

SEQUENCES & SERIES (Q 4 & 5, PAPER 1)

2005

4 (a) Write the recurring decimal $0.636363\dots$ as an infinite geometric series and hence as a fraction.

4 (b) (i) The first three terms in the binomial expansion of $(1+kx)^n$ are $1-21x+189x^2$. Find the value of n and the value of k .

(ii) A sequence is defined by $u_n = (2-n)2^{n-1}$. Show that $u_{n+2} - 4u_{n+1} + 4u_n = 0$, for all $n \in \mathbf{N}$.

4 (c) (i) Show that $\frac{a+b}{2} \leq \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{2}}$, where a and b are real numbers.

(ii) The lengths of the sides of a right-angled triangle are a , b and c , where c is the length of the hypotenuse. Using the result from part (i), or otherwise, show that $a+b \leq c\sqrt{2}$.

SOLUTION**4 (a)**

$$0.636363\dots = \frac{63}{100} + \frac{63}{10000} + \frac{63}{1000000} + \dots = 63\left(\frac{1}{100} + \frac{1}{10000} + \frac{1}{1000000} + \dots\right)$$

Infinite geometric series: $a = \frac{1}{100}$, $r = \frac{1}{100}$

$$S_{\infty} = \frac{a}{1-r} = \frac{\frac{1}{100}}{1-\frac{1}{100}} = \frac{\frac{1}{100}}{\frac{99}{100}} = \frac{1}{99}$$

$$\therefore 0.636363\dots = 63\left(\frac{1}{99}\right) = \frac{63}{99}$$

4 (b) (i)

$$(1+kx)^n = \binom{n}{0}(1)^n(kx)^0 + \binom{n}{1}(1)^{n-1}(kx)^1 + \binom{n}{2}(1)^{n-2}(kx)^2 + \dots = 1 - 21x + 189x^2 + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 + nkx + \frac{n(n-1)}{2}k^2x^2 + \dots = 1 - 21x + 189x^2 + \dots$$

Lining up coefficients: $nk = -21 \Rightarrow k = -\frac{21}{n}$ and $\frac{n(n-1)}{2}k^2 = 189$

$$\Rightarrow 441n - 441 = 378n \Rightarrow 63n = 441 \Rightarrow n = 7 \Rightarrow k = -3$$

4 (b) (ii)

$$u_n = (2-n)2^{n-1} \Rightarrow u_{n+2} = (-n)2^{n+1}$$

$$u_n = (2-n)2^{n-1} \Rightarrow u_{n+1} = (1-n)2^n$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore u_{n+2} - 4u_{n+1} + 4u_n &= (-n)2^{n+1} - 4(1-n)2^n + 4(2-n)2^{n-1} \\ &= 2^{n-1}[(-n)2^2 - 4(1-n)2^1 + 4(2-n)] = 2^{n-1}[-4n - 8 + 8n + 8 - 4n] = 2^{n-1}[0] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

4 (c) (i)

$$\frac{a+b}{2} \leq \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{2}} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right)^2 \leq \frac{a^2+b^2}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a^2+2ab+b^2}{4} \leq \frac{a^2+b^2}{2} \Rightarrow a^2+2ab+b^2 \leq 2a^2+2b^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 \leq a^2 - 2ab + b^2 \Rightarrow (a-b)^2 \geq 0$$

4 (c) (ii)

Pythagoras: $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$

$$\frac{a+b}{2} \leq \sqrt{\frac{a^2+b^2}{2}} \Rightarrow \frac{a+b}{2} \leq \sqrt{\frac{c^2}{2}} \Rightarrow a+b \leq c\sqrt{2}$$

5 (a) Solve for x : $\sqrt{10-x} = 4-x$.

5 (b) Prove by induction that $\sum_{r=1}^n (3r-2) = \frac{n}{2}(3n-1)$.

5 (c) (i) Show that $\frac{1}{\log_a b} = \log_b a$, where $a, b > 0$ and $a, b \neq 1$.

(ii) Show that $\frac{1}{\log_2 c} + \frac{1}{\log_3 c} + \frac{1}{\log_4 c} + \dots + \frac{1}{\log_r c} = \frac{1}{\log_{r!} c}$, where $c > 0, c \neq 1$.

SOLUTION

5 (a)

$$\sqrt{10-x} = 4-x \Rightarrow 10-x = (4-x)^2 \text{ [Squaring both sides.]}$$

$$\Rightarrow 10-x = 16-8x+x^2 \Rightarrow x^2-7x+6=0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x-6)(x-1) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 6, 1$$

Check both solutions:

$$x = 6: \sqrt{10-6} = 4-6 \Rightarrow \sqrt{4} = -2 \text{ [Wrong]}$$

$$x = 1: \sqrt{10-1} = 4-1 \Rightarrow \sqrt{9} = 3 \text{ [Correct]}$$

5 (b)

STEPS

1. Prove result is true for some starting value of $n \in \mathbf{N}_0$.
2. Assuming result is true for $n = k$.
3. Prove result is true for $n = (k + 1)$.

SUMMATIONS: When proving a summation always expand as follows:

$$\sum_{r=1}^k f(r) = \{f(1) + f(2) + \dots + f(k)\}$$

$$\sum_{r=1}^{k+1} f(r) = \{f(1) + f(2) + \dots + f(k)\} + f(k+1)$$

1. Prove it is true for $n = 1$: $\sum_{r=1}^1 (3r - 2) = 3(1) - 2 = 1$ and $\frac{n}{2}(3n - 1) = \frac{1}{2}(3(1) - 1) = 1$

2. Assume it is true for $n = k$: $\sum_{r=1}^k (3r - 2) = \{1 + 4 + 7 + \dots + 3k - 2\} = \frac{k}{2}(3k - 1)$

3. Prove it is true for $n = k + 1$:

You need to prove that $\sum_{r=1}^{k+1} (3r - 2) = \{1 + 4 + 7 + \dots + 3k - 2\} + (3k + 1) = \frac{k+1}{2}(3k + 2)$

Using the result in step 2 $\Rightarrow \frac{k}{2}(3k - 1) + (3k + 1) = \frac{k+1}{2}(3k + 2)$

$$\Rightarrow k(3k - 1) + 2(3k + 1) = (k + 1)(3k + 2)$$

$$\Rightarrow 3k^2 - k + 6k + 2 = (k + 1)(3k + 2) \Rightarrow 3k^2 + 5k + 2 = (k + 1)(3k + 2)$$

$$\Rightarrow (k + 1)(3k + 2) = (k + 1)(3k + 2)$$

5 (c) (i)

$$\log_b a = \frac{\log_a a}{\log_a b} = \frac{1}{\log_a b}$$

LOG RULES

$$\log_a M = \frac{\log_b M}{\log_b a} \text{ [Used to change base]}$$

$$\log_a a = 1$$

5 (c) (ii)

$$\frac{1}{\log_2 c} + \frac{1}{\log_3 c} + \frac{1}{\log_4 c} + \dots + \frac{1}{\log_r c} = \log_c 2 + \log_c 3 + \log_c 4 + \dots + \log_c r$$

$$= \log_c (2 \times 3 \times 4 \times \dots \times r) = \log_c (r!) = \frac{1}{\log_{r!} c}$$