

Chapter 6

Quadratic equations and functions

- A Quadratic equations
- B The discriminant of a quadratic
- C Graphing quadratic functions
- D Finding a quadratic from its graph
- E Where functions meet
- F Problem solving with quadratics
- G Quadratic optimisation

A QUADRATIC EQUATIONS

Quadratic equations are equations where the highest power of the variable (usually x) is two!

- Applications:
- > Falling bodies
 - > Acceleration
 - > Optimization

Quadratic equations come in different flavors (forms)

Standard form: $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ $-16t^2 - 16t + 96 = 0$

Factored form: $(ax - r_1)(bx - r_2) = 0$ $(4x + 5)(2x - 3) = 0$

Vertex Form: $a(x - h)^2 + k = 0$ $-3(x + 4)^2 + 6 = 0$

Solving quadratic equations (like any equation) means...finding the value(s) of the variable that make it true! These values are called **solutions** (you will also see the terms **roots** or **zeros**.)

Doing that for quadratics is not as easy as for linear equations - we cannot just manipulate the sides!

There are several techniques that are all helpful in different situations:

- > Factoring
- > Graphing
- > Completing the square
- > Using a formula

We will look at these in 6A, beginning with factoring.

Look at a simple equation in factored form: $(x - 1)(x - 2) = 0$ (Remember what a **factor** is?!)

We know that if two **factors** multiply to zero, one of them must equal zero. This is called the **zero product property**.

So if $(x - 1)(x - 2) = 0$, then either $(x - 1) = 0$ or $(x - 2) = 0$. These are two **linear** equations which we can easily solve using our linear manipulations. Clearly, $x = 1$ or $x = 2$ are the two values we need. So notice that:

A quadratic equation can have two solutions!

If quadratic functions were always given in factored form, there would not be much to discuss. But consider a function in standard form.

This is not so friendly. We can try to **factor** the left hand side to find the solutions.

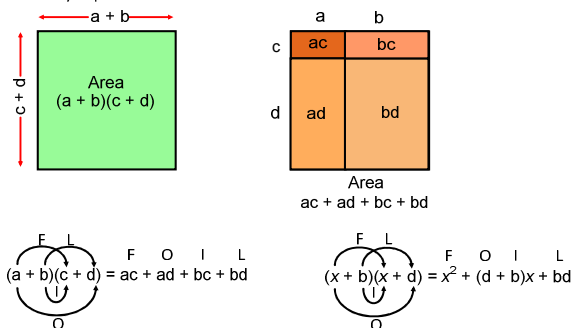
$$x^2 - 6x + 5 = 0$$

In this case, that's not too hard to do. We have to remember **FOIL** and do it in **reverse**.

$$(x - 1)(x - 5) = 0$$

So, x is either 5 or 1.

It's really important to understand FOIL well:



Try a few:

$a^2 - 13a + 22$ $q^2 - 11q + 28$ $x^2 - 7x - 18$ $m^2 + 8m - 65$
(a - 11)(a - 2) (q - 7)(q - 4) (x - 9)(x + 2) (m + 13)(m - 5)

Wouldn't it be lovely if all equations were that easy to factor? Well, yes, but they wouldn't be very useful.

So look at some other situations: (a , b , and c represent the coefficients from standard form)

When b or $c = 0$

$$12x^2 - 15x = 0 \quad 3x(4x - 5) = 0 \quad \text{so } x = 0 \text{ or } \frac{5}{4}$$

one of the solutions will be zero!

$a^2 - 49 = 0$ **-7, 7** $m^2 = 7m$ **0, 7** $u^2 = -9u$ **0, -9** $n^2 - 6n = 0$ **0, 6**

When a is not equal to one: Several options - takes some experience

- > Look for a special pattern
- > Check to see if it's factorable
- > Directed guess and check (or use the British Method)

Special Patterns

$A = (a + b)^2$
 $A = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$
 $(a + b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$
 $(a - b)^2 = a^2 - 2ab + b^2$

$(a + b)(a + b) = a^2 + (ab + ab) + b^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$

$(a + b)(a - b) = a^2 + ab - ab + b^2 = a^2 - b^2$

$a^2 - b^2 = (a + b)(a - b)$

| Pattern | Example |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| $a^2 - b^2 = (a + b)(a - b)$ | $x^2 - 4 = (x + 2)(x - 2)$ |
| $a^2 + 2ab + b^2 = (a + b)^2$ | $x^2 + 6x + 9 = (x + 3)^2$ |
| $a^2 - 2ab + b^2 = (a - b)^2$ | $x^2 - 4x + 4 = (x - 2)^2$ |

You can always do these with reverse FOIL (and you should check). But you will save a **ton** of time if you learn these.

$b^2 - 81$ **(b - 9)(b + 9)** $x^2 - 24x + 144$ **(x - 12)²** $c^2 + 28c + 196$ **(c + 14)²**

Special patterns are more useful when the **leading coefficient** (a) is not one.

$9p^2 - 12p + 4$ **(3p - 2)²** $64w^2 + 144w + 81$ **(8w + 9)²** $49n^2 - 16$ **(7n - 4)(7n + 4)**

Remember that **factoring is a step** in solving quadratic equations. Sometimes you have to manipulate first.

