

## Math 1090 ~ Business Algebra

Section 5.1 Arithmetic and Geometric Sequences

Objectives:

- Distinguish between arithmetic and geometric sequences.
- Recognize a sequence in recursive form and in iterative form.

Find the nth term of a sequence
Find the sum of n terms of a sequence.

## Vocabulary

Sequence: $\left\{a_{n}\right\}$ an ordered list of numbers that form a pattern. It's also a function with domain of natural numbers.

| Arithmetic Sequence | Geometric Sequence |
| :---: | :---: |
| $n=2,3, \ldots . \quad d \neq 0$ | $n=2,3, \ldots . \quad d \neq 0$ |
| $a_{n}=a_{n-1}+d \quad$ given $a_{l}$ | $a_{n}=d a_{n-1}$ given $a_{l}$ |
| (Add the same number to get | (Multiply by the same number to |
| each of the next terms.) | get each of the next terms.) |

* These formulas are recursive. (They depend on previous terms.)

|  |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| $a_{1}$ given | $a_{1}$ given |
| $a_{2}=$ | $a_{2}=$ |
| $a_{3}=$ | $a_{3}=$ |
| $a_{4}=$ | $a_{4}=$ |
| $a_{5}=$ | $a_{5}=$ |
|  | $\cdot$ |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| $a_{n}=$ | $a_{n}=$ |
| $*$ | These formulas are iterative. (They don't depend on previous terms.) |

Ex 1: Classify as arithmetic or geometric and give the next three terms of each sequence.
a) $10,7,4,1, \ldots$
b) $2,-6,18,-54, \ldots$

## Ex 2: Find a formula for the nth term of each of these

a) an arithmetic sequence where
b) a geometric sequence where
$a_{1}=2$ and $d=-3$
$a_{1}=-10$ and $d=2$

Ex 3: Given $a_{1}=2$ and $a_{8}=23$, find the 50th term of this arithmetic sequence.

Ex 4: Given $a_{1}=\frac{3}{2}$ and $a_{6}=\frac{3}{64}$, find the 20th term of the geometric sequence.

Arithmetic Sequence Sum
$S_{12}=2+5+8+11+14+17+20$
Geometric Sequence Sum
$+23+26+29+32+35=$ ?
$S_{n}=a_{1}+a_{2}+\ldots+a_{n}=$ ?

Ex 5: Find the sum of the first $n$ terms of each of these.
a) $1,10,19,28, \ldots$
$n=100$
b) $3,6,12, \ldots \quad n=10$

