

# Geometric sequences

• this is a sequence of numbers increasing geometrically, by multiplication - 5, 10, 20, 40, 80, 160... ↴

the ratio for this is  $r = 2$

• 360, 120, 40,  $\frac{40}{3}$ ... the ratio is:  $r = \frac{1}{3}$

• the terms in the sequence can be described using:  $t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5, \dots, t_n$

the first term is called 'a' is called  $t_n$

• 'n' is the number of terms in the sequence

formula:  $t_n = ar^{n-1}$  →  $t_n = a \cdot r \cdot r \cdot r \cdot r \dots$

there is one less multiplication then there are terms.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a = 4 \\ r = 3 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} t_2 = 4 \cdot 3^{(2-1)} = 12 \\ t_3 = 4 \cdot 3^{(3-1)} = 36 \\ t_4 = 4 \cdot 3^{(4-1)} = 108 \\ t_{20} = 4 \cdot 3^{(20-1)} \end{array}$$

• Finding the ratio 'r'

- take any two consecutive terms and divide them.  $r = \frac{t_2}{t_1}$   $r = \frac{t_3}{t_2}$   $r = \frac{t_4}{t_3}$   $r = \frac{t_n}{t_{n-1}}$