

Quadratic Equation

Given an equation $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$. The first thing to be done is to find $D = b^2 - 4ac$.

If $D < 0 \Rightarrow$ no real roots

If $D = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = x_2 = -\frac{b}{2a}$

If $D > 0 \Rightarrow$ there are 2 distinct roots: $x_1 = \frac{-b + \sqrt{D}}{2a}$ $x_2 = \frac{-b - \sqrt{D}}{2a}$

Here is a check:

$$\begin{aligned} (x - x_1)(x - x_2) &= \\ \left(x - \left(\frac{-b + \sqrt{D}}{2a} \right) \right) \left(x - \left(\frac{-b - \sqrt{D}}{2a} \right) \right) &= \left(\frac{(2ax + b) + \sqrt{D}}{2a} \right) \left(\frac{(2ax + b) - \sqrt{D}}{2a} \right) = \\ &= \frac{(2ax + b)^2 - D}{4a^2} = \frac{(4a^2x^2 + 4abx + b^2 - (b^2 - 4ac))}{4a^2} = x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x + \frac{c}{a} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

You'll get the original equation by multiplying by **a** the equation obtained above.

Vieta's Theorem

$$x_1 x_2 = \left(\frac{-b + \sqrt{D}}{2a} \right) \left(\frac{-b - \sqrt{D}}{2a} \right) = \frac{(b^2 - D)}{4a^2} = \frac{4ac}{4a^2} = \frac{c}{a}$$

$$x_1 + x_2 = \left(\frac{-b + \sqrt{D}}{2a} \right) + \left(\frac{-b - \sqrt{D}}{2a} \right) = -\frac{2b}{2a} = -\frac{b}{a}$$