

Algebra 1

Chapter 7

Section 7-8

Concepts

Geometric
Sequence

Sequence of numbers that has a common ratio (looks like an exponential function)

Arithmetic
Sequence

Sequence of numbers that has a common difference (looks like a linear function)

Review: Arithmetic Sequences

Recursive

$$A_n = A_{n-1} + d$$

or

Explicit

$$A_n = A_1 + d(n - 1)$$

Geometric Sequences

Recursive

$$A_n = A_{n-1} \cdot r$$

or

Explicit

$$A_n = A_1 \cdot r^{(n-1)}$$

Are the following sequences arithmetic, geometric or neither? If it's geometric, identify A_1 and r .

$11, 22, 33, 44$
Arithmetic

$2, 6, 12, 26$
Neither

$9, 18, 36, 72$
Geometric
 $A_1=9$ $r=2$

$2, 6, 18, 54$
Geometric
 $A_1=2$ $r=3$

Are the following sequences arithmetic, geometric or neither? If it's geometric, identify A_1 and r .

7, 12, 30, 41

Neither

$x-2$ $x-2$ $x-2$
-3, 6, -12, 24

Geometric

$A_1 = -3$ $r = -2$

$x-4$ $x-2$ $x-2$
-2, 8, -16, 32
Neither

10, 20, 40, 80

Geometric

$A_1 = 10$

$r = 2$

Write the recursive formulas for the geometric sequences.

7, 21, 63, 189

$$A_n = A_{n-1} \cdot 3$$

-2, 4, -8, 16

$$A_n = A_{n-1} \cdot (-2)$$

Write the explicit formulas for the geometric sequences.

$$9, 3, 1, \frac{1}{3}$$

$$r = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$A_1 = 9$$

$$\underline{A_n = 9 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{n-1}}$$

$$2, 20, 200, 2000$$

$$r = 10$$

$$A_1 = 2$$

$$A_n = 2 \cdot 10^{n-1}$$