

**El-Metwally, H.; Grove, E. A.; Ladas, G.; Voulov, H. D.**

**On the global attractivity and the periodic character of some difference equations.** (English)

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Asymptotic properties of solutions of the  $k$ -th order difference equation

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{A_0}{x_n} + \frac{A_1}{x_{n-1}} + \cdots + \frac{A_{k-1}}{x_{n-k+1}}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, \dots\} \quad (*)$$

are investigated. It is shown that under some restrictions on the numbers  $A_0, \dots, A_{k-1}$  every positive solution of (\*) converges to a  $p$ -periodic solution, where the period  $p$  is determined in terms of the coefficients  $A_0, \dots, A_{k-1}$ . The main result of the paper reads as follows.

**Theorem.** Let  $A_0, \dots, A_{k-1}$  be nonnegative real numbers and suppose that the set  $J = \{j \geq 1 : A_{j-1} > 0\}$  is nonempty. Set  $L = \{i + j : i, j \in J\}$ , and let  $p = 2(\langle L \rangle + 1) - \langle L \rangle / \langle J \rangle$ , where  $\langle \cdot \rangle$  denotes the greatest common divisor of the elements of the set indicated. Then every positive solution of (\*) converges to a periodic solution of (\*) with (not necessarily prime) period  $p$ . Moreover, there exist solutions of (\*) which are periodic with prime period  $p$ .

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**MSC:**

- 39A12 Discrete version of topics in analysis
- 37C70 Attractors and repellers of smooth dynamical systems and their topological structure
- 39A11 Stability of difference equations (MSC2000)
- 39A10 Additive difference equations

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