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# MATHEMATICAL MODELING : ANALYSIS AND APPLICATIONS

## Lecture 2 : Discrete Time Linear Models in Population Dynamics - I

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# Contents:

- Population Dynamics.
- Fibonacci Rabbit Model.
- Linear Cell Division Model.
- Linear Difference Equation with Constant Coefficients.



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# Population Dynamics:

- With the current world human population of more than 7.2 billion, you might be questioned about the rate of increasing and their survival conditions.
- J.E. Cohen wrote the book on "*How Many People Can the Earth Support?*" . In this he relates the historical and scientific factors of the same.
- But the question here is that **can we study these factors mathematically?** Yes ! The stream of bio-science which deals with such questions is popularly known as **Population Dynamics**.
- Modeling the growth of population as a dynamical system driven by biological and environmental processes is called **population dynamics**.
- This stream includes the study of survival capability of populations with limited resources and by fighting with diseases.



# Fibonacci Rabbit Model:

- Consider the problem of rabbit generation which was originally postulated by Fibonacci.
- A young pair of rabbits, one of each sex is placed on an Iceland. A pair of rabbit does not breed until they are 2 months old. When, they are 2 months old, each pair will produce another pair in each month.
- Let's assume that  $f_n$  is the number of pairs of rabbits present after  $n$  months, for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  so on.

$f_1 = f(1) =$  Number of pair of rabbits after 1 month = 1.

$f_2 = f(2) =$  Number of pair of rabbits after 2 months = 1.

$f_3 = f(3) =$  Number of pair of rabbits after 3 months =  $1+1 = 2$ , and so on.

- Hence, the mathematical model (**linear difference equation**) will of the form:

$$f(n) = f(n-1) + f(n-2), \text{ for } n \geq 3.$$

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# Linear Homogeneous Difference Equation:

- The general form of linear homogenous difference equation of order 'k' with constant coefficients is:

$$A_n = c_1 A_{n-1} + c_2 A_{n-2} + c_3 A_{n-3} + \dots + c_k A_{n-k} \dots 2.2$$

- Since it's of order k, the same number of initial conditions are required. Let's say  $A_0 = a_0, A_1 = a_1, \dots, A_{k-1} = a_{k-1}$ .

## Procedure to solve above type of equation:

- Assume that  $A_n = m^n$  is the solution of the equation and substitute this in equation 2.2.
- This will get simplified in a polynomial of order k. This is also termed as **auxiliary or characteristic equation**. The roots of equation are called **auxiliary or characteristic roots** and these roots help in getting explicit form of solution.



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# Linear Homogeneous Difference Equation:

3. If all the roots of characteristic polynomial are real and distinct then, solution will be in the form of

$$A_n = b_1 \alpha_1^n + b_2 \alpha_2^n + \dots + b_k \alpha_k^n \quad \dots 2.3$$

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TnW*

where  $\alpha_i$  's are roots of poly. and  $b_i$  's are obtained after substituting those k initial conditions for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ .

4. If any one of the roots, say  $\alpha_1$  has multiplicity m then solution will be in the form of:

$$A_n = b_1 \alpha_1^n + nb_2 \alpha_1^n + \dots + n^{m-1} b_m \alpha_1^n + b_{m+1} \alpha_2^n + \dots + b_{m+k-1} \alpha_{k-m-1}^n \quad \dots 2.4$$

5. If the roots are in complex conjugate pairs say  $\alpha = u \pm iv$  then this will lead to the solution in the form of (for order 2)

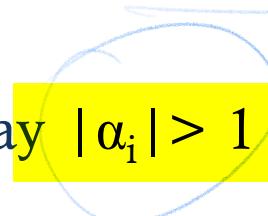
$$b_1 r^n \sin(\theta n) + b_2 r^n \cos(\theta n), \quad \dots 2.5$$

where  $r^2 = u^2 + v^2$  and  $\tan(\theta) = v/u$  for  $0 \leq \theta < \pi$ .



# Stability of Linear Homogeneous Difference Equation:

- If  $|\alpha_i| < 1$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$  then all the roots lie inside the unit circle and hence tends to 0 as  $n$  approaches towards  $\infty$ . This leads to the **stable condition asymptotically**.
- If  $|\alpha_i| \leq 1$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$  (at least one of the  $\alpha_i$  has magnitude 1) then it's called **stable condition**.
- If any of the roots say  $|\alpha_i| > 1$  then it diverges and hence make the system **unstable**.



