

Module 2

Division Algorithm

Given integers a and b with $b > 0$
there exist unique integers q and r satisfying
$$a = qb + r, \quad 0 \leq r < b$$

The integers q and r are called the quotient
and ~~remainder~~ ~~remainder~~ in the division of a and b .

If $a = 33$ and $b = 4$, then

$$33 = 8 \times 4 + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow q = 8 \text{ and } r = 1$$

If $b = 2$ the possible ~~remain~~ remainders
are $r = 0$ and $r = 1$.

When $r = 0$, the integer a has the form

$a = 2q$ and is called even

when $r = 1$, the integer a has the form

$a = 2q + 1$ and is called odd.

(i). Show that the square of an integer leaves
the remainder 0 or 1 upon division by 4.

Solution

Every integer a is of the form

either $a = 2q$ or $a = 2q + 1$.

If $a = 2q$

$a^2 = (2q)^2 = 4q^2$, leaves the remainder 0 when divided by 4.

If $a = 2q+1$

$$a^2 = (2q+1)^2$$

$$= 4q^2 + 4q + 1$$

$$= 4(q^2 + q) + 1$$

$= 4k+1$, leaves the remainder 1

when divided by 4.

Q. Show that the square of any odd integer is of the form $8k+1$

Solution

By division algorithm, any integer is representable as one of the

four forms $4q, 4q+1, 4q+2, 4q+3$. Here

$4q+1$ and $4q+3$ are odd.

$$(4q+1)^2 = 16q^2 + 8q + 1 = 8(2q^2 + q) + 1 = 8k+1$$

$$(4q+3)^2 = 16q^2 + 24q + 9 = 8(2q^2 + 3q + 1) + 1 = 8k+1$$

(3) ~~The~~ Prove that the expression $\frac{a(a^2+2)}{3}$ is an integer for all $a \geq 1$.

Solution

According to division algorithm, every a is of the form $3q$, $3q+1$ or $3q+2$

$$\text{If } a=3q, \quad \frac{a(a^2+2)}{3} = \frac{3q((3q)^2+2)}{3} \\ = q(9q^2+2), \text{ is an integer}$$

$$\text{If } a=3q+1, \quad \frac{a(a^2+2)}{3} = \frac{(3q+1)((3q+1)^2+2)}{3} \\ = (3q+1)(3q^2+2q+1), \text{ an integer}$$

$$\text{If } a=3q+2,$$

$$\frac{a(a^2+2)}{3} = \frac{(3q+2)((3q+2)^2+2)}{3} \\ = (3q+2)(3q^2+4q+2), \text{ an integer.}$$

(4) Show that cube of any integer has one of the forms, $9k$, $9k+1$, or $9k+8$.

Solution.

By division algorithm, every integer a is of the form $3q$, $3q+1$, or $3q+2$.

$$\text{If } a = 3q$$

$$\begin{aligned} a^3 &= 9q \cdot a^3 = (3q)^3 \\ &= 27q^3 \\ &= 9(3q^3) \\ &= 9k \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{If } a = 3q+1$$

$$\begin{aligned} a^3 &= (3q+1)^3 \\ &= 27q^3 + 27q^2 + 9q + 1 \\ &= 9(3q^3 + 3q^2 + q) + 1 \\ &= 9k+1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{If } a = 3q+2$$

$$\begin{aligned} a^3 &= (3q+2)^3 \\ &= 27q^3 + 54q^2 + 36q + 8 \\ &= 9(3q^3 + 2q^2 + 4q) + 8 \\ &= 9k+8 \end{aligned}$$

Greatest Common Divisor (gcd)

Definition

An integer b is said to be divisible by an integer $a \neq 0$, in symbols $a|b$, if there exists some integer c such that $b = ac$.

We write $a \nmid b$ to indicate that b is not divisible by a .

Definition

If a and b are arbitrary integers, then an integer d is said to be a common divisor of a and b if both $d|a$ and $d|b$.

Definition

Let a and b be given integers, with at least one of them different from zero. The greatest common divisor of a and b , denoted by $\gcd(a, b)$ is the positive integer d satisfying the following.

(a) $d|a$ and $d|b$

(b) If $c|a$ and $c|b$ then $c \leq d$.

The positive divisors of -12 are $1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12$ whereas those of 30 are $1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 15, 30$. The positive common divisors of -12 and 30 are $1, 2, 3, 6$. Because 6 is the largest of these integers, $\gcd(-12, 30) = 6$.

$$\gcd(-5, 5) = 5$$

$$\gcd(8, 17) = 1$$

$$\gcd(-8, -36) = 4$$

$$\gcd(-12, 30) = 6 = (-12)2 + 30 \cdot 1$$

$$\gcd(-8, -36) = 4 = (-8)4 + (-36)(-1)$$

Definition

Given integers a and b , not both of which are zero, there exist integers x and y such that $\gcd(a, b) = ax + by$.

Definition

Two integers a and b not both of which are zero, are said to be relatively prime whenever $\gcd(a, b) = 1$.

Euclidean Algorithm

Let a and b be two integers. By divisional Algorithm

$$a = q_1 b + r_1, \quad 0 \leq r_1 < b.$$

If it happens that $r_1 = 0$, then $b|a$ and $\gcd(a, b) = b$.

When $r_1 \neq 0$, divide b by r_1 to produce integers q_2 and r_2 satisfying

$$b = q_2 r_1 + r_2, \quad 0 \leq r_2 < r_1$$

If $r_2 = 0$, then we stop. Otherwise

$$r_1 = q_3 r_2 + r_3, \quad 0 \leq r_3 < r_2$$

The division process continues until some zero remainder appears, say at the $(n+1)^{\text{th}}$ stage where r_{n-1} is divided by r_n .

The result is the following system of equations.

$$a = q_1 b + r_1, \quad 0 < r_1 < b$$

$$b = q_2 r_1 + r_2, \quad 0 < r_2 < r_1$$

$$r_1 = q_3 r_2 + r_3, \quad 0 < r_3 < r_2$$

$$\vdots$$
$$r_{n-2} = q_n r_{n-1} + r_n, \quad 0 < r_n < r_{n-1}$$

$$r_{n-1} = q_{n+1} r_n + 0$$

The last non zero remainder r_n is the gcd (a, b) .

