

RMM - Abstract Algebra Marathon 201 - 300

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ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

Founding Editor
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Available online
www.ssmrmh.ro

ISSN-L 2501-0099

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201. If $A, B \in M_3(\mathbb{R})$, $\det((AB - BA)^2 + AB - BA + I_3) = 0$ then find:

$$\Omega = \det(AB - BA)$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\text{Let } C = AB - BA, \text{tr}(C) = 0.$$

We are given $\det(C^2 + C + I_3) = 0$ hence,

$$\det[(C - \omega I_3)(\overline{C + \omega I_3})] = 0$$

$$|\det(C - \omega I_3)|^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \det(C - \omega I_3) = 0; \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Let } \det(C - tI_3) = -t^3 + \text{tr}(C)t^2 - \alpha t + \det(C) = -t^3 - \alpha t + \det(C)$$

$$\therefore (1) \text{ gives: } -\omega^3 - \alpha\omega + \det(C) = 0 \Rightarrow \det(C) - 1 + \frac{\alpha}{2} = 0 \text{ and}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\alpha = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha = 0 \Rightarrow \det(C) = 1$$

202. Let $x^{2020} + a_{2019}x^{2019} + a_{2018}x^{2018} + \dots + a_0 \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ and all roots of this polynomials are positive real numbers.

Find the smallest possible value of coefficient a_{1010} .

Proposed by Gantumur Choijilsuren-Mongolia

Solution by Abdul Hannan-Tezpur-India

Let $x^{4n} + a_{4n-1}x^{4n-1} + \dots + a_1x + a_0 \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$ and all roots of this polynomial are positive real numbers. Find the smallest possible value of coefficient a_{2n} .

Here is a small observation that we will need later:

$$\frac{\binom{4n-1}{2n-1}}{\binom{4n}{2n}} = \frac{(4n-1)!}{(2n)!(2n-1)!} \cdot \frac{(2n)!(2n)!}{(4n)!} = \frac{2n}{4n} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Let $\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \dots, \beta_{4n-1}, \beta_{4n}$ be the (positive real) roots. Then $a_0 = \beta_1\beta_2 \cdot \dots \cdot \beta_{4n} > 0$.

Being an integer, we must have, $a_0 \geq 1$. Also, we have

$$a_{2n} = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \dots \leq i_{2n} \leq 4n} \beta_{i_1}\beta_{i_2} \dots \beta_{i_{2n}} \stackrel{AGM}{\geq}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} &\stackrel{AGM}{\geq} \binom{4n}{2n} \left(\prod_{1 \leq i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \dots \leq i_{2n} \leq 4n} \beta_{i_1} \beta_{i_2} \dots \beta_{i_{2n}} \right)^{\frac{1}{\binom{4n}{2n}}} = \\ &= \binom{4n}{2n} (\beta_{i_1} \beta_{i_2} \dots \beta_{i_{2n}})^{\frac{\binom{4n-1}{2n-1}}{\binom{4n}{2n}}} = \binom{4n}{2n} \sqrt{\beta_{i_1} \beta_{i_2} \dots \beta_{i_{2n}}} = \binom{4n}{2n} \sqrt{a_0} \geq \binom{4n}{2n}; a_0 \geq 1 \end{aligned}$$

If we put $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \dots = \beta_{4n} = 1$, then we see that

$$a_{2n} = \sum_{1 \leq i_1 \leq i_2 \leq \dots \leq i_{2n} \leq 4n} 1 = \binom{4n}{2n}$$

Since $\binom{4n}{2n}$ is achieved, it is indeed the minimum value of a_{2n} .

203. If $A \in M_3(\mathbb{R})$, $\det(A^2 - 3A + 3I_3) = 0$ then:

$$2\det(A^2 + 3I_3) \geq 3(3\sqrt{3} + \det A)^2$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution 1 by George Florin Șerban-Romania

$$P(\lambda) = \lambda^3 - (\text{tr}A)\lambda^2 + (\text{tr}A^*)\lambda - \det A = -\det(A - \lambda I_3)$$

$$x^2 - 3x + 2 = 0, x_{1,2} = \frac{3 \pm i\sqrt{3}}{2}, x_1^2 = \frac{3 + 3i\sqrt{3}}{2}, x_1^3 = 3i\sqrt{3}$$

$$\det(A^2 - 3A + 3I_3) = \det(A - x_1 I_3) \det(A - x_2 I_3) = P(x_1)P(x_2) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow P(x_1) = 0 \text{ or } P(x_2) = 0$$

$$P(x_1) = x_1^3 - (\text{tr}A)x_1^2 + (\text{tr}A^*)x_1 - \det A$$

$$= 3i\sqrt{3} - \frac{3 + 3i\sqrt{3}}{2}(\text{tr}A) + \frac{3 + 3i\sqrt{3}}{2}(\text{tr}A^*) - \det A = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{cases} -3\text{tr}A + 3\text{tr}A^* - 2\det A = 0 \\ 6\sqrt{3} - 3\sqrt{3}\text{tr}A + \sqrt{3}\text{tr}A^* = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} -3\text{tr}A + 3\text{tr}A^* - 2\det A = 0 \\ \text{tr}A^* = 3\text{tr}A - 6 \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

$$\det A = 3\text{tr}A - 9$$

$$2\det(A^2 + 3I_3) = 2\det(A + i\sqrt{3}I_3)\det(A - i\sqrt{3}I_3) =$$

$$= 2P(i\sqrt{3})P(-i\sqrt{3}) = 2 \left[(3\text{tr}A - \det A)^2 - (3\sqrt{3}i - \text{tr}A^*i\sqrt{3})^2 \right] =$$

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$$= 2 \cdot 3(\det^2 A + 27) \geq 9(\det A + 3\sqrt{3})^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\det(A^2 + 3I_3) \geq 3(3\sqrt{3} + \det A)^2$$

Solution 2 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\det(A^2 - 3A + 3I_3) = 0 \Rightarrow \det((\alpha I_3 - A)(\bar{\alpha} I_3 - A)) = 0, \alpha = \frac{1}{2}(3 + \sqrt{3}i)$$

$$\Rightarrow \det(\alpha I_3 - A)\det(\bar{\alpha} I_3 - A) = 0 \Rightarrow |\det(\alpha I_3 - A)|^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \det(\alpha I_3 - A) = 0$$

Similarly, $\det(\bar{\alpha} I_3 - A) = 0, \alpha, \bar{\alpha}$ –eigen values of A .

Let λ be the third eigen value of A . Characteristic equation of A is:

$$\det(tI_3 - A) = P(t) = t^3 - (\alpha + \bar{\alpha} + \lambda)t^2 + (\lambda(\alpha + \bar{\alpha}) + \alpha\bar{\alpha})t - \alpha\bar{\alpha}\lambda = 0$$

$$P(t) = t^3 - (3 + \lambda)t^2 + (3\lambda + 3)t - 3\lambda = 0. \text{ Now,}$$

$$\det(A^2 + 3I_3) = |\det(\sqrt{3}iI_3 - A)|^2 = |P(\sqrt{3}i)|^2. \text{ We have:}$$

$$P(\sqrt{3}i) = 9 + 3\sqrt{3}\lambda i \Rightarrow |P(\sqrt{3}i)|^2 = 3(27 + (\det A)^2); (\det A = 3\lambda)$$

$$2\det(A^2 + 3I_3) = 6(27 + (\det A)^2) = 3((3\sqrt{3} + \det A)^2 + (3\sqrt{3} - \det A)^2)$$

$$\geq 3(3\sqrt{3} + \det A)^2$$

204. If $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R} - \left\{ (2k + 1)\frac{\pi}{2} \mid k \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$ then prove:

$$2 \prod_{cyc} \cos x \cdot \sum_{cyc} \sin x \sin(y - z) \tan x + \sum_{cyc} \sin x \sin(y - z) \sin(y + z - x) = 0$$

Proposed by Florică Anastase-Romania

Solution by Adrian Popa-Romania

$$\sum_{cyc} \sin x \sin(y - z) \tan x = \sum_{cyc} \frac{\sin(y - z)}{\cos x} - \sum_{cyc} \cos x \sin(y - z)$$

But

$$\sum_{cyc} \cos x \sin(y - z) = 0$$

Hence,

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$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{\sin(y-z)}{\cos x} &= \frac{1}{\prod \cos x} \cdot \sum_{cyc} \cos y \cos z \sin(y-z) = \\ &= \frac{1}{2 \prod \cos x} \cdot \left[\sum_{cyc} \cos(y+z) \sin(y-z) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{cyc} \sin 2(y-z) \right]; \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\frac{1}{2} \sum_{cyc} \sin 2(y-z) = -2 \sin(x-y) \sin(y-z) \sin(z-x)$$

Then,

$$\sum_{cyc} \sin x \sin(y-z) \tan x + \frac{\sin(x-y) \sin(y-z) (\sin(z-x))}{\prod \cos x} = 0; \quad (2)$$

On the other hand, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \sin x \sin(y-z) \sin(y+z-x) &= \sin(y-z) \cdot \frac{2 \sin x \sin(y+z-x)}{2} = \\ &= \sin(y-z) \cdot \frac{\cos(y+z-2x) - \cos(y+z)}{2} = \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sin(y-z) \cos(y+z-2x) - \frac{1}{2} \sin(y-z) \cos(y+z) = \\ &= \frac{1}{4} [\sin 2(y-x) + \sin 2(x-z)] - \frac{1}{4} (\sin 2y - \sin 2z) \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \sin x \sin(y-z) \sin(y+z-x) &= -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{cyc} \sin 2(y-z) = \\ &= -\frac{\sin 2(y-z) + \sin 2(z-x) + \sin 2(x-y)}{2} = \\ &= -\sin(y-x) \cos(x+y-2z) - \sin(x-y) \cos(x-y) = \\ &= \sin(x-y) [\cos(x+y-2z) - \cos(x-y)] = \\ &= 2 \sin(x-y) \sin(y-z) \sin(z-x); \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

From (1), (2), (3) we get:

$$2 \prod_{cyc} \cos x \cdot \sum_{cyc} \sin x \sin(y-z) \tan x + \sum_{cyc} \sin x \sin(y-z) \sin(y+z-x) = 0$$

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205. Prove that the number:

$$\frac{\sqrt[4]{3\sqrt[3]{2} + 3} - \sqrt[4]{\sqrt[3]{2} - 1}}{\sqrt[4]{3\sqrt[3]{2} + 3} - 2\sqrt[4]{\sqrt[3]{2} - 1}}$$

is a solution of the equation: $x^3 - 6x^2 + 6x - 2 = 0$.

Proposed by Vasile Mircea Popa-Romania

Solution by Abdul Hannan-Tezpur-India

$$\text{Let: } x = \frac{\sqrt[4]{3\sqrt[3]{2}+3} - \sqrt[4]{\sqrt[3]{2}-1}}{\sqrt[4]{3\sqrt[3]{2}+3} - 2\sqrt[4]{\sqrt[3]{2}-1}} \text{ and } u = \sqrt[4]{\frac{3+3\sqrt[3]{2}}{\sqrt[3]{2}-1}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } a = \sqrt[3]{2}. \text{ Then } u^4 &= \frac{3(a+1)}{a-1} = \frac{3(a+1)^4}{(a+1)^3(a-1)} = \frac{3(a+1)^4}{(a^3+3a^2+3a+1)(a-1)} = \\ &= \frac{3(a+1)^4}{(3a^2+3a+3)(a-1)} = \frac{(a+1)^4}{(a^2+a+1)(a-1)} = \frac{(a+1)^4}{a^3-1} \\ &= \frac{a^3-2}{a^3-1} (a+1)^4 \end{aligned}$$

Since $u > 0$, we must have: $u = a + 1 = \sqrt[3]{2} + 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } x &= \frac{u-1}{u-2} \Rightarrow \frac{2x-1}{x-1} = u = \sqrt[3]{2} + 1 \Rightarrow \frac{x}{x-1} = \sqrt[3]{2} \\ &\Rightarrow 2(x-1)^3 = x^3 \Rightarrow x^3 - 6x^2 + 6x - 2 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

206. $A(a), B(b), C(c), a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}^*$ –different pairs, $|a| = |b| = |c| = 1$. Prove that:

$$\sum_{cyc} |2a + b + c|^2 = 3 \Rightarrow AB = BC = CA$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\text{Let } z = a + b + c$$

$$|2a + b + c|^2 = |a + z|^2 = |a|^2 + \bar{a}z + a\bar{z} + |z|^2$$

$$|a + 2b + c|^2 = |b + z|^2 = |b|^2 + \bar{b}z + b\bar{z} + |z|^2$$

$$|a + b + 2c|^2 = |c + z|^2 = |c|^2 + \bar{c}z + c\bar{z} + |z|^2$$

Adding, we get:

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$$3 = \sum_{cyc} |2a + b + c|^2 = 3 + (\bar{a} + \bar{b} + \bar{c})z + (a + b + c)\bar{z} + 3|z|^2$$

$$0 = \bar{z}z + z\bar{z} + 3|z|^2 = 5|z|^2 \Rightarrow z = 0.$$

Now,

$$|b - a|^2 + |b + a|^2 = 2|a|^2 + 2|b|^2 = 0 \Rightarrow |b - a|^2 + |-c|^2 = 4$$

$$\Rightarrow |b - a|^2 = 3 \text{ or } AB = \sqrt{3}. \text{ Similarly: } CA = BC = \sqrt{3}. \text{ Therefore, } AB = BC = CA.$$

207. $A(a), B(b), C(c), a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}^*$ –different in pairs, $|a| = |b| = |c| = 1$.

Prove that:

$$\sum_{cyc} (|a^2 + ab + bc + ca| + |a - b|^2) = 12 \Rightarrow AB = BC = CA$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution by Iulian Cristi-Romania

Applying the real product of complex number $R = 1 \Rightarrow$

$$a^2 = a \cdot a = |a|^2 = 1; ab = 1 - \frac{1}{2}|a - b|^2; bc = 1 - \frac{1}{2}|b - c|^2; ca = 1 - \frac{1}{2}|c - a|^2$$

$$\text{Let } \alpha = |a - b|, \beta = |b - c|, \gamma = |c - a|.$$

Having the circumcenter O of the triangle as the origin of the complex plane, hence

$$6 \left| 4 - \frac{\alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2}{2} \right| + \alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2 = 12$$

$$\text{We know that } \alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2 = 9(1 - OG^2)$$

$$6 \left| 4 - \frac{9}{2}(1 - OG^2) \right| + 9(1 - OG^2) = 12,$$

$$6 \left(\frac{9}{2}(1 - OG^2) - 4 \right) + 9(1 - OG^2) = 12$$

$$36 = 9(1 - OG^2) + 27(1 - OG^2) = 12$$

$$(1 - OG^2)36 = 36 \Leftrightarrow G = O \Leftrightarrow AB = BC = CA.$$

208. $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}^*$ –different pairs, $|a| = |b| = |c| = 1, A(a), B(b), C(c)$.

Prove that:

$$\sum_{cyc} |a + b - 2c| = \sum_{cyc} |a^2 - ab - ac + bc| \Rightarrow AB = BC = CA$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

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Solution by Florentin Vişescu-Romania

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} |a + b - 2c| &= \sum_{cyc} |a + b + c - 3c| = \sum_{cyc} |a(a - b) - c(a - c)| \\ \Leftrightarrow 3 \sum_{cyc} \left| \frac{a + b + c}{3} - c \right| &= \sum_{cyc} |a - b| \cdot |a - c| \Leftrightarrow 3 \sum_{cyc} AG = \sum_{cyc} AB \cdot AC \\ \Leftrightarrow 3 \sum_{cyc} \frac{2}{3} m_a &= \sum_{cyc} bc \Leftrightarrow 2(m_a + m_b + m_c) = ab + bc + ca \end{aligned}$$

We know that: $m_a \geq \frac{b^2 + c^2}{4R} \Rightarrow m_a + m_b + m_c \geq \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{2R}$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2(m_a + m_b + m_c) \geq \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{R}$$

But $R = 1 \Rightarrow 2(m_a + m_b + m_c) \geq a^2 + b^2 + c^2$

$$\Rightarrow ab + bc + ca \geq a^2 + b^2 + c^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2a^2 + 2b^2 + 2c^2 - 2ab - 2bc - 2ca \leq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a - b)^2 + (b - c)^2 + (c - a)^2 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow a = b = c \Rightarrow AB = BC = CA.$$

209. Let be $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathbb{C}^*$ different in pairs, such that $|z_1| = |z_2| = |z_3|$. If

$$\sum \frac{|z_2 - z_3|}{|z_2 + z_3 - 2z_1|} = \sqrt{3}$$

then z_1, z_2, z_3 are the affixes of an equilateral triangle.

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution by proposer

Let be $A(z_1), B(z_2), C(z_3), \Delta ABC \subset C(O, R)$

$$\sum \frac{|z_2 - z_3|}{2 \left| z_1 - \frac{z_2 + z_3}{2} \right|} = \sqrt{3} \Leftrightarrow \sum \frac{|z_2 - z_3|}{\left| z_1 - \frac{z_2 + z_3}{2} \right|} = 2\sqrt{3} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\sum \frac{a}{m_a} = 2\sqrt{3}; \quad (1)$$

But $\sum \frac{a}{m_a} \geq 2\sqrt{3}; \quad (2)$

From (1)&(2) $\Rightarrow \Delta ABC$ –equilateral.

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$$(2) \Leftrightarrow m_a \leq \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}{2\sqrt{3}a}$$

210. Let be $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathbb{C}^*$ different in pairs, such that $|z_1| = |z_2| = |z_3|$. If

$$\sum \left| \frac{(z_1 - z_2)|z_1 - z_3| + (z_1 - z_3)|z_1 - z_2|}{z_2 + z_3 - 2z_1} \right|^2 = \frac{(|z_1 - z_2| + |z_2 - z_3| + |z_3 - z_1|)^2}{3}$$

then z_1, z_2, z_3 are the affixes of an equilateral triangle.

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution by proposer

Let be $A(z_1), B(z_2), C(z_3) \Rightarrow \triangle ABC \subset C(O, R), |z_1| = |z_2| = |z_3| = R$

$$|z_1 - z_2| = AB = c, |z_2 - z_3| = BC = a, |z_3 - z_1| = AC = b$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum \left| \frac{b(z_1 - z_3) + c(z_1 - z_2)}{z_2 + z_3 - 2z_1} \right|^2 &= 3 \Leftrightarrow \sum \left| \frac{(b+c)z_1 - bz_2 - cz_3}{z_1 + z_2 + z_3 - 3z_1} \right|^2 = 3 \\ \Leftrightarrow \sum \left| \frac{(a+b+c)z_1 - az_1 - bz_2 - cz_3}{z_1 + z_2 + z_3 - z_1} \right|^2 &= 3 \Leftrightarrow \sum \left| \frac{z_1 - \frac{az_1 + bz_2 + cz_3}{a+b+c}}{\frac{z_1 + z_2 + z_3}{3} - z_1} \right|^2 = 3 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \sum \frac{AI^2}{GA^2} = 3; \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{But in any } \triangle ABC: \sum \frac{AI^2}{GA^2} \leq 3; \quad (2)$$

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

From (1)&(2) $\Rightarrow \triangle ABC$ – equilateral.

$$(2) \Leftrightarrow \sum \frac{AI^2}{\frac{4}{9}m_a^2} \leq 3 \Leftrightarrow \sum \frac{AI^2}{m_a^2} \leq \frac{4}{3}, \text{ but } m_a \geq \sqrt{s(s-a)} \Rightarrow$$

$$\sum \frac{AI^2}{s(s-a)} \leq \frac{4}{3} \Leftrightarrow \frac{s^2 + r^2 + 4Rr}{s^2} \leq \frac{4}{3} \Leftrightarrow s^2 \geq 12Rr + 3r^2$$

which is true from $s^2 \geq 16Rr - 5r^2$ (Gerretsen)

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211. Let $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathbb{C}^*$ different in pairs, such that $|z_1| = |z_2| = |z_3|$, If

$$\sum |(2z_1 - z_2 - z_3)(2z_2 - z_1 - z_3)(z_1 - z_2)| = 9|(z_1 - z_2)(z_2 - z_3)(z_3 - z_1)|$$

Then z_1, z_2, z_3 are the affixes of an equilateral triangle.

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

Let be $A(z_1), B(z_2), C(z_3), \Delta ABC \subset C(O, R), |z_1| = |z_2| = |z_3| = R$

$$\sum 4 \left| z_1 - \frac{z_2 + z_3}{2} \right| \cdot \left| z_2 - \frac{z_1 + z_3}{2} \right| \cdot |z_1 - z_2| = 9|(z_1 - z_2)(z_2 - z_3)(z_3 - z_1)|$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum m_a m_b \cdot c = \frac{9}{4} abc \Leftrightarrow \sum \frac{m_a m_b}{ab} = \frac{9}{4}; (1)$$

$$\text{But in any } \Delta ABC: \frac{m_a m_b}{ab} + \frac{m_b m_c}{bc} + \frac{m_c m_a}{ac} \geq \frac{9}{4}; (2)$$

From (1)&(2) equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

$$\frac{m_a m_b}{ab} + \frac{m_b m_c}{bc} + \frac{m_c m_a}{ac} \geq \frac{9}{4}; (2) \text{ follows from}$$

$$a \cdot PB \cdot PC + b \cdot PC \cdot PA + c \cdot PA \cdot PB \geq abc$$

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

Solution 2 by Florentin Vişescu-Romania

$$\sum_{cyc} |3z_1 - (z_1 + z_2 + z_3)| \cdot |3z_2 - (z_1 + z_2 + z_3)| \cdot |z_1 - z_2| = 9 \prod_{cyc} |z_1 - z_2|$$

$$9 \sum_{cyc} \left| z_1 - \frac{(z_1 + z_2 + z_3)}{3} \right| \cdot \left| z_2 - \frac{(z_1 + z_2 + z_3)}{3} \right| \cdot |z_1 - z_2| = 9 \prod_{cyc} |z_1 - z_2|$$

$$9 \sum_{cyc} AG \cdot BG \cdot AB = 9 \prod_{cyc} AB \Leftrightarrow$$

$$9 \cdot \frac{4}{9} \sum_{cyc} m_a m_b \cdot c = 9 \prod_{cyc} c \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} m_a m_b \cdot c = \prod_{cyc} c \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{m_a m_b}{ab} = \frac{9}{4}$$

$$\text{But in any } \Delta ABC: \sum_{cyc} \frac{m_a m_b}{ab} \geq \frac{9}{4};$$

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Equality holds if and only if $a = b = c \Rightarrow AB = BC = CA$.

Solution 3 by George Florin Şerban-Romania

Lemma. Let $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathbb{C}^*$ different in pairs, then:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{\left(z_2 - \frac{z_1 + z_3}{2}\right) \left(z_3 - \frac{z_1 + z_2}{2}\right)}{(z_1 - z_2)(z_1 - z_3)} = \frac{9}{4}$$

Proof.

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{(2z_2 - (z_1 + z_3))(2z_3 - (z_1 + z_2))}{4(z_1 - z_2)(z_1 - z_3)} = \frac{9}{4} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} (4z_2z_3 - 2z_1z_2 - 2z_2^2 - 2z_1z_3 + z_1^2 + z_1z_2 - z_1z_3 + z_2z_3)(z_3 - z_2) \\ = 9(z_1 - z_2)(z_2 - z_3)(z_3 - z_1) - \text{true.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{9}{4} &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{\left(z_2 - \frac{z_1 + z_3}{2}\right) \left(z_3 - \frac{z_1 + z_2}{2}\right)}{(z_1 - z_2)(z_1 - z_3)} \leq \sum_{cyc} \frac{\left|z_2 - \frac{z_1 + z_3}{2}\right| \cdot \left|z_3 - \frac{z_1 + z_2}{2}\right|}{|z_1 - z_2| \cdot |z_1 - z_3|} = \\ &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{m_{b'} m_{c'}}{b' c'} \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{m_{b'} m_{c'}}{b' c'} \geq \frac{9}{4} \end{aligned}$$

where $A(z_1) = A(a), B(z_2) = B(b), C(z_3) = C(c)$

Equality holds if and only if $a' = b' = c'$

$\triangle ABC$ equilateral, $AB = c', BC = b', AB = c'$

$M \in (BC), N \in (CA)$, -midpoints $\Rightarrow M\left(\frac{b+c}{2}\right), N\left(\frac{a+c}{2}\right)$ then

$$AM = \left|a - \frac{b+c}{2}\right| = \frac{|2a - b - c|}{2} = m_a \Rightarrow |2a - b - c| = 2m_a$$

$$BN = \left|b - \frac{a+c}{2}\right| = \frac{|2b - a - c|}{2} = m_b \Rightarrow |2b - a - c| = 2m_b$$

$$\sum_{cyc} |(2a - b - c)(2b - c - a)(a - b)| = 4 \sum_{cyc} m_{a'} m_{b'} \cdot c' =$$

$$= 4a'b'c' \sum_{cyc} \frac{m_{a'}}{a'} \cdot \frac{m_{b'}}{b'} = 9 \left| \prod_{cyc} (a - b) \right| = 9a'b'c' \Rightarrow$$

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$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{m_{a'}}{a'} \cdot \frac{m_{b'}}{b'} = \frac{9}{4} \Rightarrow a' = b' = c' \Rightarrow AB = BC = CA$$

Note by editor: Bager's inequality-1971:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{m_a m_b}{ab} \geq \frac{9}{4}$$

<http://www.ssmrmh.ro/2016/08/29/bagers-inequality-1/>

212. $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}^*$ –different in pairs, $|a| = |b| = |c| = 1$,

$$a + b + c \in \{\pm 1, \pm i\}. \text{ Find: } \Omega = a^{-2021} + b^{-2021} + c^{-2021}$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$a + b + c$ represents orthocentre of ΔABC

$a + b + c \in \{\pm 1, \pm i\} \Rightarrow a + b + c$ lies on the circumcircle of $\Delta ABC \Rightarrow \Delta ABC$ is right triangle.

If $a + b + c = \pm 1$, then one of the vertices is 1 or -1 and other two $i, -i$

$$\Omega = a^{-2021} + b^{-2021} + c^{-2021} = i^{-2021} + (-i)^{-2021} + (\pm i)^{2021} = \pm i$$

If $a + b + c = \pm i$, then one of the vertices is i or $-i$ and other two are 1, -1 .

$$\Omega = a^{-2021} + b^{-2021} + c^{-2021} = 1^{-2021} + (-1)^{2021} + (\pm i)^{-2021} = \pm i$$

Therefore,

$$\Omega = a^{-2021} + b^{-2021} + c^{-2021} \in \{\pm 1, \pm i\}.$$

213. $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}^*$ –different in pairs, $|a| = |b| = |c|, A(a), B(b), C(c)$. Prove that:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{|(a-b)(a-c)|}{|(a-b)|a-c| + (a-c)|a-b||^2} = 9 \left(\sum_{cyc} |a-b| \right)^{-2} \Leftrightarrow AB = BC = CA$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

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Solution by proposer

$$\begin{aligned}
 & A(a), B(b), C(c) \Rightarrow \Delta ABC \subset \mathcal{C}(O, R), |a| = R \\
 & |a - b| = AB = c', |a - c| = AC = b', |b - c| = BC = a' \Rightarrow \\
 & \sum_{cyc} \frac{AB \cdot AC}{|(a - b)AC + (a - c)AB|^2} = \frac{9}{(AB + BC + CA)^2} \Leftrightarrow \\
 & \sum_{cyc} \frac{bc}{\left| \frac{(a - b)a' + (a - c)c'}{a + b + c} \right|^2} = 9 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{bc}{\left| \frac{(b + c)a' - bb' - cc'}{a + b + c} \right|^2} = 9 \Leftrightarrow \\
 & \sum_{cyc} \frac{bc}{\left| \frac{(a + b + c)a' - aa' - bb' - cc'}{a + b + c} \right|^2} = 9 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{bc}{\left| a' - \frac{aa' + bb' + cc'}{a + b + c} \right|^2} = 9 \\
 & \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{bc}{AI^2} = 9; (1)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{But } \sum_{cyc} \frac{bc}{AI^2} = \frac{4R+r}{r} \geq 9 \Leftrightarrow 4R + r \geq 9r \Leftrightarrow R \geq 2r; (2)$$

From (1)&(2) we have equality, then ΔABC equilateral.

214. $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}^*$ –different in pairs, $|a| = |b| = |c|$, $A(a), B(b), C(c)$. Prove that:

$$\sum_{cyc} \left| \frac{(a + b)(a + c)}{(a - b)(a - c)} \right| = 1 \Leftrightarrow AB = BC = CA$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution by proposer

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{cyc} \left| \frac{(a + b)(a + c)}{(a - b)(a - c)} \right| = 1 & \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{BH \cdot CH}{AB \cdot AC} = 1 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{BH \cdot CH}{BC} = 1 \Leftrightarrow \\
 & \sum_{cyc} aBH \cdot CH = abc; (1)
 \end{aligned}$$

But $\sum_{cyc} aBH \cdot CH \geq abc$; (2) true from

$$aPB \cdot PC + bPC \cdot PA + cPA \cdot PB \geq abc, \forall P \in \mathcal{P}$$

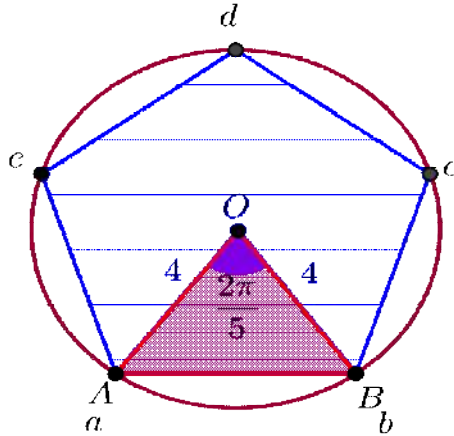
From (1)&(2) it following that ΔABC is equilateral.

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215.



$a, b, c, d, e \in \mathbb{C}^*$ –different in pairs, $a + b + c + d + e = 0$,

$A(a), B(b), C(c), D(d), E(e)$,

$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 + e^2 = 0, |a| = |b| = |c| = |d| = |e| = 4$. Find:

$$\Omega = \frac{[ABCDE]}{AB + BC + CD + DE + EA}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\begin{aligned} a + b + c + d + e = 0 &\Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} a = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \bar{a} = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{16}{a} = 0 \\ &\Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} abcd = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Next, $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 + e^2 = 0$ and $a + b + c + d + e = 0$, thus

$$\begin{aligned} 2 \sum_{cyc} ab &= \left(\sum_{cyc} a \right)^2 - \sum_{cyc} a^2 \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} ab = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \bar{a}\bar{b} = 0 \Rightarrow \\ &256 \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{ab} = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} abc = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Let us denote $abcde = \alpha$, consider the equation whose roots are a, b, c, d and e , respectively.

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$$z^5 - \left(\sum_{cyc} a \right) z^4 + \left(\sum_{cyc} ab \right) z^3 - \left(\sum_{cyc} abc \right) z - abcde = 0$$

$$\text{Or } z^5 - \alpha = 0; (1)$$

Let one of the roots of (1) be β .