# Analysis of Fibonacci Rabbit Model:

- The mathematical representation of Fibonacci Rabbit Model is  $f(n) = f(n-1) + f(n-2)$  for all  $n \geq 3$ .
- To solve this second order linear homogeneous difference equation, we'll substitute  $f(n) = m^n$ , hence the characteristic equation will be  $m^2 - m - 1 = 0$ . The characteristic roots are  $m = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$
- The required solution will be in the form of  $f_n = c_1 \left(\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n + c_2 \left(\frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n$  where  $c_1, c_2$  are constants. Using initial conditions, the solution will be 
$$f_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2}\right)^n \text{ for all } n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad \dots 2.6$$
- See the beauty of mathematics !. Irrational numbers are giving a natural number in every iteration i.e., for every value of  $n$ . (Interesting !!)
- Again, since one of the auxiliary roots is  $> 1$ , so this equation will approach to infinity as  $n$  grows with an order of  $O(\varepsilon^{1.618})$ , where  $\varepsilon = f_{n+1}/f_n$ .



# Linear Cell Division Model:

- Assume that a cell division takes place concurrently and at each time, cell is producing  $\alpha$  numbers of daughter cells.
- Number or density of cells at the beginning of cell division process is  $C_0$ .
- After  $n$  generations, number of cells shall be  $C_n$ , given as  
$$C_n = \alpha C_{n-1} \text{ where } n \in N$$
  
 $n = \text{generation number.}$  .... 2.7
- This model is in the form of simple **linear difference equation** and also known as **Malthus model** named after famous English Economist Thomas Robert Malthus.



# Linear Cell Division Model:

- Now assume that, cells are producing themselves at a rate of  $b$  and simultaneously cells are extincting at a rate of  $d$ .
- If cell population is changing only due to births and deaths of cells i.e. without any migration effect, then  $C_n - C_{n-1}$  gives the difference of number of births and deaths over the interval  $t_{n-1}$  to  $t_n$ . If  $b$  and  $d$  are constants then,  $C_n - C_{n-1} = (b - d) C_{n-1}$ , or  
$$C_n = (1 + b - d) C_{n-1} = \alpha^n C_0 \text{ where } n \in N, \text{ (for } \alpha = 1 + b - d \text{ )}. \quad \dots 2.8$$
- If further migration of cells is allowed with a constant rate of migration  $M$  ( $M > 0$  for immigration and  $M < 0$  for emigration), the evolved model will be:  
$$C_n = \alpha C_{n-1} + M, \text{ where } n \in N. \quad \dots 2.9$$
- This equation is in the form of linear non-homogeneous difference equation. Stability of the same can be analyzed from the previous analysis.



# Linear Non-Homogeneous Difference Equation:

- The general form of linear non-homogeneous difference equation of order 'k' is:

$$\underbrace{A_n + d_1 A_{n-1} + d_2 A_{n-2} + d_3 A_{n-3} + \dots + d_k A_{n-k}}_{\text{General Form}} = f(n). \quad \dots 2.10$$

- If  $f(n)$  is identically zero then above equation turns into linear homogeneous equation.
- If  $f(n)$  is not identically zero then the solution  $\overline{A_n} = C.F. + P.F.$ , where C.F. is called **complimentary function** and P.F. is called **particular function**. C.F. can be calculated from the method described for linear homogeneous equation. The value of P.F. depends on the **forcing function**  $f(n)$ .
- For calculating P.F., there is a big role of **auxiliary equation (recall!).** Let  $g(m)$  is the corresponding auxiliary equation of homogeneous part of non-homogeneous equation after substituting  $A_n = m^n$ .



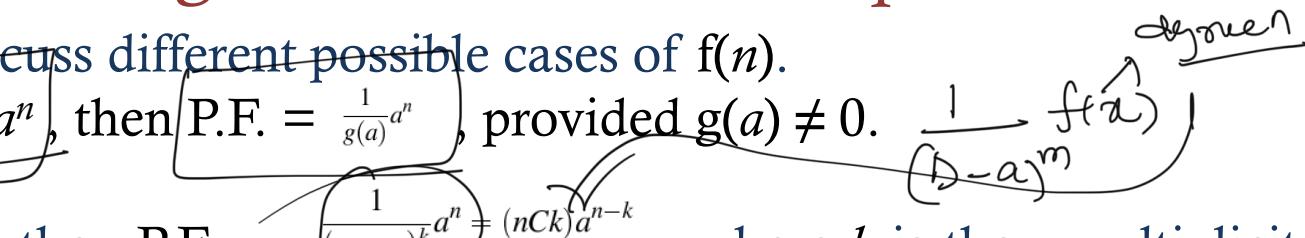
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# Linear Non-Homogeneous Difference Equation:

- Now let's discuss different possible cases of  $f(n)$ .

