

Find the common ratio and the 11<sup>th</sup> term of the geometric sequence  
486, -162, 54, -18, 6, ...

- Recall that for any arithmetic sequence  $a, ar, ar^2, ar^3, \dots$   
the  $n$ -th term is

$ar^{n-1}$  where  $a$  is the first term and  $r$  is the common ratio.

- For the geometric sequence 486, -162, 54, -18, 6, ...

$$a = 486 \text{ and } r = -\frac{1}{3}$$

- So the 12<sup>th</sup> term is

$$(486)\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)^{10} = .00823$$