Then, roots of (1) are $\beta, \beta\omega, \beta\omega^2, \beta\omega^3, \beta\omega^4$, where $\omega = \cos \frac{2\pi}{5} + i \sin \frac{2\pi}{5}$.

$$\text{Let } a = \beta, b = \beta\omega, c = \beta\omega^2, d = \beta\omega^3, e = \beta\omega^4,$$

$$[ABCDE] = 5[AOB] = 5 \cdot 4^2 \cdot \sin \frac{2\pi}{5}.$$

$$\text{Also, } AB = BC = CD = DE = EA$$

$$AB = |b - a| = |\beta\omega - \beta| = |\beta||\omega - 1| = |\beta||\omega||\omega - 1| = |\beta||\omega^2 - \omega| = BC \dots$$

Now, by the law of cosines:

$$\begin{aligned} AB^2 &= OA^2 + OB^2 - 2OA \cdot OB \cos \frac{2\pi}{5} = 16 + 16 - 2 \cdot 16 \cdot 16 \cos \frac{2\pi}{5} = \\ &= 32 \left[1 - \cos \left(\frac{2\pi}{5} \right) \right] = 64 \sin^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{5} \right) \Rightarrow AB = 8 \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{5} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega &= \frac{[ABCDE]}{AB + BC + CD + DE + EA} \\ &= \frac{5 \cdot 16 \cdot \sin \left(\frac{2\pi}{5} \right)}{5 \cdot 8 \cdot \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{5} \right)} = \frac{4 \cdot \sin \left(\frac{2\pi}{5} \right)}{\sin \left(\frac{\pi}{5} \right)} = \sqrt{5} + 1 \end{aligned}$$

216. If $a, b, c \in \mathbb{C}^*$ –different in pairs, $|a| = |b| = |c|$, $A(a), B(b), C(c)$. Prove that:

$$\left(\sum_{cyc} ((a-b)|a-c| + (a-c)|a-b|) \right)^2 = \left(\sum_{cyc} |a-b| \right)^2 \cdot \sum_{cyc} |a-b|^2 \Rightarrow AB = BC = CA$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

$$|a - b| = AB = c_1, |b - c| = BC = a_1, |c - a| = CA = b_1$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \left(\sum_{cyc} ((a-b)|a-c| + (a-c)|a-b|) \right)^2 &= \left(\sum_{cyc} ((a-b)b_1 + (a-c)c_1) \right)^2 = \\ &= (a_1 + b_1 + c_1)^2 (a_1^2 + b_1^2 + c_1^2) \Leftrightarrow \\ &\left(\sum_{cyc} \left| \frac{b_1 a - b_1 b + c_1 a - c_1 c}{a_1 + b_1 + c_1} \right| \right)^2 = a_1^2 + b_1^2 + c_1^2 \Leftrightarrow \\ &\left(\sum_{cyc} \left| \frac{(b_1 + c_1)a - b_1 b - c_1 c}{a_1 + b_1 + c_1} \right| \right)^2 = a_1^2 + b_1^2 + c_1^2 \Leftrightarrow \\ &\left(\sum_{cyc} \left| a - \frac{a_1 a + b_1 b + c_1 c}{a_1 + b_1 + c_1} \right| \right)^2 = a_1^2 + b_1^2 + c_1^2 \Leftrightarrow \\ &\left(\sum_{cyc} AI \right)^2 = a_1^2 + b_1^2 + c_1^2; (1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{But } \left(\sum_{cyc} AI \right)^2 \leq a_1^2 + b_1^2 + c_1^2; (2)$$

From (1),(2) equality holds if and only if triangle ABC is equilateral.

$$AI = \frac{r}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{b_1 c_1 (s - a_1)}{s}} \Rightarrow (2) \Leftrightarrow \left(\sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{b_1 c_1 (s - a_1)}{s}} \right)^2 \leq a_1^2 + b_1^2 + c_1^2; (3)$$

From BCS inequality, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{b_1 c_1 (s - a_1)}{s}} \right)^2 &\leq \left(\sum_{cyc} b_1 c_1 \right) \left(\sum_{cyc} \frac{s - a_1}{s} \right) = \sum_{cyc} b_1 c_1 \leq \sum_{cyc} a_1^2 \\ &\Rightarrow (3) \text{ is true.} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by George Florin Şerban-Romania

$BC = a', AC = b', AB = c', I$ – incenter.

$$AI = \left| \frac{aa' + bb' + cc'}{a' + b' + c'} - a \right| = \frac{|aa' + bb' + cc' - aa' - ab' - ac'|}{|a' + b' + c'|} =$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{|b'(b-a) + c'(c-a)|}{2s} = \frac{|b'(a-b) + c'(a-c)|}{2s} \Rightarrow \\
 2s \cdot AI &= |b'(a-b) + c'(a-c)| = |(a-b)|a-c| + (a-c)|a-b|| \\
 \sum_{cyc} |(a-b)|a-c| + (a-c)|a-b|| &= 2s \sum_{cyc} AI \\
 \left(\sum_{cyc} |(a-b)|a-c| + (a-c)|a-b|| \right)^2 &= 4s^2 \left(\sum_{cyc} AI \right)^2 = \\
 = 4s^2 \left(\sum_{cyc} AI^2 + 2 \sum_{cyc} AI \cdot BI \right) &= 4s^2 \left(r^2 \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{\sin^2 \frac{A}{2}} + \frac{2abc}{s} \sum_{cyc} \sin \frac{A}{2} \right) = \\
 = 4s^2 \left[r^2 \frac{s^2 + r^2 - 8Rr}{r^2} + \frac{8Rrs}{s} \sum_{cyc} \sin \frac{A}{2} \right] &= \\
 = 4s^2 \left(s^2 + r^2 - 8Rr + 8Rr \sum_{cyc} \sin \frac{A}{2} \right) &= \left(\sum_{cyc} |a-b| \right) \left(\sum_{cyc} |a-b|^2 \right) = \\
 = 4s^2 \sum_{cyc} a'^2 = 4s^2 (2s^2 - 2r^2 - 8Rr) &= 2s^2 - 2r^2 - 8Rr \\
 8Rr \sum_{cyc} \sin \frac{A}{2} = s^2 - 3r^2 \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \sin \frac{A}{2} &= \frac{s^2 - 3r^2}{8Rr}
 \end{aligned}$$

Let $f: (0, \pi) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f(x) = \sin \frac{x}{2}, f''(x) = -\frac{1}{4} \sin \frac{x}{2} < 0 \Rightarrow f$ -convex.

Applying Jensen inequality, we get:

$$\sum_{cyc} \sin \frac{A}{2} \leq \frac{3}{2} \Leftrightarrow \frac{s^2 - 3r^2}{8Rr} \leq \frac{3}{2} \Leftrightarrow s^2 \leq 12Rr + 3r^2$$

But $16Rr - 5r^2 \leq s^2$ (Gerretsen). Remains to prove that:

$$16Rr - 5r^2 \leq 12Rr + 3r^2 \Leftrightarrow 4Rr \leq 8r^2 \Leftrightarrow R \leq 2r \text{ but } R \geq 2r \text{ (Euler) then,} \\
 R = 2r \Leftrightarrow \triangle ABC \text{ equilateral.}$$

217.

$$\frac{10x^8 - 480x^6 + 4032x^4 - 7680x^2 + 2560}{x^2} - 11520 + 13440x^2 - 3360x^4 + 180x^6 - x^8 = \frac{x}{2}$$

Proposed by Orlando Irahola Ortega-Bolivia

Solution by Lety Saucedo-Mexico City-Mexico

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$$x^{10} + 20x^9 - 180x^8 - 960x^7 + 3360x^6 + 8064x^5 - 13440x^4 + 15360x^3 + 11520x^2 + 5120x - 1024 = 0$$

$$\frac{20x^9 - 960x^7 + 8064x^5 - 15360x^3 + 5120x}{1024 - 11529x^2 + 13440x^4 - 3369x^6 + 180x^8 - x^{10}} = 1$$

Dividing with 1024 and let $x = 2w$ it follows that:

$$\frac{10w^9 - 120w^7 + 252w^5 - 120w^3 + 10w}{1 - 45w^2 + 210w^4 - 210w^6 + 45w^8 - w^{10}} = 1$$

Let $w = \tan(a)$, $x = 2\tan(a)$ then the up rapport is equivalent to $\tan(10a) = 1$.

$$\tan(10a) = 1 \Rightarrow 10a = \frac{\pi}{4} \Rightarrow a = \frac{\pi}{40}; x = 2w = 2\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{40}(2k+1)\right)$$

$$\text{So, } x = 2\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{40}(2k+1)\right), k = \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$$

218. If we have the relation

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\phi^{3n+1} + (-1)^n(3n+1)}{\phi^{4n+1}} = \frac{1+k}{k} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n(n\phi + \sqrt{5}) + \phi^{2n+1}}{\phi^{3n+2}}$$

then find the value of k . (ϕ – Golden Ratio)

Proposed by Srinivasa Raghava-AIRMC-India

Solution by Izumi Ainsworth-Lima-Peru

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\phi^{3n+1} + (-1)^n(3n+1)}{\phi^{4n+1}} &= \frac{1+k}{k} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n(n\phi + \sqrt{5}) + \phi^{2n+1}}{\phi^{3n+2}} \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\phi} \left[\phi \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{\phi}\right)^n + 3 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{\phi^4}\right)^n}{n^{-1}} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{1}{\phi}\right)^n \right] = \\ &= \frac{1+k}{k} \left[\frac{1}{\phi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{\phi^3}\right)^n}{n^{-1}} - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\phi^2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{1}{\phi^3}\right)^n + \frac{1}{\phi} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{\phi}\right)^n \right] \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\phi} \left[\phi \left(\frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{\phi}} \right) + 3Li_{-1}\left(-\frac{1}{\phi^4}\right) + \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{\phi^4}} \right] = \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1+k}{k} \left[\frac{1}{\phi} Li_{-1} \left(-\frac{1}{\phi^3} \right) + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\phi^2} \left(\frac{1}{1-\frac{-1}{\phi^3}} \right) + \frac{1}{\phi} \left(\frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{\phi}} \right) \right] \\
 &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\phi} \left[\phi \left(\frac{\phi}{\phi-1} \right) + 3 \left(\frac{\frac{-1}{\phi^4}}{\left(1-\frac{-1}{\phi^4}\right)^2} \right) + \frac{\phi^4}{\phi^4+1} \right] = \\
 &= \frac{1+k}{k} \left[\frac{1}{\phi} \left(\frac{-\frac{1}{\phi^3}}{\left(1-\frac{-1}{\phi^3}\right)^2} \right) + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\phi^2} \left(\frac{\phi^3}{\phi^3+1} \right) + \frac{1}{\phi} \left(\frac{\phi}{\phi-1} \right) \right] \\
 &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\phi} \left[\phi(\phi^2) - 3 \frac{\phi^4}{(\phi^4+1)^2} + \frac{\phi^4}{\phi^4+1} \right] = \\
 &= \frac{1+k}{k} \left[-\frac{1}{\phi} \left(\frac{\phi^3}{(\phi^3+1)^2} \right) + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\phi^2} \left(\frac{\phi^3}{\phi^3+1} \right) + \frac{1}{\phi} (\phi^2) \right] \\
 &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\phi} \left[\phi^3 - 3 \frac{\phi^4}{(3\phi^2)^2} + \frac{\phi^4}{3\phi^2} \right] = \frac{1+k}{k} \left[-\frac{1}{\phi} \left(\frac{\phi^3}{(2\phi^2)^2} \right) + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2} \left(\frac{\phi^3}{2\phi^2} \right) + \phi \right] \\
 &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\phi} \left[(2\phi+1) - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{\phi+1}{3} \right] = \frac{1+k}{k} \left(-\frac{1}{4\phi^2} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2\phi} - \frac{1}{4} \right) \\
 &\quad \frac{1}{3} (7\phi^2 + 3\phi) = \frac{1+k}{k} \left(\phi^3 + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2}\phi - \frac{1}{4} \right) \\
 &\quad \frac{1}{3} (7(\phi+1) + 3\phi) = \frac{1+k}{k} \left((2\phi+1) + \frac{\phi}{2} + 1 - \frac{1}{4} \right) \\
 &\quad \frac{10\phi+7}{3} = \frac{1+k}{k} \left(\frac{10\phi+7}{4} \right) \Rightarrow \frac{4}{3} = \frac{1+k}{k} \Rightarrow k=3.
 \end{aligned}$$

219. Solve for real numbers:

$$2x[x] + 2[x[x]] = 5; [*] - GIF$$

Proposed by Jalil Hajimir-Toronto-Canada

Solution by Bedri Hajrizi-Mitrovica-Kosovo

$$x[x] + [x[x]] = 2,5 \Leftrightarrow [x[x]] = 2,5 - x[x]$$

$$2,5 - x[x] \leq x[x] < 3,5 - x[x]$$

$$1,25 \leq x[x] < 1,75 \Rightarrow [x[x]] = 1$$

$$x[x] + 1 = 2,5 \Rightarrow x[x] = 1,5 \Rightarrow [x] = \frac{1,5}{x}$$

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$$\frac{1,5}{x} \leq x < \frac{1,5}{x} + 1$$

$$(I) -\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \leq x < \frac{1-\sqrt{7}}{2} \Rightarrow x \in \left[-\sqrt{\frac{3}{2}}, \frac{1-\sqrt{7}}{2} \right) \Rightarrow [x] \in \{-2; -1\} \Rightarrow$$

$x \in \{-0,75; -1,5\}$ – no solution.

$$(II) \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \leq x < \frac{1+\sqrt{7}}{2} \Rightarrow [x] = 1, S = \{1\}$$

220.

$$A = \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{k+1}^{k+2} \frac{(x+1)dx}{x^4 + 4x^3 + (4i+2)x^2 + (8i-4)x + 4i^2 - 4i}$$

$$\Omega = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} Ak^3$$

Solve for natural numbers:

$$\binom{\Omega}{6} = \binom{n}{2014}$$

Proposed by Costel Florea-Romania

Solution 1 by Adrian Popa-Romania

$$I = \int_{k+1}^{k+2} \frac{(x+1)dx}{(x^2+2x+2n)(x^2+2x+2(n-1))} =$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_{k+1}^{k+2} \frac{(x+1)dx}{x^2+2x+2(n-1)} - \frac{1}{2} \int_{k+1}^{k+2} \frac{(x+1)dx}{x^2+2x+2n} = I_1 - I_2$$

$$I_1 = \frac{1}{2} \int_{k+1}^{k+2} \frac{(x+1)dx}{x^2+2x+2(n-1)} \stackrel{x^2+2x+2(n-1)=t}{=} \frac{1}{2} \int_{(k+2)^2+2(n-1)-1}^{(k+3)^2+2(n-1)-1} \frac{dt}{t} =$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\frac{(k+3)^2 + 2(n-1) - 1}{(k+2)^2 + 2(n-1) - 1} \right)$$

$$I_2 = \frac{1}{2} \int_{k+1}^{k+2} \frac{(x+1)dx}{x^2+2x+2n} \stackrel{x^2+2x+2n=t}{=} \frac{1}{2} \int_{(k+2)^2+2n-1}^{(k+3)^2+2n-1} \frac{dt}{t} = \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\frac{(k+3)^2 + 2n - 1}{(k+2)^2 + 2n - 1} \right)$$

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Hence,

$$A = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\log \left(\frac{(k+3)^2 + 2(i-1) - 1}{(k+2)^2 + 2(i-1) - 1} \right) - \log \left(\frac{(k+3)^2 + 2i - 1}{(k+2)^2 + 2i - 1} \right) \right) =$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \log \left(1 + \frac{4nk + 10n}{k^4 + 10k^3 + (2n+35)k^2 + (8n+50)k + 6n + 24} \right)$$

On the other hand,

$$\Omega = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} A k^3 = \frac{1}{4} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \log \left(1 + \frac{4nk + 10n}{\underbrace{k^4 + 10k^3 + (2n+35)k^2 + (8n+50)k + 6n + 24}_E} \right)^k$$

$$\left(\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} E = e^{\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(4nk+10n)k^3}{k^4+10k^3+(2n+35)k^2+(8n+50)k+6n+24}} = e^{4n} \right)$$

$$\Omega = \frac{1}{4} \log e^{4n} = n$$

Therefore,

$$\binom{n}{6} = \binom{n}{2014} \Rightarrow \binom{n}{6} = \binom{n}{n-2014} \Rightarrow 6 = n - 2014 \Rightarrow n = 2020$$

Solution 2 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$x^4 + 4x^3 + (4n+2)x^2 + (8n-4)x + 4n^2 - 4n =$$

$$= [(x+1)^2 + 2(n-1)]^2 - 1$$

$$I_n := \int_{k+1}^{k+2} \frac{(x+1)dx}{x^4 + 4x^3 + (4n+2)x^2 + (8n-4)x + 4n^2 - 4n} =$$

$$= \int_{k+1}^{k+2} \frac{(x+1)dx}{[(x+1)^2 + 2(n-1)]^2 - 1} \stackrel{(x+1)^2+2(n-1)=t}{=}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_{(k+2)^2+2(n-1)}^{(k+3)^2+2(n-1)} \frac{dt}{t^2 - 1} = -\frac{1}{4} \log \left(\frac{(k+3)^2 + 2n - 1}{(k+3)^2 + 2n - 3} \right) + \frac{1}{4} \log \left(\frac{(k+2)^2 + 2n - 1}{(k+2)^2 + 2n - 3} \right)$$

$$A = \sum_{r=1}^n I_r = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{r=1}^n \left[\log \left(\frac{(k+3)^2 + 2r - 1}{(k+3)^2 + 2r - 3} \right) + \log \left(\frac{(k+2)^2 + 2r - 1}{(k+2)^2 + 2r - 3} \right) \right] =$$

$$= -\frac{1}{4} \log \left(\frac{(k+3)^2 + 2n - 1}{(k+3)^2 - 1} \right) + \frac{1}{4} \log \left(\frac{(k+2)^2 + 2n - 1}{(k+2)^2 - 1} \right) =$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{4} \log \left(1 + \frac{2n}{(k+2)^2 - 1} \right) - \frac{1}{4} \log \left(1 + \frac{2n}{(k+3)^2 - 1} \right) = \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{2n}{(k+2)^2 - 1} - \frac{2n}{(k+3)^2 - 1} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2n}{(k+2)^2 - 1} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2n}{(k+3)^2 - 1} \right)^2 + \dots \right] = \\
 &= \frac{n}{2} \left[\frac{(k+3+k+2)}{((k+2)^2 - 1)((k+3)^2 - 1)} + o\left(\frac{1}{k^4}\right) \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\Omega = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} Ak^3 = \frac{n}{2} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{2k^4 + 5k^3}{((k+2) - 1)((k+3)^2 - 1)} \right) = n$$

Therefore,

$$\binom{n}{6} = \binom{n}{2014} \Rightarrow n = 2020$$

221. Find all real numbers $\alpha \geq 0$ such that:

$$\sin^2(\sqrt{\alpha}x^{2020}) + \cos^2((\alpha^2 - 1)x^{2020}) = 1, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Van Canh-Ben Tre-Vietnam

Solution by Tran Hong-Dong Thap-Vietnam

$$\sin^2(\sqrt{\alpha}x^{2020}) + \cos^2((\alpha^2 - 1)x^{2020}) = 1, ; (*) \text{ true for all } x \in \mathbb{R} \text{ if and only if:}$$

$$\sqrt{\alpha}x^{2020} = (\alpha^2 - 1)x^{2020}, \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(\alpha^2 - \sqrt{\alpha} - 1)x^{2020} = 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{R} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\alpha^2 - \sqrt{\alpha} - 1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \alpha^2 = 1 + \sqrt{\alpha}$$

So, for $\alpha \geq 0$ such that $\alpha^2 = 1 + \sqrt{\alpha}$ ($\alpha \approx 1,2207$) $\Rightarrow (*)$ is true for $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

222. Solve for real numbers:

$$(x - [x])^{x-[x]} + (x + [x])^{x+[x]} = 4; [*] - GIF$$

Proposed by Jalil Hajimir-Toronto-Canada

Solution by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

$$(x - [x])^{x-[x]} + (x + [x])^{x+[x]} = 4; (T)$$

In the below we treat on \mathbb{R} only integer powers of negative numbers.

In general $a^b \in \mathbb{C}$ when $a < 0$ and $b \notin \mathbb{Z}^*$

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Also 0^0 can be undefined or be assigned the value of 1.

Now: 1) if $0 < x < 1$ then $[x] = 0$ and $(T) \Rightarrow \{x\}^{\{x\}} + x^x = 4$

$0 < \{x\} = x - [x] < 1$ so $\{x\}^{\{x\}} < 1$ and $x^x < 1$, no solutions.

2) if $1 < x$ then $x + [x] > 2$ as both $[x] \geq 1, x > 1$ therefore,
 $(x + [x])^{(x+[x])} > 2^2 = 4$ and $(x - [x])^{(x-[x])} > 0$ No solutions.

3) if $x = 0$ then (T) is undefined or reduces to $1 + 1 = 4$.

4) if $x = 1$ then (T) is undefined ($x - [x] = 0$) or reduces to $1 + 4 = 4$ (false).

5) if $x \in \mathbb{Z}_-$ then $x - [x] = 0$ and $x + [x] = -2|x|$ so (T) either undefined or reduces to

$$4 = 1 + \frac{1}{4^{|x|}} \left(\frac{1}{|x|}\right)^{2|x|} < 2 \text{ as } |x| \geq 1 \text{ and } \frac{1}{4^{|x|}} \left(\frac{1}{|x|}\right)^{2|x|} \leq \frac{1}{4}, \text{ contradiction.}$$

Therefore, with the above assumptions set of solutions = \emptyset

223. Solve for real numbers:

$$[x^2] + x^2 = 2x[x], \quad [*] - GIF$$

Proposed by Jalil Hajimir-Toronto-Canada

Solution 1 by Bedri Hajrizi-Mitrovica-Kosovo

Let $x = k + a, k \in \mathbb{Z}, a \in [0, 1)$

$$[k^2 + 2ka + a^2] + k^2 + 2ka + a^2 = 2(k + a)k$$

$$2k^2 + [2ka + a^2] + 2ka + a^2 = 2ka + ak^2$$

For $a = 0$, we get solution $x = k$.

$$\text{For } a \neq 0: [2ka + a^2] + a^2 = 0$$

Being that $a \in (0, 1) \Rightarrow a^2 \in (0, 1)$, so $[2ka + a^2] = -a^2 \in (-1, 0)$ which is impossible.

Solution 2 by Rachid Iksi-Morocco

$$[x^2] + x^2 = 2x[x]$$

$x = [x]$ is a solution for the equation.

$$1) [x] \geq 0 \Rightarrow [x]^2 \leq x^2 \Rightarrow [x]^2 \leq [x^2] \Rightarrow$$

$$[x]^2 + x^2 \leq [x^2] + x^2 = 2x[x] \Rightarrow x^2 + [x]^2 - 2x[x] \leq 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$(x - [x])^2 \leq 0 \Rightarrow x = [x]$$

$$2) [x] \leq -1 \Rightarrow [x]^2 \geq x^2 \geq [x^2] \Rightarrow$$

$$[x]^2 + x^2 \geq 2x^2 \geq [x^2] + x^2 = 2x[x]$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 \geq x[x] \Rightarrow x \leq [x] \text{ as } [x] \leq -1, x < 0 \Rightarrow x = [x] \text{ is the solution.}$$

So, $x = [x]$ is the only solution. Set is \mathbb{Z} .

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224. Solve for real numbers:

$$[x^2] + x^2 = 2x[x], \quad [*] - \text{GIF}$$

Proposed by Jalil Hajimir-Toronto-Canada

Solution 1 by Bedri Hajrizi-Mitrovica-Kosovo

$$\text{Let } x = k + a, k \in \mathbb{Z}, a \in [0, 1)$$

$$[k^2 + 2ka + a^2] + k^2 + 2ka + a^2 = 2(k + a)k$$

$$2k^2 + [2ka + a^2] + 2ka + a^2 = 2ka + ak^2$$

For $a = 0$, we get solution $x = k$.

$$\text{For } a \neq 0: [2ka + a^2] + a^2 = 0$$

Being that $a \in (0, 1) \Rightarrow a^2 \in (0, 1)$, so $[2ka + a^2] = -a^2 \in (-1, 0)$ which is impossible.

Solution 2 by Rachid Iksi-Morocco

$$[x^2] + x^2 = 2x[x]$$

$x = [x]$ is a solution for the equation.

$$1) [x] \geq 0 \Rightarrow [x]^2 \leq x^2 \Rightarrow [x]^2 \leq [x^2] \Rightarrow$$

$$[x]^2 + x^2 \leq [x^2] + x^2 = 2x[x] \Rightarrow x^2 + [x]^2 - 2x[x] \leq 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$(x - [x])^2 \leq 0 \Rightarrow x = [x]$$

$$2) [x] \leq -1 \Rightarrow [x]^2 \geq x^2 \geq [x^2] \Rightarrow [x]^2 + x^2 \geq 2x^2 \geq [x^2] + x^2 = 2x[x]$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 \geq x[x] \Rightarrow x \leq [x] \text{ as } [x] \leq -1, x < 0 \Rightarrow x = [x] \text{ is the solution.}$$

So, $x = [x]$ is the only solution. Set is \mathbb{Z} .

225. Solve for real numbers:

$$2 + x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + t^2 = xy + yz + zt + tx + 2|x - y + z - t|$$

Proposed by Mihály Bencze-Romania

Solution by Chris Kyriazis-Greece

$$4 + 2x^2 + 2y^2 + 2z^2 + 2t^2 = 2(x + z)(y + t) + 4|(x + z) - (y + t)| \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(x + z)^2 + (y + t)^2 - 2(x + z)(y + t) - 4|(x + z) - (y + t)| + 4 + x^2 + y^2 + z^2$$

$$+ t^2 - 2xz - 2yt = 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$|(x + z) - (y + t)|^2 - 4|(x + z) - (y + t)| + 4 + (x - z)^2 + (y - t)^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(|(x + z) - (y + t)| - 2)^2 + (x - z)^2 + (y - t)^2 = 0$$

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This means:

$$\begin{cases} x = z \\ y = t \\ |x + z - (y + t)| = 2 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} x = z \\ y = t \\ x - y = 1 \end{cases} \text{ or } \begin{cases} x = z \\ y = t \\ x - y = -1 \end{cases}$$

Case I) If $x = 2, y = t, x - y = 1$, we deduce that the solution is:

$$\{(x, x - 1, x, x - 1) \mid x \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

Case II) If $x = z, y = t, x - y = -1$, we deduce that the solution is:

$$\{(x, x + 1, x, x + 1) \mid x \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

226. Solve for real numbers:

$$\begin{cases} x, y, z > 0 \\ \sum_{cyc} \frac{xy}{\sqrt{(1+x^2)(1+y^2)}} = \frac{3}{2} \\ xy + yz + zx = 3 \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution by George Florin Șerban-Romania

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{3}{2} &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{xy}{\sqrt{(1+x^2)(1+y^2)}} \stackrel{CBS}{\leq} \sum_{cyc} \frac{xy}{xy+1} \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{xy}{xy+1} \geq \frac{3}{2} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{xy-1+1}{xy+1} \geq \frac{3}{2} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \left(1 - \frac{1}{xy+1}\right) \geq \frac{3}{2} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{xy+1} \leq \frac{3}{2} \\ \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{xy+1} &\stackrel{Bergstrom}{\geq} \frac{9}{(xy+yz+zx+3)} = \frac{3}{2} \Rightarrow xy = yz = zx = 1 \\ (xyz)^2 &= 1, xyz > 0 \Rightarrow xyz = 1 \Rightarrow x = y = z = 1. \end{aligned}$$

227. Solve for real numbers:

$$\begin{cases} x[y] + y[z] + z[x] = 11 \\ x[z] + y[x] + z[y] = 11 \\ x[x] + y[y] = z[z] = 14 \end{cases}$$

[*] – is the greatest integer part of *

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Proposed by Jalil Hajimir-Toronto-Canada

Solution by Santos Martins Junior-Brussels-Belgium

Adding up equations of the system yields:

$$(x + y + z)([x] + [y] + [z]) = 36$$

$$([x] + [y] + [z] + \{x\} + \{y\} + \{z\})([x] + [y] + [z]) = 36$$

$$([x] + [y] + [z])^2 + (\{x\} + \{y\} + \{z\})([x] + [y] + [z]) - 36 = 0$$

Quadratic in $([x] + [y] + [z])$

whose discriminant D must be a perfect square ≥ 0

$$D = (\{x\} + \{y\} + \{z\})^2 + 144$$

We know that by definition $0 \leq \{r\} < 1$ for any real number r

$$\text{Hence } 0 \leq \{x\} + \{y\} + \{z\} < 3$$

implying that D is a perfect square only for $\{x\} + \{y\} + \{z\} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \{x\} = \{y\} = \{z\} = 0 \Rightarrow x, y, z \text{ are all integers.}$$

Hence system becomes: $xy + yz + zx = 11$; (1) and $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 14$; (2) where

x, y, z are all integers

From (2) we easily get that the triplet $(x, y, z) = (1, 2, 3)$ and its permutations and the

triplet $(x, y, z) = (-1, -2, -3)$ and its permutations are solutions of the system

228. Solve for real numbers:

$$\begin{cases} \sqrt[3]{(x+3)^2} + 6\sqrt[3]{(z-3)^2} = 5\sqrt[3]{(x-3)(y+3)} \\ x, y, z > 0 \\ \frac{2x^2}{yz(y+z)} + \frac{2y^2}{zx(z+x)} + \frac{2z^2}{xy(x+y)} = \frac{9}{x+y+z} \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution by Rahim Shahbazov-Baku-Azerbaijan

$$\frac{x^3}{a} + \frac{y^3}{b} + \frac{z^3}{c} \geq \frac{(x+y+z)^3}{3(a+b+c)} \text{ (Holder)}$$

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$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{2x^2}{yz(y+z)} = \frac{2}{xyz} \sum_{cyc} \frac{x^3}{y+z} \geq \frac{2}{xyz} \cdot \frac{(x+y+z)^3}{6(x+y+z)} =$$

$$= \frac{(x+y+z)^2}{3xyz} \geq \frac{9}{x+y+z} \Rightarrow (x+y+z)^3 \stackrel{AGM}{\geq} 27xyz \Rightarrow x=y=z \Rightarrow$$

$$\sqrt[3]{(x+3)^2} + 6\sqrt[3]{(x-3)^2} = 5\sqrt[3]{(x-3)(x+3)}$$

$$\text{Let } t = \sqrt[3]{\frac{x+3}{x-3}} \Rightarrow t^2 - 5t + 6 = 0 \Rightarrow t_1 = 2; t_2 = 3$$

Hence,

$$\sqrt[3]{\frac{x+3}{x-3}} = 2 \Rightarrow x = \frac{27}{7}, \sqrt[3]{\frac{x+3}{x-3}} = 3 \Rightarrow x = \frac{42}{13}$$

$$\text{Therefore } (x, y, z) = \left\{ \left(\frac{27}{7}, \frac{27}{7}, \frac{27}{7} \right); \left(\frac{42}{13}, \frac{42}{13}, \frac{42}{13} \right) \right\}$$

229. Solve for real numbers:

$$\begin{cases} x, y, z > 0 \\ 32(x^5 + y^5 + 1) = (x+y)^5 + (x+1)^5 + (y+1)^5 \\ x+z = \sqrt{xz} + \sqrt{\frac{x^2+z^2}{2}} \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by Alex Szoros-Romania

$$f: (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f(x) = x^5 \Rightarrow f'(x) = 5x^4, f''(x) = 20x^3 \Rightarrow \frac{f(x) + f(y)}{2} \geq f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x^5 + y^5}{2} \geq \left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)^5; \frac{x^5 + 1}{2} \geq \left(\frac{x+1}{2}\right)^5; \frac{y^5 + 1}{2} \geq \left(\frac{y+1}{2}\right)^5 \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{x^5 + y^5}{2} + \frac{x^5 + 1}{2} + \frac{y^5 + 1}{2} \geq \left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right)^5 + \left(\frac{x+1}{2}\right)^5 + \left(\frac{y+1}{2}\right)^5$$

$$32(x^5 + y^5 + 1) \geq (x+y)^5 + (x+1)^5 + (y+1)^5; \forall x, y > 0$$

$$32(x^5 + y^5 + 1) = (x+y)^5 + (x+1)^5 + (y+1)^5 \Leftrightarrow x = y = 1$$

$$x = 1 \Rightarrow 1 + z = \sqrt{z} + \sqrt{\frac{1+z^2}{2}}$$

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$$1 + 2z + z^2 = z + 2\sqrt{\frac{z(1+z^2)}{2} + \frac{1+z^2}{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{z^2 + 1}{2} + z = 2\sqrt{\frac{z(1+z^2)}{2}}$$

$$(z + 1)^2 = 2\sqrt{2z(z^2 + 1)} \Leftrightarrow (z + 1)^4 = 8z(z^2 + 1) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$z^4 - 4z^3 + 6z^2 - 4z + 1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y = z = 1 \text{ solution.}$$

Solution 2 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

For $x, y > 0$ we have:

$$16(x^5 + y^5) \geq (x + y)^5 \Leftrightarrow 15(x^5 + y^5) \geq 5x^4y + 10x^3y^2 + 10x^2y^3 + 5xy^4$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (x^5 - x^4y) + 2(x^5 - x^3y^2) + 2(x^5 - x^2y^3) + (y^5 - xy^4) \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x^4(x - y) + 2x^3(x^2 - y^2) - 2y^3(x^2 - y^2) - y^4(x - y) \geq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (x^4 - y^4)(x - y) + 2(x^3 - y^3)(x^2 - y^2) \geq 0$$

$$\text{Thus, } 16(x^5 + y^5) \geq (x + y)^5$$

Equality holds when $x = y$.

$$\text{Now, } 32(x^5 + y^5 + 1) = (x + y)^5 + (x + 1)^5 + (y + 1)^5$$

$$[16(x^5 + y^5) - (x + y)^5] + [16(x^5 + 1) - (x + 1)^5] + [16(y^5 + 1) - (y + 1)^5] = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 16(x^5 + y^5) = (x + y)^5, 16(x^5 + 1) = (x + 1)^5, 16(y^5 + 1) = (y + 1)^5$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x = y = 1. \text{ Next,}$$

$$x + z = \sqrt{xz} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\sqrt{x^2 + z^2}; \quad (2)$$

Put: $x = r \cos\theta, z = r \sin\theta$, hence (2) becomes

$$\cos\theta + \sin\theta = \sqrt{\sin\theta \cos\theta} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{2}\sin\left(\theta + \frac{\pi}{4}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\sqrt{\sin(2\theta)} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Put $\theta - \frac{\pi}{4} = \varphi$ so that $-\frac{\pi}{4} \leq \varphi \leq \frac{\pi}{4}$, hence

$$2\cos\varphi = \sqrt{\cos(2\varphi)} + 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4\cos^2\varphi - 4\cos\varphi + 1 = 2\cos^2\varphi - 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2\cos^2\varphi - 4\cos\varphi + 2 = 0$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow (\cos\varphi - 1)^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \varphi = 0 \Leftrightarrow \theta = \frac{\pi}{4}, \text{ thus } z = x = 1.$$

Therefore, $x = y = z = 1$.

