

Mathematics Online Class X On 08-07-2021

ARITHMETIC SEQUENCE



In the previous class we studied

The algebraic form of an arithmetic sequence is of

the form $x_n = an + b$, where a and b are fixed numbers and a is the common difference ;
conversely, any sequence of this form is an arithmetic sequence .

The algebraic form of an arithmetic sequence can also be written in the form $x_n = dn + (f-d)$ where f is the first term and d is the common difference .

Question

The algebraic form an arithmetic sequence is $5n + 3$.
Find the fist term and common difference .

Answer

$$\text{Algebraic form} = x_n = 5n + 3$$

$$\text{First term} = x_1 = 5 \times 1 + 3 = 8$$

$$\text{Second term} = x_2 = 5 \times 2 + 3 = 13$$

$$\text{Third term} = x_3 = 5 \times 3 + 3 = 18$$

\therefore Arithmetic sequence is $8, 13, 18, \dots$

$$\text{Common difference } d = \left. \begin{array}{l} 13 - 8 \\ 18 - 13 \\ \dots \end{array} \right\} = 5$$

Question

In the arithmetic sequence $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{5}{6}, \frac{7}{6}, \frac{9}{6}, \dots$

- i) Find the algebraic form of the sequence.
- ii) Prove that this sequence contains no natural numbers.

Answer

$$\text{Common difference } d = x_3 - x_2 = \frac{7}{6} - \frac{5}{6} = \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Algebraic form = $x_n = an + b$ Where $a = d$ and $b = f - d$

$$a = d = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$b = f - d = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} = \frac{3}{6} - \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\text{Algebraic form} = x_n = \frac{1}{3}n + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{2}{6}n + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{(2n+1)}{6}$$

In this sequence each term contains numerator as an odd number and denominator as an even number .

Since odd numbers cannot have 2 as a factor ,

$$\frac{\text{Numerator}}{\text{Denominator}} = \frac{\text{Odd number}}{\text{Even number}} \text{ cannot be a natural number .}$$

∴ we get , the sequence contains no natural numbers .

Question

In the arithmetic sequence $\frac{1}{7}, \frac{2}{7}, \frac{3}{7}, \frac{4}{7}, \dots$

- i) Find the algebraic form of the sequence.
- ii) Prove that this sequence contains all natural numbers.

Answer

$$\text{Common difference } d = x_2 - x_1 = \frac{2}{7} - \frac{1}{7} = \frac{1}{7}$$

Algebraic form = $x_n = an + b$ Where $a = d$ and $b = f - d$

$$a = d = \frac{1}{7}$$

$$b = f - d = \frac{1}{7} - \frac{1}{7} = 0$$

$$\text{Algebraic form} = x_n = \frac{1}{7}n + 0 = \frac{1}{7}n$$

When $n = 7, 14, 21, 28, 35, \dots$ we get all natural numbers as terms of this sequence .

Question

The 8th term of an arithmetic sequence is 12 and 12th term is 8 .What is the algebraic expression for this sequence ?
Find the 20th term ?

Answer

$$8^{\text{th}} \text{ term} = x_8 = 12$$

$$12^{\text{th}} \text{ term} = x_{12} = 8$$

We have Common difference = $\frac{\text{Term difference}}{\text{Position difference}}$

$$d = \frac{x_{12} - x_8}{12 - 8} = \frac{8 - 12}{12 - 8} = \frac{-4}{4} = -1$$

$$f = x_1 = x_8 - 7d = 12 - 7 \times -1 = 12 + 7 = 19$$

Algebraic form = $x_n = an + b$ Where $a = d$ and $b = f - d$

$$a = d = -1$$

$$b = f - d = 19 - (-1) = 19 + 1 = 20$$

Algebraic form = $x_n = -1n + 20 = 20 - n$

$$20^{\text{th}} \text{ term} = 20 - 20 = 0$$

NOTE

If m^{th} term of an arithmetic sequence is n and n^{th} term is m . Then

i) Common difference $d = -1$

ii) $(m + n)^{\text{th}}$ term = $x_{(m+n)} = 0$

Question

Prove that the squares of all the terms of the arithmetic sequence 4 , 7 , 10 , ... belong to the sequence .

Answer

Given arithmetic sequence is 4 , 7 , 10 , ...

Common difference $d = x_2 - x_1 = 7 - 4 = 3$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1 \\ 3 \overline{) 4} \\ \underline{3} \\ 1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} 2 \\ 3 \overline{) 7} \\ \underline{6} \\ 1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} 3 \\ 3 \overline{) 10} \\ \underline{9} \\ 1 \end{array}$$

Here $d = 3$ and each term divided by 3 gives remainder 1 .

Now squares of the terms are $4^2 = 16$, $7^2 = 49$, $10^2 = 100$, ...

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ 3 \overline{) 16} \\ \underline{15} \\ 1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} 16 \\ 3 \overline{) 49} \\ \underline{48} \\ 1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} 33 \\ 3 \overline{) 100} \\ \underline{99} \\ 1 \end{array}$$

Here the squares of the terms of the sequence will also give remainder 1 when divided by 3.

From this we get the squares of all the terms of the arithmetic sequence 4 , 7 , 10 , ... belongs to the sequence .

OR

Algebraic form = $x_n = an + b$ Where $a = d$ and $b = f - d$

$$a = d = 3$$

$$b = f - d = 4 - 3 = 1$$

Algebraic form = $x_n = 3n + 1$

That is each term of the sequence is 1 added to a multiple of 3 .

Now $x_n^2 = (3n + 1)^2 = 9n^2 + 6n + 1 = 3(3n^2 + 2n) + 1$ is also 1 added to a multiple of 3 .

From this we get the squares of all the terms of the arithmetic sequence 4 , 7 , 10 , ... belongs to the sequence .

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