(i) Find $\text{gcd}(12378, 3054)$

Solution

$$12378 = 4 \cdot 3054 + 162$$

$$3054 = 18 \cdot 162 + 138$$

$$162 = 1 \cdot 138 + 24$$

$$138 = 5 \cdot 24 + 18$$

$$24 = 1 \cdot 18 + 6$$

$$18 = 3 \cdot 6 + 0$$

$$\text{gcd}(12378, 3054) = 6.$$

Now, $6 = 24 - 18$

$$= 24 - (138 - 5 \cdot 24)$$

$$= 6 \cdot 24 - 138$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= 6(162 - 138) - 138 \\
&= 6 \cdot 162 - 7 \cdot 138 \\
&= 6 \cdot 162 - 7(3054 - 18 \cdot 162) \\
&= 132 \cdot 162 - 7 \cdot 3054 \\
&= 132(12378 - 4 \cdot 3054) - 7 \cdot 3054 \\
&= 132 \cdot 12378 + (-535) 3054
\end{aligned}$$

$$6 = \gcd(12378, 3054) = 12378x + 3054y, \text{ where}$$

$$x = 132 \text{ and } y = -535.$$

(2) Find $\gcd(143, 227)$

Solution

$$227 = 1 \cdot 143 + 84$$

$$143 = 1 \cdot 84 + 59$$

$$84 = 1 \cdot 59 + 25$$

$$59 = 2 \cdot 25 + 9$$

$$25 = 2 \cdot 9 + 7$$

$$9 = 1 \cdot 7 + 2$$

$$7 = 3 \cdot 2 + 1$$

$$2 = 1 \cdot 2 + 0$$

$$3 = 1 \cdot 3 + 0$$

$$\gcd(143, 227) = 1$$

Now,

$$1 = 7 - 3 \cdot 2$$

$$= 7 - 3 \cdot (9 - 1 \cdot 7)$$

$$= 2 \cdot 7 - 3 \cdot 9$$

$$= 2 \cdot (25 - 2 \cdot 9) - 3 \cdot 9$$

$$= 2 \cdot 25 - 7 \cdot 9$$

$$= 2 \cdot 25 - 7 \cdot (59 - 2 \cdot 25)$$

$$= 16 \cdot 25 - 7 \cdot 59$$

$$= 16 \cdot (84 - 1 \cdot 59) - 7 \cdot 59$$

$$= 16 \cdot 84 - 23 \cdot 59$$

$$= 16 \cdot 84 - 23 \cdot (143 - 1 \cdot 84)$$

$$= 39 \cdot 84 - 23 \cdot 143$$

$$= 39 \cdot (227 - 1 \cdot 143) - 23 \cdot 143$$

$$= 39 \cdot 227 - 62 \cdot 143$$

$$1 = 39 \cdot 227 + (-62) \cdot 143$$

$$1 = \gcd(227, 143) = 227x + 143y \quad \text{where}$$

$$x = 39 \quad \text{and} \quad y = -62.$$

(3) Find $\gcd(306, 657)$

Solution

$$657 = 2 \cdot 306 + 45$$

$$306 = 6 \cdot 45 + 36$$

$$45 = 1 \cdot 36 + 9$$

$$36 = 4 \cdot 9 + 0$$

$$\gcd(306, 657) = 9$$

Now, $9 = 45 - 1 \cdot 36$

$$= 45 - 1 \cdot (306 - 6 \cdot 45)$$

$$= 7 \cdot 45 - 1 \cdot 306$$

$$= 7 \cdot (657 - 2 \cdot 306) - 1 \cdot 306$$

$$= 7 \cdot 657 - 15 \cdot 306$$

$$9 = \gcd(657, 306) = 657x + 306y \quad \text{where}$$

$$x = 7 \quad \text{and} \quad y = -15.$$

(4) Use the Euclidean Algorithm to obtain integers

x and y satisfying the following.

$$\gcd(119, 272) = 119x + 272y.$$

Solution

$$272 = 2 \cdot 119 + 34$$

$$119 = 3 \cdot 34 + 17$$

$$34 = 2 \cdot 17 + 0$$

Now, $17 = 119 - 3 \cdot 34$

$$= 119 - 3 \cdot (272 - 2 \cdot 119)$$

$$= 7 \cdot 119 - 3 \cdot 272.$$

$$17 = \gcd(272, 119) = 7 \cdot 119 + (-3) \cdot 272$$

$$\gcd(272, 119) = 119x + 272y \quad \text{where.}$$

$$x = 7 \quad \text{and} \quad y = -3.$$

Exercises

(1) Find $\gcd(272, 1479)$

(2) Use the Euclidean Algorithm to obtain integers x and y satisfying the following.

(a) $\gcd(56, 72) = 56x + 72y$

(b) $\gcd(24, 138) = 24x + 138y$

(c) $\gcd(1769, 2378) = 1769x + 2378y.$

Diophantine Equation

The linear Diophantine equation $ax+by=c$ has a solution if and only if $d|c$, where $d = \gcd(a, b)$. If x_0, y_0 is any particular solution of this equation, then all other solutions are given by $x = x_0 + \left(\frac{b}{d}\right)t$, $y = y_0 - \left(\frac{a}{d}\right)t$, where t is an arbitrary integer.

(1) Solve the Diophantine equation $172x + 20y = 1000$.