Solution 3 by Abdul Hannan-Tezpur-India

$$\forall a, b > 0, 16(a^5 + b^5) = 32 \left(\frac{a^5 + b^5}{2} \right)^{\text{power-mean}} \geq 32 \left(\frac{a + b}{2} \right)^5 = (a + b)^5; (*)$$

Equality holds if and only if $a = b$.

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow 32(x^5 + y^5 + 1) &= 16(x^5 + y^5) + 16(x^5 + 1^5) + (y^5 + 1^5) \stackrel{(*)}{\geq} \\ &\geq (x + y)^5 + (x + 1)^5 + (y + 1)^5 \end{aligned}$$

Since equality holds, $x = y, x = 1, y = 1$ which implies that $x = y = 1$.

$$\text{On the other hand, } \frac{x^2+z^2}{2} + xz \stackrel{AGM}{\geq} 2\sqrt{xz \left(\frac{x^2+z^2}{2} \right)} \text{ with equality iff } \frac{x^2+z^2}{2} = xz \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(x - z)^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = z$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow (x + z)^2 &= \frac{x^2 + z^2}{2} + xz + \frac{x^2 + z^2}{2} + xz \geq \frac{x^2 + z^2}{2} + xz + 2\sqrt{xz \left(\frac{x^2 + z^2}{2} \right)} = \\ &= \left(\sqrt{\frac{x^2 + z^2}{2}} + \sqrt{xz} \right)^2 \Rightarrow x + z \geq \sqrt{\frac{x^2 + z^2}{2}} + \sqrt{xz} \end{aligned}$$

Since equality holds, $z = x$. Therefore, $x = y = z = 1$.

230. Solve for real numbers:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{x^5}{y} + x^2y^2 + \frac{y^5}{x} = \sqrt{3(x^8 + y^8 + x^4y^4)} \\ \frac{3xy + y^4}{1 + 3y^2} = \frac{x}{\pi} \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Orlando Irahola Ortega-Tarija-Bolivia

Solution by Rahim Shahbazov-Baku-Azerbaijan

$$\frac{x^5}{y} + x^2y^2 + \frac{y^5}{x} = \frac{x^6 + x^3y^3 + y^6}{xy}; x^6 + x^3y^3 + y^6 > 0 \Rightarrow xy > 0$$

If $x, y < 0$ then second question is not true, so we have $x, y > 0$.

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$$(x^6 + x^3y^3 + y^6)^2 = 3x^2y^2(x^8 + x^4y^4 + y^8); \quad (1)$$

$$A = x^2 + y^2, B = xy \stackrel{(1)}{\Rightarrow} (A^3 - 3AB^2 + B^3)^2 = 3B^2(A^4 - 4A^2B^2 + 3B^4)$$

$$(t^3 - 3t + 1)^2 = 3(t^4 - 4t^2 + 3), \text{ where } t = \frac{A}{B} \geq 2$$

$$\Rightarrow t^6 - 9t^4 + 2t^3 + 21t^2 - 6t - 8 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (t - 2)(t^5 + 2t^4 - 5t^3 - 8t^2 + 5t + 4) = 0, \text{ true because}$$

$$t^5 + 2t^4 - 5t^3 - 8t^2 + 5t - 4 = (t - 2)(t^4 + 4t^3 + 3t^2 - 2t + 1) + 6 > 0$$

$$t = 2 \Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = 2xy \Rightarrow x = y \text{ then, we get:}$$

$$\frac{3x^2 + x^4}{1 + 3x^2} = \frac{x}{\pi} \Rightarrow \frac{3x + x^3}{1 + 3x^2} = \frac{1}{\pi}; x \neq 0$$

$$\text{Let } x = \tanh u \Rightarrow \tanh(3x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \Rightarrow \frac{e^{3u} - e^{-3u}}{e^{3u} + e^{-3u}} = \frac{1}{\pi}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{e^{6u} - 1}{e^{6u} + 1} = \frac{1}{\pi} \Rightarrow e^{6u} = \frac{\pi + 1}{\pi - 1} \Rightarrow u = \frac{1}{6} \log \left(\frac{\pi + 1}{\pi - 1} \right)$$

Therefore,

$$x = y = \tan u; u = \frac{1}{6} \log \left(\frac{\pi + 1}{\pi - 1} \right)$$

231. Solve for real numbers:

$$\begin{cases} x, y, z > 0 \\ \tan(1024x) + \tan(1024y) + \tan(1024z) = 0 \\ x + y + z = \pi \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution by Mohammad Rostami-Kabul-Afganistan

$$\tan(1024x) + \tan(1024y) = -\tan(1024z); \quad (I)$$

$$x + y + z = \pi \Rightarrow x + y = \pi - z \Rightarrow 1024x + 1024y = 1024\pi - 1024z$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan(1024x + 1024y) = \tan(1024\pi - 1024z)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\tan 1024x + \tan 1024y}{1 - \tan 1024x \cdot \tan 1024y} = -\tan 1024z$$

$$\tan 1024x + \tan 1024y =$$

$$= \tan 1024x + \tan 1024y - \tan 1024x \cdot \tan 1024y (\tan 1024x + \tan 1024y)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \tan 1024x \cdot \tan 1024y (\tan 1024x + \tan 1024y) = 0$$

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$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \tan 1024x \cdot \tan 1024y = 0; & (II) \\ \tan 1024x + \tan 1024y; & (III) \end{cases}$$

$$(II): \begin{cases} \tan 1024x = 0 \\ \tan 1024y = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = \frac{k\pi}{1024} \\ y = \frac{k'\pi}{1024} \end{cases}; k, k' \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$(I) \& (III): \tan 1024z = 0 \Rightarrow z = \frac{k''\pi}{1024}; k'' \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\text{If } k = k' = 0 \Rightarrow x = y = 0, k'' = 1024 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = y = 0 \\ z = \pi \end{cases}$$

$$\text{If } k' = k'' = 0 \Rightarrow y = z = 0, x = \pi, k = 1024 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} y = z = 0 \\ x = \pi \end{cases}$$

$$\text{If } k = k'' = 0 \Rightarrow x = z = 0, y = \pi, k' = 1024 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = z = 0 \\ y = \pi \end{cases}$$

$$x + y + z = \pi \Rightarrow \frac{k\pi}{1024} + \frac{k'\pi}{1024} + \frac{k''\pi}{1024} = \pi \Rightarrow \frac{\pi}{1024} (k + k' + k'') = \pi$$

$$k + k' + k'' = 1024$$

$$x = \frac{k\pi}{1024}; y = \frac{k'\pi}{1024}; z = \frac{k''\pi}{1024}; x + y + z = \pi; k, k', k'' \in \mathbb{Z}$$

232. If $A \in M_3(\mathbb{R})$ such that $\det(A^2 - 3A + 3I_3) = 0$. Prove that:

$$2\det(A^2 + 3I_3) \geq 3(\det A + 3)^2$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution by proposer

$$\det(A^2 - 3A + 3I_3) = \det(A + \alpha I_3) \det(A - \alpha I_3) = 0; (1), \text{ where } \alpha \in \mathbb{C} \text{ is root of}$$

$$\text{equation } x^2 + 3x + 3 = 0, \alpha = \frac{-3 \pm i\sqrt{3}}{2}, \alpha + \bar{\alpha} = -3, \alpha \cdot \bar{\alpha} = 3 \Rightarrow (1)$$

$$\det(A + \alpha I_3) = 0 \text{ or } \det(A - \alpha I_3) = 0; \det(\overline{A + \alpha I_3}) = 0; (2)$$

$$\text{Let } f(x) = \det(A + xI_3) = \det A + a_1x + a_2x^2 + x^3 \stackrel{(2)}{\Rightarrow} f(\alpha) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \det A + a_1\alpha + a_2\alpha^2 + \alpha^3 = 0; (3)$$

$$\text{But } \alpha = -1 + \varepsilon, \text{ where } \varepsilon^2 + \varepsilon + 1 = 0 \text{ or } \varepsilon^3 = 1; (4).$$

$$\text{From (3),(4) we have: } \det A + a_1(\varepsilon - 1) + a_2(\varepsilon - 1)^2 + (\varepsilon - 1)^3 = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\det A - a_1 + a_1\varepsilon - 3\varepsilon a_2 + 3(2\varepsilon + 1) = \det A - a_1 + 3 + \varepsilon(a_1 - 3a_2 + 6) = 0$$

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$$a_1 = \det A + 3, a_2 = \frac{1}{3}(\det A + 9) \Rightarrow$$

$$f(x) = \det A + (3 + \det A)x + \frac{1}{3}(9 + \det A)x^2 + x^3$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(i\sqrt{3}) &= \det(A + i\sqrt{3}) = \det A + (3 + \det A)i\sqrt{3} - \det A - 9 - i3\sqrt{3} = \\ &= -9 + i\sqrt{3}\det A = -(9 - i\sqrt{3}\det A) \end{aligned}$$

$$f(-i\sqrt{3}) = \det(A - i\sqrt{3}) = -(9 + i\sqrt{3}\det A)$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(i\sqrt{3})f(-i\sqrt{3}) &= \det(A + 3I_3) = 81 + 3(\det A)^2 \\ &= 3(9 + (\det A)^2) \stackrel{BCS}{\geq} \frac{3}{2}(\det A + 3)^2 \end{aligned}$$

233. If $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{2021}$ are positive real numbers such that:

$$\frac{1}{1+x_1} + \frac{1}{1+x_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{1+x_{2021}} = \frac{1}{2020}$$

$$\text{Prove that: } x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n \leq \frac{1}{2020^{2021}}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Van Canh-Ben Tre-Vietnam

Solution 1 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\sum_{i=1}^{2021} \frac{1}{1+x_i} = \frac{1}{2020} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{i=1}^{2021} \frac{x_i}{1+x_i} = 1 \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{1}{1+x_i} = 1 - \frac{x_i}{1+x_i} = \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{x_j}{1+x_j} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 2020^{2020} \sqrt{\prod_{j \neq i} \frac{x_j}{1+x_j}} \Rightarrow$$

$$\prod_{i=1}^{2021} \frac{1}{1+x_i} \geq 2020^{2021} \sqrt{\prod_{i=1}^{2021} \prod_{j \neq i} \frac{x_j}{1+x_j}} = 2020^{2021} \cdot (x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n) \prod_{i=1}^{2021} \frac{1}{1+x_i}$$

Therefore,

$$x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n \leq \frac{1}{2020^{2021}}$$

Solution 2 by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Because $\frac{1}{1+x_1} + \frac{1}{1+x_2} + \dots + \frac{1}{1+x_{2021}} = \frac{1}{2020} \Rightarrow \exists \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_{2021} \in \mathbb{R}$ such that:

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$$x_1 = \frac{\alpha_1}{\alpha_2 + \alpha_3 + \dots + \alpha_{2021}}, x_2 = \frac{\alpha_2}{\alpha_1 + \alpha_3 + \dots + \alpha_{2021}}, \dots$$

$$x_{2021} = \frac{\alpha_{2021}}{\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_{2020}}$$

We must show that:

$$\frac{\alpha_1 \cdot \alpha_2 \cdot \alpha_3 \cdot \dots \cdot \alpha_{2021}}{(\alpha_2 + \alpha_3 + \dots + \alpha_{2021})(\alpha_1 + \alpha_3 + \dots + \alpha_{2021}) \cdot \dots \cdot (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_{2020})} \leq \frac{1}{2020^{2021}}$$

$$(\alpha_2 + \alpha_3 + \dots + \alpha_{2021})(\alpha_1 + \alpha_3 + \dots + \alpha_{2021}) \cdot \dots \cdot (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_{2020}) \geq 2020^{2021} \cdot \alpha_1 \cdot \alpha_2 \cdot \alpha_3 \cdot \dots \cdot \alpha_{2021}; (1)$$

$$\alpha_2 + \alpha_3 + \dots + \alpha_{2021} \geq 2020^{2020} \sqrt{\alpha_2 \alpha_3 \cdot \dots \cdot \alpha_{2021}}$$

$$\begin{cases} \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 + \dots + \alpha_{2021} \geq 2020^{2020} \sqrt{\alpha_2 \alpha_3 \cdot \dots \cdot \alpha_{2021}} \\ \alpha_1 + \alpha_3 + \dots + \alpha_{2021} \geq 2020^{2020} \sqrt{\alpha_1 \alpha_3 \cdot \dots \cdot \alpha_{2021}} \\ \dots \\ \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_{2020} \geq 2020^{2020} \sqrt{\alpha_1 \alpha_2 \cdot \dots \cdot \alpha_{2020}} \end{cases} \Rightarrow (1) \text{ is true. Proved.}$$

234. $A, B, C \in M_n(\mathbb{R}), n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 2, AB = BA, AC = CA, BC = CB.$

If $A + B + C = I_n$ then $\det(AB + C) \cdot \det(BC + A) \cdot \det(CA + B) \geq 0$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

$$\det(AB + C) = \det(AB + I_n - A - B) = \det(A(B - I_n) + I_n - B) =$$

$$= \det((B - I_n)(A - I_n)) = \det(A - I_n) \det(B - I_n); (1)$$

$$\det(BC + A) = \det(BC + I_n - B - C) = \det(B(C - I_n) + I_n - C) =$$

$$= \det((C - I_n)(B - I_n)) = \det(B - I_n) \det(C - I_n); (2)$$

$$\det(CA + B) = \det(CA + I_n - A - C) = \det(C(A - I_n) + I_n - A) =$$

$$= \det((A - I_n)(C - I_n)) = \det(A - I_n) \det(C - I_n); (3)$$

From (1),(2),(3) it follows that:

$$\det(AB + C) \cdot \det(BC + A) \cdot \det(CA + B) \geq (\det(A - I_n) \det(B - I_n) \det(C - I_n))^2 \geq 0$$

Solution 2 by Alex Szoros-Romania

$$A + B + C = I_n \Rightarrow C = I_n - A - B$$

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$$AB + C = AB + I_n - A - B = (A - I_n)(B - I_n) \Rightarrow$$

$$\det(AB + C) = \det(A - I_n)\det(B - I_n); (1)$$

$$BC + A = BC + I_n - B - C = (B - I_n)(C - I_n) \Rightarrow$$

$$\det(BC + A) = \det(B - I_n)\det(C - I_n); (2)$$

$$CA + B = CA + I_n - C - A = (C - I_n)(A - I_n) \Rightarrow$$

$$\det(CA + B) = \det(A - I_n)\det(C - I_n); (3)$$

From (1),(2),(3) it follows that:

$$\det(AB + C) \cdot \det(BC + A) \cdot \det(CA + B) \geq (\det(A - I_n)\det(B - I_n)\det(C - I_n))^2 \geq 0$$

Solution 3 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$AB + C = AB + I_n - A - B = (A - I_n)(B - I_n) \Rightarrow$$

$$\det(AB + C) = \det(A - I_n)\det(B - I_n); (1)$$

$$BC + A = BC + I_n - B - C = (B - I_n)(C - I_n) \Rightarrow$$

$$\det(BC + A) = \det(B - I_n)\det(C - I_n); (2)$$

$$CA + B = CA + I_n - C - A = (C - I_n)(A - I_n) \Rightarrow$$

$$\det(CA + B) = \det(A - I_n)\det(C - I_n); (3)$$

From (1),(2),(3) it follows that:

$$\det(AB + C) \cdot \det(BC + A) \cdot \det(CA + B) \geq \det^2(A - I_n)\det^2(B - I_n)\det^2(C - I_n) \geq 0$$

235. $A \in M_2(\mathbb{R})$, $\text{Tr}A + \det A = 2$. Prove that:

$$\det(A^2 + \det A \cdot A + \text{Tr}A \cdot I_2) \geq 4$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

$$p(x) = x^2 - \text{Tr}Ax + \det A, \quad \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = \text{Tr}A, \lambda_1\lambda_2 = \det A$$

$$\det(A^2 + \det A \cdot A + \text{Tr}A \cdot I_2) =$$

$$= (\lambda_1^2 + \det A\lambda_1 + \text{Tr}A)(\lambda_2^2 + \det A\lambda_2 + \text{Tr}A) =$$

$$= (\lambda_1\lambda_2)^2 + \lambda_1^2\lambda_2\det A + \lambda_1^2\text{Tr}A + \det A\lambda_1\lambda_2^2 + (\det A)^2\lambda_1\lambda_2 + \det A\text{Tr}A\lambda_1 + \text{Tr}A\lambda_2^2 + \text{Tr}A\det A\lambda_2 + (\text{Tr}A)^2 =$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (\det A)^2 + (\det A)^2 \operatorname{Tr} A + \operatorname{Tr} A ((\operatorname{Tr} A)^2 - 2 \det A) + (\det A)^3 + \det A (\operatorname{Tr} A)^2 \\
 &\quad + (\operatorname{Tr} A)^2 = \\
 &= (\operatorname{Tr} A)^3 + (\det A)^3 + (\operatorname{Tr} A)^2 + (\det A)^2 + \det A \operatorname{Tr} A (\det A + \operatorname{Tr} A) - 2 \det A \operatorname{Tr} A = \\
 &\quad = (\operatorname{Tr} A)^3 + (\det A)^3 + (\operatorname{Tr} A)^2 + (\det A)^2; \quad (1)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(\det A + \operatorname{Tr} A) = 2 \Rightarrow (\operatorname{Tr} A)^2 + (\det A)^2 = 4 - 2 \operatorname{Tr} A \det A; \quad (2)$$

$$(\det A + \operatorname{Tr} A) = 2 \Rightarrow (\operatorname{Tr} A)^3 + (\det A)^3 = 8 - 6 \operatorname{Tr} A \det A; \quad (3)$$

From (1),(2),(3) it follows that:

$$\det(A^2 + \det A \cdot A + \operatorname{Tr} A \cdot I_2) = 12 - 8 \operatorname{Tr} A \det A; \quad (4)$$

$$4 \operatorname{Tr} A \det A \leq (\det A + \operatorname{Tr} A)^2 = 4 \Rightarrow \operatorname{Tr} A \det A \leq 1; \quad (5)$$

From (4),(5) it follows that:

$$\det(A^2 + \det A \cdot A + \operatorname{Tr} A \cdot I_2) \geq 4$$

Solution 2 by Alex Szoros-Romania

$$\begin{aligned}
 A &= \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in M_2(\mathbb{R}), \operatorname{Tr} A = a + d \stackrel{\text{not}}{=} t; \det A = ac - bd \stackrel{\text{not}}{=} \delta \\
 A^2 - tA + \delta I_2 &= O_2 \Rightarrow A^2 = tA - \delta I_2 \\
 A^2 + \delta A + tI_2 &= tA - \delta I_2 + \delta A + tI_2 = 2A + (t - \delta)I_2 = \\
 &= 2A + (2 - 2\delta)I_2 = 2[A + (1 - \delta)I_2] = 4 \left| \begin{array}{cc} a + 1 - \delta & b \\ c & d + 1 - \delta \end{array} \right| \\
 \det(A^2 + \delta A + tI_2) &\geq 4 \Leftrightarrow (a + 1 - \delta)(d + 1 - \delta) - bc \geq 1 \Leftrightarrow \\
 \delta^2 - \delta - t\delta + t &\geq 0 \Leftrightarrow 2\delta^2 - 4\delta + 2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (\delta - 1)^2 \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 3 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\text{Let: } A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in M_2(\mathbb{R}), \operatorname{Tr} A = a + d; \det A = ac - bd.$$

We are given: $\operatorname{Tr} A + \det A = 2$. Also, by the Cayley Hamilton theorem:

$$A^2 - \operatorname{Tr} A \cdot A + \det A \cdot I_2 = O_2 \Rightarrow A^2 = \operatorname{Tr} A \cdot A - \det A \cdot I_2$$

$$\text{Now, } A^2 + \det A \cdot A + \operatorname{Tr} A \cdot I_2 = \operatorname{Tr} A \cdot A - \det A \cdot I_2 + \det A \cdot A + \operatorname{Tr} A \cdot I_2 =$$

$$= 2(A + (\operatorname{Tr} A - 1)I_2) = 2 \left| \begin{array}{cc} 2a + d & b \\ c & 2d + a - 1 \end{array} \right| \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \det(A^2 + \det A \cdot A + \operatorname{Tr} A \cdot I_2) &= 4(1 - 4(a + d) + 4ad + 2(a^2 + d^2) + 2) = \\
 &= 4(1 + 2(a + d - 1)^2) \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

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236. $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathbb{C}^*$ –different in pairs such that

$|z_1| = |z_2| = |z_3| = 1, A(z_1), B(z_2), C(z_3)$. If

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{3|2z_1 - z_2 - z_3| + |2z_2 - z_1 - z_3|} = \frac{1}{4} \Rightarrow AB = BC = CA$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution by proposer

$|z_1| = |z_2| = |z_3| = 1, A(z_1), B(z_2), C(z_3); \Delta ABC \subset C(0, 1)$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{3|2z_1 - z_2 - z_3| + |2z_2 - z_1 - z_3|} = \frac{1}{4} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{3 \left| z_1 - \frac{z_2 + z_3}{2} \right| + \left| z_2 - \frac{z_1 + z_3}{2} \right|} = \frac{1}{4} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{3m_a + m_b} = \frac{1}{2}; \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{3m_a + m_b} \stackrel{CBS}{\geq} \frac{9}{4(m_a + m_b + m_c)}; \quad (2)$$

$$\text{But: } m_a + m_b + m_c \leq \frac{9R}{2} \stackrel{R=1}{=} \frac{9}{2}; \quad (3)$$

$$\text{From (2),(3) we get: } \frac{1}{2} \geq \frac{9}{4(m_a + m_b + m_c)} \geq \frac{9}{4 \cdot \frac{9}{2}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$m_a + m_b + m_c = \frac{9R}{2} \stackrel{R=1}{=} \frac{9}{2} \quad (4)$$

From (3),(4) it follows that ΔABC –equilateral.

237. $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathbb{C}^*$ –different in pairs, $|z_1| = |z_2| = |z_3|, A(z_1), B(z_2), C(z_3)$

$$\sum_{cyc} \left| \frac{(z_1 - z_2)|z_1 - z_3| + (z_1 - z_3)|z_1 - z_2|}{2z_1 - z_2 - z_3} \right| = \sum_{cyc} |z_1 - z_2| \Rightarrow AB = BC = CA$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution 1 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Let O –circumcenter of ΔABC is origin of the complex plane.

$|z_1| = |z_2| = |z_3| = R; |z_1 - z_2| = AB = c$ (and analogs)

$$(z_1 - z_2)|z_1 - z_3| + (z_1 - z_3)|z_1 - z_2| = |b(z_1 - z_2) + c(z_1 - z_3)| =$$

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$$= |a + b + cz_1 - (az_1 + bz_2 + cz_3)| =$$

$$= 2s \left| z_1 - \frac{az_1 + bz_2 + cz_3}{a + b + c} \right| = 2s \cdot AI$$

$$|2z_1 - z_2 - z_3| = 2 \left| z_1 - \frac{z_2 + z_3}{2} \right| = 2m_a$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \left| \frac{(z_1 - z_2)|z_1 - z_3| + (z_1 - z_3)|z_1 - z_2|}{2z_1 - z_2 - z_3} \right| = \sum_{cyc} |z_1 - z_2| \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{AI}{m_a} = 2$$

We know that:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{AI}{m_a} &= r \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{m_a \sin \frac{A}{2}} \leq r \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{w_a \sin \frac{A}{2}} = r \sum_{cyc} \frac{b + c}{2bc \cdot \cos \frac{A}{2} \sin \frac{A}{2}} = \\ &= 2Rr \sum_{cyc} \frac{b + c}{abc} = 2 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore:

$$\sum_{cyc} \left| \frac{(z_1 - z_2)|z_1 - z_3| + (z_1 - z_3)|z_1 - z_2|}{2z_1 - z_2 - z_3} \right| = \sum_{cyc} |z_1 - z_2| \Rightarrow AB = BC = CA$$

Equality holds if and only if triangle is equilateral.

Solution 2 by proposer

$$|z_1| = |z_2| = |z_3| = R, A(z_1), B(z_2), C(z_3), \Delta ABC \subset C(0, 1)$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \left| \frac{(z_1 - z_2)|z_1 - z_3| + (z_1 - z_3)|z_1 - z_2|}{2z_1 - z_2 - z_3} \right| = \sum_{cyc} |z_1 - z_2| \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \left| \frac{(z_1 - z_2)AC + (z_1 - z_3)AB}{2 \left(z_1 - \frac{z_2 + z_3}{2} \right)} \right| = AB + BC + CA \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{|(z_1 - z_2)b + (z_1 - z_3)c|}{\left| z_1 - \frac{z_2 + z_3}{2} \right|} = 2(a + b + c) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{|(b + c)z_1 - bz_2 - cz_3|}{m_a} = 2(a + b + c) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{|(a + b + c)z_1 - (az_1 + bz_2 + cz_3)|}{m_a} = 2 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{AI}{m_a} = 2; (1)$$

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But: $m_a \geq \sqrt{s(s-a)}$ and $AI = \frac{r}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} \Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \frac{AI}{m_a} &\leq \sum_{cyc} \frac{r}{\sqrt{s(s-a)} \sin \frac{A}{2}} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{r}{\sqrt{s(s-a)} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{(s-b)(s-c)}{bc}}} = \\ &= \sum_{cyc} \frac{r\sqrt{bc}}{s} = \sum_{cyc} \frac{\sqrt{bc}}{s} \leq \sum_{cyc} \frac{b+c}{2s} = 2; \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

From (1),(2) it follows that ΔABC –equilateral.

$$\begin{aligned} 238. \sqrt{(x+y)(4-z)} + \sqrt{(y+z)(2-t)} + \sqrt{(z+t)(4-x)} + \sqrt{(t+x)(2-y)} = \\ = \sqrt{\frac{5s^2 - 24S + 144}{2}}; \quad s = x + y + z + t \end{aligned}$$

Find: $\Omega = \overline{xyzt}$

Proposed by George Florin Şerban-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{(x+y)(4-z)} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\leq} \frac{x+y+4-z}{2}, \quad \sqrt{(y+z)(2-t)} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\leq} \frac{y+z+2-t}{2}, \\ \sqrt{(z+t)(4-x)} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\leq} \frac{z+t+4-x}{2}, \quad \sqrt{(t+x)(2-y)} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\leq} \frac{t+x+2-y}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{\frac{5s^2 - 24S + 144}{2}} &\leq \frac{s+12}{2} \\ \sqrt{\frac{(2s)^2 + (12-s)^2}{2}} &\leq \frac{2s + (12-s)}{2} \leq \sqrt{\frac{(2s)^2 + (12-s)^2}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

Applying AM-GM inequality, equality holds when $2s = 12 - s, s = 4 \rightarrow$

$$x + y = 4 - z, y + z = 2 - t, z + t = 4 - x, t + x = 2 - y$$

$$x + y + z + t = 4, x + y + z = 4 \rightarrow t = 0, x + z + t = 4 \rightarrow y = 0, x = 2, \overline{xyzt} = 2020.$$

Solution 2 by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

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$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{(x+y)(4-z)} + \sqrt{(y+z)(2-t)} + \sqrt{(z+t)(4-x)} + \sqrt{(t+x)(2-y)} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{5s^2 - 24s + 144}{2}}; \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

$x, y, z, t \in \mathbb{N}$. By AM-GM, $LHS_{(1)} \leq \frac{s+12}{2}$ and $RHS_{(1)} \leq \frac{s+12}{2} \rightarrow \frac{9}{4}(s-4)^2 \leq 0 \rightarrow s = 4$.

We see that $(x, y, z, t) = (2, 0, 2, 0)$ is the only solution giving $LHS_{(1)} = 8 = RHS_{(1)}$ with

$$s = 4. \text{ Therefore, } \Omega = \overline{xyzt} = 2020.$$

239. Find $x \in (0, \pi)$ such that:

$$\tan^{-1}(x+1) + \tan^{-1}2 + \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x^2 \sin x - 2x \cos x - 2 \sin x}{x^2 \cos x - 2x \sin x - 2 \cos x}\right) = x$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution by Mohammad Rostami-Kabul-Afghanistan

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \tan^{-1}(x+1) = \alpha \\ \tan^{-1}2 = \beta \\ \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x^2 \sin x - 2x \cos x - 2 \sin x}{x^2 \cos x - 2x \sin x - 2 \cos x}\right) = \gamma \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \tan \alpha = x+1 \\ \tan \beta = 2 \\ \tan \gamma = \frac{x^2 \sin x - 2x \cos x - 2 \sin x}{x^2 \cos x - 2x \sin x - 2 \cos x} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\alpha + \beta + \gamma = x \Rightarrow \tan(\alpha + \beta + \gamma) = \tan x \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{\tan \alpha + \tan \beta + \tan \gamma - \tan \alpha \cdot \tan \beta \cdot \tan \gamma}{1 - \tan \alpha \cdot \tan \beta - \tan \beta \cdot \tan \gamma - \tan \gamma \cdot \tan \alpha} = \tan x$$

$$\frac{(x+1) + 2 + \frac{x^2 \sin x - 2x \cos x - 2 \sin x}{x^2 \cos x - 2x \sin x - 2 \cos x} - 2(x+1) \frac{x^2 \sin x - 2x \cos x - 2 \sin x}{x^2 \cos x - 2x \sin x - 2 \cos x}}{1 - 2(x+1) - (x+1) \frac{x^2 \sin x - 2x \cos x - 2 \sin x}{x^2 \cos x - 2x \sin x - 2 \cos x} - 2 \frac{x^2 \sin x - 2x \cos x - 2 \sin x}{x^2 \cos x - 2x \sin x - 2 \cos x}} = \tan x$$

$$\frac{(x^3 + 7x^2 - 6) \cos x + (-2x^3 - 3x^2 - 2x + 2) \sin x}{(-2x^3 + x^2 + 10x + 2) \cos x + (-x^3 + x^2 + 4x + 6) \sin x} = \tan x \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{cases} -2x^3 - 3x^2 - 2x + 2 = -2x^3 + x^2 + 10x + 2 \\ x^3 + 7x - 6 = 0 \\ -x^3 + x^2 + 4x + 6 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$I) -2x^3 - 3x^2 - 2x + 2 = -2x^3 + x^2 + 10x + 2 \Rightarrow 4x^2 + 12x = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = 0 \notin (0, \pi) \\ x = -3x \notin (0, \pi) \end{cases}$$

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$$II) x^3 + 7x^2 - 6 = 0 \Rightarrow (x^3 + x^2) + (6x^2 - 6) = 0 \Rightarrow (x + 1)(x^2 + 6x - 6) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} x + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow x = -1 \notin (0, \pi) \\ x^2 + 6x - 6 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{-6 \pm 2\sqrt{15}}{2} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = -3 - \sqrt{15} \notin (0, \pi) \\ x = -3 + \sqrt{15} \in (0, \pi) \end{cases} \end{cases}$$

$$III) -x^3 + x^2 + 4x + 6 = 0 \Rightarrow -(x^3 - 27) + (x^2 - 9) + 4(x - 3) = 0$$

$$(x - 3)(-x^2 - 2x - 2) = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x - 3 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 3 \in (0, \pi) \\ x^2 + 2x + 2 = 0 \stackrel{\Delta < 0}{\Rightarrow} \emptyset \end{cases}$$

240. Let $\lambda \geq 2$ be positive real numbers. Solve for real numbers:

$$\frac{(\lambda + 1 + x)(\lambda + x)(\lambda - 1 + x)}{(\lambda + 1 - x)(\lambda - x)(\lambda - 1 - x)} = \frac{3(9\lambda^2 - 1)}{1 - \lambda^2}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\frac{(\lambda + 1 + x)(\lambda + x)(\lambda - 1 + x)}{(\lambda + 1 - x)(\lambda - x)(\lambda - 1 - x)} = \frac{3(9\lambda^2 - 1)}{1 - \lambda^2}; (*)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{(\lambda + x)((\lambda + x)^2 - 1)}{(\lambda - x)((\lambda - x)^2 - 1)} = \frac{3(9\lambda^2 - 1)}{1 - \lambda^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{(\lambda + x)((\lambda + x)^2 - 1)}{(x - \lambda)(1 - (\lambda - x)^2)} = \frac{3(9\lambda^2 - 1)}{1 - \lambda^2} \Rightarrow x = 2\lambda \text{ is a solution of } (*)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{x^3 + 3\lambda x^2 + (3\lambda^2 - 1)x + \lambda^3 - \lambda}{-x^3 + 3\lambda x^2 - (3\lambda^2 - 1)x + \lambda^3 - \lambda} = \frac{27\lambda^2 - 3}{1 - \lambda^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (26\lambda^2 - 2)x^3 - (84\lambda^2 - 12\lambda)x^2 + (78\lambda^4 - 32\lambda^2 + 2)x - 28\lambda^5 + 32\lambda^3 - 4\lambda = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (x - 2\lambda)[(13\lambda^2 - 1)x^2 - (16\lambda^3 - 4\lambda)x + (7\lambda^4 - 8\lambda^2 + 1)] = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x = 2\lambda \text{ or } (13\lambda^2 - 1)x^2 - (16\lambda^3 - 4\lambda)x + (7\lambda^4 - 8\lambda^2 + 1) = 0$$

$$\Delta = (16\lambda^3 - 4\lambda)^2 - 4(13\lambda^2 - 1)(7\lambda^4 - 8\lambda^2 + 1) =$$

$$= -29\lambda^6 - 79\lambda^4(\lambda^2 - 4) - 67\lambda^2 - (\lambda^2 - 4) < 0; (\lambda \geq 2)$$

Hence, $(13\lambda^2 - 1)x^2 - (16\lambda^3 - 4\lambda)x + (7\lambda^4 - 8\lambda^2 + 1) = 0$ does not admit a real

solution, then $S = \{2\lambda\}$ is unique solution.

$$241. x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right], n \in \{2, 3, \dots\}, x^n + (e^x + x^3)^n \leq \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}$$

Find x and n .

