



**DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS**

Formation of difference equations:

Difference equations: A difference equation is a relation between the differences of an unknown function at one or more general values of the argument.

Thus  $\Delta y_{(n+1)} + y_{(n)} = 2$

and  $\Delta y_{(n+1)} + \Delta^2 y_{(n-1)} = 1$  are difference equations.

Order of a difference equation: The order of a difference equation is the difference between the largest and the smallest arguments occurring in the difference equation divided by the unit of increment.

① Form the difference equation corresponding to the family of curves  $y = ax + bx^2$ .

Soln:  $y_x = ax + bx^2 \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$

$y_{x+1} = a(x+1) + b(x+1)^2 \rightarrow \textcircled{2}$

$y_{x+2} = a(x+2) + b(x+2)^2 \rightarrow \textcircled{3}$

Eliminating  $a$  and  $b$  from  $\textcircled{1}$ ,  $\textcircled{2}$  &  $\textcircled{3}$ , we get

$$\begin{vmatrix} y_x & x & x^2 \\ y_{x+1} & x+1 & (x+1)^2 \\ y_{x+2} & x+2 & (x+2)^2 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$y_x [(x+1)(x+2)^2 - (x+2)(x+1)^2] - y_{x+1} \left[ \frac{x(x+2)^2 - x^2}{(x+2)} \right]$$

$$+ y_{x+2} [x(x+1)^2 - x^2(x+1)] = 0$$

$$y_x (x+1)(x+2) - y_{x+1} 2x(x+2) + y_{x+2} x(x+1) = 0$$

$$(x^2+3x+2)y_x - 2(x^2+2x)y_{x+1} + (x^2+x)y_{x+2} = 0$$



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② From  $y_n = a \cdot 2^n + b(-2)^n$ , derive a difference eqn by eliminating the constants.

Soln:  $y_n = a \cdot 2^n + b(-2)^n \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$

$$y_{n+1} = a \cdot 2^{n+1} + b(-2)^{n+1} = 2a \cdot 2^n - 2b(-2)^n \rightarrow \textcircled{2}$$

$$y_{n+2} = a \cdot 2^{n+2} + b(-2)^{n+2} \\ = a \cdot 2^n \cdot 4 + b(-2)^n \cdot 4 = 4a \cdot 2^n + 4b(-2)^n \rightarrow \textcircled{3}$$

Eliminating  $a(2^n)$  &  $b(-2)^n$  from  $\textcircled{1}$ ,  $\textcircled{2}$  &  $\textcircled{3}$ ,

$$\begin{vmatrix} y_n & 1 & 1 \\ y_{n+1} & 2 & -2 \\ y_{n+2} & 4 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$y_n(8+8) - 1(4y_{n+1} + 2y_{n+2}) + 1(4y_{n+1} - 2y_{n+2}) = 0$$

$$16y_n - 4y_{n+1} - 2y_{n+2} + 4y_{n+1} - 2y_{n+2} = 0$$

$$16y_n - 4y_{n+2} = 0$$

$$y_{n+2} - 4y_n = 0$$

③ Derive the difference equation from  $y_n = (A+Bn)2^n$

Soln:  $y_n = (A+Bn)2^n = A \cdot 2^n + Bn \cdot 2^n \rightarrow \textcircled{1}$

$$y_{n+1} = A \cdot 2^{n+1} + B(n+1)2^{n+1} \\ = 2A \cdot 2^n + 2B(n+1)2^n \rightarrow \textcircled{2}$$

$$y_{n+2} = A \cdot 2^{n+2} + B(n+2)2^{n+2} \\ = 4A \cdot 2^n + 4B(n+2)2^n \rightarrow \textcircled{3}$$

Eliminating  $A \cdot 2^n$  and  $B \cdot 2^n$  from  $\textcircled{1}$ ,  $\textcircled{2}$  &  $\textcircled{3}$ ,

$$\begin{vmatrix} y_n & 1 & n \\ y_{n+1} & 2 & 2(n+1) \\ y_{n+2} & 4 & 4(n+2) \end{vmatrix} = 0$$



$$y_n [8(n+2) - 8(n+1)] - 1 [4(n+2)y_{n+1} - 2(n+1)y_{n+2}] \\ + n [4y_{n+1} - 2y_{n+2}] = 0$$

$$y_n [8n + 16 - 8n - 8] - [(4n+8)y_{n+1} - (2n+2)y_{n+2}] \\ + 4ny_{n+1} - 2ny_{n+2} = 0$$

$$8y_n - (4n+8)y_{n+1} + (2n+2)y_{n+2} + 4ny_{n+1} - 2ny_{n+2} = 0$$

$$2y_{n+2} - 8y_{n+1} + 8y_n = 0$$

$$y_{n+2} - 4y_{n+1} + 4y_n = 0$$