Solution

Using Euclidean algorithm on 172 and 20

$$172 = 8 \cdot 20 + 12$$

$$20 = 1 \cdot 12 + 8$$

$$12 = 1 \cdot 8 + 4$$

$$8 = 2 \cdot 4$$

$$\gcd(172, 20) = 4$$

Since $4|1000$, a solution to this equation exists.

$$4 = 12 - 8$$

$$= 12 - (20 - 1 \cdot 12)$$

$$= 2 \cdot 12 - 20$$

$$= 2 \cdot (172 - 8 \cdot 20) - 20$$

$$= 2 \cdot 172 - 10 \cdot 20$$

$$4 = 2 \cdot 172 + (-10) \cdot 20$$

Multiply this relation with 250.

$$1000 = 4 \cdot 250 = 250 [2.172 + (-17)20] \\ = 500 \cdot 172 + (-4250)20.$$

$$x_0 = 500 \quad \text{and} \quad y_0 = -4250.$$

The other solutions are.

$$x = x_0 + \left(\frac{b}{d}\right)t = 500 + \left(\frac{20}{4}\right)t = 500 + 5t$$

$$y = y_0 - \left(\frac{a}{d}\right)t = -4250 - \left(\frac{172}{4}\right)t = -4250 - 43t.$$

2. Solve the linear Diophantine equation

$$24x + 138y = 18.$$

Solution

Using Euclidean algorithm on

24 and 138.

$$138 = 5 \cdot 24 + 18$$

$$24 = 1 \cdot 18 + 6$$

$$18 = 3 \cdot 6$$

$$\gcd(24, 138) = 6.$$

Since $6 \mid 18$, a solution to this equation exist.

$$6 = 24 - 18$$

$$6 = 24 - (138 - 5 \cdot 24)$$

$$6 = 6 \cdot 24 - 138$$

$$6 = 6 \cdot 24 + (-1)138$$

Multiply the relation with 3,

$$18 = 3 \cdot 6 = 3 [6 \cdot 24 + (-1) 138]$$

$$18 = 18 \cdot 24 + (-3) \cdot 138$$

$$18 = 24x + 138y, \text{ where}$$

$$x_0 = 18 \text{ and } y_0 = -3$$

The other solutions are

$$x = x_0 + \left(\frac{b}{d}\right)t = 18 + \left(\frac{138}{6}\right)t$$

$$x = 18 + 23t$$

$$y = y_0 - \left(\frac{a}{d}\right)t = -3 - \left(\frac{24}{6}\right)t$$

$$y = -3 - 4t.$$

3. Solve the linear Diophantine equation

$$54x + 21y = 906$$

Solution

$$54 = 4 \cdot 21 + 12$$

$$54 = 2 \cdot 21 + 12$$

$$21 = 1 \cdot 12 + 9$$

$$12 = 1 \cdot 9 + 3$$

$$9 = 3 \cdot 3$$

$$\gcd(54, 21) = 3$$

Since $3 \mid 906$, a solution to this equation

exists.

Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
 3 &= 12 - 1 \cdot 9 \\
 &= 12 - (21 - 12) \\
 &= 2 \cdot 12 - 21 \\
 &= 2 \cdot (54 - 2 \cdot 21) - 21 \\
 &= 2 \cdot 54 - 5 \cdot 21
 \end{aligned}$$

Multiply the relation with 302

$$906 = 3 \cdot 302 = 302 [2 \cdot 54 - 5 \cdot 21]$$

$$906 = 604 \cdot 54 - 1510 \cdot 21$$

$$906 = 54x + 21y \quad \text{where}$$

$$x_0 = 604 \quad \text{and} \quad y_0 = -1510$$

The other solutions are.

$$x = x_0 + \left(\frac{b}{d}\right)t = 604 + \left(\frac{21}{3}\right)t$$

$$x = 604 + 7t$$

$$y = y_0 - \left(\frac{a}{d}\right)t = -1510 - \left(\frac{54}{3}\right)t$$

$$y = -1510 - 18t$$

4. check whether a solution for the Diophantine equation $6x + 51y = 22$ exist or not.

Solution

$$51 = 8 \cdot 6 + 3 \cdot (-21) = 8$$

$$6 = 2 \cdot 3 - (-1) = 2$$

$$\gcd(51, 6) = 3 \mid 22 = 7$$

But 3 does not divide 22, so the solution for Diophantine equation does not exist.

Exercises

1. Solve the Diophantine equations.

$$(1) 56x + 72y = 40$$

$$(2) 221x + 35y = 11$$

$$(3) 18x + 5y = 48$$

$$(4) 123x + 360y = 99$$

$$(5) 158x - 57y = 7.$$

Congruence

Let n be a fixed positive integer.
Two integers a and b are said to be

Congruent modulo n , symbolized by

$$a \equiv b \pmod{n}.$$

if n divides the difference $a-b$, that is
 $a-b=kn$ for some integer k .

If $n \nmid a-b$ then a is not congruent to b
modulo n , and write $a \not\equiv b \pmod{n}$.

For example $24 \equiv 3 \pmod{7}$

$$\text{Since } 24-3 = 21 = 3 \cdot 7$$

$$-31 \equiv 11 \pmod{7}$$

$$\text{Since } -31-11 = -42 = -6 \cdot 7$$

But $25 \not\equiv 12 \pmod{7}$ since

$$25-12 = 13 = \text{not a multiple of } 7.$$

Properties of Congruences

(a) $a \equiv a \pmod{n}$

(b) If $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ then $b \equiv a \pmod{n}$

(c) If $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ and $b \equiv c \pmod{n}$ then $a \equiv c \pmod{n}$

(d) If $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ and $c \equiv d \pmod{n}$, then

$$a+c \equiv b+d \pmod{n} \text{ and } ac \equiv bd \pmod{n}.$$

(e) If $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ then $a+c \equiv b+c \pmod{n}$ and

$$ac \equiv bc \pmod{n}.$$

(f) If $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$ then $a^k \equiv b^k \pmod{n}$ for any positive integer k .

(i) Show that 41 divides $2^{20} - 1$.

Solution

$$2^5 = 32 \equiv -9 \pmod{41}$$

$$2^5 \equiv -9 \pmod{41}$$

$$(2^5)^4 \equiv (-9)^4 \pmod{41}$$

$$2^{20} = (-9)^2 (-9)^2 \pmod{41}$$

$$2^{20} = (81)(81) \pmod{41}$$

$$\text{But } 81 \equiv -1 \pmod{41}$$

$$81 \cdot 81 \equiv 1 \pmod{41}$$

$$\therefore 2^{20} \equiv 1 \pmod{41}$$

$$2^{20} - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{41}$$

\therefore 41 divides $2^{20} - 1$.

