

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

Solve for integers:

$$\begin{cases} (x + y + z)^2 + (x - y + z)^2 - 18(z - 1)(5 - z) = 2y^2 \\ x + y - z = 4 \end{cases}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} (x + y + z)^2 + (x - y + z)^2 - 18(z - 1)(5 - z) &= 2y^2 \\ \text{or, } 2((x + z)^2 - y^2) - 18(z - 1)(5 - z) &= 2y^2 \\ \text{or, } (x + z)^2 &= 9(z - 1)(5 - z) \\ \text{or, } (4 + 2z - y)^2 &\stackrel{x+y-z=4}{=} 9(z - 1)(5 - z) \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

now L.H.S ≥ 0 so R.H.S ≥ 0 for this $(z - 1)(5 - z) \geq 0$ or, $1 \leq z \leq 5$

*when $z = 1$, R.H.S = 0 so from (1) we get $(6 - y)^2 = 0$ or, $y = 6$
and $x = 4 + z - y = 4 + 1 - 6 = -1$, solution $(x, y, z) = (-1, 6, 1)$*

*when $z = 2$, R.H.S = 27 so from (1) we get $(8 - y)^2 = 27$
no integer solution exist*

*when $z = 3$, R.H.S = 36 so from (1) we get $(10 - y)^2 = 36$ or, $y = 4, 16$
and $x = 4 + z - y \stackrel{y=4}{=} 4 + 3 - 4 = 3$, solution $(x, y, z) = (3, 4, 3)$
and $x = 4 + z - y \stackrel{y=16}{=} 4 + 3 - 16 = -9$, solution $(x, y, z) = (-9, 16, 3)$*

*when $z = 4$, R.H.S = 27 so from (1) we get $(12 - y)^2 = 27$
no integer solution exist*

*when $z = 5$, R.H.S = 0 so from (1) we get $(14 - y)^2 = 0$ or, $y = 14$
and $x = 4 + z - y = 4 + 5 - 14 = -5$
solution $(x, y, z) = (-5, 14, 5)$*