

*RMM - Abstract Algebra Marathon 701 - 800*

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701.

$$X \in M_2(\mathbb{R}), X = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}, X^5 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 4 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Find: } \Omega = a - b + c - d$$

*Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania*

*Solution by Hikmat Mammadov-Azerbaijan*

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}; X^5 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 4 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{\text{say}}{\Rightarrow} A = X^5$$

$$\Rightarrow X_A = (3 - x) \cdot (5 - x) - 8 = x^2 - 8x + 7 = (x - 1) \cdot (x - 7)$$

$$\Rightarrow (x - 1) \cdot (x - 7) \Rightarrow D = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow U_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow U_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow P = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow P^{-1} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow A = P \cdot D \cdot P^{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow X = P \cdot D^{\frac{1}{5}} \cdot P^{-1} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt[5]{7} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 4 - \sqrt[5]{7} & -2 - \sqrt[5]{7} \\ 2 + \sqrt[5]{7} & -1 + \sqrt[5]{7} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Omega = 3$$

702. Solve for natural numbers:

$$\sum_{i=1}^x \sum_{k=1}^{100} |i - k| = 333300$$

*Proposed by Daniel Sitaru – Romania*

*Solution 1 by Ravi Prakash-New Delhi-India*

For  $1 \leq i \leq x$ ,

$$\sum_{k=1}^{100} |i - k| = \sum_{k=1}^i |i - k| + \sum_{k=i+1}^{100} |k - i| = \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} k + \sum_{k=1}^{100-i} k =$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(i-1)i + \frac{1}{2}(100-i)(101-i) = \frac{1}{2}[i^2 - i + (100)(101) - 201i + i^2] =$$

$$= i^2 - 101i + 5050 \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^x \sum_{k=1}^{100} |i - k|$$

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$$= \frac{1}{6}x(x+1)(2x+1) - \frac{101x(x+1)}{2} + 5050x$$

$$\frac{1}{6}x(x+1)(2x+1) - \frac{1}{2}(101)x(x+1) + 5050x = 333300$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x^3 + 3x^2 + x - 303x^2 - 303x + 30300x = 1999800$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x^3 - 300x^2 + 29998x - 1999800 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2(x-100) - 50x(x-100) + 9999(x-100) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x-100)(x^2 - 50x + 9999) = 0 \Rightarrow (x-100)[(x-25)^2 + 9374] = 0 \Rightarrow x = 100$$

**Solution 2 by Hikmat Mammadov-Azerbaijan**

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^{100} |i-k| &= \sum_{k=1}^i |i-k| + \sum_{k=i+1}^{100} |i-k| = \sum_{k=1}^i |i-k| + \sum_{k=i+1}^{100} |k-i| \\ &= \frac{(i-1) \cdot i}{2} + \frac{(100-i) \cdot (101-i)}{2} = \frac{2i^2 + 10100 - 202i}{2} = i^2 - 101i + 5050 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^x \sum_{k=1}^{100} &= \sum_{i=1}^x (i^2 - 101i + 5050) = \frac{x \cdot (x+1) \cdot (2x+1)}{6} - \frac{101x \cdot (x+1)}{2} + 5050x = \\ &= \frac{x \cdot (x^2 - 150x + 14999)}{3} = 333300 \Rightarrow x = 100 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^x \sum_{k=1}^{100} |i-k| = 333300 \Rightarrow x = 100$$

**703. For  $a, b, c, x > 0$  and  $\log_a(bx) = m, \log_c(ax) = n, \log_b(cx) = p$**

**Find  $S = \log_{\frac{a^4b^5}{c^6x^3}} \left( \frac{x^8a^7b^5}{c^{20}} \right)$  in terms of  $m, n, p$**

*Proposed by Bui Hong Suc-Vietnam*

**Solution by Mirsadix Muzefferov-Azerbaijan**

$$\log_a(bx) = m ; \log_c(ax) = n ; \log_b(cx) = p$$

Let's express  $a, b, c$  by  $x$

$$\log_c(ax) = n \Rightarrow a = \frac{c^n}{x} ; \text{Let's write the expression instead of } \log_a(bx) = m :$$

$$bx = \left( \frac{c^n}{x} \right)^m \Rightarrow bx^{m+1} = c^{mn} \quad (1)$$

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$$\log_a(bx) = m \Rightarrow b = \frac{a^m}{x} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{From } \log_c(cx) = p \Rightarrow b = (cx)^{\frac{1}{p}} \quad (3)$$

Let's write expression (3) instead of (1):

$$bx^{m+1} = c^{mn} \Rightarrow (cx)^{\frac{1}{p}} \cdot x^{m+1} = c^{m+n} \Rightarrow c = x^{\frac{pm+p+1}{pmn-1}} \quad (*)$$

Let's write expression (\*) instead of (3):

$$b^p = x^{\frac{pm+p+1}{pmn-1}} \cdot x = x^{\frac{p(mn+m+1)}{pmn-1}} \Rightarrow b = x^{\frac{mn+m+1}{pmn-1}} \quad (**)$$

Let's write expression (\*\*) instead of (1):

$$\begin{aligned} x^{\frac{mn+m+1}{pmn-1}} \cdot x &= a^n \Rightarrow x^{\frac{m(pn+n+1)}{pmn-1}} = a^m \\ a &= x^{\frac{pn+n+1}{pmn-1}} \quad (***) \end{aligned}$$

Let's use the expressions (\*), (\*\*) and (\*\*\*) in  $\left(\frac{a^4 b^5}{c^6 x^3}\right)$

$$A = \frac{a^4 b^5}{c^6 x^3} = \frac{x^{\frac{4(pn+n+1)}{pmn-1}} \cdot x^{\frac{5(mn+m+1)}{pmn-1}}}{x^{\frac{6(pm+p+1)}{pmn-1}} \cdot x^3} = x^{\frac{4(pn+n+1)+5(mn+m+1)-6(pm+p+1)-3}{mpn-1}}$$

$$B = \frac{x^8 a^7 b^5}{c^{20}} = \frac{x^8 \cdot x^{\frac{7(pn+n+1)}{pmn-1}} \cdot x^{\frac{5(mn+m+1)}{pmn-1}}}{x^{\frac{20(pm+p+1)}{pmn-1}}} = x^{\frac{8(mp-1)+7(pn+n+1)+5(mn+m+1)-20(pm+p+1)}{mpn-1}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S = \log_A B &= \frac{8(mp-1) + 7(pn+n+1) + 5(mn+m+1) - 20(pm+p+1)}{mpn-1} \\ &= \frac{4(pn+n+1) + 5(mn+m+1) - 6(pm+p+1) - 3(mp-1)}{mpn-1} \\ &= \frac{8(mp-1) + 7(pn+n+1) + 5(mn+m+1) - 20(pm+p+1)}{4(pn+n+1) + 5(mn+m+1) - 6(pm+p+1) - 3(mp-1)} \end{aligned}$$

$$S = \frac{8(mp-1) + 7(pn+n+1) + 5(mn+m+1) - 20(pm+p+1)}{4(pn+n+1) + 5(mn+m+1) - 6(pm+p+1) - 3(mp-1)}$$

704.

Let the sequence  $\{a_n\}$  be given

$$a_1 = 6, a_2 = 14, a_{n+2} = 5a_{n+1} - 6a_n + 2 \quad (n \geq 1),$$

$$a_{2024} \equiv x \pmod{100}. \text{ Find } x.$$

Proposed by Elsen Kerimov-Azerbaijan

Solution by Abbaszade Yusif-Azerbaijan

$$\text{Let : } a_n = x^n, \quad x^{n+2} = 5x^{n+1} - 6x^n$$

$$x^n(x^2 - 5x + 6) = 0, \quad x_1 = 2 \quad x_2 = 3$$

$$a_n = c_1 2^n + c_2 3^n + c_3$$

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$$\text{Let } a_n = y \Rightarrow y - 5y + 6y = 2 \Rightarrow y = 1 = c_1 \Rightarrow a_n = c_1 2^n + c_2 3^n + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} 6 &= 2c_1 + 3c_2 + 1 \Rightarrow 4c_1 + 6c_2 = 10 \Rightarrow c_1 = 1 \\ 14 &= 4c_1 + 9c_2 + 1 \Rightarrow 4c_1 + 9c_2 = 13 \Rightarrow c_2 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$a_n = 2^n + 3^n + 1 \Rightarrow a_{2024} = 2^{2024} + 3^{2024} + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{2024} + 3^{2024} + 1 &\equiv x \pmod{100} \Rightarrow \\ 2^{24} \times (2^{40})^{50} + 3^{24} \times (3^{40})^{50} + 1 &\equiv x \pmod{100} \\ 2^{24} + 3^{24} + 1 &\equiv x \pmod{100} \\ x &= \left\{ \frac{5 \times 4 + 1}{10} \right\} \times 10 + 6 + \left\{ \frac{8 - 5 \times 2}{10} \right\} \times 10 + 1 + 1 = 98 \end{aligned}$$

705. Solve for real numbers:

$$4^{\cos^2\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)} + \cos x = 4$$

*Proposed by Khaled Abd Imouti-Syria*

*Solution by Pham Duc Nam-Vietnam*

$$\begin{aligned} 4^{\cos^2\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)} + \cos(x) = 4 &\Leftrightarrow 2^{1+\cos(x)} + \cos(x) = 4, t = \cos(x), -1 \leq t \leq 1 \\ \Leftrightarrow 2^{1+t} + t = 4, f(t) = 2^{1+t} + t, f'(t) = 2^{t+1} \ln(2) + 1 > 0, \forall t \in [-1, 1] &\Rightarrow f(t) \text{ is} \\ \text{strictly increasing on } [-1, 1] &\Rightarrow 2^{1+t} + t = 4 \text{ has unique root, and } g(t) = 2^{1+t} + t - \\ 4, g(0) = -2, g(1) = 1 &\Rightarrow \text{The root lies on } (0, 1). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We have: } 2^{1+t} + t = 4 &\Leftrightarrow 2^{1+t} = 4 - t \Leftrightarrow \ln(2) 2^{1+t} = \ln(2) (4 - t) \Leftrightarrow \\ &\Leftrightarrow 2^{4-t} \ln(2) (4 - t) = 32 \ln(2) \Leftrightarrow \\ \Leftrightarrow \ln(2) (4 - t) e^{(\ln(2)(4-t))} &= 32 \ln(2) \xrightarrow{xe^x=z \Rightarrow x=W(z)} W(\ln(2)(4 - t) e^{(\ln(2)(4-t))}) = \\ &= W(32 \ln(2)) \\ \Leftrightarrow \ln(2) (4 - t) = W(32 \ln(2)) &\Leftrightarrow t = 4 - \frac{W(32 \ln(2))}{\ln(2)} \approx 0.7156207332755864 \\ \Rightarrow x = \pm \arccos\left(4 - \frac{W(32 \ln(2))}{\ln(2)}\right) &+ k2\pi, k \in \mathbb{Z}. W(z) \text{ is the Lambert W function.} \end{aligned}$$

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706. Solve for positive real numbers the following system:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{x^3}{(1+y)(1+z)} = \frac{6y-x-z-2}{8} \\ \frac{y^3}{(1+z)(1+x)} = \frac{6z-y-x-2}{8} \\ \frac{z^3}{(1+x)(1+y)} = \frac{6x-z-y-2}{8} \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Neculai Stanciu – Romania

**Solution 1 by Pham Duc Nam-Vietnam**

Sum 3 equations we get:  $\frac{x^3}{(1+y)(1+z)} + \frac{y^3}{(1+z)(1+x)} + \frac{z^3}{(1+x)(1+y)} = \frac{4(x+y+z)-6}{8} = \frac{2(x+y+z)-3}{4}$  (1)

Now, we have:  $\frac{x^3}{(1+y)(1+z)} + \frac{1+y}{8} + \frac{1+z}{8} \stackrel{AM-GM}{\geq} 3 \sqrt[3]{\frac{x^3}{(1+y)(1+z)} \frac{1+y}{8} \frac{1+z}{8}} = \frac{3x}{4}$

Similarly,  $\frac{y^3}{(1+z)(1+x)} + \frac{1+z}{8} + \frac{1+x}{8} \geq \frac{3y}{4}$ ,  $\frac{z^3}{(1+x)(1+y)} + \frac{1+x}{8} + \frac{1+y}{8} \geq \frac{3z}{4}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{x^3}{(1+y)(1+z)} + \frac{y^3}{(1+z)(1+x)} + \frac{z^3}{(1+x)(1+y)} + \frac{1+x}{4} + \frac{1+y}{4} + \frac{1+z}{4} \geq \frac{3(x+y+z)}{4}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{x^3}{(1+y)(1+z)} + \frac{y^3}{(1+z)(1+x)} + \frac{z^3}{(1+x)(1+y)} \geq \frac{3(x+y+z)}{4} - \frac{(x+y+z)}{4} - \frac{3}{4} = \frac{2(x+y+z)-3}{4} \quad (2)$$

From (1), (2):  $\frac{x^3}{(1+y)(1+z)} + \frac{y^3}{(1+z)(1+x)} + \frac{z^3}{(1+x)(1+y)} = \frac{2(x+y+z)-3}{4} \Rightarrow x = y = z$

\* Replace  $x = y = z$  to the first equation (or any equation) we have:  $\frac{x^3}{(1+x)^2} = \frac{2x-1}{4}$

$$\Leftrightarrow 4x^3 - (2x-1)(1+x)^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow 2x^3 - 3x^2 + 1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow (2x+1)(x-1)^2 = 0 \xrightarrow{x \in \mathbb{R}^+}$$

$$x = 1 = y = z = 1$$

$\Rightarrow (x, y, z) = (1, 1, 1)$  is the unique solution of the given system of equations.

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### Solution 2 by Eric-Dimitrie Cismaru-Romania

Adding the three equations, we obtain  $\sum_{cyc} \frac{x^3}{(1+y)(1+z)} = \frac{x+y+z}{2} - \frac{3}{4}$ . We prove that

$$LHS \geq RHS$$

The triplets  $\{x^3, y^3, z^3\}$  and  $\left\{\frac{1}{(1+y)(1+z)}, \frac{1}{(1+z)(1+x)}, \frac{1}{(1+x)(1+y)}\right\}$  are ordered the same. By

Chebyshev's Inequality,

$$LHS \geq \frac{x^3+y^3+z^3}{3} \cdot \sum_{cyc} \frac{1}{(1+y)(1+z)} \stackrel{Holder}{\geq} \left(\frac{x+y+z}{3}\right)^3 \cdot \frac{x+y+z+3}{\prod(1+x)} = \frac{3\alpha^3(\alpha+1)}{\prod(1+x)},$$

where  $\alpha = \frac{x+y+z}{3}$ . Denote  $a = x + 1$ ,  $b = y + 1$  and  $c = z + 1$ . Then, by AM-GM,

$$(a + b + c)^3 \geq (3\sqrt[3]{abc})^3 = 27abc, \text{ or, in other words,}$$

$$\prod_{cyc}(1+x) \leq \frac{(a+b+c)^3}{27} = \frac{(x+y+z+3)^3}{27} = \left(\frac{x+y+z}{3} + 1\right)^3 = (\alpha + 1)^3. \text{ Therefore, we get}$$

$$LHS \geq \frac{3\alpha^3(\alpha+1)}{(\alpha+1)^3} = \frac{3\alpha^3}{(\alpha+1)^2} \geq RHS = \frac{3\alpha}{2} - \frac{3}{4} \Leftrightarrow \frac{(\alpha-1)^2(2\alpha+1)}{(\alpha+1)^2} \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow LHS \geq RHS.$$

Since  $RHS = LHS \geq RHS$ , equality holds in all the previous inequalities, which is,  $\alpha = 1$

and  $x = y = z$ , so  $S = \{1, 1, 1\}$  is the only solution for the given system of equations.

707. If  $2a^2 + b = 2b^2 + c = 2c^2 + a = \frac{1}{2}$  then find:

$$\Omega = a + b + c$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Mirsadix Muzefferov-Azerbaijan

$$\begin{cases} 2a^2 + b = \frac{1}{2} \\ 2b^2 + c = \frac{1}{2} \\ 2c^2 + a = \frac{1}{2} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 4a^2 + 2b = 1 \\ 4b^2 + 2c = 1 \\ 4c^2 + 2a = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 4a^2 = 1 - 2b \\ 4b^2 = 1 - 2c \\ 4c^2 = 1 - 2a \end{cases}$$

$$a, b, c \in \left(-\infty; \frac{1}{2}\right]$$

$$(*) \begin{cases} 4a^2 + 2b = 1 \\ 4b^2 + 2c = 1 \\ 4c^2 + 2a = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \text{Summarize the system of equations side by side:}$$

$$(4a^2 + 2a) + (4b^2 + 2b) + (4c^2 + 2c) = 3$$

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$$\left(2a + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \left(2b + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \left(2c + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{15}{4} \quad (1)$$

(\*) The system of equations is symmetric with respect to the variables  $a, b, c$ .  
Therefore  $a = b = c$ .

$$\text{Or from (*)} \begin{cases} 4(a+b)(a-b) = 2(c-b) \\ 4(a+c)(a-c) = 2(a-b) \\ 4(b+c)(b-c) = 2(a-c) \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

$$64(a+b)(a-b)(a-c)(a+c)(b-c)(b+c) = 8(c-b)(a-b)(a-c)$$

$$8(a-b)(b-c)(a-c)(8(a+c)(b+c)(a+c) + 1) = 0 \Rightarrow a = b = c,$$

$$\text{Then by (1) : } 3\left(2a + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{15}{4}$$

$$a_1 = \frac{-1 - \sqrt{5}}{4}, \quad a_2 = \frac{-1 + \sqrt{5}}{4}$$

$$\text{So } a_1 = b_1 = c_1 = \frac{-1 - \sqrt{5}}{4}; \quad a_2 = b_2 = c_2 = \frac{-1 + \sqrt{5}}{4}$$

$$\text{Then } a_1 + b_1 + c_1 = \frac{-3 - 3\sqrt{5}}{4}, \quad a_2 + b_2 + c_2 = \frac{-3 + 3\sqrt{5}}{4}$$

**708. Solve for real numbers:**

$$\sqrt{x-y} + 3\sqrt{y-z} + 5\sqrt{z+x} = x + \frac{35}{2}$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Miguel Velasquez Culque-Cajamarca-Peru*

*Change of variable:*  $\sqrt{x-y} = a; \sqrt{y-z} = b; \sqrt{z+x} = c$

$$x-y = a^2; \quad y-z = b^2; \quad z+x = c^2 \Rightarrow a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 2x$$

*Then we have:*

$$a + 3b + 5c = x + \frac{35}{2} \Rightarrow 2a + 6b + 10c - 35 = 2x$$

*The equality is:*

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 2a + 6b + 10c - 35$$

$$a^2 - 2a + 1 + b^2 - 6b + 9 + c^2 - 10c + 25 = 0$$

$$(a-1)^2 + (b-3)^2 + (c-5)^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(a-1)^2 = 0 \wedge (b-3)^2 = 0 \wedge (c-5)^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow$$

*Then we have:*

$$a = 1 \wedge b = 3 \wedge c = 5 \Rightarrow$$

$$\sqrt{x-y} = 1; \quad \sqrt{y-z} = 3; \quad \sqrt{z+x} = 5 \Rightarrow$$

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$$x - y = 1; y - z = 9; z + x = 25 \Rightarrow$$

*Solving the system:*

$$\text{Answer: } x = \frac{35}{2}; y = \frac{33}{2}; z = \frac{15}{2}$$

**709. Solve for real numbers:**

$$x^2 - 2x + 29 = 2\sqrt{x^2 - x + 1} + 4\sqrt{x + 3} + 6\sqrt{11 - 2x}$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Viet-Vietnam*

*Solution by Miguel Velasquez Culque-Peru*

*Change of variables:*

$$\sqrt{x^2 - x + 1} = a \rightarrow x^2 - x + 1 = a^2$$

$$\sqrt{x + 3} = b \rightarrow x + 3 = b^2$$

$$\sqrt{11 - 2x} = c \rightarrow 11 - 2x = c^2$$

*Sum of values:*  $x^2 - 2x + 15 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2$

$$x^2 - 2x + 15 + 14 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 14$$

$$x^2 - 2x + 15 + 29 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 14$$

*Replace the values:*  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 14 = 2a + 4b + 6c$

$$a^2 - 2a + 1 + b^2 - 4b + 4 + c^2 - 6c + 9 = 0$$

$$(a - 1)^2 + (b - 2)^2 + (c - 3)^2 = 0 \rightarrow$$

$$a - 1 = 0 \vee b - 2 = 0 \vee c - 3 = 0$$

$$a = 1 \vee b = 2 \vee c = 3$$

*But we know:*  $\sqrt{x^2 - x + 1} = 1 \vee \sqrt{x + 3} = 2 \vee \sqrt{11 - 2x} = 3$

$$x^2 - x + 1 = 1 \vee x + 3 = 4 \vee 11 - 2x = 9$$

$$x(x - 1) = 0 \vee x = 1 \vee 2 = 2x$$

$$x = 0 \vee x = 1 \vee x = 1 \vee x = 1. \text{ Answer: } x = 1$$

**710. Find all continuous functions  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that**

$$(9x) + f(16x) = 2f(12x), \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Khaled Abd Imouti-Syria*

$$f(9x) + f(16x) = 2f(12x) \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$f\left(\frac{5}{12}\right) + f\left(\frac{16}{12}\right) = 2f(x)$$

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$$2f(x) = f\left(\frac{3}{4}x\right) + f\left(\frac{4}{3}x\right)$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ f\left(\frac{3}{4}x\right) + f\left(\frac{4}{3}x\right) \right]$$

$$f\left(\frac{4}{3}x\right) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ f(x) + f\left(\frac{16}{9}x\right) \right]$$

$$f(x) = 2f\left(\frac{4}{3}x\right) - f\left(\frac{16}{9}x\right)$$

In similar way:

$$f(x) = 2f\left(\frac{3}{4}x\right) - f\left(\frac{9}{16}x\right)$$

$$2f(x) = 2 \left[ f\left(\frac{4}{3}x\right) + f\left(\frac{3}{4}x\right) \right] - \left[ f\left(\frac{16}{9}x\right) + f\left(\frac{9}{16}x\right) \right]$$

$$2f(x) = 2(2f(x)) - \left( f\left(\frac{16}{9}x\right) + f\left(\frac{9}{16}x\right) \right)$$

$$2f(x) = f\left(\frac{16}{9}x\right) + f\left(\frac{9}{16}x\right)$$

So from (\*) and (\*\*):

$$2f(x) = f\left(\left(\frac{4}{3}\right)^n x\right) + f\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n x\right), \quad \forall n \geq 1$$

$$2f\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^n x\right) = f(x) + f\left(\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^{2n} x\right) \quad (***)$$

because f is continuous by taking limits of two sides:

$$\text{from (***)}: 2f(0) = f(x) + f(0)$$

$$\text{so: } f(x) = f(0) = c$$

so:  $f$  is constant

**711. Find  $x, y, z$  and  $t \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ :**

$$\frac{y+z+t}{x} + \frac{z+t}{x+y} + \frac{t}{x+y+z} = x+y+z+t-4$$

*Proposed by Bui Hong Suc-Vietnam*

*Solution by Mirsadix Muzefferov-Azerbaijan*

$$\left(\frac{y+z+t}{x} + 1\right) + \left(\frac{z+t}{x+y} + 1\right) + \left(\frac{t}{x+y+z} + 1\right) = x+y+z+t-1$$

$$\frac{y+x+z+t}{x} + \frac{y+x+z+t}{x+y} + \frac{y+x+z+t}{x+y+z} = x+y+z+t-1$$

$$x+y+z+t > 0$$

$$\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{x+y} + \frac{1}{x+y+z} + \frac{1}{x+y+z+t} = 1$$

1) case  $x = 1$  cannot be solved:

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$$\frac{1}{x} > \frac{1}{x+y} > \frac{1}{x+y+z} > \frac{1}{x+y+z+t} \rightarrow \frac{4}{x} > 1 \rightarrow \boxed{x < 4}$$

2) case iff  $x = 2$ . Then :

$$\frac{1}{2+y} + \frac{1}{2+y+z} + \frac{1}{2+y+z+t} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{3}{2+y} > \frac{1}{2} \rightarrow y+2 < 6 \rightarrow \boxed{y < 4}$$

iff  $x = 2$ ;  $y = 1$ . Then :

$$\frac{1}{3+z} + \frac{1}{3+z+t} = \frac{1}{6} \rightarrow \frac{2}{3+z} > \frac{1}{6} \rightarrow \boxed{z < 9}$$

The set of solutions satisfying the condition :

$$x = 2; y = 1, \quad \boxed{z < 9} \rightarrow \{(2; 1; 4; 35), (2; 1; 5; 16), (2; 1; 6; 9), (2; 1; 7; 5)\}$$

3) case. For the condition  $x = 2$ . Let's look at the case  $y = 2$

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4+z} + \frac{1}{4+z+t} = 1 \rightarrow \frac{1}{4+z} + \frac{1}{4+z+t} = \frac{1}{4} \rightarrow \frac{2}{4+z} > \frac{1}{4} \rightarrow \boxed{z < 4}$$

So,  $x = 2$ ,  $y = 2$  and  $z < 4$

In this case, a set of solutions :  $\{(2; 2; 1; 15), (2; 2; 2; 6)\}$

4) case.  $x = 2$ ,  $y = 3$

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{7+z} + \frac{1}{7+z+t} = 1, \quad \frac{1}{7+z} + \frac{1}{7+z+t} = \frac{10}{3} \rightarrow \frac{2}{7+z} > \frac{3}{10} \rightarrow z < -\frac{1}{3}$$

So, in this case there is no solution.

