



# 2.20 Iterative Methods

MyGCSEMaths

Name:

Date:

Score:



1. Using  $x_0 = 1$  and  $x_{n+1} = 2x + 1$ , find  $x_4$

/2

2. Using  $x_0 = 4$  and  $x_{n+1} = \frac{x}{4} + 1$ , find  $x_3$

/2

3. Using  $x_0 = 3$  and  $x_{n+1} = \sqrt{x} + 2$ , find  $x_1, x_2$  and  $x_3$

/3

4. The number of rabbits in a field  $t$  days from now is defined by  $N_0 = 210$  and  $N_{t+1} = 1.15(N_t - 10)$ . How many rabbits will be in the garden 3 days from now?

/3



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5. The population in a town  $t$  years from now is defined by  $N_0 = 55,000$  and  $N_{t+1} = 1.09(N_t - 3700)$ . How many people will be living in the town 4 years from now?

/3

6. Using  $x_0 = 3$  and  $x_{n+1} = 3 + \frac{9}{x_n}$ , find  $x_1, x_2$  and  $x_3$

/3

7. Show that  $x^3 - 8x - 10 = 0$  has a solution between 3 and 4

/1

8. Show that  $x^3 + 2x = 1$  has a solution between 0 and 1

/1



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9. Show that  $x^3 + 2x = 1$  can be rearranged to give  $x = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{x^3}{2}$

/2

10. Starting with  $x_0 = 0$ , use the iteration formula  $x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{x_n^3}{2}$  twice to estimate the solution to  $x^3 + 2x = 1$

/2

11. The value of a car today is £17,000. Given that the value of the car changes according to by  $V_{t+1} = 0.8(V_t - 500)$ , and  $t = \text{time in years}$ , find the value of the car in 3 years.

/3

12. The number of bacteria in a colony change according to  $N_{t+1} = 1.9(N_t - 200)$ , where  $t = \text{time in hours}$ . If there are initially 4,000 bacteria in a colony, how many will there be in 8 hours?

/3



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13. A solution to the equation  $x^3 - 3x - 1 = 0$  lies between -1 and -2. By considering values in this interval, find a solution to this equation to 1dp.

/2

14. A solution to the equation  $3x^3 + 6x - 4 = 0$  lies between 0 and 1. By considering values in this interval, find a solution to this equation to 1dp.

/2

15. A solution to the equation  $x^3 - 2x^2 + 19 = 0$  lies between -3 and -2. By considering values in this interval, find a solution to this equation to 1dp.

/2

16. Using  $x_0 = 4.5$  and  $x_{n+1} = \sqrt{2x} + 2$ , find  $x_1, x_2$  and  $x_3$

/3



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17. Show that the equation  $x^4 - 5x + 1 = 0$  has a root between 1.5 and 2

/2

18. Starting with  $x_0 = 0$ , use the iteration formula  $x_{n+1} = \frac{2}{x_n+3}$  three times to find an estimate for the solution to  $x^3 + 3x = 2$

/3

19. Using  $x_0 = 1$  and  $x_{n+1} = 2x + \frac{3x}{2} + 1$ , find  $x_4$

/2

20. Invent your own question and see if a parent/guardian can answer it

/0



1. Using  $x_0 = 1$  and  $x_{n+1} = 2x + 1$ , find  $x_4$

$$x_1 = 2x_0 + 1$$

$$x_1 = 2 \times 1 + 1$$

$$x_1 = 3 \quad [0.5]$$

$$x_2 = 2 \times 3 + 1$$

$$x_2 = 7 \quad [0.5]$$

$$x_3 = 2 \times 7 + 1$$

$$x_3 = 15 \quad [0.5]$$

$$x_4 = 2 \times 15 + 1$$

$$x_4 = 31 \quad [0.5]$$

/2

2. Using  $x_0 = 4$  and  $x_{n+1} = \frac{x}{4} + 1$ , find  $x_3$

$$x_1 = \frac{x_0}{4} + 1$$

$$x_1 = \frac{4}{4} + 1$$

$$x_1 = 2 \quad [1]$$

$$x_2 = \frac{2}{4} + 1$$

$$x_2 = 1.5$$

$$x_3 = \frac{1.5}{4} + 1$$

$$x_3 = 1.375 \quad [1]$$

/2

3. Using  $x_0 = 3$  and  $x_{n+1} = \sqrt{x} + 2$ , find  $x_1, x_2$  and  $x_3$

$$x_1 = \sqrt{x_0} + 2$$

$$x_1 = \sqrt{3} + 2$$

$$x_1 = 3.732.. \quad [1]$$

$$x_2 = \sqrt{3.732} + 2$$

$$x_2 = 3.9318... \quad [1]$$

$$x_3 = \sqrt{3.9318..} + 2$$

$$x_3 = 3.9828... \quad [1]$$

/3

4. The number of rabbits in a field  $t$  days from now is defined by  $N_0 = 210$  and  $N_{t+1} = 1.15(N_t - 10)$ . How many rabbits will be in the garden 3 days from now?

