

Solution (#944) In Example 3.206 we defined

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - y_n, \quad y_{n+1} = x_n + y_n, \quad x_0 = 1, y_0 = 0.$$

If we set $z_n = x_n + iy_n$ then we have

$$\begin{aligned} z_{n+1} &= x_{n+1} + iy_{n+1} \\ &= (x_n - y_n) + i(x_n + y_n) \\ &= (1 + i)(x_n + iy_n) \\ &= (1 + i)z_n. \end{aligned}$$

As $z_0 = 1 + 0i = 1$ then

$$z_n = (1 + i)^n.$$

By De Moivre's theorem we have

$$z_n = \left(\sqrt{2}\text{cis}(\pi/4)\right)^n = 2^{n/2}\text{cis}(n\pi/4)$$

and hence

$$x_n = 2^{n/2} \cos(n\pi/4), \quad y_n = 2^{n/2} \sin(n\pi/4).$$