$4x^2 + 1 = 4x$ $x = \frac{1}{2}$

| | |
|--|--|
| 1. $(x + 4)^2$ | $x^2 + 8x + 16$ |
| 2. $(x + 9)^2$ | $x^2 + 18x + 81$ |
| 3. $(x + \frac{1}{2})^2$ | $x^2 + x + \frac{1}{4}$ |
| 4. $(2x + 1)^2$ | $4x^2 + 4x + 1$ |
| 5. $(3x + 3)^2$ | $9x^2 + 18x + 9$ |
| 6. $(\frac{3}{4}x + \frac{1}{3})^2$ | $\frac{9}{16}x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{9}$ |
| 7. $(x - 5)^2$ | $x^2 - 10x + 25$ |
| 8. $(x - 7)^2$ | $x^2 - 14x + 49$ |
| 9. $(x - \frac{1}{3})^2$ | $x^2 - \frac{2}{3}x + \frac{1}{9}$ |
| 10. $(4x - 2)^2$ | $16x^2 - 16x + 4$ |
| 11. $(2x - 6)^2$ | $4x^2 - 24x + 36$ |
| 12. $(\frac{1}{3}x - \frac{3}{4})^2$ | $\frac{1}{9}x^2 - \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{9}{16}$ |
| 13. $(x + 2)(x - 2)$ | $x^2 - 4$ |
| 14. $(x + 4)(x - 4)$ | $x^2 - 16$ |
| 15. $(x + \frac{1}{2})(x - \frac{1}{2})$ | $x^2 - \frac{1}{4}$ |
| 16. $(2x + 3)(2x - 3)$ | $4x^2 - 9$ |
| 17. $(6x - 5)(6x + 5)$ | $36x^2 - 25$ |
| 18. $(\frac{3}{4}x + \frac{1}{3})(\frac{3}{4}x - \frac{1}{3})$ | $\frac{9}{16}x^2 - \frac{1}{9}$ |
| 19. $(4x - 9)(4x + 9)$ | $16x^2 - 81$ |
| 20. $(x - 11)^2$ | $x^2 - 22x + 121$ |
| 21. $(2x + 12)^2$ | $4x^2 + 48x + 144$ |
| 22. $(4x - 15)^2$ | $16x^2 - 120x + 225$ |
| 23. $(8x + 3)^2$ | $64x^2 + 48x + 9$ |
| 24. $(\frac{3}{4}x + \frac{1}{3})(\frac{3}{4}x - \frac{1}{3})$ | $\frac{9}{16}x^2 - \frac{1}{9}$ |

Sometimes, you'll have a "hidden" special pattern

Always Factor out the Greatest Common Factor (GCF) first !

Example: Factor $3x^2 + 12x - 15$

Notice that there is a common factor in all three terms!

When there is you should always factor it out first

$$\begin{aligned}3x^2 + 12x - 15 \\ &= 3(x^2 + 4x - 5) \\ &= 3(x + 5)(x - 1)\end{aligned}$$

Or consider

$$\begin{aligned}5x^3 - 15x^2 - 90x \\ &= 5x(x^2 - 3x - 18) \\ &= 5x(x - 6)(x + 3)\end{aligned}$$

What if GCF and Special Patterns don't work?

Example: Solve $3x^2 + 10x - 8 = 0$

Can I **factor** $3x^2 + 10x - 8$? Well, hmmm...

One way is to guess and check! (it can be tedious, but not always)

Can you reverse think FOIL? $(__x + __)(__x + __)$

The FIRSTS have to multiply to give 3. So they must be 1 & 3

The LASTS have to have different signs and multiply to give 8. Possibilities?
-1 & 8, 1 & -8, -2 & 4, 2 & -4

The OUTERS plus INNERS create the x term.

So the only possibilities are:

$$(3x - 1)(x + 8) \text{ or } (3x + 8)(x - 1)$$

$$(3x + 1)(x - 8) \text{ or } (3x - 8)(x + 1)$$

$$(3x - 2)(x + 4) \text{ or } (3x + 4)(x - 2)$$

$$(3x + 2)(x - 4) \text{ or } (3x - 4)(x + 2)$$

Which one will add to a middle term of $+10x$? That's your factorization.

In this case, it's $(3x - 2)(x + 4)$ so the solutions to the equation are $2/3$ and -4 .

That's all well and good. But what about:

$$15x^2 - 2x - 8 = 0$$

The firsts have to multiply to give 15. So they must be 15 & 1 or 5 & 3

The lasts have to have different signs and multiply to give 8

-1 & 8, 1 & -8, -2 & 4, 2 & -4

So the "only" possibilities are:

$$(15x - 1)(x + 8) \quad \text{or} \quad (15x + 8)(x - 1)$$

$$(15x + 1)(x - 8) \quad \text{or} \quad (15x - 8)(x + 1)$$

$$(15x - 2)(x + 4) \quad \text{or} \quad (15x + 4)(x - 2)$$

$$(15x + 2)(x - 4) \quad \text{or} \quad (15x - 4)(x + 2)$$

$$(5x - 1)(3x + 8) \quad \text{or} \quad (5x + 8)(3x - 1)$$

$$(5x + 1)(3x - 8) \quad \text{or} \quad (5x - 8)(3x + 1)$$

$$(5x - 2)(3x + 4) \quad \text{or} \quad (5x + 4)(3x - 2)$$

$$(5x + 2)(3x - 4) \quad \text{or} \quad (5x - 4)(3x + 2)$$

Isn't this going a bit far?

When a and c are not prime numbers, there is a better way!

Reconsider $15x^2 - 2x - 8 = 0$

- 1) Calculate ac $ac = -120$
- 2) Find a magic pair that multiplies to ac and adds to b -12 & 10
- 3) Rewrite the original expression using a sum for b
 $= 15x^2 - 12x + 10x - 8$
- 4) Factor by grouping: (do the "Groupie Groupie")
 Factor out the **GCF** from the first two terms $= 3x(5x - 4) + 10x - 8$
 Factor the "twin" from the last two terms! $= 3x(5x - 4) + 2(5x - 4)$
 Gather the **GOOP** (Garbage Outside Of Parentheses) $= (3x + 2)(5x - 4)$
- 5) Check using FOIL
 $(3x + 2)(5x - 4) = 15x^2 + 10x - 12x - 8 = 15x^2 - 2x - 8$ Voila!

This is also known as the *British Method*.

Let's try that again....

