


## 6. Sequences, Series and recurrence

Consider:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{4(-1)^k}{2k+1}$$

Let's try  $k = [5, 10, 100, 1000]$

Consider:



Xenon

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{32} &= S \\ \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots \right) &= \frac{1}{2} S \\ \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16} + \dots &= \frac{1}{2} S \\ S - \frac{1}{2} &= \frac{1}{2} S \\ S - \frac{1}{2} S &= \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} S &= \frac{1}{2} \\ \underline{S = 1} \end{aligned}$$

As a sum:

$$S = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^k}$$

Let's see for which  $i$  we get  $S=1$  in Java

## Sequence:

A progression of numbers:

$$\{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots\} \text{ or } \{a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots\}$$

e.g.  $\{3, 7, 11, 15, 19, 23, 27, \dots\}$

## Series:

The sum of a sequence is called a **Series**

Sum notation:

Diagram illustrating sum notation  $\sum_{k=0}^n 2^k$ :

- Box 1: "This is when it stops." (points to  $n$ )
- Box 2: "This is the element that increments" (points to  $2^k$ )
- Box 3: "This increments starting at 0  
↳ may start anywhere as long as start  $\leq n$ ." (points to  $k=0$ )

Ex:

$$\sum_{k=0}^4 2^k = 2^0 + 2^1 + 2^2 + 2^3 + 2^4 = 1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + 16 = \underline{\underline{31}}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^5 2^k - 1 = (2^1 - 1) + (2^2 - 1) + (2^3 - 1) + (2^4 - 1) + (2^5 - 1) \\ = 1 + 3 + 7 + 15 + 31 = \underline{\underline{57}}$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^3 (i+1)! = (0+1)! + (1+1)! + (2+1)! + (3+1)! \\ = 1! + 2! + 3! + 4! = 1 + 2 \cdot 1 + 3 \cdot 2 + 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \\ = 1 + 2 + 6 + 24 = \underline{\underline{33}}$$

## Explicit

$a_n$  is expressed in terms of  $n$ :

$$a_n = 3 \cdot 2^n$$

$$a_n = 3(n-1) + 7$$

## Recursive

$a_n$  is expressed in terms of  $a_{n-1}$ :

$$a_n = a_{n-1} - 6$$

↳ **Recurrence Relation**

→ Do factorial and problem in Java

## Note:

- Indexing can start anywhere usually 0 or 1. **Be cautious!**
- You always need some initial Condition. This is called The Base Case!
- Going from **recursive** to **explicit** is sometimes called "solving the recurrence"

### Exercise 1

Given the sequence  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^5 = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9\}$

a. What is the value of  $a_3$ ?

$$a) \quad a_3 = \underline{\underline{5}}$$

b. Find the value of  $\sum_{n=1}^5 a_n$ .

$$b) \quad = 1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + 9 = \underline{\underline{25}}$$

### Exercise 2

Expand the following series and find the sum

$$\sum_{n=0}^4 2n$$

$$= 2 \cdot 0 + 2 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + 2 \cdot 4 = \underline{\underline{20}}$$

### Exercise 3

List the first four terms of the following sequence, beginning with  $n = 0$

$$\{a_n\}_{n=0} = \frac{(-1)^n}{(n+1)!}$$

$$\left\{ 1, -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{6}, -\frac{1}{24} \right\}$$

### Exercise 4

Find the sum of the first six terms of  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}$  where  $a_n = 2a_{n-1} + a_{n-2}$ ,  $a_1 = 1$  and  $a_2 = 1$ .

