

Answer on Question #44039, Math, Algebra

if $xyz = 1$, then prove that $1/xyz^{-1} + 1/xzy^{-1} + 1/yzx^{-1} = 1$

Remark.

The statement of the problem is incorrect. For example when $x = y = z = 1$, then $xyz = 1$ and each of the summands in the left side of the equation

$$1/xyz^{-1} + 1/xzy^{-1} + 1/yzx^{-1} = 1$$

equals 1. Hence

$$1/xyz^{-1} + 1/xzy^{-1} + 1/yzx^{-1} = 3.$$

We may prove that if $xyz = 1$ for some real x, y, z , then

$$\frac{1}{xy}z^{-1} + \frac{1}{xz}y^{-1} + \frac{1}{zy}x^{-1} = 3$$

and

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

Solution:

1) If $xyz = 1$, then

$$\frac{1}{xy}z^{-1} + \frac{1}{xz}y^{-1} + \frac{1}{zy}x^{-1} = 3.$$

The equality is true, as

$$\frac{1}{xy}z^{-1} + \frac{1}{xz}y^{-1} + \frac{1}{zy}x^{-1} = \frac{1}{xyz} + \frac{1}{xyz} + \frac{1}{xyz} = 1 + 1 + 1 = 3.$$

2) If $xyz = 1$, then

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

The equality is true, as if $xyz = 1$, then there exist real a, b, c such that $x = \frac{a}{b}, y = \frac{b}{c}, z = \frac{c}{a}$ (for example $a = xy, b = y, c = 1 = xyz$). Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1+x+y^{-1}} + \frac{1}{1+y+z^{-1}} + \frac{1}{1+z+x^{-1}} &= \frac{1}{1+\frac{a}{b}+\frac{c}{b}} + \frac{1}{1+\frac{b}{c}+\frac{a}{c}} + \frac{1}{1+\frac{c}{a}+\frac{b}{a}} \\ &= \frac{b}{a+b+c} + \frac{c}{a+b+c} + \frac{a}{a+b+c} = 1. \end{aligned}$$