Proposed by Pavlos Trifon-Greece

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Solution by Chris Kyriazis-Greece

$$\text{Let } f(x) = x^n + (e^x + x^3)^n, x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right], n \geq 2 \rightarrow$$

$$f'(x) = nx^{n-1} + n(e^x + x^3)^{n-1}(e^x + 3x^2), \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

So, f –continuous at $\left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$, f –is strictly increasing. Then attains maximum at $x = 0$, so

$$f(x) \geq f(0) = 1, \forall x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$$

If there is one $x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$ such that $f(x) \leq \frac{1}{2^{\frac{n}{2}-1}}$ it holds then $\frac{1}{2^{\frac{n}{2}-1}} \geq 1 \rightarrow 2^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \leq 1 \rightarrow$

$$\frac{n}{2} - 1 \leq 0 \rightarrow n \leq 2 \text{ and how } n \geq 2 \rightarrow n = 2, \text{ thus } f(x) \leq 1.$$

But for every $x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$, we have $f(x) \geq 1$. So if there is a $x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$ such that $f(x) \leq 1$ it

must be $f(x) = 1$. This holds if and only if $x = 0$ because f –strictly increasing.

So, $x = 0, n = 2$ easy to check that verify the conditions.

242. Solve for real numbers:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{2020} \sum_{j=1}^{2021} (x + i^2)(x + j^2) = \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log \left(\frac{2\tan^3 x + 4\cot^5 x}{2\cot^3 x + 4\tan^5 x} \right) dx$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution by Adrian Popa-Romania

$$I = \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log \left(\frac{2\tan^3 x + 4\cot^5 x}{2\cot^3 x + 4\tan^5 x} \right) dx = \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log \left(\frac{2\cot^3 x + 4\tan^5 x}{2\tan^3 x + 4\cot^5 x} \right) dx =$$

$$= \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log \left(\frac{\frac{3}{\tan^3 x} + 4\tan^5 x}{2\tan^3 x + \frac{4}{\tan^5 x}} \right) dx = \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log \left(\frac{\tan^2 x(2 + 4\tan^8 x)}{4 + 2\tan^8 x} \right) dx; (1)$$

$$\text{So, } I = \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log \left(\frac{2\tan^3 x + \frac{4}{\tan^5 x}}{\frac{2}{\tan^3 x} + 4\tan^5 x} \right) dx = \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log \left(\frac{2\tan^8 x + 4}{\tan^2 x(2 + 4\tan^8 x)} \right) dx; (2)$$

$$(1) + (2): 2I = \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log 1 dx = 0$$

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$$\sum_{i=1}^{2020} \sum_{j=1}^{2021} (x + i^2)(x + j^2) =$$

$$= \left(2020x + \frac{2020 \cdot 2021 \cdot 4041}{6} \right) \left(2021x + \frac{2021 \cdot 2022 \cdot 4043}{6} \right) = 0$$

$$x_1 = -\frac{2021 \cdot 1347}{2}, x_2 = -\frac{674 \cdot 4043}{2}$$

Solution 2 by Serlea Kabay-Liberia

$$\omega(a, b) = \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log \left(\frac{2 \tan^a x + 4 \cot^b x}{2 \cot^a x + 4 \tan^b x} \right) dx \stackrel{x = \frac{\pi}{6} + \frac{\pi}{3} - u}{=}$$

$$= \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log \left(\frac{2 \cot^a u + 4 \tan^b u}{2 \tan^a u + 4 \cot^b u} \right) du \rightarrow 2\omega(a, b) = \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log 1 dx = 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{2020} \sum_{j=1}^{2021} (x + i^2)(x + j^2) = \sum_{i=1}^{2020} \sum_{j=1}^{2021} (x^2 + xj^2 + xi^2 + j^2i^2) =$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \left(2021x^2 + 2021xi^2 + \frac{2021 \cdot 2022 \cdot 4043}{6}x^2 + \frac{2021 \cdot 2022 \cdot 4043}{6}i^2 \right) =$$

$$= 2021 \sum_{i=1}^n \left(x^2 + xi^2 + \frac{2022 \cdot 4043}{6}x + \frac{2022 \cdot 4043}{6}i^2 \right)$$

$$40822420x^2 + 40822420x \frac{2022 \cdot 4043 + 2021 \cdot 4041}{6}$$

$$+ \frac{2020 \cdot 2021^2 \cdot 2022 \cdot 4043 \cdot 4041}{36} = 0$$

$$x_1 = -1362491, x_2 = -\frac{2722287}{2}$$

Solution 3 by Mohammad Rostami-Kabul-Afghanistan

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_a^b f(a + b - x) dx$$

$$\Omega = \sum_{i=1}^{2020} (x + i^2) \sum_{j=1}^{2021} (x + j^2) = \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log \left[\frac{2 \tan^3 \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x \right) + 4 \cot^5 \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x \right)}{2 \cot^3 \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x \right) + 4 \tan^5 \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x \right)} \right] dx =$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log \left(\frac{2\cot^3 x + 4\tan^5 x}{2\tan^3 x + 4\cot^5 x} \right) dx \\
 &2\Omega 2 \left(\sum_{i=1}^{2020} x + \sum_{i=1}^{2020} i^2 \right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^{2021} x + \sum_{j=1}^{2021} j^2 \right) = \\
 &= \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log \left[\frac{2\tan^3 x + 4\cot^5 x}{2\cot^3 x + 4\tan^5 x} \cdot \frac{2\cot^3 x + 4\tan^5 x}{2\tan^3 x + 4\cot^5 x} \right] \\
 &\left(2020x + \frac{2020 \cdot 2021 \cdot 4041}{6} \right) \left(2021x + \frac{2021 \cdot 2022 \cdot 4043}{6} \right) = 0 \\
 &x_1 = -\frac{2021 \cdot 1347}{2}, x_2 = -\frac{674 \cdot 4043}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 4 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\text{Let } I = \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log \left(\frac{2\tan^3 x + 4\cot^5 x}{2\cot^3 x + 4\tan^5 x} \right) dx; \because \int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_a^b f(a+b-x) dx \rightarrow$$

$$I = \int_{\frac{\pi}{6}}^{\frac{\pi}{3}} \log \left(\frac{2\tan^3 x + 4\cot^5 x}{2\cot^3 x + 4\tan^5 x} \right) dx = -I \rightarrow 2I = 0 \rightarrow I = 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{2020} \sum_{j=1}^{2021} (x + i^2)(x + j^2) = 0 \rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^{2020} (x + i^2) \sum_{j=1}^{2021} (x + j^2) = 0 \rightarrow$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{2020} (x + i^2) = 0 \text{ or } \sum_{j=1}^{2021} (x + j^2) = 0$$

$$2020x + \frac{2020 \cdot 2021 \cdot 4041}{6} = 0 \text{ or } 2021x + \frac{2021 \cdot 2022 \cdot 4043}{6}$$

$$x_1 = -\frac{2021 \cdot 1347}{2}, x_2 = -\frac{674 \cdot 4043}{2}$$

243. Solve for real numbers:

$$2 \cdot \frac{1 + x^2}{1 - x^2} = \sqrt{1+x} + \sqrt{1-x}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

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Solution by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

$$2 \cdot \frac{1+x^2}{1-x^2} = \sqrt{1+x} + \sqrt{1-x}; \quad (1)$$

Domain of (1) is $-1 < x < 1$. By Jensen $LHS_{(1)} \leq 2\sqrt{\frac{1+x+1-x}{2}} = 2$, so

$$\frac{1+x^2}{1-x^2} \leq 1 \rightarrow \frac{2x^2}{1-x^2} \leq 0 \text{ which is only valid for } x = 0, \text{ only solution.}$$

244. Solve for real numbers:

$$\frac{(x+3)^2 - 20}{2(x+1)} = \sqrt{(x+1)(x-3)}$$

Proposed by George Florin Șerban-Romania

Solution 1 by Bedri Hajrizi-Mitrovica-Kosovo

$$(x+3)^2 - 20 = 2(x+1)\sqrt{(x+1)(x-3)}$$

$$x \in (-\infty, -1) \cup [3, \infty); \quad (1)$$

$$(x+3)^2 - 20 \geq 0, x \in (-\infty, -3 - 2\sqrt{5}] \cup [-3 + 2\sqrt{3}, \infty); \quad (2)$$

$$\text{From (1), (2): } x \in (-\infty, -3 - 2\sqrt{5}] \cup [3, \infty); \quad (3)$$

$$\text{Let } x-1 = t \rightarrow ((t+4)^2 - 20)^2 = 4(t+2)^2(t+2)(t-2)$$

$$(t^2 + 8t - 4)^2 = 4(t^2 + 4t + 4)(t^2 - 4)$$

$$t^4 + 16t^3 + 56t^2 - 64t + 16 = 4t^4 + 16t^3 - 64t - 64$$

$$3t^4 - 56t^2 - 80 = 0 \rightarrow t^2 = \frac{56 \pm 64}{6}$$

$$t^2 = -\frac{4}{3}, \text{ no solution.}$$

$$t^2 = 20 \rightarrow t = \pm 2\sqrt{5} \rightarrow x = 1 \pm 2\sqrt{5} \rightarrow x_1 = 1 - 2\sqrt{5} \text{ no solution.}$$

$$x = 1 + 2\sqrt{5} \text{ solution.}$$

Solution 2 by proposer

$$(x+1)(x-3) \geq 0, x \in (-\infty, -1] \cup [3, \infty), x^2 + 6x - 11 = 2(x+1)\sqrt{(x+1)(x-3)}$$

$$(x+1)^2 + 4(x-3) = 2(x+1)\sqrt{(x+1)(x-3)}$$

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$$(x+1)^2 - 2(x+1)\sqrt{(x+1)(x-3)} + 4(x-3) = 0$$

Let us denote: $x+1 = t \rightarrow$

$$t^2 - 2t\sqrt{(x+1)(x-3)} + 4(x-3) = 0, \Delta = 4(x-3)^2$$

$$\text{If } t = \frac{2\sqrt{(x+1)(x-3)} + 2(x-3)}{2}, x+1 = \sqrt{(x+1)(x-3)}, x^2 - 2x - 19 = 0$$

$$(x-1)^2 = 20 \rightarrow x-1 = \sqrt{20} \rightarrow x_1 \in [3, \infty), x-1 = -\sqrt{20} \in (-\infty, -1]$$

$$\text{If } t = \frac{2\sqrt{(x+1)(x-3)} - 2(x-3)}{2} \rightarrow x+1 = \sqrt{(x+1)(x-3)} - x+3 \rightarrow$$

$$2x-2 = \sqrt{(x+1)(x-3)} \rightarrow 4x^2 - 8x + 4 = x^2 - 2x - 3 \rightarrow 3x^2 - 6x + 7 = 0,$$

$$\Delta = -48 < 0. \text{ So, } S = \{\sqrt{20} + 1\}.$$

245. Let $f_m(x) = \frac{m}{\sin x + 2}$, $g_m(x) = \frac{m}{\cos x + 2}$. Find all real numbers m such that:

$$\min f_m(x) + \max g_m(x) = 1, \forall x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$$

Proposed by Nguyen Van Canh-Ben Tre-Vietnam

Solution by Tran Hong-Dong Thap-Vietnam

$$f'_m(x) = -\frac{m \cos x}{(\sin x + 2)^2}, g'_m(x) = \frac{m \sin x}{(\cos x + 2)^2}$$

$$\text{If } m \geq 0, \forall m \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] \text{ then } f'_m(x) \leq 0 \Rightarrow f_m \downarrow \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right], g'_m(x) \geq 0 \Rightarrow g_m \uparrow \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] \Rightarrow$$

$$\min f_m(x) = f_m\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \frac{m}{3}, \max g_m(x) = g_m\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \frac{m}{2} \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{m}{3} + \frac{m}{2} = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{5m}{6} = 1 \Rightarrow m = \frac{6}{5} (\text{true for with } m \geq 0)$$

$$\text{If } m < 0, \forall x \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] \text{ then } f'_m(x) \geq 0 \Rightarrow f_m \uparrow \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right], g'_m(x) \leq 0 \Rightarrow g_m(x) \downarrow \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] \Rightarrow$$

$$\min f_m(x) = f_m(0) = \frac{m}{2}, \max g_m(x) = g_m(0) = \frac{m}{3} \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{m}{3} + \frac{m}{2} = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{5m}{6} = 1 \Rightarrow m = \frac{6}{5} (\text{false for with } m < 0)$$

Therefore, $m = \frac{6}{5}$.

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246. Solve for real numbers:

$$2\left(e^x - e^{\frac{1}{x}}\right) = \left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right)\left(e^x + e^{\frac{1}{x}}\right)$$

Proposed by Ionuț Florin Voinea-Romania

Solution 1 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\begin{aligned} 2\left(e^x - e^{\frac{1}{x}}\right) &= \left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right)\left(e^x + e^{\frac{1}{x}}\right) \Leftrightarrow \frac{e^x - e^{\frac{1}{x}}}{e^x + e^{\frac{1}{x}}} = \frac{1}{2}\left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right) \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{e^{x-\frac{1}{x}} - 1}{e^{x-\frac{1}{x}} + 1} &= \frac{1}{2}\left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right) \Leftrightarrow \tanh(y) = y; \because y = \frac{1}{2}\left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Let $f(y) = \tanh(y) - y, y \in \mathbb{R}, f'(y) = -\tanh^2 y \leq 0 \Rightarrow f$ –decreasing on $\mathbb{R} \Rightarrow$

$$f(y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow y = 0 \Leftrightarrow x - \frac{1}{x} = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = \pm 1$$

Therefore, $S = \{\pm 1\}$.

Solution 2 by Ruxandra Daniela Tonilă-Romania

$$\begin{aligned} 2\left(e^x - e^{\frac{1}{x}}\right) &= \left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right)\left(e^x + e^{\frac{1}{x}}\right) \Leftrightarrow \\ 2e^{\frac{1}{x}}\left(e^{x-\frac{1}{x}} - 1\right) &= \left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right)e^{\frac{1}{x}}\left(e^{x-\frac{1}{x}} + 1\right) \Leftrightarrow 2\left(e^{x-\frac{1}{x}} - 1\right) = \left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right)\left(e^{x-\frac{1}{x}} + 1\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Let } x - \frac{1}{x} = t \Rightarrow 2(e^t - 1) = t(e^t + 1)$$

$$te^t + t + 2 - 2e^t = 0 \Leftrightarrow e^t(t - 2) + t + 2 = 0$$

$$\text{Let } f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f(t) = e^t(t - 2) + t + 2, f'(t) = e^t(t - 1) + 1$$

$f'(t) = 0 \Leftrightarrow t = 0$ and f –strictly increasing thus, $t = 0$ is only solution.

Therefore,

$$x - \frac{1}{x} = 0 \Leftrightarrow x^2 = 1 \Leftrightarrow x = \pm 1.$$

247. If $m, n \in \mathbb{N}, L_n$ –Lucas numbers, F_m –Fibonacci numbers then:

$$\sqrt[3]{F_n F_m^2 L_m L_n^2} + \sqrt[3]{F_m F_n^2 L_n L_m^2} \leq 2F_{m+n}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution by Noor Alam-India

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\sqrt[3]{F_n F_m^2 L_m L_n^2} + \sqrt[3]{F_m F_n^2 L_n L_m^2}}{2} &\leq \sqrt[3]{\frac{F_n F_m^2 L_m L_n^2 + F_m F_n^2 L_n L_m^2}{2}} \\ \sqrt[3]{\frac{F_n F_m^2 L_m L_n^2 + F_m F_n^2 L_n L_m^2}{2}} &= \sqrt[3]{\frac{F_n F_m L_n L_m (F_m L_n + F_n L_m)}{2}} = \\ &= \sqrt[3]{\frac{F_n F_m L_n L_m \cdot 2F_{m+n}}{2}} = \sqrt[3]{F_n F_m L_n L_m F_{m+n}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore F_m L_n + F_n L_m = 2F_{m+n}$$

$$\text{Now, } F_n = \frac{\alpha^n - \beta^n}{\sqrt{5}}, L_n = \alpha^n + \beta^n, \text{ where } \alpha = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}, \beta = \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} F_n F_m L_n L_m &= \frac{\alpha^n - \beta^n}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \frac{\alpha^m - \beta^m}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot (\alpha^n + \beta^n) \cdot (\alpha^m + \beta^m) = \frac{(\alpha^{2n} - \beta^{2n})(\alpha^{2m} - \beta^{2m})}{5} \\ &= \frac{\alpha^{2(m+n)} - \alpha^{2m} \beta^{2n} + \alpha^{2n} \beta^{2m} + \beta^{2(m+n)}}{5} = \frac{(\alpha^{m+n} - \beta^{m+n})^2}{5} \\ &= \left(\frac{\alpha^{m+n} - \beta^{m+n}}{\sqrt{5}} \right)^2 = F_{m+n}^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Thus, } \sqrt[3]{\frac{F_n F_m^2 L_m L_n^2 + F_m F_n^2 L_n L_m^2}{2}} = \sqrt[3]{F_{m+n}^3} = F_{m+n}. \text{ Therefore,}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{F_n F_m^2 L_m L_n^2} + \sqrt[3]{F_m F_n^2 L_n L_m^2} \leq 2F_{m+n}$$

248. Find all functions $f: [-2020; 2020] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that:

$$(f(x-y))^3 = 5f(x+2y) - x^3 y^3, \forall x \in [-2020, 2020]$$

Nguyen Van Canh-Ben Tre-Vietnam

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$x = y = 0 \rightarrow (f(0))^3 = 5f(0) \rightarrow f(0) = 0 \text{ or } f(0) = \pm\sqrt{5}. \text{ Let } a = f(0).$$

$$x = y \rightarrow a^3 = 5f(3x) - x^6 \rightarrow f(3x) = \frac{1}{5}(x^6 + a^3) \rightarrow$$

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$$f(x) = \frac{1}{5} \left[\left(\frac{x}{3} \right)^6 + a^3 \right], \forall x \in [-2020, 2020]$$

-with $a = 0$ or $a = -\sqrt{5}$ or $x = \sqrt{5}$.

249. Find the remainder, when the number $2019^{2020^{2021}}$ is divided by 7.

Proposed by Rajeev Rastogi-India

Solution 1 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Morocco

$$2019 \equiv 3 \pmod{7} \rightarrow 2019^3 \equiv -1 \pmod{7} \rightarrow 2019^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$$

$$2020 \equiv 4 \pmod{6} \rightarrow 2019^{2020} \equiv 2019^4 \equiv -3 \equiv 4 \pmod{7}$$

$$\text{Let } a = 2019^{2020}; a \equiv 4 \pmod{7} \rightarrow a^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$$

$$\text{We know that } 2020 \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \rightarrow 2020^{2020} \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \rightarrow$$

$$a^{2020^{2020}} \equiv a \equiv 4 \pmod{7}$$

$$\rightarrow 2019^{2020^{2021}} = a^{2020^{2020}} \equiv 4 \pmod{7}$$

Solution 2 by Sanong Huayrerai-Nakon Pathom-Thailand

$$\text{Because } 7 \mid (2019 - 3) \rightarrow 2019^{2020} \equiv 3^{2020} \pmod{7} \text{ and since}$$

$$3^1, 3^2, 3^3, 3^4, 3^5, 3^6 \equiv 3, 2, 6, 4, 5, 1 \pmod{7}$$

$$\text{Hence, } 3^{2020} \equiv 4^{2020} \pmod{7}, 2020 \equiv 4 \pmod{6} \rightarrow (3^{2020})^{2020} \equiv 4^{2020} \pmod{7} \text{ and}$$

$$\text{since } 4^1, 4^2, 4^3 \equiv 4, 3, 1 \pmod{7} \text{ hence, } 4^{2020} \equiv 1 \pmod{7}, 2020 \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \rightarrow$$

$$2019^{2020^{2021}} = a^{2020^{2020}} \equiv 4 \pmod{7}$$

250. Given x be the least prime divisor of the number $1 \underbrace{000 \dots 0}_{2018\text{-times}} 1$ also

$$(2x)^{(2x)^{(2x)}} \equiv k \pmod{100} \text{ then find } k.$$

Proposed by Rajeev Rastogi-India

Solution by Surjeet Singhania-India

$$1 \underbrace{000 \dots 0}_{2018\text{-times}} 1 = 10^{2019} + 1 \equiv (\text{mod } 7) \rightarrow x = 7.$$

$$\text{Denote } y = (2x)^{(2x)^{(2x)}} = 14^{14^{14}}. \text{ We need to find } y \pmod{100}.$$

$$\text{Since } 4 \mid y, \text{ now we need to find } y \pmod{25}.$$

$$y \equiv 14^{14^{14}} \pmod{25}. \text{ Since } \Phi(25) = 20 \rightarrow 14^{14} \equiv 6^{14} \pmod{20}$$

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$14^{14} \equiv 16 \pmod{20} \rightarrow y \equiv 14^{16} \pmod{25} \equiv 4^8 \pmod{25}$ (Euler th.). Hence,
 $y \equiv 36 \pmod{25} \equiv 11 \pmod{25}$. Since $4|y \rightarrow y = 4k_1$.
 $y = 4k_1 \equiv 11 \pmod{25} \rightarrow k_1 \equiv 9 \pmod{25} \rightarrow y = 100k_2 + 36$.
Hence, $y \equiv 14^{14^{14}} \equiv 36 \pmod{100} \rightarrow k = 36$.

251. Show that the last two digits of the followings

$9^9, 9^{9^9}, 9^{9^{9^9}}, 9^{9^{9^{9^9}}}, 9^{9^{9^{9^{9^9}}}}$ is always 89.

In general prove that the last two digits of $9 \uparrow \uparrow n = \underbrace{9^{9^{\cdot^{\cdot^{\cdot^9}}}}}_{n \geq 2}$ is 89.

Proposed by Naren Bhandari-Bajura-Nepal

Solution by Surjeet Singhania-India

Define a sequence $x_n = 9^{x_{n-1}}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $x_0 = 9$.

Claim: Every element of sequence have last two digits are 89.

Let's check for $n = 1, x_1 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ and $x_1 \equiv 4^3 \pmod{25} \equiv 14 \pmod{25}$.

Let's solve these congruence. Since $x_1 \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \rightarrow x_1 = 4k_1 + 1$ also
 $x_1 \equiv 14 \pmod{25} \rightarrow 4k_1 \equiv 13 \pmod{25} \rightarrow k_1 \equiv 22 \pmod{25} \rightarrow k_1 = 25k_2 + 22$.

Put the value of k_1 in $x_1, x_1 = 100k_2 + 89 \rightarrow k_1 \equiv 89 \pmod{100}$.

On the hypothesis true for $n = 1$. Assume it is true for $n = k, x_k \equiv 89 \pmod{100} \rightarrow$
 $x_k = 100m + 89, m \in \mathbb{Z}$. Now, we shall prove statement for $n = k + 1$.
 $x_{k+1} \equiv 9^{x_k} = 9^{100m+89}, x_{k+1} \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$. Now, we have to mod 25 for the number.

We know that $\Phi(25) = 20$ and $100m + 89 \equiv 9 \pmod{20} \rightarrow$

$x_{k+1} \equiv 9^9 \pmod{25}$ (Euler Theorem).

$x_{k+1} \equiv 9^9 \pmod{25} \equiv 14 \pmod{25}$. Since $x_{k+1} \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$.

For 6th line of our solution $x_{k+1} \equiv 89 \pmod{100}$.

Conclusion. In general prove that the last two digits of $9 \uparrow \uparrow n = \underbrace{9^{9^{\cdot^{\cdot^{\cdot^9}}}}}_{n \geq 2}$ is 89.

252. Solve for real numbers:

$$\begin{cases} x, y, z > 0 \\ \sqrt{1-x} + \frac{y}{\sqrt{1-y}} = 2\sqrt{1+z} \\ \begin{vmatrix} yz & xy & zx \\ xy & zx & yz \\ zx & yz & xy \end{vmatrix} = 0 \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

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Solution 1 by Adrian Popa-Romania

$x, y, z > 0$ and $1 - x \geq 0, 1 - y > 0, 1 + z \geq 0 \Rightarrow x \in (0, 1], y \in (0, 1), z \in (0, \infty)$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta &= \begin{vmatrix} yz & xy & zx \\ xy & zx & yz \\ zx & yz & xy \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} xy + yz + zx & xy + yz + zx & xy + yz + zx \\ xy & zx & yz \\ zx & yz & xy \end{vmatrix} = \\ &= (xy + yz + zx) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ xy & xz & yz \\ xz & yz & xy \end{vmatrix} = (xy + yz + zx) (-x^2(y-z)^2 - yz(z-x)(y-x)) = 0 \\ & -x^2(y^2 - 2yz + z^2) - yz(zy - xz - xy + x^2) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ & x^2yz + y^2xz + z^2xy = x^2y^2 + x^2z^2 + y^2z^2 \end{aligned}$$

But, we know that: $(2, 2, 0) > (2, 1, 1) \Rightarrow x^2y^2 + x^2z^2 + y^2z^2 \geq x^2yz + y^2xz + z^2xy$

Equality holds when $x = y = z \Rightarrow \sqrt{1-x} + \frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x}} = 2\sqrt{1+x} \Leftrightarrow$

$$\sqrt{1-x^2} = \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow x = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \Rightarrow x = y = z = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta &= \begin{vmatrix} yz & xy & zx \\ xy & zx & yz \\ zx & yz & xy \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} xy + yz + zx & xy + yz + zx & xy + yz + zx \\ xy & zx & yz \\ zx & yz & xy \end{vmatrix} = \\ &= (xy + yz + zx) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ xy & xz & yz \\ xz & yz & xy \end{vmatrix} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} x^2(y-z)^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y = z; (x, y, z > 0) \\ & \sqrt{1-x} + \frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x}} = 2\sqrt{1+x} \Leftrightarrow \frac{x^2}{1-x} = 3x + 3 \\ & \sqrt{1-x^2} = \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow x = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \Rightarrow xy = z = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 3 by Remus Florin Stanca-Romania

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{vmatrix} yz & xy & zx \\ xy & zx & yz \\ zx & yz & xy \end{vmatrix} &= 0 \Leftrightarrow 3(xy)(yz)(zx) = (xy)^3 + (xz)^3 + (yz)^3, x, y, z > 0 \\ \Rightarrow xy = yz = zx &\Rightarrow x = y = z \Rightarrow \sqrt{1-x} + \frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x}} = 2\sqrt{1+x} \Leftrightarrow \\ 4x^2 = 3, x > 0 &\Leftrightarrow x = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \Rightarrow xy = z = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{aligned}$$

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Solution 4 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta &= \begin{vmatrix} yz & xy & zx \\ xy & zx & yz \\ zx & yz & xy \end{vmatrix} = (xy + yz + zx) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & xy & zx \\ 1 & zx & yz \\ 1 & yz & xy \end{vmatrix} = \\ &= (xy + yz + zx) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & xy & zx \\ 0 & x(z-y) & z(y-x) \\ 0 & z(y-x) & y(x-y) \end{vmatrix} = 0 \\ \Rightarrow (xy + yz + zx)[xy(z-y)(x-z) - z^2(y-x)^2] &= 0; (xy + yz + zx > 0) \\ x^2yz + xyz^2 + xy^2z - x^2y^2 - z^2x^2 - z^2y^2 &= 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ (xy - yz)^2 + (yz - zx)^2 + (zx - xy)^2 &= 0 \Leftrightarrow xy = yz = zx \Leftrightarrow x = y = z \\ \text{Equality holds when } x = y = z \Rightarrow \sqrt{1-x} + \frac{x}{\sqrt{1-x}} &= 2\sqrt{1+x} \Leftrightarrow \\ \sqrt{1-x^2} = \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow x = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \Rightarrow x = y = z = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{aligned}$$

253. Solve for real numbers:

$$\begin{cases} \left(\frac{x^3}{y} + xy + \frac{y^3}{x} \right)^2 = \sqrt{27(x^8 + y^8 + x^4y^4)} \\ \frac{5x^4 - 10xy + 1}{x^4y^2 - 10y^4 + 5x^2} = \frac{y}{x^2} \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Orlando Irahola Ortega-Tarija-Bolivia

Solution 1 by Carlos Eduardo Aguiar Paiva-Fortaleza-Brazil

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{x^3}{y} + xy + \frac{y^3}{x} \right)^2 &= \sqrt{27(x^8 + y^8 + x^4y^4)}, (i) \\ \frac{5x^4 - 10xy + 1}{x^4y^2 - 10y^4 + 5x^2} &= \frac{y}{x^2}, (ii) \\ \text{Now, } \left(\frac{x^2}{y^2} + \frac{y^2}{x^2} + 1 \right)^2 &= \sqrt{27 \left(\frac{x^4}{y^4} + \frac{y^4}{x^4} + 1 \right)} \\ \text{Let } m = \frac{x^2}{y^2} + \frac{y^2}{x^2} \Rightarrow (m+1)^2 &= \sqrt{27(m^2 - 1)} \\ \sqrt{m+1} \left(\sqrt{(m+1)^3} - 3\sqrt{3(m-1)} \right) &= 0 \Rightarrow \sqrt{m+1} = 0 \Rightarrow m_1 = -1 \\ \sqrt{(m+1)^3} = 3\sqrt{3(m-1)} \Rightarrow (m+1)^3 &= 27(m-1) \Rightarrow (m-2)^2(m+7) = 0 \Rightarrow \end{aligned}$$

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$m_{2,3} = 2, m_4 = -7$

$$1) \frac{x^2}{y^2} + \frac{y^2}{x^2} = -1 \Rightarrow \left(\frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{x}\right)^2 = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{x} = \pm 1 \leq 2, \text{ but } \frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{x} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 2$$

$$2) \frac{x^2}{y^2} + \frac{y^2}{x^2} = -7 \Rightarrow \left(\frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{x}\right)^2 = -5 \Rightarrow \frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{x} = \pm 5i \in \mathbb{C}$$

$$3) \frac{x^2}{y^2} + \frac{y^2}{x^2} = 2 \Rightarrow \left(\frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{x}\right)^2 = 4 \Rightarrow \frac{x}{y} + \frac{y}{x} = \pm 2 \Rightarrow y = x \text{ or } y = -x$$

$$ii) \frac{5x^4 - 10x^2 + 1}{x^6 - 10x^4 + 5x^2} = \frac{x}{x^2}, x \neq 0 \Rightarrow x^5 - 5x^4 - 10x^3 + 10x^2 + 5x - 1 = 0$$

$$(x-1)(x^4 - 4x^3 - 14x^2 - 4x + 1) = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = 1$$

$$x^4 - 4x^3 - 14x^2 - 4x + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow x^4 - 4x^3 + 4x^2 = 18x^2 + 4x - 1$$

$$(x^2 - 2x + \lambda)^2 = (2\lambda + 18)x^2 - (4\lambda - 4)x + \lambda^2 - 1 \Rightarrow \Delta_{RHS} = 0$$

$$[-(4\lambda - 4)]^2 - 4(2\lambda + 18)(\lambda^2 - 1) = 0 \Rightarrow (\lambda - 1)(\lambda^2 + 8\lambda + 11) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 = 1 \Rightarrow (x^2 - 2x + 1)^2 = 20x^2 \Rightarrow x^2 - 2x + 1 = \pm 2x\sqrt{5}$$

$$x_{2,3} = 1 + \sqrt{5} \pm \sqrt{5 + 2\sqrt{5}}, x_{4,5} = 1 - \sqrt{5} \pm \sqrt{5 - 2\sqrt{5}}$$

$$ii) \frac{5x^4 - 10x^2 + 1}{x^6 - 10x^4 + 5x^2} = \frac{x}{x^2}, x \neq 0 \Rightarrow x^5 + 5x^4 - 10x^3 + 10x^2 + 5x + 1 = 0$$

By Newton-Raphson Method, $x_6 = -6.699 \dots$

$$(x, y) \in \left\{ (1, 1), \left(1 + \sqrt{5} \pm \sqrt{5 + 2\sqrt{5}}, 1 + \sqrt{5} \pm \sqrt{5 + 2\sqrt{5}}\right), \left(1 - \sqrt{5} \pm \sqrt{5 - 2\sqrt{5}}, 1 - \sqrt{5} \pm \sqrt{5 - 2\sqrt{5}}\right) \right\}$$

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Morocco

$$\left(\frac{x^3}{y} + xy + \frac{y^3}{x}\right)^2 = \sqrt{27(x^8 + y^8 + x^4y^4)}, (1)$$

$$\frac{5x^4 - 10xy + 1}{x^4y^2 - 10y^4 + 5x^2} = \frac{y}{x^2}, (2)$$

$$(1) \Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{x^2}{y^2} + \frac{y^2}{x^2} + 1\right)^4 = 27\left(\frac{x^4}{y^4} + \frac{y^4}{x^4} + 1\right)$$

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Let us prove that: $(\sum a)^6 \geq 27(\sum ab)^2(\sum a^2)$, $\forall a, b, c > 0$, (*)

Denote: $(p, q, r) = (\sum a, \sum ab, abc)$

(*) $\Leftrightarrow p^6 \geq 27q^2(p^2 - 2q) \Leftrightarrow (p^2 - 3q)^2(p^2 + 6q) \geq 0$ is true.