(2) Find the remainders when 2^{50} and 41^{65} are divided by 7.

Solution

$$2^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$$

$$(2^2)^{25} \equiv 1^{25} \pmod{7}$$

$$2^{50} \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$$

The remainder when 2^{50} divided by 7 is 1.

$$\text{Also } 41 \equiv -1 \pmod{7}$$

$$(41)^{65} \equiv (-1)^{65} \pmod{7}$$

$$41^{65} \equiv -1 \pmod{7}$$

The remainder when 41^{65} divided by 7 is -1.

(3) Find the remainder when dividing the sum

$$1! + 2! + 3! + 4! + \dots + 99! + 100! \text{ by } 12.$$

Solution

We have ~~$4! \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$~~

$$4! = 24 \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$$

$$5! = 5 \cdot 4! = 5 \cdot 0 \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$$

$$6! \equiv 6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4! \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$$

\vdots

$$100! \equiv 0 \pmod{12}$$

$$1! + 2! + 3! + 4! + \dots + 99! + 100!$$

$$\equiv 1! + 2! + 3! + 0 + \dots + 0 \pmod{12}$$

$$\equiv 1 + 2 + 6 \pmod{12}$$

$$\equiv 9 \pmod{12}$$

\therefore The remainder is 9.

Linear Congruence.

The linear congruence $ax \equiv b \pmod{n}$ has a solution if and only if $d \mid b$ where $d = \gcd(a, n)$. If $d \mid b$ then it has d mutually incongruent solutions modulo n .

The congruence is equivalent to the linear Diophantine equation $ax - ny = b$.

$$ax - b = ny$$

$$ax - ny = b$$

This equation can be solved if $d \mid b$.

The other solutions are.

$$x = x_0 + \frac{n}{d} t$$

$$y = y_0 + \frac{a}{d} t$$

(i) Solve the linear congruence $18x \equiv 30 \pmod{42}$.

Solution

$$18x \equiv 30 \pmod{42}$$

$$18x - 30 = 42y$$

$$18x - 42y = 30$$

Also, $42 = 2 \cdot 18 + 6$

$$18 = 3 \cdot 6.$$

so, $\gcd(18, 42) = 6$

Since 6 divides 30, there exists a solution.

By inspection one solution is $x = 4$.

The six solutions are

$$x \equiv 4 + \left(\frac{42}{6}\right)t$$

$$x \equiv 4 + 7t \pmod{42}, t = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$$

$$\text{i.e. } x \equiv 4, 11, 18, 25, 32, 39 \pmod{42}$$

(2) Solve the linear congruence $9x \equiv 21 \pmod{30}$.

Solution

$$9x \equiv 21 \pmod{30}$$

$$9x - 21 = 30y$$

$$9x - 30y = 21$$

$$\text{Also } 30 = 3 \cdot 9 + 3$$

$$9 = 3 \cdot 3$$

$$\gcd(9, 30) = 3.$$

Since 3 divides 21 there exists a solution.

$$\text{Here } 3 = 30 - 3 \cdot 9.$$

$$21 = 7 \cdot 3 = 7 [30 - 3 \cdot 9]$$

$$21 = 7 \cdot 30 - 21 \cdot 9.$$

$$\text{We have } 21 = 9x - 30y.$$

$$21 = 9(-21) - 30(-7)$$

$$\therefore x_0 = -21, y_0 = -7.$$

The three solutions are.

$$x = -21 + \left(\frac{30}{3}\right)t$$

$$x = -21 + 10t, \quad t = 0, 1, 2$$

$$x = -21, -11, -1 \pmod{30}.$$

(3) Solve the linear congruence $25x \equiv 15 \pmod{29}$

Solution

$$25x \equiv 15 \pmod{29}$$

$$25x - 15 = 29y$$

$$25x - 29y = 15.$$

$$\text{Also } 29 = 1 \cdot 25 + 4$$

$$25 = 6 \cdot 4 + 1 = 18 + 7$$

$$4 = 1 \cdot 4$$

$$\gcd(25, 29) = 1$$

$$\text{Here } 1 = 25 - 6 \cdot 4$$

$$= 25 - 6 [29 - 1 \cdot 25]$$

$$1 = 7 \cdot 25 - 6 \cdot 29$$

We have $25x - 29y = 15$, multiply by 15

$$15 = 15 [7 \cdot 25 - 6 \cdot 29]$$

$$15 = 105 \cdot 25 - 90 \cdot 29$$

$$\therefore x = 105 \text{ and } y = 90$$

The solutions are

$$x = 105 + \left(\frac{29}{1}\right)t, \quad t=0$$

$$x = 105 + 29t, \quad t=0$$

$$x = 105$$

Exercises

Solve the following linear congruences.

(1) $5x \equiv 2 \pmod{26}$

(2) $6x \equiv 15 \pmod{21}$

(3) $36x \equiv 8 \pmod{102}$

(4) $34x \equiv 60 \pmod{98}$

(5) $140x \equiv 133 \pmod{301}$

Recurrence Relation

The general form of a first order linear homogeneous recurrence relation with constant coefficients is

$$a_{n+1} = d a_n, \quad n \geq 0, \quad \text{where } d \text{ is a}$$

constant. Since a_{n+1} depends only on its immediate predecessor, the relation is said to be first order.