$$N_1 = 1.15(N_0 - 10)$$

$$N_1 = 1.15(210 - 10)$$

$$N_1 = 230 \quad [1]$$

$$N_2 = 1.15(230 - 10)$$

$$N_2 = 253 \quad [1]$$

$$N_3 = 1.15(253 - 10)$$

$$N_3 = 279.45 \quad [1]$$

*So there should be 279 rabbits in 3rd day.*

/3



# 2.20 Iterative Methods

## Answers

5. The population in a town  $t$  years from now is defined by  $N_0 = 55,000$  and  $N_{t+1} = 1.09(N_t - 3700)$ . How many people will be living in the town 4 years from now?

$$N_1 = 1.09(N_0 - 3700)$$

$$N_1 = 1.09(55,000 - 3700)$$

$$N_1 = 55,917 \quad [1]$$

$$N_2 = 1.09(55,917 - 3700)$$

$$N_2 = 56,916.53$$

$$N_3 = 1.09(56,916.53 - 3700)$$

$$N_3 = 58,006.0177 \quad [1]$$

$$N_4 = 1.09(58,006.0177 - 3700)$$

$$N_4 = 59193.559 \quad [1]$$

so there should be 59193 people after 4 years.

3

6. Using  $x_0 = 3$  and  $x_{n+1} = 3 + \frac{9}{x_n}$ , find  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$  and  $x_3$

$$x_1 = 3 + \frac{9}{x_0}$$

$$x_1 = 3 + \frac{9}{3}$$

$$x_1 = 6 \quad [1]$$

$$x_2 = 3 + \frac{9}{x_1}$$

$$x_2 = 4.5 \quad [1]$$

$$x_3 = 3 + \frac{9}{x_2}$$

$$x_3 = 5 \quad [1]$$

3

7. Show that  $x^3 - 8x - 10 = 0$  has a solution between 3 and 4

let's substitute  $x = 3$  in  $x^3 - 8x - 10$

$$3^3 - 8 \times 3 - 10 = -7$$

Then substitute  $x = 4$  in  $x^3 - 8x - 10$

$$4^3 - 8 \times 4 - 10 = 22$$

So here there is a change of signs so  $x^3 - 8x - 10$  should have a solution between 3 and 4. [1]

1

8. Show that  $x^3 + 2x = 1$  has a solution between 0 and 1

let's substitute  $x = 0$  in  $x^3 + 2x - 1$

$$0^3 + 2 \times 0 - 1 = -1$$

Then substitute  $x = 1$  in  $x^3 + 2x - 1$

$$1^3 + 2 \times 1 - 1 = 2$$

So here there is a change of signs so  $x^3 + 2x - 1$  should have a solution between 0 and 1. [1]

1



# 2.20 Iterative Methods

## Answers

9. Show that  $x^3 + 2x = 1$  can be rearranged to give  $x = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{x^3}{2}$

$$\begin{aligned}x^3 + 2x &= 1 \\2x &= 1 - x^3 \quad [1] \\x &= \frac{1 - x^3}{2} \\x &= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{x^3}{2} \quad [1]\end{aligned}$$

2

10. Starting with  $x_0 = 0$ , use the iteration formula  $x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{x^3}{2}$  twice to estimate the solution to  $x^3 + 2x = 1$

$$\begin{aligned}x_{n+1} &= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{x^3}{2} \\x_1 &= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{0^3}{2} & x_2 &= \frac{1}{2} - \frac{0.5^3}{2} \\x_1 &= 0.5 \quad [1] & x_2 &= 0.4375 \quad [1] & \text{So solution to } x^3 + 2x = 1 \text{ is } x = 0.4375\end{aligned}$$

2

11. The value of a car today is £17,000. Given that the value of the car changes according to by  $V_{t+1} = 0.8(V_t - 500)$ , and  $t = \text{time in years}$ , find the value of the car in 3 years.

$$\begin{aligned}V_1 &= 0.8(V_{t_0} - 500) \\V_1 &= 0.8(17000 - 500) & V_2 &= 0.8(13,200 - 500) & V_3 &= 0.8(10,160 - 500) \\V_1 &= 13,200 \quad [1] & V_2 &= 10,160 \quad [1] & V_3 &= 7728\end{aligned}$$

So value of the car after 3 years is £7728 [1]

3

12. The number of bacteria in a colony change according to  $N_{t+1} = 1.9(N_t - 200)$ , where  $t = \text{time in hours}$ . If there are initially 4,000 bacteria in a colony, how many will there be in 8 hours?

$$\begin{aligned}N_1 &= 1.9(N_0 - 200) \\N_1 &= 1.9(4000 - 200) & N_2 &= 1.9(7220 - 200) & N_3 &= 1.9(13,338 - 200) & N_4 &= 1.9(24962.2 - 200) \\N_1 &= 7220 & N_2 &= 13,338 & N_3 &= 24962.2 & N_4 &= 47048.18 \\N_5 &= 1.9(47048.18 - 200) & N_6 &= 1.9(89011.542 - 200) & N_7 &= 1.9(168741.93 - 200) & N_8 &= 1.9(320229.67 - 200) \\N_5 &= 89011.542 & N_6 &= 168741.9298 & N_7 &= 320229.67 & N_8 &= 608056.3666\end{aligned}$$

3





13. A solution to the equation  $x^3 - 3x - 1 = 0$  lies between -1 and -2. By considering values in this interval, find a solution to this equation to 1dp.

$$x^3 - 3x - 1 = 0$$

Substitute  $x = -1.5$

$$-1.5^3 - 3 \times -1.5 - 1 = 0.125 \text{ too big}$$

Substitute  $x = -1.6$

$$-1.6^3 - 3 \times -1.6 - 1 = -0.296 \text{ too}$$

small

So answer should be in between -1.5 and -1.6 [1]

Substitute -1.54, -1.55 and -1.56 then you can see answer is closer to -1.5 than -1.6.