5) case.  $x = 3$

$$\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3+y} + \frac{1}{3+y+z} + \frac{1}{3+y+z+t} = 1 \rightarrow \frac{1}{3+y} + \frac{1}{3+y+z} + \frac{1}{3+y+z+t} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{3}{3+y} > \frac{2}{3} \rightarrow 6 + 2y < 9 \rightarrow \boxed{y < 1.5}$$

$$\text{iff } y = 1. \text{ Then } \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4+z} + \frac{1}{4+z+t} = 1 \rightarrow \frac{1}{4+z} + \frac{1}{4+z+t} = \frac{5}{12}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{2}{4+z} > \frac{5}{12} \rightarrow 20 + 5z < 24 \rightarrow 5z < 4 \rightarrow \boxed{z < \frac{4}{5}}$$

The resulting answer :

$$\{(2; 1; 4; 35), (2; 1; 5; 16), (2; 1; 6; 9), (2; 1; 7; 5), (2; 2; 1; 15), (2; 2; 2; 6)\}$$

**712. Solve for real numbers:**

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

*Proposed by Kostantinos Geronikolas-Greece*

*Solution by Mirsadix Muzefferov-Azerbaijan*

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

$$\sqrt{1-x^2}(\sqrt{1+x} + \sqrt{1-x}) = 2\sqrt{1+x^2}, \quad -1 \leq x \leq 1$$

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$$(1 - x^2)(2 + 2\sqrt{1 - x^2}) = 4(1 + x^2)$$

Let  $x = \sin(t)$

$$1. (1 - \sin^2(t))(1 + \cos(t)) = 2(2 - \cos^2(t))$$

case  $\cos(t) \geq 0$

$$\cos^3(t) + 3\cos^2(t) - 4 = 0, \quad (\cos(t) - 1)(\cos(t) + 2)^2 = 0$$

$$\cos(t) = 1; \cos(t) \neq 2$$

$$\cos(t) = 1 \rightarrow x = 0$$

$$2. (1 - \sin^2(t))(1 - \cos(t)) = 2(2 - \cos^2(t))$$

case  $\cos(t) < 0$

$$\cos^3(t) - 3\cos^2(t) + 4 = 0, \quad (\cos(t) + 1)(\cos(t) - 2)^2 = 0$$

$$\cos(t) = -1; \cos(t) \neq 2$$

$$\cos(t) = -1 \rightarrow x = 0$$

So answer  $\{0\}$

**713. Find all values of  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$  such that :**

$$xyz(xy + yz + zx) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 3$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India*

$$a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca = \frac{1}{2}((a - b)^2 + (b - c)^2 + (c - a)^2) \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2 + b^2 + c^2 \geq ab + bc + ca \quad \forall a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (1)$$

$$\text{Putting } a = xy, b = yz, c = zx \text{ in (1), } \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y^2 \geq xyz \sum_{\text{cyc}} x$$

$\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (2)$  (" $=$ " iff  $x = y = z$ ) and

$$\text{putting } a = x^2, b = y^2, c = z^2 \text{ in (1), } \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^4 \geq \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y^2 \stackrel{\text{via (2)}}{\geq} xyz \sum_{\text{cyc}} x$$

$\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (3)$  (" $=$ " iff  $x = y = z$ )

$$\therefore (2) + (3) \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^4 + \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y^2 \geq 2xyz \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^4 + 2 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y^2 \geq$$

$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2y^2 + 2xyz \sum_{\text{cyc}} x \Rightarrow \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \right)^2 \geq \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right)^2$$

$\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (4)$  (" $=$ " iff  $x = y = z$ )

$$\text{Now, } \forall a, b, c \geq 0, \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \geq 3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{abc} \therefore \text{assigning } a = x^2, b = y^2, c = z^2,$$

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$$\sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \geq 3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{x^2 y^2 z^2} \Rightarrow \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \right)^3 \geq 27 x^2 y^2 z^2$$

$$\forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (5) \text{ (" = " iff } x^2 = y^2 = z^2)$$

$$\therefore (2) \cdot (3) \Rightarrow \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \right)^5 \geq 27 x^2 y^2 z^2 \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right)^2 \quad \forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$(\text{" = " iff } x = y = z) \stackrel{x^2+y^2+z^2=3}{\Rightarrow} 27 \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \right)^2 \geq 27 x^2 y^2 z^2 \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \right)^2 \geq x^2 y^2 z^2 \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right)^2 \quad \forall x, y, z \in \mathbb{R} \text{ (" = " iff } x = y = z)} \text{ but,}$$

$$\left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \right)^2 = x^2 y^2 z^2 \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right)^2 \quad (\because xyz(xy + yz + zx) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2)$$

$$\therefore xyz \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right) = \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 = 3 \Rightarrow x = y = z \therefore x^3 \cdot 3x^2 = 3$$

$$\left( \text{using } xyz \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} xy \right) = 3 \right) \Rightarrow x = 1$$

$\therefore (x = y = z = 1)$  is the only desired set of values (ans)

**714. Find all values of  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}$  such that :**

$$x^3 y^3 z^3 (x^2 y^2 + y^2 z^2 + z^2 x^2) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 3$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India*

$$\forall a, b, c \geq 0, \sum_{\text{cyc}} a \geq 3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{abc} \therefore \text{assigning } a = x^2, b = y^2, c = z^2,$$

$$3 = \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \geq 3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{x^2 y^2 z^2} \Rightarrow x^2 y^2 z^2 \leq 1 \Rightarrow xyz \leq 1 \rightarrow (1)$$

$$\left( \because x^3 y^3 z^3 \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 \right) = 3 \Rightarrow x^3 y^3 z^3 > 0 \Rightarrow xyz > 0 \right)$$

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$$\text{Now, } \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 = x^3 y^3 z^3 \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 \right) \stackrel{\text{via (2)}}{\leq} \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 \stackrel{x^2+y^2+z^2=3}{\Rightarrow}$$

$$\left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 \right)^2 \leq 3 \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 \Rightarrow \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^4 - \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 \leq 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (x^2 - y^2)^2 \leq 0};$$

$$\text{but } \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{cyc}} (x^2 - y^2)^2 \geq 0 \therefore \sum_{\text{cyc}} (x^2 - y^2)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow x^2 = y^2 = z^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 3x^2 = 3 \left( \text{using } \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 = 3 \right) \therefore \boxed{x = \pm 1, y = \pm 1, z = \pm 1} \rightarrow (2)$$

$$\text{Using } x^3 y^3 z^3 \left( \sum_{\text{cyc}} x^2 y^2 \right) = 3, \text{ we get : } 3xyz = 3 (\because x^2 = y^2 = z^2 = 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{xyz = 1} \rightarrow (3) \therefore (2) \text{ and } (3) \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x = 1 \\ y = 1 \\ z = 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x = 1 \\ y = -1 \\ z = -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} x = -1 \\ y = 1 \\ z = -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \begin{pmatrix} x = -1 \\ y = -1 \\ z = 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

are the only set of values  $| x^3 y^3 z^3 (x^2 y^2 + y^2 z^2 + z^2 x^2) = x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 3$  (ans)

**715. Find all values of  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that :**

$$x^4 + 9y^2 + 25z^2 = x^2 + 6xy + 2022$$

*Proposed by Dang Ngoc Minh-Vietnam*

*Solution by Mohamed Amine Ben Ajiba-Tanger-Morocco*

The equation is equivalent to :

$$9y^2 - 6xy + x^4 - x^2 - 2022 + 25z^2 = 0.$$

This equation has integral solutions if and only if its discriminant

$$36[2023 - (x^2 - 1)^2 - 25z^2]$$

is a perfect square. It follows that

$$2023 - (x^2 - 1)^2 - 25z^2 = t^2 \text{ or } (x^2 - 1)^2 + 25z^2 + t^2 = 2023.$$

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For any integer  $n$ , we have  $n^2 \equiv 0, 1, 4 \pmod{8}$ , then

$$(x^2 - 1)^2 + 25z^2 + t^2 \equiv 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 \pmod{8},$$

but we have  $2023 \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ . So the equation has no solution in integers.

716. If  $A, B \in M_2(\mathbb{R})$  then:

$$\det((AB - BA)^{1000} + (AB + BA)^{1000}) \geq 0$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Daniel Sitaru-Romania*

Let be:

$$C = (AB - BA)^{500}, \quad D = (AB + BA)^{500}, \quad z = \det(C + iD)$$

$$C, D \in M_2(\mathbb{R}) \Rightarrow \det(C - iD) = \overline{\det(C + iD)} = \bar{z}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \det((AB - BA)^{1000} + (AB + BA)^{1000}) &= \det(C^2 + D^2) = \\ &= \det(C^2 - i^2 D^2) = \det((C + iD)(C - iD)) = \\ &= \det(C + iD) \cdot \det(C - iD) = z \cdot \bar{z} = |z|^2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

717. Solve for  $x \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$ :

$$1 + \frac{1}{2} \cos x + \frac{1}{4} \cos 2x + \frac{1}{8} \cos 3x + \frac{1}{16} \cos 4x + \dots = \frac{23 + 3\sqrt{5}}{22}$$

*Proposed by Netai Chandra Bhar-India*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

We know that  $e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$  and  $\cos \theta = \frac{(e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta})}{2}$

Componendo dividendo if  $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d}$  then  $\frac{a+b}{a-b} = \frac{c+d}{c-d}$

$$\cos \frac{\pi}{5} = \frac{\sqrt{5} + 1}{4}$$

$$1 + \frac{1}{2} \cos x + \frac{1}{4} \cos 2x + \frac{1}{8} \cos 3x + \frac{1}{16} \cos 4x + \dots =$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{e^{ix} + e^{-ix}}{2} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{e^{i2x} + e^{-i2x}}{2} + \frac{1}{8} \frac{e^{i3x} + e^{-i3x}}{2} + \frac{1}{16} \frac{e^{i4x} + e^{-i4x}}{2} \dots = \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} e^{ix} + \frac{1}{4} e^{2ix} + \frac{1}{8} e^{3ix} + \frac{1}{16} e^{4ix} + \dots\right) + \\
 &+ \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} e^{-ix} + \frac{1}{4} e^{-2ix} + \frac{1}{8} e^{-3ix} + \frac{1}{16} e^{-4ix} + \dots\right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2} e^{ix}} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{2} e^{-ix}} \quad (\text{infinite G.P series}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{2 - e^{ix}} + \frac{1}{2 - e^{-ix}} = \frac{4 - (e^{ix} + e^{-ix})}{(2 - e^{ix})(2 - e^{-ix})} = \\
 &= \frac{4 - 2 \cos x}{(2 - \cos x + i \sin x)(2 - \cos x + i \sin x)} = \\
 &= \frac{4 - 2 \cos x}{(2 - \cos x)^2 + \sin^2 x} = \frac{5 - 4 \cos x}{5 - 4 \cos x}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Now by the problem : } \frac{4 - 2 \cos x}{5 - 4 \cos x} = \frac{23 + 3\sqrt{5}}{22}$$

$$\frac{8 - 4 \cos x}{5 - 4 \cos x} = \frac{23 + 3\sqrt{5}}{11}$$

$$\frac{13 - 8 \cos x}{3} = \frac{(34 + 3\sqrt{5})}{12 + 3\sqrt{5}} \quad (\text{using Componendo dividendo})$$

$$\text{or } 13 - 8 \cos x = \frac{(34 + 3\sqrt{5})}{4 + \sqrt{5}} \quad \text{or } 8 \cos x = 13 - \frac{(34 + 3\sqrt{5})}{4 + \sqrt{5}}$$

$$\text{or } 8 \cos x = \frac{18 + 10\sqrt{5}}{4 + \sqrt{5}} \quad \text{or } 4 \cos x = \frac{9 + 4\sqrt{5}}{4 + \sqrt{5}} = \frac{(4 + \sqrt{5})(\sqrt{5} + 1)}{4 + \sqrt{5}}$$

$$\text{or } \cos x = \frac{(\sqrt{5} + 1)}{4} = \cos \frac{\pi}{5} \quad \text{or } x = \frac{\pi}{5}$$

718. Prove that:

$$\sin \frac{\pi}{14} + 6 \sin^2 \frac{\pi}{14} - 8 \sin^4 \frac{\pi}{14} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Tapas Das-India

We know that:

$$\sin 3\theta = 3 \sin \theta - 4 \sin^3 \theta \quad (1)$$

$$2 \sin A \cos B = \sin(A + B) + \sin(A - B) \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Let } \frac{\pi}{14} = \theta \text{ then } 14\theta = \pi \text{ and } 7\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sin \frac{\pi}{14} + 6 \sin^2 \frac{\pi}{14} - 8 \sin^4 \frac{\pi}{14} &= \sin \theta + 6 \sin^2 \theta - 8 \sin^4 \theta = \\
 &= \sin \theta + 2 \sin \theta (3 \sin \theta - 4 \sin^3 \theta) = \sin \theta + 2 \sin \theta \sin 3\theta = \\
 &= \sin \theta + (\cos 2\theta - \cos 4\theta)
 \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sin \theta + \cos(7\theta - 5\theta) - \cos(7\theta - 3\theta) = \sin \theta + \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - 5\theta\right) - \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - 3\theta\right) \\
 &= \sin \theta + \sin 5\theta - \sin 3\theta = \frac{1}{2 \cos \theta} (2 \cos \theta \sin \theta + 2 \cos \theta \sin 5\theta - 2 \cos \theta \sin 3\theta) = \\
 &= \frac{1}{2 \cos \theta} (\sin 2\theta + \sin 6\theta + \sin 4\theta - \sin 4\theta - \sin 2\theta) = \\
 &= \frac{\sin 6\theta}{2 \cos \theta} = \frac{\sin(7\theta - \theta)}{2 \cos \theta} = \frac{\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right)}{2 \cos \theta} = \frac{\cos(\theta)}{2 \cos \theta} = \frac{1}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

719.

**Find the last digit of  $A = 2024^{2025^{2026}} + 2026^{2027^{2028}} + 2028^{2029^{2030}}$**

*Proposed by Nguyen Van Canh-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

Now we need to find the last digit of  $2024^{2025^{2026}}$   
 last digit of 2024 is 4  
 now,  $4^1$  ends in 4,  $4^2$  ends in 6,  $4^3$  ends in 4  
 the pattern is 4, 6 which repeats every 2 powers (1)

We know that any positive integer power of an odd number odd  
 2025 is an odd then  $2025^{2026}$  is an odd number, if exponent is odd, the last  
 digit of  $2024^{2025^{2026}}$  is 4 (using (1)) (2)

now we need to find the last digit of  $2026^{2027^{2028}}$   
 clearly,  $6^1 = 6, 6^2 = 36, 6^3 = 216, \dots$   
 so clearly last digit of  $2026^{2027^{2028}}$  is 6 (3)

now we need to find the last digit of  $2028^{2029^{2030}}$   
 for this we can focus on the last digit of 2028,  
 which is 8 and  
 $8^1 = 8, 8^2$  ends in 4,  $8^3$  ends in 2,  $8^4$  ends in 6  
 the pattern repeats every 4 power  
 now,  $2029 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}, (2029)^{2030} \equiv 1^{2030} \pmod{4}, 2029^{2030} \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$

So, last digit of  $2028^{2029^{2030}}$  is  $8^1 = 8$  (4)

Now using result (2), (3), (4) we get  $4 + 6 + 8 = 18$   
 last digit of A is 8

720.

$$\text{If } \begin{cases} a + b + c = 0 \\ ab + ac + bc = -3 \\ bac = 2 \end{cases} \text{ then find } \frac{\sum a^2 \sum a^6}{\sum a^3 \sum a^5}$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Togrul Ehmedov-Azerbaijan*

We know that:

$$\sum a^2 = (\sum a)^2 - 2 \sum ab \Rightarrow \sum a^2 = 6$$

a, b and c are the roots of the equation:

$$x^3 - 3x - 2 = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} \sum a^3 - 3 \sum a - 6 = 0 \\ \sum a^4 - 3 \sum a^2 - 2 \sum a = 0 \\ \sum a^5 - 3 \sum a^3 - 2 \sum a^2 = 0 \\ \sum a^6 - 3 \sum a^4 - 2 \sum a^3 = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \sum a^3 = 6 \\ \sum a^4 = 18 \\ \sum a^5 = 30 \\ \sum a^6 = 66 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \frac{\sum a^2 \sum a^6}{\sum a^3 \sum a^5} = 2, 2$$

721. **Solve for real numbers:**

$$a + b + c = \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}, \quad ab + bc + ca = \frac{1}{ab} + \frac{1}{bc} + \frac{1}{ca}$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\text{Let } a + b + c = p, ab + bc + ca = q, abc = r$$

$$\text{then } a + b + c = \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \text{ or, } a + b + c = \frac{ab + bc + ca}{abc} \text{ or, } p = \frac{q}{r} \text{ or, } pr = q \quad (1)$$

$$ab + bc + ca = \frac{1}{ab} + \frac{1}{bc} + \frac{1}{ca} \text{ or, } ab + bc + ca = \frac{a + b + c}{abc} \text{ or,}$$

$$q = \frac{p}{r} \text{ or, } qr = p \quad (2)$$

From (2),  $qr = p$  or,  $(pr) \cdot r = p$  or,  $p(r^2 - 1) = 0$  which implies  $r = 1, -1$   
 $p = 0$  not possible because

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$p = a + b + c = 0$  gives from (1)  $q = ab + bc + ca = 0$   
 as a result  $(a + b + c)^2 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2(ab + bc + ca)$  or,  $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow a = b = c = 0$ , for this value reciprocal are not defined, so  $p \neq 0$

Case - 1:  $r = 1$  then from (1) we get  $p = q$

known result  $(a - 1)(b - 1)(c - 1) = abc - (ab + bc + ca) + (a + b + c) - 1$   
 $= r - q + p - 1 = 1 - p + p - 1 = 0$

or,  $(a - 1)(b - 1)(c - 1)$

$= 0$  which implies that at least one of the number  $a, b, c$

is equal to 1. If  $a = 1$  then  $r = abc = 1 \Rightarrow bc = 1$  or,  $c = \frac{1}{b}$

solution for Case - 1, all the permutation  $\left(1, t, \frac{1}{t}\right), t \in R - \{0\}$

Case - 2:  $r = -1$  then from (1) we get  $q = -p$

Known result  $(a + 1)(b + 1)(c + 1) = abc + (ab + bc + ca) + (a + b + c) + 1$   
 $= r + q + p + 1 = -1 - p + p + 1 = 0$  or,  $(a + 1)(b + 1)(c + 1) = 0$

which implies that at least one of the number  $a, b, c$  is equal to  $-1$

If  $a = -1$  then  $r = abc \Rightarrow -1 = -bc$  or,  $c = \frac{1}{b}$

Ssolution for Case - 2, all the permutation  $\left(-1, t, \frac{1}{t}\right), t \in R - \{0\}$

722.

