

Solving Special Quadratic Functions

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

$$\text{If } a + b + c = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1, \frac{c}{a}$$

Proof

$$\begin{aligned}x_{1,2} &= \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \\&= \frac{-(-a-c) \pm \sqrt{(-a-c)^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \\&= \frac{a+c \pm \sqrt{a^2 + 2ac + c^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \\&= \frac{a+c \pm \sqrt{a^2 - 2ac + c^2}}{2a} \\&= \frac{a+c \pm \sqrt{(a-c)^2}}{2a} \\&= \frac{a+c \pm (a-c)}{2a}\end{aligned}$$

$$a+b+c=0 \rightarrow b=-a-c$$

$$\begin{aligned}\boxed{x_1} &= \frac{a+c+(a-c)}{2a} \\&= \frac{a+c+a-c}{2a} \\&= \frac{2a}{2a} \\&= \underline{1}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\boxed{x_2} &= \frac{a+c-(a-c)}{2a} \\&= \frac{a+c-a+c}{2a} \\&= \frac{2c}{2a} \\&= \underline{\frac{c}{a}}\end{aligned}$$

Example

$$2x^2 + x - 3 = 0$$

$$2+1-3=0$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{x = 1, -\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

$$\text{If } a - b + c = 0 \Rightarrow x = -1, -\frac{c}{a}$$

Proof

$$\begin{aligned} x_{1,2} &= \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \\ &= \frac{-(a+c) \pm \sqrt{(a+c)^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \\ &= \frac{-a-c \pm \sqrt{a^2 + 2ac + c^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \\ &= \frac{-a-c \pm \sqrt{a^2 - 2ac + c^2}}{2a} \\ &= \frac{-a-c \pm \sqrt{(a-c)^2}}{2a} \\ &= \frac{-a-c \pm (a-c)}{2a} \end{aligned}$$

$$a - b + c = 0 \rightarrow b = a + c$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = \frac{-a-c+(a-c)}{2a} = \frac{-a-c+a-c}{2a} = \frac{2c}{2a} = -\frac{c}{a} \\ x_2 = \frac{-a-c-(a-c)}{2a} = \frac{-a-c-a+c}{2a} = \frac{-2a}{2a} = -1 \end{cases}$$

Example

$$2x^2 - x - 3 = 0$$

$$2 - (-1) - 3 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = -1, \frac{3}{2}$$