

**DEFINITION:** A Series is the sum of the terms of a sequence.

**Sigma Notation or (Summation Notation)**

This symbol means "Add"  $\rightarrow \sum$  It's called "Sigma"

The variable below sigma ( $n$  in this case) is called the "**index**"  
 The number below sigma (1 in this case) is which term begins the series, called the "**lower bound**"  
 The number above sigma ( $k$  in this case) is which term ends the series, called the "**upper bound**"  
 The expression to the right of sigma ( $a_n$  in this case) is the **explicit formula** used to generate the terms of the series.

**Ex 1) Find the sum of each finite sequence.**

$$(a) \sum_{n=1}^5 n^2 = 1 + 4 + 9 + 16 + 25 = 55$$

$$(b) \sum_{n=3}^5 \frac{1}{n} = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{5} = \frac{47}{60}$$

$$(c) \sum_{n=5}^{10} n = 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9 + 10 = 45$$

$$(d) \sum_{n=1}^6 2 = 2 + 2 + 2 + 2 + 2 + 2 = 12$$

**Ex2) Write the following sums using sigma notation:**

a)  $1 + 4 + 9 + 16 + 25 + 36 + 49 + 64 + 81$

$$\sum_{n=1}^9 n^2$$

b)  $2 + 4 + 6 + 8 + 10 + 12$

$$\sum_{n=1}^6 2n$$

arith.  
 $d=2$   
 $a_1=2$

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

$$a_n = 2n$$

c)  $625 + 125 + 25 + \dots$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 625 \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^{n-1}$$

geom.  
 $r = \frac{1}{5}$   
 $a_1 = 625$   
 $a_n = 625 \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^{n-1}$

d)  $6 + 2 - 2 - 6 - 10 - 14 - 18 - 22$

$$\sum_{n=1}^8 (-4n + 10)$$

arith.

$$d = -4$$

$$a_1 = 6$$

$$a_n = 6 + (-4)(n-1)$$

e)  $729 + 243 + 81 + 27 + 9 + 3$

$$\sum_{n=1}^6 729 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n-1}$$

f)  $8 + 27 + 64 + 125$

$$\sum_{n=2}^5 n^3$$

**FINITE ARITHMETIC SERIES**

$$S_n = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k = \frac{n}{2}(a_1 + a_n)$$

$n = \# \text{ terms}$

$a_1 = 1^{\text{st}} \text{ term}$

$a_n = \text{last term}$

**Ex3) Find each sum.**

a)  $3 + 7 + 11 + 15 + 19 + 23 + 27$

$$\frac{7}{2}(3 + 27) = \boxed{105}$$

b)  $1 + 3 + 5 + 7 + \dots + 49$

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

$$49 = 1 + 2(n-1)$$

$$48 = 2(n-1)$$

$$24 = n-1 \quad n = 25$$

$$\frac{25}{2}(1 + 49) = \boxed{625}$$

Ex4) A corner section of a stadium has 8 seats along the front row. Each successive row has 2 more seats than the row preceding it. If the top row has 24 seats how many seats are in the entire section?

$$8 + 10 + 12 + \dots + 24$$

$$24 = 8 + 2(n-1)$$

$$16 = 2(n-1)$$

$$8 = n-1$$

$$9 = n$$

### Sum of a Finite Geometric Series:

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

$$\frac{9}{2} (8 + 24) = \boxed{144 \text{ seats}}$$

### Sum of an Infinite Geometric Series:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_1 \cdot r^{n-1} = \frac{a_1}{1-r}, \text{ if \& only if } |r| < 1$$

If an infinite series has a sum it is convergent.

If it does not, it is divergent.

Ex5) Find the sum of each geometric series.

a)  $\sum_{n=1}^9 4 \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n-1} = 4 + -\frac{4}{3} + \frac{4}{9} + \dots + \frac{4}{6561}$

$$4 \cdot \frac{1 - \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)^9}{1 - \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)} = \boxed{\frac{19684}{6561}}$$

b)  $5 + 15 + 45 + \dots + 98415$

$$98415 = 5(3)^{n-1}$$

$$19683 = 3^{n-1}$$

$$\ln 19683 = (n-1) \ln 3$$

$$9 = n-1$$

$$10 = n$$

$$5 \cdot \frac{1 - (3)^{10}}{1 - 3}$$

$$\boxed{147620}$$

Ex6) Determine if each of the following series converges. If the series converges, find the sum.

a)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 3(0.75)^{n-1}$

$$r = 0.75 \quad |0.75| = 0.75 < 1 \quad \checkmark$$

Series converges

$$\frac{3}{1 - 0.75} = \boxed{12}$$

b)  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{4}{5}\right)^{n-1} = -\frac{5}{4} + 1 + -\frac{4}{5} + \frac{16}{25} + \dots$

$$r = -\frac{4}{5} \quad \left|-\frac{4}{5}\right| = \frac{4}{5} < 1 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\frac{-\frac{5}{4}}{1 - \left(-\frac{4}{5}\right)} = \boxed{\frac{-25}{36}}$$

c)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^n = \frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\pi^2}{4} + \frac{\pi^3}{8} + \frac{\pi^4}{16} + \dots$

$$r = \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \left|\frac{\pi}{2}\right| > 1$$

Series diverges

no sum

d)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-1} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots$

$$r = \frac{1}{2} \quad \left|\frac{1}{2}\right| = \frac{1}{2} < 1 \quad \checkmark$$

Series converges

$$\frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2}} = \boxed{2}$$