

# Functional Equations

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- Find all functions  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that
  - $f(2) = 2$ ;
  - $f(mn) = f(m)f(n)$  for all  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ ;
  - $f(m) < f(n)$  for  $m < n$ .
- Replace (b) in the above by  $f(mn) = f(m)f(n)$  for all  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\gcd(m, n) = 1$  and then solve for  $f$ .
- Replace (a) in the above by  $f(2) = 3$  and see what happens?
- What happens if there is no (c) in the above?
- (IMO 1997) If  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is such that  $f(n+1) > f(f(n))$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , prove that  $f(n) = n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- Find all functions  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that  $f(f(m) + f(n)) = m + n$  for all  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- (IMO 1998) Consider all functions  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  satisfying  $f(m^2 f(n)) = n(f(m))^2$  for all  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Determine the least possible value of  $f(1998)$ .
- Find all functions  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $f(m+n) + f(mn-1) = f(m)f(n) + 2$  for all  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- Find all functions  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $f(m+n) + f(mn) = f(m)f(n) + 1$  for all  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- Find all functions  $f: \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $f(m+n) + f(mn-1) = f(m)f(n)$  for all  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ .
- Determine all functions  $f: \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0, 1\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  which satisfy  $f(x) + f(\frac{1}{1-x}) = \frac{2(1-2x)}{x(1-x)}$  valid for all  $x \neq 0$  and  $x \neq 1$ .
- Let  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function such that
  - $f(x+y) = f(x) + f(y)$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ ,
  - $f(\frac{1}{x}) = \frac{f(x)}{x^2}$  for all  $x \neq 0$ .Prove that  $f(x) = cx$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  for some constant  $c$ .
- (IMO 1992) Find all functions  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(x^2 + f(y)) = f(x)^2 + y$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- Find all functions  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  which satisfy  $f(xf(x) + f(y)) = f(x)^2 + y$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

15. Find all functions  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(f(x) + y) = f(x^2 - y) + 4f(x)y$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .
16. (Nordic Contest 1998) Find all functions  $f: \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $f(x + y) + f(x - y) = 2f(x) + 2f(y)$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{Q}$ .
17. Suppose  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a function such that
- (a)  $f(x + y) = f(x) + f(y)$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ ,
  - (b)  $f$  is monotonic in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Prove that  $f$  is linear, that is there exist a constant  $c$  such that  $f(x) = cx$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

18. Let  $n \geq 2$  be a fixed integer. Determine all bounded functions  $f: (0, a) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  which satisfy

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{n^2} \left\{ f\left(\frac{x}{n}\right) + f\left(\frac{x+a}{n}\right) + \cdots + f\left(\frac{x+(n-1)a}{n}\right) \right\}.$$

19. Find all strictly monotone functions  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfying the functional equation

$$f(f(x) + y) = f(x + y) + f(0)$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

20. Find all continuous functions  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_0$  such that  $f(x + y) = f(x) + f(y) + f(x)f(y)$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

## References

- [1] B. J. Venkatachala, *Functional Equations: A Problem Solving Approach*, Prism Books Pvt. Ltd., 2002
- [2] <http://www.manjilsaikia.in/olympiads>