

# Intercepts of the Quadratic

Given a quadratic  $q(f) = a f^2 + b f + c$  compute its discriminant  $\Delta$ :

$$\Delta = \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}$$

**Case1:  $\Delta > 0$**

$f_{1,2} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$  computes the f-intercepts of multiplicity 1.  
 $q(0) = c$  computes the single q-intercept.

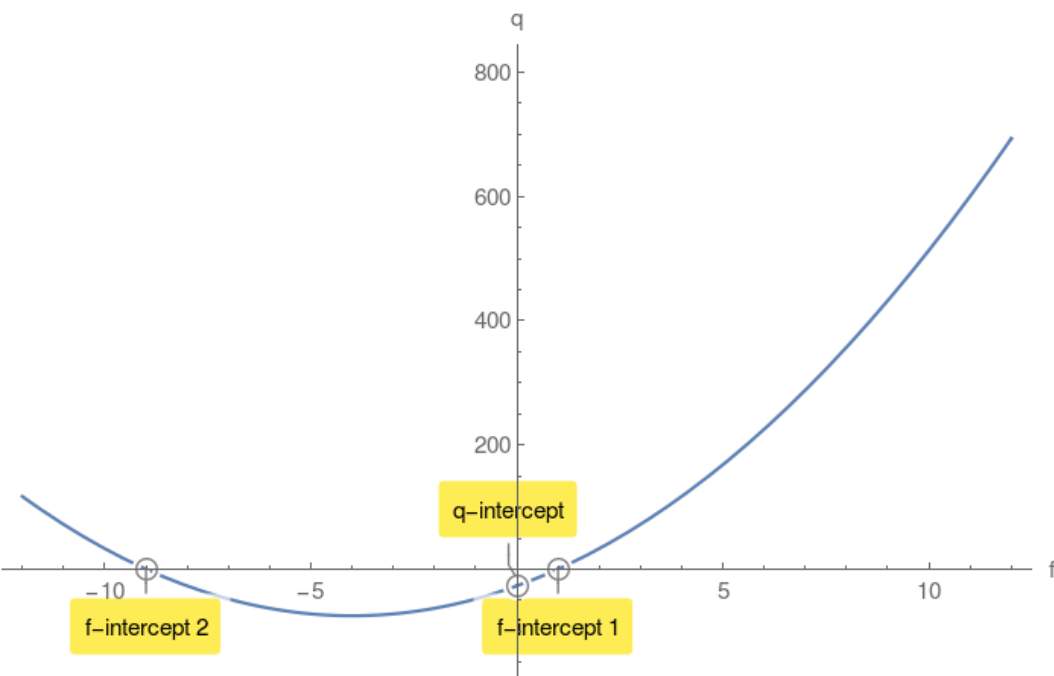
**Example 1.**

$q(f) = 3f^2 + 24f - 27$  compute its discriminant  $\Delta$ :

$$\Delta = 900 > 0$$

$$f_{1,2} = 1, -9$$

$q(0) = -27$  q-intercept.



**Case2:  $\Delta = 0$**

$f_{1,2} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-b \pm 0}{2a} = \frac{-b}{2a}$  single f-intercept of multiplicity 2.

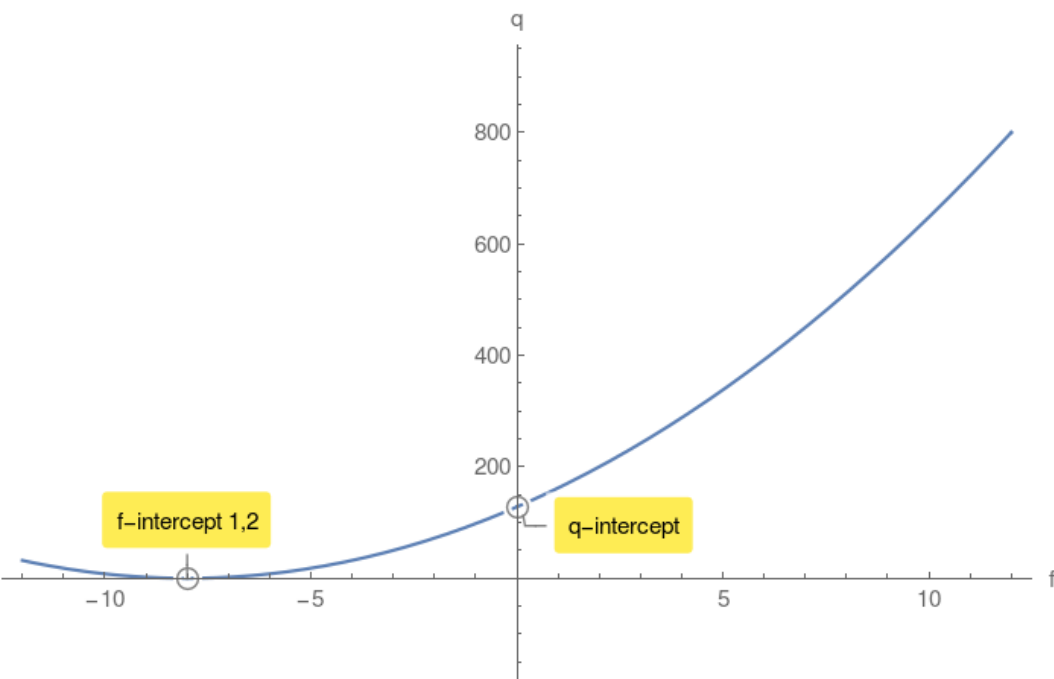
**Example 2.**

$q(f) = 2f^2 + 32f + 128$  compute its discriminant  $\Delta$ :

$$\Delta = 0$$

$$f_{1,2} = -8, -8$$

$q(0) = 128$  q-intercept.



**Case3:  $\Delta < 0$**

$\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}$  has no value in Real Numbers. Therefore there are no f-intercepts.

However there is a q-intercept.

**Example 3.**

$q(f) = -9f^2 - 126f - 490$  compute its discriminant  $\Delta$ :

$$\Delta = -1764 < 0$$

$q(0) = -490$  q-intercept.

