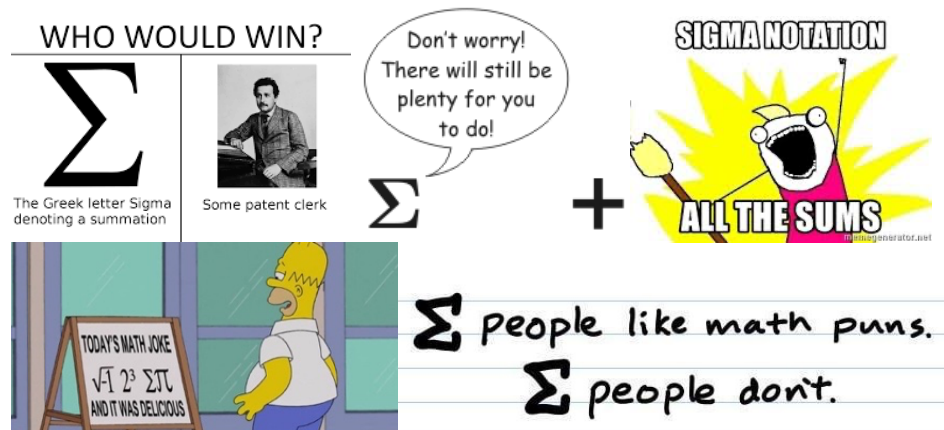


Sequences & Series: Sigma Notation



This sheet assumes that you already know how to deal with arithmetic and geometric series.

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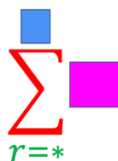
This is a long worksheet to cater for students that want extra practice. If you want a shortcut, but still be sure to cover one of each type then follow the **pink highlighted** questions.

- **Higher level students** should be able to do all questions up until diamond to be sure to get a 7. The challenge section is there for anyone brave enough ☺
- **Standard level students** should be able to do questions 1-36 and 41-42 to be sure to get a 7

Make sure you have covered the sequences and series: arithmetic and geometric worksheet first!

Reminders

Sigma notation \sum is another way to say **sum**



Step 1: Write a few terms out i.e. get rid of the sigma notation to see what the sequence looks like. To do this we replace the pink box with first 3 or 4 values of * (i.e. we just plug in the values to the expression in the pink box)

Step 2: Simplify each term and decide what type of sequence we have (the 3 or 4 terms written out above is enough for us to see the pattern).

- **arithmetic** - if the sequence has a common difference (adds or subtracts the same number each time)
- **geometric** - if the sequence has a common ratio (multiplies or divides by the same number each time)
- **periodic** - if the sequence repeats after a certain number of terms

For example,

➤ let's say we have the general sequence a, b, c, d

$$\text{If } b - a = c - b \Rightarrow \text{series is arithmetic}$$

$$\text{If } \frac{b}{a} = \frac{c}{b} \Rightarrow \text{series is geometric}$$

➤ If we have the general sequence a, b, c, a, b, c then we said the sequence is periodic of order 3 (since it repeats every 3 terms)

Step 3: The sigma notation is related to the sum formula that you should be familiar with for geometric and arithmetic series. We can use the s_n formula for arithmetic or geometric.

- $\sum_{r=1}^n \dots = S_n$

- $\sum_{r=m}^n \dots$

The sum must start from 1 to use s_n formula $\Rightarrow \sum_{r=m}^n \dots = \sum_{r=1}^n \dots - \sum_{r=1}^{m-1} \dots = S_n - S_{m-1}$

Note: This has $n - m + 1$ terms

- $\sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \dots = S_{\infty}$

- $\sum_{r=m}^{\infty} \dots = S_{\infty} - S_{m-1}$ or we can just find the first term for that sum, call it a and find $\frac{a}{1-r}$

Examples:

$$\sum_{r=1}^{r=6} (r+1)$$

Let's colour code to explain

$$\sum_{r=1}^{r=6} (r+1)$$

In English, this says replace every r starting from 1 in the expression $(r+1)$ and go all the way to 6.

We add (\sum means add) all these terms found.

