a \geq 15$ (D) $a \leq 3$

SOLUTION : (B)

For the given numbers to be in A.P.,

$$2\left(\frac{a}{2}\right) = 5^{1+x} + 5^{1-x} + 25^x + 25^{-x}$$

Let $5^x = k$

$$\Rightarrow a = 5k + \frac{5}{k} + k^2 + \frac{1}{k^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 5\left(k + \frac{1}{k}\right) + \left(k^2 + \frac{1}{k^2}\right)$$

As the sum of a positive number and its reciprocal is always greater than or equal to 2,

$$k + \frac{1}{k} \geq 2 \quad \text{and} \quad k^2 + \frac{1}{k^2} \geq 2$$

$$\text{Hence } a \geq 5(2) + 2 \Rightarrow a \geq 12$$

Illustration - 41 The series of natural numbers is divided into groups : (1) ; (2, 3, 4) ; (5, 6, 7, 8, 9) and so on. The sum of the numbers in the n^{th} group is :

- (A) $n^3 + (n+1)^3$ (B) $(n-1)^3$ (C) n^3 (D) $n^3 + (n-1)^3$

SOLUTION : (C)

Note that the last term of each group is the square of a natural number.

Hence first term in the n^{th} group is $(n-1)^2 + 1 = n^2 - 2n + 2$

There is 1 term in **I**st group, 3 terms in **II**nd, 5 terms in **III**rd, 7 terms in **IV**th,

No. of terms in the n^{th} group = n^{th} term of (1, 3, 5, 7,) = $2n - 1$

Common difference in the n^{th} group = 1

$$\text{Sum} = \frac{2n-1}{2} \left[2(n^2 - 2n + 2) + (2n-2)1 \right]$$

$$= \frac{2n-1}{2} [2n^2 - 2n + 2]$$

$$= (2n-1)(n^2 - n + 1)$$

$$= 2n^3 - 3n^2 + 3n - 1 = n^3 + (n-1)^3$$

Illustration - 42 If a, b, c are in G.P., and the equations $ax^2 + 2bx + c = 0$ and $dx^2 + 2ex + f = 0$ have a common root then $d/a, e/b, f/c$ are in :

- (A) A.P. (B) G.P. (C) H.P. (D) None of these

SOLUTION : (A)

$$a, b, c \text{ are in G.P.} \Rightarrow b^2 = ac$$

Hence the first equation has equal roots because its discriminant $= 4b^2 - 4ac = 0$.

$$\text{The roots are } x = \frac{-2b}{2a} = -\frac{b}{a}.$$

As the two equations have a common roots, $-b/a$ is also a root of the second equation .

$$\Rightarrow d\left(-\frac{b}{a}\right)^2 + 2e\left(-\frac{b}{a}\right) + f = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow db^2 - 2abe + a^2f = 0$$

Dividing by ab^2

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{a} - \frac{2e}{b} + \frac{a^2f}{ab^2} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{a} - \frac{2e}{b} + \frac{a^2f}{a(ac)} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{a} - \frac{2e}{b} + \frac{f}{c} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{a}, \frac{e}{b}, \frac{f}{c} \text{ are in A.P.}$$

Illustration - 43 If the first and the last term of an A.P., a G.P. and a H.P. are equal and their n^{th} terms are a, b and c respectively, then, find the correct choice(s) : [Given : Total number of terms = $2n - 1$]

- (A) $a = b = c$ (B) $a \geq b \geq c$ (C) $a + c = b$ (D) $ac - b^2 = 0$

SOLUTION : (B D)

Let the first term = A

The last term = $[(2n - 1)^{\text{th}} \text{ term}] = L$

No. of terms = $2n - 1$ i.e. odd number

$$\text{Middle term} = \frac{(2n-1)+1}{2} = n^{\text{th}} \text{ term}$$

$\Rightarrow T_n$ is the middle term for all the three progressions. In an A.P. the middle term is the arithmetic mean of first and the last terms.