If  $a, b, c > 0, b^2 + c^2 = a^2$  and the equation :  $-ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  has

2 real roots  $x_1 < x_2$ , then prove that :  $-\sqrt{2} < x_1 < x_2 < \sqrt{2}$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

Easy to see that :  $x_1 = \frac{b - \sqrt{b^2 + 4ac}}{2a}$  and  $x_2 = \frac{b + \sqrt{b^2 + 4ac}}{2a}$

$\therefore x_1 > \frac{-\sqrt{b^2 + 4ac}}{2a} \stackrel{?}{>} -\sqrt{2} \Leftrightarrow 2 \stackrel{?}{>} \frac{b^2 + 4ac}{4a^2} \stackrel{b^2+c^2=a^2}{\Leftrightarrow} 8a^2 \stackrel{?}{>} a^2 - c^2 + 4ac$

$\Leftrightarrow (2a - c)^2 + 3a^2 \stackrel{?}{>} 0 \rightarrow \text{true} \therefore x_1 > -\sqrt{2}$  and again,  $x_2 = \frac{b + \sqrt{b^2 + 4ac}}{2a} \stackrel{?}{<} \sqrt{2}$

$\stackrel{b^2+c^2=a^2}{\Leftrightarrow} \sqrt{\frac{a^2 - c^2}{a^2}} + \sqrt{\frac{a^2 - c^2 + 4ac}{a^2}} \stackrel{?}{<} 2\sqrt{2}$

$\Leftrightarrow \left(\sqrt{1 - t^2} + \sqrt{1 - t^2 + 4t}\right)^2 \stackrel{?}{<} (2\sqrt{2})^2 \left(t = \frac{c}{a}\right)$

$\Leftrightarrow 2 - 2t^2 + 4t + 2 \cdot \sqrt{(1 - t^2)(1 - t^2 + 4t)} \stackrel{?}{<} 8$

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$$\Leftrightarrow t^2 - 2t + 3 \stackrel{?}{>} \sqrt{(1-t^2)(1-t^2+4t)} \Leftrightarrow (t^2 - 2t + 3)^2 \stackrel{?}{>} (1-t^2)(1-t^2+4t)$$

$$(\because t^2 - 2t + 3 = (t-1)^2 + 2 > 0) \Leftrightarrow 3t^2 - 4t + 2 \stackrel{?}{>} 0 \Leftrightarrow 2(t-1)^2 + t^2 \stackrel{?}{>} 0$$

$$\therefore x_2 < \sqrt{2} \therefore -\sqrt{2} < x_1 < x_2 < \sqrt{2} \forall a, b, c > 0, b^2 + c^2 = a^2 \text{ such that}$$

$$\text{the equation : } -ax^2 + bx + c = 0 \text{ has 2 real roots } x_1 < x_2 \text{ (QED)}$$

723.

If  $a, b > 0, n \geq 0$  and the equation :  $x^3 - ax^2 + bx - a = 0$  has 3 roots  $x_1, x_2, x_3 > 1$ , then prove that :  $\frac{b^n - 3^n}{a^n} \geq 3^{\frac{n}{2}} - \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)^n$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Soumava Chakraborty-Kolkata-India

Via Viète,  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = a, x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + x_3x_1 = b$  and  $x_1x_2x_3 = a$   
and  $\because (x_1 + x_2 + x_3)^2 \geq 3(x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + x_3x_1)$  and

$$(x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + x_3x_1)^2 \geq 3x_1x_2x_3(x_1 + x_2 + x_3) \therefore a^2 \geq 3b \text{ and } b^2 \stackrel{\textcircled{1}}{\geq} 3a^2$$

$$\Rightarrow b^2 \geq 3a^2 \geq 9b \Rightarrow b \geq 9 \therefore \frac{b^n - 3^n}{a^n} \stackrel{\textcircled{2}}{\geq} \frac{b^n - 3^n}{\left(\frac{b}{\sqrt{3}}\right)^n} (\because n \geq 0) = 3^{\frac{n}{2}} - \frac{3^n \cdot 3^{\frac{n}{2}}}{b^n} \stackrel{\textcircled{2}}{\geq}$$

$$3^{\frac{n}{2}} - \frac{3^n \cdot 3^{\frac{n}{2}}}{9^n} (\because n \geq 0) = 3^{\frac{n}{2}} - \frac{1}{3^{\frac{n}{2}}} \therefore \frac{b^n - 3^n}{a^n} \geq 3^{\frac{n}{2}} - \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\right)^n \forall a, b > 0, n \geq 0$$

such that the equation :  $x^3 - ax^2 + bx - a = 0$  has 3 roots  $x_1, x_2, x_3 > 1$ ,

" = " iff  $(a = 3\sqrt{3}, b = 9)$  (QED)

724. If the equation  $ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d = 0, (a \neq 0)$  has 3 roots  $x_1, x_2, x_3 > 0$  then prove that:

$$x_1^7 + x_2^7 + x_3^7 \geq -\frac{b^3c^2}{81a^5}$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d = 0 \text{ (1)}$$

Relationship between roots and coefficient we get

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = -\frac{b}{a}$$

$$x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + x_3x_1 = \frac{c}{a}$$

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$$x_1 x_2 x_3 = -\frac{d}{a}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x_1^7 + x_2^7 + x_3^7 &\stackrel{\text{Chebyshev}}{\geq} \frac{1}{3}(x_1^3 + x_2^3 + x_3^3)(x_1^4 + x_2^4 + x_3^4) \stackrel{\text{CBS}}{\geq} \\ &\geq \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{(x_1 + x_2 + x_3)^3}{9} \cdot \frac{(x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2)^2}{3} \geq \\ &\geq \frac{1}{81}(x_1 + x_2 + x_3)^3(x_1 x_2 + x_2 x_3 + x_3 x_1)^2 = \frac{1}{81} \left(-\frac{b}{a}\right)^3 \left(\frac{c}{a}\right)^2 = -\frac{b^3 c^2}{81 a^5} \end{aligned}$$

**725. If the equation  $x^5 + ax^4 + bx^3 + cx^2 + dx + 1 = 0$  has 5 real roots are different in pairs then prove that  $2(a^2 + d^2) > 5(b + c)$**

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$x^5 + ax^4 + bx^3 + cx^2 + dx + 1 = 0 \quad (1)$$

Let  $r_1, r_2, r_3, r_4, r_5$  be the roots of the equation (1)

Relationships between roots and coefficient we get:

$$p_1 = \sum_{i=1}^5 r_i = -a$$

$$p_2 = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq 5} r_i r_j = b$$

$$p_3 = \sum_{1 \leq i < j < k \leq 5} r_i r_j r_k = -c$$

$$p_4 = \sum_{1 \leq i < j < k < l \leq 5} r_i r_j r_k r_l = d$$

$$p_5 = \prod_{i=1}^5 r_i = -1$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^5 \frac{1}{r_i} = \left( \sum_{1 \leq i < j < k < l \leq 5} r_i r_j r_k r_l \right) \times \frac{1}{\prod_{i=1}^5 r_i} = \frac{p_4}{p_5} = -d \quad (1)$$

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^5 \frac{1}{r_i} \right)^2 = \left( \sum_{i=1}^5 \frac{1}{r_i} \right)^2 - 2 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq 5} \frac{1}{r_i r_j} =$$

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$$= \left( \sum_{i=1}^5 \frac{1}{r_i} \right)^2 - 2 \left( \sum_{1 \leq i < j < k \leq 5} r_i r_j r_k \right) \times \frac{1}{\prod_{i=1}^5 r_i} \stackrel{(1)}{=} d^2 - 2 \left( \frac{p_3}{p_5} \right) = d^2 - 2c \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \sum_{i=1}^5 r_i^2 \right) \left( \sum_{i=1}^5 1^2 \right) \stackrel{\text{Cauchy-Schwarz}}{>} \left( \sum_{i=1}^5 r_i \right)^2 \\ \text{or } 5 \left( \sum_{i=1}^5 r_i^2 \right) & > (p_1)^2 \text{ or } 5 \left( \left( \sum_{i=1}^5 r_i \right)^2 - 2 \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq 5} r_i r_j \right) > (p_1)^2 \\ \text{or } 5(p_1^2 - 2p_2) & > (p_1)^2 \text{ or } 5(a^2 - 2b) > a^2 \text{ or } 4a^2 > 10b \text{ or } 2a^2 > 5b \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \sum_{i=1}^5 \frac{1}{r_i^2} \right) \left( \sum_{i=1}^5 1^2 \right) \stackrel{\text{Cauchy-Schwarz}}{>} \left( \sum_{i=1}^5 \frac{1}{r_i} \right)^2 \text{ or } 5 \left( \sum_{i=1}^5 \frac{1}{r_i^2} \right) > \left( \sum_{i=1}^5 \frac{1}{r_i} \right)^2 \\ \text{or } 5(d^2 - 2c) & \stackrel{(1) \& (2)}{>} d^2 \text{ or } 4d^2 > 10c \text{ or } 2d^2 > 5c \quad (4) \end{aligned}$$

Adding (3) & (4) we get :

$$2a^2 + 2d^2 > 5b + 5c \text{ or } 2(a^2 + d^2) > 5(b + c)$$

**726. Solve for naturals:**

$$4(x + y + z) + xyz = 2(xy + yz + zx) + 9$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

*We know that:*

$$(x - 2)(y - 2)(z - 2) = xyz - 2(xy + yz + zx) + 4(x + y + z) - 8$$

$$\Rightarrow 4(x + y + z) + xyz - 2(xy + yz + zx) = (x - 2)(y - 2)(z - 2) + 8 \quad (1)$$

$$\text{from the given condition, } 4(x + y + z) + xyz = 2(xy + yz + zx) + 9$$

$$\Rightarrow 4(x + y + z) + xyz - 2(xy + yz + zx) = 9$$

$$\Rightarrow (x - 2)(y - 2)(z - 2) + 8 \stackrel{(1)}{=} 9 \Rightarrow (x - 2)(y - 2)(z - 2) = 1$$

*Thus we need integer triplets whose product is 1*

Case - 1

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1.1.1 = 1, for this  $x - 2 = y - 2 = z - 2 = 1$  or,  $x = y = z = 3$   
solution:  $(x, y, z) = (3, 3, 3)$

Case – 2

$(-1) \cdot (-1) \cdot (1) = 1$  (and permutation)  
for this  $x - 2 = -1, y - 2 = -1, z - 2 = 1$  which gives  $x = 1, y = 1, z = 3$   
solutions:  $(x, y, z) = (1, 1, 3), (1, 3, 1), (3, 1, 1)$

727. Solve for natural numbers:

$$x^3 - y^3 = 2(x^2 + y^2) + 3xy + 17$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$x^3 - y^3 = 2(x^2 + y^2) + 3xy + 17 \quad (1)$$

Clearly,  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$  for this R.H.S part  $> 0$ , consequently L.H.S  $> 0, x > y$

let  $d = x - y > 0$  then  $x = d + y$  whth this substitution from(1)we get  
 $(d + y)^3 - y^3 = 2((d + y)^2 + y^2) + 3(d + y)y + 17$

$$d(d^2 + 2dy + y^2 + dy + y^2 + y^2) = 2(d^2 + 2dy + 2y^2) + 3y(d + y) + 17$$

$$\text{or, } y^2(3d - 7) + y(3d^2 - 7d) + (d^3 - 2d^2 - 17) = 0 \quad (2)$$

we note that  $x, y \in \mathbb{N}$

Case – 1:

$d = 1$  then equation (2) becomes,  $-4y^2 - 4y - 18 = 0$  or,  $2y^2 + 2y + 9 = 0$ , real root does not exist as discriminant  $= 2^2 - 4 \cdot 2 \cdot 9 = -68 < 0$

Case – 2:

$d = 2$  then equation (2) becomes,  $-y^2 - 2y - 17 = 0$  or  
 $y^2 + 2y + 17 = 0$ , real root does not exist as discriminant  $= 2^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 17 = -64 < 0$

Case – 3:

$d = 3$  then equation (2) becomes,  $2y^2 + 6y - 8 = 0$  or,  $(y + 4)(y - 1) = 0$   
or,  $y = 1$  (as  $y \in \mathbb{N}$ , so  $y \neq -4$ ),  $x = y + d = 1 + 3 = 4$   
now from(2) for  $d \geq 4$  coefficient of  $y^2 \geq 3 \times 4 - 7 = 5 > 0$   
coefficient of  $y \geq 3 \times 4^2 - 7 \times 4 = 20 > 0$   
constant term  $\geq 4^3 - 32 - 17 = 64 - 49 = 15 > 0$

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clearly for  $d \geq 4$  equation (2) never be zero.

Required solution in  $N$  is  $x = 4, y = 1$

**728. Solve for natural numbers:**

$$\sqrt[3]{x^3 + 4x^2 + 3} + \sqrt{x^2 + x + 3} = x + 4$$

*Proposed by Sakthi Vel-India*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\text{Let } f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x^3 + 4x^2 + 3} + \sqrt{x^2 + x + 3} - (x + 4)$$

We are going to find  $x \in N$  for which  $f(x) = 0$

$$\text{for } x = 1: f(1) = \sqrt[3]{8} + \sqrt{5} - (1 + 4) = \sqrt{5} - 3 \neq 0$$

$$\text{for } x = 2: f(2) = \sqrt[3]{27} + \sqrt{9} - (2 + 4) = 3 + 3 - 6 = 0$$

so  $x = 2$  is a solution of  $f(x) = 0$ ,

Now we will show there does not exist any  $x \in N$  which satisfy  $f(x) = 0$

for  $x \geq 3 \in N$

$$\text{We have } (x + 1)^3 = x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x + 1$$

$$x^3 + 4x^2 + 3 - (x + 1)^3 = x^2 - 3x + 2 = (x - 1)(x - 2) > 0 \text{ as } x \geq 3$$

$$x^3 + 4x^2 + 3 > (x + 1)^3 \Rightarrow \sqrt[3]{x^3 + 4x^2 + 3} > x + 1$$

$$\text{Again for } x \geq 3, x^2 + x + 3 \geq 3^2 + 3 + 3 = 15 > 9 \Rightarrow \sqrt{x^2 + x + 3} > \sqrt{9} = 3$$

Adding above two results we get:

$$\sqrt[3]{x^3 + 4x^2 + 3} + \sqrt{x^2 + x + 3} > x + 1 + 3 = x + 4$$

Clearly for  $x \geq 3 (\in N), f(x) \neq 0$

Required solution  $x = 2$ .

**729.**

*If  $a, b > 0$  and the equation*

$$x^3 - ax^2 + bx - a = 0 \text{ has 3 roots } x_1, x_2, x_3 \geq 1$$

*then show that :*

$$a \geq \left( \frac{1}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8} \right) (b + 3)$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

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**Solution by Tapas Das-India**

$x^3 - ax^2 + bx - a = 0$  has 3 roots  $x_1, x_2, x_3 \geq 1$

then  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = a, x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + x_3x_1 = b, x_1x_2x_3 = a$

According to the condition  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = x_1x_2x_3$  (1)

$\frac{a}{b+3} = \frac{x_1 + x_2 + x_3}{x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + x_3x_1 + 3}$  now we are going to find Min value of  $\frac{a}{b+3}$

Since the function symmetric to get Min value we take:

$x_2 = x_3 = t \geq 1$  and  $x_1 = x$

From (1) we get  $x + 2t = xt^2$  or  $x = \frac{2t}{t^2 - 1}$  (2)

$a = x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 2t + x = 2t + \frac{2t}{t^2 - 1} = \frac{2t^3}{t^2 - 1}$

$b = x_1x_2 + x_2x_3 + x_3x_1 = t^2 + 2xt = t^2 + 2t \cdot \frac{2t}{t^2 - 1} = t^2 + \frac{4t^2}{t^2 - 1} = \frac{t^2(t^2 + 3)}{t^2 - 1}$

$\frac{a}{b+3} = \frac{\frac{2t^3}{t^2 - 1}}{\frac{t^2(t^2 + 3)}{t^2 - 1} + 3} = \frac{2t^3}{t^4 + 6t^2 - 3}$

Let  $f(t) = \frac{2t^3}{t^4 + 6t^2 - 3}, f'(t) = \frac{-2t^2(t^2 - 3)^2}{(t^4 + 6t^2 - 3)^2} < 0$  as  $t \geq 1$  so  $f(t)$  is decreasing

We declared  $x = \frac{2t}{t^2 - 1}$  so  $t \neq 1, t > 1$  now  $x \geq 1$  (given)

For this  $\frac{2t}{t^2 - 1} \geq 1$  or  $t^2 - 2t - 1 \leq 0$  or  $(t - (\sqrt{2} + 1))(t - (1 - \sqrt{2})) \leq 0$

or  $(1 - \sqrt{2}) \leq t \leq (\sqrt{2} + 1)$  as  $t > 1$  then  $1 < t < (\sqrt{2} + 1)$

Since,  $f(t)$  is decreasing so  $f(t)$  min at  $t = \sqrt{2} + 1$

$f(\sqrt{2} + 1) = \frac{2(\sqrt{2} + 1)^3}{(\sqrt{2} + 1)^4 + 6(\sqrt{2} + 1)^2 - 3} = \frac{2(2\sqrt{2} + 7 + 3\sqrt{2})}{(3 + 2\sqrt{2})^2 + 6(3 + 2\sqrt{2}) - 3}$   
 $= \frac{2(5\sqrt{2} + 7)}{32 + 24\sqrt{2}} = \frac{1(5\sqrt{2} + 7)}{4(3\sqrt{2} + 4)} = \frac{1(3\sqrt{2} - 4)(5\sqrt{2} + 7)}{4(3\sqrt{2} - 4)(3\sqrt{2} + 4)} = \frac{12 + \sqrt{2}}{4 \cdot 2} = \left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8}\right)$

Therefore:

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$$\frac{a}{b+3} \geq \left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8}\right) \text{ or } a \geq \left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8}\right)(b+3)$$

when  $x_1 = 1, x_2 = x_3 = \sqrt{2} + 1$

**730. If  $x^3 - 6x^2 + ax - b = 0$  has 3 roots  $x_1, x_2, x_3 \geq 0$  prove that:**

$$8a - 3b \leq 72$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$x^3 - 6x^2 + ax - b = 0 \text{ then } \sum x_1 = 6, \sum x_1x_2 = a, x_1x_2x_3 = b$$

$$8a - 3b = 8\left(\sum x_1x_2\right) - 3x_1x_2x_3$$

$$\text{Let } F(x_1, x_2, x_3) = 8\left(\sum x_1x_2\right) - 3x_1x_2x_3$$

*F is symmetric, to find its Max value under the constraint  $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 6$ , we consider  $x_1 = x_2 = t, x_3 = 6 - 2t$  and  $t \in [0, 3]$  as,  $x_i \geq 0$*

$$a = \sum x_1x_2 = t^2 + 2(6 - 2t), b = x_1x_2x_3 = t^2(6 - 2t)$$

$$F(t) = 8\left(t^2 + 2(6 - 2t)\right) - 3t^2(6 - 2t) = 6t^3 - 42t^2 + 96t$$

$$F'(t) = 18t^2 - 84t + 96 \text{ to get critical point } F'(t) = 0 \text{ gives}$$

$$18t^2 - 84t + 96 = 0 \text{ or } (3t - 8)(t - 2) = 0 \text{ or } t = \frac{8}{3}, 2$$

*We find value of F(t) a critical point and boundary [0, 3]*

$$F(0) = 0, F(2) = 6 \times 2^3 - 42 \times 2^2 + 96 \times 2 = 72, F\left(\frac{8}{3}\right) = 71.11, F(3) = 72$$

*so, Max value of F(t) is 72 and  $8a - 3b \leq 72$  at  $x_1 = x_2 = 2, x_3 = 2$*

**731. Solve for real numbers:**

$$\sqrt[3]{x+6} + \sqrt{x-1} = x^2 - 1$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

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**Solution by Tapas Das-India**

Since  $\sqrt{x-1}$  is define on  $x \geq 1$ ,  
so we are going to solve above equation  $\in [1, \infty)$

Let  $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x+6} + \sqrt{x-1} - (x^2 - 1)$ ,  $x \geq 1$   
 $f(1) = \sqrt[3]{7} + 0 - 0 = \sqrt[3]{7} > 0$ ,  $f(2) = \sqrt[3]{8} + 1 - 3 = 0$   
 so  $x = 2$  is a solution

Now we check nature of the function in  $x \in [1, 2)$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{3}(x+6)^{-\frac{2}{3}} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x-1}} - 2x$$

$$f''(x) = -\frac{2}{9}(x+6)^{-\frac{5}{3}} - \frac{1}{4}(x-1)^{-\frac{3}{2}} - 2 = -\left(\frac{2}{9}(x+6)^{-\frac{5}{3}} + \frac{1}{4}(x-1)^{-\frac{3}{2}} + 2\right) < 0$$

so  $f$  is concave in  $[1, 2]$ , for a concave function we have standard inequality  
 for  $x \in [1, 2) \Rightarrow x = (2-x) \cdot 1 + (x-1) \cdot 2$   
 then  $f((2-x) \cdot 1 + (x-1) \cdot 2) \geq (2-x)f(1) + (x-1)f(2)$   
 or  $f(x) \geq (2-x)f(1) > 0$  as  $x \in [1, 2)$  &  $f(1) = \sqrt[3]{7} > 0$   
 so  $f(x) > 0$  in  $[1, 2)$  and  $x = 2$   $f(2) = 0$

Now we check nature of the function in  $x > 2$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{3}(x+6)^{-\frac{2}{3}} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x-1}} - 2x$$

as  $x > 2$  then  $\frac{1}{3}(x+6)^{-\frac{2}{3}} < \frac{1}{3} \cdot 8^{-\frac{2}{3}} = \frac{1}{12}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x-1}} < \frac{1}{2 \cdot 1} = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $-2x < -4$   
 for this  $f'(x) < \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{2} - 4 = -\frac{41}{12} < 0$   
 which indicate that  $f(x)$  is decreasing  $\forall x > 2$   
 that's why after hitting 0 at  $x = 2$   
 the function goes negative and never come back up  
 so requested soution  $x = 2$

**732. Solve for reals:**

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

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

**Solution by Tapas Das-India**

Set  $p = \sqrt{x+7}$ ,  $q = \sqrt{9-x}$ ,  $r = \sqrt{x^2+1}$   
 Clearly,  $p^2 + q^2 = x+7 + 9-x = 16 = 4^2$   
 Let  $p = 4 \cos t$ ,  $q = 4 \sin t$ ,  $t \in \left[0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$  and  $p = \sqrt{x+7}$  or

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

Using above substitution we get:

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

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

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

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

for equality we take  $\cos t = \lambda A$ ,  $\sin t = \lambda$  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

**733. Solve for integers:**

$$\sqrt{x+y+2} = \sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y}$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

Let  $a = \sqrt{x}$ ,  $b = \sqrt{y}$  therefore  $x = a^2$ ,  $y = b^2$  (as  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,  $x, y > 0$ )

$$\sqrt{x+y+2} = \sqrt{x} + \sqrt{y} \text{ or } \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} + 2 = a + b \text{ or } \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} = a + b - 2$$

$$\text{or } (\sqrt{a^2 + b^2})^2 = (a + b - 2)^2 \text{ (as } \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} > 0 \text{ then R.H.S part } a + b - 2 > 0)$$

$$a^2 + b^2 = a^2 + b^2 + 4 + 2ab - 4a - 4b \text{ or } 2(ab - 2a - 2b + 2) = 0$$

$$ab - 2a - 2b = -2 \text{ or, } ab - 2a - 2b + 4 = -2 + 4 \text{ or, } (a-2)(b-2) = 2 \quad (1)$$

Integer factorization of 2 are (1, 2), (2, 1), (-1, -2), (-2, -1)

From (1) if  $a - 2 = 1$ ,  $b - 2 = 2$  then  $a = 3$ ,  $b = 4$

if  $a - 2 = 2$ ,  $b - 2 = 1$  then  $a = 4$ ,  $b = 3$

if  $a - 2 = -1$ ,  $b - 2 = -2$  then  $a = 1$ ,  $b = 0$

if  $a - 2 = -2$ ,  $b - 2 = -1$  then  $a = 0$ ,  $b = 1$

Now,  $a = 3$ ,  $b = 4 \Rightarrow x = 9$ ,  $y = 16$  (as  $x = a^2$ ,  $y = b^2$ )

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$$a = 4, b = 3 \Rightarrow x = 16, y = 19,$$

$a = 1, b = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1, y = 0$  does not satisfy given equation

$a = 0, b = 1 \Rightarrow x = 0, y = 1$ , does not satisfy given equation

so the required solution  $x = 9, y = 16$  or  $x = 16, y = 9$

**734. Solve for integers:**

$$(\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{y})^4 = 3361 - \sqrt{11296320}$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$(\sqrt{x} - \sqrt{y})^4 = (x + y - 2\sqrt{xy})^2 = (x + y)^2 + 4xy - 4\sqrt{xy}(x + y)$$

$$\text{now, } (x + y)^2 + 4xy - 4\sqrt{xy}(x + y) = 3361 - \sqrt{11296320}$$

$$\text{comparing we get, } (x + y)^2 + 4xy = 3361 \quad (1)$$

$$4\sqrt{xy}(x + y) = \sqrt{11296320} \quad (2)$$

Let  $x + y = s$  and  $xy = p$  then from (1)&(2) we have

$$s^2 + 4p = 3361 \quad (3)$$

$$4s\sqrt{p} = \sqrt{11296320} \text{ or, } s^2 p = \frac{11296320}{16} = 706020 \quad (4)$$

$$\text{From (3)\&(4) we have } s^2 p = 706020 \text{ or } s^2 \left( \frac{3361 - s^2}{4} \right) \stackrel{(3)}{=} 706020$$

$$s^2(3361 - s^2) = 2824080 \text{ or } s^4 - 3361s^2 + 2824080 = 0$$

$$s^2 = \frac{3361 \pm \sqrt{(3361)^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 2824080}}{2} = \frac{3361 \pm 1}{2} = 1681, 1680$$

as we solve the equation for  $Z^+$

$$\text{for this we take } s^2 = (x + y)^2 = 1681 = 41^2$$

$$s = x + y = 41 \text{ and } p = xy \stackrel{\text{from (3)}}{=} \frac{3361 - s^2}{4} = \frac{3361 - 1681}{4} = 420$$

We have  $x + y = 41$  and  $xy = 420$

To find  $(x, y)$  we construct an equation with roots  $x$  &  $y$ ,

equation will be  $t^2 - (x + y)t + xy = 0$  or

$$t^2 - 41t + 420 = 0 \text{ or } (t - 21)(t - 20) = 0 \text{ or } t = 21, 20$$

Required solution  $x = 21, y = 20$  or  $x = 20, y = 21$ .

