

11.4 Applications involving quadratic equations

ex: $A = \pi r^2$ Solve this equation for r .

$$\frac{A}{\pi} = \frac{\pi r^2}{\pi}$$

$$\sqrt{\frac{A}{\pi}} = \sqrt{r^2}$$

$$r = \sqrt{\frac{A}{\pi}}$$

13) Solve for b : $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$

$$-a^2 \quad -a^2$$

$$b^2 = c^2 - a^2$$

$$\sqrt{b^2} = \sqrt{c^2 - a^2}$$

$$b = \sqrt{c^2 - a^2}$$

17) $N = \frac{1}{2}(n^2 - n)$ Solve n .

Quadratic equation where
 n (not x) is the variable
and N is a constant.

$$2N = n^2 - n$$

$$0 = n^2 - n - 2N \quad \leftarrow a=1, b=-1, c=-2N$$

$$\text{number of teams (or handshakes)} = n = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-(-1) \pm \sqrt{(-1)^2 - 4(1)(-2N)}}{2(1)}$$

$$n = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 + 8N}}{2}$$

← Take the '+' case only

$$n = \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 + 8N}}{2}$$

where N = number of games (or handshakes)

(2)

(7 untd) How we could use this.

Suppose there are 10 games (or 10 handshakes),
how many teams (or handshakers) are there?

$$n = \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 + 8N}}{2} \quad \text{and take } N = 10,$$

to get $n = \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 + 8(10)}}{2} = \frac{1 + \sqrt{81}}{2} = \frac{1 + 9}{2} = \frac{10}{2} = 5$

11.4 33)

120 miles → 100 miles
fast 10 mph slower

total time = 4 hours

Speed on each portion of trip? Use $d = r \cdot t$.

$$\text{So } \frac{d}{r} = t$$

	distance	=	rate	·	time
1st portion	120 miles		r mph		$\frac{120}{r}$ hours
2nd portion	100 mi		$r - 10$		$\frac{100}{r - 10}$ hrs

Equation:

$$\frac{120}{r} + \frac{100}{r - 10} = 4$$

Multiply by the LCD:
 $r(r - 10)$!

$$\frac{120 \cancel{r(r-10)}}{\cancel{r}} + \frac{100 \cancel{r(r-10)}}{\cancel{r-10}} = 4r(r-10)$$

$$120r - 1200 + 100r = 4r^2 - 40r$$

$$220r - 1200 = 4r^2 - 40r$$

$$0 = 4r^2 - 40r - 220r + 1200$$

$$0 = 4r^2 - 260r + 1200$$

Divide by 4:

$$\frac{0}{4} = \frac{4r^2}{4} - \frac{260r}{4} + \frac{1200}{4}$$

$$0 = r^2 - 65r + 300$$

$$0 = (r - 60)(r - 5)$$

$$r - 60 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad r - 5 = 0$$

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{l} r = 60 \text{ mph} \\ r - 10 = 50 \text{ mph} \end{array}}$$

$$\text{or} \quad r = \cancel{5} \text{ mph}$$

↑ throw this out, for
 $r - 10 = -5 \text{ mph}$

$$\text{Check: 1st time} = \frac{120}{r} = \frac{120}{60} = 2 \text{ hrs}$$

$$\text{2nd time} = \frac{100}{r-10} = \frac{100}{50} = 2 \text{ hrs}$$

4 hrs

11.5 Equations Reducible to Quadratic

ex: $x^4 - 8x^2 - 9 = 0$

Is this a quadratic equation? No, this is a "quartic equation."

$$(x^2)^2 - 8x^2 - 9 = 0$$

Make the following substitution: $u = x^2$ so $u^2 = (x^2)^2 = x^4$

$$u^2 - 8u - 9 = 0$$

$$(u - 9)(u + 1) = 0$$

$$u - 9 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad u + 1 = 0$$

$$u = 9 \quad \text{or} \quad u = -1$$

$$x^2 = 9 \quad \text{or} \quad x^2 = -1$$

Back-Sub x :

$$x = \pm\sqrt{9} = \pm 3 \quad \text{or} \quad x^2 = \pm\sqrt{-1} = \pm i$$

← Total of four solutions

$$33) \quad t^{2/3} + t^{1/3} - 6 = 0$$

Observe: $t^{2/3} = (t^{1/3})^2$ so let $u = t^{1/3}$
 so $u^2 = (t^{1/3})^2 = t^{2/3}$

$$u^2 + u - 6 = 0$$

$$(u+3)(u-2) = 0$$

$$u+3=0 \quad \text{or} \quad u-2=0$$

$$u = -3 \quad \text{or} \quad u = 2$$

$$t^{1/3} = -3 \quad \text{or} \quad t^{1/3} = 2$$

$$\sqrt[3]{t} = -3 \quad \text{or} \quad \sqrt[3]{t} = 2$$

$$(\sqrt[3]{t})^3 = (-3)^3 \quad \text{or} \quad (\sqrt[3]{t})^3 = 2^3$$

$$t = -27 \quad \text{or} \quad t = 8$$

Step 1:
Solving the
quadratic
eqn. in u

Step 2:
Solve the
resulting
equations

$$12) \quad x^4 - 17x^2 + 16 = 0 \quad \text{Let } u = x^2$$

$$u^2 - 17u + 16 = 0$$

$$(u-1)(u-16) = 0$$

$$u-1=0 \quad \text{or} \quad u-16=0$$

$$u=1 \quad \text{or} \quad u=16$$

$$x^2=1 \quad \text{or} \quad x^2=16$$

$$x = \pm\sqrt{1} = \pm 1 \quad \text{or} \quad x = \pm\sqrt{16} = \pm 4$$

$$34) \quad w^{2/3} - 2w^{1/3} - 8 = 0 \quad \text{Let } u = w^{1/3}$$

$$u^2 - 2u - 8 = 0$$

$$(u - 4)(u + 2) = 0$$

$$u - 4 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad u + 2 = 0$$

$$u = 4 \quad \text{or} \quad u = -2$$

$$w^{1/3} = 4 \quad \text{or} \quad w^{1/3} = -2$$

$$(w^{1/3})^3 = 4^3 \quad \text{or} \quad (w^{1/3})^3 = (-2)^3$$

$$w = 64 \quad \text{or} \quad w = -8$$