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a_1 = 1 \\ a_2 = 1 \\ a_3 = 2 \cdot 1 + 1 = 3 \\ a_4 = 2 \cdot 3 + 1 = 7 \\ a_5 = 2 \cdot 7 + 3 = 17 \\ a_6 = 2 \cdot 17 + 7 = 41 \end{array} \right\} \text{Sum} = 1 + 1 + 3 + 7 + 17 + 41 = \underline{\underline{70}}$$

### Exercise 5

Write the following series using summation notation, beginning with  $n = 1$  :

$$2 - 4 + 6 - 8 + 10$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^5 (-1)^{n+1} \cdot 2n \quad \text{or} \quad \sum_{n=0}^4 (-1)^n \cdot 2(n+1)$$

### Exercise 6

Write the following using summation notation

$$\frac{5}{6+3} + \frac{5}{7+3} + \frac{5}{8+3} + \cdots + \frac{5}{31+3}$$

$$\sum_{n=6}^{31} \frac{5}{n+3} \quad \text{or} \quad \sum_{n=1}^{26} \frac{5}{(n+5)+3}$$
$$\text{or} \quad \sum_{n=0}^{25} \frac{5}{(n+6)+3}$$

### Arithmetic Sequence:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 3, 7, 11, 15, 19 \\ +4 \quad +4 \quad +4 \quad +4 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{keep adding } 4 \\ d = \text{difference} = 4 \end{array}$$

Explicit:

$$a_n = a_1 + (n-1) \cdot d \quad \text{or} \quad a_n = a_0 + n \cdot d$$

Recursive:

$$a_1 = ?$$

$$a_0 = ?$$

$$a_{n+1} = a_n + d$$

$$a_n = a_{n-1} + d$$

ex:

$$9, 5, 1, -3:$$

Explicit

$$a_n = 9 + (n-1) \cdot (-4)$$

$$a_n = 9 + n \cdot (-4)$$

Recursive

$$a_1 = 9$$

$$a_{n+1} = a_n - 4$$

ex:

Find the 12th term of 2, 6, 10

Recursive:

$$a_1 = 2$$

$$a_{n+1} = ?$$

Explicit:

$$a_{12} = 2 + (12-1) \cdot 4 = 46$$

$$a_{11} = 2 + 11 \cdot 4 = 46$$

Geometric Sequence:

$a_1$	$a_2$	$a_3$	$a_4$	$\dots$	$\dots$	$\dots$	$\dots$
3	6	12	24	48	96	192	384
$\times 2$	$\times 2$	$\times 2$	$\times 2$	$\times 2$	$\times 2$		

Explicit:

$$a_n = a_1 \cdot r^{n-1}$$

$$\text{or} \quad a_n = a_0 \cdot r^n$$

## Recursive:

$$a_1 =$$

or

$$a_0 =$$

$$a_{n+1} = a_n \cdot r$$

$$a_n = a_{n-1} \cdot r$$

Ex:  $18, -6, 2, -\frac{2}{3}$   
 $\times(-\frac{1}{3}) \quad \times(-\frac{1}{3}) \quad \times(-\frac{1}{3})$

explicit:

$$a_n = 18 \cdot (-\frac{1}{3})^{n-1}$$

Recursive:

$$a_1 = 18$$

$$a_{n+1} = a_n \cdot (-\frac{1}{3})$$

## Series:

Arithmetic

Partial Sum:

$$S_n = \left( \frac{a_1 + a_n}{2} \right) \cdot n$$

ex:  $3, 7, 11, 15, 19, \dots$

$$1: S_4 = \left( \frac{3 + 15}{2} \right) \cdot 4$$

$$= \underline{\underline{36}}$$

$$S_n = \left( \frac{a_0 + a_{n+1}}{2} \right) (n+1)$$

$S_\infty$  undefined

Geometric:

Partial Sum:

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

ex:  $3, 6, 12, 24, 48, 96, \dots$

$$S_6 = \frac{3(1-2^6)}{1-2}$$

$$= \frac{3 \cdot (-63)}{-1} = 189$$

$$S_n = \frac{a_0(1-r^{n+1})}{1-r}$$

$$S_5 = \frac{3(1-2^{5+1})}{1-2} = 189$$

$$S_\infty = \frac{a_1}{1-r}, \quad |r| < 1$$

Ex:  $a_n = 10 + 2(n+1)$

Find recurrence and explicit:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a_0 = 12 \\ a_1 = 14 \\ a_2 = 16 \end{array} \right\} d=2 \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} a_n = a_{n-1} + 2 \\ a_n = 12 + 2 \cdot n \end{array} \left| \begin{array}{l} a_{n+1} = a_n + 2 \\ a_n = 12 + 2(n-1) \end{array} \right.$$