**735.  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  fixed. Solve for reals :**

$$3^{x+\lambda} + 3x + 3\lambda = 1$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

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**Solution by Tapas Das-India**

$$\text{Let } y = x + \lambda$$

The equation can be written as  $3^y + 3(y - \lambda) + 3\lambda = 1$  or,  $3^y + 3y = 1$  (1)

Let  $f(y) = 3^y + 3y$  then  $f'(y) = 3^y \ln 3 + 3 > 0 \forall y \in R$   
 $f(x)$  is strictly increasing

For this equation (1) has at most one solution, clearly  $f(0) = 1$

$$y = 0 \text{ satisfy the equation (1)}$$

$$y = 0 \text{ is a solution or } x + \lambda = 0 \text{ or } x = -\lambda$$

**736. Let be  $\lambda \in R^+$  fixed. Solve for reals:**

$$\begin{cases} x^6 - y^6 = \lambda^6 - 1 \\ x^4 + x^2y^2 + y^4 = \lambda^4 + \lambda^2 + 1 \end{cases}$$

**Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania**

**Solution by Tapas Das-India**

$$\text{Let } a = x^2, b = y^2 (a, b \geq 0)$$

$$x^6 - y^6 = \lambda^6 - 1 \text{ or, } (x^2 - y^2)(x^4 + x^2y^2 + y^4) = (\lambda^2)^3 - (1)^3$$

$$(a - b)(a^2 + ab + b^2) = (\lambda^2 - 1)(\lambda^4 + \lambda^2 + 1)$$

Comparing we get :

$$a - b = \lambda^2 - 1 \text{ (1), } a^2 + ab + b^2 = \lambda^4 + \lambda^2 + 1 \text{ (2)}$$

Let  $a + b = s, d = a - b = \lambda^2 - 1$  then from (2) we get:

$$a^2 + ab + b^2 = \lambda^4 + \lambda^2 + 1$$

$$(a + b)^2 - 2ab + ab = \lambda^4 + \lambda^2 + 1 \text{ or } (a + b)^2 - ab = \lambda^4 + \lambda^2 + 1$$

$$(a + b)^2 - \frac{1}{4}((a + b)^2 - (a - b)^2) = \lambda^4 + \lambda^2 + 1$$

$$s^2 - \frac{1}{4}(s^2 - d^2) = \lambda^4 + \lambda^2 + 1$$

$$\frac{3s^2}{4} = \lambda^4 + \lambda^2 + 1 - \frac{d^2}{4} \text{ or } 3s^2 \stackrel{d=a-b=\lambda^2-1}{=} 4(\lambda^4 + \lambda^2 + 1) - (\lambda^2 - 1)^2$$

$$s^2 = (\lambda^2 + 1)^2 \text{ or } s = a + b = \lambda^2 + 1 \text{ (as } a, b \geq 0) \text{ (3)}$$

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$$ab = \frac{1}{4}((a+b)^2 - (a-b)^2) = \frac{1}{4}((\lambda^2 + 1)^2 - (\lambda^2 - 1)^2) = 4 \frac{\lambda^2}{4} = \lambda^2 \quad (4)$$

We construct an equation with roots  $a$  &  $b$

$$t^2 - (a+b)t + ab = 0 \text{ or } t^2 - (\lambda^2 + 1)t + \lambda^2 = 0 \text{ or } t = \frac{(\lambda^2 + 1) \pm (\lambda^2 - 1)}{2}$$

$$\text{or } t = \lambda^2, 1 \Rightarrow x^2 = a = \lambda^2 \text{ or } x = \pm \lambda \text{ \& } y^2 = b = 1 \text{ or } y = \pm 1$$

$$\text{Solutions: } (x, y) \in \{(\lambda, 1), (-\lambda, 1), (-\lambda, -1), (\lambda, -1)\}$$

**737. Let be  $\lambda \geq 1$  fixed. Solve for reals:**

$$\begin{cases} (x+y)(x^2+y^2) = \lambda(4\lambda^2+1) \\ (x-y)(x^2-y^2) = 2\lambda \end{cases}$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\text{Let } u = x + y, v = x - y \text{ then } x = \frac{u+v}{2}, y = \frac{u-v}{2}, xy = \frac{u^2 - v^2}{4}$$

$$(x+y)(x^2+y^2) = \lambda(4\lambda^2+1) \text{ or } (x+y)((x+y)^2 - 2xy) = \lambda(4\lambda^2+1)$$

$$u \left( u^2 - \frac{u^2 - v^2}{2} \right) = \lambda(4\lambda^2+1) \text{ or } u(u^2 + v^2) = 2\lambda(4\lambda^2+1) \quad (1)$$

$$(x-y)(x^2-y^2) = 2\lambda \text{ or } (x-y)^2(x+y) = 2\lambda \text{ or } uv^2 = 2\lambda \text{ or } v^2 = \frac{2\lambda}{u} \quad (2)$$

*Eliminating  $v^2$  between (1)&(2) we get:*

$$u \left( u^2 + \frac{2\lambda}{u} \right) = 2\lambda(4\lambda^2+1) \text{ or } u^3 + 2\lambda = 8\lambda^3 + 2\lambda \text{ or } u^3 = 8\lambda^3 \text{ or}$$

$$u = 2\lambda \text{ (as } \lambda \geq 1) \text{ \& } v^2 = \frac{2\lambda}{u} = \frac{2\lambda}{2\lambda} = 1 \text{ or } v = \pm 1$$

$$x = \frac{u+v}{2} = \frac{2\lambda \pm 1}{2} = \lambda \pm \frac{1}{2}, y = \frac{u-v}{2} = \frac{2\lambda \mp 1}{2} = \lambda \mp \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{Solutions: } (x, y) = \left( \lambda + \frac{1}{2}, \lambda - \frac{1}{2} \right), \left( \lambda - \frac{1}{2}, \lambda + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

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738. Solve for reals:

$$\begin{cases} \sqrt{x + \frac{1}{5}} + \sqrt{y + \frac{1}{5}} = \sqrt{15} \\ x + y = 3 + 8\sqrt{xy} \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$\text{Let } a = \sqrt{x + \frac{1}{5}}, b = \sqrt{y + \frac{1}{5}} \text{ then } x = a^2 - \frac{1}{5}, y = b^2 - \frac{1}{5}$$

$$\text{According to the given condition, } a + b = \sqrt{15} \quad (1)$$

$$x + y = (a^2 + b^2) - \frac{2}{5} = (a + b)^2 - 2ab - \frac{2}{5} \stackrel{(1)}{=} 15 - 2ab - \frac{2}{5} = \frac{73}{5} - 2ab \quad (2)$$

$$\text{again, } x + y = 3 + 8\sqrt{xy} \quad (3) \text{ eliminate } (x + y) \text{ from (2) \& (3) we get,}$$

$$3 + 8\sqrt{xy} = \frac{73}{5} - 2ab \text{ or } \sqrt{xy} = \frac{\frac{29}{5} - ab}{4}$$

$$\text{or } xy = \frac{1}{16} \left( \frac{29}{5} - ab \right)^2 = \frac{1}{16} \left( \frac{841}{25} - \frac{58}{5}ab + a^2b^2 \right) \quad (4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} xy &= \left( a^2 - \frac{1}{5} \right) \left( b^2 - \frac{1}{5} \right) = a^2b^2 - \frac{a^2 + b^2}{5} + \frac{1}{25} = a^2b^2 - \frac{(a + b)^2 - 2ab}{5} + \frac{1}{25} \stackrel{(1)}{=} \\ &= a^2b^2 + \frac{2}{5}ab - \frac{74}{25} \quad (5) \text{ from (4) and (5) eliminate } xy \text{ we get:} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{1}{16} \left( \frac{841}{25} - \frac{58}{5}ab + a^2b^2 \right) = a^2b^2 + \frac{2}{5}ab - \frac{74}{25}$$

$$\text{or } \left( \frac{841}{25} - \frac{58}{5}ab + a^2b^2 \right) = 16a^2b^2 + \frac{32}{5}ab - \frac{74}{25} \text{ or}$$

$$841 - 290ab + 25a^2b^2 = 400a^2b^2 + 16ab - 1184$$

$$\text{or } 5a^2b^2 + 6ab - 27 = 0 \text{ or } ab = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{36 + 540}}{10} = \frac{9}{5}, -3$$

$$\text{as } ab \geq 0 \text{ so } ab \neq -3, ab = \frac{9}{5}$$

$$\text{Now } xy \stackrel{(4)}{=} \frac{1}{16} \left( \frac{29}{5} - ab \right)^2 \stackrel{ab=\frac{9}{5}}{=} 1 \text{ and } x + y \stackrel{(3)}{=} 3 + 8\sqrt{xy} \stackrel{xy=1}{=} 11$$

We construct an equation with roots  $x, y$ :

$$m^2 - (x + y)m + xy = 0 \text{ or, } m^2 - 11m + 1 = 0 \text{ or, } m = \frac{11 \pm \sqrt{117}}{2} = \frac{11 \pm 3\sqrt{13}}{2}$$

$$\text{solution } (x, y) = \left( \frac{11 + 3\sqrt{13}}{2}, \frac{11 - 3\sqrt{13}}{2} \right) \text{ or } \left( \frac{11 - 3\sqrt{13}}{2}, \frac{11 + 3\sqrt{13}}{2} \right)$$

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739.  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , fixed. Solve for real numbers:

$$5^x \cdot 2^{\frac{(n+1)(x-1)}{x}} = 5 \cdot 10^n$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$5^x \cdot 2^{\frac{(n+1)(x-1)}{x}} = 5 \cdot 10^n$$

$$\text{or } 5^x \cdot 2^{\frac{(n+1)(x-1)}{x}} = 5 \cdot (2^n \cdot 5^n) = 5^{n+1} \cdot 2^n$$

Comparing we get:

$$x = n + 1 \text{ \& } \frac{(n+1)(x-1)}{x} = n$$

$$\frac{(n+1)(x-1)}{x} = n \text{ or } nx = nx - n + x - 1 \text{ or } x = n + 1$$

Solution:  $x = n + 1$

740. Solve for reals:

$$(x^6)^{x^6} = 6x - 5$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Tapas Das-India

As L.H.S  $> 0$  so R.H.S  $> 0$  or  $6x - 5 > 0$  or  $x > \frac{5}{6}$

Let  $f(x) = (x^6)^{x^6} - (6x - 5) = x^{6x^6} - (6x - 5)$

$$f'(x) = 6x^5 x^{6x^6} (6 \ln x + 1) - 6 = 6(x^5 x^{6x^6} (6 \ln x + 1) - 1)$$

Case1:  $x \in \left(\frac{5}{6}, 1\right)$  then  $x^5 x^{6x^6} < 1, 6 \ln x < 1$  for this  $f'(x) < 0$

so  $f(x)$  is decreasing on  $\left(\frac{5}{6}, 1\right)$

Case2:  $x = 1$  then  $f(1) = 1 - (6 - 5) = 0$  so  $x = 1$  is root of  $f(x) = 0$

Case 3:  $x > 1$  then  $\ln x > 0, x^5 x^{6x^6} > 1$  for this  $f'(x) > 0$   
so  $f(x)$  is increasing for  $x > 1$

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**Conclusion:**  $f(x)$  is decreasing on  $\left(\frac{5}{6}, 1\right)$  & increasing for  $x > 1$  and  
at  $x = 1$   $f(x) = 0$

so required solution  $x = 1$ .

**741. Solve for reals:**

$$x(x+4) = 16 + 2x\sqrt{x(x-4)}$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$x(x+4) = 16 + 2x\sqrt{x(x-4)} \text{ clearly } x(x-4) \geq 0 \text{ or } x \leq 0 \text{ or } x \geq 4$$

Let  $x = 2t$  then given equation can be written as :

$$2t(2t+4) = 16 + 2 \cdot 2t\sqrt{2t(2t-4)} \text{ or } 4t^2 + 8t = 16 + 8t\sqrt{t(t-2)}$$

$$t^2 + 2t = 4 + 2t\sqrt{t(t-2)} \text{ or } \frac{t^2 + 2t - 4}{2t} = \sqrt{t(t-2)}$$

$$\text{or } \left(\frac{t^2 + 2t - 4}{2t}\right)^2 = \left(\sqrt{t(t-2)}\right)^2$$

(L.H.S > 0 as  $t \leq 0$  or  $t \geq 2$  since  $x = 2t$  &  $x \leq 0$  or  $x \geq 4$ )

$$(t^2 + 2t - 4)^2 \geq 4t^2(t - 2)$$

$$t^4 + 4t^3 - 4t^2 - 16t + 16 = 4t^4 - 8t^3$$

$$3t^4 - 12t^3 + 4t^2 + 16t - 16 = 0$$

$$t^4 - 4t^3 + \frac{4}{3}t^2 + \frac{16}{3}t - \frac{16}{3} = 0$$

Standard form  $t^4 + pt^3 + qt^2 + rt + s = 0$

Let  $t = y - \frac{p}{4} = y - \frac{-4}{4} = y + 1$  then:

$$(y+1)^4 - 4(y+1)^3 + \frac{4}{3}(y+1)^2 + \frac{16}{3}(y+1) - \frac{16}{3} = 0$$

$$(y^4 + 4y^3 + 6y^2 + 4y + 1) - 4(y^3 + 3y^2 + 3y + 1) + \frac{4}{3}(y^2 + 2y + 1) + \frac{16}{3}(y+1) - \frac{16}{3} = 0$$

$$y^4 - \frac{14}{3}y^2 - \frac{5}{3} = 0 \text{ or } 3y^4 - 14y^2 - 5 \geq 0 \text{ or } (y^2 - 5)(3y^2 + 1) = 0$$

$$\text{or } y^2 = 5 \left( \text{as } y^2 \neq -\frac{1}{3} \right) \text{ or } y = \pm\sqrt{5}$$

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$$\text{Solutions } x = 2t = 2(y + 1) = 2(1 \pm \sqrt{5})$$

**742. Solve for reals:**

$$\sqrt[3]{x - 2024} + \sqrt[3]{x - 2025} + \sqrt[3]{x - 2026} = 0$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\text{Let } y = x - 2025$$

The given equation can be written as:

$$\sqrt[3]{y + 1} + \sqrt[3]{y} + \sqrt[3]{y - 1} = 0$$

Let  $f(y) = \sqrt[3]{y + 1} + \sqrt[3]{y} + \sqrt[3]{y - 1}$  clearly  $f(0) = 0$  so  $y = 0$  is a solution of  $f(y) = 0$

$$f'(y) = \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{1}{(y + 1)^{\frac{2}{3}}} + \frac{1}{y^{\frac{2}{3}}} + \frac{1}{(y - 1)^{\frac{2}{3}}} \right) > 0 \forall y \in \mathbb{R} - \{0, 1, -1\}$$

So  $f(y)$  is strictly increasing continuous function can have at most one zero, so required solution  $y = 0$  or  $x - 2025 = 0$  or  $x = 2025$

**743. Solve for real numbers and  $m \in \mathbb{R}$  fixed:**

$$\begin{cases} x + y - z = m - 2 \\ x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = m^2 - 4m - 8 \\ x^3 + y^3 - z^3 = m^3 - 6m^2 - 24m - 26 \end{cases}$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\text{Let } a = x + y, p = xy$$

From 1st equation:  $x + y - z = m - 2$  or,  $z = a - (m - 2)$  (1)

$$x^2 + y^2 = (x + y)^2 - 2xy = a^2 - 2p$$

From 2nd equation:  $x^2 + y^2 - z^2 = m^2 - 4m - 8$

$$a^2 - 2p - (a - (m - 2))^2 = m^2 - 4m - 8$$

$$-2p + 2a(m - 2) - (m - 2)^2 = m^2 - 4m - 8$$

$$-2p = m^2 - 4m - 8 + (m - 2)^2 - 2a(m - 2)$$

$$-2p = 2m^2 - 8m - 4 - 2a(m - 2) \text{ or, } p = a(m - 2) - m^2 + 4m + 2 \text{ (2)}$$

$$x^3 + y^3 = (x + y)^3 - 3xy(x + y) = a^3 - 3ap$$

From 3rd equation:  $x^3 + y^3 - z^3 = m^3 - 6m^2 - 24m - 26$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 a^3 - 3ap - (a - (m - 2))^3 &\stackrel{(1)}{=} m^3 - 6m^2 - 24m - 26 \\
 a^3 - 3ap - a^3 + (m - 2)^3 + 3a^2(m - 2) - 3a(m - 2)^2 &= m^3 - 6m^2 - 24m - 26 \\
 3a(-p + a(m - 2) - (m - 2)^2) &= m^3 - 6m^2 - 24m - 26 - (m - 2)^3 \\
 3a(-a(m - 2) + m^2 - 4m - 2 + a(m - 2) - (m - 2)^2) &\stackrel{(2)}{=} -36m - 18 \\
 3a \times (-6) &= -36m - 18 \text{ or } a = 2m + 1
 \end{aligned}$$

From (1):

$$z = a - (m - 2) = 2m + 1 - (m - 2) = m + 3 \quad (3)$$

From (2):

$p = a(m - 2) - m^2 + 4m + 2 = (2m + 1)(m - 2) - m^2 + 4m + 2 = m^2 + m$   
 now we have  $a = x + y = 2m + 1$ , and  $p = xy = m^2 + m$ , so  $x, y$  are roots of

$$\begin{aligned}
 t^2 - (2m + 1)t + (m^2 + m) &= 0 \text{ or} \\
 t = \frac{2m + 1 \pm \sqrt{(2m + 1)^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot (m^2 + m)}}{2} &= \frac{2m + 1 \pm 1}{2} = m, m + 1 \\
 \text{so } (x, y) &= (m, m + 1) \text{ or } (m + 1, m)
 \end{aligned}$$

Required solution using (3):  $(x, y, z) = (m, m + 1, m + 3), (m + 1, m, m + 3)$

**744. Solve for real numbers:**

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

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

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

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:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

So required solution  $x = 5, 10$

**745. Solve for real numbers:**

$$x^5 - \sqrt[5]{x+30} = 30$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\text{Let } f(x) = x^5 - \sqrt[5]{x+30} - 30$$

$$\text{at } x = 2, f(2) = 32 - 2 - 30 = 0 \text{ so } x = 2 \text{ is a solution of } f(x) = 0$$

$$\text{now } f'(x) = 5x^4 - \frac{1}{5}(x+30)^{-\frac{4}{5}} > 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

so  $f(x)$  is strictly increasing

For this  $f(x) = 0$  has at most one zero so required solution  $x = 2$ .