The unique solution of the recurrence relation $a_{n+1} = d a_n, \quad n \geq 0, \quad d$ is a constant with initial condition $a_0 = A$ is

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} a_n &= A d^n, \quad n \geq 0. \\ a_n &= a_0 d^n \end{aligned}}$$

(i) Solve the recurrence relation $a_n = 7 a_{n-1},$

where $n \geq 1$ and $a_2 = 98$

Solution

The solution is

$$a_n = a_0 7^n \quad (\text{Here } d=7)$$

given

$$a_2 = 98$$

$$a_0 7^2 = 98 \Rightarrow a_0 = \frac{98}{49} = 2.$$

$$\therefore a_n = 2 \cdot 7^n, \quad n \geq 0.$$

(2) Solve $a_{n+1} - 1.5 a_n = 0, n \geq 0$

Solution

$$a_{n+1} = 1.5 a_n$$

$$d = 1.5$$

Solution $a_n = a_0 (1.5)^n$

(3) Solve $3 a_{n+1} - 4 a_n = 0, n \geq 0, a_1 = 5$

Solution

$$3 a_{n+1} = 4 a_n$$

$$a_{n+1} = \frac{4}{3} a_n$$

$$d = \frac{4}{3}$$

Solution $a_n = a_0 \left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^n$

Given $a_1 = 5$

$$a_0 \left(\frac{4}{3}\right) = 5$$

$$a_0 = \frac{15}{4}$$

$$\therefore a_n = \left(\frac{15}{4}\right) \left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^n$$

(4) Find the unique solution of the recurrence

relation $6 a_n - 7 a_{n-1} = 0, n \geq 1, a_3 = 343$

Solution

$$6 a_n = 7 a_{n-1}$$

$$a_n = \left(\frac{7}{6}\right) a_{n-1}$$

$$d = \frac{7}{6}$$

Solution is $a_n = a_0 \left(\frac{7}{6}\right)^n$

Given $a_3 = 343$

$$a_0 \left(\frac{7}{6}\right)^3 = 343$$

$$a_0 = \frac{343 \times 216}{343} = 216$$

$$\therefore a_n = 216 \left(\frac{7}{6}\right)^n$$

(5) Find a_{12} if $a_{n+1}^2 = 5a_n^2$, $a_n > 0$ for $n \geq 0$ and $a_0 = 2$

Solution

The recurrence relation is not linear in a_n . Let $b_n = a_n^2$, then the relation becomes

$$b_{n+1} = 5b_n, \quad b_0 = a_0^2 = 4$$

The solution for b_n is $b_n = b_0 5^n$
 $b_n = 4 \cdot 5^n$

$$\therefore a_n = 2(\sqrt{5})^n$$

$$a_{12} = 2(\sqrt{5})^{12}$$

$$a_{12} = 31,250$$

(6) Solve the relation $a_n = n \cdot a_{n-1}$, where $n \geq 1$
and $a_0 = 1$.

Solution

This relation is a recurrence relation with variable coefficient.

$$a_0 = 1$$

$$a_1 = 1 \cdot a_0 = 1$$

$$a_2 = 2 \cdot a_1 = 2 \cdot 1 = 2!$$

$$a_3 = 3 \cdot a_2 = 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 3!$$

$$a_4 = 4 \cdot a_3 = 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 4!$$

$$\therefore a_n = n!$$

Exercises

(1) solve the recurrence relations

$$(a) \quad 4a_n - 5a_{n-1} = 0, \quad n \geq 1$$

$$(b) \quad 2a_n - 3a_{n-1} = 0, \quad n \geq 1, \quad a_4 = 81$$

Second Order Linear Homogeneous

Recurrence Relation with Constant Coefficients.

The general form of second order homogeneous recurrence relation with constant coefficients is

$$C_0 a_n + C_1 a_{n-1} + C_2 a_{n-2} = 0, \quad n \geq 2.$$

Take $a_n = c \cdot \delta^n$

$$C_0 c \delta^n + C_1 c \delta^{n-1} + C_2 c \delta^{n-2} = 0.$$

$$(C_0 \delta^2 + C_1 \delta + C_2) c \delta^{n-2} = 0.$$

$$C_0 \delta^2 + C_1 \delta + C_2 = 0.$$

The equation $C_0 \delta^2 + C_1 \delta + C_2 = 0$ is called the characteristic equation. Let δ_1 and δ_2 be the roots of the equation.

Case (A) Distinct real roots.

If δ_1 and δ_2 are the distinct real roots, the solution is

$$a_n = C_1 (\delta_1^n) + C_2 (\delta_2^n)$$

$$a_n = C_1 (\delta_1^n) + C_2 (\delta_2^n)$$

(i) Solve the recurrence relation

$$a_n + a_{n-1} - 6a_{n-2} = 0, \quad n \geq 2, \quad a_0 = -1, \quad a_1 = 8.$$

Solution

$$\text{If } a_n = c \delta^n$$

$$a_{n+1} = c \delta^{n+1}$$

$$a_{n-1} = c \delta^{n-1}$$

$$a_{n-2} = c \delta^{n-2}$$

$$\text{Equation becomes } c \delta^n + c \delta^{n-1} - 6c \delta^{n-2} = 0$$

$$c \delta^{n-2} (\delta^2 + \delta - 6) = 0$$

$$\delta^2 + \delta - 6 = 0$$

$$(\delta + 3)(\delta - 2) = 0$$

$$\delta = -3, 2.$$

$$\therefore a_n = C_1 (2^n) + C_2 (-3)^n$$

$$\text{If } a_0 = -1,$$

$$a_0 = c_1(2^0) + c_2(-3)^0 = c_1 + c_2 = -1$$

$$\text{If } a_2 = 8$$

$$a_2 = c_1(2^2) + c_2(-3)^2 = 4c_1 - 3c_2 = 8$$

$$c_1 + c_2 = -1 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$4c_1 - 3c_2 = 8 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$(1) \times 2 \Rightarrow 2c_1 + 2c_2 = -2 \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$(2) \Rightarrow 4c_1 - 3c_2 = 8 \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

$$(3) - (4) \Rightarrow 5c_2 = -10$$

$$c_2 = -2$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow c_1 - 2 = -1$$

$$c_1 = 1$$

$$\therefore a_n = 2^n - 2(-3)^n.$$

(2) Solve the recurrence relation

$$2a_n = 7a_{n-1} - 3a_{n-2}; \quad a_0 = 2, a_1 = 5$$

Solution

$$\text{If } a_n = c\delta^n$$

$$a_{n-1} = c\delta^{n-1}$$

$$a_{n-2} = c\delta^{n-2}$$

Equation becomes $2c\delta^n = 7c\delta^{n-1} - 3c\delta^{n-2}$

$$c\delta^{n-2} [2\delta^2 - 7\delta + 3] = 0$$

$$2\delta^2 - 7\delta + 3 = 0$$

$$\gamma = \frac{7 \pm \sqrt{49 - 24}}{4}$$

$$\gamma = \frac{7 \pm 5}{4}$$

$$\gamma = 3, \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\therefore a_n = c_1 (3^n) + c_2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$$