Ex:

$a_n = 5 + 12(n-1)$  ~~←~~ Explicit

$a_1$   $\nearrow$   $\nwarrow$   $d$

$a_1 = 5$

$a_n = a_{n-1} + 12$

Sometime s we write:

$f(n) = f(n-1) + 12$  , i.e  $a_n = f(n)$

Ex:  $a_n = a_{n-1} + 3$  ,  $a_1 = 2$

Find explicit:

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

## Using forward subst.

Ex 1:

$$a_{n+1} = a_n + 3, \quad a_1 = 2$$

$$a_1 = 2$$

$$a_2 = 2 + 3$$

$$a_3 = (2+3) + 3 = 2 + 2 \cdot 3$$

$$a_4 = (2+2 \cdot 3) + 3 = 2 + 3 \cdot 3$$

$$a_5 = (2+3 \cdot 3) + 3 = 2 + 4 \cdot 3$$

$\vdots$

$$a_n = 2 + (n-1) \cdot 3$$

Ex 2:

$$a_n = a_{n-1} + 3, \quad a_0 = 3$$

$$a_0 = 3$$

$$a_1 = 3 + 3 = 2 \cdot 3$$

$$a_2 = (2 \cdot 3) + 3 = 3 \cdot 3$$

$$a_3 = (3 \cdot 3) + 3 = 4 \cdot 3$$

$\vdots$

$$a_n = (n+1) \cdot 3 = 3n + 3$$

Ex:  $a_n = 2 \cdot a_{n-1} - 1, \quad a_1 = 3$

$$a_1 = 3$$

$$a_2 = 2 \cdot 3 - 1$$

$$a_3 = 2 \cdot (2 \cdot 3 - 1) - 1 = 2^2 \cdot 3 - 3$$

$$a_4 = 2(2^2 \cdot 3 - 3) - 1 = 2^3 \cdot 3 - 7$$

$$a_5 = 2(2^3 \cdot 3 - 7) - 1 = 2^4 \cdot 3 - 15$$

$\vdots$

$$a_1 = 2 + 1$$

$$a_2 = 2(2+1) - 1 = 2^2 + 1$$

$$a_3 = 2(2^2 + 1) - 1 = 2^3 + 1$$

$$a_4 = 2(2^3 + 1) - 1 = 2^4 + 1$$

$\vdots$

$$a_n = 2(2^{n-1} + 1) - 1 = 2^n + 1$$



## Changing limits

$$\sum_{j=1}^n a_j = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_{i+1}$$

TABLE 2 Some Useful Summation Formulae.	
Sum	Closed Form
$\sum_{k=0}^n ar^k \ (r \neq 0)$	$\frac{ar^{n+1} - a}{r - 1}, r \neq 1$
$\sum_{k=1}^n k$	$\frac{n(n+1)}{2}$
$\sum_{k=1}^n k^2$	$\frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$
$\sum_{k=1}^n k^3$	$\frac{n^2(n+1)^2}{4}$
$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k,  x  < 1$	$\frac{1}{1-x}$
$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} kx^{k-1},  x  < 1$	$\frac{1}{(1-x)^2}$

Ex: Visitors to a webpage is currently 293 and increases by 2.6%.

Find recurrence:

$$a_0 = 293$$

$$a_n = a_{n-1} \cdot 1.026$$

Explicit:

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= a_0 \cdot r^n \\ &= 293 \cdot 1.026^n \end{aligned}$$

Recall,  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (1/2)^n = 1$

We have a similar closed form:

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k = \frac{1}{1-x}, \quad |x| < 1$$

$$x = \frac{1}{2}: \quad \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k = \frac{1}{1-1/2} = 2$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k = 2$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k = 1$$

Ex:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{3^k - 2^k}{4^k} &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left( \frac{3^k}{4^k} - \frac{2^k}{4^k} \right) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left( \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^k - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k \right) \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^k - \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k \\ &= \frac{1}{1-3/4} - \frac{1}{1-1/2} = 4 - 2 = \underline{\underline{2}} \end{aligned}$$