**746. Solve for real numbers:**

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

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} (a+d)^3 &= a^3 + d^3 + 3ad(a+d) = x+2024 + x+2028 + 3ad(a+d) \\ &= 2x + 4052 + 3ad(a+d) \end{aligned}$$

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

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } ad - bc &\neq 0 \\ \text{because } a^3d^3 &= (x + 2024)(x + 2028) = x^2 + x(4052) + 2028 \times 2024 \\ b^3c^3 &= (x + 2025)(x + 2027) = x^2 + x(4052) + 2025 \times 2027 \end{aligned}$$

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  $x = -2026$

**747. Solve for real numbers:**

$$x^4 - x^2 - 16x + 2 = 2\sqrt{x^2 + 4x}$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\begin{aligned} x^4 - x^2 - 16x + 2 &= 2\sqrt{x^2 + 4x} \\ \text{Domain need } x^2 + 4x &\geq 0 \text{ so } x \in (-\infty, -4] \cup [0, \infty) \\ (x^4 - x^2 - 16x + 2)^2 &= (2\sqrt{x^2 + 4x})^2 \\ x^8 + (x^2 + 16x - 2)^2 - 2x^4(x^2 + 16x - 2) &= 4x^2 + 16x \\ x^8 - 2x^6 - 32x^5 + 5x^4 + 32x^3 + 248x^2 - 80x + 4 &= 0 \quad (1) \\ \text{Let } x^8 - 2x^6 - 32x^5 + 5x^4 + 32x^3 + 248x^2 - 80x + 4 &= \\ &= (x^4 - 16x + p)(x^4 - 2x^2 - 16x + q) \\ &= x^8 - 2x^6 - 3x^5 + x^4(p+q) + x^2(256 - 2p) - x(16q + 16p) + pq \end{aligned}$$

Comparing coefficient we get coefficient of  $x^2 \rightarrow 256 - 2p = 248$  or,  $p = 4$

Constant term  $\rightarrow pq = 4$  or  $q = 1$  as  $p = 4$

$$\begin{aligned} x^8 - 2x^6 - 32x^5 + 5x^4 + 32x^3 + 248x^2 - 80x + 4 &= \\ &= (x^4 - 16x + 4)(x^4 - 2x^2 - 16x + 1) \end{aligned}$$

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From (1)  $(x^4 - 16x + 4)(x^4 - 2x^2 - 16x + 1) = 0$

$$x^4 - 2x^2 - 16x + 1 = 0$$

or  $(x^2 + 3)^2 - 8(x + 1)^2 = 0$  or  $x^2 + 3 = \pm 2\sqrt{2}(x + 1)$

Now  $x^2 + 3 = 2\sqrt{2}(x + 1)$  (as  $x^2 + 3 = -2\sqrt{2}(x + 1)$  does not have real roots)

or  $x^2 - 2\sqrt{2}x + (3 - 2\sqrt{2}) = 0$  or  $x = \frac{2\sqrt{2} \pm \sqrt{8 - 4(3 - 2\sqrt{2})}}{2} = \sqrt{2} \pm \sqrt{2\sqrt{2} - 1}$

Clearly roots from  $x^4 - 16x + 4 = 0$  does not satisfy given equation

since  $x^4 - 16x + 4 = 0 \Rightarrow x^4 = 16x - 4$

If we put value of  $x^4$  in given equation LHS part then

LHS =  $x^4 - x^2 - 16x + 2 = (16x - 4) - x^2 - 16x + 2 = -2 - x^2 < 0$  but

RHS =  $2\sqrt{x^2 + 4x} > 0$

For this required solution  $x = \sqrt{2} \pm \sqrt{2\sqrt{2} - 1}$

**748. Solve for integers:**

$$x^3 + 2y^3 + 3x + 4y = 4x^2 + 4y^2$$

*Proposed by Sakthi Vel-India*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$x^3 + 2y^3 + 3x + 4y = 4x^2 + 4y^2$$

$$\Rightarrow x(x^2 - 4x + 3) + 2y(y^2 - 2y + 2) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x(x - 1)(x - 3) + 2y((y - 1)^2 + 1) = 0 \quad (1)$$

Clearly sign of entire  $y$  term  $2y((y - 1)^2 + 1)$

is depend on  $y$  as  $(y - 1)^2 + 1 \geq 1$

Case 1:  $y = 0$  then  $x(x - 1)(x - 3) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0, 1, 2$

so solutions are  $(x, y) = (0, 0), (1, 0), (3, 0)$

Case 2:  $y > 0$  then  $2y((y - 1)^2 + 1) > 0$  and from (1)

$x(x - 1)(x - 3)$  must be  $< 0$  so  $x < 0$  or,  $1 < x < 3$

Sub case A:  $1 < x < 3$  then only integer  $x = 2$  then from (1) we get

$$2(2 - 1)(2 - 3) + 2y((y - 1)^2 + 1) = 0 \text{ or, } 2y^3 - 4y^2 + 4y - 2 = 0$$

$$y^3 - 2y^2 + 2y - 1 = 0 \text{ or, } (y - 1)(y^2 - y + 1) = 0 \text{ or, } y = 1$$

as  $y^2 - y + 1 = 0$  does not have real root since

$$D = 1 - 4 = -3 < 0, \text{ solution } (x, y) = (2, 1)$$

If  $y > 1$  so  $y \geq 2$  (Integer), for  $y = 2$  and  $x = 2$  from (1) we get

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$-2 + 2 \cdot 2(1^2 + 1) = -2 + 8 \neq 0$ , not satisfied,  
so their are not integer solution for  $y > 1$

**Sub case B:**  $x < 0$ , if  $y = 2$  from (1) we get

$$x(x-1)(x-3) + 2 \cdot 2((2-1)^2 + 1) = 0 \text{ or } x(x-1)(x-3) + 8 = 0$$

Clearly  $x = -1$  satisfy above relation,  
absolute value of  $x(x-1)(x-3)$  increases as  $x$  becomes more negative  
so only solution  $(x, y) = (-1, 2)$

If  $y = 3$  then from (1) we get  $x(x-1)(x-3) + 2 \cdot 3((3-1)^2 + 1) = 0$   
or  $x(x-1)(x-3) + 30 = 0$

Clearly  $x = -2$  satisfy above relation, so solution  $(x, y) = (-2, 3)$

If  $y = 4$  from (1) we get :

$$x(x-1)(x-3) + 2 \cdot 4((4-1)^2 + 1) = 0 \text{ or } x(x-1)(x-3) + 80 = 0$$

If we take  $x = -3$  then  $x(x-1)(x-3) = -72 \neq -80$

If we take  $x = -4$  then  $x(x-1)(x-3) = -140 \neq -80$

so no solution exist since

$|x(x-1)(x-3)|$  is increases as  $x$  becomes more negative

**Case 3 :**  $y < 0$ , so  $2y((y-1)^2 + 1) > 0$ , from (1) we have

$$x(x-1)(x-3) > 0 \text{ or } 0 < x < 1 \text{ or } x > 3$$

We must consider  $x \geq 4$  as no integer in  $(0, 1)$

sub case A,  $x \geq 4$  and  $y = -1$

from (1) we have  $x(x-1)(x-3) - 10 = 0$

for  $x = 4$ ,  $x(x-1)(x-3) = 12 \neq 10$  and value of  $x(x-1)(x-3)$  increases for  
 $x \geq 4$ , so no integer solution exist

If  $y = -2$  then from (1) we have

$$x(x-1)(x-3) - 40 = 0$$

Clearly  $x = 5$  satisfy above expression and value of

$x(x-1)(x-3)$  increases for  $x \geq 4$

so only solution  $(x, y) = (5, -2)$

Combine all above result required solutions are

$(x, y) = (0, 0), (1, 0), (3, 0), (-1, 2), (-2, 3), (5, -2), (2, 1)$

**749. Solve for real numbers:**

$$\sqrt[3]{2034 - x} - \sqrt{x - 2025} = x^2 - 2025x - 2025$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

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**Solution by Tapas Das-India**

Clearly  $x - 2025 \geq 0$  or  $x \geq 2025$

$$\text{Let } g(x) = (x^2 - 2025x - 2025) - (\sqrt[3]{2034 - x} - \sqrt{x - 2025})$$

$$g'(x) = 2x - 2025 + \frac{1}{3}(2024 - x)^{-\frac{2}{3}} + \frac{1}{2}(x - 2025)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$g'(x) > 0$  for  $x > 2025 \Rightarrow g(x)$  is strictly increasing, therefore  $g(x) = 0$  has at most one solution.

$$\text{Clearly } g(2026) = 2026(2026 - 2025) - 2025 - (2 - 1) = 0$$

so  $x = 2026$  is the only solution.

**750. Solve for integers:**

$$x^3 + y^3 + 5(x + y) = 3x^2 + 2y^2 + 5xy$$

**Proposed by Sakthi Vel-India**

**Solution by Tapas Das-India**

$$\begin{aligned} x^3 + y^3 + 5(x + y) &= 3x^2 + 2y^2 + 5xy \\ (x + y)(x^2 - xy + y^2) + 5(x + y) &= (x + y)(3x + 2y) \\ (x + y)(x^2 - xy + y^2 + 5 - 3x - 2y) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Case 1:  $x + y = 0$  then  $x = -y$ ,

Solution  $(x, y) = (t, -t)$  for any integer  $t$

Case 2:  $(x^2 - xy + y^2 + 5 - 3x - 2y) = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 - x(y + 3) + (y^2 - 2y + 5) &= 0 \\ x &= \frac{y + 3 \pm \sqrt{(y + 3)^2 - 4(y^2 - 2y + 5)}}{2} \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

The discriminant:

$$D = (y + 3)^2 - 4(y^2 - 2y + 5) = y^2 + 6y + 9 - 4y^2 + 8y - 20 = -3y^2 + 14y - 11$$

To get real roots  $D \geq 0$  as well as  $D$  must be perfect square as we are find integer solutions.

For this  $-3y^2 + 14y - 11 \geq 0$  or,  $3y^2 - 14y + 11 \leq 0$

$$\text{or } (y - 1)(3y - 11) \leq 0 \text{ or } 1 \leq y \leq \frac{11}{3} = 3.66 \dots$$

So integer values of  $y = 1, 2, 3$

$$y = 1 \text{ gives from (1): } x = \frac{1 + 3}{2} = 2, \text{ so } (x, y) = (2, 1)$$

$$y = 3 \text{ gives from (1): } x = \frac{(3 + 3) \pm 2}{2} = 4, 2$$

$$\text{so } (x, y) = (2, 3), (4, 3)$$

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For  $y = 2$ , the discriminant  $D = 5$  not a perfect square number, so  $y \neq 2$

Required solutions  $(x, y) = (2, 1), (2, 3), (4, 3), (t, -t)$ ,  $t$  is an integer.

**751. If  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  then solve for reals:**

$$\sqrt[3]{x - \lambda + 1} + \sqrt[3]{x - \lambda} + \sqrt[3]{x - \lambda - 1} = 0$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\text{Let } y = x - \lambda \text{ then } \sqrt[3]{x - \lambda + 1} + \sqrt[3]{x - \lambda} + \sqrt[3]{x - \lambda - 1} = 0$$

$$\text{or } \sqrt[3]{y + 1} + \sqrt[3]{y} + \sqrt[3]{y - 1} = 0$$

$$(\sqrt[3]{y + 1} + \sqrt[3]{y - 1}) = -\sqrt[3]{y} \quad (1)$$

$$(\sqrt[3]{y + 1} + \sqrt[3]{y - 1})^3 = (-\sqrt[3]{y})^3$$

$$y + 1 + y - 1 + 3\sqrt[3]{y + 1} \cdot \sqrt[3]{y - 1} (\sqrt[3]{y + 1} + \sqrt[3]{y - 1}) = -y$$

$$2y - 3y^{\frac{1}{3}}\sqrt[3]{y + 1} \cdot \sqrt[3]{y - 1} \stackrel{(1)}{=} -y$$

$$y = y^{\frac{1}{3}}\sqrt[3]{y + 1} \cdot \sqrt[3]{y - 1}$$

$$y^3 = y(y + 1)(y - 1)$$

$$y(y^2 - y^2 + 1) = 0 \text{ or } y = 0$$

*Solutions  $y = x - \lambda$  or  $x = \lambda$  (as  $y = 0$ )*

**752. Find all functions  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that:**

$$f(f(x) + y^2 + 4) + 4y = x + f^2(y + 2) \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$f(f(x) + y^2 + 4) + 4y = x + f^2(y + 2) \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R} \quad (1)$$

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We put  $y = -2$   
then  $f(f(x) + 8) - 8 = x + f^2(0)$  (2)

From (2):  $f(u) = f(v) \Rightarrow f(f(u) + 8) - 8 = f(f(v) + 8) - 8$   
or  $u + f^2(0) \stackrel{(2)}{=} v + f^2(0)$  or,  $u = v$ , so  $f$  is injective

$f(f(x) + 8) = x + 8 + f^2(0)$ , so every real number is in the image of  $f$ ,  
so  $f$  is surjective

Again  $f(f(x) + 8)$  is a linear function of  $x$ , since from (2) value of  
 $f(f(x) + 8) = x + 8 + f^2(0)$ . Clearly  $f$  is linear.

Let  $f(x) = ax + b$  then from (1) we have:  
 $a(f(x) + y^2 + 4) + b + 4y = x + (a(y + 2) + b)^2$   
or  $a(ax + b + y^2 + 4) + b + 4y = x + a^2y^2 + 4a^2 + b^2 + 4a^2y + 4ab + 2aby$   
 $a^2x + ab + ay^2 + 4a + b + 4y = x + a^2y^2 + 4a^2 + b^2 + 4a^2y + 4ab + 2aby$  (3)

Equalizing coefficients of  $x$  &  $y^2$  we get  
 $a^2 = 1$  or,  $a = \pm 1$  &  $a^2 = a$  or,  $a = 0, 1$  so combine results is  $a = 1$

Putting  $a = 1$  in (3) we get  
 $x + b + y^2 + 4 + b + 4y = x + y^2 + 4 + b^2 + 4y + 4b + 2by$   
or  $2b = 2by + 4b + b^2$

Equalizing coefficients of  $y$  we have  $2b = 0$  or  $b = 0$   
so  $f(x) = ax + b = x$

**753. Find all functions  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that:**

$$f^2(x) + 2yf(x) + f(y) = f(y + f(x)) \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$f^2(x) + 2yf(x) + f(y) = f(y + f(x)) \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$  (1)  
Suppose  $f(x) = c$  is constant then the equation becomes  
 $c^2 + 2yc + c = c \quad \forall y$ , this can only be true if  $c = 0$   
Hence one solution is  $f(x) \equiv 0$

From (1) we have  
 $f(y + f(x)) - f(y) = f^2(x) + 2yf(x) + f(y)$

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*R. H. S part has the same form as the algebraic identity*

$$(y + a)^2 - y^2 = 2ay + a^2$$

*this suggest that  $f(y)$  behave like  $y^2 + \text{some constant}$ .*

$$\text{Let } g(y) = f(y) - y^2 \text{ or } f(y) = g(y) + y^2 \quad (2)$$

*where  $g(y)$  represent the non quadratic part of  $f(y)$ .*

$$\text{From (1) we have } f(y + f(x)) = f(y) + f^2(x) + 2yf(x) + f(y)$$

*Using (2) we have:*

$$\begin{aligned} g(y + f(x)) + (y + f(x))^2 &= g(y) + y^2 + (g(x) + x^2)^2 + 2y(g(x) + x^2) \\ g(y + f(x)) + y^2 + f^2(x) + 2yf(x) &= g(y) + y^2 + (g(x) + x^2)^2 + 2y(g(x) + x^2) \\ g(y + f(x)) + (g(x) + x^2)^2 + 2y(g(x) + x^2) + 2yf(x) &\stackrel{f(x)=g(x)+x^2 \text{ from (2)}}{=} \\ &= g(y) + (g(x) + x^2)^2 + 2y(g(x) + x^2) \\ g(y + f(x)) &= g(y) \end{aligned}$$

*This equation says that  $g(y)$  does not change when its argument increase by  $f(x)$  since  $f$  is non constant it can take infinitely many values so  $g(y)$  must be constant  $g(y) = c$  hence  $f(y) = g(y) + y^2 = c + y^2$*

*So solutions are  $f(x) \equiv 0$  or  $f(x) = x^2 + c$ .*

**754. If  $\lambda > 0$  then solve for reals:**

$$\left(\frac{x + \lambda}{2}\right)^9 + \left(\frac{x - \lambda}{2}\right)^9 = \left(\frac{x^3 + 3\lambda^2 x}{4}\right)^3$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } A &= \frac{x + \lambda}{2}, B = \frac{x - \lambda}{2} \\ A^3 + B^3 &= \frac{1}{8}((x + \lambda)^3 + (x - \lambda)^3) = \frac{1}{8}2x((x + \lambda)^2 - (x + \lambda)(x - \lambda) + (x - \lambda)^2) = \\ &= \frac{x}{4}(x^2 + 3\lambda^2) = \frac{(x^3 + 3\lambda^2 x)}{4} \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now: } \left(\frac{x + \lambda}{2}\right)^9 + \left(\frac{x - \lambda}{2}\right)^9 &= \left(\frac{x^3 + 3\lambda^2 x}{4}\right)^3 \Rightarrow \\ A^9 + B^9 &= (A^3 + B^3)^3 \text{ or } A^9 + B^9 - (A^3 + B^3)^3 = 0 \quad (2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{We put } u = A^3, v = B^3 \text{ then } A^9 + B^9 - (A^3 + B^3)^3 = u^3 + v^3 - (u + v)^3 =$$

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$$= u^3 + v^3 - (u^3 + v^3 + 3uv(u+v)) = -3uv(u+v) = -3A^3B^3(A^3 + B^3) \quad (3)$$

$$AB = \frac{x+\lambda}{2} \times \frac{x-\lambda}{2} = \frac{x^2 - \lambda^2}{4} \Rightarrow A^3B^3 = \frac{1}{64}(x^2 - \lambda^2)^3 \quad (4)$$

$$\text{From (2) we have } A^9 + B^9 - (A^3 + B^3)^3 = 0$$

$$-A^3B^3(A^3 + B^3) \stackrel{(3)}{=} 0 \text{ or } -\frac{3}{64}(x^2 - \lambda^2)^3 \frac{(x^3 + 3\lambda^2x)}{4} \stackrel{(1)\&(4)}{=} 0$$

$$x^2 - \lambda^2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \pm\lambda \text{ and } \frac{(x^3 + 3\lambda^2x)}{4} = 0 \text{ gives } x(x^2 + 3\lambda^2) = 0 \text{ or } x = 0$$

Required solution  $x = \pm\lambda, 0$ .

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

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

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Tapas Das-India

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

756. If  $\lambda \geq 0$  fixed, then solve for reals:

$$x^2 - 3x + 1 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda + 2}}\sqrt{x^4 + \lambda x^2 + 1}$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda + 2}}\sqrt{x^4 + \lambda x^2 + 1} > 0 \ \forall x \in R \text{ then R.H.S } \frac{-1}{\sqrt{\lambda + 2}}\sqrt{x^4 + \lambda x^2 + 1} < 0$$

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so L. H. S must be  $< 0$  or  $x^2 - 3x + 1 < 0$  (1)

$$x^2 - 3x + 1 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda + 2}} \sqrt{x^4 + \lambda x^2 + 1}$$

$$(x^2 - 3x + 1)^2 = \frac{1}{\lambda + 2} (x^4 + \lambda x^2 + 1)$$

$$(\lambda + 2)(x^2 - 3x + 1)^2 - (x^4 + \lambda x^2 + 1) = 0$$

$$(\lambda + 2)(x^4 + 9x^2 + 1 - 6x^3 - 6x + 2x^2) - (x^4 + \lambda x^2 + 1) = 0$$

$$(\lambda + 1)x^4 - 6(\lambda + 2)x^3 + (10\lambda + 22)x^2 - 6(\lambda + 2)x + (\lambda + 1) = 0$$

$$(x - 1)^2 ((\lambda + 1)x^2 - (4\lambda + 10)x + (\lambda + 1)) = 0$$

$$\text{now, } x - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1$$

$$\text{and } ((\lambda + 1)x^2 - (4\lambda + 10)x + (\lambda + 1)) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - \frac{4\lambda + 10}{\lambda + 1}x + 1 = 0 \quad (2)$$

Clearly product of the two roots = 1,

which indicate that roots are reciprocal to each other let roots are  $r, \frac{1}{r}$

$$\text{then from (2), } r + \frac{1}{r} = \frac{4\lambda + 10}{\lambda + 1} = 4 + \frac{6}{\lambda + 1} > 4 \text{ as } \lambda \geq 0$$

but we should also remember that from (1) that roots of equation (2) must satisfy

$$x^2 - 3x + 1 < 0$$

$$x^2 - 3x - 1 < 0 \text{ or } \left(x - \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2}\right) \left(x - \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{2}\right) < 0 \text{ so:}$$

$$\frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{2} < x < \frac{3 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \text{ which indicate } x > 0$$

$$x + \frac{1}{x} - 3 = \frac{x^2 - 3x + 1}{x} < 0 \text{ as } x^2 - 3x + 1 < 0 \text{ and } x > 0$$

$$\text{or, } x + \frac{1}{x} < 3 \text{ but from (2) we get}$$

$$r + \frac{1}{r} > 4, \text{ their does not exist any } x \text{ in equation (2)}$$

so the only solution:  $x = 1$

**757. For  $a > 1$  fixed then solve for real numbers:**

$$\left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^{x+1} + \left(\frac{1}{a(a+1)}\right)^x - \sqrt{a} \left(\frac{\sqrt{a}}{a(a+1)}\right)^x = 1$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\text{Let } s = a^{\frac{x+1}{2}} > 0, y = (a(a+1))^{-x} > 0$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^{x+1} &= a^{-(x+1)} = s^{-2}, \left(\frac{1}{a(a+1)}\right)^x = y, \\ \sqrt{a} \left(\frac{\sqrt{a}}{a(a+1)}\right)^x &= a^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot a^{\frac{x}{2}} \cdot (a(a+1))^{-x} = a^{\frac{x+1}{2}} \cdot (a(a+1))^{-x} = sy \\ \left(\frac{1}{a}\right)^{x+1} + \left(\frac{1}{a(a+1)}\right)^x - \sqrt{a} \left(\frac{\sqrt{a}}{a(a+1)}\right)^x &= 1 \\ s^{-2} + y - sy &= 1 \text{ or } 1 + ys^2 - s^3y = s^2 \\ 1 - s^2 + ys^2(1 - s) &= 0 \text{ or } (1 - s)(1 + s + s^2y) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

as  $s = a^{\frac{x+1}{2}} > 0$  since  $a > 1, y = (a(a+1))^{-x} > 0$  so  $(1 + s + s^2y)$  can not be 0

$$\text{so } 1 - s = 0 \text{ or } s = 1 \Rightarrow a^{\frac{x+1}{2}} = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{x+1}{2} = 0 \text{ or } x = -1.$$

**758. Solve for reals:**

$$x^3 - x + 1 = \sqrt[3]{2x - 1}$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\text{Let } y = \sqrt[3]{2x - 1} \text{ then } y^3 = 2x - 1 \quad (1)$$

$$\text{From given equation we have } x^3 - x + 1 = y \quad (2)$$

Let we put  $y = x$  in equation (1) then we get  $x^3 - x + 1 = x$  or  $x^3 - 2x + 1 = 0$  or  $(x - 1)(x^2 + x - 1) = 0 \Rightarrow$

$$x = 1 \text{ and } x^2 + x - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

Now if we put  $y = x$  in equation (2) we get  $x^3 = 2x - 1$  or  $x^3 - 2x + 1 = 0$  which is same as previous equation, so required solution:

$$x = 1, \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

**759. Solve for reals:**

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

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\text{Domain } 2x + 1 \geq 0 \text{ or } x \geq -\frac{1}{2}$$

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

$$\text{or } x^4 + x^2 + 1 - 2x^3 - 2x^2 + 2x = 2x + 1$$

$$\text{or } x^2(x^2 - 2x - 1) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0 \text{ or } x^2 - 2x - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1 \pm \sqrt{2}.$$

Now for  $x = 0$  given equation not satisfied

$$\text{for } x = 1 - \sqrt{2}, L.H.S = (1 - \sqrt{2})^2 - (1 - \sqrt{2}) - 1 = 1 - \sqrt{2} < 0$$

$$R.H.S = \sqrt{2(1 - \sqrt{2}) + 1} > 0 \text{ so not satisfied}$$

so required solution  $x = 1 + \sqrt{2}$ .