$$\text{If } a_0 = 2, \quad a_0 = c_1 (3^0) + c_2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^0 = c_1 + c_2 = 2.$$

$$\text{If } a_1 = 5, \quad a_1 = c_1 (3^1) + c_2 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^1 = 3c_1 + \frac{1}{2}c_2 = 5$$

$$c_1 + c_2 = 2 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$3c_1 + \frac{1}{2}c_2 = 5 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$(2) \times 2 \quad 6c_1 + c_2 = 10 \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$(3) - (1) \Rightarrow 5c_1 = 8$$

$$c_1 = \frac{8}{5}$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow c_2 = 2 - \frac{8}{5} = \frac{2}{5}$$

$$a_n = \frac{8}{5} (3^n) + \frac{2}{5} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$$

(3) Solve the recurrence relation $F_{n+2} = F_{n+1} + F_n$.

where $n \geq 0$, and $F_0 = 0, F_1 = 1$

Solution

$$\text{If } F_n = c\gamma^n$$

$$F_{n+1} = c\gamma^{n+1}$$

$$F_{n+2} = c\gamma^{n+2}$$

Equation becomes

$$c\gamma^{n+2} = c\gamma^{n+1} + c\gamma^n$$

$$c\gamma^n [\gamma^2 - \gamma - 1] = 0$$

$$\gamma^2 - \gamma - 1 = 0$$

$$\gamma = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1+4}}{2}$$

$$\gamma = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$F_n = c_1 \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n + c_2 \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n$$

$$F_0 = c_1 + c_2 = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$F_1 = c_1 \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right) + c_2 \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right) = 1 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$(1) \times (1+\sqrt{5}) \Rightarrow c_1(1+\sqrt{5}) + c_2(1+\sqrt{5}) = 0 \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$(2) \times 2 \Rightarrow c_1(1+\sqrt{5}) + c_2(1-\sqrt{5}) = 2 \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

$$(3) - (4) \Rightarrow c_2(2\sqrt{5}) = -2.$$

$$c_2 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow c_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$F_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n$$

Repeated Real roots

(1) Solve the recurrence relation

$$a_{n+2} = 4a_{n+1} - 4a_n, \quad n \geq 0, \quad a_0 = 1, a_1 = 3$$

Solution

$$\text{If } a_n = C\delta^n$$

$$a_{n+1} = C\delta^{n+1}$$

$$a_{n+2} = C\delta^{n+2}$$

$$C\delta^{n+2} = 4C\delta^{n+1} - 4C\delta^n$$

$$C\delta^n [\delta^2 - 4\delta + 4] = 0$$

$$\delta^2 - 4\delta + 4 = 0$$

$$(\delta - 2)^2 = 0$$

$$\delta = 2, 2.$$

$$\therefore a_n = C_1(2^n) + C_2 n(2^n)$$

$$a_0 = C_1 + \cancel{C_2} = 1 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$a_1 = C_1(2) + C_2(2) = 3$$

$$2C_2 = 1$$

$$C_2 = \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$a_n = (2^n) + \frac{1}{2} n(2^n)$$

(2) Solve the recurrence relation.

$$a_n - 6a_{n-1} + 9a_{n-2} = 0, \quad n \geq 2, \quad a_0 = 5, a_1 = 12.$$

Solution

$$a_n = c\delta^n, a_{n+1} = c\delta^{n+1}, a_{n+2} = c\delta^{n+2}$$

$$a_n = c\delta^n, a_{n-1} = c\delta^{n-1}, a_{n-2} = c\delta^{n-2}$$

$$c\delta^n - 6c\delta^{n-1} + 9c\delta^{n-2} = 0$$

$$c\delta^{n-2} [\delta^2 - 6\delta + 9] = 0$$

$$\delta^2 - 6\delta + 9 = 0$$

$$(\delta - 3)^2 = 0$$

$$\delta = 3, 3$$

$$a_n = c_1(3^n) + c_2 n(3^n)$$

$$a_0 = c_1 = 5 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$a_1 = c_1(3) + c_2(3) = 12 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$15 + 3c_2 = 12$$

$$3c_2 = -3$$

$$c_2 = -1$$

$$a_n = 5(3^n) - n(3^n)$$

Complex Roots

c) Solve the recurrence relation

$$a_n = 2(a_{n-1} - a_{n-2}), \quad n \geq 2, \quad a_0 = 1, \quad a_1 = 2$$

Solution

$$a_n = c\delta^n, a_{n-1} = c\delta^{n-1}, a_{n-2} = c\delta^{n-2}$$

$$c\delta^n = 2(c\delta^{n-1} - c\delta^{n-2})$$

$$c\delta^{n-2}(\delta^2 - 2\delta + 2) = 0$$

$$\gamma = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{4-8}}{2}$$

$$\gamma = 1 \pm i$$

$$a_n = c_1 (1+i)^n + c_2 (1-i)^n$$

$$a_0 = c_1 (1+i)^0 + c_2 (1-i)^0 = c_1 + c_2 = 1 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$a_1 = c_1 (1+i) + c_2 (1-i) = 2 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$(1) \times (1+i) \Rightarrow \underline{c_1 (1+i) + c_2 (1+i) = 1+i} \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

$$(2) - (3) \Rightarrow c_2 (-2i) = 1-i$$

$$c_2 = \frac{1-i}{-2i} = \frac{1}{2}(i+1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} c_1 &= 1 - c_2 \\ &= 1 - \frac{(i+1)}{2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(1-i) \end{aligned}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{2}(1-i)(1+i)^n + \frac{1}{2}(1+i)(1-i)^n$$

Exercises

Solve the recursive relations

(1) $a_n = 5a_{n-1} + 6a_{n-2}$, $n \geq 2$, $a_0 = 1$, $a_1 = 3$

(2) $2a_{n+2} - 11a_{n+1} + 5a_n = 0$, $n \geq 0$, $a_0 = 2$, $a_1 = -8$

(3) $a_{n+3} + a_n = 0$, $n \geq 0$, $a_0 = 0$, $a_1 = 3$

(4) $a_n + 2a_{n-1} + 2a_{n-2} = 0$, $n \geq 2$, $a_0 = 1$, $a_1 = 3$.

