

1. Given the dynamical system $p(n) = 0.8p(n-1) + 16$ with $p(0) = 30$, find values for $p(1)$, $p(2)$, $p(3)$, and $p(100)$.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} p(1) &= 0.8 \cdot p(0) + 16 = 0.8 \cdot 30 + 16 = 40 \\ p(2) &= 0.8 \cdot p(1) + 16 = 0.8 \cdot 40 + 16 = 48 \\ p(3) &= 0.8 \cdot p(2) + 16 = 0.8 \cdot 48 + 16 = 54.4 \end{aligned}$$

So $p(1)=40$, $p(2)=48$, and $p(3)=54.4$
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To avoid lengthy calculations, we may also obtain these results by entering the system into the calculator. We then obtain $p(100) \approx 80$.

2. Consider the following dynamical system of two equations.

$$\begin{aligned} u(n) &= 0.6u(n-1) + 0.3v(n-1) + 5 \\ v(n) &= 0.5u(n-1) + 0.6v(n-1) + 3 \end{aligned}$$

If $u(0) = 20$ and $v(0) = 15$, then determine $u(3)$ and $v(3)$. Also determine $u(70)$ and $v(70)$.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} u(1) &= 0.6 \cdot u(0) + 0.3 \cdot v(0) + 5 = 0.6 \cdot 20 + 0.3 \cdot 15 + 5 = 21.5 \\ v(1) &= 0.5 \cdot u(0) + 0.6 \cdot v(0) + 3 = 0.5 \cdot 20 + 0.6 \cdot 15 + 3 = 22 \\ u(2) &= 0.6 \cdot u(1) + 0.3 \cdot v(1) + 5 = 0.6 \cdot 21.5 + 0.3 \cdot 22 + 5 = 24.5 \\ v(2) &= 0.5 \cdot u(1) + 0.6 \cdot v(1) + 3 = 0.5 \cdot 21.5 + 0.6 \cdot 22 + 3 = 26.95 \\ u(3) &= 0.6 \cdot u(2) + 0.3 \cdot v(2) + 5 = 0.6 \cdot 24.5 + 0.3 \cdot 26.95 + 5 = 27.785 \\ v(3) &= 0.5 \cdot u(2) + 0.6 \cdot v(2) + 3 = 0.5 \cdot 24.5 + 0.6 \cdot 26.95 + 3 = 31.42 \end{aligned}$$

So $u(3) = 27.785$ and $v(3) = 31.42$

To avoid lengthy calculations, we may also obtain these results by entering the system into the calculator. We then obtain $u(70) \approx 178.64$ and $v(70) \approx 226.23$.

3. Let $h(n)$ represent the height of a stack of n chairs. Each chair by itself is 3 feet high, but when stacked, the height of an existing stack only increases by 8 inches for each additional chair. A pattern doesn't really begin until you actually have one chair, so we won't define $h(0)$ but will start with $h(1) = 3$. Be consistent with your units and do the following:

(a) Develop a discrete dynamical system for $h(n)$.

Solution 1 (feet): Let $h(n)$ represent the height in feet of n stacked chairs with $n \geq 1$. Then

$$h(n) = h(n-1) + 2/3 \text{ and } h(1) = 3$$

Solution 2 (inches): Let $h(n)$ represent the height in inches of n stacked chairs with $n \geq 1$. Then

$$h(n) = h(n-1) + 8 \text{ and } h(1) = 36$$

(b) Find an explicit formula for $h(n)$.

Solution 1 (feet): $h(n) = \frac{2}{3}(n-1) + 3$ or $h(n) = \frac{2}{3}n + \frac{7}{3}$

Solution 2 (inches): $h(n) = 8(n-1) + 36$ or $h(n) = 8n + 28$

4. Develop a discrete model in which 80% of some drug in the bloodstream from one day to the next is used up, but the remainder is reinforced with a maintenance dose of 40 mg per day. The initial dose is 10 mg.

Solution:

Let $u(n)$ represent the number of milligrams of drug in the bloodstream n days after the initial dose. Then

$$u(n) = u(n-1) - 0.8u(n-1) + 40 \text{ and } u(0) = 10$$

or in simplified form

$$u(n) = 0.2u(n-1) + 40 \text{ and } u(0) = 10$$

5. There are 2 drugs, A and B . Let $a(n)$ and $b(n)$ represent the number of milligrams of each drug in the body at the beginning of day n . The body converts 10% of A into B each day and converts 25% of B into A each day. Assume that 800 mg of A and 600 mg of B are consumed each day, and that the body eliminates 100 mg of A and 200 mg of B each day. Begin with $a(0) = 800$ and $b(0) = 600$ and develop a discrete model to represent $a(n)$ and $b(n)$.

Solution:

$$a(n) = a(n-1) - 0.1a(n-1) + 0.25b(n-1) + 800 - 100$$

$$b(n) = b(n-1) + 0.1a(n-1) - 0.25b(n-1) + 600 - 200$$

$$a(0) = 800 \text{ and } b(0) = 600$$

or in simplified form

$$a(n) = 0.9a(n-1) + 0.25b(n-1) + 700$$

$$b(n) = 0.1a(n-1) + 0.75b(n-1) + 400$$

$$a(0) = 800 \text{ and } b(0) = 600$$