Example 2: Solve $12x^2 + 5x - 7 = 0$

- 1) Calculate ac $ac = -84$
- 2) Find a magic pair that multiplies to ac and adds to b 12 & -7
- 3) Rewrite the original expression using a sum for b
 $= 12x^2 + 12x - 7x - 7$
- 4) Factor by grouping: (do the "Groupie Groupie")
 Factor out the **GCF** from the first two terms $= 12x(x + 1) - 7x - 7$

 Factor the "twin" from the last two terms! $= 12x(x + 1) - 7(x + 1)$

 Gather the **GOOP** (Garbage Outside Of Parentheses) $= (12x - 7)(x + 1)$
- 5) Check using FOIL
 $(12x - 7)(x + 1) = 12x^2 - 7x + 12x - 7 = 12x^2 + 5x - 7$ Yay!
- 6) Find the **solutions to the equation**:
 $(12x - 7)(x + 1) = 0$ when $x = -1$ or when $12x - 7 = 0$ $x = 7/12$

Try one:

Solve $8x^2 - 6x - 9 = 0$

Summary of Factoring Process

- 1.) Check to see if you can factor (discriminant)
- 2) Factor out a GCF
- 3) Look for special patterns
- 4) Use reverse FOIL if $a = 1$
- 5) Use Guess & Check or British Method if $a \neq 1$

Factoring $ax^2 + bx + c$ when $a \neq 1$

| Step | Example | Example | Example | Example | Example | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|-------|--|-------|--|-------|--|-------|--|------|---|---|-----------|----------|-------|--|------|--|--------|---|--|---|---|
| 1. Find the discriminant first. If it's not a perfect square, stop! You can't factor into integers! | $6x^2 + 17x + 12$ $b^2 - 4ac = 289 - 288 = 1 \dots$ Keep going! | $-10x^2 + 14x - 4$ $b^2 - 4ac = 196 - 160 = 36 \dots$ Keep going! | $6x^2 + 18x + 12$ $b^2 - 4ac = 324 - 288 = 36$ Keep going! | $4x^2 + 20x + 25$ $b^2 - 4ac = 400 - 400 = 0 \dots$ Keep going! | $28x^2 - 63$ $b^2 - 4ac = 0 + 7056 = 7056 = (84)^2 \dots$ Keep going! | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2. Factor out a -1 and the Greatest Common Factor from all terms. | There is no GCF | $= -2(5x^2 - 7x + 2)$ <i>(Honey, I shrunk the kids!)</i> | $= 6(x^2 + 3x + 2)$ | There is no GCF | $= 7(4x^2 - 9)$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3. Is this a special pattern? | No | No | No | Yes! | Yes! | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4. Compute ac and b | $ac = 72, b = 17$ | $ac = 10, b = -7$ | Hey, $a = 1!$ | $= (2x + 5)^2$ | $= 7(2x + 3)(2x - 3)$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 5. Find a magic pair that multiplies to give ac and adds to give b . If no pair exists, the expression cannot be factored using integers. Be sure to check them all before reaching this conclusion. | <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <tr><th>$ac = 72$</th><th>$b = 17$</th></tr> <tr><td>1, 72</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>2, 36</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>3, 24</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>4, 18</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>6, 12</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>8, 9</td><td>*</td></tr> </table> | $ac = 72$ | $b = 17$ | 1, 72 | | 2, 36 | | 3, 24 | | 4, 18 | | 6, 12 | | 8, 9 | * | <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <tr><th>$ac = 10$</th><th>$b = -7$</th></tr> <tr><td>1, 10</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>2, 5</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>-2, -5</td><td>*</td></tr> </table> List all the factors of ac and find two that add to give b . | $ac = 10$ | $b = -7$ | 1, 10 | | 2, 5 | | -2, -5 | * | So a is just c and we use the simple method. What multiplies to give c and adds to give b ? <i>(Answer: 2 and 1)</i> $= 6(x + 2)(x + 1)$ | Finished! (aren't you glad you practiced these special patterns?) | Finished! (aren't you glad you practiced these special patterns?) |
| $ac = 72$ | $b = 17$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1, 72 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2, 36 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3, 24 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4, 18 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6, 12 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8, 9 | * | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| $ac = 10$ | $b = -7$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1, 10 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2, 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| -2, -5 | * | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 6. Rewrite the original expression with four terms using the magic pair instead of b . | $= 6x^2 + 9x + 8x + 12$ Don't worry about the order of the two x terms. It doesn't matter. | $= -2[5x^2 - 2x - 5x + 2]$ If you multiply this out at this step, you should get the original expression. Do you? | Finished! | <i>Mathematically speaking, steps 6 & 7 combined are called "factor by grouping".</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7. Factor out the GCF from the first two terms. | $= 3x(2x + 3) + 8x + 12$ <i>(Let me introduce my twin!)</i> $= 3x(2x + 3) + 4(2x + 3)$ | $= -2[x(5x - 2) - 5x + 2]$ | Do the Groupie Groupie! | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8. Factor out the GCF from the last two terms. Factor out a -1 if the third term is negative. | $= 3x(2x + 3) + 4(2x + 3)$ $= (3x + 4)(2x + 3)$ | $= -2[x(5x - 2) - 1(5x - 2)]$ Since the 3 rd term $(-5x)$ was negative, we factor out a -1. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9. You end up with the same binomial. Factor out the binomial. | $= (3x + 4)(2x + 3)$ | $= -2(x - 1)(5x - 2)$ <i>Don't forget the -2 sitting in the power gallery...</i> $= -2(5x^2 - 7x + 2)$ $= -10x^2 + 14x - 4$ | Gather GOOP - Garbage Outside Of Parentheses and the twin! | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10. Check your work by multiplying with FOIL. | $= 6x^2 + 17x + 12$ | $= -10x^2 + 14x - 4$ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

When done, re-read the problem. Are you solving an equation? If so, there is another step or two. If you're just factoring, you're done.

