

Sangam SKM College – Nadi

Lesson Notes: Week 1

Year 13

Mathematics

Strand: Algebra

Sub Strand: Sequences

Content Learning Outcome: Study partial sum, convergence and divergence of sequences.

**SEQUENCES**

- Sequence is an ordered list of numbers for e.g.  $1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{8}, \dots$
- Series is obtained by adding terms in a sequence for e.g.  $1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots$
- Partial sum,  $S_n$  is the sum of a finite number of consecutive terms beginning with the first term.

$$S_1 = T_1 \quad (T_1 \text{ is the first term})$$

$$S_2 = T_1 + T_2$$

$$S_3 = T_1 + T_2 + T_3$$

- Sequences which approach a definite value are said to converge.  
If a sequence has a limit, we say the sequence is convergent and the sequence converges to a limit. Otherwise, the sequence is divergent.

Example 1:

A sequence is defined by  $T_n = 3n$

- a) Find the first four terms of this sequence.

$$T_n = 3n$$

$$T_1 = 3(1) = 3$$

$$T_2 = 3(2) = 6$$

$$T_3 = 3(3) = 9$$

$$T_4 = 3(4) = 12$$

The terms of the sequence are

$$\langle 3, 6, 9, 12, \dots \rangle$$

- b) Write as partial sum.

$$S_1 = 3$$

$$S_2 = 3 + 6 = 9$$

$$S_3 = 9 + 9 = 18$$

$$S_4 = 18 + 12 = 30$$

The sequence of partial sum are

$$\langle 3, 9, 18, 30, \dots \rangle$$

Example 2:

Determine whether the sequence  $a_n = \frac{6n+3}{n-8}$  converge or diverge, and if it converges, give the value to which it converges to.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{6n+3}{n-8} = 6 \text{ (using L'Hopital's Rule)}$$

Thus, it is a converging sequence and it converges to 6.

Example 3:

A sequence  $\langle a_n \rangle$  is defined by  $a_n = 2n + 1$

- a) List the first four terms

*The first four terms of the sequence  $2n + 1 = \langle 3, 5, 7, 9, \dots \rangle$*

- b) What is the limit of this sequence?

$$\begin{aligned} &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2n + 1 \\ &= 2\infty + 1 \\ &= \infty \end{aligned}$$

- c) Determine whether the sequence converge or diverge.

*The terms of the sequence increase without bounds (goes to infinity) so the sequence diverges.*

Note: If the limit is infinity, the sequence diverges.

Activity: Year 13 Mathematics textbook page 131: Exercise 6.1.1 - Questions 1, 3, 5

1. A sequence  $\langle a_n \rangle$  is defined by

$$a_n = \frac{7n + 3}{n - 9}$$

- a) Find the first four terms of the sequence.  
b) Find the first three terms of the sequence of partial sums.  
c) Find  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{7n + 3}{n - 9}$   
d) Explain why the sequence converges.

3. A sequence  $\langle a_n \rangle$  is defined by

$$a_n = \frac{n + 2}{n^2}$$

- a) Find the first two terms of the sequence of partial sums.  
b) Determine whether a sequence converges or diverges, and if it converges, give the value to which it converges to.

5. A sequence  $\langle a_n \rangle$  is defined by  $a_n = 3n + 4$   
Does it converge or diverge. Explain

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Lesson Notes: Week 2

Year 13

Mathematics

**Strand:** Algebra

**Sub Strand:** Binomial Theorem

**Content Learning Outcome:** Use Binomial Theorem to expand expressions of the form  $(x + a)^n$ .

**BINOMIAL THEOREM**

- **FACTORIAL !** - The factorial of a number (symbol  $n!$ ) is defined as:

$$n! = n \times (n - 1) \times (n - 2) \times (n - 3) \times \dots \times 3 \times 2 \times 1, n \in \mathbf{N}$$

Note:  $n!$  is read as “ $n$  factorial”

e.g.  $5! = 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 120$

*(This can be directly found using the calculator which has the key ! Press 5! = )*

