

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $a > 1, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ then solve for real numbers:

$$a^{\sqrt{x-\lambda-1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x-\lambda}}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Tapas Das-India

Domain $x - \lambda - 1 \geq 0$ or $x \geq \lambda + 1$ let $t = \sqrt{x - \lambda - 1} \Rightarrow x - \lambda = t^2 + 1$

$$a^{\sqrt{x-\lambda-1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x-\lambda}} \text{ or } a^t = (t^2 + 1)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$t \log a = -\frac{1}{2} \log(t^2 + 1) \text{ or } \log(t^2 + 1) + 2t \log a = 0$$

Let $f(t) = \log(t^2 + 1) + 2t \log a$ then $f'(t) = \frac{2t}{t^2 + 1} + 2 \log a > 0$ as $a > 1$ and ≥ 0 . So $f(t)$ is increasing.

The only one solution is $t = 0$ as $f(0) = 0$,

$$x - \lambda = t^2 + 1 \text{ or } x = \lambda + 1 \text{ as } t = 0$$