

9.5 Solving Quadratic Equations Using the Quadratic Formula

The notorious QUADRATIC FORMULA!!!!

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

Example 1: Using the Quadratic Formula

Solve $2x^2 - 5x + 3 = 0$ using the quadratic formula

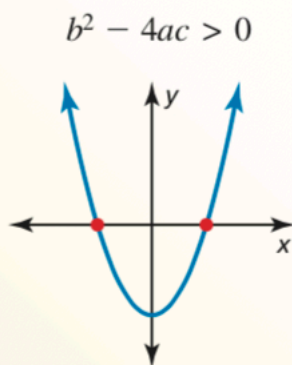
Example 2: Modeling with mathematics

The number y of Northern Rocky Mountain wolf breeding pairs x years since 1990 can be modeled by the function $y = 0.20x^2 + 1.8x - 3$. When were there about 35 breeding pairs?

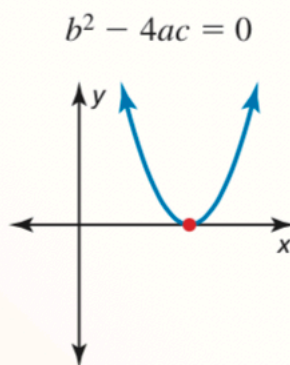
The Discriminant

$b^2 - 4ac$ in the quadratic formula is called the **discriminant**

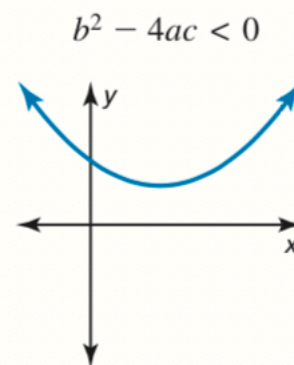
Interpreting the Discriminant



- two real solutions
- two x -intercepts



- one real solution
- one x -intercept



- no real solutions
- no x -intercepts

Example 3: Determining the number of real solutions

- a) Determine the number of real solutions of $x^2 + 8x - 3 = 0$
- b) Determine the number of real solutions of $9x^2 + 1 = 6x$

Example 4: Finding the Number of x-intercepts of a Parabola
Find the number of x-intercepts of the graph of $y = 2x^2 + 3x + 9$.

Spiral Review:

Method	Advantages	Disadvantages
Factoring		
Graphing		
Using square roots		
Completing the square		
Quadratic Formula		

Example 5: Choosing a Method

Solve each equation using any method. Explain your choice of method.

a) $x^2 - 10x = 1$

Method: _____

b) $2x^2 - 13x - 24 = 0$

Method: _____

c) $x^2 + 8x + 12 = 0$

Method: _____

Homework:

5, 9, 10, 15, 22, 23, 25, 27, 37-43odd, 50, 62

9.5 Exercises

Dynamic Solutions available at BigIdeasMath.com

Vocabulary and Core Concept Check

- VOCABULARY** What formula can you use to solve any quadratic equation? Write the formula.
- VOCABULARY** In the Quadratic Formula, what is the discriminant? What does the value of the discriminant determine?

Monitoring Progress and Modeling with Mathematics

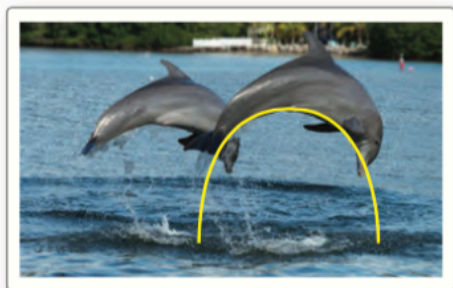
In Exercises 3–8, write the equation in standard form. Then identify the values of a , b , and c that you would use to solve the equation using the Quadratic Formula.

- $x^2 = 7x$
- $x^2 - 4x = -12$
- $-2x^2 + 1 = 5x$
- $3x + 2 = 4x^2$
- $4 - 3x = -x^2 + 3x$
- $-8x - 1 = 3x^2 + 2$

In Exercises 9–22, solve the equation using the Quadratic Formula. Round your solutions to the nearest tenth, if necessary. (See Example 1.)

