

Some questions about sequences!

1. (Really a functional equation question, but oh well) Let  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots$  be a sequence such that  $a_1 = 1$  and  $a_{m+n} + a_{m-n} = \frac{1}{2}(a_{2m} + a_{2n})$  whenever  $m \geq n \geq 0$ . Determine  $a_{2021}$ .
2. (Australia 1976) Let  $a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $0 < a_1, a_2 < 10000$ . For  $k \geq 3$ , (recursively) define  $a_k = \min_{1 \leq i < j < k} |a_i - a_j|$ . Find the smallest positive integer  $N$  such that  $x_N = 0$ , regardless of  $a_1, a_2$ .
3. Fix  $0 \leq a_0 \leq 1$ . (Recursively) define  $a_{n+1} = 1 - |1 - 2a_n|$  whenever  $n \geq 0$ . Characterize those  $a_0$  such that the sequence  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots$  is periodic.
4. (IMO 1994 Shortlist) Let  $a_0 = 1994$ , and for  $n \geq 0$  define  $a_{n+1} = \frac{a_n^2}{a_n + 1}$ . Prove that, for  $0 \leq k \leq 998$ , we have that the floor of  $a_k$  is equal to  $1994 - n$ .
5. (Found this last minute, no idea how to do it but haven't tried) Fix  $a \in (0, 1)$  and fix  $n$  to be a positive integer. Recursively define  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= a \\ a_{k+1} &= a_k + \frac{1}{n} a_k^2 \quad \text{for } 0 \leq k \leq n-1 \end{aligned}$$

Prove there exists a number  $A$ , which may depend on  $a$  but not on  $n$ , such that  $0 < n(A - a_n) < A^3$ .

6. (IMO 1995 (in Canada!)) We are given  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{1994}, x_{1995} \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $x_0 = x_{1995}$  and  $x_{i-1} + \frac{2}{x_{i-1}} = 2x_i + \frac{1}{x_i}$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq 1995$ . Determine the maximal possible value of  $x_0$ .
7. (IMO 1982, # 3) We are given a sequence  $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots$  of positive real numbers such that  $x_0 = 1$  and  $x_{i+1} \leq x_i$  for all  $i \geq 0$ . Prove there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\frac{x_0^2}{x_1} + \frac{x_1^2}{x_2} + \dots + \frac{x_{N-1}^2}{x_N} \geq 3.999$ .