**760. Solve for real numbers:**

$$x^2 - x + 1 = \sqrt[3]{3x - 2}$$

*Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\text{Let } t = \sqrt[3]{3x - 2} \text{ or, } t^3 = 3x - 2 \text{ or, } x = \frac{t^3 + 2}{3} \quad (1)$$

$$x^2 - x + 1 = \sqrt[3]{3x - 2}$$

$$\left(\frac{t^3 + 2}{3}\right)^2 - \frac{t^3 + 2}{3} + 1 = t$$

$$(t^3 + 2)^2 - 3(t^3 + 2) + 9 = 9t$$

$$t^6 + 4t^3 + 4 - 3t^3 - 6 + 9 = 9t$$

$$t^6 + t^3 - 9t + 7 = 0$$

$$(t - 1)^2(t^4 + 2t^3 + 3t^2 + 5t + 7) = 0 \quad (2)$$

$$(t^4 + 2t^3 + 3t^2 + 5t + 7) = t^2(1 + t)^2 + (2t^2 + 5t + 7)$$

$$2t^2 + 5t + 7 > 0 \text{ as } a = 2 > 0 \text{ and } D = 5^2 - 4 \cdot 2 \cdot 7 = 55 - 56 < 0$$

$$\text{and } t^2(1 + t)^2 \geq 0 \forall t \in \mathbb{R}, \text{ so } t^2(1 + t)^2 + (2t^2 + 5t + 7) > 0$$

$$\text{For this from (2) we get } (t - 1)^2 = 0 \text{ or } t = 1$$

$$\text{so required solution } x = \frac{t^3 + 2}{3} = \frac{1^3 + 2}{3} = 1$$

**761. If  $\lambda > 1$  then solve for real numbers:**

$$(\lambda^{2x} + \lambda^{2y} + \lambda^{2z}) \left( \frac{1}{\lambda^x} + \frac{1}{\lambda^y} + \frac{1}{\lambda^z} \right) = 3$$

$$3(\lambda^{x+y} + \lambda^{y+z} + \lambda^{z+x}) = \lambda^x + \lambda^y + \lambda^z$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

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**Solution by Tapas Das-India**

Let  $\lambda^x = a, \lambda^y = b, \lambda^z = c$  clearly  $a, b, c > 0$  as  $\lambda > 1$   
then given equation can be written as:

$$(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \left( \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \right) = 3 \quad (1)$$

$$3(ab + bc + ca) = a + b + c \quad (2)$$

Let  $S = a + b + c, P = ab + bc + ca, R = abc$  from (2) we get  $3P = S$

$$\text{From (1) we get } (a^2 + b^2 + c^2) \left( \frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} \right) = 3$$

$$\left( (a + b + c)^2 - 2(ab + bc + ca) \right) \left( \frac{ab + bc + ca}{abc} \right) = 3$$

$$(S^2 - 2P) \frac{P}{R} = 3 \text{ or, } R = \frac{P}{3} (S^2 - 2P) \stackrel{S=3P}{=} \frac{P(9P^2 - 2P)}{3} \quad (3)$$

Using A.M – G.M inequality we get :

$$\left( \frac{a + b + c}{3} \right)^3 \geq abc \text{ or } S^3 \geq 27R \text{ or, } R \stackrel{S=3P}{\leq} P^3$$

$$\frac{P(9P^2 - 2P)}{3} \stackrel{(3)}{\leq} P^3 \text{ or } 6P^2 \stackrel{P=abc>0}{\leq} 2P \text{ or } P \leq \frac{1}{3} \text{ so } S = 3P \leq 3 \times \frac{1}{3} \leq 1 \quad (4)$$

Well known inequality  $(a + b + c)^2 \geq 3(ab + bc + ca)$

$$\text{or, } S^2 \geq 3P \text{ or, } S^2 \stackrel{S=3P}{\geq} 3 \cdot \frac{S}{3} \text{ or, } S \stackrel{S=a+b+c>0}{\geq} 1 \quad (5) \text{ now from (4) \& (5)}$$

We get  $S \geq 1$  &  $S \leq 1$ ,

$$\text{so } S = 1 \text{ or } a + b + c = 1 \text{ and } ab + bc + ca = P = \frac{S}{3} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (a - b)^2 + (b - c)^2 + (c - a)^2 &= 2(a^2 + b^2 + c^2) - 2(ab + bc + ca) \\ &= 2(S^2 - 2P) - 2P = 2(S^2 - 3P) \stackrel{S=1, P=\frac{1}{3}}{=} 2(1 - 1) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$a - b = 0 \Rightarrow a = b, (b - c) = 0 \Rightarrow b = c, (c - a) = 0 \Rightarrow c = a$$

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$$a = b = c = \frac{1}{3} \text{ (as } S = a + b + c = 1)$$

$$\lambda^x = a = \frac{1}{3} \text{ or } x = \log_{\lambda} \left( \frac{1}{3} \right), \lambda^y = b = \frac{1}{3} \text{ or } y = \log_{\lambda} \left( \frac{1}{3} \right),$$

$$\lambda^z = c = \frac{1}{3} \text{ or } z = \log_{\lambda} \left( \frac{1}{3} \right)$$

$$\text{Solution: } x = y = z = \log_{\lambda} \left( \frac{1}{3} \right)$$

**762. If  $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \geq k$  fixed then solve for natural numbers:**

$$3^a + 3^k = 3^b + 3^{n+k}$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$3^a + 3^k = 3^b + 3^{n+k}$$

$$3^a = 3^b + 3^{n+k} - 3^k$$

$$3^a = 3^b + 3^k(3^n - 1)$$

$$3^{a-k} = 3^{b-k} + (3^n - 1)$$

$$3^A = 3^B + (3^n - 1) \text{ (let } A = a - k, B = b - k)$$

$$3^A - 3^B = (3^n - 1)$$

$$3^B(3^{A-B} - 1) = 3^n - 1 \text{ (1)}$$

*R.H.S part is not divisible by 3 so, L.H.S part is divisible by 3 unless  $B = 0$*

*so  $B = 0 \Rightarrow b - k = 0$  or  $b = k$*

*From(1):  $3^A - 1 = 3^n - 1$  or  $3^A = 3^n$  or,  $A = n$  or,  $a - k = n$  or  $a = k + n$*

*So required solution  $a = k + n, b = k$*

**763. If  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $n \geq 0$  fixed then solve for reals:**

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

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\text{Let } t = \sqrt{x - \lambda}, t \geq 0 \text{ so, } x = t^2 + \lambda$$

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Domain :  $x \geq \lambda$

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

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

$$t^2(t + 1)^2 = n^2(n + 1)^2 \text{ or } t(t + 1) = n(n + 1) \text{ (as } n, t > 0) \text{ or } t = n$$

$$t = \sqrt{x - \lambda} = n \text{ or } x = n^2 + \lambda$$

**764. Solve for naturals:**

$$(1 + \sqrt{6})^3 = \sqrt{p} + \sqrt{p - 125}$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\text{Let } x = \sqrt{p}, \quad y = \sqrt{p - 125}$$

$$(1 + \sqrt{6})^3 = \sqrt{p} + \sqrt{p - 125}$$

$$x + y = (1 + \sqrt{6})^3 = 1 + 6\sqrt{6} + 3\sqrt{6} + 18 = 19 + 9\sqrt{6} \quad (1)$$

$$x - y = \frac{x^2 - y^2}{x + y} = \frac{p - (p - 125)}{19 + 9\sqrt{6}} = \frac{125(19 - 9\sqrt{6})}{361 - 486} = 9\sqrt{6} - 9 \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Adding (1) \& (2) we get } 2x = 18\sqrt{6} \text{ or } x = 9\sqrt{6} \text{ or } x^2 = 486$$

$$p = x^2 = 486$$

**765. If  $a > 1, \lambda > 1$  fixed. Solve for reals:**

$$x + \sqrt{\lambda^x \log_a(x + 2a)} = \sqrt{\log_a(x + 2a)}$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\text{Let } y = \sqrt{\log_a(x + 2a)} \geq 0 \text{ then:}$$

$$x + \sqrt{\lambda^x \log_a(x + 2a)} = \sqrt{\log_a(x + 2a)}$$

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$$\Rightarrow x + y\lambda^{\frac{x}{2}} = y \Rightarrow x = y\left(1 - \lambda^{\frac{x}{2}}\right) \quad (1)$$

**Case 1.** If  $x > 0$  then  $\lambda^{\frac{x}{2}} > 1$  as  $\lambda > 1$  so R. H. S part of (1)  $< 0$   
but L. H. S  $> 0$  contradiction.

**Case 2.** If  $x < 0$  then  $\lambda^{\frac{x}{2}} < 1$  as  $\lambda > 1$  so R. H. S part of (1)  $\geq 0$   
but L. H. S  $< 0$  contradiction.

Clearly,  $x = 0$  satisfy equation (1)  
so, required solution  $x = 0$

**766. If  $\lambda > 0$  fixed then solve for reals:**

$$(x - 2y)^2 + 5\lambda^2 = 6x(\lambda - 2x) + 6y(2\lambda - y)$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$(x - 2y)^2 + 5\lambda^2 = 6x(\lambda - 2x) + 6y(2\lambda - y)$$

*Expanding we get:*

$$13x^2 - (4y + 6\lambda)x + (10y^2 - 12\lambda y + 5\lambda^2) = 0$$

$$\text{or } x = \frac{4y + 6\lambda \pm \sqrt{(4y + 6\lambda)^2 - 52(10y^2 - 12\lambda y + 5\lambda^2)}}{26} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{The discriminant } D = (4y + 6\lambda)^2 - 52(10y^2 - 12\lambda y + 5\lambda^2) = \\ = -504y^2 + 672\lambda y - 224\lambda^2 = -56(3y - 2\lambda)^2 \text{ clearly } D < 0.$$

So real solution exist for fixed  $\lambda$  only when  $(3y - 2\lambda)^2 = 0$  or  $y = \frac{2\lambda}{3}$

$$\text{From (1): } x = \frac{4 \cdot \frac{2\lambda}{3} + 6\lambda}{26} = \frac{\lambda}{3}$$

$$\text{So required solution } x = \frac{\lambda}{3}, y = \frac{2\lambda}{3}.$$

**767. Solve for integers:**

$$169x^2 - 13xy + 12y = 119$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

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**Solution by Tapas Das-India**

$$169x^2 - 13xy + 12y = 119 \text{ or, } y = \frac{119 - 169x^2}{12 - 13x} = \frac{169x^2 - 119}{13x - 12}$$

$$= 13x + 12 + \frac{25}{13x - 12} \quad (1)$$

for integer solution 25 is divisible by  $13x - 12$ ,  
for this  $13x - 12 \in \{\pm 1, \pm 5, \pm 25\}$

$$\text{Let } 13x - 12 = d \text{ then } x = \frac{d + 12}{13}$$

$$\text{If } d = 1 \text{ then } x = 1, y \stackrel{(1)}{=} 13 \times 1 + 12 + \frac{25}{1} = 50$$

$$d = -1 \text{ then } x = \frac{11}{13}, y \stackrel{(1)}{=} -2, \text{ so } x \text{ not } \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$d = 5 \text{ then } x = \frac{17}{13}, \text{ so } x \text{ not } \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$d = -5 \text{ then } x = \frac{7}{13}, \text{ so } x \text{ not } \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$d = 25 \text{ then } x = \frac{11}{13}, \text{ so } x \text{ not } \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$d = -25 \text{ then } x = -1, y = -2$$

So required solutions  $(x, y) = (1, 50), (-1, -2)$

**768. Solve for real numbers:**

$$\begin{cases} x(y + z) = 35 \\ y(x + z) = 35 \\ z(x + y) = 27 \end{cases}$$

*Proposed by Netai Chandra Bhar-India*

**Solution by Tapas Das-India**

$$x(y + z) = 35 \quad (1), \quad y(x + z) = 35 \quad (2), \quad z(x + y) = 27 \quad (3)$$

From(1)&(2) we get  $x(y + z) = y(x + z)$  or  $z(x - y) = 0 \Rightarrow z = 0$  or  $x = y$

If  $z = 0$  then from (3) we get  $0 = 27$ , not possible so  $z \neq 0$

If  $x = y = m$  (say) then from(3) we have  $z \cdot (2m) = 27$  or,  $z = \frac{27}{2m}$

From(1):  $m(m + z) = 35$  or,  $m\left(m + \frac{27}{2m}\right) = 35$  or  $m^2 = \frac{43}{2}$  or

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$$m = \pm \sqrt{\frac{43}{2}}, z = \frac{27}{2m} = \pm \frac{27}{\sqrt{86}}$$

So required solutions:  $x = \sqrt{\frac{43}{2}}, y = \sqrt{\frac{43}{2}}, z = \frac{27}{\sqrt{86}}$  and

$$x = -\sqrt{\frac{43}{2}}, y = -\sqrt{\frac{43}{2}}, z = -\frac{27}{\sqrt{86}}$$

769. If  $\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}$  fixed then prove that the equation:

$$x^3 + y^3 - z^3 = \lambda^2(x + y - z)$$

has an infinitely solutions in integers.

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

**Solution by Tapas Das-India**

We are asked to prove existence of infinitely many integer solution, not to find all solution, so it is enough to find of solution one infinite family for this we put  $x + y - z = 0 \Rightarrow z = x + y$  then the equation becomes

$$x^3 + y^3 - (x + y)^3 = 0 \text{ or } -3xy(x + y) = 0 \Rightarrow x = 0 \text{ or } y = 0 \text{ or } x + y = 0$$

Case 1)  $x = 0$  then  $z = y$  as  $z = x + y$ , solution  $(0, y, y), y \in \mathbb{Z}$

Case 2)  $y = 0$  then  $z = x$  as  $z = x + y$ , solution  $(x, 0, x), x \in \mathbb{Z}$

Case 3)  $x + y = 0$  then  $y = -x, z = 0$  as  $z = x + y$ , solution  $(x, -x, 0), x \in \mathbb{Z}$

For all these solutions  $x + y - z = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda^2(x + y - z) = 0$  then  $x^3 + y^3 - z^3 = 0$  then original equation is satisfied for every integer  $\lambda$ ,  $(0, y, y), (x, 0, x), (x, -x, 0)$   $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}$  infinitely many integer solutions.

770.

Solve for  $x \in \left(0, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$ :

$$\frac{1}{\cos^2 x} + \frac{1}{\cos^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{3} - x\right)} + \frac{1}{\cos^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{3} + x\right)} = 18$$

Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

**Solution by Tapas Das-India**

$$\frac{1}{\cos^2 x} + \frac{1}{\cos^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{3} - x\right)} + \frac{1}{\cos^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{3} + x\right)} = 18$$

$$\sec^2 x + \sec^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{3} - x\right) + \sec^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{3} + x\right) = 18$$

$$3 + \tan^2 x + \tan^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{3} - x\right) + \tan^2 \left(\frac{\pi}{3} + x\right) = 18$$

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$$3 + \tan^2 x + \left(\frac{\sqrt{3} - \tan x}{1 + \sqrt{3}\tan x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sqrt{3} + \tan x}{1 - \sqrt{3}\tan x}\right)^2 = 18$$

$$t^2 + \left(\frac{\sqrt{3} - t}{1 + \sqrt{3}t}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sqrt{3} + t}{1 - \sqrt{3}t}\right)^2 \stackrel{t=\tan x}{=} 15$$

$$t^2 + \left(\frac{6 + 20t^2 + 6t^4}{(1 - 3t^2)^2}\right) = 15 \text{ or } \frac{6 + 21t^2 + 9t^6}{(1 - 3t^2)^2} = 15$$

$$6 + 21t^2 + 9t^6 = 15(1 - 3t^2)^2 \text{ or } 3t^6 - 45t^4 + 37t^2 - 3 = 0$$

$$3x^3 - 45x^2 + 37x - 3 \stackrel{x=t^2}{=} 0 \text{ or } (x - 1)(3x^2 - 42x + 3) = 0$$

$$t^2 = x = 1 \text{ and } (3x^2 - 42x + 3) = 0 \text{ or } x = 7 \pm 4\sqrt{3}$$

$$t^2 = 1 \text{ or } t = 1 \text{ or } \tan x = 1 \text{ or } x = \frac{\pi}{4} \text{ and } t^2 = 7 \pm 4\sqrt{3} \text{ or } t = \sqrt{7 \pm 4\sqrt{3}} \text{ or,}$$

$$\tan x = 2 \pm \sqrt{3} \text{ when } \tan x = 2 + \sqrt{3} \text{ or } x = \frac{5\pi}{12}, \tan x = 2 - \sqrt{3} \text{ or } x = \frac{\pi}{12}$$

$$\text{So solutions : } x = \frac{5\pi}{12}, \frac{\pi}{12}, \frac{\pi}{4}$$

771.

Find the conditions on  $a$  and  $b$  so that following equation has 3 distinct solutions

$$x^4 - 2(a^2 + b^2 - 1)x^2 + (a^2 - b^2 + 1)^2 - 4a^2 = 0$$

Proposed by Netai Chandra Bhar-India

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$x^4 - 2(a^2 + b^2 - 1)x^2 + (a^2 - b^2 + 1)^2 - 4a^2 = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Let } y = x^2 \text{ then from (1) we get } y^2 - 2(a^2 + b^2 - 1)y + (a^2 - b^2 + 1)^2 - 4a^2 = 0 \quad (2)$$

since  $y = x^2$  if both roots  $y_1, y_2 > 0$  then equation (1) has 4 distinct root.

If one root is 0 then  $y = 0$  and other positive root

$y_1 > 0$  and equation (1) has 3 distinct roots as  $0, \sqrt{y_1}, -\sqrt{y_1}$

We put  $x = 0$  in (2) we get

$$(a^2 - b^2 + 1)^2 - 4a^2 = 0 \text{ or, } (a^2 - b^2 + 1 + 2a)(a^2 - b^2 + 1 - 2a) = 0$$

$$\text{or } (a^2 - b^2 + 1 + 2a) = 0 \Rightarrow (a + 1)^2 = b^2 \text{ or, } a = b - 1$$

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

From (2) sum of the two roots

$$2(a^2 + b^2 - 1) > 0 \text{ (as roots are } 0, y_1 > 0) \text{ or } a^2 + b^2 > 1$$

So required conditions:  $a = b - 1, b = a - 1, a^2 + b^2 > 1$

772. Solve for natural numbers:

$$5^a - 5^b = 620$$

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*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$5^a - 5^b = 620 \text{ or } 5^b(5^{a-b} - 1) = 5 \times 124 = 5(5^3 - 1)$$

$$\text{Comparing we get } b = 1 \text{ and } a - b = 3 \text{ or} \\ a = b + 3 = 3 + 1 = 4$$

$$\text{Solution } a = 4, b = 1.$$

**773. If  $a > 1, \lambda \in R$  then solve for real numbers:**

$$a^{\sqrt{x-\lambda}-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x-\lambda}}$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\text{Domain } x - \lambda - 1 \geq 0 \text{ or } x \geq \lambda + 1 \text{ let } t = \sqrt{x - \lambda - 1} \Rightarrow x - \lambda = t^2 + 1$$

$$a^{\sqrt{x-\lambda}-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x-\lambda}} \text{ or } a^t = (t^2 + 1)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$t \log a = -\frac{1}{2} \log(t^2 + 1) \text{ or } \log(t^2 + 1) + 2t \log a = 0$$

$$\text{Let } f(t) = \log(t^2 + 1) + 2t \log a \text{ then } f'(t) = \frac{2t}{t^2 + 1} + 2 \log a > 0 \text{ as} \\ a > 1 \text{ and } \geq 0. \text{ So } f(t) \text{ is increasing.}$$

$$\text{The only one solution is } t = 0 \text{ as } f(0) = 0,$$

$$x - \lambda = t^2 + 1 \text{ or } x = \lambda + 1 \text{ as } t = 0$$

**774. Solve for real numbers:**

$$16x^2 - 56x + 51 = \sqrt{4x - 6} + \sqrt{8 - 4x}$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

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Domain:  $4x - 6 \geq 0$  or,  $x \geq \frac{3}{2}$  and  $8 - 4x \geq 0$  or,  $x \leq 2$  so  $\frac{3}{2} \leq x \leq 2$

We know that upward opening parabola  $y = ax^2 + bx + c$

$$\text{min at } x = -\frac{b}{2a}, y_{\text{min.}} = c - \frac{b^2}{4a}$$

$$\text{so } y = 16x^2 - 56x + 51 \text{ min. at } x = -\frac{-56}{2 \times 16} = \frac{7}{4} \text{ and } y_{\text{Min}} = 51 - \frac{56 \times 56}{4 \times 16} = 2$$

$$\text{then } 16x^2 - 56x + 51 \geq 2 \text{ and } \sqrt{4x - 6} + \sqrt{8 - 4x} \stackrel{\text{CBS}}{\leq} \sqrt{2(4x - 6 + 8 - 4x)}$$

$$= 2 \text{ in } \left[ \frac{3}{2}, 2 \right] \text{ so, L.H.S} \geq 2 \text{ and}$$

$$\text{R.H.S} \leq 2 \text{ equality possible only when both equal to 2 or } x = \frac{7}{4}$$

**775. Solve for natural numbers:**

$$7^a - 7^b = 294$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$7^a - 7^b = 294 \text{ or, } 7^b(7^{a-b} - 1) = 7^2 \times 6 = 7^2(7 - 1)$$

$$\text{Comparing: } b = 2, a - b = 1 \text{ then } a = 3.$$

**776. Solve for real numbers:**

$$\begin{cases} x + \frac{1}{z} = 3 \\ y + \frac{1}{x} = 2 \\ xyz = 1 \end{cases}$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$x + \frac{1}{z} = 3 \text{ then } z = \frac{1}{3 - x}, y + \frac{1}{x} = 2 \text{ then } x = \frac{1}{2 - y}$$

$$xyz = 1 \text{ or } \frac{y}{(3 - x)(2 - y)} = 1 \text{ or } \frac{y}{\left(3 - \frac{1}{2 - y}\right)(2 - y)} = 1$$

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$$\frac{y}{5-3y} = 1 \text{ or } y = \frac{5}{4}$$

$$x = \frac{1}{2-y} = \frac{1}{2-\frac{5}{4}} = \frac{4}{3} \text{ and } z = \frac{1}{xy} = \frac{1}{\frac{4}{3} \cdot \frac{5}{4}} = \frac{3}{5}$$

777. If  $\begin{cases} x^2 + y^2 + 2x + 4y - 20 = 0 \\ z^2 + w^2 - 2w - 143 = 0 \\ xw + yz - x + w + 2z - 61 \geq 0 \end{cases}$   $S = \frac{y^2}{25} + \frac{w^2}{144}$  then find:  
 $S_{\min} + S_{\max} = ?$

*Proposed by Mais Hasanov-Azerbaijan*

*Solution by Amin Hajiyev-Azerbaijan*

The first two equations define the a couple of circles.