Equality holds if $p^2 = 3q \Leftrightarrow a = b = c$.

$$a = \frac{x^2}{y^2}, b = \frac{y^2}{x^2}, c = 1 \Rightarrow \sum ab = \frac{x^2}{y^2} + \frac{y^2}{x^2} + 1 = \sum a$$

$$(*) \Rightarrow \left(\frac{x^2}{y^2} + \frac{y^2}{x^2} + 1 \right)^4 \geq 27 \left(\frac{x^4}{y^4} + \frac{y^4}{x^4} + 1 \right)$$

Equality holds if $\frac{x^2}{y^2} = \frac{y^2}{x^2} = 1 \Rightarrow y = x$ or $y = -x$.

If $x = y \Rightarrow \frac{5x^4 - 10x^2 + 1}{x^5 - 10x^3 + 5x} = 1$, let us denote $x = \tan a \Rightarrow \tan(5a) = \frac{\tan^5 a - 10\tan^3 a + 5\tan a}{5\tan^4 a - 10\tan^2 a + 1} = 1$

$$\Rightarrow a \in \left\{ \frac{\pi}{20} + \frac{k\pi}{5} \mid k \in \mathbb{Z} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

$$x = y = \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{20}\right) = 1 + \sqrt{5} + \sqrt{5 + 2\sqrt{5}}$$

$$x = y = \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = 1$$

$$x = y = \tan\left(\frac{9\pi}{20}\right) = 1 + \sqrt{5} - \sqrt{5 + 2\sqrt{5}}$$

$$x = y = \tan\left(\frac{13\pi}{20}\right) = 1 - \sqrt{5} - \sqrt{5 - 2\sqrt{5}}$$

$$x = y = \tan\left(\frac{17\pi}{20}\right) = 1 - \sqrt{5} + \sqrt{5 - 2\sqrt{5}}$$

If $y = -x \Rightarrow \frac{5x^4 + 10x^2 + 1}{x^5 - 10x^3 + 5x} = -1 \Leftrightarrow x^5 + 5x^4 - 10x^3 + 10x^2 + 5x + 1 = 0$

Let $f(x) = x^5 + 5x^4 - 10x^3 + 10x^2 + 5x + 1 \Rightarrow$

$$f'(x) = 5(x^2 + (2\sqrt{3} + 2)x + 1)(x^2 - (2\sqrt{3} - 2)x + 1)$$

$$f'(x) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x_1 = -\sqrt{3} - 1 - \sqrt{3 + 2\sqrt{3}} \cong -5, 27$$

$$x_2 = -\sqrt{3} - 1 + \sqrt{3 + 2\sqrt{3}} \cong -0, 18$$

We have: $f(x_1) > 0, f(x_2) > 0 \Rightarrow f(x) = 0$ admits only one solution $x_0 < x_1$

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By Newton-Raphson Method, $x_0 = -y_0 = -6.699 \dots$

$$(x, y) \in \left\{ (1, 1), \left(1 + \sqrt{5} \pm \sqrt{5 + 2\sqrt{5}}, 1 + \sqrt{5} \pm \sqrt{5 + 2\sqrt{5}} \right), \left(1 - \sqrt{5} \pm \sqrt{5 - 2\sqrt{5}}, 1 - \sqrt{5} \pm \sqrt{5 - 2\sqrt{5}} \right), (-6, 699, 6, 699) \right\}$$

254. Solve in \mathbb{C} :

$$\begin{cases} (x + y)^2 = 5 + xy \\ 9x^3 - 5x + 2xy^2 = 26y^3 + 5y - 2x^2y \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Carlos Paiva-Fortaleza-Brazil

Solution by Amir Sofi-Pristina-Kosovo

$$\begin{aligned} 9x^3 - 5x + 2xy^2 &= 26y^3 + 5y - 2x^2y \Leftrightarrow \\ x^3 + y^3 - 5(x + y) + 2xy(x + y) + (2x)^3 - (3y)^3 &= 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ (+y)(x^2 - xy + y^2 + 2xy - 5) + (2x)^3 - (3y)^3 &= 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ (x + y)[(x + y)^3 - xy - 5] + (2x)^3 - (3y)^3 &= 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ (2x)^3 - (3y)^3 = 0 \Leftrightarrow (2x - 3y)(4x^2 + 6xy + 9y^2) &= 0 \\ 4x^2 + 6xy + 9y^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{2x}{3y} + \frac{3y}{2x} + 1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{3y}{2x}\right)^2 + \frac{3y}{2x} + 1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow \\ \frac{3x}{2y} = \frac{-1 \pm i\sqrt{3}}{2} \Leftrightarrow y = \frac{-1 \pm i\sqrt{3}}{3}x \\ (x + y)^2 &= 5 + xy \\ \left(x + \frac{-x + i\sqrt{3}x}{3}\right)^2 = 5 + x \cdot \frac{-x + i\sqrt{3}x}{3} \vee \left(x + \frac{-x - i\sqrt{3}x}{3}\right)^2 = 5 + x \cdot \frac{-x - i\sqrt{3}x}{3} \\ \left(\frac{2x + i\sqrt{3}x}{3}\right)^2 = \frac{15 - x^2 + i\sqrt{3}x^2}{3} \vee \left(\frac{2x - i\sqrt{3}x}{3}\right)^2 = \frac{15 - x^2 - i\sqrt{3}x^2}{3} \\ 4x^2 + i\sqrt{3}x^2 - 45 = 0 \vee 4x^2 - i\sqrt{3}x^2 - 45 = 0 \\ x = \pm \sqrt{\frac{45(4 - i\sqrt{3})}{19}} \vee x = \pm \sqrt{\frac{45(4 + i\sqrt{3})}{19}} \end{aligned}$$

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$$(x, y) = \left(\pm \sqrt{\frac{45(4 - i\sqrt{3})}{19}}, \pm(-1 \pm i\sqrt{3}) \pm \sqrt{\frac{45(4 - i\sqrt{3})}{19}} \right),$$

$$\left(\pm \sqrt{\frac{45(4 + i\sqrt{3})}{19}}, \pm(-1 \pm i\sqrt{3}) \pm \sqrt{\frac{45(4 + i\sqrt{3})}{19}} \right)$$

255. Solve for real numbers:

$$\begin{cases} x, y, z > 0 \\ \sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{yz} + \sqrt{zx} + \sqrt{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}} + \sqrt{\frac{y^2 + z^2}{2}} + \sqrt{\frac{z^2 + x^2}{2}} = 6 \\ x + y + z = 3 \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by Lazaros Zachariadis-Thessaloniki-Greece

$$\sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{yz} + \sqrt{zx} + \sqrt{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}} + \sqrt{\frac{y^2 + z^2}{2}} + \sqrt{\frac{z^2 + x^2}{2}} = 6 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}} - \sum_{cyc} x = \sum_{cyc} x - \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{xy}; \quad (1)$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}} \geq \frac{x + y}{2} \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}} \geq \sum_{cyc} \frac{x + y}{2} = \frac{\sum x + \sum y}{2} = \sum_{cyc} x$$

$$\sqrt{xy} \leq \frac{x + y}{2} \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{xy} \leq \sum_{cyc} x$$

So, $LHS \geq 0, RHS \geq 0$, equality holds when $x = y = z$, but $\sum x = 3$, thus $x = y = z = 1$.

Solution 2 by Florentin Vişescu-Romania

$m_g + m_q \leq 2m_a$, equality for $a = b$.

$$\sqrt{ab} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2 + b^2}{2}} \leq a + b \Leftrightarrow ab + \frac{a^2 + b^2}{2} + 2\sqrt{\frac{a^3b + ab^3}{2}} \leq a^2 + b^2 + 2ab \Leftrightarrow$$

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$$2\sqrt{\frac{a^3b + ab^3}{2}} \leq \frac{a^2 + b^2 + 2ab}{2} \Leftrightarrow \frac{4(a^3b + ab^3)}{2} \leq \frac{(a+b)^4}{2} \Leftrightarrow$$

$(a-b)^4 \geq 0$, with equality for $a = b$.

$$\begin{cases} \sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}} \leq x + y \\ \sqrt{yz} + \sqrt{\frac{y^2 + z^2}{2}} \leq y + z \Rightarrow \\ \sqrt{zx} + \sqrt{\frac{z^2 + x^2}{2}} \leq z + x \end{cases}$$

$$\sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}} + \sqrt{yz} + \sqrt{\frac{y^2 + z^2}{2}} + \sqrt{zx} + \sqrt{\frac{z^2 + x^2}{2}} \leq 2(x + y + z)$$

Equality holds for $x = y = z$, but $x + y + z = 3 \Rightarrow x = y = z = 1$.

Solution 3 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} x = 3 &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{cyc} \left(\sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}} \right) \stackrel{c-s}{\leq} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{cyc} \sqrt{2 \left(xy + \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2} \right)} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{cyc} (x + y) \\ &= \sum_{cyc} x \Rightarrow xy = \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2} \text{ (and anaogs)} \end{aligned}$$

Equality if and only if $x = y = z$, and how $\sum_{cyc} x = 3$, thus $x = y = z = 1$.

256. Solve for natural numbers:

$$x^{2019} + 3 \cdot y! = 2161 \cdot 2020^{3z}$$

Proposed by George Florin Șerban-Romania

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$x^{2019} + 3 \cdot y! = 2161 \cdot 2020^{3z}; (*)$$

For $y \geq 7; 3y! \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$

$$2020 \equiv 4 \pmod{7} \Rightarrow 2020^3 \equiv 1 \pmod{7} \Rightarrow 2020^{3z} \equiv 1 \pmod{7}$$

$$2161 \equiv 5 \pmod{7} \Rightarrow 2161 \cdot 2020^{3z} \equiv 5 \pmod{7}$$

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$$x^{2019} = (x^{673})^3 = a^3 \equiv 0; 1; 6 \pmod{7}$$

$$\Rightarrow \forall y \geq 7, x^{2019} + 3y! \neq 2161 \cdot 2020^{3z}$$

$$\text{If } y = 0 \text{ or } y = 1 \text{ then, } (*) \Leftrightarrow x^{2019} = 2161 \cdot 2020^{3z} - 3.$$

$$\text{But } 2161 \cdot 2020^{3z} - 3 \equiv 2 \pmod{7} \text{ and } x^{2019} \equiv 0; 1; 6 \pmod{7}.$$

$$\text{If } z = 0, (*) \Leftrightarrow x^{2019} + 3y! = 2161 < 2^{12} \Rightarrow x < 2$$

$$x = 0 \Rightarrow 3y! = 2161$$

$$x = 1 \Rightarrow 3y! = 2160 \Rightarrow y = 6.$$

If $z \neq 0; y \in \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}, x^{2019} = 2161 \cdot 2020^{3z} - 3y! \Rightarrow \forall x \in \mathbb{N}, x$ –even, then

$$\{x = 2t | t \in \mathbb{N}\} \Rightarrow 3y! = 2^6(2161 \cdot 2^{6(z-1)} \cdot 505^{3z} - 2^{2013} \cdot t^{2019})$$

$$\Rightarrow 2^6 | y! \text{ absurd for } y \leq 6.$$

Therefore, $S = \{(1; 6; 0) | x, y, z \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

257. $k, n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ –fixed. Solve for real numbers:

$$x^{2k} - 2x^k + 3 = \sqrt[2n]{x} + \sqrt[2n]{2-x}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by George Florin Șerban-Romania

$$\begin{cases} x \geq 0 \\ 2-x \geq 0 \\ x^{2k} - 2x^k + 3 \geq 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x \geq 0 \\ x \leq 2 \\ (x^k - 1)^2 + 2 \geq 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow x \in [0, 2]$$

$$\text{Let } f(x) = \sqrt[2n]{x}, f: [0, 2] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f'(x) = \frac{1}{2n} x^{\frac{1}{2n}-1}, f''(x) = \frac{1-2n}{4n^2} x^{\frac{1}{2n}-2} < 0, \forall x \in [0, 2],$$

$$n \geq 1 \Rightarrow f \text{ –concave} \Rightarrow f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \geq \frac{f(a)+f(b)}{2} \Rightarrow f\left(\frac{x+2-x}{2}\right) \geq \frac{f(x)+f(2-x)}{2}$$

$$f(x) + f(2-x) = \sqrt[2n]{x} + \sqrt[2n]{2-x} \leq 2f(1) = 2$$

$$(x^k - 2) + 2 \leq 2 \Leftrightarrow 0 \leq (x^k - 1)^2 \leq 0 \Rightarrow x^k - 1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 1.$$

258. Solve for real numbers:

$$2 \cdot \sqrt[4]{e^{4x} \cdot e^{2 \cdot 6^x} \cdot e^{9^x}} = e^{4x} + e^{9^x}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

$$2 \cdot \sqrt[4]{e^{4x} \cdot e^{2 \cdot 6^x} \cdot e^{9^x}} = e^{4x} + e^{9^x}; (1)$$

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$$e^{4^x} \cdot e^{2 \cdot 6^x} \cdot e^{9^x} = e^{4^x + 2 \cdot 6^x + 9^x} = e^{(2^x)^2 + (3^x)^2 + 2 \cdot 2^x \cdot 3^x} = 2^{(2^x + 3^x)^2} \Rightarrow$$

$$LHS_{(1)} = 2 \cdot e^{\left(\frac{2^x + 3^x}{2}\right)^2}; (2)$$

By AM-GM inequality, we have:

$$RHS_{(1)} \geq 2 \cdot \sqrt{e^{2^{2x} + 3^{2x}}} = 2 \cdot e^{\frac{2^{2x} + 3^{2x}}{2}}, \text{ therefore, we get:}$$

$$e^{\left(\frac{2^x + 3^x}{2}\right)^2} \geq e^{\frac{2^{2x} + 3^{2x}}{2}} \text{ and as } f(t) = e^t \uparrow \text{ in } \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow \left(\frac{2^x + 3^x}{2}\right)^2 \geq \frac{2^{2x} + 3^{2x}}{2} \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{2^{2x} + 3^{2x} + 2 \cdot 6^x}{4} \geq \frac{2^{2x} + 3^{2x}}{2} \Rightarrow 2^{2x} + 3^{2x} - 2 \cdot 6^x \leq 0 \Rightarrow (2^x - 3^x)^2 \leq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2^x = 3^x \Leftrightarrow x = 0 \text{ which is only solution.}$$

259.

$$f_m(x) = (m + 1)x^3 - 2(m + 1)x^2 - (m - 2)x + 2m - 3, m \in \mathbb{R} - \{-1\}$$

Find the equation of the line which contains the three fixed points of f_m (the points not depends of m)

Proposed by Costel Florea-Romania

Solution 1 by Adrian Popa-Romania

$$f_m(x) = (m + 1)x^3 - 2(m + 1)x^2 - (m - 2)x + 2m - 3, m \in \mathbb{R} - \{-1\}$$

$$f_m(x) = mx^3 + x^3 - 2mx^2 - 2x^2 - mx + 2m - 3$$

$$f_m(x) = m(x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 2) + x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x - 3$$

$$x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 2 = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2, x_3 = -1$$

$$\Rightarrow A(1, -2), B(2, 1), C(-1, -8)$$

$$AB: \frac{x - 1}{2 - 1} = \frac{y + 2}{1 + 2} \Rightarrow y = 3x - 5 \Rightarrow C \in AB$$

Solution 2 by Alex Szoros-Romania

$$f_m(x) = (m + 1)x^3 - 2(m + 1)x^2 - (m - 2)x + 2m - 3, m \in \mathbb{R} - \{-1\}$$

$$f_m(x) = mx^3 + x^3 - 2mx^2 - 2x^2 - mx + 2m - 3$$

$$f_m(x) = m(x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 2) + x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x - 3$$

$$f_m(x) = (m + 1)(x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 2) + 3x - 5$$

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If $P(x_0, y_0)$ –fix point if and only if $x_0^3 - 2x_0^2 - x_0 + 2 = 0$, so $y = 3x - 5$.

Solution 3 by Khaled Abd Imouti-Damascus-Syria

$$f_m(x) = (m + 1)x^3 - 2(m + 1)x^2 - (m - 2)x + 2m - 3, m \in \mathbb{R} - \{-1\}$$

$$y = mx^3 + x^3 - 2mx^2 - 2x^2 - mx + 2m - 3$$

$$m(x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 2) + x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x - 3 - y = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 2 = 0, (1) \\ x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x - 3 - y = 0, (2) \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 = 1, x_2 = 2, x_3 = -1 \\ A(1, -2), B(2, 1), C(-1, -8) \end{cases}$$

$$AB: y = mx + p, m = \frac{y_B - y_A}{x_B - x_A} = 3$$

$$A(2, 1) \in (AB): 1 = 6 + p \Rightarrow p = -5.$$

$$AB: y = 3x - 5$$

260. Find $x \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that: $\sqrt{(x - 3)(5x - 1)(5x^2 - 12x + 3)} \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proposed by George Florin Şerban-Romania

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Morocco

$$(x - 3)(5x - 1)(5x^2 - 12x + 3) = (5x^2 - 16x + 3)(5x^2 - 12x + 3) =$$

$$= ((5x^2 - 14x + 3) - 2x)((5x^2 - 14x + 3) + 2x) =$$

$$= (5x^2 - 14x + 3)^2 - 4x^2 < (5x^2 - 14x + 3)^2, \forall x \in \mathbb{Z}^*$$

$$(5x^2 - 14x + 3)^2 - 4x^2 > (5x^2 - 14x + 2)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (5x^2 - 14x + 2)^2 + 2(5x^2 - 14x + 2) + 1 - 4x^2 > (5x^2 - 14x + 2)^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 6x^2 - 28x + 5 > 0 \text{ true for all } x \in \mathbb{Z} - [1; 4]$$

$$(5x^2 - 14x + 2)^2 < (x - 3)(5x - 1)(5x^2 - 14x + 3)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \forall x \in \mathbb{Z} - \{1, 2, 3, 4\}, \sqrt{(x - 3)(5x - 1)(5x^2 - 12x + 3)} \in \mathbb{N}.$$

$$x = 0; \sqrt{9} = 3 \in \mathbb{N}, x = 1; \sqrt{32} \notin \mathbb{N}$$

$$x = 2; \sqrt{9} = 3 \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$x = 3; 0 \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$x = 4; \sqrt{665} \notin \mathbb{N} \Rightarrow S = \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$$

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261. Two numbers a and b are chosen uniformly and randomly from $(0, 1)$. Then $\frac{a}{b}$ is calculated and rounded off to the nearest integer. Find the probability that after rounding off, the integer is odd (find the closed form).

Proposed by Arghyadeep Chatterjee-India

Solution by proposer

Probability = P

$$\begin{aligned}
 P &= \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \int_0^1 \int_{\frac{2y}{4r+3}}^{\frac{2y}{4r+1}} dx dy + \int_0^1 \int_{\frac{x}{2}}^x dy dx + \int_0^1 \int_{\frac{2}{3}y}^1 dx dy = \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{6} + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{4r+1} - \frac{1}{4r+3} \right) = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{6} + \int_0^1 \left(\frac{x^4}{1+x^4} dx - \frac{x^6}{1-x^4} dx \right) = \\
 &= \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{6} + \int_0^1 \frac{x^4}{1+x^4} dx = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{6} + \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{4}} \tan^4 \theta d\theta = \frac{r}{4} - \frac{1}{4}
 \end{aligned}$$

262. Solve for real numbers:

$$\begin{cases}
 x^3 + x^2 + x = (x+1)(y+2)\sqrt{(x+1)(y+1)} \\
 \sqrt{y+1} + 2 = \left(x-1 - \frac{3}{4x}\right)\sqrt{x+1}
 \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Carlos Eduardo Aguiar Paiva-Brazil

Solution by proposer

$$\begin{aligned}
 i) \quad x^3 + x^2 + x &= (x+1)(y+2)\sqrt{(x+1)(y+1)} \\
 \Leftrightarrow \frac{x^3 + x^2 + x}{(x+1)\sqrt{x+1}} &= (y+2)\sqrt{y+1} \\
 \Leftrightarrow \frac{x^3}{(x+1)\sqrt{x+1}} + \frac{x}{\sqrt{x+1}} &= (y+2)\sqrt{y+1} \\
 \Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{x+1}}\right)^3 + \frac{x}{\sqrt{x+1}} &= (y+1+1)\sqrt{y+1} = (y+1)\sqrt{y+1} + \sqrt{y+1}
 \end{aligned}$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{x+1}}\right)^3 + \frac{x}{\sqrt{x+1}} = (\sqrt{y+1})^3 + \sqrt{y+1}$$

Let $f(m) = m^3 + m$ – injective.

$$\frac{x}{\sqrt{x+1}} = \sqrt{y+1} \Rightarrow y = \frac{x^2 - x - 1}{x+1}$$

$$ii) \sqrt{y+1} + 2 = \left(x - 1 - \frac{3}{4x}\right)\sqrt{x+1}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4x\sqrt{y+1} + 8x = (4x^2 - 4x - 3)\sqrt{x+1}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4x^2 + 8x\sqrt{x+1} = (4x^2 - 4x - 3)(x+1)$$

$$4x^2 + 8x\sqrt{x+1} + 4(x+1) = (4x^2 - 4x + 1)(x+1)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (2x + 2\sqrt{x+1})^2 = (2x - 1)^2(x+1)$$

$$ii') 2x + 2\sqrt{x+1} = (2x - 1)\sqrt{x+1} \text{ or } ii'') 2x + 2\sqrt{x+1} = -(2x - 1)\sqrt{x+1}$$

$$ii') 4x^3 - 12x^2 - 3x + 9 = 0 \Leftrightarrow (4x^2 - 3)(x - 3) = 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$x_{1,2} = \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}; x_3 = 3$$

$$ii'') 2x + 2\sqrt{x+1} = -(2x - 1)\sqrt{x+1}$$

$$E = -44, F = -368, G = 80, H = 91584 - 2^6 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 159 > 0$$

If $H > 0$, in the cubic equation, then there is only one real root:

$$x_4 = \frac{-2 + \sqrt[3]{10 + 3\sqrt{159}} + \sqrt[3]{10 - 3\sqrt{159}}}{6} \sim -0.233$$

$$(x, y) \in \left\{ \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, \frac{4-3\sqrt{3}}{2}\right); \left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, \frac{4+3\sqrt{3}}{2}\right); \left(3, \frac{5}{4}\right) \left(\frac{-2 + \sqrt[3]{10 + 3\sqrt{159}} + \sqrt[3]{10 - 3\sqrt{159}}}{6}, \frac{x_4^2 - x_4 - 1}{x_4 + 1}\right) \right\}$$

After the tests: $(x, y) \in \left(3, \frac{5}{4}\right)$

263. Solve for real numbers:

$$\begin{cases} x, y, z, t > 0 \\ \frac{(2-x)(2-y)(2-z)(2-t)}{(x+y)(y+z)(z+t)(t+x)} = \frac{1}{16} \\ x + y + z + t = 4 \end{cases}$$

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Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by Florentin Vişescu-Romania

If $x > 2$ then for $y > 2 \Rightarrow x + y > 4$ false. Hence, $x, y, z, t < 2$.

$$x + y = 4 - z - t = (2 - z) + (2 - t)$$

$$\frac{(2-x)(2-y)(2-z)(2-t)}{(x+y)(y+z)(z+t)(t+x)} = \frac{1}{16}; (2-x)(2-y)(2-z)(2-t) > 0$$

We distinguish the cases:

$$\bullet \begin{cases} 2-x > 0 \\ 2-y > 0 \\ 2-z > 0 \\ 2-t > 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow x, y, z, t < 2$$

$$\bullet \begin{cases} 2-x > 0 \\ 2-y > 0 \\ 2-z < 0 \\ 2-t < 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} z > 2 \\ t > 2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow z + t > 4 \text{ contradiction, because } x + y + z + t = 4$$

$$\bullet \begin{cases} 2-x < 0 \\ 2-y < 0 \\ 2-z < 0 \\ 2-t < 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow x, y, z, t > 2 \text{ contradiction, because } x + y + z + t = 4.$$

$$\frac{(2-x)(2-y)(2-z)(2-t)}{(x+y)(y+z)(z+t)(t+x)} = \frac{1}{16} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{(2-x)(2-y)(2-z)(2-t)}{(2-z+2-t)(2-x+2-t)(2-y+2-x)(2-y+2-z)} = \frac{1}{16}; (1)$$

$$\frac{2-z+2-t}{2} \geq \sqrt{(2-z)(2-t)} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{(2-z+2-t)} \leq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{(2-z)(2-t)}}$$

Analogously:

$$\frac{1}{(2-x+2-t)} \leq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{(2-x)(2-t)}}; \frac{1}{(2-y+2-x)} \leq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{(2-y)(2-x)}}$$

$$\frac{1}{(2-y+2-z)} \leq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{(2-y)(2-z)}}$$

Hence,

$$\frac{(2-x)(2-y)(2-z)(2-t)}{(2-z+2-t)(2-x+2-t)(2-y+2-x)(2-y+2-z)} \leq \frac{1}{16}; (2)$$

From (1), (2) it follows that: $2-x = 2-y = 2-t = 2-z \Rightarrow$

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$x = y = z = t$, but $x + y + z + t = 4$ then $x = y = z = t = 1$.

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\begin{cases} x, y, z, t > 0 \\ \frac{(2-x)(2-y)(2-z)(2-t)}{(x+y)(y+z)(z+t)(t+x)} = \frac{1}{16}; (*) \\ x + y + z + t = 4 \end{cases}$$

If $2 - x, 2 - y \leq 0 \rightarrow 4 = x + y + z + t \leq x + y$ contradiction!

$$\text{So, } (2-x)(2-y)(2-z)(2-t) = \frac{1}{16}(x+y)(y+z)(z+t)(t+x) > 0$$

$$\rightarrow 2 - x, 2 - y, 2 - z, 2 - t > 0.$$

Let $a = 2 - x, b = 2 - y, c = 2 - z, d = 2 - t; a, b, c, d > 0; \sum a = 4$

$$\rightarrow \begin{cases} x + y = 4 - (a + b) = c + d \\ y + z = a + d \\ z + t = a + b \\ t + x = b + c \end{cases} \rightarrow (*) \Leftrightarrow (c + d)(a + d)(a + b)(b + c) = 16abcd$$

But from AM-GM we have:

$$(c + d)((a + d)(a + b)(b + c)) \geq (2\sqrt{cd})(2\sqrt{ad})(2\sqrt{ab})(2\sqrt{bc}) = 16abcd$$

Equality holds when $a = b = c = d = 1 \rightarrow x = y = z = t = 1$.

264. If $x, y, z \in \mathbb{C}, x + y + z = 0$ then:

$$|x| + |y| + |z| \leq |x - z| + |z - x| + |y - x|$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by Florentin Vişescu-Romania

If x, y, z -different in pairs, let $A(x), B(y), C(z)$. How $x + y + z = 0 \rightarrow \frac{x+y+z}{3} = 0 \rightarrow$

$G = 0$. We must to prove that: $GA + GB + GC \leq AB + BC + CA$

$$\frac{3}{2}GA \leq AB + \frac{BC}{2}; \frac{3}{2}GB \leq BC + \frac{AC}{2}; \frac{3}{2}GC \leq CA + \frac{AB}{2}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{3}{2}(GA + GB + GC) \leq \frac{3}{2}(AB + BC + CA)$$

$$\text{If } x = y \neq z \rightarrow 2x + z = 0 \rightarrow z = -2x$$

We must show that: $2|x| + |-2x| \leq |x + 2x| + |-2x - x|$ or $4|x| \leq 6|x| \Leftrightarrow$

$$2|x| \geq 0 \text{ true.}$$

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If $x = y = z \rightarrow 3x = 0 \rightarrow x = 0$.

Solution 2 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$a = |y - z|, b = |z - x|, c = |x - y|, AO = |x|, BO = |y|, CO = |z|$$

Let $A(x), B(y), C(z)$ be vertices of triangle ABC . Centroid G of ΔABC is given by

$$z_G = \frac{1}{3}(x + y + z) = 0; AO = \frac{2}{3}m_a = \frac{2}{3}AD$$

But $AD \leq DC + AC \rightarrow \frac{3}{2}AO \leq \frac{a}{2} + b$. Similarly, $\frac{3}{2}AO \leq \frac{a}{2} + c$, thus $3AO \leq a + b + c$.

$$\text{Similarly, } 3BO \leq a + b + c, 3CO \leq a + b + c \rightarrow$$

$$3(AO + BO + CO) \leq 3(a + b + c)$$

Therefore,

$$|x| + |y| + |z| \leq |x - z| + |z - x| + |y - x|$$

265. Find $x, y > 0$ such that:

$$27xy + 27(1 - x - y)(x + y + xy) = 10$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution by Michael Sterghiou-Greece

$$27xy + 27(1 - x - y)(x + y + xy) = 10; (1)$$

$$\text{Let } x + y = a > 0, \text{ then } xy \leq \frac{a^2}{4}; (1) \rightarrow$$

$$0 = 27xy + 27(1 - a)(a + xy) \leq 27 \cdot \frac{a^2}{4} + 2 + (1 - a) \left(a + \frac{a^2}{4} \right) =$$

$$= -\frac{1}{4}(3a - 2)^2(3a + 1), \text{ which can only be true for } a = \frac{2}{3} \rightarrow x = \frac{2}{3} - y$$

Now, (1) and $x = \frac{2}{3} - y \rightarrow -4(1 - 3y)^2 = 0 \rightarrow y = \frac{1}{3}$ and $x = \frac{1}{3}$ which are the only

solution.

