

# GEOMETRIC SERIES

## GEOMETRIC SERIES

- Geometric Series- the sum of the terms of a geometric sequence.
- Geometric Sequence: 1, 3, 9, 27, 81
- Geometric Series:  $1 + 3 + 9 + 27 + 81$
- What is the sum of the geometric series?

$$= 121$$

## GEOMETRIC SERIES FORMULA

$$S_n = \frac{a_1 - a_1 r^n}{1 - r} \text{ or } S_n = \frac{a_1(1 - r^n)}{1 - r}$$

## PRACTICE

- Find  $S_n$  for each geometric series described.

1.  $a_1 = 2$ ,  $a_6 = 486$ ,  $r = 3$

$$S_6 = \frac{2 - 2(3)^6}{1 - 3} = 728$$

2.  $a_1 = 625$ ,  $r = \frac{3}{5}$ ,  $n = 5$

$$S_5 = \frac{625 - 625\left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^5}{1 - \frac{3}{5}} = 1441$$

## GEOMETRIC SERIES

Find

$$\sum_{n=1}^4 -3(2)^{n-1}$$

- You can do this two ways. Let's use the long way.
- Plug in the number 1 - 4 for n and add.
- $[-3(2)^{1-1}] + [-3(2)^{2-1}] + [-3(2)^{3-1}] + [-3(2)^{4-1}] =$
- $[-3(1)] + [-3(2)] + [-3(4)] + [-3(8)] =$
- $-3 - 6 - 12 - 24 = -45$

## GEOMETRIC SERIES

- The other method is to use the sum of geometric series formula.

$$\sum_{n=1}^4 -3(2)^{n-1}$$

last term  
sequence form.  
1st term

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

$$S_4 = \frac{-3 - (-3)(2)^4}{1-2}$$

$$S_4 = -45$$

## PRACTICE

3. Find the sum.

$$\sum_{n=1}^9 5 \cdot (2)^{n-1}$$

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

$$S_9 = \frac{5 - 5(2)^9}{1-2} = 2555$$

4. Find the sum.

$$\sum_{n=1}^7 144 \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n-1}$$

$$S_7 = \frac{144 - 144\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^7}{1 - \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)}$$

$$S_7 = 96.75$$

EXPRESS EACH GEOMETRIC SERIES IN SIGMA NOTATION. WHAT IS THE SUM OF EACH FINITE SERIES?

5.  $-15 + 5 + -5/3 + 5/9 + -5/27$

$$S_5 = \frac{-15 - (-15)\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)^5}{1 - \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)} = \frac{-305}{27}$$

5.  $2 + 8 + 32 + 128$

$$S_4 = \frac{2 - 2(4)^4}{1-4} = 170$$