

ROMANIAN MATHEMATICAL MAGAZINE

S.2542 Solve for real numbers

$$x + y + z = -1$$

$$x^3 + y^3 + z^3 = -1$$

$$x^2 + 2y^2 - 3yz = 2$$

Proposed by Radu Diaconu – Romania

Solution by Titu Zvonaru-Romania

From the first equation yields $z = -1 - x - y$; then the second equation becomes

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

$$x^3 + y^3 - x^3 - y^3 - 1 - 3x^2y - 3xy^2 - 3x^2 - 3x - 3y^2 - 3y - 6xy = -1$$

$$x^2y + xy^2 + x^2 + x + y^2 + y + xy = 0 \Leftrightarrow xy(x + y) + (x + y)^2 + (x + y) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (x + y)(xy + x + y + 1) = 0 \Leftrightarrow (x + y)(x + 1)(y + 1) = 0.$$

We have three cases:

a) $y = -x, z = -1$; the third equation is $x^2 + 2x^2 - 3x = 2$. It results the solutions

$$(x, y, z) = \left(\frac{3+\sqrt{33}}{6}, -\frac{3+\sqrt{33}}{6}, -1\right), \left(\frac{3-\sqrt{33}}{6}, -\frac{3-\sqrt{33}}{6}, -1\right)$$

b) $x = -1, z = -y$; the third equation is $1 + 2y^2 + 3y^2 = 2$. Yields the solutions

$$(x, y, z) = \left(-1, \frac{\sqrt{5}}{5}, -\frac{\sqrt{5}}{5}\right), \left(-1, -\frac{\sqrt{5}}{5}, \frac{\sqrt{5}}{5}\right)$$

c) $y = -1, z = -x$; the third equation is $x^2 + 2 - 3x = 2$. We get solutions $(x, y, z) =$

$$(0, -1, 0), (3, -1, -3).$$