

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

Solve for real numbers:

$$2x^2 - 14x + 30 - 5(x - 4)\sqrt{x - 1} = 0$$

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$$2x^2 - 14x + 30 - 5(x - 4)\sqrt{x - 1} = 0$$

Clearly $x - 1 \geq 0$ or $x \geq 1$

$$\text{Let } y = \sqrt{x - 1} \Rightarrow x = y^2 + 1 \quad (1)$$

Using (1) given equation can be written as:

$$2(y^2 + 1)^2 - 14(y^2 + 1) + 30 - 5y(y^2 - 3) = 0$$

$$2(y^4 + 2y^2 + 1) - (14y^2 + 14) + 30 - (5y^3 - 15y) = 0$$

$$2y^4 - 5y^3 - 10y^2 + 15y + 18 = 0$$

$$(y - 2)(y + 1)(y - 3)(2y + 3) = 0$$

$$y - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow y = 2 \text{ then } x = y^2 + 1 = 2^2 + 1 = 5$$

$$y + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow y = -1 \text{ then:}$$

$$x = y^2 + 1 = (-1)^2 + 1 = 2, \text{ not satisfied given equation}$$

$$y - 3 = 0 \Rightarrow y = 3 \text{ then } x = y^2 + 1 = 9^2 + 1 = 10$$

$$2y + 3 = 0 \Rightarrow y = -\frac{3}{2} \text{ then}$$

$$x = \left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 + 1 = \frac{13}{4} = 5, \text{ not satisfied given equation}$$

So required solution $x = 5, 10$