$$\Rightarrow a = \frac{A+L}{2}$$

In a G.P. the middle term is the geometric mean of first and last terms.

$$\Rightarrow b = \sqrt{AL}$$

In an H.P. the middle term is the harmonic mean of first and last terms.

$$\Rightarrow c = \frac{2AL}{A+L}$$

Hence a, b, c are AM, GM & HM between the numbers A and L .

$$\text{As } (GM)^2 = (AM)(HM)$$

$$\text{We have } b^2 = ac$$

Hence, (B) and (D) are the correct choices.



Illustration - 44 Find the sum of n terms of series : $(x+y) + (x^2+xy+y^2) + (x^3+x^2y+xy^2+y^3) + \dots$

$$(A) \quad \frac{1}{x+y} \left[\frac{x^2(1-x^n)}{1-x} \right] - \frac{1}{x+y} \left[\frac{y^2(1-y^n)}{1-y} \right] \quad (B) \quad \frac{1}{x-y} \left[\frac{x(1-x^n)}{1-x} \right] - \frac{1}{x-y} \left[\frac{y(1-y^n)}{1-y} \right]$$

$$(C) \quad \frac{1}{x+y} \left[\frac{x(1-x^n)}{1-x} \right] - \frac{1}{x+y} \left[\frac{y(1-y^n)}{1-y} \right] \quad (D) \quad \frac{1}{x-y} \left[\frac{x^2(1-x^n)}{1-x} \right] - \frac{1}{x-y} \left[\frac{y^2(1-y^n)}{1-y} \right]$$

SOLUTION : (D)

$$\text{Let } S_n = (x+y) + (x^2+xy+y^2) + (x^3+x^2y+xy^2+y^3) + \dots$$

$$S_n = \frac{x^2-y^2}{x-y} + \frac{x^3-y^3}{x-y} + \frac{x^4-y^4}{x-y} + \dots$$

$$= \frac{1}{x-y} (x^2+x^3+x^4+\dots n \text{ terms}) - \frac{1}{x-y} (y^2+y^3+y^4+\dots n \text{ terms})$$

$$= \frac{1}{x-y} \left(\frac{x^2(1-x^n)}{1-x} \right) - \frac{1}{x-y} \left(\frac{y^2(1-y^n)}{1-y} \right)$$

Note: The following results can be very useful.

$$(i) \quad \frac{x^n - y^n}{x - y} = x^{n-1}y^0 + x^{n-2}y^1 + x^{n-3}y^2 + \dots + xy^{n-2} + x^0y^{n-1} \quad (n \text{ is any natural number})$$

$$(ii) \quad \frac{x^n + y^n}{x + y} = x^{n-1}y^0 - x^{n-2}y^1 + x^{n-3}y^2 - x^{n-4}y^3 + \dots + x^0y^{n-1} \quad (n \text{ is odd natural number})$$



Illustration - 45 Find the sum of first n terms of the series : $3 + 7 + 13 + 21 + 31 + \dots$

- (A) $\frac{n}{2}(n^2 + 3n + 5)$ (B) $\frac{n}{4}(n^2 + 3n + 5)$ (C) $\frac{n}{3}(n^2 + 3n + 5)$ (D) $\frac{n}{6}(n^2 + 3n + 5)$

SOLUTION : (C)

The given series is neither an A.P. nor a G.P., but the differences of the successive terms are in A.P.

