

Math Diversion 998

P. Reany

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You don't understand anything until you
learn it more than one way.
— Marvin Minsky

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CRfYk9LUBng>
Title: Math Algebra Solution
Presenter: Sifat Math Hospital

1 Problem

Given the relation

$$x^{x^{73}} = 73, \tag{1}$$

solve for real values of x .

2 Solution

This is one of those problem where an α transformation looks good to try. So, let

$$x = 73^\alpha. \tag{2}$$

Substituting into (1), we get

$$(73^\alpha)^{(73^\alpha)^{73}} = 73, \tag{3}$$

which becomes

$$73^{\alpha 73^{\alpha 73}} = 73^1. \tag{4}$$

On setting the exponents equal, we have that

$$\alpha 73^{\alpha 73} = 1. \tag{5}$$

Solving this by inspection, we get

$$\alpha = 1/73. \tag{6}$$

Hence,

$$x = (73)^{1/73}. \tag{7}$$