Step 1: Write a few terms out i.e. get rid of the sigma notation to see what the sequence looks like.

$$\sum_{r=1}^{r=6} (r+1)$$

To do this we replace $(r+1)$ with the values of r

We know r starts at 1 and ends at 6

This is not many terms so it's easy to write them all out. Normally we just write out the first 3 or 4 terms which is enough to spot the pattern from afterwards

$$(1+1) + (2+1) + (3+1) + (4+1) + (5+1) + (6+1) \\ = 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7$$

Step 2: Decide what type of series we have

Here we keep adding 1 each time so we have an arithmetic sequence with $a = 2$ and $d = 1$

Step 3: Find the sum

Way 1: Since we only have a few terms we can find the sum easily: $2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 = 27$

Way 2: use the s_n formula for an arithmetic series with $a = 2$ and $d = 1$. We would do this way if we had more terms we only have 6 terms here

$$S_6 = \frac{6}{2} [2(2) + (6-1)(1)] = 27$$

What happens if we have more terms?

$$\sum_{r=1}^{r=50} (4r + 1)$$

In English, this says replace every r starting from 1 in the expression $(r + 1)$ and go all the way to 50. We add (Σ means add) all these terms found.

Step 1: Write a few terms out i.e. get rid of the sigma notation to see what the sequence looks like.

$$\sum_{r=1}^{r=50} (4r + 1)$$

To do this we replace $(4r + 1)$ with the values of r
We know r starts at 1 and ends at 50

$$(4 + 1) + (8 + 1) + (12 + 1) + \dots + (50 + 1)$$

Simplifying gives the sequence

$$5 + 9 + 13 + \dots + 201$$

This is arithmetic with $a=5$ and $d=4$ and n is 50 (50 terms). If you didn't realise there are 50 terms, you could set $u_n = 201$ using the formula and solve for n

Using s_n formula

$$s_{50} = \frac{50}{2} [2(5) + (50 - 1)(4)] = 25(10 + 196) = 5150$$

What happens if our series doesn't start from 1?

$$\sum_{r=5}^{r=80} 2(3^{r+1})$$

Way 1:

The sum says replace every r starting from 5

$$2(3^6) + 2(3^7) + 2(3^8) + \dots$$

This is geometric since we are multiplying by 3 each time

$$r = \frac{2(3^7)}{2(3^6)} = 3$$

$$a = 2(3^6) = 1458$$

From 5 to 80 is 74 terms

$$s_{74} = \frac{1457(1 - 3^{74})}{1 - 3}$$

Way 2: Force the sum to start from 1

$$= \sum_{r=1}^{80} 2(3^{r+1}) - \sum_{r=1}^4 2(3^{r+1})$$

This says replace every r starting from 1 in each sequence

$$[2(3^2) + 2(3^3) + 2(3^4) + \dots] - [2(3^2) + 2(3^3) + 2(3^4)]$$

Each series is geometric with

$$r = \frac{2(3^3)}{2(3^2)} = 3$$

$$a = 2(3^2) = 18$$

$$= S_{80} - S_4$$

$$= \frac{18(1 - 3^{80})}{1 - 3} - \frac{18(1 - 3^4)}{1 - 3}$$

1 Bronze



- 1) Find the following by writing out a suitable series $\sum_{r=1}^6 (r + 1)$
- 2) Write down all the terms of the following
 - i. $\sum_{k=1}^6 (2k + 1)$
 - ii. $\sum_{k=3}^7 k^2$
 - iii. $\sum_{k=4}^8 k(2^{2k-1})$
 - iv. $\sum_{k=100}^{100} (3k - 7)$
- 3) Calculate $\sum_{r=1}^5 3r$
- 4) Calculate $\sum_{r=0}^5 r(r + 1)$
- 5) Calculate $\sum_{r=1}^{20} (4r + 1)$
- 6) Calculate $\sum_{r=1}^{20} (5r - 2)$
- 7) Find the value of $\sum_{r=1}^{42} (5r + 3)$

2 Silver



- 8) Calculate $\sum_{n=1}^{20} 3n$ and $\sum_{n=21}^{100} 3n$
- 9) Calculate $\sum_{r=10}^{30} (7 + 2r)$
- 10) Calculate $\sum_{r=3}^6 (2^r - 1)$
- 11) Calculate $\sum_{r=-1}^4 (1.5^r)$
- 12) Expand $\sum_{r=4}^7 2^r$ as the sum of four terms
 i. Find the value of $\sum_{r=4}^{30} 2^r$
 ii. Explain why $\sum_{r=4}^{\infty} 2^r$ cannot be evaluated
- 13) The r^{th} term of an arithmetic series is $(2r - 5)$
 i. Write down the first three terms of the series
 ii. State the value of the common difference
 iii. Show that $\sum_{r=1}^n (2r - 5) = n(n - 4)$
- 14) Prove that $\sum_{r=1}^n r = \frac{1}{2}n(n + 1)$
- 15) Find the value of $\sum_{r=1}^6 10 \times \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{r-1}$
- 16) Find the value of $\sum_{r=1}^{\infty} 10 \times \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{r-1}$
- 17) Find the value of $\sum_{r=7}^{\infty} 10 \times \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{r-1}$
- 18) Find the value of $\sum_{r=4}^{\infty} 20 \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^r$
- 19) Let $s_n = \sum_{r=1}^n (2r - 3)$
 i. Write down the first three terms of this series
 ii. Find S_{50}
 iii. Find n such that $S_n = 575$
- 20) Consider the geometric series $S_n = \sum_{r=1}^n 3 \times 5^{r-1}$
 Given that $S_m = 7324218$, work out the value of m
- 21) For what value of n does $\sum_{r=1}^n (5r + 3)$ first exceed 1000
- 22) Given $\sum_{r=1}^n (100 - 3r) < 0$. Find the least value of the integer n

