

https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7272496513446998016?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktopSolve the system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} (q+r)(x+1/x) = (r+p)(y+1/y) = (p+q)(z+1/z) \\ xy + yz + zx = 1 \end{cases}$$

where p, q, r are positive real numbers.

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Solution.

Let $a := q+r, b := r+p, c := p+q$. Since $p, q, r > 0$ then a, b, c satisfy to triangle inequalities and, therefore, numbers a, b, c determiner a triangle ABC with sidelengths $a = BC, b = CA, c = AB$. Note that x, y, z have the same sign and since $xy + yz + zx$ and $(q+r)(x+1/x) = (r+p)(y+1/y) = (p+q)(z+1/z)$ are invariant with respect to transformation $(x, y, z) \mapsto (-x, -y, -z)$ we further assume that $x, y, z > 0$.

Let $\alpha := 2 \tan^{-1} x, \beta := 2 \tan^{-1} y, \gamma := 2 \tan^{-1} z$. Since $x, y, z > 0$ then $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in (0, \pi)$,

$$x + 1/x = \frac{2}{\sin \alpha}, y + 1/y = \frac{2}{\sin \beta}, z + 1/z = \frac{2}{\sin \gamma}, xy + yz + zx = 1 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$(1) \quad \tan \frac{\alpha}{2} \tan \frac{\beta}{2} + \tan \frac{\beta}{2} \tan \frac{\gamma}{2} + \tan \frac{\gamma}{2} \tan \frac{\alpha}{2} = 1 \text{ and}$$

$(q+r)(x+1/x) = (r+p)(y+1/y) = (p+q)(z+1/z)$ can be rewritten in the form

$$(2) \quad \frac{a}{\sin \alpha} = \frac{b}{\sin \beta} = \frac{c}{\sin \gamma}.$$

Now we will pay attention to the correlation (1)

$$\text{We have (1)} \Leftrightarrow \tan \frac{\alpha}{2} \left(\tan \frac{\beta}{2} + \tan \frac{\gamma}{2} \right) = 1 - \tan \frac{\beta}{2} \tan \frac{\gamma}{2}.$$

Note that $\tan \frac{\beta}{2} \tan \frac{\gamma}{2} \neq 1$ because otherwise since $\beta, \gamma \in (0, \pi)$ we obtain

$$\tan \frac{\alpha}{2} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \alpha = 0 \text{ (contradiction with } \alpha > 0).$$

$$\text{Thus, (1)} \Leftrightarrow \tan \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right) = \frac{\tan \frac{\beta}{2} + \tan \frac{\gamma}{2}}{1 - \tan \frac{\beta}{2} \tan \frac{\gamma}{2}} \Leftrightarrow \tan \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right) = \tan \left(\frac{\beta}{2} + \frac{\gamma}{2} \right) \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\alpha}{2} = \frac{\beta}{2} + \frac{\gamma}{2} \Leftrightarrow \alpha + \beta + \gamma = \pi \text{ (because } \frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{\alpha}{2}, \frac{\beta}{2} + \frac{\gamma}{2} \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2})).$$

Since $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in (0, \pi)$ and $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = \pi$ then α, β, γ can be considered as angles of some triangle with correspondent sidelengths $\sin \alpha, \sin \beta, \sin \gamma$ which due to (2) is similar to triangle ABC .

Hence, $\alpha = A, \beta = B, \gamma = C$ and, therefore, $(x, y, z) = \left(\tan \frac{A}{2}, \tan \frac{B}{2}, \tan \frac{C}{2} \right)$

and $(x, y, z) = \left(-\tan \frac{A}{2}, -\tan \frac{B}{2}, -\tan \frac{C}{2} \right)$ all solutions of the system

$$\begin{cases} a(x+1/x) = b(y+1/y) = c(z+1/z) \\ xy + yz + zx = 1 \end{cases}.$$

It remains only to express $\tan \frac{A}{2}, \tan \frac{B}{2}, \tan \frac{C}{2}$ via p, q, r .

$$\text{Let } s := \frac{a+b+c}{2} = p+q+r \text{ then } \tan \frac{A}{2} = \frac{r}{s-a} = \sqrt{\frac{(s-b)(s-c)}{s(s-a)}} = \sqrt{\frac{qr}{p(p+q+r)}}$$

and, cyclic, $\tan \frac{B}{2} = \sqrt{\frac{rp}{q(p+q+r)}}$, $\tan C = \sqrt{\frac{pq}{r(p+q+r)}}$.

So, $(x, y, z) = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{p+q+r}} \left(\sqrt{\frac{qr}{p}}, \sqrt{\frac{rp}{q}}, \sqrt{\frac{pq}{r}} \right)$ all solutions of original system.