Factoring Practice: a <> 1

| | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. $2x^2 - 5x - 12$ | 6. $3x^2 + 10x + 8$ | 11. $12x^2 + 7x + 1$ | 16. $3x^2 - 8x - 16$ | 1. $(2x + 3)(x - 4)$ |
| | | | | 2. $(3x - 1)(3x - 4)$ |
| | | | | 3. $(2x - 1)(x - 3)$ |
| | | | | 4. $(x - 2)(2x + 3)$ |
| 2. $9x^2 - 15x + 4$ | 7. $3x^2 - 7x + 4$ | 12. $3x^2 + 7x + 4$ | 17. $3x^2 - 11x - 4$ | 5. $(3x + 1)(x + 4)$ |
| | | | | 6. $(x + 2)(3x + 4)$ |
| | | | | 7. $(x - 1)(3x - 4)$ |
| | | | | 8. $(4x - 3)(2x - 3)$ |
| 3. $2x^2 - 7x + 3$ | 8. $8x^2 - 18x + 9$ | 13. $9x^2 - 15x + 4$ | 18. $2x^2 + 5x - 3$ | 9. $(3x + 4)(4x + 3)$ |
| | | | | 10. $(3x - 4)(3x - 4)$ |
| | | | | 11. $(4x + 1)(3x + 1)$ |
| | | | | 12. $(3x + 4)(x + 1)$ |
| 4. $2x^2 - x - 6$ | 9. $12x^2 + 25x + 12$ | 14. $3x^2 + 13x + 12$ | 19. $2x^2 + 3x - 2$ | 13. $(3x - 4)(3x - 1)$ |
| | | | | 14. $(x + 3)(3x + 4)$ |
| | | | | 15. $(2x + 1)(x + 4)$ |
| | | | | 16. $(3x + 4)(x - 4)$ |
| 5. $3x^2 + 13x + 4$ | 10. $9x^2 - 24x + 16$ | 15. $2x^2 + 9x + 4$ | 20. $6x^2 + 11x + 3$ | 17. $(3x + 1)(x - 4)$ |
| | | | | 18. $(2x - 1)(x + 3)$ |
| | | | | 19. $(x + 2)(2x - 1)$ |
| | | | | 20. $(2x + 3)(3x + 1)$ |

Solve the equation

32. $16x^2 - 1 = 0$ $-\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}$ 33. $11q^2 - 44 = 0$ $-2, 2$ 34. $14s^2 - 21s = 0$ $0, \frac{3}{2}$
35. $45n^2 + 10n = 0$ $0, -\frac{2}{9}$ 36. $4x^2 - 20x + 25 = 0$ $\frac{5}{2}, \frac{5}{2}$ 37. $4p^2 + 12p + 9 = 0$ $-\frac{3}{2}, -\frac{3}{2}$
38. $15x^2 + 7x - 2 = 0$ $\frac{1}{5}, -\frac{2}{3}$ 39. $6r^2 - 7r - 5 = 0$ $-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{5}{3}$ 40. $36z^2 + 96z + 64 = 0$ $-\frac{4}{3}, -\frac{4}{3}$

Sometimes the equation doesn't come so nicely packaged. You need to recognize **when** an equation is quadratic and be able to rewrite it in a familiar form. Are these equations quadratic? If so, write them in standard form.

$$x^2 + (3k - 1)x + (2k + 10) = 0$$

$$4x^2 - 3x + x(5 - 4x) = 6 + \frac{2}{x}$$

$$x(x^2 - 5) = 3x + 5x^2 + x^3$$

$$\frac{2x^2(x + 2)}{x} = 5x^2 - \frac{3}{x}$$

$$\frac{x + 2}{x - 9} = 4x$$

$$3 + \frac{5}{x} = 2x$$

We could go on, but you get the point! Accurate algebraic manipulations are **key**!

| | | |
|----|------|--------------------|
| HW | 6A.1 | 1aegikl,2behk,3bdf |
| QB | | 1, 9 |

So you can factor an equation like $x^2 - 5x - 84 = 0$ into and find solutions

Suppose now, that the equation is $x^2 - 81 = 0$. Would you factor?

How about $x^2 - 12 = 0$. What are the solutions now?

Now look at $m^2 - k = 0$. Solutions?

What about $(x - 3)^2 - 4 = 0$?

Graph the function $f(x) = (x - 3)^2 - 4$

Or even $3(t + 5)^2 + 4 = 13$

What is common about all of these situations?

Solving by Square Roots

When the equation is written with no linear term, you can solve by taking a square root.

So let's try something like $x^2 + 6x = 16$. Can we take a square root of both sides?

What would you do so that you **could** take the square root of both sides?

By adding 9 to both sides we get a nice result: $x^2 + 6x + 9 = 25$ or $(x + 3)^2 = 25$

Now we can take the square root to get: $x = \pm 5 - 3$ or $x = 2$ or -8

- (a) $x^2 - 12x + 36$ (b) $x^2 + 14x + 49$ (c) $x^2 - 20x + 100$

As suggested, these should all look like either $(x - r)^2$ or $(x + r)^2$. State the important connection between the *coefficients* of the given trinomials and the values you found for r .

5. (Continuation) In the following, choose k to create a perfect-square trinomial:

- (a) $x^2 - 16x + k$ (b) $x^2 + 10x + k$ (c) $x^2 - 5x + k$

$x^2 + bx + k$ $x^2 - bx + k$

Solve these equations by **completing the square**.

- (a) $x^2 - 8x = 3$ (b) $x^2 + 10x = 11$ (c) $x^2 - 5x - 2 = 0$ (d) $x^2 + 1.2x = 0.28$

Completing the square

Rewrite an equation so that there is no linear term!
Get the variable into a "perfect square".

$\left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{b^2}{4}$ may come in handy!

6.A.3 The Quadratic Formula

Let's use completing the square to find a formula for the solution to **any** quadratic equation!