So answer should be -1.5 [1]

14. A solution to the equation  $3x^3 + 6x - 4 = 0$  lies between 0 and 1. By considering values in this interval, find a solution to this equation to 1dp.

$$3x^3 + 6x - 4 = 0$$

Substitute  $x = 0.5$

$$3 \times 0.5^3 + 6 \times 0.5 - 4 = -0.625 \text{ too small}$$

[1]

Substitute  $x = 0.6$

$$3 \times 0.6^3 + 6 \times 0.6 - 4 = 0.24 \text{ close, but too}$$

Substitute  $x = 0.7$

$$3 \times 0.7^3 + 6 \times 0.7 - 4 = 1.22, \text{ far too big}$$

Answer should be 0.6 since there is a change of signs between 0.5 and 0.6, and

0.24 is closer to 0 than -0.625 [1]

15. A solution to the equation  $x^3 - 2x^2 + 19 = 0$  lies between -3 and -2. By considering values in this interval, find a solution to this equation to 1dp.

$$x^3 - 2x^2 + 19 = 0$$

Substitute  $x = -2.5$

$$-2.5^3 - 2 \times -2.5^2 + 19 = -9.125 \text{ too small [1]}$$

Substitute  $x = -2.3$

$$-2.3^3 - 2 \times -2.3^2 + 19 = -3.747 \text{ too small}$$

Substitute  $x = -2.2$

$$-2.2^3 - 2 \times -2.2^2 + 19 = -1.328 \text{ close, but still too small}$$

Substitute  $x = -2.1$

$$-2.1^3 - 2 \times -2.1^2 + 19 = 1.081 \text{ too big}$$

Answer should be -2.1 since there is a change of signs between -2.1 and -2.2 and

1.081 is closer to 0 than -1.328 [1]

16. Using  $x_0 = 4.5$  and  $x_{n+1} = \sqrt{2x} + 2$ , find  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$  and  $x_3$

$$x_1 = \sqrt{2x_0} + 2$$

$$x_1 = \sqrt{2 \times 4.5} + 2$$

$$x_1 = 5 \text{ [1]}$$

$$x_2 = \sqrt{2 \times 5} + 2$$

$$x_2 = 5.162 \dots [1]$$

$$x_3 = \sqrt{2 \times 5.162 \dots} + 2$$

$$x_3 = 5.2131 \dots [1]$$



17. Show that the equation  $x^4 - 5x + 1 = 0$  has a root between 1.5 and 2

let's substitute  $x = 1.5$  in  $x^4 - 5x + 1$   
 $1.5^4 - 5 \times 1.5 + 1 = -1.4375$

Then substitute  $x = 2$  in  $x^4 - 5x + 1$   
 $2^4 - 5 \times 2 + 1 = 7$

So here there is a change of signs so  $x^4 - 5x + 1$  should have a solution between 1.5 and 2. [1]



18. Starting with  $x_0 = 0$ , use the iteration formula  $x_{n+1} = \frac{2}{x_n+3}$  three times to find an estimate for the solution to  $x^3 + 3x = 2$

$$x_1 = \frac{2}{x_0 + 3}$$

$$x_2 = \frac{2}{\frac{2}{3} + 3}$$

$$x_3 = \frac{2}{0.5454 \dots + 3}$$

$$x_1 = \frac{2}{0 + 3}$$

$$x_2 = 0.5454 \dots \quad [1]$$

$$x_3 = 0.5641 \dots$$

So answer = 0.5641 [1]

$$x_1 = \frac{2}{3} \quad [1]$$



19. Using  $x_0 = 1$  and  $x_{n+1} = 2x + \frac{3x}{2} + 1$ , find  $x_4$

$$x_1 = 2x + \frac{3x_0}{2} + 1$$

$$x_2 = 2 \times 4.5 + \frac{3 \times 4.5}{2} + 1$$

$$x_3 = 2 \times 16.75 + \frac{3 \times 16.75}{2} + 1$$

$$x_1 = 2 \times 1 + \frac{3 \times 1}{2} + 1$$

$$x_2 = 16.75 \quad [0.5]$$

$$x_3 = 59.625 \quad [0.5]$$

$$x_1 = 4.5 \quad [0.5]$$

$$x_4 = 2 \times 59.625 + \frac{3 \times 59.625}{2} + 1$$

$$x_4 = 209.6875 \quad [0.5]$$



20. Invent your own question and see if a parent/guardian can answer it

