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Question: The sum of the first n terms of two arithmetic progressions (AP) is in the ratio 5n+4:9n+6. Find the ratio of their 18th terms.

Solution::

Parameter	value	Description
$x_1(0)$	9 2	First term of the first arithmetic progression (AP).
$x_2(0)$	$\frac{15}{2}$	First term of the second arithmetic progression (AP).
d_1	5	Common difference of the first AP.
d_2	9	Common difference of the second AP.
n	-	Index of the term in the sequences.

TABLE I Input Parameters

$$x_1(n) = (x_1(0) + nd_1)u(n)$$
(1)

$$x_2(n) = (x_2(0) + nd_2)u(n)$$
 (2)

Applying Z transform: Taking Z-Transform:

1) $\mathcal{Z}{u(n)}$

$$u(n) \stackrel{\mathcal{Z}}{\longleftrightarrow} \frac{1}{1 - z^{-1}} \{ |z| > 1 \} \tag{3}$$

2) $\mathbb{Z}\{nu(n)\}$

$$nu(n) \stackrel{\mathcal{Z}}{\longleftrightarrow} \frac{z^{-1}}{(1-z^{-1})^2} \{|z| > 1\}$$
 (4)

$$\frac{\frac{n}{2}\left[2x_1(0) + (n-1)d_1\right]}{\frac{n}{2}\left[2x_2(0) + (n-1)d_2\right]} = \frac{5n+4}{9n+6}$$
 (5)

$$\frac{2x_1(0) + nd_1 - d_1}{2x_2(0) + nd_2 - d_2} = \frac{5n + 4}{9n + 6} \tag{6}$$

On comparing we get, $d_1 = 5$ and $d_2 = 9$

$$2x_1(0) - d_1 = 4 \tag{7}$$

$$x_1 = \frac{9}{2} \tag{8}$$

$$2x_2(0) - d_2 = 6 (9)$$

$$x_2(0) = \frac{15}{2} \tag{10}$$

$$x_1(z) = \frac{9/2}{1 - z^{-1}} + \frac{5z^{-1}}{(1 - z^{-1})^2}$$
 (11)

$$x_2(z) = \frac{15/2}{1 - z^{-1}} + \frac{9z^{-1}}{(1 - z^{-1})^2}$$
 (12)

$$x_1(n) = \{9/2, 19/2, 29/2, ...\}$$
 (13)

$$x_2(n) = \{15/2, 33/2, 51/2, ...\}$$
 (14)

$$\frac{x_1(18)}{x_2(18)} = \frac{179}{321} \tag{15}$$

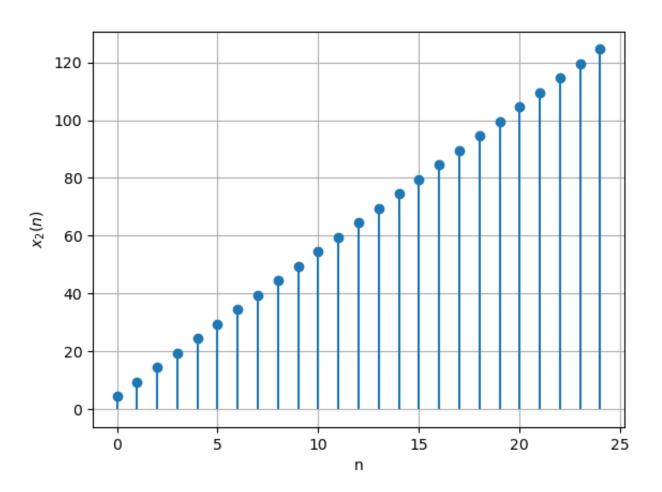


Fig. 1. stem plot of $x_1(n)$

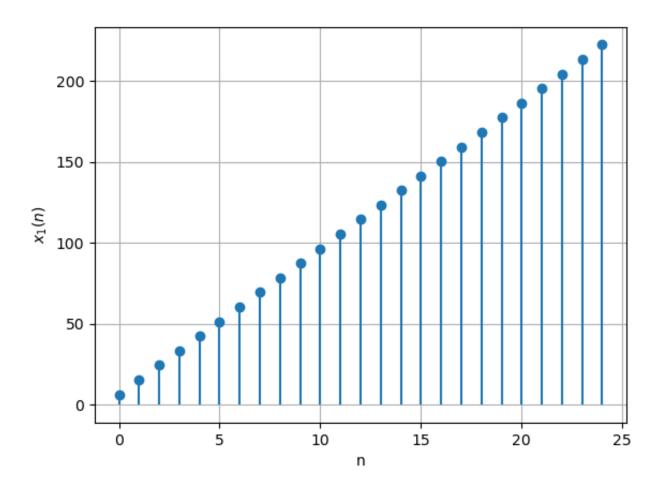


Fig. 2. stem plot of $x_2(n)$