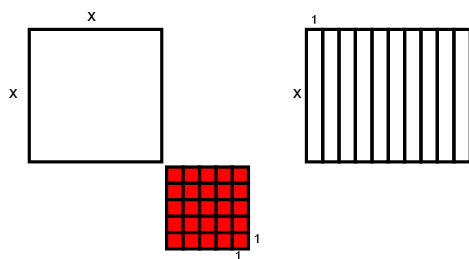
You need to be able to recreate this: Take careful notes and follow carefully:

| | |
|---|--|
| Start with standard form: | $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ |
| Divide both sides by a : | $x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x + \frac{c}{a} = 0$ |
| Subtract $\frac{c}{a}$ from both sides: | $x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x = -\frac{c}{a}$ |
| Complete the square on the LHS: | $x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x + \left(\frac{1}{2} \frac{b}{a}\right)^2 = -\frac{c}{a} + \left(\frac{1}{2} \frac{b}{a}\right)^2$ |
| Clean up the RHS: | $x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x + \left(\frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 - \frac{c}{a}$ $= \frac{b^2}{4a^2} - \frac{c}{a} \cdot \frac{4a}{4a}$ $= \frac{b^2}{4a^2} - \frac{4ac}{4a^2}$ $= \frac{b^2 - 4ac}{4a^2}$ |
| Now since the LHS is a perfect square: | $\left(x + \frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 = \frac{b^2 - 4ac}{4a^2}$ |
| Time to take the square root: | $x + \frac{b}{2a} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{b^2 - 4ac}{4a^2}}$ |
| Get x all alone: | $x = -\frac{b}{2a} \pm \sqrt{\frac{b^2 - 4ac}{4a^2}}$ |
| Remove the denominator in the radical: | $x = -\frac{b}{2a} \pm \sqrt{\frac{b^2 - 4ac}{4a^2}}$ $= -\frac{b}{2a} \pm \frac{\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{\sqrt{4a^2}}$ $= -\frac{b}{2a} \pm \frac{\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ |
| The Quadratic Formula: | $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ |

For any quadratic equation in standard form $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ the solutions, x , are given by

The Quadratic Formula: $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

| | | |
|--------|-----------------|----------------------|
| HW6A.2 | 1cfi,2cfi,3bcfe | Complete the square! |
| 6A.3 | 1beh,2bcfe | (by hand!) |
| QB | 11, 15 | |



B THE DISCRIMINANT OF A QUADRATIC

Recall the quadratic formula. Let's look at it in more detail.

For any quadratic equation in standard form $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ the solutions, x , are given by

The Quadratic Formula: $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

Let's do an example:

$$3x^2 - 4x + 5 = 0$$

Solution: $x = \frac{+4 \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4(3)(5)}}{2(3)} = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 60}}{6}$

$$= \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{-44}}{6}$$

$$= \frac{4 \pm 2i\sqrt{11}}{6}$$

$$= \frac{2 \pm i\sqrt{11}}{3}$$

or $\frac{2 + i\sqrt{11}}{3}$ and $\frac{2 - i\sqrt{11}}{3}$

Which leads us to looking at the expression inside the radical: Notice that:

If $b^2 - 4ac > 0$, the radical is real. There are two real solutions.
 If $b^2 - 4ac < 0$, the radical is imaginary. There are two complex solutions.
 If $b^2 - 4ac = 0$, the radical is zero. There is one real solution $x = \frac{-b}{2a}$.
 If $b^2 - 4ac$ is a perfect square, you can factor the quadratic into integers!
 If not, you can't!

$b^2 - 4ac$ is called the **discriminant** because it discriminates between types of solutions. It's nice to know what's going to happen before you get started!

IB uses the symbol Δ to represent the discriminant

Try some:

Find the discriminant of the quadratic equation and give the number and type of solutions of the equation.

4. $2x^2 + 4x - 4 = 0$ 5. $3x^2 + 12x + 12 = 0$ 6. $8x^2 = 9x - 11$
 7. $7x^2 - 2x = 5$ 8. $4x^2 + 3x + 12 = 3 - 3x$ 9. $3x - 5x^2 + 1 = 6 - 7x$

Another possible situation:

For the equation $kx^2 + (k+3)x = 1$ find the discriminant Δ and draw a sign diagram for it. Hence, find the value of k for which the equation has:

a two distinct real roots **b** two real roots
c a repeated root **d** no real roots.

For $kx^2 + (k+3)x - 1 = 0$, $a = k$, $b = (k+3)$, $c = -1$

So, $\Delta = b^2 - 4ac$
 $= (k+3)^2 - 4(k)(-1)$ and has sign diagram:
 $= k^2 + 6k + 9 + 4k$
 $= k^2 + 10k + 9$
 $= (k+9)(k+1)$

a For two distinct real roots, $\Delta > 0 \therefore k < -9$ or $k > -1$.
b For two real roots, $\Delta \geq 0 \therefore k \leq -9$ or $k \geq -1$.
c For a repeated root, $\Delta = 0 \therefore k = -9$ or $k = -1$.
d For no real roots, $\Delta < 0 \therefore -9 < k < -1$.

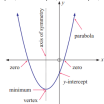
A quadratic equation $9x^2 - 5x + k = 0$ has exactly one solution. Find k .

HW 6B #2 all, 3 all, 4bdf
 QB 12, 14

C GRAPHING QUADRATIC FUNCTIONS

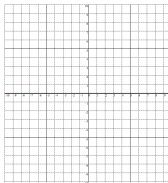
When we graph a quadratic function we get a *parabola*.

- Features of the Mother function $y = x^2$
 - > Vertex at origin
 - > Pattern from origin is over 1 up 1, over 1 up 3, over 1 up 5, ... over 1 up by odds
- Features of all parabolas:
 - > Symmetric:



Graphing from different forms:
 Factored Form $y = a(x - p)(x - q)$
 Vertex Form $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$
 Standard Form $y = ax^2 + bx + c$

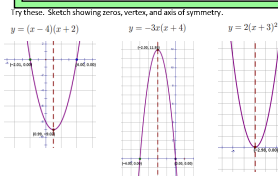
Graph $f(x) = 2(x - 4)(x + 2)$



- Zeros are easy to see!
- Find the *y*-intercept by setting *x* to zero
- Axis of symmetry is at average of roots
- So *x* of vertex is there too!
- Plug in *x* of vertex to get *y* of vertex.

