

$$\begin{aligned}
1 + 2 + 3 + \cdots + n &= \sum_1^n k \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \sum_1^n (k + (n + 1 - k)) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \sum_1^n (n + 1) \\
&= \frac{n(n + 1)}{2}
\end{aligned} \tag{1}$$