

Using "Completing the square", we can solve many (in fact, all) quadratic equations.

Ex Solve: $x^2 + 3x - 7 = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \quad \quad \quad +7 \quad +7 \\
 & \underline{x^2 + 3x} = 7 \\
 & \quad \quad \quad +\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 \quad +\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 \\
 & x^2 + 3x + \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 = 7 + \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 \\
 & x^2 + 2 \cdot x \cdot \frac{3}{2} + \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 = 7 + \frac{9}{4} \\
 & \text{* Recall: } x^2 + 2 \cdot x \cdot y + y^2 = (x+y)^2 \text{ } \rightarrow \left(x + \frac{3}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{28}{4} + \frac{9}{4} \\
 & \left(x + \frac{3}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{37}{4} \\
 & \left(x + \frac{3}{2}\right) = \pm \sqrt{\frac{37}{4}} = \pm \frac{\sqrt{37}}{\sqrt{4}} = \pm \frac{\sqrt{37}}{2} \\
 & \quad \quad \quad -\frac{3}{2} \quad \quad \quad -\frac{3}{2} \\
 & \Rightarrow \boxed{x = -\frac{3}{2} \pm \frac{\sqrt{37}}{2}}
 \end{aligned}$$

Using the proof of the above example, we can prove "Quadratic Formula":

If $a \neq 0$, the roots of $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ are given by

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

(Proof) $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$

$\downarrow \div a$
 $x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x + \frac{c}{a} = 0$

\downarrow complete the square
 $x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x + \left(\frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 + \frac{c}{a} - \left(\frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 = 0$

$\rightarrow \left(x + \frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 = \frac{b^2}{4a^2} - \frac{c}{a}$

$\left(x + \frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 = \frac{b^2 - 4ac}{4a^2}$

\downarrow
 $x + \frac{b}{2a} = \pm \frac{\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

$\rightarrow x = -\frac{b}{2a} \pm \frac{\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \rightarrow \text{discriminant! (usually denoted by } D)$$

The quadratic equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ has

- ① Two real and unequal roots if $D > 0$.
- ② One root of multiplicity 2 if $D = 0$.
- ③ No real root if $D < 0$ (It has two complex and unequal roots).

Ex $x^2 - 4x + 3 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{-(-4) \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 3}}{2 \cdot 1} = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{4}}{2} = \frac{4 \pm 2}{2}$ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{4+2}{2} = \frac{6}{2} = 3 \\ \frac{4-2}{2} = \frac{2}{2} = 1 \end{array} \right.$

$x^2 - 4x + 4 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{-(-4) \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 4}}{2 \cdot 1} = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{0}}{2} = \frac{4 \pm 0}{2}$ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{4+0}{2} = 2 \\ \frac{4-0}{2} = 2 \end{array} \right.$

$x^2 - 4x + 5 = 0 \Rightarrow x = \frac{-(-4) \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 5}}{2 \cdot 1} = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2} \Rightarrow$ No real solutions

NOT a real number

Ex Solve $10x = 3x^2 - 8$ using the quadratic equation.

$$0 = 3x^2 - 8 - 10x$$

$$0 = \frac{3x^2}{a} - \frac{10x}{b} - \frac{8}{c} \Rightarrow x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{10 \pm \sqrt{196}}{6}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{-(-10) \pm \sqrt{(-10)^2 - 4 \cdot 3 \cdot (-8)}}{2 \cdot 3} = \frac{10 \pm 14}{6}$$

$$= \frac{10 \pm \sqrt{100 + 96}}{6} = \frac{10 + 14}{6} \text{ or } \frac{10 - 14}{6}$$

$$= \frac{24}{6} \text{ or } \frac{-4}{6}$$

$$= 4 \text{ or } -\frac{2}{3}$$

Ex Factor: $3x^2 - 10x - 8$

* Let $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ be a quadratic polynomial and p, q are the solutions of $f(x) = 0$

Then $f(x) = a(x-p)(x-q) \Rightarrow 3x^2 - 10x - 8 = 3(x-4)(x-(-\frac{2}{3})) = 3(x-4)(x+\frac{2}{3}) = (x-4) \cdot 3(x+\frac{2}{3}) = (x-4)(3x+2)$

Ex Factor $6x^2 - 7x - 20$ (Recall: $529 = 23^2$)

Proof 1) If you can do it using trial & error method, it is great: $(3x+4)(2x-5)$

Proof 2) If not, you can still solve it by solving $6x^2 - 7x - 20 = 0$.

$$6x^2 - 7x - 20 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{-(-7) \pm \sqrt{(-7)^2 - 4 \cdot 6 \cdot (-20)}}{2 \cdot 6} = \frac{7 \pm \sqrt{49 + 480}}{12} = \frac{7 \pm \sqrt{529}}{12} = \frac{7 \pm 23}{12} = \frac{7+23}{12} \text{ or } \frac{7-23}{12}$$

