

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

Solve for natural numbers:

$$(x+2)^{\frac{1}{x}} + (x+1)^x = 2^{2x} - 5$$

Proposed by Sakthi Vel-India

Solution by Tapas Das-India

for $x = 1$

$$L.H.S = (1+2)^1 + 2^1 = 5, R.H.S = 2^2 - 5 = -1 \text{ so } L.H.S \neq R.H.S$$

for $x = 2$

$$L.H.S = (2+2)^{\frac{1}{2}} + 3^2 = 11, R.H.S = 2^4 - 5 = 11 \text{ so } L.H.S = R.H.S$$

so $x = 2$ is a solution.

for $x \geq 3$, $(x+2)^{\frac{1}{x}} > 1$ and $(x+1)^x > 4^x = 2^{2x}$

$$\text{then } (x+2)^{\frac{1}{x}} + (x+1)^x > 2^{2x} + 1 > 2^{2x} - 5$$

so for $n \geq 3$ equality impossible.

The only solution $x = 2$