Non homogeneous recurrence relation

Consider the non homogeneous first order relation $a_n + C_1 a_{n-1} = k \delta^n$, where k is a constant and $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. If δ^n is not a solution of the associated homogeneous relation

$a_n + C_1 a_{n-1} = 0$, then $a_n^{(P)} = A \delta^n$ where A is a constant. If δ^n is a solution of the corresponding homogeneous relation, then $a_n^{(P)} = B n \delta^n$, B is a constant.

Consider the non homogeneous second order relation $a_n + C_1 a_{n-1} + C_2 a_{n-2} = k \delta^n$, where k is a constant.

(a) If δ^n is not a solution of the homogeneous relation $a_n^{(P)} = A \delta^n$

(b) If $a_n^{(h)} = C_1 \delta_1^n + C_2 \delta_2^n$ where $\delta_1 \neq \delta_2$,

$a_n^{(P)} = B n \delta^n$ where B is a constant

(c) If $a_n^{(h)} = (C_1 + C_2 n) \delta^n$

$a_n^{(P)} = C n^2 \delta^n$, C is a constant.

The solution is $a_n = a_n^{(h)} + a_n^{(P)}$

① Solve the recurrence relation

$$a_n - 3a_{n-1} = 5(7^n), \quad n \geq 1, \quad \text{and } a_0 = 2$$

Solution

$$a_n = 3a_{n-1}$$

$$a_n^{(h)} = C_0(3^n)$$

Since $f(n) = 5(7^n)$, take $a_n^{(p)} = A(7^n)$

$$a_{n-1}^{(p)} = A(7^{n-1})$$

$$a_n^{(p)} = A$$

Equation becomes $A(7^n) - 3(A(7^{n-1})) = 5(7^n)$

$$A7^{n-1}(7-3) = 57^{n-1} \cdot 7$$

$$4A = 35$$

$$A = \frac{35}{4}$$

$$a_n^{(p)} = \frac{35}{4}(7^n)$$

$$\therefore a_n = a_n^{(h)} + a_n^{(p)}$$

$$a_n = C_0(3^n) + \frac{35}{4}(7^n)$$

Given $a_0 = 2$.

$$a_0 = C_0(3^0) + \frac{35}{4}(7^0)$$

$$a_0 = C_0 + \frac{35}{4} = 2$$

$$C_0 = 2 - \frac{35}{4} = \frac{-27}{4}$$

$$a_n = \frac{-27}{4}(3^n) + \frac{35}{4}(7^n)$$

② Solve the recurrence relation

$$a_n - 3a_{n-1} = 5(3^n), \quad n > 1, \quad a_0 = 2$$

Solution

$$a_n - 3a_{n-1} = 0$$

$$a_n = 3a_{n-1}$$

$$a_n^{(h)} = C_0(3^n)$$

Since $f(n) = 5(3^n)$. take $a_n^{(p)} = Bn(3^n)$

$$a_{n-1}^{(p)} = B(n-1)(3^{n-1})$$

Equation becomes $Bn(3^n) - 3B(n-1)(3^{n-1}) = 5(3^n)$

$$3^{n-1}(Bn3 - 3B(n-1)) = 53^{n-1}$$

$$3B(n - n + 1) = 15$$

$$B = 5$$

$$a_n^{(p)} = 5n(3^n)$$

$$a_n = a_n^{(h)} + a_n^{(p)}$$

$$a_n = C_0(3^n) + 5n(3^n)$$

Given $a_0 = 2$

$$a_0 = C_0(3^0) + 0 = 2$$

$$C_0 = 2$$

$$a_n = 2(3^n) + 5n(3^n)$$

$$a_n = (2 + 5n)(3^n)$$

(3) ~~(B)~~ Solve the recurrence relation

$$a_{n+2} + 3a_{n+1} + 2a_n = 3^n, \quad n \geq 0, \quad a_0 = 0, \quad a_1 = 1$$

Solution

Let $a_n = c\delta^n$ be the solution of the homogeneous equation $a_{n+2} + 3a_{n+1} + 2a_n = 0$.

$$c\delta^{n+2} + 3c\delta^{n+1} + 2c\delta^n = 0$$

$$\delta^n (c\delta^2 + 3c\delta + 2c) = 0$$

$$\delta^2 + 3\delta + 2 = 0$$

$$(\delta + 1)(\delta + 2) = 0$$

$$\delta = -1, -2$$

$$\therefore a_n^{(h)} = A(-1)^n + B(-2)^n$$

Since $f(n) = 3^n$, take $a_n^{(p)} = D(3^n)$

$$D(3^{n+2}) + 3D(3^{n+1}) + 2D(3^n) = 3^n$$

$$3^n [9D + 9D + 2D] = 3^n$$

$$20D = 1$$

$$D = \frac{1}{20}$$

$$\therefore a_n^{(p)} = \frac{1}{20}(3^n)$$

$$\therefore a_n = a_n^{(h)} + a_n^{(p)}$$

$$a_n = A(-1)^n + B(-2)^n + \frac{1}{20}(3^n)$$

(4) Solve the recurrence relation

$$a_{n+2} - 8a_{n+1} + 16a_n = 8(5^n) + 6(4^n), n \geq 0$$

$$a_0 = 12, a_1 = 5$$

Solution

Let $a_n = c\delta^n$ be the solution of the homogeneous equation $a_{n+2} - 8a_{n+1} + 16a_n = 0$, Then $a_{n+1} = c\delta^{n+1}$ and $a_{n+2} = c\delta^{n+2}$

$$\therefore c\delta^{n+2} - 8c\delta^{n+1} + 16c\delta^n = 0$$

$$c\delta^n [\delta^2 - 8\delta + 16] = 0$$

$$\delta^2 - 8\delta + 16 = 0$$

$$(\delta - 4)^2 = 0$$

$$\delta = 4, 4$$

$$\therefore a_n^{(h)} = A(4^n) + Bn(4^n)$$

Here $f(n) = 8(5^n) + 6(4^n)$, take

$$a_n^{(p)} = c(5^n) + Dn^2(4^n)$$

$$a_{n+1}^{(p)} = c(5^{n+1}) + D(n+1)^2(4^{n+1})$$

$$a_{n+2}^{(p)} = c(5^{n+2}) + D(n+2)^2(4^{n+2})$$

Substituting in the equation.