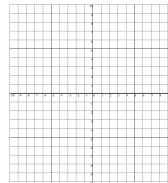
Graphing from factored form

- > Graph the zeros
- > Graph the axis of symmetry (midway between zeros)
- > Find the vertex (plug *x* of the axis of symmetry into the function to find *f(x)*)
- > Sketch the curve, *y*-intercept is at top



Graphing from different forms:
 Factored Form $y = a(x - p)(x - q)$
 Vertex Form $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$
 Standard Form $y = ax^2 + bx + c$

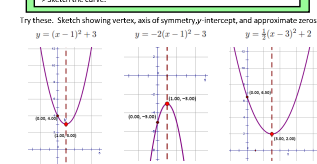
Graph $f(x) = 2x - 4x - 3$



- Vertex is easy to see
- Look at *a* to visualize direction
- y*-intercept is easy (set *x*=0)
- Include symmetric point
- Find roots (take the square root)

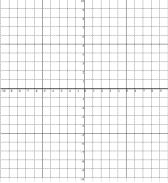
Graphing from vertex form

- > Graph the vertex and axis of symmetry
- > Use *a* to identify the direction and width (roughly)
- > Find and graph the *y*-intercept ($y = at^2 + a$) and it's symmetric point
- > Find the zeros by taking square roots.
- > Sketch the curve.



Graphing from different forms:
 Factored Form $y = a(x - p)(x - q)$
 Vertex Form $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$
 Standard Form $y = ax^2 + bx + c$

Graph $f(x) = 3x^2 + 6x - 1$

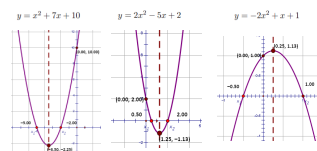


- Find *x* of vertex ($-b/2a$)
- Plug in to get *y* of vertex
- Look at *a* to visualize direction
- y*-intercept is easy (its *c*)
- Include symmetric point
- Find roots if needed

Graphing from standard form

- > Try factoring first. If possible, graph from factored form.
- > Find and graph the axis of symmetry. $x = \frac{-b}{2a}$
- > Find and graph the vertex (evaluate *f* at the axis of symmetry).
- > Find and graph the *y*-intercept ($y = c$) and it's symmetric point.
- > Use the quadratic formula to find zeros if you really want accuracy.
- > Sketch the curve. Test the approximate zeros in the function.

Try these. Sketch showing vertex, axis of symmetry, *y*-intercept, and zeros if factorable.



HW 6C.1 1bcf,2,3,4bcf,5,6df,8beh
 Do #7 for extra factoring practice!
 CB 2, 3, 8

Graphing "strategy"

We've discussed graphing from different forms - what strategies help us do it *efficiently*?

1. Completing the square
2. Using the discriminant

Completing the square to help graph a function

Suppose we want to graph the function $f(x) = x^2 + 6x - 4$

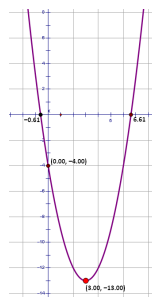
It would be nice to write it in the form $f(x) = a(x - h)^2 + k$ Why?
 We can see the vertex and it's easier to graph!

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| So notice that | $f(x) = x^2 + 6x - 4$ | can be written as: |
| Add and subtract 9 to the RHS | $f(x) = x^2 + 6x + 9 - 9 - 4$ | which now has a "perfect square" |
| Rewrite with a binomial squared | $f(x) = (x + 3)^2 - 13$ | we now have "vertex form" |

We can now graph the vertex at (-3, -13).
 We can find the roots by finding the x values where the function is zero:

Set the function value to zero $0 = (x + 3)^2 - 13$
 Add 13 to both sides $13 = (x + 3)^2$
 Take the square root (don't forget \pm) $\pm\sqrt{13} = x + 3$
 Subtract 3 and we're done! $x = -3 \pm \sqrt{13}$

It's also easy to find the y-intercept - it's -4
 > From the original function in standard form or
 > by plugging $x=0$ into the vertex form of the function



Completing the Square

A quadratic form of $x^2 + bx$ can be made into a perfect square binomial by adding $\left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{b^2}{4}$

The resulting perfect square binomial is then $\left(x + \frac{b}{2}\right)^2$

Let's add a twist: What happens if the *leading coefficient (a)* is not one!

Short answer: Factor out a !

Consider this one $f(x) = 2x^2 - 16x + 7$

Factor out the leading coefficient $f(x) = 2\left[x^2 - 8x + \frac{7}{2}\right]$ Don't panic with fractions!

Add and subtract $\left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2$ to complete the square $f(x) = 2\left[x^2 - 8x + 16 - 16 + \frac{7}{2}\right]$

Combine the left overs (fractions again) $f(x) = 2\left[(x - 4)^2 - \frac{32}{2} + \frac{7}{2}\right] = 2\left[(x - 4)^2 - \frac{25}{2}\right]$

Distribute the leading coefficient back through $f(x) = 2(x - 4)^2 - 25$

From here you can graph as we did above.

Another example

$$f(x) = 3x^2 - 4x + 1 \quad \text{in } a(x-h)^2 + k$$

$$3 \left[x - \frac{4}{3}x + \frac{4}{9} - \frac{4}{9} + \frac{3}{9} \right] \quad \left| \frac{1}{3} \right. \quad \left. \begin{matrix} \times b + (\frac{b}{2})^2 \\ \frac{1}{9} \end{matrix} \right.$$

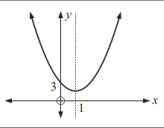
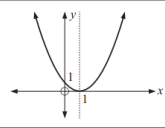
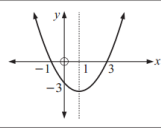
$$3 \left[\left(x - \frac{2}{3} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{9} \right]$$

$$3 \left(x - \frac{2}{3} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{3}$$

Recall the characteristics of the discriminant:

If $b^2 - 4ac > 0$, the radical is real. There are two real solutions.
 If $b^2 - 4ac < 0$, the radical is imaginary. There are two complex solutions.
 If $b^2 - 4ac = 0$, the radical is zero. There is one real solution at $x = \frac{-b}{2a}$.
 If $b^2 - 4ac$ is a perfect square, you can factor the quadratic into integers!
 If not, you can't!