Series : $3 \quad 7 \quad 13 \quad 21 \quad 31 \dots$

Differences : $4 \quad 6 \quad 8 \quad 10 \dots$

In such cases, we find the n^{th} term as follows:

Let S be the sum of the first n terms.

$$S = 3 + 7 + 13 + 21 + 31 + \dots + T_n$$

$$S = 3 + 7 + 13 + 21 + 31 + \dots + T_{n-1} + T_n$$

On subtracting, we get :

$$0 = 3 + \{4 + 6 + 8 + 10 + \dots\} - T_n$$

$$\Rightarrow T_n = 3 + \{4 + 6 + 8 + 10 + \dots (n-1) \text{ terms}\}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_n = 3 + \frac{n-1}{2} [2(4) + (n-2)2]$$

$$\Rightarrow T_n = n^2 + n + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow S = \sum_{k=1}^n T_k = \sum_{k=1}^n k^2 + \sum_{k=1}^n k + \sum_{k=1}^n 1$$

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

$$= \frac{n}{3}(n^2 + 3n + 5)$$



Illustration - 46 Find the series : $1 + 4 + 10 + 22 + 46 + \dots$ to n terms .

- (A) $3 \cdot 2^n + 2n - 3$ (B) $3 \cdot 2^n + 2n + 3$ (C) $3 \cdot 2^n - 2n + 3$ (D) $3 \cdot 2^n - 2n - 3$

SOLUTION : (D)

The differences of successive terms are in G.P. :

Series : $1 \quad 4 \quad 10 \quad 22 \quad 46 \dots$

Differences : $3 \quad 6 \quad 12 \quad 24 \dots$

Let S = sum of first n terms.

$$\Rightarrow S = 1 + 4 + 10 + 22 + 46 + \dots + T_n$$

$$\Rightarrow S = 1 + 4 + 10 + 22 + 46 + \dots + T_{n-1} + T_n$$

On subtracting, we get :

$$0 = 1 + \{3 + 6 + 12 + 24 + \dots\} - T_n$$

$$T_n = 1 + \{3 + 6 + 12 + 24 + \dots + (n-1) \text{ terms}\}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_n = 1 + \frac{3(2^{n-1} - 1)}{2 - 1} = 3 \cdot 2^{n-1} - 2$$

$$\Rightarrow S = \sum_{k=1}^n T_k = \frac{3}{2} \sum 2^k - \sum 2$$

$$S = \frac{2}{3} (2 + 4 + 8 + \dots + 2^n) - 2n$$

$$= \frac{3}{2} \frac{2(2^n - 1)}{2 - 1} - 2n = 3 \cdot 2^n - 2n - 3$$



Illustration - 47 Find the sum of the series :

$$\frac{1}{1.4} + \frac{1}{4.7} + \frac{1}{7.10} + \dots \text{ to } n \text{ terms.}$$

(A) $\frac{1}{3n-1}$

(B) $\frac{n}{3n+1}$

(C) $\frac{n}{3n-1}$

(D) $\frac{1}{3n+1}$

SOLUTION : (B)

$$\text{Let } S = \frac{1}{1.4} + \frac{1}{4.7} + \frac{1}{7.10} + \dots + \frac{1}{(3n-2)(3n+1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow 3S = \frac{3}{1.4} + \frac{3}{4.7} + \frac{3}{7.10} + \dots + \frac{3}{(3n-2)(3n+1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow 3S = \frac{4-1}{1.4} + \frac{7-4}{4.7} + \frac{10-7}{7.10} + \dots + \frac{(3n+1)-(3n-2)}{(3n-2)(3n+1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow 3S = \left(\frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{4}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{7}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{7} - \frac{1}{10}\right) + \dots + \left(\frac{1}{(3n-2)} - \frac{1}{3n+1}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow S = \frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{3n+1} \quad \Rightarrow \quad S = \frac{n}{3n+1}$$

Note: The above method works in the case when the n^{th} term of a series can be expressed as the difference of the two quantities of the type : $T_n = f(n) - f(n-1)$ or $T_n = f(n) - f(n+1)$

$$\text{In the above example, } T_n = \frac{1}{(3n-2)(3n+1)} = \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1}{3n-2} - \frac{1}{3n+1} \right)$$

It is the form $f(n) - f(n+1)$.



