

$$f(x - f(y)) = f(x + y^n) + f(f(y) + y)$$

Then given F.E is equivalent to  $f(x) = f(x + y^n + f(y)) + f(f(y) + y)$

Let,  $P(x, y) \implies f(x) = f(x + y^n + f(y)) + f(f(y) + y)$ ,  $n \geq 2$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$P(y + f(y), y) \implies f(y + y^n + 2f(y)) = 0$$

It's ugly, but not hard to check that,  $f(x) = -\frac{(x + x^n)}{2}$  is not a solution.

So, there exists  $u \in \mathbb{R}/\{0\}$  such that  $f(u) = 0$

Define,  $c = f(0)$ ,  $S = \{x^n + f(x) \mid x \in \mathbb{R}\}$ ,  $g(x) = f(x) - c$ ,  $\mathcal{G} = \{g(x) \mid x \in \mathbb{R}\}$

I.  $g(x + s) = g(x) + g(s)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $s \in S$

Proof:

$$P(0, y) \implies f(y^n + f(y)) = c - f(y + f(y))$$

$$\text{So, } P(x, y) \implies f(x) = f(x + y^n + f(y)) + c - f(y^n + f(y))$$

$$\text{Or, } f(x + y^n + f(y)) - c = f(x) - c + f(y^n + f(y)) - c$$

$$\text{So, } g(x + s) = g(x) + g(s) \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and } s \in S$$

II.  $g(\sum_{1 \leq i \leq t} n_i s_i) = \sum n_i g(s_i)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $s_i \in S$

Proof:

Can easily be derived from I

III. For all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  there exists  $t \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ ,  $s_i \in S$ ,  $n_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq t$  such that,  $x = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq t} n_i s_i$

Proof:

Note that we previously defined  $u \neq 0$  such that,  $f(u) = 0$

$$\text{Now, } P(x, u) \implies f(x) = f(x + u^n)$$

$$\implies (x + u)^n - x^n = (f(x + u) + (x + u)^n) - (f(x) + x^n)$$

Note that,  $h(x) = (x + u)^n - x^n$  is a continuous non-constant function as  $u \neq 0$ .

So, there must be an interval  $[a, b]$ ,  $a \neq b$  such that,  $[a, b]$  is subset of co-domain of  $h$ .

$$\text{Now, for any real } x, \exists t \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ such that } t(b - a) + b > x \geq t(b - a) + a,$$

$$\text{So, for some } r, x = t(b - a) + r \text{ where } b > r \geq a$$

$$\text{As, } a, b, r \in [a, b], \exists i, j, k \text{ such that, } h(i) = a, h(j) = b, h(k) = r$$

$$\text{So, } x = th(j) + h(k) - th(i)$$

As, each  $h(y)$  can be represented in the form  $\sum_{1 \leq i \leq t} n_i s_i$ ,  $n_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $s_i \in S$  so is  $x$ .

IV.  $g(x + y) = g(x) + g(y)$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$

Proof:

Let,  $x = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq t, n_i \in \mathbb{Z}, s_i \in S} n_i s_i$  and  $y = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq t', n'_i \in \mathbb{Z}, s'_i \in S} n'_i s'_i$

So, according to II,

$$g(x) = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq t, n_i \in \mathbb{Z}, s_i \in S} n_i g(s_i) \text{ and } g(y) = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq t', n'_i \in \mathbb{Z}, s'_i \in S} n'_i g(s'_i)$$

So,  $g(x+y)$

$$\begin{aligned} &= g\left(\sum_{1 \leq i \leq t, n_i \in \mathbb{Z}, s_i \in S} n_i s_i + \sum_{1 \leq i \leq t', n'_i \in \mathbb{Z}, s'_i \in S} n'_i s'_i\right) \\ &= \sum_{1 \leq i \leq t, n_i \in \mathbb{Z}, s_i \in S} n_i g(s_i) + \sum_{1 \leq i \leq t', n'_i \in \mathbb{Z}, s'_i \in S} n'_i g(s'_i) \\ &= g(x) + g(y) \end{aligned}$$

V.  $f(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$

Proof:

$$P(x, y)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\implies f(x) = f(x + y^n + f(y)) + f(f(y) + y) \\ &\implies g(x) + c = g(x + y^n + g(y) + c) + c + g(g(y) + c + y) + c \\ &\implies g(x) + c = g(x) + g(y^n) + g(g(y)) + g(c) + c + g(g(y)) + g(c) + g(y) + c \\ &\implies 2g(g(y)) + g(y) + g(y^n) = a \end{aligned}$$

Where,  $a = -c - 2g(c) = -(g(2c) + c) = -f(2f(0)) = 0$ , according to,  $P(f(0), 0)$

$$\text{So, } 2g(g(y)) + g(y) + g(y^n) = 0$$

$$\text{Let, } Q(x) \implies 2g(g(x)) + g(x) + g(x^n) = 0$$

Then,  $Q(x) + Q(y)$

$$\begin{aligned} &\implies 2g(g(x)) + g(x) + g(x^n) + 2g(g(y)) + g(y) + g(y^n) = 0 \\ &\implies 2g(g(x) + g(y)) + g(x + y) + g(x^n + y^n) = 0 \\ &\implies 2g(g(x + y)) + g(x + y) + g(x^n + y^n) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{But, } Q(x + y) \implies 2g(g(x + y)) + g(x + y) + g((x + y)^n) = 0$$

$$\text{So, } g(x^n + y^n) = g(x^n) + g(y^n) = g((x + y)^n) = g(x^n) + g(y^n) + g\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \binom{n}{i} x^i y^{n-i}\right)$$

$$\implies g\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \binom{n}{i} x^i y^{n-i}\right) = 0$$

$$y = 1 \implies g\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \binom{n}{i} x^i\right) = 0$$

Note that, since  $n \geq 2$ ,  $\gamma(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \binom{n}{i} x^i$  is a non-constant continuous function.

Further,  $\gamma(0) = 0$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \gamma(x) = \infty$

So,  $(\forall x \geq 0)(\exists z \geq 0)$  such that  $x = \gamma(z)$ . So,  $g(x) = g(\gamma(z)) = 0$  for all  $x \geq 0$

But,  $g(-x) + g(x) = g(0) = f(0) - c = 0$ , So,  $g(-x) = 0$  for all  $x \geq 0$

Hence  $g \equiv 0 \implies f \equiv c$ .  $P(x, y) \implies c = 2c \implies c = 0$

So,  $f(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$

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