

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

Solve for real numbers:

$$\sqrt[3]{x+2024} + \sqrt[3]{x+2028} = \sqrt[3]{x+2025} + \sqrt[3]{x+2027}$$

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$$\text{Let } a = \sqrt[3]{x+2024}, b = \sqrt[3]{x+2025}, c = \sqrt[3]{x+2027}, d = \sqrt[3]{x+2028}$$

$$\text{then } \sqrt[3]{x+2024} + \sqrt[3]{x+2028} = \sqrt[3]{x+2025} + \sqrt[3]{x+2027} \Rightarrow a + d = b + c$$

$$(a+d)^3 = a^3 + d^3 + 3ad(a+d) = x+2024 + x+2028 + 3ad(a+d) = 2x+4052 + 3ad(a+d)$$

$$(b+c)^3 = b^3 + c^3 + 3bc(b+c) = x+2025 + x+2027 + 3bc(b+c) = 2x+4052 + 3bc(b+c)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Since } a+d &= b+c \text{ then } (a+d)^3 = (b+c)^3 \\ \text{or } 2x+4052 + 3ad(a+d) &= 2x+4052 + 3bc(b+c) \\ \text{or } ad(a+d) &= bc(b+c) \text{ or, } ad(a+d) \stackrel{a+d=b+c}{=} bc(a+d) \\ \text{or } (a+d)(ad-bc) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{If } a+d &= 0 \Rightarrow a^3 = -d^3 \text{ or } x+2024 = -(x+2028) \text{ or} \\ 2x &= -4052 \text{ or } x = -2026 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Now } ad - bc \neq 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{because } a^3d^3 &= (x+2024)(x+2028) = x^2 + x(4052) + 2028 \times 2024 \\ b^3c^3 &= (x+2025)(x+2027) = x^2 + x(4052) + 2025 \times 2027 \end{aligned}$$

Clearly $a^3d^3 \neq b^3c^3$ as $2028 \times 2024 \neq 2025 \times 2027$ so $ad \neq bc$ or $ad - bc \neq 0$
Required solution $x = -2026$