**Equation 1.**  $x^2 + y^2 + 2x + 4y - 20 = 0 \rightarrow (x + 1)^2 + (y + 2)^2 = 5^2$

$$M_1(-1; -2) \quad R_1 = 5$$

**Equation 2.**  $z^2 + w^2 - 2w - 143 = 0 \rightarrow z^2 + (w - 1)^2 = 12^2$

$$M_2(0; 1) \quad R_2 = 12$$

$$(x - a)^2 + (y - b)^2 = R^2 \rightarrow \begin{cases} x = a + R \cos(\alpha) \\ y = b + R \sin(\alpha) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} x + 1 = 5 \cos(\alpha) \\ y + 2 = 5 \sin(\alpha) \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} x = 5 \cos(\alpha) - 1 \\ y = 5 \sin(\alpha) - 2 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} z = 12 \cos(\beta) \\ w - 1 = 12 \sin(\beta) \end{cases} \rightarrow w = 12 \sin(\beta) + 1$$

$$xw + yz - x + w + 2z - 61 \geq 0 \rightarrow x(w - 1) + z(y + 2) + w - 1 \geq 60$$

$$(5 \cos(\alpha) - 1)12 \sin(\beta) + 12 \cos(\beta) \cdot 5 \sin(\alpha) + 12 \sin(\beta) \geq 60$$

$$60 \sin(\alpha) \cos(\beta) + 60 \sin(\beta) \cos(\alpha) \geq 60$$

$$\sin(\alpha + \beta) \geq 1 \rightarrow (\alpha + \beta) \in \left[ \frac{\pi}{2} + \pi k \right] \quad \sin(\beta) = \cos(\alpha)$$

$$S = \frac{y^2}{25} + \frac{w^2}{144} = \left(\frac{y}{5}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{w}{12}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{5 \sin(\alpha) - 2}{5}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{12 \cos(\alpha) - 1}{12}\right)^2 =$$

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$$= \sin^2(\alpha) - \frac{4}{5}\sin(\alpha) + \frac{4}{25} + \cos^2(\alpha) - \frac{1}{6}\cos(\alpha) + \frac{1}{144}$$

$$= \frac{4201}{3600} + \frac{1}{6}\cos(\alpha) - \frac{4}{5}\sin(\alpha)$$

$$S = C + \frac{1}{6}\cos(\alpha) - \frac{4}{5}\sin(\alpha) \quad \text{Amplitude} \rightarrow A = \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{4}{5}\right)^2} = \frac{\sqrt{601}}{30}$$

$$S_{\max} = C + A \quad S_{\min} = C - A \quad S_{\max} + S_{\min} = 2C = 2 \cdot \frac{4201}{3600} = \frac{4201}{1800}$$

**778. Solve for natural numbers:**

$$(x+2)^{\frac{1}{x}} + (x+1)^x = 2^{2x} - 5$$

*Proposed by Sakthi Vel-India*

**Solution by Tapas Das-India**

for  $x = 1$

$$L.H.S = (1+2)^1 + 2^1 = 5, R.H.S = 2^2 - 5 = -1 \text{ so } L.H.S \neq R.H.S$$

for  $x = 2$

$$L.H.S = (2+2)^{\frac{1}{2}} + 3^2 = 11, R.H.S = 2^4 - 5 = 11 \text{ so } L.H.S = R.H.S$$

so  $x = 2$  is a solution.

for  $x \geq 3$ ,  $(x+2)^{\frac{1}{x}} > 1$  and  $(x+1)^x > 4^x = 2^{2x}$

$$\text{then } (x+2)^{\frac{1}{x}} + (x+1)^x > 2^{2x} + 1 > 2^{2x} - 5$$

so for  $n \geq 3$  equality impossible.

The only solution  $x = 2$

**779. Solve for real numbers:**

$$\sqrt{2x^2 - 5x - 42} \sqrt[4]{(2x^2 + x - 3)} + 1 = \left( \left\lfloor \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{7}\right) \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{3}\right) \right\rfloor \right)^2$$

$\lfloor * \rfloor \rightarrow$  floor function

*Proposed by Mais Hasanov-Azerbaijan*

**Solution by Amin Hajiyev-Azerbaijan**

$$LHS = \sqrt{2x^2 - 5x - 42} \sqrt[4]{(2x^2 + x - 3)} + 1 > 0$$

$$RHS = \left( \left\lfloor \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{7}\right) \right\rfloor + \left\lfloor \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{3}\right) \right\rfloor \right)^2 \geq 0$$

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$$\begin{cases} \sqrt{2x^2 - 5x - 42} \geq 0 \\ \sqrt[4]{2x^2 + x - 3} \geq 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} (2x+7)(x-6) \geq 0 & x \geq 6, x \leq -\frac{7}{2} \\ (2x+3)(x-1) \geq 0 & x \geq 1, x \leq -\frac{3}{2} \end{cases}$$

$$x \in \left(-\infty; -\frac{7}{2}\right] \cup [6; +\infty) \quad LHS = 1 \rightarrow x_1 = -\frac{7}{2} \quad x_2 = 6$$

$$-1 \leq \sin(\alpha) \leq 1 \quad -1 \leq \cos(\alpha) \leq 1$$

$$RHS = \left( \left| \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{7}\right) \right| + \left| \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{3}\right) \right| \right)^2 = \{0; 1; 4\}$$

$$RHS = LHS = 1 \rightarrow RHS \neq \{0; 4\}$$

$$x_1 = -\frac{7}{2} \rightarrow RHS = \left( \left| \sin\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\right) \right| + \left| \cos\left(-\frac{7\pi}{3}\right) \right| \right)^2 = (-1 + 0)^2 = 1$$

$$x_2 = 6 \rightarrow RHS = \left( \left| \sin\left(\frac{6\pi}{7}\right) \right| + \left| \cos(4\pi) \right| \right)^2 = (0 + 1)^2 = 1$$

$$x \rightarrow \left(-\frac{7}{2}; 6\right)$$

780. Find  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}^+$  such that:

$$\begin{cases} \sqrt{3}(x-y) \leq 1+xy \\ \sqrt{3}(y-z) \leq 1+yz \\ \sqrt{3}(1+xz) \leq x-z \end{cases}$$

Proposed by Mais Hasanov-Azerbaijan

Solution by Amin Hajiyev-Azerbaijan

$$\begin{cases} \frac{x-y}{1+xy} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \frac{y-z}{1+yz} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \frac{x-z}{1+xz} \geq \sqrt{3} \end{cases} \rightarrow \tan(a-b) = \frac{\tan(a) - \tan(b)}{1 + \tan(a)\tan(b)} \rightarrow \begin{cases} x = \tan(\alpha) \\ y = \tan(\beta) \\ z = \tan(\gamma) \end{cases}$$

$$x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \left(0; \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$\begin{cases} \tan(\alpha - \beta) \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \tan(\beta - \gamma) \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \tan(\alpha - \gamma) \geq \sqrt{3} \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \alpha - \beta \leq \frac{\pi}{6} \\ \beta - \gamma \leq \frac{\pi}{6} \\ \alpha - \gamma \geq \frac{\pi}{3} \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \alpha - \beta + \beta - \gamma \leq \frac{\pi}{3} \\ \alpha - \gamma \geq \frac{\pi}{3} \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \alpha - \gamma \leq \frac{\pi}{3} \\ \alpha - \gamma \geq \frac{\pi}{3} \end{cases}$$

$$\alpha - \gamma = \frac{\pi}{3}, \quad \alpha - \beta = \frac{\pi}{6}, \quad \beta - \gamma = \frac{\pi}{6}$$

$$1. \sqrt{3}x - \sqrt{3}y - xy = 1 \quad y = \frac{x\sqrt{3} - 1}{x + \sqrt{3}} \quad y \in \mathbb{R}^+ \quad x > \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

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$$2. \quad x - z = \sqrt{3}(1 + xz) \quad z = \frac{x - \sqrt{3}}{x\sqrt{3} + 1} \quad z \in \mathbb{R}^+ \quad x > \sqrt{3}$$

$$x > \sqrt{3}$$

The solution set of the system:  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \left( x > \sqrt{3}; \frac{x\sqrt{3} - 1}{x + \sqrt{3}}; \frac{x - \sqrt{3}}{x\sqrt{3} + 1} \right)$

**781. Solve for positive numbers:**

$$\begin{cases} x^3\sqrt{x} + y^3\sqrt{y} = 162 \\ x^3\sqrt{y} + y^3\sqrt{x} = 162 \end{cases}$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

**Solution by Tapas Das-India**

Let  $a^3 = x, b^3 = y$  then above equation can be written as

$$a^4 + b^4 = 162 \quad (1)$$

$$ab(a^2 + b^2) = 162 \quad (2)$$

$$a^4 + b^4 = 162 \text{ or } (a^2 + b^2)^2 - 2a^2b^2 = 162 \text{ or } s^2 - 2p^2 \stackrel{s=a^2+b^2, p=ab}{=} 162$$

$$\text{From (2) } ps = 162 \text{ or } s = \frac{162}{p}$$

$$s^2 - 2p^2 = 162 \text{ or } \left(\frac{162}{p}\right)^2 - 2p^2 = 162 \text{ or } 2p^4 + 162p^2 - 162^2 = 0$$

$$p^4 + 81p^2 - 13122 = 0 \text{ or } t^2 + 81t - 13122 \stackrel{t=p^2}{=} 0$$

$$t = p^2 = \frac{-81 \pm 243}{2} \text{ or } t = p^2 = 81 \text{ (taking positive value) or}$$

$$p = 9 \text{ and } s = \frac{162}{p} = 18$$

$$p = a^2 + b^2 = 18, s = ab = 9$$

$$(a - b)^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab = 18 - 18 = 0 \text{ or } a = b$$

$$\text{then } a = b = \sqrt{9} = 3 \text{ and } x = a^3 = 27, y = b^3 = 27$$

**782. If  $a > 1$  fixed then solve for real numbers:**

$$\sqrt{a^x - 1} + \sqrt{a^x + 1} = \sqrt{2}$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

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**Solution by Tapas Das-India**

**Domain**  $a^x - 1 \geq 0$  or,  $a^x \geq 1$  or,  $x \geq 0$  as  $a > 1$

$$\text{Let } y = a^x \text{ then } \sqrt{a^x - 1} + \sqrt{a^x + 1} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$\sqrt{y - 1} + \sqrt{y + 1} = \sqrt{2} \text{ or } (\sqrt{y - 1} + \sqrt{y + 1})^2 = (\sqrt{2})^2$$

$$y + 1 + y - 1 + 2\sqrt{y^2 - 1} = 2$$

$$y + \sqrt{y^2 - 1} = 1 \text{ or } \sqrt{y^2 - 1} = 1 - y$$

$$L.H.S \geq 0 \Rightarrow R.H.S \geq 0 \text{ or } 1 - y \geq 0 \text{ or } y \leq 1$$

But  $y = a^x$  ( $a > 1$ )  $\geq 1$  so we can say  $y = 1$  or  $a^x = 1$  or  $x = 0$  (as  $a > 1$ ).

**783. Solve for real numbers:**

$$\cot^2(x) = [\cos^2(x)] + \{\sin^2(x)\}$$

**[\*] – floor function, {\*} – fractional part function**

**Proposed by Mais Hasanov-Azerbaijan**

**Solution by Amin Hajiyev-Azerbaijan**

$$[\cos^2(x)] \rightarrow 0 \leq \cos^2(x) \leq 1; \{\sin^2(x)\} \rightarrow 0 \leq \sin^2(x) \leq 1$$

$$\{\sin^2(x)\} = \sin^2(x) - [\sin^2(x)], \quad 0 \leq \sin^2(x) < 1 \rightarrow [\sin^2(x)] = 0$$

$$\{\sin^2(x)\} = \sin^2(x) - 0 = \sin^2(x)$$

$$\cot(x) = \frac{\cos(x)}{\sin(x)} \rightarrow \sin(x) \neq 0 \quad x \neq \pi k \rightarrow [\cos^2(x)] = 0$$

$$\cot^2(x) = [\cos^2(x)] + \{\sin^2(x)\}, \cot^2(x) = \sin^2(x)$$

$$\cos^2(x) = \sin^4(x) \rightarrow \sin^4(x) + \sin^2(x) - 1 = 0$$

$$\sin^2(x) = t \rightarrow t^2 + t - 1 = 0, t_{1,2} = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$t \neq \frac{-1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} < 0, \quad t = \frac{-1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} > 0$$

$$t = \frac{\sqrt{5} - 1}{2} \quad \sin^2(x) = t \rightarrow \sin(x) = \pm \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{5} - 1}{2}}$$

$$x_1 = \pm \arcsin \sqrt{\frac{\sqrt{5} - 1}{2}} + \pi k$$

$$\sin^2(x) = 1 \rightarrow \sin(x) = \pm 1 \quad \cos(x) = 0$$

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$$\frac{\cos^2(x)}{\sin^2(x)} = [\cos^2(x)] + \{\sin^2(x)\}, \quad 0 = [0] + \{1\} = 0$$

$$x_1 = \pm \arcsin \sqrt{\frac{1}{\varphi}} + \pi k, \quad x_2 = \frac{\pi}{2} + \pi k; \quad k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

**784. Let be  $f, g, p: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , bijectifs functions such that:**

$$p(x) = 13x - 15, f^{-1}(-1) = 1.5,$$

$$f(g^2(x) - 2g(x)) = \frac{3(x+1)}{3x+2}, x \in \mathbb{R} - \{1, -\frac{2}{3}\}$$

**Find:  $p(g^{-1}(1))$ .**

*Proposed by Amin Hajiyev-Azerbaijan*

*Solution by Shirvan Tahirov-Azerbaijan*

$$f(g^2(x) - 2g(x)) = \frac{3(x+1)}{3x+2} = t$$

$$x = \frac{3t^{-1} + 3}{3t^{-1} + 2} \rightarrow \begin{cases} 3xt^{-1} - 3t^{-1} + 2x = 3 \\ 3xt^{-1} - 3t^{-1} = 3 - 2x \\ t^{-1}(3x - 3) = 3 - 2x \\ t^{-1} = \frac{3 - 2x}{3x - 3} \end{cases}$$

$$f^{-1}(g^2(x) - 2g(x)) = \frac{3 - 2x}{3x - 3}$$

$$p(g^{-1}(1)) \rightarrow g^{-1}(1) = x, \quad g(x) = 1$$

$$\frac{3 - 2x}{3x - 3} = 1.5 \rightarrow \begin{cases} 4.5x - 4.5 = 3 - 2x \\ x = \frac{15}{13} \end{cases}$$

$$g\left(\frac{15}{13}\right) = 1, \quad g^{-1}(1) = \frac{15}{13}$$

$$p(g^{-1}(1)) = p\left(\frac{15}{13}\right) = 13 \cdot \frac{15}{13} - 15 = 0$$

**785. Find  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that:**

$$x^4 + y^4 = 21 - x^2y^2$$

*Proposed by Bui Hong Suc-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$x^4 + y^4 = 21 - x^2y^2 \text{ or, } x^4 + y^4 + x^2y^2 = 21$$

$$\text{or, } a^2 + b^2 + ab \stackrel{a=x^2 \geq 0, b=y^2 \geq 0}{=} 21 \quad (1)$$

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for  $a = 0$  from (1) we get  $b^2 = 21 \neq Z$  no integer solution

for  $a = 1$  from (1) we get  $1 + b^2 + b = 21$  or,  $(b - 4)(b + 5) = 0$  or,  $b = 4$   
(as  $b = -5 \neq Z$ )

for  $a = 2$  from (1) we get  $4 + b^2 + 2b = 21$  or,  $b^2 + 2b - 17 = 0$   
Discriminant =  $D = 2^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot (-17) = 72$  not a perfect square,  
no integer solution

for  $a = 3$  from (1) we get  $9 + b^2 + 3b = 21$  or,  $b^2 + 3b - 12 = 0$   
Discriminant =  $D = 3^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot (-12) = 57$  not a perfect square,  
no integer solution

for  $a = 4$  from (1) we get  $b^2 + 4b - 5 = 0$  or,  $(b - 1)(b + 5) = 0$  or,  $b = 1$   
(as  $b = -5 \neq Z$ )

for  $a \geq 5$  L.H.S of (1)  $\geq 21$  not possible

now  $a = 1, b = 4 \Rightarrow x^2 = 1, y^2 = 4$  or,  $x = \pm 1, y = \pm 2$   
solution:  $(1, 2), (1, -2), (-1, 2), (-1, -2)$

now  $a = 4, b = 1 \Rightarrow x^2 = 4, y^2 = 1$  or,  $x = \pm 2, y = \pm 1$   
solution:  $(2, 1), (2, -1), (-2, 1), (-2, -1)$

**786. Solve for integers:**

$$\begin{cases} (x + y + z)^2 + (x - y + z)^2 - 18(z - 1)(5 - z) = 2y^2 \\ x + y - z = 4 \end{cases}$$

*Proposed by Bui Hong Suc-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\begin{aligned} (x + y + z)^2 + (x - y + z)^2 - 18(z - 1)(5 - z) &= 2y^2 \\ \text{or, } 2((x + z)^2 - y^2) - 18(z - 1)(5 - z) &= 2y^2 \\ \text{or, } (x + z)^2 &= 9(z - 1)(5 - z) \\ \text{or, } (4 + 2z - y)^2 &\stackrel{x+y-z=4}{=} 9(z - 1)(5 - z) \quad (1) \end{aligned}$$

now L.H.S  $\geq 0$  so R.H.S  $\geq 0$  for this  $(z - 1)(5 - z) \geq 0$  or,  $1 \leq z \leq 5$

when  $z = 1$ , R.H.S = 0 so from (1) we get  $(6 - y)^2 = 0$  or,  $y = 6$   
and  $x = 4 + z - y = 4 + 1 - 6 = -1$ , solution  $(x, y, z) = (-1, 6, 1)$

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when  $z = 2$ ,  $R.H.S = 27$  so from (1) we get  $(8 - y)^2 = 27$   
no integer solution exist

when  $z = 3$ ,  $R.H.S = 36$  so from (1) we get  $(10 - y)^2 = 36$  or,  $y = 4, 16$   
and  $x = 4 + z - y \stackrel{y=4}{=} 4 + 3 - 4 = 3$ , solution  $(x, y, z) = (3, 4, 3)$   
and  $x = 4 + z - y \stackrel{y=16}{=} 4 + 3 - 16 = -9$ , solution  $(x, y, z) = (-9, 16, 3)$

when  $z = 4$ ,  $R.H.S = 27$  so from (1) we get  $(12 - y)^2 = 27$   
no integer solution exist

when  $z = 5$ ,  $R.H.S = 0$  so from (1) we get  $(14 - y)^2 = 0$  or,  $y = 14$   
and  $x = 4 + z - y = 4 + 5 - 14 = -5$   
solution  $(x, y, z) = (-5, 14, 5)$

**787. Solve for integers:**

$$(x + 1)(x + 2)(x + 3)(x + 4) = y^2 - 12$$

*Proposed by Bui Hong Suc-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\begin{aligned}(x + 1)(x + 4) &= x^2 + 5x + 4 \\(x + 2)(x + 3) &= x^2 + 5x + 6, \\ \text{Let } u &= x^2 + 5x + 5 \text{ then } (x + 1)(x + 4) = u - 1 \text{ \& } (x + 2)(x + 3) = u + 1 \\(x + 1)(x + 2)(x + 3)(x + 4) &= y^2 - 12 \\ \text{or, } (u + 1)(u - 1) &= y^2 - 12 \\ \text{or, } u^2 - 1 &= y^2 - 12 \text{ or, } y^2 - u^2 = 11\end{aligned}$$

11 is a prime number, so possible pairs are :

$$\begin{aligned}(y - u, y + u) &= (1, 11), (-1, -11), (11, 1), (-11, -1) \\ y - u &= 1, y + u = 11 \Rightarrow y = 6, u = 5 \\ y - u &= -1, y + u = -11 \Rightarrow y = -6, u = 5 \\ y - u &= 11, y + u = 1 \Rightarrow y = 6, u = -5 \\ y - u &= -11, y + u = -1 \Rightarrow y = -6, u = 5\end{aligned}$$

for  $u = 5$  &  $y = 6, y = -6$  we get  $x^2 + 5x + 5 = 5$  or,  $x = 0, -5$   
solution  $(x, y) = (0, 6), (0, -6), (-5, 6), (-5, -6)$

for  $u = -5$  &  $y = 6$  we get  $x^2 + 5x + 5 = -5$  or,  $x^2 + 5x + 10 = 0$   
Discriminant =  $-15$  no integer solution exist

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for  $u = 5$  &  $y = 6$  we get  $x^2 + 5x + 5 = 5$  or,  $x = 0, -5$

**788. Solve for integers:**

$$x^4 + 6x^3 + 13x^2 - 4y^2 + 12x + 8y + 12 = 0$$

*Proposed by Bui Hong Suc-Vietnam*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$x^4 + 6x^3 + 13x^2 - 4y^2 + 12x + 8y + 12 = 0$$

$$\text{or, } (x^2 + 3x + 2)^2 - 4(y - 1)^2 = -12$$

$$\text{or, } 4(y - 1)^2 - (x^2 + 3x + 2)^2 = 12$$

$$\text{or, } 4(y - 1)^2 - ((x + 1)(x + 2))^2 = 12 \quad (1)$$

clearly  $(x + 1), (x + 2)$  are two consecutive numbers  
so  $(x + 1)(x + 2)$  is multiple of 2, let  $(x + 1)(x + 2) = 2m, m \in \mathbb{Z}$   
from (1) we get  $4(y - 1)^2 - 4m^2 = 12$  or,  $(y - 1)^2 - m^2 = 3$   
or,  $(y - 1 + m)(y - 1 - m) = 3$

possible pairs are:

$$(y - 1 + m)(y - 1 - m) = (3, 1), (-1, -3), (-3, -1), (1, 3)$$

$$y - 1 + m = 3, y - 1 - m = 1 \Rightarrow y - 1 = 2, m = 1 \text{ or, } y = 3, m = 1$$

$$m = 1 \Rightarrow (x + 1)(x + 2) = 2m \text{ or, } x^2 + 3x + 2 = 2 \text{ or, } x = -3, 0$$

$$\text{solution} = (x, y) = (-3, 3), (0, 3)$$

$$y - 1 + m = -1, y - 1 - m = -3 \Rightarrow y - 1 = -2, m = 1 \text{ or, } y = -1, m = 1$$

$$m = 1 \Rightarrow (x + 1)(x + 2) = 2m \text{ or, } x^2 + 3x + 2 = 2 \text{ or, } x = -3, 0$$

$$\text{solution} = (x, y) = (-3, -1), (0, -1)$$

$$y - 1 + m = -3, y - 1 - m = -1 \Rightarrow y - 1 = -2, m = -1 \text{ or, } y = 3, m = -1$$

$$m = -1 \Rightarrow (x + 1)(x + 2) = 2m \text{ or, } x^2 + 3x + 2 = -2 \text{ or, } x^2 + 3x + 4 = 0$$

