

Let's Study:

- Introduction of Sequence [3.1]
- Arithmetic Progression [3.1]
[Definition, first term, common difference, General terms of an A.P.]
- n^{th} term of an A.P. [3.2]
- Sum of first n terms of an A.P. [3.3]
- Application of A.P. [3.4]

Practice set
3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4

and

Problem set 3

Definition:

- An arithmetic progression (A.P) is a sequence in which difference between two consecutive terms is constant.
- The terms of an A.P are denoted by $t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, \dots$

For Example: In a sequence,

$$2, 4, 6, 8, \dots$$

$$t_1 = 2, t_2 = 4, t_3 = 6, t_4 = 8 \text{ and so on}$$

Difference Between two consecutive terms

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} t_2 - t_1 = 4 - 2 = \underline{\underline{2}} \\ t_3 - t_2 = 6 - 4 = \underline{\underline{2}} \\ t_4 - t_3 = 8 - 6 = \underline{\underline{2}} \end{array} \right\} \text{ constant / same}$$

$\therefore$ The sequence $2, 4, 6, 8, \dots$ is an A.P.

- Common difference: And that difference is known as common difference of an A.P

In the above example, common difference = 2

- Common difference is denoted by 'd'.
- Common difference can be positive, negative or zero. (MCQ)
- First term: The first term is also denoted by 'a'

General terms

If for an A.P a = first term, d = common difference

$$\therefore \text{A.P is } a, a+d, a+2d, a+3d, \dots$$

Terms of an A.P

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow & \downarrow & & \\ & t_1 & t_2 & t_3 & t_4 & \dots & \end{array}$$

n^{th} term of an A.P [t_n]

→ The n^{th} term of an A.P is given by,

$$t_n = a + (n-1)d$$

Here, $a \rightarrow$ first term

$d \rightarrow$ common difference

$t_n \rightarrow n^{\text{th}}$ term

$n \rightarrow$ position of the term.

Sum of first 'n' terms of an A.P [Sum = Total] [S_n]

When first term and Common difference are given:

$$S_n = \frac{n}{2} [2a + (n-1)d]$$

Here,

$a \rightarrow$ first term

$d \rightarrow$ common difference

$n \rightarrow$ total terms

When first and last terms are given.

$$S_n = \frac{n}{2} [t_1 + t_n]$$

Here,

$t_1 = a \rightarrow$ first term

$n \rightarrow$ total terms

$t_n \rightarrow n^{\text{th}}$ term [last term]

Note: Three Consecutive terms which are in A.P
 $a-d, a, a+d$.

Four Consecutive terms which are in A.P
 $a-d, a, a+d, a+2d$.