266. Solve for integers:

$$\sqrt[3]{a^2 + b^2} + \sqrt[3]{2ab} = a + b$$

Proposed by Mehmet Şahin-Turkey

Solution by George Florin Şerban-Romania

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$$\text{If } a^2 + b^2 = -2ab \Rightarrow (a + b)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow b = -a \Rightarrow \sqrt[3]{a^2 + b^2} - \sqrt[3]{a^2 + b^2} = 0 \text{ true.}$$

$$\Rightarrow \{(a, -a); a \in \mathbb{Z}\} \text{ -solution.}$$

$$\text{If } a^2 + b^2 \neq -2ab, a + b \in \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow \sqrt[3]{a^2 + b^2} + \sqrt[3]{2ab} \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\text{Let us denote: } \begin{cases} \sqrt[3]{a^2 + b^2} = x \\ \sqrt[3]{2ab} = y \end{cases}; x, y \in \mathbb{Z} \Rightarrow a^2 + b^2 + 2ab = x^3 + y^3 \text{ and } x + y = a + b.$$

$$(a + b)^2 = x^3 + y^3; \left(\because x^3 + y^3 = (x + y)(x^2 - xy + y^2) \right)$$

$$\text{If } x + y = 0 \Rightarrow a + b = 0 \Rightarrow b = -a.$$

$$\text{If } x^2 - xy + y^2 - x - y = 0 \Leftrightarrow x^2 - (y + 1)x + y^2 - y = 0$$

$$\Delta = -3y^2 + 6y + 1 = k^2; k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\Delta \geq 0 \Rightarrow -3y^2 + 6y + 1 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow 3y^2 - 6y - 1 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow 3(y - 1)^2 \leq 4 \Leftrightarrow (y - 1)^2 \leq \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 1 - \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3} \leq y \leq 1 + \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}; y \in \mathbb{Z} \Leftrightarrow y \in \{0, 1, 2\}$$

$$\text{If } y = 0 \Rightarrow x^2 - x = 0 \Rightarrow x \in \{0, 1\}.$$

$$x = y = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a^2 + b^2 = 0 \\ 2ab = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow (a, b) \in (0, 0).$$

$$\text{If } y = 1 \Rightarrow x^2 - 2x = 0 \Rightarrow x \in \{0, 2\}$$

$$x = 0, y = 1 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a^2 + b^2 = 0 \\ 2ab = 1 \end{cases} \text{ no solution.}$$

$$x = 2, y = 1 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a^2 + b^2 = 8 \\ 2ab = 1 \end{cases} \text{ no solution.}$$

$$\text{If } x = y = 2 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a^2 + b^2 = 8 \\ 2ab = 8 \end{cases} \Rightarrow (a, b) = (2, 2)$$

$$x = 1, y = 2 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a^2 + b^2 = 8 \\ 2ab = 1 \end{cases} \text{ no solution.}$$

267. Solve for integers:

$$(2a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + 2b^3)(a^2 + b^2) = 2(a + b)^5$$

Proposed by Mehmet Şahin-Ankara-Turkey

Solution by George Florin Şerban-Romania

$$2a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + 2b^3 = 2(a^3 + b^3) + 2ab(a + b) =$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 2(a+b)(a^2 - ab + b^2) + 3ab(a+b) = \\
 &= (a+b)(2a^2 - 2ab + 2b^2 + 3ab) = (a+b)(2a^2 + 2b^2 + ab) \\
 &\Rightarrow (a+b)(2a^2 + ab + 2b^2) = 2(a+b)^5
 \end{aligned}$$

If $a + b = 0 \Rightarrow b = -a \Rightarrow \{(a, -a) | a \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ –solution.

$$\text{If } (2a^2 + ab + 2b^2)(a^2 + b^2) = 2(a+b)^4;$$

Let $a + b = s; ab = p; s, p \in \mathbb{Z}$ then:

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2s^2 - 4p + p)(s^2 - p) &= 2s^4 \Rightarrow (2s^2 - 3p)(s^2 - 2p) = 2s^4 \\
 p(6p - 7s^2) &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

If $p = 0; (ab = 0) \Rightarrow \{(a, 0); (0, b) | a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ –solution.

$$\text{If } 6p - 7s^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow 7(a+b)^2 = 6ab \Leftrightarrow 7a^2 + 8ab + 7b^2 = 0$$

$$\text{Suppose } b \neq 0 \Rightarrow 7\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^2 + 8\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) + 7 = 0; \left(t = \frac{a}{b}\right) \Rightarrow$$

$$7t^2 + 8t + 7 = 0, \Delta = -132 < 0 \text{ no solution.}$$

Therefore,

$$S = \{(a, a), (a, 0), (0, a) | a \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

268. Find $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that:

$$x|y \text{ and } x^2 + y^2|y^4 + 2080$$

Proposed by Mehmet Şahin-Turkey

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$x|y \Rightarrow x^2|x^2 + y^2|y^4 + 2080 \text{ and } x^2|y^4 \Rightarrow x^2|y^4 + 2080 - y^4 = 2080 = 2^5 \cdot 5 \cdot 14$$

$$\bullet \quad x = \pm 1 \Rightarrow 1 + y^2|y^4 + 2080 = (y^2 + 1)(y^2 - 1) + 2081$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 + y^2|2081, \text{ but } 2081 \text{ is a prime number, then } y = 0.$$

$$\bullet \quad x = \pm 2 \Rightarrow 4 + y^2|y^4 + 2080 = (y^2 + 4)(y^2 - 4) + 2096$$

$$\Rightarrow 4 + y^2|2096 = 2^4 \cdot 131 \Rightarrow y^2 \in \{2^n \cdot 131^m - 4 | 0 \leq n \leq 4; 0 \leq m \leq 1\}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = 0 \text{ (others are not perfect square)}$$

$$\bullet \quad x = \pm 4 \Rightarrow 16 + y^2|y^4 + 2080 = (y^2 + 16)(y^2 - 16) + 2336$$

$$16 + y^2|2336 = 2^5 \cdot 73$$

$$\Rightarrow y^2 \in \{2^n \cdot 73^m - 16 | 0 \leq n \leq 5; 0 \leq m \leq 1\}$$

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$$y^2 = 0 \text{ or } y^2 = 16 = 2^5 - 16 \text{ (others are not perfect square)}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = 0 \text{ or } y = \pm 4$$

Therefore,

$$S = \{(1, 0); (-1, 0); (2, 0); (-2, 0); (4, 0); (-4, 0); (4, 4); (4, -4); (-4, -4)\}$$

269.

$$z \in \mathbb{C}, \operatorname{Im} z \neq 0, (z^2 + 1)(\bar{z}^2 + 1) = \left(1 + \left(\frac{z + \bar{z}}{2}\right)^2\right)^2, A(i), B(-i), C(z)$$

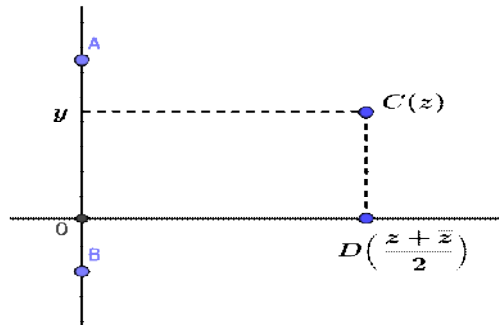
$$\text{Find: } \Omega = AB + BC + CA$$

Proposed by Florentin Vişescu – Romania

Solution 1 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$z \in \mathbb{C}, \operatorname{Im} z \neq 0, (z^2 + 1)(\bar{z}^2 + 1) = \left(1 + \left(\frac{z + \bar{z}}{2}\right)^2\right)^2, A(i), B(-i), C(z) \quad (*)$$

$$\text{Let } D\left(\frac{z + \bar{z}}{2}\right)$$



$$\begin{aligned} 1 + \left(\frac{z + \bar{z}}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{z + \bar{z}}{2} + i\right)\left(\frac{z + \bar{z}}{2} - i\right) &= \\ = \left(\frac{z + \bar{z}}{2} + i\right)\overline{\left(\frac{z + \bar{z}}{2} + i\right)} &= DB^2 = DA^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (z^2 + 1)(\bar{z}^2 + 1) &= (z + i)(z - i)(\bar{z} - i)(\bar{z} + i) = \\ &= (z + i)\overline{(z + i)}(z - i)\overline{(z - i)} = BC^2 \times AC^2 \\ \Rightarrow (*) &\Leftrightarrow BC \times AC = DB^2 = DA^2 = 1 + OD^2 \end{aligned}$$

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Let $y = \operatorname{Im} z > 0 \Rightarrow BC > AC$

$$\text{We have } OD^2 = AC^2 - (y - 1)^2 = BC^2 - (y + 1)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow BC^2 - AC^2 = 4y \quad (1)$$

$$\text{and } (BC - AC)^2 = OD^2 + (y + 1)^2 + OD^2 + (y - 1)^2 - 2 - 2OD^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (BC - AC)^2 = 2y^2 \Rightarrow BC - AC = \sqrt{2}y \quad (2)$$

$$(1), (2) \Rightarrow BC + AC = 2\sqrt{2} \text{ and } AB = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \Omega = 2 + 2\sqrt{2} \text{ (Similarly for } y < 0)$$

Solution 2 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\text{Let } z = x + iy, y \neq 0, (z^2 + 1)(\bar{z}^2 + 1) = \left[1 + \left(\frac{z+\bar{z}}{2}\right)^2\right]^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (x^2 - y^2 + 1 + 2xyi)(x^2 - y^2 + 1 - 2xyi) = (1 + x^2)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (x^2 - y^2 + 1)^2 + 4x^2y^2 = 1 + 2x^2 + x^4$$

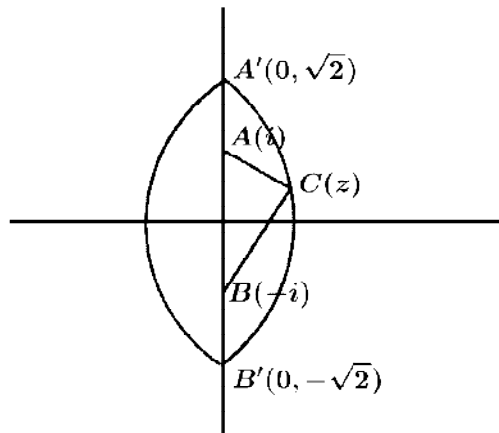
$$\Rightarrow (x^2 - y^2)^2 + 2(x^2 - y^2) + 1 + 4x^2y^2 = 1 + 2x^2 + x^4$$

$$\Rightarrow x^4 - 2x^2y^2 + y^4 - 2y^2 + 4x^2y^2 = x^4 \Rightarrow y^2(2x^2 + y^2 - 2) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x^2 + y^2 = 2 \quad [\because y \neq 0] \Rightarrow x^2 + \frac{y^2}{2} = 1$$

Eccentricity e of the ellipse is given by $1 = 2(1 - e^2) \Rightarrow e = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

Foci of the ellipse are $\left(0, \pm\sqrt{2}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)\right) = (0, \pm 1) = i, -i$



$$AB + AC + BC = |2i| + AA' = 2 + 2\sqrt{2} = 2(1 + \sqrt{2})$$

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Solution 3 by proposer

$$z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow z = a + bi, a, b \in \mathbb{R}, b \neq 0$$

$$\frac{z + \bar{z}}{2} = \frac{a + bi + a - bi}{2} = a$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(1 + \left(\frac{z + \bar{z}}{2}\right)^2\right)^2 = (1 + a^2)^2$$

$$(z^2 + 1)(\bar{z}^2 + 1) = z^2\bar{z}^2 + z^2 + \bar{z}^2 + 1 =$$

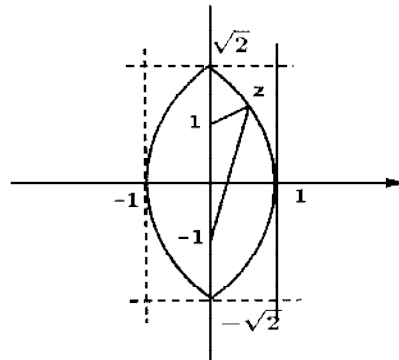
$$= |z|^4 + z^2 + \bar{z}^2 + 1 = (a^2 + b^2)^2 + a^2 + 2abi - b^2 + a^2 - 2abi - b^2 + 1 =$$

$$= a^4 + b^4 + 2a^2b^2 + 2a^2 + 1 - 2b^2$$

$$\Rightarrow a^4 + b^4 + 2a^2b^2 + 2a^2 - 2b^2 + 1 = 1 + a^4 + 2a^2$$

$$\Rightarrow b^4 + 2a^2b^2 - 2b^2 = 0 \mid : b^2 \Rightarrow b^2 + 2a^2 - 2 = 0$$

$$2a^2 + b^2 = 2 \Rightarrow a^2 + \frac{b^2}{2} = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{a^2}{1^2} + \frac{b^2}{\sqrt{2}^2} = 1$$



$$\text{So: } |z - 1| + |z + i| = 2\sqrt{2} \Rightarrow P_{\Delta ABC} = |2i| + |z - i| + |z + i| = 2 + 2\sqrt{2}$$

270. $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathbb{C}^*$ different in pairs, $|z_1| = |z_2| = |z_3| = 1$. $A(z_1), B(z_2), C(z_3)$. If

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} \frac{1}{|(z_1 - z_2)| |z_1 - z_3| + (z_1 - z_2) |z_1 - z_2|} = \frac{3}{(|z_1 - z_2| + |z_2 - z_3| + |z_3 - z_1|)^2}$$

Then $AB = BC = CA$.

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

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Solution by proposer

Let $A(z_1), B(z_2), C(z_3) \in C(O, 1)$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{|b(z_1 - z_2) + c(z_1 - z_3)|} = \frac{3}{(a+b+c)^2} \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{(a+b+c)^2}{|z_1(b+c) - bz_2 - cz_3|^2} = 3 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{\left| \frac{(a+b+c)z_1 - (az_1 + bz_2 + cz_3)}{a+b+c} \right|^2} = 3$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{\left| z_1 - \frac{az_1 + bz_2 + cz_3}{a+b+c} \right|^2} = 3 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{AI^2} = 3; \quad (1)$$

$$AI = \frac{r}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{AI^2} = \frac{1}{r^2} \sum_{cyc} \sin^2 \frac{A}{2} = \frac{1}{r^2} \left(1 - \frac{r}{2R}\right)$$

We must to prove that:

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{AI^2} \geq \frac{3}{R^2} = 3; \quad (2)$$

Which is true because $\left(1 - \frac{r}{2R}\right) \geq \frac{3r^2}{R^2} \Leftrightarrow \frac{3r^2}{R^2} + \frac{r}{2R} - 1 \leq 0$. Let $x = \frac{r}{R} \leq \frac{1}{2}$, hence,

$$3x^2 + \frac{x}{2} - 1 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow 6x^2 + x - 2 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow (2x - 1)(3x + 2) \leq 0 \text{ true.}$$

From (1), (2) it follows that $AB = BC = AC$.

271. $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathbb{C}^*$ different in pairs, $|z_1| = |z_2| = |z_3|$, $A(z_1), B(z_2), C(z_3)$.

If

$$\sum_{cyc} \left| \frac{2z_1 - z_2z_3}{z_2 - z_3} \right|^2 = 9 \Rightarrow AB = BC = CA.$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

$A(z_1), B(z_2), C(z_3) \in C(O, R), |z_1| = |z_2| = |z_3| = R$

$$\sum_{cyc} \left| \frac{2z_1 - z_2z_3}{z_2 - z_3} \right|^2 = 9 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{4 \left| z_1 - \frac{z_2 + z_3}{2} \right|^2}{|z_2 - z_3|^2} = 9 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{m_a^2}{a^2} = \frac{9}{4}; \quad (1)$$

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$$\begin{aligned} m_a^2 &= \frac{2(b^2 + c^2) - a^2}{4} \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{m_a^2}{a^2} = \frac{1}{4} \sum_{cyc} \frac{2(b^2 + c^2) - a^2}{a^2} = \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left[2 \left(\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{a^2} \right) + 2 \left(\frac{b^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{b^2} \right) + 2 \left(\frac{c^2}{a^2} + \frac{a^2}{c^2} \right) - 3 \right] \geq \\ &\geq \frac{1}{4} (12 - 3) = \frac{9}{4}; (2) \end{aligned}$$

From (1), (2) it follows that: $AB = BC = CA$.

Solution 2 by Alex Szoros-Romania

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} \left| \frac{2z_1 - z_2 z_3}{z_2 - z_3} \right|^2 = 9 &\Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{|3z_1 - (z_1 + z_2 + z_3)|^2}{|z_2 - z_3|^2} = 9 \\ &\Leftrightarrow 9 \sum_{cyc} \frac{\left| z_1 - \frac{z_1 + z_2 + z_3}{3} \right|^2}{|z_2 - z_3|^2} = 9 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{AG^2}{BC^2} = 1 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{2m_a}{3a} \right)^2 = 1 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{m_a^2}{a^2} = \frac{9}{4} \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{2(b^2 + c^2) - a^2}{4a^2} = \frac{9}{4} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \frac{b^2 + c^2}{a^2} = 6 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{a^2}{b^2} + \frac{b^2}{c^2} - 2 \right) = 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{a}{b} - \frac{b}{a} \right)^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow a = b = c \Leftrightarrow AB = BC = CA. \end{aligned}$$

Solution 3 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

Affix of G – centroid is $z_g = \frac{1}{3}(z_1 + z_2 + z_3)$. Also,

$$\begin{aligned} |2z_1 - z_2 - z_3|^2 &= 9 \left| z_1 - \frac{z_1 + z_2 + z_3}{3} \right|^2 = 9AG^2 = 9 \left(\frac{2}{3} m_a \right)^2 = 4m_a^2 \\ &= 2(b^2 + c^2) - a^2 \\ \frac{|2z_1 - z_2 - z_3|^2}{|z_2 - z_3|^2} &= \frac{2(b^2 + c^2) - a^2}{a^2} \end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\sum_{cyc} \frac{|2z_1 - z_2 - z_3|^2}{|z_2 - z_3|^2} = \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{2b^2}{a^2} + \frac{2c^2}{a^2} - 1 \right) \Rightarrow$$

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$$2 \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{b^2}{c^2} + \frac{c^2}{a^2} - 2 \right) = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{cyc} \left(\frac{b}{a} - \frac{a}{b} \right)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow a = b = c \Rightarrow AB = BC = CA.$$

272. If $x, y \in \mathbb{C}$ then

$$|x| + |y| + |3x + 2y| \leq |4x + 3y| + 2|x + y| + |y - x|$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

We have:

$$|4x + 3y| + |x + y| \stackrel{\Delta}{\geq} |(4x + 3y) - (x + y)| = |3x + 2y|; (1)$$

$$|x + y| + |y - x| \stackrel{\Delta}{\geq} |(x + y) + (y - x)| = 2|y|; (2)$$

$$|x + y| + |y - x| \stackrel{\Delta}{\geq} |(x + y) - (y - x)| = 2|x|; (3)$$

From (1), (2), (3) it follows that:

$$|x| + |y| + |3x + 2y| \leq |4x + 3y| + 2|x + y| + |y - x|$$

273. Find all numbers: $\Omega = \overline{abcd}$ such that:

$$\sqrt{(b + d)^2 - a^2 + 4c - 4} + 2(b^2 + d^2) + c^2 - 4a + 4 = 0$$

Proposed by George Florin Şerban-Romania

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\sqrt{(b + d)^2 - a^2 + 4c - 4} + 2(b^2 + d^2) + c^2 - 4a + 4 \stackrel{(*)}{=} 0$$

$$(*) \text{ is defined when } (b + d)^2 - a^2 + 4c - 4 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow (b + d)^2 \geq a^2 - 4c + 4$$

$$\text{We have: } 2(b^2 + d^2) \geq (b + d)^2 \Leftrightarrow (b - d)^2 \geq 0$$

$$\text{Which is true with equality holds when } b = d \rightarrow 2(b^2 + d^2) \geq a^2 - 4c + 4$$

$$\rightarrow 2(b^2 + d^2) + c^2 - 4a + 4 \geq a^2 - 4c + 4 + c^2 - 4a + 4 = (a - 2)^2 + (c - 2)^2 \geq 0$$

$$\rightarrow \sqrt{(b + d)^2 - a^2 + 4c - 4} + 2(b^2 + d^2) + c^2 - 4a + 4 \geq 0, \text{ equality holds when:}$$

$$\sqrt{(b + d)^2 - a^2 + 4c - 4} = 2(b^2 + d^2) + c^2 - 4a + 4 = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow b = d, a = c = 2 \text{ and } (b + d)^2 = a^2 - 4c + 4 \rightarrow a = c = 2 \text{ and } b = d = 0$$

Therefore, $\Omega = \overline{abcd} = 2020$.

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274. Solve in \mathbb{R} the following equation:

$$2 \cdot 3^x + 5 \cdot 4^x = 4 \cdot 5^x + 3 \cdot 2^x$$

Proposed by Florentin Vişescu – Romania

Solution by proposer

We write the equation: $2 \cdot 3^x - 3 \cdot 2^x = 4 \cdot 5^x - 5 \cdot 4^x$

We consider the function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f(t) = t^x$

On the intervals $[2, 3]$ and $[4, 5]$ f meets the conditions of Pompeiu's Theorem.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ f \text{ continuous on } [a, b] \\ f \text{ derivable on } (a, b) \\ 0 \notin [a, b] \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \exists c \in (a, b)$$

$$\frac{af(b) - bf(a)}{a - b} = f(c) - cf'(c)$$

So, $\exists c_1 \in (2, 3)$ such that $\frac{2f(3) - 3f(2)}{2 - 3} = f(c_1) - c_1 f'(c_1)$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2 \cdot 3^x - 3 \cdot 2^x}{-1} = c_1^x - c_1 \times c_1^{x-1} = c_1^x - xc_1^x$$

$$\exists c_2 \in (4, 5) \text{ such that } \frac{4 \cdot 5^x - 5 \cdot 4^x}{-1} = c_2^x - xc_2^x$$

Then, we obtain $c_1^x(1 - x) = c_2^x(1 - x)$ or

$$(1 - x)(c_1^x - c_2^x) = 0$$

$$1 - x = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1, \left(\frac{c_1}{c_2}\right)^x = 1 \Rightarrow x = 0, S = \{0, 1\}$$

275. Find $x, y, z \geq 1$ such that:

$$\begin{cases} x^3 + y^2 + 2z^2 = 4 \\ 729 \cdot \prod_{cyc} (\log(xy) \cdot \log z) = 8 \cdot \log^6(xyz) \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution by Asmat Qatea-Afghanistan

$$\prod_{cyc} \ln(z) \leq \frac{1}{27} \ln^3(xyz) \rightarrow \text{by AM-GM}$$

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$$\prod_{cyc} \ln(xy) \leq \frac{8}{27} \ln^3(xyz) \rightarrow \text{by AM-GM}$$

$$729 \prod_{cyc} \ln(xy) \cdot \ln(z) \leq 8 \ln^6(xyz)$$

Equality holds when $x = y = z$

$$\begin{aligned} x^3 + y^2 + 2z^2 &= 4, & x^3 + 3x^2 &= 4 \Rightarrow x^3 + 3x^2 - 4 = 0 \\ x^3 - x^2 + 4x^2 - 4 &= 0, & x^2(x-1) + 4(x-1)(x+1) &= 0 \\ (x-1)(x^2 + 4x + 4) &= 0, \Delta &= 16 - 16 = 0 \\ x_1 &= 1, x_{1,2} = \frac{-4 \pm 0}{2} &= -2. \text{ Solution } x = y = z = 1 \end{aligned}$$

276. Solve for integers:

$$(x^2 + y^2)(x^4 + y^4) = (x + y)^6$$

Proposed by Mehmet Şahin-Ankara-Turkey

Solution 1 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$(x^2 + y^2)(x^4 + y^4) = (x + y)^6; (*)$$

$$\text{Let } a = x^2 + y^2, b = 2xy \Rightarrow (*) \Leftrightarrow a(2a^2 - b^2) = 2(a + b)^3$$

$$6a^2b + 7ab^2 + 2b^3 = 0 \Leftrightarrow b(2a + b)(3a + 2b) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow b = 0 \text{ or } 2a + b = 0 \text{ or } 3a + 2b = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x = 0 \text{ or } y = 0 \text{ or } x^2 + y^2 + (x + y)^2 = 0 \text{ or } x^2 + y^2 + 2(x + y)^2 = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x = 0 \text{ or } y = 0.$$

Therefore,

$$S = \{(x, 0); (0, y) | x, y \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

Solution 2 by George Florin Şerban-Romania

$$\text{Let } x + y = s; xy = p \Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = (x + y)^2 - 2xy = s^2 - 2p$$

$$x^4 + y^4 = (x^2 + y^2)^2 - 2x^2y^2 = (s^2 - 2p)^2 - 2p^2 = s^4 - 4s^2p + 2p^2$$

$$(x^2 + y^2)(x^4 + y^4) = (x + y)^6 \Leftrightarrow (s^2 - 2p)(s^4 - 4s^2p + 2p^2) = s^6$$

$$p(-6s^4 + 10s^2p - 4p^2) = 0$$

$$\text{If } p = 0 \Rightarrow xy = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0 \text{ or } y = 0 \Rightarrow S = \{(x, 0); (0, y) | x, y \in \mathbb{Z}\} \text{ solution.}$$

$$\text{If } -6s^4 + 10s^2p - 4p^2 = 0 \Rightarrow (s^2 - p)(6s^2 - 4p) = 0$$

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$$\text{If } s^2 - p = 0 \Rightarrow (x + y)^2 = xy \Rightarrow x^2 + xy + y^2 = 0$$

$$\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^2 + \frac{x}{y} + 1 = 0; t = \frac{x}{y} \Rightarrow t^2 + t + 1 = 0 \text{ --no has solution.}$$

$$\text{If } 6s^2 - 4p = 0 \Rightarrow 3(x + y)^2 = 2xy \Rightarrow 3x^2 + 4xy + 3y^2 = 0 \text{ no has solution.}$$

Therefore,

$$S = \{(x, 0); (0, y) | x, y \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

277. Solve for integers:

$$\sqrt{x^3 + y^3} + \sqrt{y^3 + z^3} + \sqrt{z^3 + x^3} = 2(x + y + z)$$

Proposed by Mehmet Şahin-Ankara-Turkey

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\sqrt{x^3 + y^3} + \sqrt{y^3 + z^3} + \sqrt{z^3 + x^3} = 2(x + y + z); (*)$$

$$x^3 + y^3 = (x + y) \left[\left(x - \frac{1}{2}y\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}y^2 \right] \geq 0 \Rightarrow x + y \geq 0, y + z \geq 0, z + x \geq 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{x^3 + y^3} - (x + y) &= \sqrt{x + y} (\sqrt{x^2 - xy + y^2} - \sqrt{x + y}) = \\ &= \sqrt{x + y} \cdot \frac{x^2 - (y + 1)x + y^2 - y}{\sqrt{x^2 - xy + y^2} + \sqrt{x + y}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 - (y + 1)x + y^2 - y &= \left(x - \frac{y + 1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{4}(3y^2 - 6y - 1) = \\ &= \left(x - \frac{y + 1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}\left(y - \frac{3 - 2\sqrt{3}}{3}\right)\left(y - \frac{3 + 2\sqrt{3}}{3}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence, if } y \in \mathbb{Z} - \{0, 1, 2\}; \sqrt{x^3 + y^3} > x + y, \forall x \in \mathbb{Z}; (1)$$

Using (1), if $x, y \in \mathbb{Z} - \{0, 1, 2\}$ it follows that $\sqrt{x^3 + y^3} > x + y,$

$$\sqrt{y^3 + z^3} > y + z; \sqrt{z^3 + x^3} > z + x$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{x^3 + y^3} + \sqrt{y^3 + z^3} + \sqrt{z^3 + x^3} > 2(x + y + z)$$

So, it is necessary that two of x, y, z be in $\{0, 1, 2\}; y$ for example.

$$z = 0: (*) \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{x^3 + y^3} + \sqrt{y^3} + \sqrt{x^3} = 2(x + y), x \geq 0$$

$$y = 0: (*) \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{x^3} = x \Leftrightarrow x = 1 \text{ or } x = 0.$$

$$y = 1: (*) \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{x^3 + 1} + \sqrt{x^3} = 2x + 1$$

$$x > 2 \Rightarrow \sqrt{x^3 + 1} \stackrel{(1)}{\geq} x + 1 \text{ and } \sqrt{x^3} > x \Rightarrow \sqrt{x^3 + 1} + \sqrt{x^3} > 2x + 1 \Rightarrow$$

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$$x \in \{0, 1, 2\} \Rightarrow x = 0$$

$$\text{If } y = 2 (*) \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{x^3 + 2^3} + \sqrt{x^3} + 2\sqrt{2} = 2(x + 2)$$

Similarly, using (1) $\Rightarrow x \in \{0, 1, 2\} \Rightarrow (*)$ does not admit a solution.

$$\Rightarrow z = 0 \Rightarrow (x = 0, y = 0) \text{ or } (x = 1, y = 0) \text{ or } (x = 0, y = 1)$$

$$\text{If } z = 1 \Rightarrow (*) \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{x^3 + y^3} + \sqrt{y^3 + z^3} + \sqrt{z^3 + x^3} = 2(x + y + z), x \geq -1$$

$$y = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0 \text{ (similarly to } z = 0 \text{ and } y = 1)$$

$$y = 1 \Rightarrow (*) \Leftrightarrow 2\sqrt{x^3 + 1} + \sqrt{2} = 2(x + 2); x \geq 1$$

$$\text{If } x \geq 3 \Rightarrow x^3 + 1 \geq 3x^2 + 1 \stackrel{x \geq 3}{\geq} x^2 + 6x + 1 \stackrel{x \geq 3}{\geq} x^2 + 4x + 7 > (x + 2)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\sqrt{x^3 + 1} + \sqrt{2} > 2(x + 2) \Rightarrow x \in \{-1, 0, 1, 2\} \Rightarrow (*) \text{ does not admit a solution.}$$

$$y = 2 \Rightarrow (*) \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{x^3 + 2^3} + \sqrt{x^3 + 1} = 2x + 3, x \geq -1$$

Using (1) $\Rightarrow x \in \{0, 1, 2\} \Rightarrow x = 2 \Rightarrow z = 1 \Rightarrow (x = y = 0) \text{ or } (x = y = 2)$.

$$\text{If } z = 2: (*) \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{x^3 + y^3} + \sqrt{y^3 + 8} + \sqrt{8 + x^3} = 2(x + y + 2), x \geq -2$$

$$y = 0 \Rightarrow (*) \text{ does not admit solution (similarly to } z = 0 \text{ and } y = 2)$$

$$y = 1 \Rightarrow x = 2 \text{ (similarly to } z = 1 \text{ and } y = 2)$$

$$y = 2 \Rightarrow (*) \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{x^3 + 2^3} = x + 2, x \geq -2$$

$$\text{By (1), } x \in \{0, 1, 2\} \Rightarrow x = 1 \text{ or } x = 2.$$

$$\Rightarrow z = 2 \Rightarrow (x = y = 2) \text{ or } (x = 1, y = 2) \text{ or } (x = 2, y = 1).$$

$$S = \{(0, 0, 0); (0, 0, 1); (0, 1, 0); (1, 0, 0); (1, 2, 2); (2, 1, 2); (2, 2, 2)\}$$

278. Solve for integers:

$$x^2\sqrt{yz} + y^2\sqrt{zx} + z^2\sqrt{xy} = 3xyz$$

Proposed by Mehmet Şahin-Ankara-Turkey

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

Let S be the set of solutions of $(*)$.

$$x = 0 \rightarrow 0 = 0, (\forall y, z \in \mathbb{Z}, yz \geq 0)$$

$$\rightarrow \{(0, y_1, z_1), (x_2, 0, z_2), (x_3, y_3, 0) \mid (x_2, y_1, y_3, z_1, z_2) \in \mathbb{Z}^5; y_1z_1, x_2z_2, x_3y_3 \geq 0\} \in S$$

Now, we assume that $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}^*$. We have: $xy, yz, zx > 0$ and

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$$3xyz = x^2\sqrt{yz} + y^2\sqrt{zx} + z^2\sqrt{xy} > 0 \rightarrow x, y, z > 0$$

By AM-GM we have:

$$3xyz = x^2\sqrt{yz} + y^2\sqrt{zx} + z^2\sqrt{xy} \geq 3^8 \sqrt{\prod_{cyc} (x^2\sqrt{yz})} = 3xyz.$$

Equality holds when $x^2\sqrt{yz} = y^2\sqrt{zx} = z^2\sqrt{xy} \Leftrightarrow x\sqrt{x} = y\sqrt{y} = z\sqrt{z} \Leftrightarrow x = y = z$.

