

Precalculus

§ Polynomial system that reduces to quadratic, part 1

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2019

Example

Solve the polynomial system.
$$\left| \begin{array}{rcl} x - 4y & = & 5 \\ y^2 + xy & = & 10 \end{array} \right.$$

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$$x = 5 + 4y \quad \left| \text{Solve for } x \text{ in first eq-n.} \right.$$

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Solve for x in first eq-n.

Example

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$$\begin{aligned} x &= 5 + 4y \\ y^2 + xy &= 10 \\ y^2 + (5 + 4y)y &= 10 \end{aligned}$$

Solve for x in first eq-n.

Substitute x away

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$$x = 5 + 4y$$

$$y^2 + xy = 10$$

$$y^2 + (5 + 4y)y = 10$$

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$$(y + 2)(y - 1) = 0$$

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$$x = 5 + 4y$$

$$= 5 + 4(-2) = -3$$

Solve for x in first eq-n.

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$$= 5 + 4 \cdot 1 = 9$$

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Solve the polynomial system.
$$\begin{cases} x - 4y = 5 \\ y^2 + xy = 10 \end{cases}$$

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Substitute x away

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$$y^2 + y - 2 = 0$$

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$$= 5 + 4(-2) = -3$$

$$= 5 + 4 \cdot 1 = 9$$

Final answer: $x = -3, y = -2$ or $x = 9, y = 1$.

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Check answer $x = -3, y = -2$:

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} x - 4y \\ y^2 + xy \end{array} \right.$$

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Check answer $y = 1, x = 9$:

$$\left| \begin{array}{lcl} x - 4y & = & 9 - 4 \cdot 1 = 5 \\ y^2 + xy & = & 1^2 + 9 \cdot 1 = 10. \end{array} \right.$$

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Final answer: $x = -3, y = -2$ or $x = 9, y = 1$.

Check answer $x = -3, y = -2$:

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Check answer $y = 1, x = 9$:

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} x - 4y = 9 - 4 \cdot 1 = 5 \\ y^2 + xy = 1^2 + 9 \cdot 1 = 10. \end{array} \right.$$