

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

Solve for reals:

$$x\sqrt{x+7} + \sqrt{9-x} = 4\sqrt{x^2+1}$$

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$$\text{Set } p = \sqrt{x+7}, q = \sqrt{9-x}, r = \sqrt{x^2+1}$$

$$\text{Clearly, } p^2 + q^2 = x+7 + 9-x = 16 = 4^2$$

$$\text{Let } p = 4 \cos t, q = 4 \sin t, t \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right] \text{ and } p = \sqrt{x+7} \text{ or}$$

$$x = p^2 - 7 = 16 \cos^2 t - 7 \quad (1)$$

Using above substitution we get:

$$x\sqrt{x+7} + \sqrt{9-x} = 4\sqrt{x^2+1} \text{ or}$$

$$(16 \cos^2 t - 7) \cos t + \sin t = \sqrt{(16 \cos^2 t - 7)^2 + 1}$$

$$\text{or } A \cos t + \sin t \stackrel{16 \cos^2 t - 7 = A}{=} \sqrt{A^2 + 1}$$

Cauchy Schwarz

$$A \cos t + \sin t \leq \sqrt{(A^2 + 1)(\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t)} = \sqrt{A^2 + 1}$$

$$\text{for equality we take } \cos t = \lambda A, \sin t = \lambda \text{ then } \cos^2 t + \sin^2 t = 1 \Rightarrow \lambda^2 = \frac{1}{A^2 + 1}$$

$$\cos^2 t = \lambda^2 A^2 = \frac{A^2}{A^2 + 1}, \text{ from (1) we get :}$$

$$x = p^2 - 7 = 16 \cos^2 t - 7 \text{ or } \cos^2 t = \frac{A+7}{16}$$

$$\frac{A^2}{A^2 + 1} = \frac{A+7}{16} \text{ or, } A^3 - 9A^2 + A + 7 = 0 \text{ or } (A-1)(A^2 - 8A - 7) = 0$$

$$\text{or } A = 1 \text{ and } (A^2 - 8A - 7) = 0 \Rightarrow A = \frac{8 \pm \sqrt{64 + 28}}{2} \text{ or, } A = 4 \pm \sqrt{23}$$

$$\text{note that } A = (16 \cos^2 t - 7) = x \text{ by (1)}$$

but $A = x = 4 - \sqrt{23}$ *not a valid solution as* $\sqrt{x+7}$ *not valid at* $x = 4 - \sqrt{23}$ *so required solution* $x = 4, 4 + \sqrt{23}$ *in real*