Illustration - 48 Find the sum of first n terms of the series :

$$1(1)! + 2(2)! + 3(3)! + 4(4)! + \dots$$

- (A) $n! - 1$ (B) $(n+1)! + 1$ (C) $(n+1)! - 1$ (D) $n! + 1$

SOLUTION : (C)

The n^{th} term, $T_n = n(n)!$

T_n can be written as

$$T_n = (n+1-1)(n)!$$

$$\Rightarrow T_n = (n+1)! - (n)! \quad \dots \text{(i)}$$

This is in the form $f(n) - f(n-1)$

$$S = \sum_{n=1}^n T_n = T_1 + T_2 + T_3 + T_4 + \dots + T_n$$

Using (i),

$$S = (2! - 1!) + (3! - 2!) + (4! - 3!) + \dots + \{(n+1)! - n!\}$$

$$\Rightarrow S = -1! + (n+1)!$$

$$\Rightarrow S = (n+1)! - 1.$$

THINGS TO REMEMBER

1. If T_r represents the general term of an A.P. (or r th term), then

$$T_r = a + (n - 1) d \quad \text{where } r \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$$

It is also denoted by a_r . If the total number of terms be n , then n^{th} term is also known as the last term of A.P. and is denoted by l , i.e., $l = T_n = a + (n - 1) d$

In an A.P., the difference of any two consecutive terms is d and is given by :

$$d = T_r - T_{r-1}$$

2. Consider n terms of an A.P. with first term as a and the common difference as d . Let S_n denotes the sum

of the first n terms, then
$$S_n = \frac{n}{2} [2a + (n - 1) d]$$

or
$$S_n = \frac{n}{2} (a + l) \quad \text{as } l = a + (n - 1) d$$

3. **Arithmetic mean (A) :**

When three quantities are in A.P., then the middle one is called as *arithmetic mean* of other two. If a and b are two numbers and A be the arithmetic mean of a and b , then a, A, b are in A.P.

$$\Rightarrow A - a = b - A \quad \Rightarrow A = \frac{a + b}{2}$$

4. **Important Points**

(i) If a, b, c are in A.P., then : ak, bk, ck are also in A.P. ($k \neq 0$)

$a/k, b/k, c/k$ are also in A.P. ($k \neq 0$)

$a \pm k, b \pm k, c \pm k$ are also in A.P.

(ii) Three terms in an A.P. are taken as : $a - d, a, a + d$

(iii) Four terms in an A.P. are taken as : $a - 3d, a - d, a + d, a + 3d$

(iv) The sum of any two terms (of an A.P.) equidistant from beginning and end is equal to the sum of the first and the last term.

$$(a + md) + (\ell - md) = a + \ell$$

5. □ In G.P., the common ratio (r) is the ratio of any two consecutive terms. If T_k represents the general term

(or k^{th} term) of a G.P., then $r = \frac{T_k}{T_{k-1}}$ and $T_k = ar^{k-1}$ where $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

6. Sum of n terms of a G.P.

Consider n terms of a G.P. with a as the first term and r as the common ratio. Let S_n denote the sum of n terms.

$$\text{Then } S_n = a + ar + ar^2 + ar^3 + \dots + ar^{n-1}$$

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

7. Infinite Geometric series :

If for G.P., the common ratio r lies between -1 and 1 i.e., $-1 < r < 1$, it is called as *decreasing geometric series*. The sum of the infinite terms of such a series is denoted by S_∞ and is given as

$$S_\infty = \frac{a}{1 - r} \quad [\text{where } a \text{ is the first term and } r \text{ is the common ratio}]$$

Note:
$$S_\infty = \frac{a(1 - r^n)}{1 - r} = \frac{a}{1 - r} - \frac{ar^n}{1 - r}$$

$$\text{If } n \rightarrow \infty \text{ then } r^n \rightarrow 0 \text{ for } -1 < r < +1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad S_\infty = \frac{a}{1 - r}$$

