

Integer value of expression with radicals.

Find all nonnegative real numbers x for which

$$\sqrt[3]{13 + \sqrt{x}} + \sqrt[3]{13 - \sqrt{x}}$$

is an integer.

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Let $t := \sqrt[3]{13 + \sqrt{x}} + \sqrt[3]{13 - \sqrt{x}}$. Then the problem is:

Find all nonnegative real numbers x for which $t = \sqrt[3]{13 + \sqrt{x}} + \sqrt[3]{13 - \sqrt{x}} \in \mathbb{Z}$.

We have $t = \sqrt[3]{13 + \sqrt{x}} + \sqrt[3]{13 - \sqrt{x}} \Leftrightarrow t^3 = 26 + 3t\sqrt[3]{13 + \sqrt{x}} \cdot \sqrt[3]{13 - \sqrt{x}} \Leftrightarrow$

$$t^3 = 26 + 3t\sqrt[3]{13^2 - x} \Leftrightarrow \left(\frac{t^3 - 26}{3t}\right)^3 = 13^2 - x \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(1) \quad x = 13^2 - \left(\frac{t^3 - 26}{3t}\right)^3.$$

where latter equality implies

$$(2) \quad \frac{t^3 - 26}{3t} \leq \sqrt[3]{13^2}$$

Since for any integer t which satisfies to inequality (2) formula (1) give us value x for which value of expression $\sqrt[3]{13 + \sqrt{x}} + \sqrt[3]{13 - \sqrt{x}}$ is t then remains to solve inequality (2) in integers.

Consider two cases.

1. $t < 0$. Then by replacing t with $-t$ we obtain inequality $\frac{t^3 + 26}{3t} \leq \sqrt[3]{13^2}$, where $t \in \mathbb{N}$.

But since by $\frac{t^3 + 26}{t} = t^2 + 2 \cdot \frac{13}{t} \geq 3\sqrt[3]{t^2 \cdot \left(\frac{13}{t}\right)^2} = 3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{13^2}$ and equality occurs iff $t = \sqrt[3]{13} \notin \mathbb{N}$ then $\frac{t^3 + 26}{3t} > \sqrt[3]{13^2}$ for any $t \in \mathbb{N}$.

Thus, there are no integer $t < 0$ that satisfies to inequality $\frac{t^3 - 26}{3t} \leq \sqrt[3]{13^2}$.

2. $t > 0$. Then $\frac{t^3 + 26}{3t} \leq \sqrt[3]{13^2} \Leftrightarrow t^3 - 3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{13^2}t + 26 \leq 0$. By replacing u in $u^3 - 3u - 2 = (u - 2)(u + 1)^2$ with $t/\sqrt[3]{13}$ we obtain

$$t^3 - 3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{13^2}t + 26 = \left(t + \sqrt[3]{13}\right)^2 \left(t - 2\sqrt[3]{13}\right)$$

and, therefore, in natural t we have $t^3 - 3\sqrt[3]{13^2}t + 26 \leq 0 \Leftrightarrow t \leq 4$

because $\lfloor 2\sqrt[3]{13} \rfloor = 4$.

Thus, only $x = 13^2 - \left(\frac{t^3 - 26}{3t}\right)^3$, where $t = 1, 2, 3, 4$ are solutions of the problem,

$$\text{namely } x = 13^2 - \left(\frac{1^3 - 26}{3 \cdot 1}\right)^3 = \frac{20188}{27}, x = 13^2 - \left(\frac{2^3 - 26}{3 \cdot 2}\right)^3 = 196,$$

$$x = 13^2 - \left(\frac{3^3 - 26}{3 \cdot 3}\right)^3 = \frac{123200}{729}, x = 13^2 - \left(\frac{4^3 - 26}{3 \cdot 4}\right)^3 = \frac{29645}{216}.$$