

Prove that for all real numbers  $x$  not equal to 0,  $x^0 = 1$

Proof:

Let  $x$  be a real number such that  $x \neq 0$

Note that  $x^{a-a} = x^0$  for all real numbers  $a$ . Also note that  $x^{a-a} = \frac{x^a}{x^a}$

So  $x^0 = \frac{x^a}{x^a}$ . Since  $x \neq 0$ ,  $x^a \neq 0$

Therefore, since any real number divided by itself is 1,  $x^0 = 1$ . QED.