- $x^2 - 12x + 36 = 0$
- $x^2 + 7x + 16 = 0$
- $x^2 - 10x - 11 = 0$
- $2x^2 - x - 1 = 0$
- $2x^2 - 6x + 5 = 0$
- $9x^2 - 6x + 1 = 0$
- $6x^2 - 13x = -6$
- $-3x^2 + 6x = 4$
- $1 - 8x = -16x^2$
- $x^2 - 5x + 3 = 0$
- $x^2 + 2x = 9$
- $5x^2 - 2 = 4x$
- $2x^2 + 9x + 7 = 3$
- $8x^2 + 8 = 6 - 9x$

- 23. MODELING WITH MATHEMATICS** A dolphin jumps out of the water, as shown in the diagram. The function $h = -16t^2 + 26t$ models the height h (in feet) of the dolphin after t seconds. After how many seconds is the dolphin at a height of 5 feet? (See Example 2.)



- 24. MODELING WITH MATHEMATICS** The amount of trout y (in tons) caught in a lake from 1995 to 2014 can be modeled by the equation $y = -0.08x^2 + 1.6x + 10$, where x is the number of years since 1995.

- When were about 15 tons of trout caught in the lake?
- Do you think this model can be used to determine the amounts of trout caught in future years? Explain your reasoning.

In Exercises 25–30, determine the number of real solutions of the equation. (See Example 3.)

- $x^2 - 6x + 10 = 0$
- $x^2 - 5x - 3 = 0$
- $2x^2 - 12x = -18$
- $4x^2 = 4x - 1$
- $-\frac{1}{4}x^2 + 4x = -2$
- $-5x^2 + 8x = 9$

In Exercises 31–36, find the number of x -intercepts of the graph of the function. (See Example 4.)

- $y = x^2 + 5x - 1$
- $y = 4x^2 + 4x + 1$
- $y = -6x^2 + 3x - 4$
- $y = -x^2 + 5x + 13$
- $f(x) = 4x^2 + 3x - 6$
- $f(x) = 2x^2 + 8x + 8$

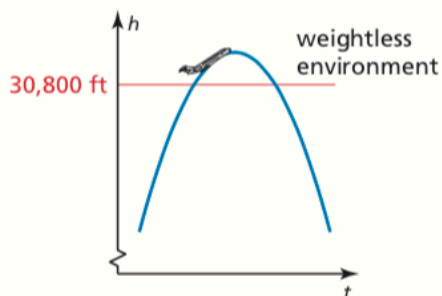
In Exercises 37–44, solve the equation using any method. Explain your choice of method. (See Example 5.)

- $-10x^2 + 13x = 4$
- $x^2 - 3x - 40 = 0$
- $x^2 + 6x = 5$
- $-5x^2 = -25$
- $x^2 + x - 12 = 0$
- $x^2 - 4x + 1 = 0$
- $4x^2 - x = 17$
- $x^2 + 6x + 9 = 16$

- 60. REPEATED REASONING** You use the Quadratic Formula to solve an equation.
- You obtain solutions that are integers. Could you have used factoring to solve the equation? Explain your reasoning.
 - You obtain solutions that are fractions. Could you have used factoring to solve the equation? Explain your reasoning.
 - Make a generalization about quadratic equations with rational solutions.
- 61. MODELING WITH MATHEMATICS** The fuel economy y (in miles per gallon) of a car can be modeled by the equation $y = -0.013x^2 + 1.25x + 5.6$, where $5 \leq x \leq 75$ and x is the speed (in miles per hour) of the car. Find the speed(s) at which you can travel and have a fuel economy of 32 miles per gallon.
- 62. MODELING WITH MATHEMATICS** The depth d (in feet) of a river can be modeled by the equation $d = -0.25t^2 + 1.7t + 3.5$, where $0 \leq t \leq 7$ and t is the time (in hours) after a heavy rain begins. When is the river 6 feet deep?

ANALYZING EQUATIONS In Exercises 63–68, tell whether the vertex of the graph of the function lies above, below, or on the x -axis. Explain your reasoning without using a graph.

- 63.** $y = x^2 - 3x + 2$ **64.** $y = 3x^2 - 6x + 3$
- 65.** $y = 6x^2 - 2x + 4$ **66.** $y = -15x^2 + 10x - 25$
- 67.** $f(x) = -3x^2 - 4x + 8$
- 68.** $f(x) = 9x^2 - 24x + 16$
- 69. REASONING** NASA creates a weightless environment by flying a plane in a series of parabolic paths. The height h (in feet) of a plane after t seconds in a parabolic flight path can be modeled by $h = -11t^2 + 700t + 21,000$. The passengers experience a weightless environment when the height of the plane is greater than or equal to 30,800 feet. For approximately how many seconds do passengers experience weightlessness on such a flight? Explain.

