

**PP45225**

MIHÁLY BENCZE - ROMANIA

Solve for real numbers:

$$\begin{cases} 3x_1^4 + 1 = 4x_2^3 \\ 3x_2^4 + 1 = 4x_3^3 \\ \text{-----} \\ 3x_n^4 + 1 = 4x_1^3 \end{cases}$$

*Solution by Daniel Sitaru, Claudia Nănuți.*

$$\begin{aligned} 4x_2^3 &= 3x_1^4 + 1 = x_1^4 + x_1^4 + x_1^4 + 1 \stackrel{\text{AM-GM}}{\geq} \\ &\geq 4\sqrt[4]{x_1^4 \cdot x_1^4 \cdot x_1^4 \cdot 1} = 4x_1^3 \\ 4x_2^3 &\geq 4x_1^3 \Rightarrow x_2^3 \geq x_1^3 \Rightarrow x_2 \geq x_1 \end{aligned}$$

Analogous:

$$\begin{aligned} x_3 &\geq x_2; x_4 \geq x_3; \dots; x_n \geq x_{n-1}; x_1 \geq x_n \\ x_n &\leq x_1 \leq x_2 \leq x_3 \leq \dots \leq x_n \leq x_1 \\ x_1 &= x_2 = x_3 = \dots = x_n = \alpha \\ 3\alpha^4 + 1 &= 4\alpha^3 \Rightarrow 3\alpha^4 - 4\alpha^3 + 1 = 0 \\ 3\alpha^4 - 3\alpha^3 - (\alpha^3 - 1) &= 0 \\ 3\alpha^3(\alpha - 1) - (\alpha - 1)(\alpha^2 + \alpha + 1) &= 0 \\ (\alpha - 1)(3\alpha^3 - \alpha^2 - \alpha - 1) &= 0 \\ (\alpha - 1)(3\alpha^3 - 3\alpha^2 + 2\alpha^2 - 2\alpha + \alpha - 1) &= 0 \\ (\alpha - 1)[3\alpha^2(\alpha - 1) + 2\alpha(\alpha - 1) + (\alpha - 1)] &= 0 \\ (\alpha - 1)^2(3\alpha^2 + 2\alpha + 1) &= 0 \\ (\alpha - 1)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha = 1 \\ x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_n &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

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