- 23) For what value of n would $\sum_{r=1}^n (100 - 4r) = 0$
- 24) Given that $\sum_{r=1}^n a_r = 12 + 4n^2$.
- Find the value of $\sum_{r=1}^5 a_r$ and the value of a_6
 - Given that $\sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \frac{a}{4^r} = 16$. Find the value of the constant a
- 25) The n^{th} term of an arithmetic progression is denoted by u_n , and given by $u_n = 2n + 7$
Determine the value N given that $\sum_{n=1}^N u_n = 2100$
- 26) Show that $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n \cos(180n)^\circ = \frac{9}{28}$
- 27) Find the value of k if $\sum_{r=1}^{\infty} k \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^r = 7$
- 28) Rewrite $4+7+10+\dots+31$ using sigma notation
- 29) Rewrite $40+36+32+\dots+0$ using sigma notation
- 30) Rewrite $3+3^2 + 3^3 + 3^4 + \dots + 3^8$ using sigma notation
- 31) Rewrite the multiples of 6 less than 100 using sigma notation

3 Gold



- 32) The third and the sixth term of a geometric progression is 27 and 8, respectively.

Show clearly that $\sum_{r=6}^{\infty} u_r = 24$, Where u_r is the r^{th} term of the progression.

- 33) A geometric series, u_n has second term 375 and fifth term 81. Find the sum to infinity and hence the value of $\sum_{n=6}^{\infty} u_n$

3.1 With Logs

- 34) Show that the terms of $\sum_{r=1}^m \ln 3^r$ are in arithmetic series
- Find the sum of the first 20 terms in this series
 - Hence, show that $\sum_{r=1}^{2m} \ln 3^r = \ln 3 (2m^2 + m)$
- 35) Find $\sum_{r=1}^{50} \ln(2^r)$, giving the answer in the form $a \ln 2$, where $a \in \mathbb{Q}$
- 36) The first three terms of a geometric sequence are $\ln x^{16}, \ln x^8, \ln x^4$ for $x > 0$.
- Find the common ratio
 - Solve $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2^{5-k} \ln x = 64$

4 Diamond



4.1 With Logs

- 37) Given that p is a positive constant,
- Show that $\sum_{n=1}^{11} \ln(p^n) = k \ln p$, where k is a constant to be found
 - Show that $\sum_{n=1}^{11} \ln(8p^n) = 33 \ln(2p^2)$
 - Hence find the set of values p for which $\sum_{n=1}^{11} \ln(8p^n) < 0$ giving your answer in set notation
- 38) Find $\sum_{n=1}^{15} a_n^2$ where $a_n = \ln x^n$
- 39) Show that $\sum_{n=1}^{48} \log_5 \left(\frac{n+2}{n+1} \right) = 2$
- 40) Show that $S = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{n+1} - \frac{1}{n+2} \right) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{n+2}$

4.2 Two Series

- 41) Show that $\sum_{r=1}^{16} (3 + 5r + 2^r) = 131,798$
- 42) Find $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^n + 4^n}{6^n}$
- 43) $\sum_{r=1}^{10} a + (r-1)d = \sum_{r=1}^{14} a + (r-1)d$. Show that $d = 6a$
- 44) An arithmetic series has first term a and common difference d . The sum of the first 15 terms is 1320 and the fifth term is 76
- Find a and d
- Given that $13 \left(\sum_{n=1}^{15} u_n - \sum_{n=1}^k u_n \right) = 9 \sum_{n=1}^k u_k$
- find the value of S_k
 - Hence find the value of k

5 Challenges



5.1 Arithmetic

- 45) The first term of an arithmetic series is a and the common difference is d .
 The 25th term is 100.
 The 5th term is 8 times larger than the 35th term of the series.
- Find the values of a and the value of d
 - Determine how many terms of the series are positive
- The sum of the first n terms of the series is denoted by S_n
- Calculate the maximum value of S_n

46) $\sum_{n=1}^{20} (2r + x) = 280$. Find the value of x that satisfies the equation.