*Discriminant* =  $9 - 16 < 0$  no solution and similar for the pair  $(3, 1)$

$$\text{solution} = (x, y) = (-3, 3), (0, 3), (-3, -1), (0, -1)$$

**789. If  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}, \lambda \geq 2$  then solve for naturals:**

$$\frac{1}{1+2} + \frac{1}{1+2+3} + \dots + \frac{1}{1+2+3+\dots+x} = \frac{2\lambda}{2\lambda+1}$$

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Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania

Solution by Amin Hajiyev-Azerbaijan

$$1 + \frac{1}{1+2} + \frac{1}{1+2+3} + \dots + \frac{1}{1+2+3+\dots+x} = \frac{4\lambda+1}{2\lambda+1}$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^x \frac{1}{\sum_{k=1}^n k} = \frac{4\lambda+1}{2\lambda+1}$$

$$\text{Note: } \rightarrow \begin{cases} 1+2+3+\dots+x = S \\ x+(x-1)+(x-2)+\dots+1 = S \end{cases}$$

$$2S = \underbrace{(x+1) + (x+1) + (x+1) + \dots + (x+1)}_x \rightarrow S = \frac{x(x+1)}{2}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \rightarrow 2 \sum_{n=1}^x \frac{1}{n(n+1)} = \frac{4\lambda+1}{2\lambda+1}$$

$$2 \left( \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^x \frac{1}{n} - \sum_{n=1}^x \frac{1}{n+1}}_{\text{Teleskopik sum}} \right) = \frac{4\lambda+1}{2\lambda+1} \rightarrow 2 \left( 1 - \frac{1}{x+1} \right) = \frac{4\lambda+1}{2\lambda+1}$$

$$\frac{x-1}{x+1} = \frac{2\lambda}{2\lambda+1} \rightarrow \frac{x+1}{x-1} = 1 + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \rightarrow \frac{2}{x-1} = \frac{1}{2\lambda}$$

$$x = 4\lambda + 1$$

790. Find  $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that:

$$2x^2 + 3y^2 = z^2 - 37$$

$$x - y + z = 3$$

Proposed by Bui Hong Suc-Vietnam

Solution by Tapas Das-India

$$2x^2 + 3y^2 = z^2 - 37 \text{ or, } 2x^2 + 3y^2 \stackrel{x-y+z=3}{=} (3-x+y)^2 - 37$$

$$\text{or, } 2x^2 + 3y^2 = x^2 + y^2 + 9 - 6x + 6y - 2xy - 37$$

$$\text{or, } x^2 + (2y+6)x + 2y^2 - 6y + 28 = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\text{Discriminant} = D = (2y+6)^2 - 4(2y^2 - 6y + 28) = 4(17 - (y-6)^2)$$

for integer solution  $(17 - (y-6)^2) \geq 0$  and must be perfect square.

for this  $(y-6)^2 = 1, 16$  so,  $y = 2, 5, 7, 10$ ,  $z = 3 - x + y$

for  $y = 7$ : from (1)  $x^2 + 20x + 84 = 0$  or,  $(x+6)(x+14) = 0$  or,  $x = -6, -14$

and  $z = 3 - x + y = 3 - (-6) + 7 = 16$  and  $z = 3 - (-14) + 7 = 24$

solution =  $(x, y, z) = \{(-6, 7, 16), (-14, 7, 24)\}$

for  $y = 5$ : from (1)  $x^2 + 16x + 48 = 0$  or,  $(x+4)(x+12) = 0$  or,  $x = -4, -12$

and  $z = 3 - x + y = 3 - (-4) + 5 = 12$  and  $z = 3 - (-12) + 5 = 20$

solution =  $(x, y, z) = \{(-4, 5, 12), (-12, 5, 20)\}$

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for  $y = 2$  : from (1)  $x^2 + 10x + 24 = 0$  or,  $(x + 6)(x + 4) = 0$  or,  $x = -6, -4$   
 and  $z = 3 - x + y = 3 - (-4) + 2 = 9$  and  $z = 3 - (-6) + 2 = 11$   
 solution =  $(x, y, z) = \{(-6, 2, 9), (-4, 2, 11)\}$

for  $y = 10$  from (1)  $x^2 + 26x + 168 = 0$  or,  $(x + 12)(x + 14) = 0$  or,  $x = -14, -12$   
 and  $z = 3 - x + y = 3 - (-14) + 10 = 27$  and  $z = 3 - (-12) + 10 = 25$   
 solution =  $(x, y, z) = \{(-14, 10, 10), (-12, 10, 25)\}$

791.

$$(1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots + x^{100})^3 = 1 + \dots + kx^{100} + \dots + x^{300}$$

$$k = ?$$

Proposed by Mais Hasanov-Azerbaijan

Solution by Amin Hajiyev-Azerbaijan

$$f(x) = \left( \underbrace{1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^{100}}_{101} \right)$$

$$g(x) = \left( \underbrace{1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + \dots + x^{100} + \dots}_{\infty} \right)$$

$$f(x)(\text{coefficient } x^{100}) = g(x)(\text{coefficient } x^{100})$$

$$g(x) = (1 + x + x^2 + \dots)^3 = \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n \right)^3 = \left( \frac{1}{1-x} \right)^3$$

$$\text{Note: } p(x) = (1 + x + x^2 + \dots)^n = \left( \frac{1}{1-x} \right)^n = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \binom{m+n-1}{m} x^m$$

$$g(x) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \binom{m-1+3}{m} x^m = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \binom{m+2}{m} x^m$$

$$m = 100 \rightarrow g(x)(\text{coefficient } x^{100}) = x^{100} \binom{102}{100} = \frac{102!}{100!2!} x^{100} = 5151x^{100}$$

$$k = 5151$$

792.

$$\text{If } x, y \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ solve : } (x + 1)^3 + (y - 1)^3 + 1 = (x + y + 1)^2$$

Proposed by Sakthi Vel-India

Solution by Amin Hajiyev-Azerbaijan

$$(x + 1)^3 + (y - 1)^3 + 1 = (x + y + 1)^2$$

$$\begin{cases} x + 1 = a \\ y - 1 = b \end{cases} \rightarrow (x + 1)^3 + (y - 1)^3 + 1 = (x + 1 + y - 1 + 1)^2$$

$$a^3 + b^3 + 1 = (a + b + 1)^2$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 (a+b)(a^2-ab+b^2)+1 &= a^2+b^2+2ab+2a+2b+1 \\
 (a+b)(a^2-ab+b^2) &= (a+b)^2+2(a+b) \\
 (a+b)(a^2-ab+b^2-a-b-2) &= 0 \rightarrow a+b=0 \\
 2a^2-2ab+2b^2-2a-2b-4 &= 0 \\
 a^2-2ab+b^2+a^2-2a+1+b^2-2b+1-6 &= 0 \\
 (a-b)^2+(a-1)^2+(b-1)^2 &= 6 = 1^2+1^2+2^2 \\
 a-b = \pm 1, a-1 = \pm 1, b-1 = \pm 2 &\rightarrow a, b (2; 3)(0; -1) \\
 a-b = \pm 2, a-1 = \pm 1, b-1 = \pm 1 &\rightarrow (2; 0)(0; 2) \\
 a-b = \pm 1, a-1 = \pm 2, b-1 = \pm 1 &\rightarrow a, b (3; 2)(-1; 0) \\
 a, b \rightarrow (2; 3)(0; -1)(2; 0)(0; 2)(3; 2)(-1; 0) \\
 \begin{cases} a = x + 1 \\ b = y - 1 \end{cases} \rightarrow x, y \in \{(2; 3), (-2; 1), (1; 4), (-1; 0), (1; 1), (-1; 3)\} \\
 a + b = 0 \rightarrow x + y = 0, x = -y \\
 \text{General solution: } x = -y, \text{ where } y \in \mathbb{Z}
 \end{aligned}$$

793. Solve for integers:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lfloor \sqrt[3]{1} \rfloor + \lfloor \sqrt[3]{2} \rfloor + \lfloor \sqrt[3]{3} \rfloor + \dots + \lfloor \sqrt[3]{x^3-1} \rfloor &= 400 \\
 \text{where } \lfloor * \rfloor &- \text{ floor function}
 \end{aligned}$$

Proposed by Mais Hasanov-Azerbaijan

Solution by Amin Hajiyev-Azerbaijan

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lfloor \sqrt[3]{1} \rfloor + \lfloor \sqrt[3]{2} \rfloor + \lfloor \sqrt[3]{3} \rfloor + \dots + \lfloor \sqrt[3]{x^3-1} \rfloor &= 400 \rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^{x^3-1} \lfloor \sqrt[3]{k} \rfloor = 400 \\
 \text{Floor function } \lfloor \sqrt[3]{k} \rfloor = n &\rightarrow n \leq \sqrt[3]{k} < n+1 \rightarrow n^3 \leq k < (n+1)^3 \\
 k \in [n^3; (n+1)^3) &\rightarrow k \in [n^3; (n+1)^3] \\
 \text{The number of integers in this interval } P_n &= (n+1)^3 - n^3 = 3n^2 + 3n + 1 \\
 \sqrt[3]{x^3-1} < x \rightarrow \lfloor \sqrt[3]{x^3-1} \rfloor &= x-1. \text{ Thus, } n \text{ ranges from } 1 \text{ to } x-1 \\
 \sum_{n=1}^{x-1} n \cdot P_n = 400 &\rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{x-1} n \cdot (3n^2 + 3n + 1) = 400 \\
 3 \sum_{n=1}^{x-1} n^3 + 3 \sum_{n=1}^{x-1} n^2 + \sum_{n=1}^{x-1} n &= 400 \\
 3 \cdot \frac{(x-1)^2 x^2}{4} + 3 \cdot \frac{x(x-1)(2x-1)}{6} + \frac{x(x-1)}{2} &= 400 \\
 (x-1) \left( \frac{3x^3-3x^2}{4} + \frac{2x^2-x}{2} + \frac{x}{2} \right) &= 400 \rightarrow (x-1)(3x^3+x^2) = 1600 \\
 3x^4 - 2x^3 - x^2 - 1600 &= 0 \\
 3x^4 - 15x^3 + 13x^3 - 65x^2 + 64x^2 - 1600 &= 0 \\
 3x^3(x-5) + 13x^2(x-5) + 64(x-5)(x+5) &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

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$(x - 5)(3x^3 + 13x^2 + 64x + 320) = 0 \rightarrow \boxed{x_1 = 5}$   
 $3x^3 + 13x^2 + 64x + 320 \neq 0$  as  $x \in \mathbb{N}$ , *There is no other natural solution.*

**794. If  $\lambda \in \mathbb{N}^*$  fixed then solve for natural numbers:**

$$\frac{(x + y + z)^5 - x^5 - y^5 - z^5}{(x + y + z)^3 - x^3 - y^3 - z^3} = 10\lambda^2$$

*Proposed by Marin Chirciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

$$\begin{aligned} (x + y + z)^5 &= x^5 + y^5 + z^5 + 5(x + y)(y + z)(z + x)(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xy + yz + zx) \\ &= 5(x + y)(y + z)(z + x)(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xy + yz + zx) \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (x + y + z)^3 &= x^3 + y^3 + z^3 + 3(x + y)(y + z)(z + x) \\ (x + y + z)^3 - x^3 - y^3 - z^3 &= 3(x + y)(y + z)(z + x) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(x + y + z)^5 - x^5 - y^5 - z^5}{(x + y + z)^3 - x^3 - y^3 - z^3} &= 10\lambda^2 \\ \frac{5}{3}(x^2 + y^2 + z^2 + xy + yz + zx) &\stackrel{(1)\&(2)}{=} 10\lambda^2 \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

*The equation is symmetric in  $x, y, z$  and homogeneous of degree 2 hence we examine symmetric case  $x = y = z = t$  (say)*

*From (3) we get  $6t^2 = 6\lambda^2$  or  $t = \lambda$*

*Solution  $x = y = z = \lambda$*

**795. Solve the equation:**

$$[x] \cdot x + [x] \cdot \{x\} + \{x\} \cdot x = 2000$$

$[*]$  – floor function,  $\{*\}$  – fractional part function

*Proposed by Mais Hasanov-Azerbaijan*

*Solution by Amin Hajiyev-Azerbaijan*

$$\begin{aligned} x &= [x] + \{x\} = n + m \quad \begin{cases} [x] = n \\ \{x\} = m, \quad 0 \leq m < 1 \end{cases} \\ [x] \cdot x + [x] \cdot \{x\} + \{x\} \cdot x &= 2000 \\ \rightarrow n \cdot (n + m) + m \cdot n + m \cdot (n + m) &= 2000 \\ (n + m)^2 + m \cdot n &= 2000 \rightarrow n^2 + m^2 + 3mn = 2000 \end{aligned}$$

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$$0 \leq m < 1 \rightarrow m = 0 \quad n^2 = 2000 \quad n = \sqrt{2000} = 20\sqrt{5}$$

$$n \leq \lfloor 20\sqrt{5} \rfloor = 44$$

$$m = 1 \rightarrow n^2 + 3n - 1999 = 0$$

$$n = \frac{-3 + \sqrt{9 + 7996}}{2} = \frac{\sqrt{8005}}{2} - 1,5 \approx \frac{89,5 - 3}{2} \approx 43.25$$

$$n \geq 44 \rightarrow 44 \leq n \leq 44 \quad n = 44$$

$$m^2 + 132m + 1936 - 2000 = 0 \rightarrow m^2 + 132m - 64 = 0$$

$$m = \frac{-132 + \sqrt{132^2 + 256}}{2} = \frac{\sqrt{17680} - 132}{2} = \frac{4\sqrt{1105}}{2} - 66 = 2\sqrt{1105} - 66$$

$$x = \lfloor x \rfloor + \{x\} = n + m = 44 + 2\sqrt{1105} - 66 = 2\sqrt{1105} - 22$$

$$x = 2\sqrt{1105} - 22$$

796. *Prove or disprove that:*

*The roots of the equation  $x^3 + ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  are in A.P.  
if  $4a^3 = 9ab + 27c$*

*Proposed by Neculai Stanciu-Romania*

*Solution by Tapas Das-India*

Let  $p - d, p, p + d$  are roots of the equation  $x^3 + ax^2 + bx + c = 0$

$$\text{then } p - d + p + p + d = -a \text{ or, } d = -\frac{a}{3} \quad (1)$$

$$(p - d)p(p + d) = -c \text{ or, } p(p^2 - d^2) = -c \quad (2)$$

$$(p - d)p + p(p + d) + (p - d)(p + d) = b \text{ or, } 3p^2 - d^2 = b \quad (3)$$

$$\text{from (1) \& (3) we get } d^2 = 3\left(-\frac{a}{3}\right)^2 - b = \frac{a^2}{3} - b \quad (4)$$

$$\text{From (2) \& (4) we get, } -\frac{a}{3}\left(\frac{a^2}{9} - \left(\frac{a^2}{3} - b\right)\right) = -c \text{ or, } -\frac{a}{3}\left(b - \frac{2a^2}{9}\right) = -c$$

or  $2a^3 = 9ab - 27c$ , so the given condition is not true.

797. *If  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  then solve the equation:*

$$\lfloor x^2 - 2 \rfloor + 2\lfloor x \rfloor = \lfloor x \rfloor^2, \quad \lfloor * \rfloor - \text{ floor function}$$

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Proposed by Mais Hasanov-Azerbaijan

Solution by Amin Hajiyev-Azerbaijan

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\text{We have } \begin{cases} x \in \mathbb{R} \\ k \in \mathbb{Z} \end{cases} \Rightarrow [x+k] = [x] + k \\
 &\text{RHS} = [x^2 - 2] = [x^2] - 2 \\
 &n \in \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow [x] = n \\
 &n \leq x < n+1 \Rightarrow n^2 \leq x^2 < (n+1)^2 \\
 &\quad n^2 \leq x^2 < n^2 + 2n + 1 \\
 &\quad n^2 \leq x^2 \leq n^2 + 2n \\
 &[x^2] = 2 - 2[x] + [x]^2 \Rightarrow [x^2] = 2 - 2n + n^2 \\
 &\quad n^2 - 2n + 2 \leq x^2 < n^2 - 2n + 3 \\
 &\quad n^2 \leq n^2 - 2n + 2 \leq n^2 + 2n \\
 &n^2 \leq n^2 - 2n + 2 < n^2 + 2n \Rightarrow \begin{cases} n \leq 1 \\ n \geq \frac{1}{2} \end{cases} \rightarrow n \in \mathbb{Z} \\
 &\quad n = 1 \Rightarrow [x] = 1, \quad [x^2] = 1 \\
 &\begin{cases} n^2 \leq x^2 < n^2 + 2n + 1 \\ n^2 - 2n + 2 \leq x^2 < n^2 - 2n + 3 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 1 \leq x < 2 \\ 1 \leq x < \sqrt{2} \end{cases} \quad x \in [1; \sqrt{2})
 \end{aligned}$$

798.

$$\begin{cases} a = \frac{x - y\sqrt{x^2 - y^2}}{\sqrt{1 - x^2 + y^2}} \\ b = \frac{y - x\sqrt{x^2 - y^2}}{\sqrt{1 - x^2 + y^2}} \end{cases} \quad \text{Express } x \text{ and } y \text{ in terms of } a \text{ and } b$$

Proposed by Mais Hasanov-Azerbaijan

Solution by Amin Hajiyev-Azerbaijan

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\begin{cases} a = \frac{x - y\sqrt{x^2 - y^2}}{\sqrt{1 - x^2 + y^2}} \\ b = \frac{y - x\sqrt{x^2 - y^2}}{\sqrt{1 - x^2 + y^2}} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a = \frac{x}{\sqrt{1 - x^2 + y^2}} - \frac{y\sqrt{x^2 - y^2}}{\sqrt{1 - x^2 + y^2}} \\ b = \frac{y}{\sqrt{1 - x^2 + y^2}} - \frac{x\sqrt{x^2 - y^2}}{\sqrt{1 - x^2 + y^2}} \end{cases} \\
 &k = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2 + y^2}}, \quad m = \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - y^2}}{\sqrt{1 - x^2 + y^2}} \\
 &\begin{cases} kx - my = a \\ -mx + ky = b \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} k & -m \\ -m & k \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow A \cdot B = C \\
 &A = \begin{pmatrix} k & -m \\ -m & k \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \text{Det}(A) = k^2 - m^2 = \frac{1}{1 - x^2 + y^2} - \frac{x^2 - y^2}{1 - x^2 + y^2} = 1 \neq 0 \\
 &A^{-1} \cdot C = B \Rightarrow A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\text{Det}(A)} \begin{pmatrix} k & m \\ m & k \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} k & m \\ m & k \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{cases} ka + mb = x \\ ma + kb = y \end{cases} \Rightarrow x^2 - y^2 = (ka + mb)^2 - (ma + kb)^2 \\ = a^2(k^2 - m^2) - b^2(k^2 - m^2)$$

$$x^2 - y^2 = \text{Det}(A) \cdot (a^2 - b^2) = a^2 - b^2$$

$$k = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2 + y^2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - a^2 + b^2}}, \quad m = \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - y^2}}{\sqrt{1 - x^2 + y^2}} = \frac{\sqrt{a^2 - b^2}}{\sqrt{1 - a^2 + b^2}}$$

Therefore  $\begin{cases} ka + mb = x \\ ma + kb = y \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = \frac{a + b\sqrt{a^2 - b^2}}{\sqrt{1 - a^2 + b^2}} \\ y = \frac{b + a\sqrt{a^2 - b^2}}{\sqrt{1 - a^2 + b^2}} \end{cases}$

799. Solve for real numbers:

$$\sqrt[5]{1+x} + \sqrt[5]{1-x} = 2$$

Proposed by Nguyen Hung Cuong-Vietnam

Solution by Daniel Sitaru-Romania

Denote:

$$a = \sqrt[5]{1+x}, \quad b = \sqrt[5]{1-x}, \quad S = a + b, \quad P = ab$$

$$a + b = 2 \Rightarrow S = 2$$

$$a^5 + b^5 = 1 + x + 1 - x = 2$$

$$(a + b)(a^4 - a^3b + a^2b^2 - ab^3 + b^4) = 2$$

$$2(a^4 + b^4 - ab(a^2 + b^2) + a^2b^2) = 2$$

$$a^4 + b^4 - ab(a^2 + b^2) + a^2b^2 = 1$$

$$(a^2 + b^2)^2 - 2a^2b^2 - ab(a^2 + b^2) + a^2b^2 = 1$$

$$(S^2 - 2P)^2 - P(S^2 - 2P) - P^2 = 1$$

$$(2^2 - 2P)^2 - P(2^2 - 2P) - P^2 = 1$$

$$16 - 16P + 4P^2 - 4P + 2P^2 - P^2 = 1$$

$$5P^2 - 20P + 15 = 0$$

$$P^2 - 4P + 3 = 0 \Rightarrow (P - 1)(P - 3) = 0$$

$$P = 3, S = 2 \Rightarrow a, b \notin \mathbb{R}$$

$$P = 1, S = 2 \Rightarrow a = b = 1 \Rightarrow x = 0$$

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**800. Find all positive integers  $k$  such that  $(k + 2)^2 + 3^k$  is a perfect square.**

*Proposed by Stewart Ming-Vietnam*

*Solution by Jenish Rijal-Nepal*

$$\text{Let } (k + 2)^2 + 3^k = n^2 \quad (\text{where } n \in \mathbb{N})$$

$$\Rightarrow n^2 - (k + 2)^2 = 3^k \Rightarrow (n + k + 2)(n - k - 2) = 3^k$$

*We know that since both  $(n + k + 2)$  and  $(n - k - 2)$  are powers of 3, and are distinct.*

*Therefore they differ by at least a factor of 3.*

$$\Rightarrow n + k + 2 \geq 3(n - k - 2) \Rightarrow 3n - n \leq k + 2 + 3(k + 2) \Rightarrow n \leq 2(k + 2)$$

$$\text{Now: } (k + 2)^2 + 3^k = n^2 \leq [2(k + 2)]^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 3^k \leq 3(k + 2)^2 \Rightarrow k \leq 4$$

*and only  $k = 2$  works.*

*$\therefore k = 2$  is the only solution!*

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*It's nice to be important but more important it's to be nice.*

*At this paper works a TEAM.*

*This is RMM TEAM.*

*To be continued!*

*Daniel Sitaru*