

Q: Find a GP for which sum of the first two terms is -4 and the fifth term is 4 times the third term.

Solution: Let the GP be $a, ar^2, ar^3, \dots, ar^{(n-1)}$

Given:

$$a + ar = -4 \quad (1)$$

$$ar^4 = 4 * ar^2 \quad (2)$$

On solving the 2nd equation

We get

$$r^2 = 4$$

$$r = +2, -2$$

on substituting value of r in eq(1)

For $r=+2$

we get $a = \frac{-4}{3}$

GP: $\frac{-4}{3}, \frac{-8}{3}, \frac{-16}{3}, \dots$

For $r=-2$

we get $a=4$

GP: $4, -8, 16, -32, \dots$