



Solving Equations

1 Why

If I am holding 3 pebbles, and I have two in my left hand, how many might I have in my right hand? If I am holding fewer than 5 pebbles, how many might I have in my right hand?

2 Overview

An **equation** is an assertion that two objects are the same. An indeterminate equation is one in which some value is unknown. For example, I am asserting above that I have three pebbles and that I have two in my left hand. We know that the total number of pebbles is three. The solution of this equation is finding possible numbers of pebbles I could be holding in my right hand so that the equation is true.

2.1 Notation

We can denote the pebble equation as find n so that

$$2 + n = 3$$