962-13-1108
Carrie E Finch* (cefinc@ship.edu), Dept. of Mathematics and Computer Science, Shippensburg University, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257, Lenny K Jones (lkjone@ship.edu), Dept. of Mathematics and Computer Science, Shippensburg University, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257, and Michael D Seyfried (mdseyf@ship.edu), Dept. of Mathematics and Computer Science, Shippensburg University, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257. Iteration of Quadratic Functions in Z_n. Preliminary report.

For the function f and the positive integer m, let f^m denote the m-th iterate of f. The authors investigate the following problems:

1. For which positive integers $n \ge 2$ does there exist a quadratic function f such that $\{f^m(x)|m=1,\ldots,n\}$ = \mathbb{Z}_n for some $x \in \mathbb{Z}_n$?

2. For a quadratic function f satisfying the conditions of 1., which iterations of f are equivalent to a linear function? (Received October 02, 2000)