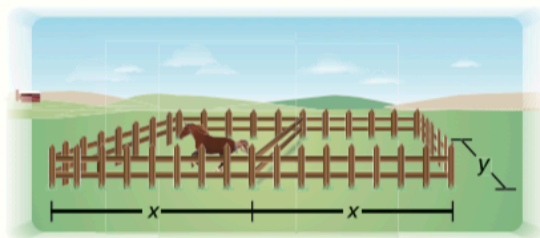


- 70. WRITING EQUATIONS** Use the numbers to create a quadratic equation with the solutions $x = -1$ and $x = -\frac{1}{4}$.

$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}}x^2 + \underline{\hspace{1cm}}x + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = 0$$

-5	-4	-3	-2	-1
1	2	3	4	5

- 71. PROBLEM SOLVING** A rancher constructs two rectangular horse pastures that share a side, as shown. The pastures are enclosed by 1050 feet of fencing. Each pasture has an area of 15,000 square feet.



- Show that $y = 350 - \frac{4}{3}x$.
- Find the possible lengths and widths of each pasture.

- 72. PROBLEM SOLVING** A kicker punts a football from a height of 2.5 feet above the ground with an initial vertical velocity of 45 feet per second.



- Write an equation that models this situation using the function $h = -16t^2 + v_0t + s_0$, where h is the height (in feet) of the football, t is the time (in seconds) after the football is punted, v_0 is the initial vertical velocity (in feet per second), and s_0 is the initial height (in feet).
- The football is caught 5.5 feet above the ground, as shown in the diagram. Find the amount of time that the football is in the air.

- 73. CRITICAL THINKING** The solutions of the quadratic equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ are $x = \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ and $x = \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Find the mean of the solutions. How is the mean of the solutions related to the graph of $y = ax^2 + bx + c$? Explain.

45. **ERROR ANALYSIS** Describe and correct the error in solving the equation $3x^2 - 7x - 6 = 0$ using the Quadratic Formula.

X

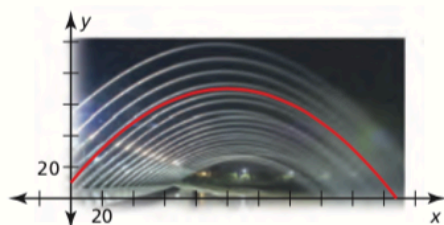
$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{-7 \pm \sqrt{(-7)^2 - 4(3)(-6)}}{2(3)} \\&= \frac{-7 \pm \sqrt{121}}{6} \\x &= \frac{2}{3} \text{ and } x = -3\end{aligned}$$

46. **ERROR ANALYSIS** Describe and correct the error in solving the equation $-2x^2 + 9x = 4$ using the Quadratic Formula.

X

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{-9 \pm \sqrt{9^2 - 4(-2)(4)}}{2(-2)} \\&= \frac{-9 \pm \sqrt{113}}{-4} \\x &\approx -0.41 \text{ and } x \approx 4.91\end{aligned}$$

47. **MODELING WITH MATHEMATICS** A fountain shoots a water arc that can be modeled by the graph of the equation $y = -0.006x^2 + 1.2x + 10$, where x is the horizontal distance (in feet) from the river's north shore and y is the height (in feet) above the river. Does the water arc reach a height of 50 feet? If so, about how far from the north shore is the water arc 50 feet above the water?



48. **MODELING WITH MATHEMATICS** Between the months of April and September, the number y of hours of daylight per day in Seattle, Washington, can be modeled by $y = -0.00046x^2 + 0.076x + 13$, where x is the number of days since April 1.

- Do any of the days between April and September in Seattle have 17 hours of daylight? If so, how many?
- Do any of the days between April and September in Seattle have 14 hours of daylight? If so, how many?

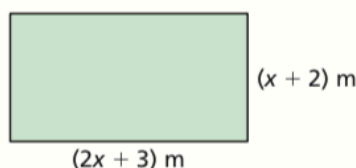
49. **MAKING AN ARGUMENT** Your friend uses the discriminant of the equation $2x^2 - 5x - 2 = -11$ and determines that the equation has two real solutions. Is your friend correct? Explain your reasoning.

50. **MODELING WITH MATHEMATICS** The frame of the tent shown is defined by a rectangular base and two parabolic arches that connect the opposite corners of the base. The graph of $y = -0.18x^2 + 1.6x$ models the height y (in feet) of one of the arches x feet along the diagonal of the base. Can a child who is 4 feet tall walk under one of the arches without having to bend over? Explain.