IB uses the symbol Δ to represent the discriminant

| $y = x^2 - 2x + 3$ | $y = x^2 - 2x + 1$ | $y = x^2 - 2x - 3$ |
|---|---|--|
|  |  |  |
| $\Delta = b^2 - 4ac$ $= (-2)^2 - 4(1)(3)$ $= -8$ | $\Delta = b^2 - 4ac$ $= (-2)^2 - 4(1)(1)$ $= 0$ | $\Delta = b^2 - 4ac$ $= (-2)^2 - 4(1)(-3)$ $= 16$ |
| $\Delta < 0$ | $\Delta = 0$ | $\Delta > 0$ |
| does not cut the x -axis | touches the x -axis | cuts the x -axis twice |

If there is one solution, then $\Delta = 0$. So we can answer questions like:

The function $f(x) = kx^2 - 8x + 2$ has a repeated root. Find the value of k .

Solution:

Since there is one root, $b^2 - 4ac = 0$

So $(-8)^2 - 4(k)(2) = 0$

or $64 - 8k = 0$ and $k = 8$

Or a more complex one: $f(x) = kx^2 - (k + 1)x - 3$ touches the x axis once. Find the value(s) of k .

Solution:

Since there is one root, $b^2 - 4ac = 0$

So $[-(k + 1)]^2 - 4(k)(-3) = 0$

or $k^2 + 2k + 1 - 12k = 0$ leading to $k^2 - 10k + 12 = 0$

Use quadratic formula or complete the square to solve $k^2 - 10k + 12 = 0$

$$k = \frac{-(-10) \pm \sqrt{(-10)^2 - 4(1)(12)}}{2(1)}$$

$$k = \frac{10 \pm \sqrt{100 - 48}}{2} = 5 \pm \frac{\sqrt{52}}{2} = 5 \pm \sqrt{13}$$

Positive Definite and Negative Definite

A quadratic is "Positive definite" if **all** of its values are positive (not zero!).
 Happens when: $a > 0$ (opens up) and discriminant is negative (no roots)

A quadratic is "Negative definite" if **all** of its values are negative (not zero!).
 Happens when: $a < 0$ (opens down) and discriminant is negative (no roots)

HW 6C.2 2bdf,3cf
 6C.3 1cf,2bd,3,4
 QB 6, 9, 10

Present: #1 all (verbally), #2, 3, 4

Positive Definite and Negative Definite

A quadratic is "Positive definite" if **all** of its values are positive (not zero).
Happens when: $a > 0$ (opens up) and discriminant is negative (no roots)

A quadratic is "Negative definite" if **all** of its values are negative (not zero).
Happens when: $a < 0$ (opens down) and discriminant is negative (no roots)

Finding Quadratics From a Graph

By understanding the features of a graph and how they relate to the equation, we can write an equation from a graph.

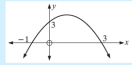

We need three pieces of information. Find the ones that are easiest to see (accurately), write an equation in an appropriate form, then track down the remaining **parameters**.

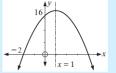
Parameter

A parameter is a value in an equation, often a coefficient of the variable, that distinguishes the specific equation from others of the same form.

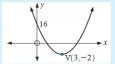
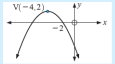
- Examples:
- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| Quadratic equations | | |
| Factored form $y = a(x-p)(x-q)$ | Parameters are $a, p,$ and q | |
| Vertex form $y = a(x-h)^2 + k$ | Parameters are $a, h,$ and k | |
| Standard form $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ | Parameters are $a, b,$ and c | |
| Linear equations | | |
| Slope-intercept form $y = mx + b$ | Parameters are m & b | |
| Point-slope form $y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$ | Parameters are $m, x_1,$ & y_1 | |
| Standard form $ax + by = c$ | Parameters are $a, b,$ and c | |
| Exponential function | | |
| $y = Ab^{k(x-d)} + d$ | Parameters are A, b, p, q and d | |

Examples:

| | |
|--|--|
| Find the equation of the quadratic with graph: | |
| <p>a</p>  | <p>b</p>  |
| <p>a Since the x-intercepts are -1 and 3, $y = a(x+1)(x-3)$, $a < 0$. But when $x = 0$, $y = 3$ $\therefore 3 = a(1)(-3)$ $\therefore a = -1$ So, $y = -(x+1)(x-3)$.</p> | <p>b Since it touches the x-axis at 2, $y = a(x-2)^2$, $a > 0$. But when $x = 0$, $y = 8$ $\therefore 8 = a(-2)^2$ $\therefore a = 2$ So, $y = 2(x-2)^2$.</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| Find the equation of the quadratic with graph: | The axis of symmetry is $x = 1$, so the other x -intercept is 4 . |
|  | $\therefore y = a(x+2)(x-4)$ But when $x = 0$, $y = 16$ $\therefore 16 = a(2)(-4)$ $\therefore a = -2$ \therefore the quadratic is $y = -2(x+2)(x-4)$. |

Find, in the form $y = ax^2 + bx + c$, the equation of the quadratic whose graph cuts the x -axis at 4 and -3 and passes through the point $(2, -20)$.

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| Find the equation of the quadratic given its graph is: | a | b |
| |  |  |

HW 6D 1cf,2abc,3bdf,4def
QB 4,5,8,13(a-c)

Present 6D 1cf,2bc,3f,4f, QB 4,5,8,13(a-c)

E**WHERE FUNCTIONS MEET**

What does it mean for two functions to meet?

They share a common (x, y) point!In general, the intersections of **any functions that you can graph** can be found on a calculator!Simpler cases can be done **analytically**:

We will consider here only lines and parabolas. How many situations are there?

**cutting**
(2 points of intersection)**touching**
(1 point of intersection)**missing**
(no points of intersection)Finding the intersections is done by solving the **system of equations**. (one linear, one quadratic)

Examples:

Find the coordinates of the points of intersection of the graphs with equations
 $y = x^2 - x - 18$ and $y = x - 3$.

$$y = x^2 - x - 18 \text{ meets } y = x - 3 \text{ where}$$

$$x^2 - x - 18 = x - 3$$

$$\therefore x^2 - 2x - 15 = 0 \quad \{\text{RHS} = 0\}$$

$$\therefore (x - 5)(x + 3) = 0 \quad \{\text{factorising}\}$$

$$\therefore x = 5 \text{ or } -3$$

Substituting into $y = x - 3$, when $x = 5$, $y = 2$ and when $x = -3$, $y = -6$.

