

Part 1

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

$$r^n = r^{n-1} + \frac{1}{4} r^{n-2}$$

$$r^n - r^{n-1} - \frac{1}{4} r^{n-2} = 0$$

$$r^2 - r - \frac{1}{4} = 0$$

by quadratic formula, roots are  $\frac{1+\sqrt{2}}{2}$  &  $\frac{1-\sqrt{2}}{2}$

general form:

$$a_n = \alpha_1 \left( \frac{1+\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)^n + \alpha_2 \left( \frac{1-\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)^n$$

initial conditions  $a_0 = 0, a_1 = 3$

$$a_0 = \alpha_1 \left( \frac{1+\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)^0 + \alpha_2 \left( \frac{1-\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)^0 = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = 0 \quad \therefore \alpha_1 = -\alpha_2$$

$$a_1 = \alpha_1 \left( \frac{1+\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)^1 + \alpha_2 \left( \frac{1-\sqrt{2}}{2} \right)^1 = 3$$

$$-\alpha_2 \left( \frac{1+\sqrt{2}}{2} \right) + \alpha_2 \left( \frac{1-\sqrt{2}}{2} \right) = 3$$

$$\alpha_2 \left( \frac{1-\sqrt{2}}{2} - \frac{1+\sqrt{2}}{2} \right) = 3$$

$$\alpha_2 \left( -\frac{2\sqrt{2}}{2} \right) = 3$$

$$-\sqrt{2} \alpha_2 = 3$$

$$\alpha_2 = -\frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} \quad \therefore \alpha_1 = \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}}$$

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

$$\frac{-(-1) \pm \sqrt{1 - 4(1)(-\frac{1}{4})}}{2(1)} = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{2}}{2}$$

Part 2

$a_n = 2^n + 3^n + 4^n$  can be written as  $a_n = c_1 a_{n-1} + c_2 a_{n-2} + c_3 a_{n-3}$

using sequence  $a_n = 2^n + 3^n + 4^n$

$$a_0 = 3$$

$$a_1 = 9$$

$$a_2 = 29$$

$$a_3 = 99$$

$$a_4 = 353$$

$$a_5 = 1299$$

system of equations:

$$a_3 = 99 = c_1(29) + c_2(9) + c_3(3)$$

$$a_4 = 353 = c_1(99) + c_2(29) + c_3(9)$$

$$a_5 = 1299 = c_1(353) + c_2(99) + c_3(29)$$

$$c_1 = 9, c_2 = -26, c_3 = 24$$

we need initial conditions:

$$a_0 = 3, a_1 = 9, a_2 = 29$$