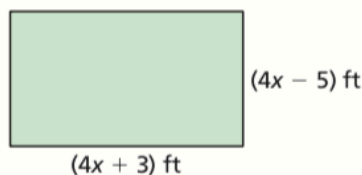


MATHEMATICAL CONNECTIONS In Exercises 51 and 52, use the given area A of the rectangle to find the value of x . Then give the dimensions of the rectangle.

51. $A = 91 \text{ m}^2$



52. $A = 209 \text{ ft}^2$



COMPARING METHODS In Exercises 53 and 54, solve the equation by (a) graphing, (b) factoring, and (c) using the Quadratic Formula. Which method do you prefer? Explain your reasoning.

53. $x^2 + 4x + 4 = 0$

54. $3x^2 + 11x + 6 = 0$

55. **REASONING** How many solutions does the equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ have when a and c have different signs? Explain your reasoning.

56. **REASONING** When the discriminant is a perfect square, are the solutions of $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ rational or irrational? (Assume a , b , and c are integers.) Explain your reasoning.

REASONING In Exercises 57–59, give a value of c for which the equation has (a) two solutions, (b) one solution, and (c) no solutions.

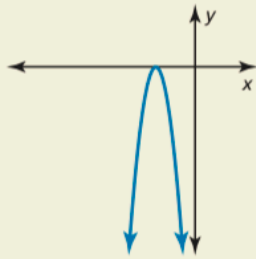
57. $x^2 - 2x + c = 0$

58. $x^2 - 8x + c = 0$

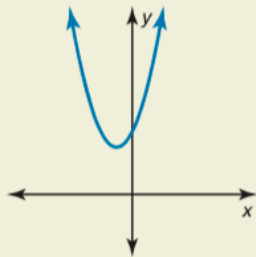
59. $4x^2 + 12x + c = 0$

74. **HOW DO YOU SEE IT?** Match each graph with its discriminant. Explain your reasoning.

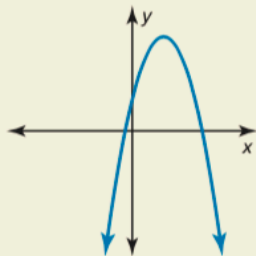
A.



B.



C.



- a. $b^2 - 4ac > 0$
- b. $b^2 - 4ac = 0$
- c. $b^2 - 4ac < 0$

75. **CRITICAL THINKING** You are trying to hang a tire swing. To get the rope over a tree branch that is 15 feet high, you tie the rope to a weight and throw it over the branch. You release the weight at a height s_0 of 5.5 feet. What is the minimum initial vertical velocity v_0 needed to reach the branch? (*Hint: Use the equation $h = -16t^2 + v_0t + s_0$.*)

76. **THOUGHT PROVOKING** Consider the graph of the standard form of a quadratic function $y = ax^2 + bx + c$. Then consider the Quadratic Formula as given by

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

Write a graphical interpretation of the two parts of this formula.

77. **ANALYZING RELATIONSHIPS** Find the sum and product of $\frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ and $\frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Then write a quadratic equation whose solutions have a sum of 2 and a product of $\frac{1}{2}$.

78. **WRITING A FORMULA** Derive a formula that can be used to find solutions of equations that have the form $ax^2 + x + c = 0$. Use your formula to solve $-2x^2 + x + 8 = 0$.

79. **MULTIPLE REPRESENTATIONS** If p is a solution of a quadratic equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$, then $(x - p)$ is a factor of $ax^2 + bx + c$.

- a. Copy and complete the table for each pair of solutions.

Solutions	Factors	Quadratic equation
3, 4	$(x - 3), (x - 4)$	$x^2 - 7x + 12 = 0$
-1, 6		
0, 2		
$-\frac{1}{2}, 5$		

- b. Graph the related function for each equation. Identify the zeros of the function.

CRITICAL THINKING In Exercises 80–82, find all values of k for which the equation has (a) two solutions, (b) one solution, and (c) no solutions.

80. $2x^2 + x + 3k = 0$ 81. $x^2 - 4kx + 36 = 0$
82. $kx^2 + 5x - 16 = 0$

Maintaining Mathematical Proficiency

Reviewing what you learned in previous grades and lessons

Solve the system of linear equations using any method. Explain why you chose the method.
(Section 5.1, Section 5.2, and Section 5.3)

83. $y = -x + 4$
 $y = 2x - 8$

84. $x = 16 - 4y$
 $3x + 4y = 8$

85. $2x - y = 7$
 $2x + 7y = 31$

86. $3x - 2y = -20$
 $x + 1.2y = 6.4$