

Intercepts of the Quadratic

Given a quadratic $u(v) = a v^2 + b v + c$ compute its discriminant Δ :

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

Case1: $\Delta > 0$

$v_{1,2} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ computes the v-intercepts of multiplicity 1.

$u(0) = c$ computes the single u-intercept.

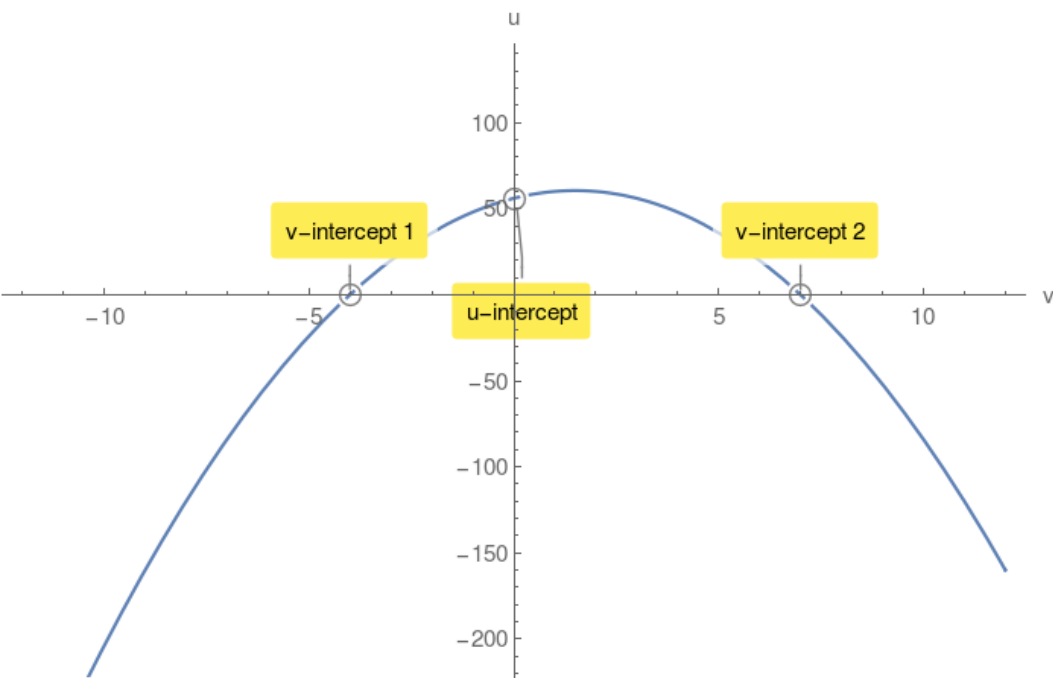
Example 1.

$u(v) = -2v^2 + 6v + 56$ compute its discriminant Δ :

$$\Delta = 484 > 0$$

$$v_{1,2} = -4, 7$$

$u(0) = 56$ u-intercept.



Case2: $\Delta = 0$

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

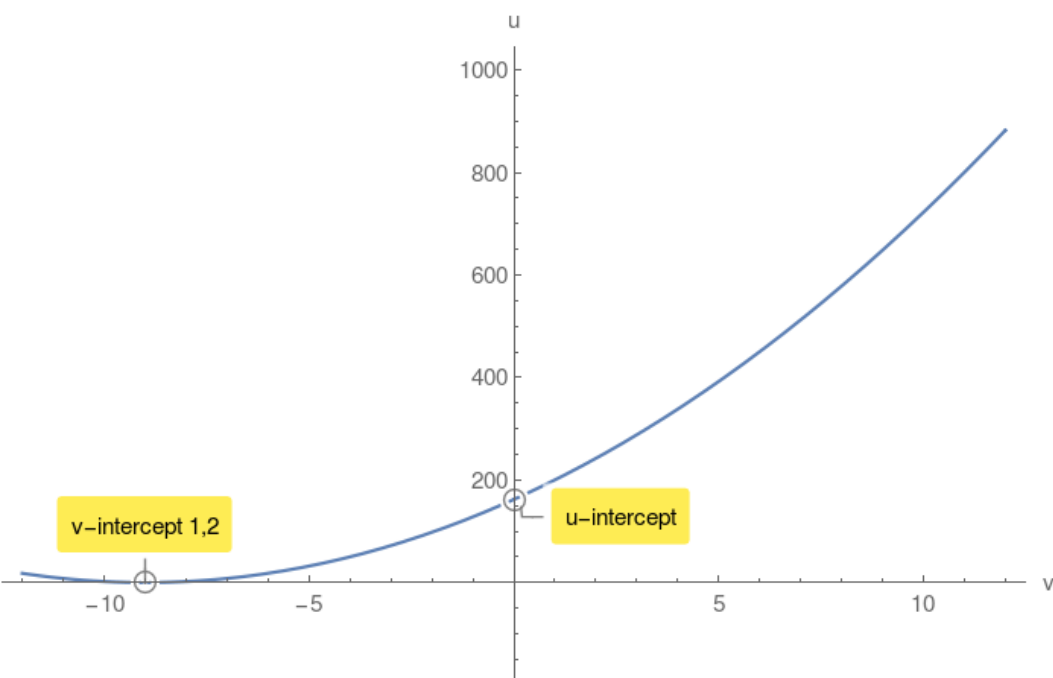
Example 2.

$u(v) = 2v^2 + 36v + 162$ compute its discriminant Δ :

$$\Delta = 0$$

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

$u(0) = 162$ u-intercept.



Case3: $\Delta < 0$

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

However there is a u-intercept.

Example 3.

$u(v) = 9v^2 + 180v + 1000$ compute its discriminant Δ :

$$\Delta = -3600 < 0$$

$u(0) = 1000$ u-intercept.

