If N(t) satisfies the equation

$$N(t) = N(t - t_1) + N(t - t_2) + \dots + N(t - t_n)$$

N(t) satisfies the equation  $N(t) = N(t-t_1) + N(t-t_2) + ... + N(t-t_n)$ Then according to a well known result in finite differences, N(t) is then asymptotic for large t to  $X_0^t$  where  $X_0$  is the largest real solution of the characteristic equation :  $X^{-t_1} + X^{-t_2} + ... + X^{-t_n} = 1$ 

$$X^{-t_1} + X^{-t_2} + \dots + X^{-t_n} = 1$$