- **COMBINATIONS**  $n_{c_r}$  or  $\binom{n}{r}$  - a combination is a selection of a certain number of elements from a set where the order of elements is not taken into account. The number of possible combinations of “ $r$ ” elements from “ $n$ ” things is denoted by:

$$\binom{n}{r} = \frac{n!}{(n - r)! r!}$$

$$\binom{10}{6} = \frac{10!}{(10 - 6)! \cdot 6!} = 210$$

*(This can also be found using the  $n_{c_r}$  key on the calculator Press 10  $n_{c_r}$  6 = )*

- **BINOMIAL THEOREM**

The binomial theorem provides a useful method for raising any binomial to a nonnegative integral power:

$$(x + a)^n = \binom{n}{0} x^{n-0} a^0 + \binom{n}{1} x^{n-1} a^1 + \binom{n}{2} x^{n-2} a^2 + \dots + \binom{n}{n} x^{n-n} a^n$$

**Example 1:** Expand  $(x + a)^3$  using the binomial theorem.

$$\begin{aligned}(x + a)^3 &= \binom{3}{0} x^{3-0} a^0 + \binom{3}{1} x^{3-1} a^1 + \binom{3}{2} x^{3-2} a^2 + \binom{3}{3} x^{3-3} a^3 \\ &= 1 \cdot x^3 \cdot 1 + 3 \cdot x^2 \cdot a + 3 \cdot x^1 \cdot a^2 + 1 \cdot 1 \cdot a^3 \\ &= x^3 + 3x^2a + 3xa^2 + a^3\end{aligned}$$

*Note:* the power of  $x$  decreases from  $n$  to  $0$  while the power of  $a$  increases from  $0$  to  $n$ .

**Example 2:** Expand  $(2x - \frac{1}{x^2})^3$  using the binomial theorem

$$\begin{aligned}(2x - \frac{1}{x^2})^3 &= \binom{3}{0} (2x)^3 (-\frac{1}{x^2})^0 + \binom{3}{1} (2x)^2 (-\frac{1}{x^2})^1 + \binom{3}{2} (2x)^1 (-\frac{1}{x^2})^2 + \binom{3}{3} (2x)^0 (-\frac{1}{x^2})^3 \\ &= 1 \cdot 8x^3 \cdot 1 + 3 \cdot 4x^2 \cdot (-\frac{1}{x^2}) + 3 \cdot 2x \cdot (\frac{1}{x^4}) + 1 \cdot 1 \cdot (-\frac{1}{x^6}) \\ &= 8x^3 - 12 + \frac{6}{x^3} - \frac{1}{x^6}\end{aligned}$$

**Example 3:** Write down the first four terms in the expansion of  $(2x + y^2)^9$

$$\begin{aligned}(2x + y^2)^9 &= \binom{9}{0} (2x)^9 (y^2)^0 + \binom{9}{1} (2x)^8 (y^2)^1 + \binom{9}{2} (2x)^7 (y^2)^2 + \binom{9}{3} (2x)^6 (y^2)^3 + \dots \\ &= 1 \cdot (2x)^9 \cdot 1 + 9 \cdot (2x)^8 \cdot y^2 + 36 \cdot (2x)^7 \cdot y^4 + 84 \cdot (2x)^6 \cdot y^6 + \dots \\ &= 512 x^9 + 2304 x^8 y^2 + 4608 x^7 y^4 + 5376 x^6 y^6 + \dots\end{aligned}$$

**Activity:**

1. Use the binomial theorem to expand and simplify  $(x + y)^4$
2. Expand and simplify  $(2x - \frac{1}{2})^4$
3. Use the binomial theorem to find the first three terms of  $(2x - \frac{1}{x})^5$

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**Lesson Notes: Week 3**

**Year 13**

**Mathematics**

**Strand:** Algebra

**Sub Strand:** Binomial Theorem

**Content Learning Outcome:** Use general term formula to find particular term.

**General Term Formula:**  $T_{r+1} = \binom{n}{r} x^{n-r} a^r$

The  $(r + 1)^{\text{th}}$  term which is the general term is given by  $T_{r+1} = \binom{n}{r} x^{n-r} a^r$  and  $\binom{n}{r}$  is the binomial coefficient.

