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AI1110 Assignment 1

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Q2 (C): In an Arithmetic Progression, the fourth and sixth terms are 8 and 16 respectively. Find :

- i) common difference
- ii) first term
- iii) sum of the first 20 terms

Solution: Let a_i denote the i th term of the AP , d denote the common diff,

 S_{20} denote the sum of first 20 terms

TABLE I VARIABLES

Symbol	value
i	4
j	6
a_i	8
a_j	14
a_1	?
d	?
S_n	?
S_{20}	?

For any general a_i , a_j :

(i)
$$a_{i} + (j - i)d = a_{j}$$

$$\Rightarrow \qquad (j - i)d = a_{j} - a_{i}$$

$$\Rightarrow \qquad (j - i)d = 14 - 8$$

$$\Rightarrow \qquad (j - i)d = 6$$

$$\Rightarrow \qquad d = \frac{6}{(j - i)} \qquad (1)$$

Substituting i = 4 and j = 6 in eq.(1):

$$\Rightarrow \qquad \qquad d = \frac{6}{6-4}$$

$$\Rightarrow \qquad \qquad d = \frac{6}{2}$$

$$\therefore \qquad \qquad d = 3 \qquad (2)$$

$$(ii) a_1 + (i-1)d = a_i$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1 = a_i - (i-1)d$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1 = a_i - \frac{(i-1)6}{(j-i)}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1 = \frac{a_i(j-i) - 6(i-1)}{(j-i)} (3)$$

Substituting i = 4, j = 6 and $a_i = 8$ in eq.(3):

⇒
$$a_1 = \frac{8(6-4) - 6(4-1)}{(6-4)}$$
⇒ $a_1 = \frac{8(2) - 6(3)}{(2)}$
⇒ $a_1 = \frac{16 - 18}{2}$
∴ $a_1 = \frac{-2}{2} = -1$ (4)

Now calculating S_n for general n:

$$iii)S_n = a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{20}$$

= $\frac{n \times [2a_1 + (n-1)d]}{2}$ (5)

Using values from eq.(2) and eq.(4) in eq.(5):

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

$$S_n = \frac{n \times [3(n-1)-2]}{2}$$
(6)

Substituting
$$n = 20$$
 in eq.(6)

$$S_{20} = \frac{20 \times [3(20-1)-2]}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow S_{20} = 10 \times [3(19)-2]$$

$$\Rightarrow S_{20} = 10 \times [57-2]$$

$$\therefore S_{20} = 10 \times [55] = 550$$