1. For  $f(n) = a^n$ , then P.F. =  $\frac{1}{g(a)} a^n$ , provided  $g(a) \neq 0$ . 

If  $g(a) = 0$ , then P.F. =  $\frac{1}{(m-a)^k} a^n = (nCk) a^{n-k}$  where  $k$  is the multiplicity factor by which  $a$  is occurring as root in  $g(m)$ .

2. For  $f(n) = n^p$ , then P.F. =  $\frac{1}{g(m)} n^p = \frac{1}{g(1+\Delta)} n^p$ ,

where,  $\Delta$  operator is defined as:  $\Delta([n]^p) = p.[n]^{p-1}$ . and [.] is factorial notation defined as  $[n]^r = n(n-1)\dots(n-r+1)$ .

3. For  $f(n) = \cos(kn)$  or  $\sin(kn)$ , then P.F. =  $\left\{ \frac{1}{2i} \left[ \frac{1}{g(m)} e^{ikn} \pm \frac{1}{g(m)} e^{-ikn} \right] \right\}$   
where  $m = \exp(ik)$ . Again, if  $g(m)=0$ , then the same procedure will be followed as mentioned in step 1.



# Example on Linear Non-Homogeneous Difference Equation:

Question : Solve  $y_{n+2} - 4y_n = 2^n + n^2 - 1$  with  $y(0)=y(1)=0$ .

Solution: For C.F. Put  $y_n = m^n$ , this leads to the auxiliary equation as :  $g(m) = m^2 - 4 = 0$ . The auxiliary roots are  $m = \pm 2$ . So C.F.  $y_n = c_1(2)^n + c_2(-2)^n$ .

For P.F.

$$\text{P.F. 1 (for } 2^n\text{)} = 0.25(n 2^{n-1} - 2^n / 4);$$

$$\text{P.F. 3 (for } 1\text{)} = 1/3$$

$$\text{P.F. 2 (for } n^2\text{)} = [(1+\Delta)^2 - 4]^{-1} (n^2)$$

$$= [(1+\Delta)^2 - 4]^{-1} (n(n-1) + n)$$

$$= [(1+\Delta)^2 - 4]^{-1} ([n]^2 + [n])$$

$$= -1/3 [[n]^2 + 7[n]/3 + 20/9]$$

$$= -1/3 [n^2 + 4n/3 + 20/9]$$

So the general solution will be

$$y_n = c_1(2)^n + c_2(-2)^n + 0.25(n 2^{n-1} - 2^n / 4) - 1/3 [n^2 + 4n/3 + 20/9] + 1/3.$$

After substituting these two initial conditions, the particular solution will be

$$y_n = 713/1296(2)^n - 26/324 (-2)^n + 0.25(n 2^{n-1} - 2^n / 4) - 1/3 [n^2 + 4n/3 + 20/9] + 1/3.$$



# Analysis of Linear Cell-Division Model:

- The mathematical representation of linear cell-division model is given by eq. 2.9 :  
$$C_n - \alpha C_{n-1} = M, \text{ where } n \in N.$$
- If  $M$  is treated as constant, the solution of above equation after substituting initial condition can be written as:

$$C_n = C_0 \alpha^n + \left( \frac{M}{M-\alpha} \right) (1 - \alpha^n)$$

$$C_n = C_0 \cdot \dots \quad 2.11$$

- For stability analysis,  $\alpha$  may have following cases:
  - $\alpha = 1$  implies constant population of cells. (stable)
  - $\alpha > 1$  implies no. of cells goes to  $\infty$  as generation progress. (unstable)
  - $\alpha < 1$  implies population will get leveled as generation progress. (asymptotically stable)



# Summary:

- Introductory population dynamics.
- Fibonacci rabbit model formulation and solution.
- Solution method for linear difference equation with constant coefficients.
- Different linear cell models and their formulation.



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