

Exemplar Problem

Sequence and Series

1. The first term of an A.P. is a , and the sum of the first p terms is zero, show that the sum of its next q terms is

$$\frac{-a(p+q)q}{p-1}.$$

[Hint: Required sum = $S_{p+q} - S_p$]

Solution:

Given first term is ' a ' and sum of first p terms is $S_p = 0$

Now we have to find the sum of next q terms

Therefore, total terms are $p + q$

Hence, sum of all terms minus the sum of the first p terms will give the sum of next q terms

But sum of first p terms is 0 hence sum of next q terms will be the same as sum of all terms

So, we have to find sum of $p + q$ terms

Sum of n terms of AP is given by $S_n = \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)(2a + (n-1)d)$

Where a is first term and d is the common difference

Using the given hint we get

$$\Rightarrow \text{required sum} = S_{p+q} - S_p$$

Using S_n formula

$$\Rightarrow \text{required sum} = \frac{p+q}{2}(2a + (p+q-1)d) \dots\dots 1$$

Now we have to find d

We use the given $S_p = 0$ to find d

$$\Rightarrow S_p = \frac{p}{2}(2a + (p-1)d)$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = 2a + (p-1)d$$

$$\Rightarrow d = -\frac{2a}{p-1}$$

Put this value of d in 1 we get

$$\Rightarrow \text{required sum} = \frac{p+q}{2} \left(2a + (p+q-1) \left(-\frac{2a}{p-1} \right) \right)$$

Taking LCM and simplifying we get

$$= \frac{p+q}{2} \left(2a - \frac{2ap}{p-1} - \frac{2aq}{p-1} + \frac{2a}{p-1} \right)$$

On computing we get

$$= a(p+q) \left(1 - \frac{p}{p-1} - \frac{q}{p-1} + \frac{1}{p-1} \right)$$

$$= a(p+q) \left(1 + \frac{-(p-1)}{p-1} - \frac{q}{p-1} \right)$$

$$= a(p+q) \left(1 + (-1) - \frac{q}{p-1} \right)$$

$$= -\frac{a(p+q)q}{p-1}$$

Hence proved.

