

1. Standard form :  $S_n - 2S_{n-1} = 3n$   
 Homogeneous version :  $S_n^H - 2S_{n-1}^H = 0$   
 Characteristic equation:  $a - 2 = 0 \implies a - 2 = 0$  so  $a = 2$   
 General homogeneous solution:  $S_n^H = A \times 2^n$   
 Particular solution – try:  $S_n^P = Bn + C$  :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS} &= S_n^P - 2S_{n-1}^P = 3n \\ \implies Bn + C - 2(B \times (n-1) + C) &= 3n \\ \implies Bn + C - 2(Bn - B + C) &= 3n \\ \implies Bn + C - 2Bn + 2B - 2C &= 3n \\ \implies -Bn + 2B - C &= 3n \\ \implies -B = 3 \quad \& \quad 2B - C = 0 \quad \text{i.e. } B = -3 \quad \& \quad C = -6 \end{aligned}$$

General solution is:  $S_n = A \times 2^n - 3n - 6$  ( $= S_n^H + S_n^P$ )

Using the initial condition,  $S_0 = 2$ :  
 $S_0 = 2 \implies A - 6 = 2$   
 $\implies A = 8$

Solution:  $S_n = 8 \times 2^n - 3n - 6$

**CHECK:**  $S_0 = 8 - 0 - 6 = 2$  ✓

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Also } S_n - 2S_{n-1} &= 8 \times 2^n - 3n - 6 - 2(8 \times 2^{n-1} - 3(n-1) - 6) \\ &= 8 \times 2^n - 3n - 6 - 2(8 \times 2^{n-1} - 3n + 3 - 6) \\ &= 8 \times 2^n - 2 \times 8 \times 2^{n-1} - 3n - 6 + 6n + 6 \\ &= 0 + 3n \\ &= 3n \quad \text{as required.} \end{aligned}$$

So,  $S_n = 8 \times 2^n - 3n - 6$  is the answer to the initial value problem.

2. Standard form:  $T_n - T_{n-1} = 3n$   
 Homogeneous version:  $T_n^H - T_{n-1}^H = 0$   
 Characteristic equation:  $a - 1 = 0 \implies a = 1$   
 General homogeneous solution:  $T_n^H = A \times 1^n = A$

Particular solution – normally try –  $T_n^P = Bn + C$  but because  $A$  and  $C$  are the same “type” of item we need to apply the **n-times rule**:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{so we try } T_n^P &= B \times n^2 + C \times n \\ \text{LHS of the recurrence} &= T_n^P - T_{n-1}^P \\ &= Bn^2 + Cn - [B \times (n-1)^2 + C \times (n-1)] \\ &= Bn^2 + Cn - B \times (n^2 - 2n + 1) - Cn + C \\ &= Bn^2 + Cn - Bn^2 + 2Bn - B - Cn + C \\ &= 2Bn + -B + C \end{aligned}$$

RHS of the recurrence =  $3n$

$$\text{so } 2B = 3 \quad \text{and} \quad -B + C = 0 \quad \text{i.e. } B = \frac{3}{2} \quad C = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\text{so } T_n^P = \frac{3}{2}n^2 + \frac{3}{2}n$$

General solution is:  $T_n = A + \frac{3}{2}n^2 + \frac{3}{2}n$  ( $= T_n^H + T_n^P$ )

Using the initial condition we have:  $T_0 = 2 \implies A = 2$

Solution:  $\boxed{T_n = 2 + \frac{3}{2}n^2 + \frac{3}{2}n}$  or  $\boxed{T_n = \frac{3}{2}n^2 + \frac{3}{2}n + 2}$

**CHECK:**  $T_0 = 2 + 0 = 2 \quad \checkmark$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Also } T_n - T_{n-1} &= \frac{3}{2}n^2 + \frac{3}{2}n + 2 - \left[ \frac{3}{2}(n-1)^2 + \frac{3}{2}(n-1) + 2 \right] \\ &= \frac{3}{2}n^2 + \frac{3}{2}n + 2 - \left[ \frac{3}{2}(n^2 - 2n + 1) + \frac{3}{2}n - \frac{3}{2} + 2 \right] \\ &= \frac{3}{2}n^2 + \frac{3}{2}n + 2 - \frac{3}{2}n^2 + 3n - \frac{3}{2} - \frac{3}{2}n + \frac{3}{2} - 2 \\ &= 3n \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

So,  $T_n = \frac{3}{2}n^2 + \frac{3}{2}n + 2$  is the answer to the initial value problem.

**3. Homogeneous version:**  $I_n^H - I_{n-1}^H = 0$

Characteristic equation:  $a - 1 = 0 \implies a = 1$

General homogeneous solution:  $I_n^H = A$ .

Particular solution - try:  $I_n^P = Bn^2 + Cn$ . [this is the  $n$ -times rule]

$$Bn^2 + Cn - B \times (n-1)^2 - C \times (n-1) = \frac{n}{2} - \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$Bn^2 + Cn - B \times (n^2 - 2n + 1) - Cn + C = \frac{n}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$Bn^2 - Bn^2 + 2Bn - B + c = 2Bn - B + C = \frac{n}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{So } 2B = \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } -B + C = -\frac{1}{2} \implies B = \frac{1}{4} \text{ and } C = -\frac{1}{4}.$$

Particular solution is:  $I_n^P = \frac{1}{4}n^2 - \frac{1}{4}n$

General solution:  $I_n = A + \frac{1}{4}n^2 - \frac{1}{4}n$

$$\text{Using the initial condition } I_3 = \frac{3}{2} \quad A + \frac{9}{4} - \frac{3}{4} = \frac{3}{2} \implies A + \frac{6}{4} = \frac{3}{2}$$

So  $A = 0$ .

Solution:  $\boxed{I_n = \frac{1}{4}n^2 - \frac{1}{4}n}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} I_{100} &= \frac{1}{4} \times 100^2 - \frac{1}{4} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{10000}{4} - 25 = 2500 - 25 = 2475 \end{aligned}$$