

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

Solve for reals :

$$\sqrt{(1+x)^3} + \sqrt{(1-x)^3} + x^2 = 2$$

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$$\begin{cases} 1+x \geq 0 & \rightarrow x \geq -1 \\ 1-x \geq 0 & \rightarrow x \leq 1 \end{cases} \quad x \in [-1; 1]$$

$$t = \sqrt{1+x}, \quad t \geq 0 \quad v = \sqrt{1-x}, \quad v \geq 0$$

$$\sqrt{(1+x)^3} = t^3 \quad \text{and} \quad \sqrt{(1-x)^3} = v^3$$

$$\therefore t^2 v^2 = (1+x)(1-x) = 1-x^2, \quad x^2 = 1-t^2 v^2$$

$$t^3 + v^3 + x^2 = 2, \quad t^3 + v^3 + (1-t^2 v^2) = 2, \quad t^3 + v^3 - t^2 v^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} s = t + v, \quad p = tv \\ t^2 + v^2 = 2, \quad (t+v)^2 - 2tv = 2, \quad s^2 - 2p = 2, \quad p = \frac{s^2 - 2}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore t^3 + v^3 = (t+v)(t^2 + v^2 - tv) = s(2-p)$$

$$s(2-p) - p^2 - 1 = 0, \quad 2s - sp - p^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$2s - s\left(\frac{s^2 - 2}{2}\right) - \left(\frac{s^2 - 2}{2}\right)^2 - 1 = 0, \quad 8s - 2s^3 + 4s - s^4 + 4s^2 - 8 = 0$$

$$4s^2 - 2s^3 - s^4 + 12s - 8 = 0, \quad s^4 + 2s^3 - 4s^2 - 12s + 8 = 0$$

$$(s-2)(s^3 + 4s^2 + 4s - 4) = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} s - 2 = 0, \quad s = 2 \\ s^3 + 4s^2 + 4s - 4 = 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{The equation has no real roots.}$$

$$s = 2, \quad t^2 + v^2 = 2$$

$\therefore$ The only positive numbers here are : $t = 1$ and $v = 1$

$$\begin{cases} \sqrt{1+x} = 1 \rightarrow 1+x = 1 \rightarrow x = 0 \\ \sqrt{1-x} = 1 \rightarrow 1-x = 1 \rightarrow x = 0 \end{cases}$$