Math 6: Homework 2.1 Arithmetic Sequences

Arithmetic sequence

A sequence of numbers (typically but not always integers) is an arithmetic sequence if the difference between consecutive terms is the same number, the **common difference**, let's call it *d*.

For example, let's consider the sequence:1,5,9,13,17,...

The first term in the sequence is $a_1 = 1$, the second is $a_2 = 5$, and so on. The difference is d = 4.

What is the n^{th} term? For example what is a_{100} ?

 $a_{1} = 1$ $a_{2} = a_{1} + d = 1 + 4 = 5$ $a_{3} = a_{2} + d = (a_{1} + d) + d = a_{1} + 2d = (1 + 4) + 4 = 1 + 2 \times 4 = 9$ $a_{4} = a_{3} + d = (a_{2} + d) + d = ((a_{1} + d) + d) + d = a_{1} + 3d = 1 + 3 \times 4 = 13$

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$$a_n = a_1 + (n-1)d$$

So $a_{100} = a_1 + 99d = 1 + 99 \times 4 = 397$

Property of an arithmetic sequence

A property of an arithmetic sequence is that any term is the arithmetic mean of its neighbors.

$$a_n = \frac{a_{n-1} + a_{n+1}}{2}$$

Sum of an arithmetic sequence

$$S = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \ldots + a_n = n \cdot \frac{a_1 + a_n}{2}$$

AMC 8 announcement:

The contest will be given on Th, Jan 18, 2024 (tentatively at 6pm). If you want to register, please fill this form: https://forms.gle/qt2X78cRH8SgQ9PH8

Problems

- 1. What are the first 2 terms of the arithmetic sequence $a_1, a_2, -9, -2, 5, ...$?
- 2. Find the common difference *d* in an arithmetic sequence if the 9-th term is 18 and the 11-th term is 44.
- 3. Find the sum of the first 100 terms if $a_1 = -1$ and d = 1.
- 4. Find the sum of the first 1000 odd numbers.
- 5. Find the following sum:

 $2 + 4 + \dots + 2024$

- 6. Prove that, given any arithmetic sequence, if I multiply each term by the same number and then add the same number to each term, the result is still an arithmetic sequence.
- 7. Simplify the following expression:

$$\frac{\frac{2}{\frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{3}}-1} \div \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{2}{3}-\frac{1}{4}}}{\frac{2}{3}-\frac{1}{4}}$$

- 8. In a given arithmetic progression, the first term is 6, and the 87-th term is 178. Find the common difference of this arithmetic progression and give the value of the first five terms.
- 9. The 3-rd term of the arithmetic progression is equal to 1. The 10-th term of it is three times as much as the 6-th term. Find the first term and the common difference. (**Hint:** Use the formula for the *n*-th term of the progression and write what is given in the problem using this formula.)
- 10. *The sum of the first 20 terms of an arithmetic progression is 200, and the sum of the next 20 terms is -200. Find the sum of the first hundred terms of the progression.