

SHS Math Club  
2009-10  
Math Toolbox

## SHS Math Toolbox

### I. Sequences

#### a. Arithmetic Sequence

- i. Definition= in an arithmetic series, the difference between terms is constant. Ex:  $4 + 10 + 16 + 22\dots$  they all have a difference of six between terms.
- ii. Formula for sum of terms in sequence=  $(1/2) * n * (a+z)$ 
  1.  $n$  = number of terms in the sequence
  2.  $a$  = first term in sequence
  3.  $z$  = last term in sequence
- iii. Answer to example if the sequence goes up to 100 is :  $(1/2) x 17(4+100) = 884$

#### b. Geometric Sequence

- i. Definition= it is a sequence such that each successive term is obtained from the previous term by multiplying a fixed number called a ratio. Ex:  $3 + 6 + 12 + 24 + 48 + 96$
- ii. Formula for sum of terms in sequence
  1. *Finite Geometric Sequence* =  $(a(1-r^n))/(1-r)$ 
    - a.  $a$  = first term in sequence
    - b.  $r$  = common ratio
    - c.  $n$  = number of terms
    - d. note:  $r$  does not equal 0
  2. *Infinite Geometric Sequence* =  $a/(1-r)$ 
    - a. If the absolute value of  $r$  is greater than or equal to one, then the infinite series does not have a sum

#### c. Figurative Number Sequences

- i. *Triangular numbers*
  1. Equation =  $n(n+1)/2$ .
  2. First terms of sequence= 1, 3, 6, 10, 15, 21, 28
  3.  $n$  = order of number in sequence. Ex: if  $n = 3$ , then look for the third term in the sequence  $(3(4)/2) = 6$ .
- ii. *Square numbers*
  1. Equation =  $n^2$
  2. First terms of sequence = 1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49
  3.  $n$  = order of number in sequence.
  4. Try this: What is the sum of the first “ $n$ ” odd positive numbers??
- iii. *Pentagonal numbers + beyond* =  $n(3n-1)/2, n(4n-2)/2, n(5n-3)/2\dots$

## II. Geometric Formulas

### a. The Pythagorean Theorem

- i.  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$
- ii. only works when “a” and “b” are the lengths of the legs of a right triangle, and “c” is the hypotenuse
- iii. Pythagorean triples:
  1. 3, 4, 5       $(3^2 + 4^2 = 5^2)$   $(9 + 16 = 25)$
  2. 8, 15, 17       $(8^2 + 15^2 = 17^2)$   $(64 + 225 = 289)$
  3. 5, 12, 13
  4. 7, 24, 25
  5. 20, 21, 29
  6. 12, 35, 37
  7. 9, 40, 41
  8. 11, 60, 61
  9. Note: If you double “a” and “b”, and “c”, you can get a Pythagorean triple that is also the same as the old one (ex: 3, 4, 5 double = 6, 8, 10  $(36 + 64 = 100)$ ). Those triples are not repeat listed here.

### b. Triangle Formulas (not including Pythagorean)

- i. The 45-45-90 degree triangle
  1. Properties are:
    - a. It is half a square
    - b. Hypotenuse =  $S * \sqrt{2}$  if S is the side length of the leg
  - ii. The 30-60-90 degree triangle
    1. Properties are:
      - a. Half of an equilateral triangle
      - b. If shortest leg = S, then hypotenuse =  $2S$ , and the long leg =  $S\sqrt{3}$
  - iii. Sine, Cosine, and Tangent
    1. Sine of an angle = opposite leg / hypotenuse
    2. Cosine of an angle = adjacent leg / hypotenuse
    3. Tangent of an angle = opposite leg / adjacent leg
    4.  $\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = 1$
    5.  $\tan(x) = \sin(x) / \cos(x)$
    6.  $\sin(x+y) = \sin(x)\cos(y) + \cos(x)\sin(y)$
    7.  $\cos(x+y) = \cos(x)\cos(y) - \sin(x)\sin(y)$
    8.  $\tan(x+y) = (\tan(x) + \tan(y)) / (1 + \tan(x)\tan(y))$
    9. Note: you are not expected to memorize 6, 7, 8 they are just for fun, and 1, 2, 3 ONLY work in a right triangle!!!
    10. Many... many... more
  - iv. Heron's Formula
    1. Area of triangle =  $\sqrt{(sp) * (sp - a) * (sp - b) * (sp - c)}$ 
      - a. Sp= semi-perimeter
      - b. a= first side, b= second side, c = third side
      - c. Works for any triangle

- c. Properties of Polygons
  - i. Number of diagonals in a polygon with “n” sides
    - 1.  $n(n-3)/2$
  - ii. Number of degrees in an n-sided polygon
    - 1.  $180(n-2)$
  - iii. Sum of the exterior angles of any polygon
    - 1. 360 degrees

### III. Miscellaneous Geometry

- a. Space Diagonal of a cube :  $S * \sqrt{3}$  where S is one length of the cube
- b. Areas and Volumes
  - i. Area of Square =  $s^2$
  - ii. Area of Square =  $(d^2)/2$ 
    - 1. d = diagonal
  - iii. Area of a rhombus  $(d_1 * d_2)/2$ 
    - 1. d1 and d2 are the diagonals
  - iv. Area of triangle =  $\frac{1}{2} * b * h$ 
    - 1. b=base, h=height
  - v. Area of triangle =  $\frac{1}{2} * b * c * \sin(A)$ 
    - 1. b= adjacent side 1, c = adjacent side 2, and A = the angle for which the sides b,c are adjacent to
  - vi. Area of circle =  $(\pi) * r^2$ 
    - 1. r= radius
  - vii. Area of trapezoid =  $\frac{1}{2} * h(b_1 + b_2)$ 
    - 1. h = height, b<sub>1</sub>;b<sub>2</sub> are the two bases
  - viii. Volume of cylinder=  $B * h$ 
    - 1. B= area of base and h= height
  - ix. Volume of cone=  $(1/3) * B * h$
  - x. Volume of sphere =  $(4/3) * (\pi) * r^3$
  - xi. Surface area of sphere =  $4 * (\pi) * r^2$

### IV. Factoring Method

- a. Factor out any common factors
- b. If it is two terms, check whether it can be rewritten as the difference of two cubes, or the sum of two cubes
- c. If it is three terms, check for the perfect square trinomials
- d. If it has more than three terms, try to factor by grouping

V. **Combinations/Permutations**

- a. Number of permutations of “n” different things:
  - i.  $n!$
- b. Number of permutations of “n” things where “r” things are the same:
  - i.  $n!/r!$
- c. Number of permutations of “n” things taken “r” at a time:
  - i.  $n!/(n-r)!$
- d. Number of combinations of “n” things taken “r” at a time:
  - i.  $n!/(r! * (n-r)!)$
  - ii.

VI. **List of basic squares/cubes**

Number (n)	Square ( $n^2$ )	Cube ( $n^3$ )
1	1	1
2	4	8
3	9	27
4	16	64
5	25	125
6	36	216
7	49	343
8	64	512
9	81	729
10	100	1000
11	121	1331
12	144	1728

VII. **List of Factorials**

- a. Expressed as “n!”
- b.  $n! = n * (n-1) * (n-2) * (n-3) \dots * 3 * 2 * 1$

Number (n)	Factorial (n!)
0	1
1	1
2	2
3	6
4	24
5	120
6	720
7	5040
8	40320
9	362880
10	3628800