

# Summations Activity - Solutions

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## Triangular Numbers

**Formula:**  $\sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$

Example 1: Determine the value of the sum  $1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + 50$

**Solution:** Using the triangular number formula with  $n = 50$ :  $\sum_{i=1}^{50} i = \frac{50(50+1)}{2} = \frac{50 \times 51}{2} = \frac{2550}{2} = 1275$

**Answer:** 1275

Application: Algorithm Analysis for stockProfit

**Solution:** Let's analyze the algorithm line by line:

```
stockProfit
n = p.last           // 1 statement
buy = 1              // 1 statement
sell = 2             // 1 statement
profit = p[2] - p[1] // 1 statement
for i = 1 to n-1     // outer loop runs (n-1) times
    for j = i+1 to n // inner loop runs variable times (see analysis
below)
        if p[j] - p[i] > profit // 1 statement per inner iteration
            buy = i           // 1 statement per inner iteration
            sell = j          // 1 statement per inner iteration
            profit = p[j] - p[i] // 1 statement per inner iteration
println("Buy on day " + buy) // 1 statement
println("Sell on day " + sell) // 1 statement
println("Profit: $" + profit) // 1 statement
```

**Analysis:**

- Initial statements: 4 statements
- Final print statements: 3 statements
- For the nested loops:
  - When  $i = 1$ :  $j$  goes from 2 to  $n$ , so  $(n-1)$  iterations
  - When  $i = 2$ :  $j$  goes from 3 to  $n$ , so  $(n-2)$  iterations
  - When  $i = 3$ :  $j$  goes from 4 to  $n$ , so  $(n-3)$  iterations
  - ...
  - When  $i = n-1$ :  $j$  goes from  $n$  to  $n$ , so 1 iteration

Total inner loop iterations:  $(n-1) + (n-2) + (n-3) + \dots + 1 = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} i = \frac{(n-1)n}{2}$

Each inner iteration executes 5 statements (inner for/increment + if condition + 3 assignments).

Outer for loop runs (increments)  $(n-1)$  times.

**Total statements:**  $4 + (n-1) + 5 \times \frac{(n-1)n}{2} + 3 = 7 + (n-1) + \frac{5(n-1)n}{2} = 7 + (n-1)\left(1 + \frac{5n}{2}\right) = 7 + (n-1)\frac{2 + 5n}{2}$

Simplifying further:  $= 7 + \frac{(n-1)(5n + 2)}{2} = 7 + \frac{5n^2 + 2n - 5n - 2}{2} = 7 + \frac{5n^2 - 3n - 2}{2} = \frac{14 + 5n^2 - 3n - 2}{2} = \frac{5n^2 - 3n + 12}{2}$

**Answer:**  $\frac{5n^2 - 3n + 12}{2}$  statements

## Finite Geometric Sum

**Formula:**  $\sum_{i=0}^n ar^i = a \cdot \frac{r^{n+1} - 1}{r - 1}$  (for  $r \neq 1$ )

Example 2: Determine the value of the sum  $3 + 6 + 12 + 24 + \dots + 3072$

**Solution:** First, identify the pattern:

- First term:  $a = 3$
- Common ratio:  $r = 2$  (since  $6/3 = 2$ ,  $12/6 = 2$ , etc.)
- Last term: 3072

Find  $n$  by determining when  $3 \times 2^n = 3072$ :  $2^n = 1024 = 2^{10}$ , so  $n = 10$

The sum is:  $\sum_{i=0}^{10} 3 \times 2^i = 3 \sum_{i=0}^{10} 2^i = 3 \cdot \frac{2^{11} - 1}{2 - 1} = 3 \cdot (2048 - 1) = 3 \times 2047 = 6141$

**Answer:** 6141

## Binary Tree Applications

Example 3: Find the number of nodes in a perfect binary tree of height 12

**Solution:** In a perfect binary tree:

- Level 0 (root):  $2^0 = 1$  node
- Level 1:  $2^1 = 2$  nodes
- Level 2:  $2^2 = 4$  nodes
- ...
- Level  $h$ :  $2^h$  nodes

Total nodes =  $\sum_{i=0}^{12} 2^i = \frac{2^{13} - 1}{2 - 1} = 2^{13} - 1 = 8192 - 1 = 8191$

**Answer:** 8191 nodes

Example 4: Find the range (min and max) for the number of nodes in a complete binary tree of height 6

**Solution:** For a complete binary tree of height  $h$ :

- **Minimum:** All levels filled except the last level has only 1 node
  - Levels 0 through  $h-1$  are completely filled:  $\sum_{i=0}^5 2^i = 2^6 - 1 = 63$

- Plus 1 node at level 6:  $63 + 1 = 64$  nodes
- **Maximum:** All levels completely filled (this is a perfect tree)
  - $\sum_{i=0}^6 2^i = 2^7 - 1 = 127$  nodes

**Answer:** Range is  $[64, 127]$  nodes

Example 5: Find an expression for the number of nodes in a perfect binary tree of height  $h$

**Solution:** Using the geometric series formula:  $\text{Number of nodes} = \sum_{i=0}^h 2^i = \frac{2^{h+1} - 1}{2 - 1} = 2^{h+1} - 1$

**Answer:**  $2^{h+1} - 1$  nodes

Example 6: Find an expression for the height of a perfect (or complete) binary tree with  $n$  nodes

**Solution:** From Example 5, we know  $n = 2^{h+1} - 1$  for a perfect tree. Solving for  $h$ :  $n + 1 = 2^{h+1}$   
 $\log_2(n + 1) = h + 1$   
 $h = \log_2(n + 1) - 1$

For a complete tree, the height is  $h = \lfloor \log_2(n) \rfloor$

**Answer:**  $h = \lfloor \log_2(n) \rfloor$  (for complete trees)

Example 7: Find the height of a complete binary tree with 2000 nodes

**Solution:** Using the formula from Example 6:  $h = \lfloor \log_2(2000) \rfloor$

Calculate:  $\log_2(2000) \approx 10.97$

Therefore:  $h = \lfloor 10.97 \rfloor = 10$

**Answer:** Height = 10

## Arithmetico-geometric Series

**Formula:**  $\sum_{i=1}^n ir^i < \frac{r}{(1-r)^2}$  for  $n \geq 1, 0 < r < 1$

Example 8: Find an upper bound for the sum  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} i(\frac{1}{2})^i$

**Solution:** This is an arithmetico-geometric series with  $r = 1/2$ .

Using the formula for the infinite sum:  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} ir^i = \frac{r}{(1-r)^2}$

With  $r = 1/2$ :  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} i(\frac{1}{2})^i = \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{(1-\frac{1}{2})^2} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{(\frac{1}{2})^2} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{4}} = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{4}{1} = 2$

**Answer:** Upper bound = 2