Example: A term in an expansion of  $(a + b)^n$  is  $\binom{p}{k} (x^2)^3 \left(-\frac{2}{x}\right)^5$ .

Find a, b, n, p and k.

$$a = x^2$$

$$b = -\frac{2}{x}$$

$$k = 5$$

$$n = p = 8$$

**Finding a Particular Term**

Example 1:

Find the fourth term in the expansion of

$$\left(x - \frac{2}{x}\right)^8$$

$$T_{r+1} = \binom{n}{r} x^{n-r} a^r$$

For the fourth term,  $r = 3$

$$T_{(3+1)} = \binom{8}{3} x^{8-3} \left(-\frac{2}{x}\right)^3$$

$$= 56 \cdot x^5 \cdot \frac{-8}{x^3}$$

$$T_4 = -448 x^2$$

Example 2:

What is the third term of  $(a - 3)^{10}$ ?

$$T_{r+1} = \binom{n}{r} x^{n-r} a^r$$

For the third term,  $r = 2$

$$T_{(2+1)} = \binom{10}{2} a^{10-2} (-3)^2$$

$$= 45 \cdot a^8 \cdot 9$$

$$T_3 = 405 a^8$$

## Finding the Coefficient

### Example 1:

Find the coefficient of  $x^4$  in the expansion of  $(x + 1)^{10}$

$$T_{(r+1)} = \binom{10}{r} x^{10-r} (1)^r$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{To solve for } r: x^{10-r} &= x^4 \\ 10 - r &= 4 \\ r &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

replace r with 6

$$\begin{aligned} &= \binom{10}{6} x^{10-6} (1)^6 \\ &= 210 \cdot x^4 \cdot 1 \\ &= 210x^4 \\ \therefore \text{coefficient is } 210 \end{aligned}$$

### Example 2:

Find the coefficient of  $x^3y^4$  in the expansion of  $(x + 2y)^7$

$$T_{(r+1)} = \binom{7}{r} x^{7-r} (2y)^r$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{To solve for } r: x^{7-r} &= x^3 \\ 7 - r &= 3 \\ r &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

replace r with 4

$$\begin{aligned} &= \binom{7}{4} x^{7-4} (2y)^4 \\ &= 35 \cdot x^3 \cdot 16y^4 \\ &= 560 x^3 y^4 \\ \therefore \text{coefficient is } 560 \end{aligned}$$

## Finding Constant Term (term independent of x)

Example 1: Find the term independent of x in the expansion of  $(x - \frac{8}{3})^6$ .

$$T_{(r+1)} = \binom{6}{r} x^{6-r} \left(-\frac{8}{3}\right)^r$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{To solve for } r: x^{6-r} &= x^0 \\ 6 - r &= 0 \\ r &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \binom{6}{6} x^{6-6} \left(-\frac{8}{3}\right)^6 \\ &= 1 \cdot 1 \cdot \frac{262144}{729} \\ &= \frac{262144}{729} \\ \therefore \text{Constant term is } \frac{262144}{729} \end{aligned}$$

Example 2: Find the constant term in the expansion of  $(x + \frac{1}{x})^8$ .

$$T_{r+1} = \binom{8}{r} x^{8-r} \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^r$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{To solve for } r: x^{8-r} \cdot x^{-r} &= x^0 \\ 8 - r - r &= 0 \\ r &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \binom{8}{4} x^{8-4} \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^4 \\ &= 70 \cdot x^4 \cdot \frac{1}{x^4} \\ &= 70 \\ \therefore \text{Constant term is } 70 \end{aligned}$$

## Activity:

1. Find the fourth term in the expansion of  $(5 + x)^6$
2. Find the coefficient of  $x^4$  in the expansion of  $(1 - 2x)^9$
3. Find the term independent of x in the expansion of  $(3x^2 - \frac{1}{x})^{12}$