8. Important Points

(i) If a, b, c are in G.P., then : ak, bk, ck are also in G.P. ($k \neq 0$)

$$a/k, b/k, c/k \text{ are also on G.P. } (k \neq 0)$$

(ii) Three terms in a G.P. are taken as : $ar, a, a/r$

(iii) Four terms in a G.P. are taken as : $ar^3, ar, a/r, a/r^3$

(iv) If a, b, c, d are in G.P., then : $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{b}{c} = \frac{c}{d} \Rightarrow b^2 = ac, c^2 = bd, ad = bc$

$$\text{Also, } b = ar, c = ar^2, d = ar^3 \quad \text{where } r \text{ is the common ratio}$$

9. A series $a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, \dots$ is said to be a *harmonical progression (H.P.)* if

$$\frac{1}{a_1}, \frac{1}{a_2}, \frac{1}{a_3}, \frac{1}{a_4} \text{ forms an arithmetical progression}$$

$$\text{i.e., } \frac{1}{a_2} - \frac{1}{a_1} = \frac{1}{a_3} - \frac{1}{a_2} = \frac{1}{a_4} - \frac{1}{a_3} = \dots$$

Three quantities a, b, c are said to be in H.P., when

$$\frac{1}{a}, \frac{1}{b}, \frac{1}{c} \text{ are in A.P.} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{b} - \frac{1}{a} = \frac{1}{c} - \frac{1}{b} \Rightarrow \frac{a - b}{ab} = \frac{b - c}{bc} \Rightarrow \frac{a}{c} = \frac{a - b}{b - c}$$

10. Harmonic mean(H)

When three quantities are in H.P., the middle one is called as the *harmonic mean* between the other two.

If a and b are two numbers, H is the harmonic mean between the two, then a, H, b must be in H.P.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{a}, \frac{1}{H}, \frac{1}{b} \text{ must be in A.P.} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{1}{H} - \frac{1}{a} = \frac{1}{b} - \frac{1}{H}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2}{H} = \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} \quad \Rightarrow \quad H = \frac{2ab}{a+b}$$

11. Relation among A, G, H

If A, G, H are arithmetic, geometric and harmonic means respectively between two positive numbers a and

b , then $A = \frac{a+b}{2}$, $G = \sqrt{ab}$, $H = \frac{2ab}{a+b} \Rightarrow G^2 = AH$ i.e. G is the geometric mean between A and H .

Also G lies between A and H , such that $A > G > H$

12. Sum of first n natural numbers :

$$\sum_{r=1}^n r = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + n \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sum_{r=1}^n r = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

13. Sum of squares of first n natural numbers

$$\sum_{r=1}^n r^2 = 1^2 + 2^2 + 3^2 + \dots + n^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sum_{r=1}^n r^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

14. Sum of cubes of first n natural numbers

$$\sum_{r=1}^n r^3 = 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + n^3 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sum_{r=1}^n r^3 = \left[\frac{n(n+1)}{2} \right]^2$$

15. Arithmetico-Geometric Series :

A series in which each term is the product of corresponding terms in an arithmetic and geometric series.

The general expression for such a series : $a, (a+d)r, (a+2d)r^2, (a+3d)r^3, \dots$

Note: a : first term of A.P. d : common difference of A.P. r : common ratio of G.P.

k^{th} term of such a series : $T_k = [a + (k-1)d] r^{k-1}$

Sum of n terms of arithmetico - geometric series :

$$S = \frac{a}{1-r} + \frac{dr(1-r^{n-1})}{(1-r)^2} - \frac{[a + (n-1)d]r^n}{1-r}$$

Sum of an infinite Arithmetico - Geometric series

$$\text{When } |r| < 1 \quad \text{i.e., } -1 < r < 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad S_{\infty} = \frac{a}{1-r} + \frac{dr}{(1-r)^2}$$