

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

If $\lambda \geq 0$ then solve for reals:

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

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Domain: $x - \lambda \geq 0$ or, $x \geq \lambda$

$$\text{Let } t = \sqrt{x - \lambda} \ (t \geq 0) \Rightarrow x = t^2 + \lambda \ (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 + 2(x - \lambda)\sqrt{x - \lambda} + (1 - 2\lambda)x + \lambda(\lambda - 1) &\stackrel{(1)}{=} \\ &= (t^2 + \lambda)^2 + 2t^3 + (1 - 2\lambda)(t^2 + \lambda) + \lambda(\lambda - 1) = \\ &= (t^4 + 2t^2\lambda + \lambda^2) + 2t^3 + (t^2 + \lambda - 2\lambda t^2 - 2\lambda^2) + \lambda^2 - \lambda = \\ &= t^4 + 2t^3 + t^2 = t^2(t + 1)^2 \end{aligned}$$

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

$$t^2(t + 1)^2 = \lambda^2(\lambda + 1)^2 \text{ or, } t(t + 1) = \lambda(\lambda + 1), \ (t, \lambda \geq 0)$$

$$t^2 + t - (\lambda^2 + \lambda) = 0 \text{ or } (t - \lambda)(t + \lambda + 1) = 0 \Rightarrow t - \lambda = 0 \text{ or } t = \lambda$$

Since: $t + \lambda + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow t = -1 - \lambda$ not possible as $t > 0$ and $\lambda > 0$

$$\text{Required solution } x \stackrel{(1)}{=} \lambda + t^2 = \lambda + \lambda^2.$$