$\frac{30}{12} = \frac{5}{2}$ $\frac{-16}{12} = -\frac{4}{3}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hence, } 6x^2 - 7x - 20 &= 6\left(x - \frac{5}{2}\right)\left(x - \left(-\frac{4}{3}\right)\right) = 6\left(x - \frac{5}{2}\right)\left(x + \frac{4}{3}\right) = 3 \cdot 2 \cdot \left(x + \frac{4}{3}\right)\left(x - \frac{5}{2}\right) \\ &= 3 \cdot \left(x + \frac{4}{3}\right) \cdot 2 \cdot \left(x - \frac{5}{2}\right) \\ &= \boxed{(3x+4)(2x-5)} \end{aligned}$$

Solving rational equation

Ex $\frac{3x}{x+4} - \frac{x+1}{x-2} = \frac{2x-22}{x^2+2x-8}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{3x}{x+4} - \frac{x+1}{x-2} = \frac{2x-22}{(x+4)(x-2)}$$

↓ multiply $(x+4)(x-2)$

$$\cancel{(x+4)}(x-2) \frac{3x}{\cancel{x+4}} - (x+4)\cancel{(x-2)} \frac{x+1}{\cancel{x-2}} = \cancel{(x+4)}(x-2) \frac{2x-22}{\cancel{(x+4)}(x-2)}$$

$$(x-2) \cdot 3x - (x+4)(x+1) = 2x-22$$

$$3x^2 - 6x - (x^2 + 5x + 4) = 2x - 22$$

$$3x^2 - 6x - x^2 - 5x - 4 = 2x - 22$$

$$2x^2 - 11x - 4 = 2x - 22$$

$$-(2x-22) \quad -(2x-22)$$

$$2x^2 - 11x - 4 - 2x + 22 = 0$$

$$2x^2 - 13x + 18 = 0$$

$$(2x-9)(x-2) = 0$$

↓ z.f.t.

$$2x-9=0 \text{ or } x-2=0$$

$$\boxed{x = \frac{9}{2}} \text{ or } x=2$$

$x=2$ is an extraneous solution because two denominators ($x-2$ and x^2+2x-8) become zero when $x=2$: NOT a solution!

★ Recall: We treat all other variables as if they are constants! ★

Solving an equation with more than one variable for one variable.

Ex Solve $y = x^2 + 4x + 3$ for x , where $x \geq -2$

subtract y $\rightarrow 0 = \underbrace{1 \cdot x^2}_{a} + \underbrace{4x}_{b} + \underbrace{(3-y)}_{c}$

By quadratic formula,

$$x = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{4^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot (3-y)}}{2 \cdot 1}$$

$$= \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 4(3-y)}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 12 + 4y}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{4 + 4y}}{2}$$

$$\frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{4(1+y)}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{-4 \pm 2\sqrt{1+y}}{2}$$

$$= -\frac{4}{2} \pm \frac{2\sqrt{1+y}}{2}$$

$$= -2 \pm \sqrt{1+y}$$

$$= \boxed{-2 + \sqrt{1+y}} \text{ or } \cancel{-2 - \sqrt{1+y}}$$

This is because $x \geq -2$

Had no time to show this example in the class. Please do it your own and compare it with my answer!

Ex Solve $2x^2 - 3y^2 = xy + 2$ for (1) x
(2) y .

* The proof is on the next page!

(Please try the problem on your own first!)

(1) Solve $2x^2 - 3y^2 = xy + 2$ for x .

$$2x^2 - 3y^2 - (xy + 2) = \cancel{xy + 2} - \cancel{(xy + 2)}$$

$$2x^2 - 3y^2 - xy - 2 = 0$$

$$\frac{2x^2}{a} - \frac{y \cdot x}{b} - \frac{3y^2 - 2}{c} = 0 : \text{A quadratic equation in } x!$$

By quadratic formula:
$$x = \frac{-(-y) \pm \sqrt{(-y)^2 - 4 \cdot 2 \cdot (-3y^2 - 2)}}{2 \cdot 2} = \frac{y \pm \sqrt{y^2 - 8(-3y^2 - 2)}}{4}$$
$$= \frac{y \pm \sqrt{y^2 + 24y^2 + 16}}{4}$$
$$= \frac{y \pm \sqrt{25y^2 + 16}}{4}$$

(2) Solve $2x^2 - 3y^2 = xy + 2$ for y .

$$(\cancel{2x^2 - 3y^2}) - (\cancel{2x^2 - 3y^2}) = xy + 2 - (2x^2 - 3y^2)$$

$$0 = xy + 2 - 2x^2 + 3y^2$$

$$0 = \frac{3y^2}{a} + \frac{x \cdot y}{b} + \frac{2 - 2x^2}{c} : \text{A quadratic equation in } y!$$

By quadratic formula:
$$y = \frac{-x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 4 \cdot 3 \cdot (2 - 2x^2)}}{2 \cdot 3} = \frac{-x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 12(2 - 2x^2)}}{6}$$
$$= \frac{-x \pm \sqrt{x^2 - 24 + 24x^2}}{6}$$
$$= \frac{-x \pm \sqrt{25x^2 - 24}}{6}$$