Finally,

$$S = \left\{ (0, y_1, z_1), (x_2, 0, z_2), (x_3, y_3, 0) \mid \begin{array}{l} (x_2, y_1, y_3, z_1, z_2) \in \mathbb{Z}^5; x_1 \in \mathbb{N} \\ y_1 z_1, x_2 z_2, x_3 y_3 \geq 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

279. Find all $(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ such that:

$$\sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{yz} + \sqrt{zx} \leq 2020$$

Proposed by Mehmet Şahin-Ankara-Turkey

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$\sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{yz} + \sqrt{zx} \leq 2020$; (*) – is symmetric, then we can assume that $x \leq y \leq z$.

It is clear that $(0, 0, z)$ is a solution of (*) for all $a \in \mathbb{N}$. Assume that: $y > 0$.

$$\text{We have: } 3x \leq \sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{yz} + \sqrt{zx} \leq 2020 \rightarrow x \leq 673.$$

Now, we fix $x \leq 673$, we have: $2\sqrt{xy} + y \leq \sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{yz} + \sqrt{zx} \leq 2020$.

$$\rightarrow \sqrt{y^2} + 2\sqrt{x}\sqrt{y} - 2020 \leq 0, \Delta = 4(x + 2020) > 0$$

$$\rightarrow \sqrt{y} \leq \sqrt{x + 2020} - \sqrt{x} \rightarrow x \leq y \leq \left[(\sqrt{x + 2020} - \sqrt{x})^2 \right]$$

$$\text{Now, we fix } x \leq 673, x \leq y \leq \left[(\sqrt{x + 2020} - \sqrt{x})^2 \right] \rightarrow \sqrt{z} \leq \frac{2020 - \sqrt{xy}}{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}}$$

$$y \leq z \leq \left[\left(\frac{2020 - \sqrt{xy}}{\sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}} \right)^2 \right]$$

$$S = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (a, b, c), (a, c, b), (b, a, c), (b, c, a), (c, a, b), (c, b, a), (d, 0, 0), (0, d, 0), (0, 0, d) \\ a \leq 673, a \leq b \leq \left[(\sqrt{a + 2020} - \sqrt{a})^2 \right], b \leq c \leq \left[\left(\frac{2020 - \sqrt{ab}}{\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b}} \right)^2 \right], d \in \mathbb{N} \end{array} \right\}$$

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280. Solve for natural numbers:

$$x\sqrt{y} + y\sqrt{z} + z\sqrt{x} = (x + y + z) \sqrt{\frac{x + y + z}{3}}$$

Proposed by Mehmet Şahin-Ankara-Turkey

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We have: } x\sqrt{y} + y\sqrt{z} + z\sqrt{x} &= \sqrt{x}\sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{y}\sqrt{yz} + \sqrt{z}\sqrt{zx} \stackrel{CBS}{\leq} \\ &\leq \sqrt{x + y + z} \cdot \sqrt{xy + yz + zx} \stackrel{3\sum xy \leq (\sum x)^2}{\leq} \sqrt{x + y + z} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}(x + y + z)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$x\sqrt{y} + y\sqrt{z} + z\sqrt{x} = (x + y + z) \sqrt{\frac{x + y + z}{3}}$$

$$\text{Equality holds when: } 3(xy + yz + zx) = (x + y + z)^2 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(x - y)^2 + (y - z)^2 + (z - x)^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y = z$$

$$S = \{(x, x, x) | x \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

281. Solve for integers:

$$x^3 + y^3 + z^3 = \sqrt[3]{xyz}(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)$$

Proposed by Mehmet Şahin-Ankara-Turkey

Solution by Dang Le Minh Nhat-Vietnam

Let $p = x + y + z$, $q = xy + yz + zx$, $r = xyz$. We have:

$$\sqrt[3]{xyz}(x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \leq \frac{x + y + z}{3} \cdot (x^2 + y^2 + z^2) = \frac{p^3 - 2pq}{3}$$

$$\text{We will prove: } x^3 + y^3 + z^3 = p^3 - 3pq + 3r \geq \frac{p^3 - 2pq}{3} \rightarrow$$

$$2p^3 - 7pq + 9r \geq 0 \text{ and } 9r \geq 4pq - p^3 \text{ (Schur's)}$$

$$\text{Then: } 2p^3 - 7pq + 9r \geq 2p^3 - 7pq + 4pq - p^3 = p^3 - 3pq.$$

$$\text{We prove: } p^3 - 3pq \geq 0 \rightarrow p^2 \geq 3q, \text{ which is true.}$$

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Equality occurs since $x = y = z, x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}$.

282.

$$a, b, c, d > 0, \frac{ab + bc + cd + da}{a + b + c + d} = \frac{ab}{a + b} + \frac{cd}{c + d} = \frac{ad}{a + d} + \frac{bc}{b + c}$$

$$\text{Prove that: } (bd + a^2)(bd + c^2) = (ac + b^2)(ac + d^2)$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution by Mohammed Diai-Rabat-Morocco

$$(bd + a^2)(bd + c^2) = (ac + b^2)(ac + d^2) \quad (*)$$

$$\text{We have: } (*) \Leftrightarrow bd(a^2 + c^2) = ac(b^2 + d^2) \Leftrightarrow bd(a - c)^2 = ac(b - d)^2 \quad (**)$$

$$\frac{ab}{a + b} + \frac{cd}{c + d} = \frac{ad}{a + d} + \frac{bc}{b + c} \Leftrightarrow \frac{ab(c + d) + cd(a + b)}{(a + b)(c + d)} = \frac{ad(b + c) + bc(a + d)}{(a + d)(b + c)}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{abc + abd + acd + bcd}{(a + b)(c + d)} = \frac{abd + acd + abc + bcd}{(a + d)(b + c)}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a + b)(c + d) = (a + d)(b + c) \Leftrightarrow ad + bc = ab + cd$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (a - c)(b - d) = 0 \Leftrightarrow a = c \text{ or } b = d$$

Case: $a = c$ (The other case is similar)

To prove (**) we must prove that: $a = c \Rightarrow b = d$

$$\frac{ab + bc + cd + da}{a + b + c + d} = \frac{ab}{a + b} + \frac{cd}{c + d} \Leftrightarrow \frac{2a(b + d)}{2a + b + d} = a \left(\frac{b}{a + b} + \frac{d}{a + d} \right)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (2b + 2d)(a^2 + ab + ad + bd) = (2a + b + d)(ab + ad + 2bd)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a(b - d)^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow b = d \text{ Q.E.D.}$$

283. φ –Euler's totient function, $\sigma(n) = \sum_{(d|n)} d$

Find:

$$\Omega = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\varphi(n) \cdot \sigma(n)}{n^3}$$

Proposed by Adi Abdullayev-Baku-Azerbaijan

Solution 1 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

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Let $n = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{\alpha_i}$ be the factorization of $n, n > 1$.

We have: $\sigma(n) = \prod_{i=1}^k \frac{p_i^{\alpha_i+1}-1}{p_i-1}$ and $\phi(n) = n \prod_{i=1}^k \left(1 - \frac{1}{p_i}\right) = n \prod_{i=1}^k \frac{p_i-1}{p_i}$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(n)\sigma(n) &= \left(n \prod_{i=1}^k \frac{p_i-1}{p_i} \right) \left(\prod_{i=1}^k \frac{p_i^{\alpha_i+1}-1}{p_i-1} \right) = n \prod_{i=1}^k \frac{p_i^{\alpha_i+1}-1}{p_i} = \\ &= n \prod_{i=1}^k \left(p_i^{\alpha_i} - \frac{1}{p_i} \right) < n \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{\alpha_i} = n^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$0 \leq \frac{\phi(n)\sigma(n)}{n^3} < \frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0 (n \rightarrow \infty)$$

Therefore, $\Omega = 0$.

Solution 2 by Amrit Awasthi-India

It is well known: $\frac{6}{\pi^2} < \frac{\phi(n)\sigma(n)}{n^2} \leq 1 \mid \cdot \frac{1}{n} \rightarrow \frac{6}{n\pi^2} < \frac{\phi(n)\sigma(n)}{n^3} \leq \frac{1}{n}$

$$0 \leq \frac{\phi(n)\sigma(n)}{n^3} < \frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0 (n \rightarrow \infty)$$

Therefore, $\Omega = 0$.

284. Find all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that:

$$\prod_{k=0}^n \frac{(k^2 + k + 1)^2 + 1}{(k^2 + 1)^2} = \left[\frac{n}{7} \right] + 2020, [*] - GIF$$

Proposed by George Florin Șerban-Romania

Solution 1 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(k^2 + k + 1)^2 + 1}{(k^2 + 1)^2} &= \frac{k^4 + 2k^3 + 3k^2 + 2k + 2}{(k^2 + 1)^2} = \frac{(k^2 + 1)(k^2 + 2k + 2)}{(k^2 + 1)^2} \\ &= \frac{(k + 1)^2 + 1}{k^2 + 1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\rightarrow \prod_{k=0}^n \frac{(k^2 + k + 1)^2 + 1}{(k^2 + 1)^2} = \prod_{k=0}^n \frac{(k + 1)^2 + 1}{k^2 + 1} = \frac{(n + 1)^2 + 1}{0^2 + 1} = n^2 + 2n + 2$$

$$\prod_{k=0}^n \frac{(k^2 + k + 1)^2 + 1}{(k^2 + 1)^2} = \left[\frac{n}{7} \right] + 2020 \Leftrightarrow n^2 + 2n - 2018 = \left[\frac{n}{7} \right]$$

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$$\rightarrow \frac{n}{7} - 1 < n^2 + 2n - 2018 \leq \frac{n}{7} \Leftrightarrow 7n^2 + 13n - 14119 > 0 \text{ and } 7n^2 + 13n - 14126 \leq 0$$

$$7n^2 + 13n - 14119 > 0 \rightarrow n \geq \frac{-13 + \sqrt{13^2 + 4 \cdot 7 \cdot 14119}}{14} > 43$$

$$7n^2 + 13n - 14126 \leq 0 \rightarrow n \leq \frac{-13 + \sqrt{13^2 + 4 \cdot 7 \cdot 14126}}{14} < 45$$

Therefore, $n = 44$

Solution 2 by Samar Das-India

$$\prod_{k=0}^n \frac{(k^2+k+1)^2+1}{(k^2+1)^2} = \left[\frac{n}{7} \right] + 2020 \text{ <where } n \in \mathbb{N} >$$

$$\Rightarrow \prod_{k=0}^n \frac{(k^2+1)^2 + 2k(k^2+1) + (k^2+1)}{(k^2+1)^2} = \left[\frac{n}{7} \right] + 2020$$

$$\Rightarrow \prod_{k=0}^n \frac{(k^2+1)(k^2+1+2k+1)}{(k^2+1)^2} = m + 2020$$

$$\Rightarrow \prod_{k=0}^n \frac{k^2+2k+2}{k^2+1} = m + 2020 \text{ (} m = \left[\frac{n}{7} \right] \text{ which is an integer)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2}{1} \times \frac{5}{2} \times \frac{10}{5} \times \dots \times \frac{n^2+1}{(n-1)^2+1} \times \frac{n^2+2n+2}{n^2+1} = m + 2020$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n^2+2n+2}{1} = m + 2020 \quad (1)$$

$$\therefore \frac{n}{7} - 1 \leq m \leq \frac{n}{7} \Rightarrow \frac{n}{7} - 1 \leq n^2 + 2n - 2018 \leq \frac{n}{7} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{when } n^2 + 2n - 2018 \leq \frac{n}{7} \Rightarrow n^2 + \frac{13}{7}n - 2018 \leq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(n + \frac{13}{14} \right)^2 - \left(2018 + \frac{169}{196} \right) \leq 0 \Rightarrow \left(n + \frac{13}{14} \right)^2 - \left(\frac{\sqrt{395697}}{14} \right)^2 \leq 0 \quad (3)$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{\sqrt{395697}}{14} \leq \frac{n}{7} + \frac{13}{14} \leq \frac{\sqrt{395697}}{14} \Rightarrow -\left(\frac{13}{14} + \frac{\sqrt{395697}}{14} \right) \leq n \leq \frac{\sqrt{395697}}{14} - \frac{13}{14}$$

$$\Rightarrow -45.86 \leq n \leq 44.0032 \therefore n = 44 \text{ (where } n \text{ is positive integers)}$$

$$\text{And when } n^2 + 2n - 2018 \geq \frac{n}{7} - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow n^2 + n \times \frac{13}{7} - 2017 \geq 0 \Rightarrow \left(n + \frac{13}{14} \right)^2 - \left(\frac{\sqrt{395501}}{14} \right)^2 \geq 0 \quad (4)$$

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$$\text{So, } n + \frac{13}{14} - \frac{\sqrt{395501}}{14} \geq 0 \Rightarrow n \geq 43.99 \Rightarrow n = 44$$

But, $n \leq -\frac{13}{14} - \frac{\sqrt{395501}}{14}$ is not possible, since n is positive integers

285. Solve for real numbers:

$$\frac{\sin(\sin x)}{\sin x} + \frac{\cos(\cos x)}{\cos x} = 1$$

Proposed by Rovsen Pirguliyev-Sumgait-Azerbaijan

Solution by Mohammed Dai-Rabat-Morocco

$$\frac{\sin(\sin x)}{\sin x} + \frac{\cos(\cos x)}{\cos x} = 1 \quad (*)$$

First domain of solutions is: $D = \mathbb{R} \setminus \left\{ k\pi, \frac{\pi}{2} + k'\pi \right\} \quad k, k' \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$(*) \Leftrightarrow \frac{\cos(\cos x)}{\cos x} = \frac{\sin x - \sin(\sin x)}{\sin x} > 0 \text{ because } \begin{cases} \sin x > 0 \Rightarrow \sin x > \sin(\sin x) \\ \sin x < 0 \Rightarrow \sin x < \sin(\sin x) \end{cases}$$

And since $\cos x \in]-1, 1[\subset]-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}[$ therefore $\cos(\cos x) > 0$

So we conclude that $\cos x > 0 \Rightarrow x \in]-\frac{\pi}{2} + 2k\pi, \frac{\pi}{2} + 2k\pi[\quad k \in \mathbb{Z}$

From now we will study the domain $D_* =]-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}[$

Let be the function f defined by $f(x) = \frac{\sin x}{x}$, $f'(x) = \frac{\cos x(x - \tan x)}{x^2}$

x	$-\frac{\pi}{2}$	-1	0	1	$+\frac{\pi}{2}$
$f'(x)$		+	+	-	-
$f(x)$	$\frac{2}{\pi}$	$\nearrow \sin 1$	$\nearrow 1$	$\searrow \sin 1$	$\searrow \frac{2}{\pi}$

Therefore: $\sin 1 < \frac{\sin(\sin x)}{\sin x} < 1 \quad (**)$

Let be the function g defined by $g(x) = \frac{\cos x}{x}$, $g'(x) = -\frac{x \sin x + \cos x}{x^2} = -\frac{h(x)}{x^2}$

$h'(x) = \sin x + x \cos x - \sin x = x \cos x$ then

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x	$-\frac{\pi}{2}$	-1	0	1	$+\frac{\pi}{2}$				
$h'(x)$		-	-	0	+	+			
$h(x)$	$\frac{\pi}{2}$	\searrow	\searrow	1	\nearrow	\nearrow	$\frac{\pi}{2}$		
$g'(x)$		-	-		-	-			
$g(x)$	0	\searrow	$-\cos 1$	\searrow	$-\infty$ $+\infty$	\searrow	$\cos 1$	\searrow	0

$$\cos x \in]0, 1[\Rightarrow \frac{\cos(\cos x)}{\cos x} > \cos 1$$

Using (**): $1 = \frac{\sin(\sin x)}{\sin x} + \frac{\cos(\cos x)}{\cos x} > \sin 1 + \cos 1$ impossible since $\sin 1 + \cos 1 > 1$

Conclusion the equation (*) have no real solutions.

286. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 1$. Find all functions $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that:

$$f(2020x^{2n}) = f(-2020y^{2n}) + x^{2n}y^{2n+1}, \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Van Canh-Ben Tre-Vietnam

Solution by Mohammed Djal-Rabat-Morocco

$$f(2020x^{2n}) = f(-2020y^{2n}) + x^{2n}y^{2n+1}, \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}; (*)$$

Let f –an eventual solution. If f –is constant solution, then $\exists c \in \mathbb{R}, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, f(x) = c$

$$(*) \rightarrow \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}: x^{2n}y^{2n+1} = 0,$$

which is not true, hence there is no constant solution for (*).

Let be $a \geq 0$. Taking $y = 0$ in (*): $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, f(2020x^{2n}) = f(0); (**)$

Taking $x = \left(\frac{a}{2020}\right)^{\frac{1}{2n}}$ in (**): $f(a) = f(0)$. Therefore, $\forall a \in \mathbb{R}_+: f(a) = f(0); (1)$

Let be $a \leq 0$. Taking $x = 0$ in (*): $\forall y \in \mathbb{R}, f(-2020y^{2n}) = f(0); (***)$

Taking $y = \left(-\frac{a}{2020}\right)^{\frac{1}{2n}}$ in (***)): $f(a) = f(0)$. Therefore, $\forall a \in \mathbb{R}_-, f(a) = f(0); (2)$

From (1), (2) it follows that f –is a constant function on \mathbb{R} which is impossible.

Therefore, there is no solution function satisfying (*)

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287. Find all n – prime numbers such that

$$|n^3 - 3n^2 + 2n - 203|, |n^4 - 18n^3 + 199n^2 - 342n + 325|$$

are prime numbers.

Proposed by George Florin Şerban-Romania

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\text{Let } A(n) = |n^3 - 3n^2 + 2n - 203|, B(n) = |n^4 - 18n^3 + 119n^2 - 342n + 325|$$

We have: $A(7) = 7$ a prime number and $B(7) = 11$ a prime number, so $n = 7$ is a solution.

If $n \neq 7 \rightarrow n \equiv 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 \pmod{7}$ because n is a prime number.

We have: $A(n) = |n(n-1)(n-2) - 203|$ and $203 \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$

\rightarrow If $n \equiv 1, 2 \pmod{7} \rightarrow (n-1)(n-2) \equiv 0 \pmod{7} \rightarrow A(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$

$$A(n) = 7 \leftrightarrow n(n-1)(n-2) = 210 \text{ or } n(n-1)(n-2) = 196$$

$$n(n-1)(n-2) = 210 = 7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5 \rightarrow n = 7$$

$n(n-1)(n-2) = 196$ has no solution on \mathbb{N} because $n(n-1)(n-2) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ but

$$196 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$$

So, if $n \equiv 1, 2 \pmod{7} \rightarrow A(n)$ is not a prime number.

We also have: $B(n) = |(n-6)(n-5)(n-4)(n-3) - 35|$ and $35 \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$

\rightarrow If $n \equiv 3, 4, 5, 6 \pmod{7} \rightarrow (n-6)(n-5)(n-4)(n-3) \equiv 0 \pmod{7} \rightarrow$

$$B(n) \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$$

$$B(n) = 7 \leftrightarrow (n-6)(n-5)(n-4)(n-3) = 42 \text{ or}$$

$$(n-6)(n-5)(n-4)(n-3) = 28$$

$(n-6)(n-5)(n-4)(n-3) = 42$ has no solution on \mathbb{N} because:

$$(n-6)(n-5)(n-4)(n-3) \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \text{ but } 42 \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$$

$(n-6)(n-5)(n-4)(n-3) = 28$ has no solution on \mathbb{N} because:

$$(n-6)(n-5)(n-4)(n-3) \equiv 0 \pmod{3} \text{ but } 28 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$$

So, if $n \equiv 3, 4, 5, 6 \pmod{7} \rightarrow B(n)$ is not a prime number.

Finally, the only solution is $n = 7$.

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288. Solve for real numbers:
$$\begin{cases} x^2 = yz + 1 \\ y^2 = zx + a, a > 1 \\ z^2 = xy + a^2 \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution 1 by Mohammed Daii-Rabat-Morocco

$$\begin{cases} x^2 = yz + 1 & (1) \\ y^2 = zx + a & (2), a > 1 \\ z^2 = xy + a^2 & (3) \end{cases}$$

$$(1)-(2) \Rightarrow (x-y)(x+y) = z(y-x) + 1 - a \Rightarrow (y-x)(x+y+z) = a - 1 > 0 \quad (3)$$

$$(1)-(3) \Rightarrow (x-z)(x+z) = y(z-x) + 1 - a^2 \Rightarrow (z-x)(x+y+z) = a^2 - 1 > 0 \quad (4)$$

The real numbers x, y, z must be different since $a > 1$

$$(4)/(3) \Rightarrow \frac{z-x}{y-x} = a + 1 \Rightarrow ax - (a+1)y + z = 0 \Rightarrow z = (a+1)y - ax \quad (5)$$

$$(5) \text{ and } (3) \Rightarrow ((a+1)y - ax)^2 = xy + a^2 \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2x^2 + (a+1)^2y^2 - ((a+1)^2 + a^2)xy = a^2$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2x(x-y) + (a+1)^2y(y-x) = a^2 \Rightarrow (x-y)(a^2x - (a+1)^2y) = a^2 \quad (6)$$

$$(1)+(2) \text{ and } (5) \Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = ((a+1)y - ax)(x+y) + 1 + a \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow (a+1)x^2 - ay^2 - xy = a + 1 \Rightarrow a(x^2 - y^2) + x^2 - xy = a + 1$$

$$\Rightarrow (x-y)((a+1)x + ay) = a + 1 \quad (7)$$

$$(6)/(7) \Rightarrow \frac{a^2x - (a+1)^2y}{(a+1)x + ay} = \frac{a^2}{a+1} \Rightarrow y = 0$$

$$y = 0 \text{ in } (6) \Rightarrow a^2x^3 = a^2 \Rightarrow x = 1 \text{ and by } (5) \text{ we find } z = -a$$

Therefore there is only one unique solution $(x, y, z) = (1, 0, -a)$

Solution 2 by Fayssal Abdelli-Bejaia-Algerie

$$\begin{cases} x^2 = yz + 1 & (A) \\ y^2 = zx + a & (B), a > 1 \\ z^2 = xy + a^2 & (C) \end{cases}$$

$$(A) - (B) \Rightarrow x^2 - y^2 = yz - xz + 1 - a \Rightarrow (x-y)(x+y) = z(y-x) + 1 - a$$

$$\Rightarrow (x-y)(x+y+z) = 1 - a \quad (D)$$

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$$1 - a \neq 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x + y + z \neq 0 \\ x \neq y \end{cases}$$

$$(A) - (C) \Rightarrow x^2 - z^2 = yz - xy + 1 - a^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (x - z)(x + z) = y(z - x) + 1 - a^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (x - z)(x + y + z) = 1 - a^2 = (1 - a)(1 + a) \quad (E) \quad \begin{cases} x + y + z \neq 0 \\ x \neq z \end{cases}$$

$$(B) - (C) \Rightarrow y^2 - z^2 = xz - xy + a - a^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (y - z)(y + z) = x(z - y) + a - a^2$$

$$\Rightarrow (y - z)(x + y + z) = a(1 - a) \quad (F) \quad \begin{cases} x + y + z \neq 0 \\ y \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

Replace $(1 - a)$ in (E)

$$(x - z)(z + y + z) = (1 + a)(x - y)(x + y + z)$$

$$\Rightarrow x - z = (1 + a)(x - y) \quad (x + y + z \neq 0) \Rightarrow z = (a + 1)y - ax \quad (G)$$

Replace z in (C): $((a + 1)y - ax)^2 = xy + a^2$

$$\Rightarrow a^2y^2 + 2ay^2 + y^2 + a^2x^2 - 2a(a + 1)xy - xy - a^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2y^2 + 2ay^2 + y^2 + a^2x^2 - 2a^2xy - 2axy - xy - a^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2(y^2 + x^2 - 2xy - 1) + a(2y^2 - 2xy) + (y^2 - xy) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} y^2 + x^2 - 2xy - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow (y = 0) \vee (x = 1) \vee (x = -1) \\ 2y^2 - 2xy = 0 \Rightarrow (y = 0) \vee (x = 1) \\ y^2 - xy = 0 \Rightarrow (y = 0) \vee (x = 1) \end{cases}$$

$$y = 0: (A) \Rightarrow x^2 = 1 \Rightarrow (x = 1) \vee (x = -1)$$

$$(B) \Rightarrow xz + a = 0 \Rightarrow z = -\frac{a}{x} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} (z = -a) \text{ if } x = 1 \\ (z = +a) \text{ if } x = -1 \end{cases}$$

Finally: 2 solutions: $(x, y, z) = \{(-1, 0, a), (1, 0, -a)\}$

289. Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$. Solve for real numbers:

$$4^{3x^2-2\lambda x} + 4^{2\lambda x-x^2} + 4^{2\lambda x-x^2} + 4^{2\lambda x-x^2} = 4^{1+\lambda x}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution 1 by Mohammed Diai-Rabat-Morocco

$$4^{3x^2-2\lambda x} + 4^{2\lambda x-x^2} + 4^{2\lambda x-x^2} + 4^{2\lambda x-x^2} = 4^{1+\lambda x} \quad (*)$$

$$(*) \Leftrightarrow 4^{3x^2-2\lambda x} + 3 \times 4^{2\lambda x-x^2} = 4^{1-\lambda x}$$

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$$\Leftrightarrow 4^{3x^2-3\lambda x} + 3 \times 4^{\lambda x-x^2} = 4 \Leftrightarrow (4^{x(x-\lambda)})^3 + \frac{3}{4^{x(x-\lambda)}} = 4$$

Let be $\alpha = 4^{x(x-\lambda)}$ we have the equation: $\alpha^3 + \frac{3}{\alpha} = 4$ (**)

$$(**) \Leftrightarrow \alpha^4 - 4\alpha + 3 = 0 \Leftrightarrow (\alpha^4 - \alpha) - 3\alpha + 3 = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \alpha(\alpha - 1)(\alpha^2 + \alpha + 1) - 3(\alpha - 1) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\alpha - 1)(\alpha^3 + \alpha^2 + \alpha - 3) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\alpha - 1)((\alpha^3 - 1) + (\alpha^2 - 1) + (\alpha - 1)) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\alpha - 1)^2(\alpha^2 + \alpha + 1 + \alpha + 1 + 1) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (\alpha - 1)^2((\alpha + 1)^2 + 2) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \alpha = 1$$

Therefore $4^{x(x-\lambda)} = 1 \Rightarrow x(x-\lambda) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0$ or $x = \lambda$

If S denotes the set of real solutions of (*) then: $S = \{0, \lambda\}$

Solution 2 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$4^{1+\lambda x} = 4^{3x^2-2\lambda x} + 4^{2\lambda x-x^2} + 4^{2\lambda x-x^2} + 4^{2\lambda x-x^2} \geq$$

$$\geq 4 \left[4^{3x^2-2\lambda x+2\lambda x-x^2+2\lambda x-x^2+2\lambda x-x^2} \right]^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

$$[\text{A.M.} \geq \text{G.M.}] \Rightarrow 4^{1+\lambda x} \geq (4)(4^{\lambda x})$$

Equality when

$$4^{3x^2-2\lambda x} = 4^{2\lambda x-x^2} \Rightarrow 3x^2 - 2\lambda x = 2\lambda x - x^2 \Rightarrow x^2 = \lambda x \Rightarrow x = 0, \lambda$$

290. If $(A, +, \cdot)$ is a ring with $0 \neq 1$ and $1 + 1$ is invertible, then prove that if

$a, b \in A$ and $(a + b)^2 = a^2 + b^2$, $(a + b)^4 = a^4 + b^4$, then $(ab)^2 = 0$.

Proposed by D.M. Bătinețu-Giurgiu, Neculai Stanciu-Romania

Solution 1 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$a^2 + b^2 = (a + b)^2 = (a + b)(a + b) = aa + ba + ab + bb = a^2 + ba + ab + b^2; (1)$$

$$ba + ab = 0; (2)$$

$$\text{Also, } a^4 + b^4 = (a + b)^4 = ((a + b)^2)^2 = (a^2 + b^2)^2 =$$

$$= a^4 + b^2 a^2 + a^2 b^2 + b^4; (1) \rightarrow$$

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$$b^2a^2 + a^2b^2 = 0; (3)$$

$$\text{But: } b^2a^2 = b(ba)a = b(-ab)a \stackrel{(2)}{=} -(ba)(ba) = -(ba)^2 = -(-ab)^2; (4) \text{ and}$$

$$a^2b^2 = a(ab)b = a(-ba)b = -(ab)^2; (5)$$

$$\text{From (3), (4), (5), we get: } -(ab)^2 - (ab)^2 = 0 \rightarrow -(1+1)(ab)^2 = 0.$$

As $(1+1)$ is invertible, $-(1+1)$ is invertible.

$$\text{Therefore, } (ab)^2 = 0.$$

Solution 2 by Samar Das-India

$$(A, +, \cdot) \text{ is a ring, } (a+b)^2 = (a+b)(a+b) = aa + ab + ba + bb, a^2 + b^2 = (a+b)^2$$

$$\rightarrow a^2 + b^2 = a^2 + ab + ba + b^2 \rightarrow 0 + b^2 = ab + ba + b^2 \rightarrow$$

$$b^2 + (-b^2) = ab + ba + b^2 + (-b^2) \rightarrow 0 = ab + ba$$

$$\rightarrow -ab + 0 = -ab + ab + ba \rightarrow -ab = ba$$

$$\text{Again, } (a+b)^4 = a^4 + b^4 \rightarrow ((a+b)^2)^2 = a^4 + b^4 \rightarrow$$

$$a^2a^2 + a^2b^2 + b^2a^2 + b^2b^2 = a^4 + b^4, (\because (a+b)^2 = a^2 + b^2) \rightarrow$$

$$(a^2 + b^2)^2 = a^4 + b^4 \rightarrow (a^2 + b^2)(a^2 + b^2) = a^4 + b^4 \rightarrow$$

$$a^2a^2 + a^2b^2 + b^2a^2 + b^2b^2 = a^4 + b^4$$

$$-a^4 + a^2a^2 + a^2b^2 + b^2a^2 + b^2b^2 = -a^4 + a^4 + b^4$$

$$0 + a^2b^2 + b^2a^2 + b^2b^2 = 0 + b^4$$

$$a^2b^2 + b^2a^2 + b^2b^2 + (-b^4) = b^4 + (-b^4)$$

$$\rightarrow a^2b^2 + b^2a^2 = 0 \rightarrow a^2b^2 = -b^2a^2 \text{ and } b^2a^2 = -a^2b^2$$

$$\text{And now, } (ab)^2 = (ab)(ab) = a(ba)b = a(-a)(bb) = -aabb =$$

$$(\because ba = -ab; a(-a) = (-a)a)$$

$$= -a^2b^2 = b^2a^2 = bbaa = b(ba)a = b(-ab)a$$

$$(ab)^2 = b(-a)(ba) = -baba = -(ba)^2 = -((-1)(-1))(ab)^2 = -(ab)^2 \rightarrow$$

$$(ab)^2 + (ab)^2 = -(ab)^2 + (ab)^2 = 0 \rightarrow (ab)^2 = 0$$

291. $A, B \in M_3(\mathbb{C}), 2021AB = I_3 + 2020BA$. Find:

$$\Omega = \text{Tr}((AB - BA)^3)$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu – Romania

Solution by Ruxandra Daniela Tonila – Romania

$$2021AB = I_3 + 2020BA \Leftrightarrow 2020AB + AB = I_3 + 2020BA$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2020(AB - BA) = I_3 - AB \Leftrightarrow AB - BA = \frac{1}{2020}(I_3 - AB) \quad (1)$$

$$2021AB = I_3 + 2020BA \Leftrightarrow 2021AB = I_3 - BA + 2021BA$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2021(AB - BA) = I_3 - BA \Leftrightarrow AB - BA = \frac{1}{2021}(I_3 - BA) \quad (2)$$

Let $C = AB - BA$

From Cayley-Hamilton theorem we have:

$$C^3 - \text{Tr} C \cdot C^2 + \text{Tr} C^* \cdot C - \det C \cdot I_3 = O_3$$

$$\Leftrightarrow C^3 = \text{Tr} C \cdot C^2 - \text{Tr} C^* \cdot C + \det C \cdot I_3$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{Tr}(C^3) = \text{Tr}(\text{Tr} C \cdot C^2 - \text{Tr} C^* \cdot C + \det C \cdot I_3)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{Tr}(C^3) = \text{Tr}\left(\text{Tr} C \cdot C^2 - \frac{1}{2}(\text{Tr}^2 C - \text{Tr} C^2) \cdot C + \det C \cdot I_3\right)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{Tr}(C^3) = \text{Tr} C \cdot \text{Tr} C^2 - \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} C \cdot \text{Tr}^2 C + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} C \cdot \text{Tr} C^2 + 3 \det C$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left. \begin{aligned} \text{Tr}(C^3) &= \text{Tr} C \left(\frac{3}{2} \text{Tr} C^2 - \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}^2 C \right) + 3 \det C \\ \text{Tr} C &= \text{Tr}(AB - BA) = 0, \forall A, B \in M_3(\mathbb{R}) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow \text{Tr}(C^3) = 3 \det C \quad (3)$$

$$(1), (2) \Rightarrow \begin{cases} AB - BA = \frac{1}{2020}(I_3 - AB) \\ AB - BA = \frac{1}{2021}(I_3 - BA) \end{cases}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \det(AB - BA) = \frac{1}{2020^3} \det(I_3 - AB) \\ \det(AB - BA) = \frac{1}{2021^3} \det(I_3 - BA) \\ \det(I_3 - AB) = \det(I_3 - BA), \forall A, B \in M_3(\mathbb{R}) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \det C = \det(AB - BA) = \det(I_3 - AB) = \det(I_3 - BA) = 0$$

$$(3) \Rightarrow \text{Tr}((AB - BA)^3) = 3 \det(AB - BA) = 0$$

Therefore, $\Omega = 0$.