- 47) The n th term of an arithmetic series is given by

$$u_n = \frac{5}{2}(5n + 28)$$

The k th term of the series is 370.

- Find the value of k
 - Evaluate the sum $\sum_{n=1}^k u_n$
- 48) Find the value of the constant p , so that $\sum_{n=1}^{20} (25 + np) = 80$
- 49) A sequence is defined as $u_{r+1} = u_r - 3$, $u_1 = 117$, $n \geq 1$
 Solve the equation $\sum_{r=1}^n u_r = 0$

- 50) Find in simplified form for the terms of n , the value of

$$\sum_{r=1}^{2n} (3r - 2)(-1)^r$$

- 51) The r th term of an arithmetic progression is given by $u_r = 120 - 3r$
 Determine the value N given that $\sum_{r=N}^{3N} u_r = 444$

- 52) An arithmetic progression has first term -10 and common difference 4 . The n th term of the progression is denoted by u_n . Determine the value of k given that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{2k} u_n - \sum_{n=1}^k u_n = 1728$$

- 53) The sum of the first 25 terms of an arithmetic series is 1050 and its 25th term is 72.
- Find the first term and the common difference of the series.
 The n th term of the series is denoted by u_n
 - Given further that

$$117 \left[\sum_{n=1}^{25} u_n - \sum_{n=1}^k u_n \right] = 233 \sum_{n=1}^k u_n$$

Determine the value of k

- 54) The r^{th} term of an arithmetic progression is denoted by u_r and satisfies $u_r = 4r - 7$
Solve the simultaneous equations

$$\sum_{r=K+1}^N u_r - \sum_{r=1}^K u_r = 400$$

$$u_N - u_K = 40$$

5.2 Geometric

- 55) The sum of the geometric series is 2187.
The $(k-1)^{\text{th}}$ and k^{th} term of the same series are 96 and 64, respectively. Determine the value of

$$\sum_{n=k+1}^{\infty} u_n$$

Where u_n is the n^{th} term of the series. Determine the value of

- 56) It is given that

$$\sum_{r=1}^n u_r = 128 - 2^{7-n}$$

Where u_r is the r^{th} term of the geometric progression.

- Find the sum of the first 8 terms of the progression
- Determine the value of u_8
- Find the common ratio

- 57) Determine the value n, given by $\sum_{r=1}^n 2^{2r-1} = 43690$

- 58) The n^{th} term of a geometric series is denoted by u_n . It is given that

$$u_1 = 1458 \text{ and } u_6 = 6.$$

Evaluate: $\sum_{n=7}^{\infty} u_n$

- 59) A family of an infinite geometric series S_k has a first term $\frac{k-1}{k!}$ and common ratio $\frac{1}{k}$ where $k = 3, 4, 5, 6, \dots, 99, 100$.

Find the value of $\frac{10^4}{100!} + \sum_{k=3}^{100} [(k-1)(k-2) - 1]S_k$.

- 60) By showing a detailed method, sum the following series. Find the value of:

$$\sum_{r=0}^9 [(r+1) \times 11^r \times 10^{9-r}]$$

You may leave your answer in index form

- 61) Show that the following equation has only one real solution

$$27n = 4 \sum_{r=2}^{\infty} (1+n)^{-r}$$

- 62) Evaluate the following expression $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^n \left(\frac{1}{2^{m+n}}\right)$. Detailed working must be shown.

- 63) Evaluate the following expression

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{3^{m+n}}\right)$$

Detailed working must be shown.

- 64) It is given that the following series converges to the limit L.

$$\sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{2x-1}{x+2}\right]^r$$

Determine with full justification the range of possible values of L.

- 65) Solve the following simultaneous equations

$$2 \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} [\log_2 a]^r = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [1+b]^{-k} \quad \text{and} \quad 2 \sum_{k=1}^1 [1+b]^{-k} - \sum_{r=0}^1 [\log_2 a]^r = \frac{7}{5}$$

Write your answers in index form where appropriate

- 66) The $(k-1)^{\text{th}}$ and k^{th} terms of the convergent geometric progression are 108 and 81. Determine the value of

$$\sum_{n=k+1}^{\infty} u_n$$

Where u_n is the n^{th} term of the series

- 67) It is given that

$$S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{r=1}^k (2^r)$$

Show that

$$S_n = 2^{n+2} - 2n - 4$$

- 68) Evaluate showing clearly your method

$$S_n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3^n - 2}{4^{n+1}}$$

- 69) It is given that $0 < r < 1$, $0 < R < 1$ and $r < 2R$. It is further given that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} R^n = \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} r^n \right)^2$$

Show clearly that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{r}{2R} \right)^n = \frac{2(2-r)}{3-2r}$$