

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

In similar way:

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

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

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

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

So from (*) and (**):

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

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

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