$$c(5^{n+2}) + D(n+2)^2(4^{n+2}) - 8[c(5^{n+1}) + D(n+1)^2(4^{n+1})]$$

$$+ 16[c(5^n) + Dn^2(4^n)] = 8(5^n) + 6(4^n)$$

Comparing coefficients of (5^n) and (4^n)

$$(5^n) [c \cdot 25 + D(n+2)^2]$$

$$(5^n) [25C^* - 40C + 16C] = 8(5^n)$$

$$25C - 40C + 16C = 8$$

$$C = 8$$

$$(4^n) [D(n+2)^2 16 - 8(n+1)^2 D(4) + 16Dn^2] = 6(4^n)$$

$$D[16n^2 + 64n + 64 - 32n^2 - 64n - 32 + 16n^2] = 6$$

$$D(32) = 6$$

$$D = \frac{6}{32} = \frac{3}{16}$$

$$a_n = a_n^{(h)} + a_n^{(p)}$$

$$a_n = A 4^n + B n (4^n) + 8(5^n) + \frac{3}{16} n^2 (4^n)$$

Given $a_0 = 12$

$$a_0 = A + 8 = 12$$

$$A = 4$$

Given $a_1 = 5$

$$a_1 = 4A + 4B + 40 + \frac{3}{4} = 5$$

$$4B + 56 + \frac{3}{4} = 5$$

$$4B = -51 + \frac{3}{4} = -\frac{207}{4}$$

$$B = -\frac{207}{16}$$

$$\therefore a_n = 4(4^n) - \frac{207}{16} n(4^n) + 8(5^n) + \frac{3}{16} n^2(4^n)$$

(5)(b) Solve the recurrence relation

$$a_{n+2} + 4a_{n+1} + 4a_n = 7, \quad n \geq 0, \quad a_0 = 1, a_1 = 2.$$

Solution

Let $a_n = c\delta^n$ be the solution of the homogeneous equation $a_{n+2} + 4a_{n+1} + 4a_n = 0$.

$$c\delta^{n+2} + 4c\delta^{n+1} + 4c\delta^n = 0$$

$$c\delta^n (\delta^2 + 4\delta + 4) = 0$$

$$\delta^2 + 4\delta + 4 = 0$$

$$(\delta + 2)^2 = 0$$

$$\delta = -2, -2$$

$$a_n^{(h)} = C_1 + A(-2)^n + Bn(-2)^n$$

Since $f(n) = 7$, take $a_n^{(p)} = C$

$$\cancel{c(n+2)} + \cancel{4c(n+1)} + 4cn = 7$$

$$c + 4c + 4c = 7$$

$$9c = 7$$

$$c = 7/9$$

$$\therefore a_n = a_n^{(h)} + a_n^{(p)}$$

$$a_n = A(-2)^n + Bn(-2)^n + 7/9$$

(6) ~~(3)~~ Solve $a_{n+2} - 4a_{n+1} + 3a_n = -200, n \geq 0$, given

$$a_0 = 3000, a_1 = 3300.$$

Solution

If $a_n^{(h)} = c\gamma^n$ be the solution of the

homogeneous ~~relation~~ ~~equation~~ $a_{n+2} - 4a_{n+1} + 3a_n = 0$

$$a_{n+1}^{(h)} = c\gamma^{n+1}, \quad a_{n+2}^{(h)} = c\gamma^{n+2}.$$

$$c\gamma^{n+2} - 4c\gamma^{n+1} + 3c\gamma^n = 0$$

$$c\gamma^n (\gamma^2 - 4\gamma + 3) = 0$$

$$\gamma = 3, 1.$$

$$\text{Hence } a_n^{(h)} = C_1 (3^n) + C_2 (1^n) \\ = C_1 (3^n) + C_2$$

Since $f(n) = -200 = -200(1^n)$ is a solution of the homogeneous ~~equation~~ relation, take

$$a_n^{(p)} = An \text{ for some constant } A.$$

$$A(n+2) - 4A(n+1) + 3An = -200$$

$$-2A = -200$$

$$A = 100$$

$$\text{Hence } a_n = C_1 (3^n) + C_2 + 100n.$$

$$a_0 = C_1 + C_2 = 3000 \text{ --- (1)}$$

$$a_1 = 3C_1 + C_2 + 100 = 3300$$

$$3C_1 + C_2 = 3200 \text{ --- (2)}$$

$$(2) - (1) \Rightarrow 2C_1 = 200$$

$$C_1 = 100$$

$$C_2 = 3000 - 100 = 2900$$

$$a_n = 100 (3^n) + 2900 + 100n.$$

Exercises

Solve the recurrence relation

$$(1) a_{n+1} - a_n = 2n + 3, \quad n \geq 0, \quad a_0 = 1$$

$$(2) a_{n+1} - a_n = 3n^2 - n, \quad n \geq 0, \quad a_0 = 3$$

$$(3) a_{n+1} - 2a_n = 5, \quad n \geq 0, \quad a_0 = 1$$

$$(4) a_{n+1} - 2a_n = 2^n, \quad n \geq 0, \quad a_0 = 1.$$

$$(5) \cancel{a_{n+2}} + a_{n+2} - 6a_{n+1} + 9a_n = 3(2^n) + 7(3^n)$$