292. If $A \in M_2(\mathbb{R})$ such that $\text{tr}(A) + \det(A) = 0$. Prove that:

$$\det(A^2 + 3A + 3I_2) + \det(A^2 - 3A + 3I_2) \geq 30 \det A$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution 1 by proposer

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_A(x) &= x^2 - (\operatorname{tr}A)x + \det A, \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = \operatorname{tr}A, \lambda_1 \lambda_2 = \det A \\
 \det(A^2 + 3A + 3I_2) &= (\lambda_1^2 + 3\lambda_1 + 3)(\lambda_2^2 + 3\lambda_2 + 3) = \\
 &= \lambda_1^2 \lambda_2^2 + 3\lambda_1^2 \lambda_2 + 3\lambda_1^2 + 3\lambda_1 \lambda_2^2 + 9\lambda_1 \lambda_2 + 9\lambda_1 + 3\lambda_2^2 + 9\lambda_2 + 9 = \\
 &= (\det A)^2 + 3\det A \cdot \operatorname{tr}A + 3((\operatorname{tr}A)^2 - 2\det A) + 9\operatorname{tr}A + 9\det A + 9 = \\
 &= (\det A)^2 - 3(\det A)^2 - 3(\det A)^2 - 6\det A - 9\det A + 9\det A + 9 = \\
 &= (\det A)^2 - 6\det A + 9; (1)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \det(A^2 - 3A + 3I_2) &= (\lambda_1^2 - 3\lambda_1 + 3)(\lambda_2^2 - 3\lambda_2 + 3) = \\
 &= \lambda_1^2 \lambda_2^2 - 3\lambda_1^2 \lambda_2 + 3\lambda_1^2 - 3\lambda_1 \lambda_2^2 + 9\lambda_1 \lambda_2 - 9\lambda_1 + 3\lambda_2^2 - 9\lambda_2 + 9 = \\
 &= (\det A)^2 - 3\det A \cdot \operatorname{tr}A + 3((\operatorname{tr}A)^2 - 2\det A) + 9\operatorname{tr}A - 9\det A + 9 = \\
 &= (\det A)^2 + 3(\det A)^2 + 3(\det A)^2 - 6\det A + 9\det A + 9\det A + 9 = \\
 &= 7(\det A)^2 + 12\det A + 9; (2)
 \end{aligned}$$

From (1), (2) it follows that:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \det(A^2 + 3A + 3I_2) + \det(A^2 - 3A + 3I_2) &= 8(\det A)^2 + 6\det A + 18 = \\
 &= 2(4(\det A)^2 + 3\det A + 9) \geq 30\det A
 \end{aligned}$$

Solution 2 by Ruxandra Daniela Tonilă-Romania

Let $p_A = \det(A - xI_2) = x^2 - (\operatorname{tr}A)x + \det A$ be the characteristic polynomial of A .

$$\left. \begin{aligned} p_A(x) &= x^2 - (\operatorname{tr}A)x + \det A \\ \operatorname{tr}A + \det A &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \rightarrow p_A(x) = x^2 + (\det A)x + \det A$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \det(A^2 + 3A + 3I_2) + \det(A^2 - 3A + 3I_2) &= \\
 &= \det(A^2 + 3I_2 + 3A) + \det(A^2 + 3I_2 - 3A) = \\
 &= 2(\det(A^2 + 3I_2) + \det(3A)); (1)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\det(A^2 + 3I_2) = \det(A + i\sqrt{3}I_2) \cdot \det(A - i\sqrt{3}I_2) = p_A(-i\sqrt{3}) \cdot p_A(i\sqrt{3})$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} p_A(-i\sqrt{3}) &= -3 + \det A - i\sqrt{3}(\det A) \\ p_A(i\sqrt{3}) &= -3 + \det A + i\sqrt{3}(\det A) \end{aligned} \right\} \rightarrow$$

$$p_A(-i\sqrt{3}) \cdot p_A(i\sqrt{3}) = (-3 + \det A)^2 - (\det A)^2 (i\sqrt{3})^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \det(A^2 + 3I_2) = 4\det(A^2) - 6\det A + 9$$

From (1) it follows that:

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$$\begin{aligned} & \det(A^2 + 3A + 3I_2) + \det(A^2 - 3A + 3I_2) = \\ & = 2(4\det(A^2) - 6\det A + 9 + \det(3A)) \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 6\det A + 2(4\det(A^2) + 9) \\ & \geq 6\det A + 4\sqrt{4\det(A^2) \cdot 9} = 6\det A + 24\det A = 30\det A. \end{aligned}$$

Solution 3 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India

$$\text{Let } A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}, \det A = ad - bc, \text{tr} A = a + d = -\alpha$$

$$\because \text{tr} A + \det A = 0 \text{ and } A^2 - (\text{tr} A)A + (\det A)I_2 = O_2, (H - C)$$

$$\rightarrow A^2 + \alpha A + \alpha I_2 = O_2 \rightarrow A^2 = -\alpha A - \alpha I_2$$

$$\text{Now, } A^2 + 3A + 3I_2 = (3 - \alpha)A + (3 - \alpha)I_2 = (3 - \alpha)^2 \det(A + I_2) \rightarrow$$

$$\det(A^2 + 3A + 3I_2) = (3 - \alpha)^2[(a + 1)(d + 1) - bc] =$$

$$= (3 - \alpha)^2(\alpha - \alpha + 1) = (3 - \alpha)^2$$

$$\text{Also, } A^2 - 3A + 3I_2 = -\alpha A - \alpha I_2 - 3A + 3I_2 = -(\alpha + 3)A + (3 - \alpha)I_2$$

$$\det(A^2 - 3A + 3I_2) = (\alpha + 3)^2 \alpha - (\alpha^2 - 9)\alpha + (3 - \alpha)^2 = 7\alpha^2 + 12\alpha + 9$$

$$\text{Now, } \det(A^2 + 3A + 3I_2) + \det(A^2 - 3A + 3I_2) =$$

$$= 7\alpha^2 + 12\alpha + 9 + (3 - \alpha)^2 = 8\alpha^2 + 6\alpha + 18 =$$

$$= 2(2\alpha - 3)^2 + 30\alpha \geq 30\alpha$$

293. If $n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 3, n$ -fixed. Solve for natural numbers:

$$a^n = bc^{n-1} + cb^{n-1}$$

Proposed by Seyran Ibrahimov-Azerbaijan

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$a^n \stackrel{(*)}{\cong} bc^{n-1} + cb^{n-1}$$

It is clear that $(0, b, 0)$ and $(0, 0, c)$ are solutions of $()$.*

Now, we assume that : $a, b, c \in \mathbb{N}^$*

Let $d = \gcd(b, c) \rightarrow \exists p, q \in \mathbb{N}^$ such that $b = pd$ and $c = qd$ and $\gcd(p, q) = 1$*

$$\rightarrow (*) \leftrightarrow a^n = pqd^n(p^{n-2} + q^{n-2}) \rightarrow d^n/a^n \rightarrow d/a$$

$$\text{Let } m = \frac{a}{d} \in \mathbb{N}^* \rightarrow (*) \leftrightarrow m^n = pq(p^{n-2} + q^{n-2})$$

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Since $\gcd(p, q) = 1 \rightarrow \gcd(p, q) = \gcd(p, p^{n-2} + q^{n-2}) = \gcd(p^{n-2} + q^{n-2}, q) = 1$

$\rightarrow \exists r, s, z \in \mathbb{N}^*$ such that : $p = r^n, q = s^n, p^{n-2} + q^{n-2} = z^n = (r^{n-2})^n + (s^{n-2})^n$

But we know that the equation

$x^n + y^n = z^n, (n \geq 3)$, does not admit a solution on \mathbb{N}^*

Therefore, $S = \{(0, b, 0), (0, 0, c) | b, c \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

294. Solve for real numbers:

$$\sqrt[7]{x+3} + \sqrt[7]{6-x} = \sqrt[7]{9}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Solution 1 by Serlea Kabay-Liberia

Let $9u^7 = x + 3, u \in \mathbb{R}$, then $u\sqrt[7]{9} + \sqrt[7]{6-9u^7+3} = \sqrt[7]{9}$

$$u\sqrt[7]{9} + \sqrt[7]{9} \cdot \sqrt[7]{1-u^7} = \sqrt[7]{9} \Leftrightarrow u + \sqrt[7]{1-u^7} = 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sqrt[7]{1-u^7} = 1-u \Leftrightarrow 1-u^7 = (1-u)^7 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$7u^6 - 21u^5 + 35u^4 - 35u^3 + 21u^2 - 7u = 0$$

$7u(u-1)(u^2-u+1)^2 = 0$. Since $u^2-u+1 \notin \mathbb{R}$, then $u \in \{0, 1\}$

Therefore, $x \in \{-3, 6\}$

Solution 2 by Surjeet Singhania-India

Suppose $f(y) = \sqrt[7]{y} + \sqrt[7]{1-y}, \forall y \in \mathbb{R}$.

$f(y)$ will remain same for $y > 1$ and $y < 0$ as $f(y) = f(1-y)$.

$$f'(y) = \frac{(\sqrt[7]{1-y})^6 - (\sqrt[7]{y})^6}{(\sqrt[7]{y-y^2})^6} < 0 \text{ for } y > 1 \text{ and } y \in \left(\frac{1}{2}; 1\right)$$

$$f'(y) > 0 \text{ for } y \in \left(0, \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

Clearly for $y > 1, f(1) > f(y) \rightarrow f(y) < 1$. Since $f(y) = f(1-y)$

$f(y) < 1, \forall y \in (-\infty, 0) \cup (1, \infty)$ and for $0 < y < 1, f(y) > 1$

Combining all these facts we get $f(y) = 1$ for $y \in \{0, 1\}$

$$f\left(\frac{t}{9}\right) = \sqrt[7]{\frac{t}{9}} + \sqrt[7]{1-\frac{t}{9}} = 1 \text{ only for } t \in \{0, 9\}$$

Therefore, $x \in \{-3, 6\}$

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Solution 3 by Christos Tsifakis-Greece

$$\text{For } -3 \leq x \leq 9 \text{ let } \sqrt[7]{x+3} = a \geq 0 \text{ and } \sqrt[7]{6-x} = b \geq 0 \rightarrow \begin{cases} a^7 = x+3 \\ b^7 = 6-x \end{cases}$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{cases} a+b = \sqrt[7]{9} \\ a^7 + b^7 = 9 \end{cases} \rightarrow a^7 + b^7 = (a+b)^7 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$a^7 + 7a^6b + 21a^5b^2 + 35a^4b^3 + 35a^3b^4 + 21a^2b^5 + 7ab^6 + b^7 = a^7 + b^7 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$7a^6b + 21a^5b^2 + 35a^4b^3 + 35a^3b^4 + 21a^2b^5 + 7ab^6 = 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$ab(7a^5 + 21a^4b + 35a^3b^2 + 35a^2b^3 + 21ab^4 + 7b^5) = 0$$

$$a = 0 \rightarrow x = -3$$

$$b = 0 \rightarrow x = 6$$

$$7a^5 + 21a^4b + 35a^3b^2 + 35a^2b^3 + 21ab^4 + 7b^5 > 0$$

$$\text{Therefore, } x \in \{-3, 6\}$$

Solution 4 by Fayssal Abdelli-Bejaia-Algerie

$$\sqrt[7]{x+3} + \sqrt[7]{6-x} = \sqrt[7]{9}; (A)$$

$$\text{Let } 9a^7 = 6-x \rightarrow \sqrt[7]{6-x} = \sqrt[7]{9} \cdot a \rightarrow x + 9a^2 = 6 \rightarrow x + 3 = 9 - 9a^7$$

$$\sqrt[7]{x+3} = \sqrt[7]{9(1-a^2)}$$

$$(A) \rightarrow \sqrt[7]{9(1-a^2)} + \sqrt[7]{9} \cdot a = \sqrt[7]{9} \rightarrow \sqrt[7]{1-a^2} = 1-a \rightarrow$$

$$(1-a)(1+a+a^2+\dots+a^6) = (1-a)^7 \rightarrow$$

$$1-a = 0 \rightarrow x = -3 \text{ or } 1+a+a^2+\dots+a^6 = 0; (B)$$

$$(B) \rightarrow 1+a+a^2+\dots+a^6 = a^6 - 6a^5 + 15a^4 - 20a^3 - 15a^2 + 6a + 1$$

$$-7a^5 + 14a^4 - 21a^3 + 14a^2 - 7a = 0 \rightarrow a = 0 \rightarrow x = 6 \text{ or}$$

$$a^4 - 2a^3 + 3a^2 - 2a + 1 = 0; (C)$$

$$(a \neq 0) \rightarrow a^2 - 2a + 3 - \frac{2}{a} + \frac{1}{a^2} = 0$$

$$\left(a^2 + \frac{1}{a^2}\right) - 2\left(a + \frac{1}{a}\right) + 3 = 0$$

$$\text{Let } \bar{x} = a + \frac{1}{a} \rightarrow \bar{x}^2 - 2 = a^2 + \frac{1}{a^2}$$

$$(C) \rightarrow (\bar{x}^2 - 2) - 2\bar{x} + 3 = 0 \rightarrow \bar{x}^2 - 2\bar{x} + 1 = 0 \rightarrow (\bar{x} - 1)^2 = 0 \rightarrow \bar{x} = 1$$

$$\bar{x} = 1 \rightarrow a + \frac{1}{a} = 1 \rightarrow a^2 - a + 1 = 0 \ (\Delta < 0) \text{ so } a^2 - a + 1 \neq 0$$

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Therefore, $x \in \{-3, 6\}$

295. Solve for real numbers:

$$\begin{cases} x, y, z > 0 \\ \frac{x^x \cdot y^y \cdot z^z (\sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{yz} + \sqrt{zx})}{\sqrt{x^{y+z} \cdot y^{z+x} \cdot z^{x+y}}} = 1 \\ x + y + z = 1 \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania

Solution by Max Wong-Hong Kong

$$\sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{yz} + \sqrt{zx} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\leq} \frac{x+y}{2} + \frac{y+z}{2} + \frac{z+x}{2} = x+y+z = 1$$

Equality holds iff $x = y = z = \frac{1}{3}$

$$\frac{x^x y^y z^z}{\sqrt{x^{y+z} y^{z+x} z^{x+y}}} = x^{x-\frac{y}{2}-\frac{z}{2}} y^{y-\frac{x}{2}-\frac{z}{2}} z^{z-\frac{x}{2}-\frac{y}{2}} = x^{\frac{3x-1}{2}} y^{\frac{3y-1}{2}} z^{\frac{3z-1}{2}} = e^{\sum_{cyc} \frac{3x-1}{2} \ln x}$$

Define $f(x) = \frac{3x-1}{2} \ln x, f: (0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$f'(x) = \left(\frac{3}{2} - \frac{1}{2x}\right) + \frac{3}{2} \ln x$$

$$f''(x) = \frac{1}{2x^2} + \frac{3}{2x} = \frac{1}{2x^2} (1 + 3x) > 0, \forall x \in (0, 1)$$

$\therefore f$ is convex

\therefore By Jensen's inequality

$$\sum_{cyc} f(x) \leq f\left(\sum_{cyc} x\right) = f(1) = 0$$

As $g(x) = e^x$ is strictly increasing, $g(f(x)) \leq g(f(1)) = g(0) = 1$

$$\therefore \frac{x^x y^y z^z}{\sqrt{x^{y+z} y^{z+x} z^{x+y}}} \leq 1. \text{ Equality holds iff } x = y = z = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\therefore \frac{x^x y^y z^z (\sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{yz} + \sqrt{zx})}{\sqrt{x^{y+z} y^{z+x} z^{x+y}}} = 1 \text{ iff } x = y = z = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\text{Otherwise } \frac{x^x y^y z^z (\sqrt{xy} + \sqrt{yz} + \sqrt{zx})}{\sqrt{x^{y+z} y^{z+x} z^{x+y}}} < 1$$

Therefore $x = y = z = \frac{1}{3}$

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296. $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathbb{C}^*$ –different in pairs, $|z_1| = |z_2| = |z_3| = 1, A(z_1), B(z_2), C(z_3)$

$$\prod |(z_1 - z_2)|z_1 - z_3| + (z_1 - z_3)|z_1 - z_2| \stackrel{(*)}{=} \left(\sum |z_1 - z_2| \right)^3 \rightarrow AB = BC = CA$$

Proposed by Marian Ursărescu-Romania

Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\Delta ABC \in \mathcal{C}(O, R = 1), AB = |z_1 - z_2| = c, BC = |z_2 - z_3| = a, CA = |z_3 - z_1| = b$$

$$|(z_1 - z_2)|z_1 - z_3| + (z_1 - z_3)|z_1 - z_2| = |b(z_1 - z_2) + c(z_1 - z_3)| =$$

$$|(a + b + c)z_1 - (az_1 + bz_2 + cz_3)| = 2s \left| z_1 - \frac{az_1 + bz_2 + cz_3}{a + b + c} \right| = 2s \cdot IA$$

$$(*) \leftrightarrow \prod (2s \cdot IA) = (2s)^3 \leftrightarrow \prod \frac{r}{\sin \frac{A}{2}} = 1 \leftrightarrow r^3 \cdot \frac{4R}{r} = 1 \leftrightarrow 2r = 1 = R$$

But we know that $R \geq 2r$ (Euler), with equality only if ΔABC is equilateral.

Therefore,

$$\prod |(z_1 - z_2)|z_1 - z_3| + (z_1 - z_3)|z_1 - z_2| = \left(\sum |z_1 - z_2| \right)^3$$

$$\rightarrow AB = BC = CA$$

297. **If $n \in \mathbb{N}$ then:**

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k(k-1)}{\cos(\pi k)} = \frac{(2n^2 - 1)\cos(\pi n) + 1}{4}$$

Proposed by Asmat Qatea-Afghanistan

Solution 1 by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

We will use mathematical induction:

$$\text{For } n = 1 \rightarrow \frac{1(1-1)}{\cos(\pi \cdot 1)} = \frac{(2 \cdot 1^2 - 1)\cos(\pi \cdot 1) + 1}{4} \leftrightarrow 0 = 0$$

$$P(n): \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k(k-1)}{\cos(\pi k)} = \frac{(2n^2 - 1)\cos(\pi n) + 1}{4}$$

Suppose $P(n)$ -true.

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$$P(n+1): \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \frac{k(k-1)}{\cos(\pi k)} = \frac{(2(n+1)^2 - 1)\cos(\pi(n+1)) + 1}{4}$$

$P(n+1)$ –to prove.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \frac{k(k-1)}{\cos(\pi k)} &= \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k(k-1)}{\cos(\pi k)} + \frac{(n+1)n}{\cos((n+1)\pi)} = \\ &= \frac{(2n^2 - 1)\cos(\pi n) + 1}{4} + \frac{(n+1)n}{\cos((n+1)\pi)} = \frac{(2n^2 - 1)(-1)^n + 1}{4} + \frac{(n+1)n}{(-1)^{n+1}} = \\ &= \frac{(2n^2 - 1)(-1)^{2n+1} + (-1)^{n+1} + 4n(n+1)}{4 \cdot (-1)^{n+1}} = \frac{-2n^2 + 1 + 4n^2 + 4n + (-1)^{n+1}}{4 \cdot (-1)^{n+1}} = \\ &= \frac{2n^2 + 4n + 1 + (-1)^{n+1}}{4 \cdot (-1)^{n+1}} = \frac{(-1)^{n+1}(2n^2 + 4n + 1) + (-1)^{2n+2}}{4 \cdot (-1)^{2n+2}} = \\ &= \frac{(2(n+1)^2 - 1)\cos(\pi(n+1)) + 1}{4} \end{aligned}$$

$P(n) \rightarrow P(n+1)$

Solution 2 by Ahmed Yackoube Chach-Mauritania

$$\begin{aligned} f_n(x) &= \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{x^k}{\cos(k\pi)} = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{x^k}{e^{ik\pi}} = \sum_{k=1}^n (-x)^k = x \cdot \frac{(-x)^n - 1}{x + 1} \\ f'_n(x) &= \frac{n(-x)^n}{x + 1} + \frac{(-x)^n}{(x + 1)^2} - \frac{1}{(x + 1)^2} = \frac{n(x + 1)(-x)^n - 1 + (-x)^n}{(x + 1)^2} \\ f''_n(x) &= \frac{(n(x + 1)((n - 1)x + 1 + n) - 2x)(-x)^n}{x(x + 1)^3} + \frac{2}{(x + 1)^3} \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$f''_n(1) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{k(k-1)}{\cos(k\pi)} = \frac{(4n^2 - 2)(-1)^n}{8} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{(2n^2 - 1)\cos(n\pi) + 1}{4}$$

298. Solve for real numbers:

$$\begin{cases} x, y, z > 0 \\ \sum_{cyc} x^{2021} \left(\frac{y}{z} + \frac{z}{x} \right) = \sum_{cyc} x^{2020} (y + z) \\ 3^x + 4^y = 5^z \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

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Solution 1 by Adrian Popa-Romania

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} x^{2021} \left(\frac{y}{z} + \frac{z}{x} \right) &= \sum_{cyc} x^{2020} (y + z) \leftrightarrow \\ \sum_{cyc} x^{2021} \cdot \frac{y}{z} + \sum_{cyc} x^{2020} \cdot z &= \sum_{cyc} x^{2020} \cdot y + \sum_{cyc} x^{2020} \cdot z \leftrightarrow \\ \sum_{cyc} x^{2022} \cdot y^2 &= \sum_{cyc} x^{2021} \cdot y^2 \cdot z \end{aligned}$$

$(2021, 2, 0) \cong (2021, 2, 1)$. Equality if $x = y = z$ and from

$$3^x + 4^y = 5^z \rightarrow x = y = z = 2.$$

Solution 2 by Amrit Awasthi-India

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{cyc} x^{2021} \left(\frac{y}{z} + \frac{z}{x} \right) &= \sum_{cyc} x^{2020} (y + z) \leftrightarrow \\ \sum_{cyc} x^{2021} \cdot \frac{y}{z} + \sum_{cyc} x^{2020} \cdot z &= \sum_{cyc} x^{2020} \cdot y + \sum_{cyc} x^{2020} \cdot z \end{aligned}$$

Or,

$$\sum_{cyc} x^{2020} y \left(\frac{x}{z} - 1 \right) = 1 \leftrightarrow \sum_{cyc} x^{2020} \left(\frac{y}{z} \right) (x - z) = 0$$

The left hand summand become zero for $x = y = z$.

Now, consider the equation $5^z = 4^y + 3^x$, taking log both sides with base 5

$$z = \frac{\log(3^x + 4^y)}{\log 5}$$

The integer solutions of this equation is $(x, y, z) = (0, 1, 1)$ and using Fermat's last theorem it is concluded that for $x = y = z = a$ have only integer solutions for $a = 2$ that is,

$(x, y, z) = (0, 1, 1)$ or $(2, 2, 2)$ and putting $x = y = z = a$ in the equations yields

$$a = \frac{\log(3^a + 4^a)}{\log 5}$$

Now, we need to check whether other real solutions exist or not.

By considering two equations

$$Y = a, Y = \frac{\log(3^a + 4^a)}{\log 5}$$

We can see that both are straight lines.

Now, we know two straight lines either are parallel or coincident or intersect at one point.

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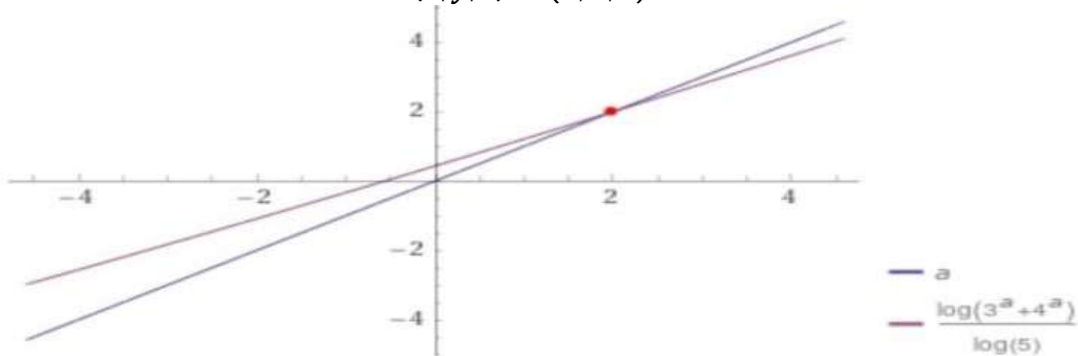
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But we also have one known solution at value 2 hence lines can not be parallel or coincident. This makes it right to conclude that these lines intersect at $a = 2$ only.

Hence the solution set is:

$$(x, y, z) = (2, 2, 2)$$



299. Prove that, if the real x, y, z, λ satisfy the relation:

$$\sum x^2 - \sum xy + 3\lambda(\lambda - x + z) = 0,$$

x, y and z form an arithmetic progression.

Proposed by Denisa Lepădatu-Romania

Solution 1 by Fayssal Abdelli-Bejaia-Algerie

Suppose: $y = x + a$ and $z = x + 2a, a \in R$

$$\sum x^2 - \sum xy + 3\lambda(\lambda - x + z) = 0; (*)$$

$$\rightarrow x^2 + (x + a)^2 + (x + 2a)^2 - x(x + a) - (x + a)(x + 2a) - x(x + 2a) + 3\lambda^2 - 3\lambda x + 3\lambda(x + 2a) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow 3a^2 + 6a\lambda + 3\lambda^2 = 0 \rightarrow (a + \lambda)^2 = 0 \rightarrow a = -\lambda$$

$$\text{So, } x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - xy - xz - yx + 3\lambda(\lambda - x + z) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow a = -\lambda, y = x - \lambda, z = x - 2\lambda = y - \lambda$$

Solution 2 by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco

$$\sum x^2 - \sum xy + 3\lambda(\lambda - x + z) = 0; (*)$$

$$(*) \Leftrightarrow 3\lambda^2 + 3\lambda(z - x) + \frac{1}{2}[(x - y)^2 + (y - z)^2 + (z - x)^2] = 0$$

$$x, y, z, \lambda \text{ exist} \Leftrightarrow \Delta = 9(z - x)^2 - 4 \cdot 3 \cdot \frac{1}{2}[(x - y)^2 + (y - z)^2 + (z - x)^2] \geq 0$$

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$$\begin{aligned} &\Leftrightarrow 3(z-x)^2 - 6(x-y)^2 - 6(y-z)^2 \geq 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow [(x-y) + (y-z)]^2 - 2(x-y)^2 - 2(y-z)^2 \geq 0 \\ &\Leftrightarrow -(x-y)^2 + 2(x-y)(y-z) - (y-z)^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow -[(x-y) - (y-z)]^2 \geq 0 \\ &\rightarrow (x-y) - (y-z) = 0 \rightarrow x+z = 2y. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, x, y and z form an arithmetic progression

Solution 3 by Bedri Hajrizi-Mitrovica-Kosovo

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Let } y = x + a, z = x + b \rightarrow \\ &3x^2 + a^2 + b^2 + 2ax + 2bx - x(x+a) - x(x+b) - (x+a)(x+b) \\ &\quad + 3\lambda(\lambda - x + x + b) = 0 \\ &\quad \rightarrow a^2 + b^2 - ab + 3\lambda^2 + 3\lambda b = 0 \\ &\rightarrow 3\lambda^2 + 3b\lambda + a^2 + b^2 - ab = 0, \Delta = -3(2a-b)^2 \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow b = 2a \\ &\text{So, } y = x + a, z = x + 2a \rightarrow x, y, z \text{ are terms of an arithmetic progression.} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 4 by Manole Buican-Romania

$$\begin{aligned} &y^2 - (x+z)y + x^2 + z^2 - xz + 3\lambda^2 - 3\lambda x + 3\lambda z = 0 \text{ and } \Delta \geq 0 \\ &\Delta = (x+z)^2 - 4x^2 - 4z^2 + 4xz - 12\lambda^2 + 12\lambda x - 12\lambda z = \\ &\quad = -3(x-z)^2 - 12\lambda(\lambda + (x-z)) \geq 0, \text{ let } t = x-z \rightarrow \\ &t^2 + 4\lambda(\lambda + t) \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow (t+2\lambda)^2 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow t+2\lambda = 0 \rightarrow \Delta = 0. \\ &\text{So, } y_{1,2} = \frac{x+z}{2} \rightarrow x, y, z \text{ are terms of an arithmetic progression.} \end{aligned}$$

Solution 5 by Amrit Awasthi-India

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Given, } x^2 + y^2 + z^2 - xy - yz - zx + 3\lambda(\lambda - x + z) = 0 \\ &\frac{1}{2}((x-y)^2 + (y-z)^2 + (z-x)^2) + 3\lambda(\lambda - x + z) = 0; (*) \\ &\text{Let } y = \alpha, x = \alpha - k_1, z = \alpha + k_2 \text{ therefore equation } (*) \text{ becomes} \\ &\frac{1}{2}(k_1^2 + k_2^2 + (k_1 + k_2)^2) + 3\lambda^2 + 3\lambda k_1 + 3\lambda k_2 = 0 \\ &\rightarrow k_1^2 + k_2^2 + k_1 k_2 + 3\lambda^2 + 3\lambda k_1 + 3\lambda k_2 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Now, the equation so formed is irreducible so let's assume $k_1 = k_2 = k$, therefore the equation becomes $3k^2 + 6\lambda k + 3\lambda^2 = 0$, solving for k we get $k = -\lambda$.

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→ x, y, z - are terms of an arithmetic progression.

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If $\psi(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{x^k}{d(k)}$ then:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \psi\left(\frac{e^{\frac{2\pi ik}{n}}}{2}\right) = 1$$

where $|x| < 1$ and $d(n)$ is the number of divisors of n .

Proposed by Angad Singh-Pune-India

Solution by proposer

Let the series expansion of $f(x)$ be expressed as

$$f(x) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m x^m, \text{ then}$$

$$f\left(xe^{\frac{2\pi ik}{n}}\right) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m \left(xe^{\frac{2\pi ik}{n}}\right)^m = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m x^m e^{\frac{2\pi i k m}{n}}$$

Summing it up from $k = 1$ to $k = n$, we have:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n f\left(xe^{\frac{2\pi ik}{n}}\right) = \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m x^m e^{\frac{2\pi i k m}{n}} = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m x^m \sum_{k=1}^n e^{\frac{2\pi i k m}{n}}$$

It can be easily shown that

$$\sum_{k=1}^n e^{\frac{2\pi i k m}{n}} = \begin{cases} n, & n|m \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Hence,

$$\sum_{k=1}^n f\left(xe^{\frac{2\pi ik}{n}}\right) = n \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_{mn} x^{mn} \rightarrow \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n f\left(xe^{\frac{2\pi ik}{n}}\right) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_{mn} x^{mn}$$

Summing up both the sides from $n = 1$ to $n = \infty$, we have:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n f\left(xe^{\frac{2\pi ik}{n}}\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_{mn} x^{mn}$$

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Observe that:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_{mn} x^{mn} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{k|n} 1 \right) a_n x^n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} d(n) a_n x^n$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n f \left(x e^{\frac{2\pi i k}{n}} \right) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} d(n) a_n x^n$$

Substituting $a_n = \frac{1}{d(n)}$, if $|x| < 1$, we get $f(x) = \psi(x)$, thus

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \psi \left(x e^{\frac{2\pi i k}{n}} \right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} x^n = \frac{x}{1-x}$$

Finally substituting $x = \frac{1}{2}$ completes the proof.

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It's nice to be important but more important it's to be nice.

At this paper works a TEAM.

This is RMM TEAM.

To be continued!

Daniel Sitaru