\therefore the graphs meet at $(5, 2)$ and $(-3, -6)$.

When you get everything on one side you will have a quadratic with zero, one, or two solutions!
 You can find out which by checking Δ !

$y = 2x + k$ is a tangent to $y = 2x^2 - 3x + 4$. Find k .

$$y = 2x + k \text{ meets } y = 2x^2 - 3x + 4 \text{ where}$$

$$2x^2 - 3x + 4 = 2x + k$$

$$\therefore 2x^2 - 5x + (4 - k) = 0$$

Now this quadratic has $\Delta = 0$ since the graphs touch.

$$\therefore (-5)^2 - 4(2)(4 - k) = 0$$

$$\therefore 25 - 8(4 - k) = 0$$

$$\therefore 25 - 32 + 8k = 0$$

$$\therefore 8k = 7$$

$$\therefore k = \frac{7}{8}$$

Let's do one on a calculator to visualize:

A catapult launches a water balloon such that it follows the trajectory $h(t) = -16t^2 + 45t + 120$. A high powered rifle shoots a bullet along a more or less straight line described by $h(t) = 160 - 20t$.

- At what time(s) are the two objects at the same height?
- At what heights might the bullet pop the balloon?
- What would the slope of the bullet line need to be to intercept the balloon path only once?

HW 6E 1bd,2cd,3d,5,7
 QB All except #7 by now!

F PROBLEM SOLVING WITH QUADRATICS

Quadratics come up often in real world problems, often when optimizing something.

Success with problem solving takes practice - feeling into the territory and developing an instinct for what path will lead you to the solution. Some hints:

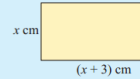
- Read the problem **carefully**. Pay attention to detail and, in particular, what the question is asking for.
- Sketch a diagram, make a table or plot a graph.
- Define your variables carefully and clearly - **write them down** (including units of measure)
- Translate the problem into an equation **that makes logical sense**.
- Do not try to write $x = \text{<blah>}$. When you do, you are essentially trying to solve the problem in your head.
- Check that the quantities in your equation are of the same units. You can only add and subtract like units.
- After you solve the equation, be sure to **answer the question**. It is often not the same as the solution.

Here are some to try:

A rectangle has length 3 cm longer than its width. Its area is 42 cm². Find its width.

If the width is x cm then the length is $(x + 3)$ cm.

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore x(x + 3) &= 42 \quad \{\text{equating areas}\} \\ \therefore x^2 + 3x - 42 &= 0 \\ \therefore x &\approx -8.15 \text{ or } 5.15 \quad \{\text{using technology}\} \end{aligned}$$



We reject the negative solution as lengths are positive.

So, the width ≈ 5.15 cm.

Is it possible to bend a 12 cm length of wire to form the legs of a right angled triangle with area 20 cm²?

Suppose the wire is bent x cm from one end.

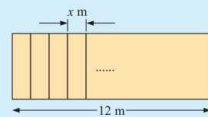
The area $A = \frac{1}{2}x(12 - x)$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \frac{1}{2}x(12 - x) &= 20 && \begin{array}{c} x \text{ cm} \quad (12 - x) \text{ cm} \\ \longleftarrow 12 \text{ cm} \longrightarrow \end{array} && \text{becomes } \begin{array}{c} \text{area } 20 \text{ cm}^2 \\ \triangle \\ \begin{array}{l} x \text{ cm} \\ (12 - x) \text{ cm} \end{array} \end{array} \\ \therefore x(12 - x) &= 40 \\ \therefore 12x - x^2 - 40 &= 0 \\ \therefore x^2 - 12x + 40 &= 0 \quad \text{which has } \Delta = (-12)^2 - 4(1)(40) \\ &= -16 \text{ which is } < 0 \end{aligned}$$

There are no real solutions, indicating this situation is **impossible**.

A wall is 12 m long. It is panelled using vertical sheets of timber which have equal width. If the sheets had been 0.2 m wider, 2 less sheets would have been required.

What is the width of the timber panelling used?



Let x m be the width of each sheet.

$$\therefore \frac{12}{x} \text{ is the number of sheets needed.}$$

Now if the sheets had been $(x + \frac{1}{5})$ m in width,

$$\left(\frac{12}{x} - 2\right) \text{ sheets would have been needed.}$$

$$\text{So, } \left(x + \frac{1}{5}\right) \left(\frac{12}{x} - 2\right) = 12 \quad \{\text{length of wall}\}$$

$$\therefore 12 - 2x + \frac{12}{5x} - \frac{2}{5} = 12 \quad \{\text{expanding LHS}\}$$

$$\therefore -2x + \frac{12}{5x} - \frac{2}{5} = 0$$

$$\therefore -10x^2 + 12 - 2x = 0 \quad \{\times \text{ each term by } 5x\}$$

$$\therefore 5x^2 + x - 6 = 0 \quad \{\div \text{ each term by } -2\}$$

$$\therefore (5x + 6)(x - 1) = 0$$

$$\therefore x = -\frac{6}{5} \text{ or } 1 \quad \text{where } x > 0$$

So, each sheet is 1 m wide.

HW 6F #1-19 all
QB #7 (a - c)

G **QUADRATIC OPTIMISATION**

Optimization problems involve finding the minimum or maximum of some value. Polynomials, particularly quadratics, often arise in such problems because they involve peaks and valleys.

Some hints:

- The **vertex** is the extreme point. Understand the meaning of its x and y coordinates.
- The x coordinate is at $-b/2a$ if the equation is in standard form.
- The sign of the leading coefficient will tell you whether the function has a minimum or a maximum.
- A function sometimes needs to be manipulated **before** looking for the vertex.
- A graphing calculator can be very helpful if it's allowed. See [2ND][CALC][MINIMUM] or [MAXIMUM]

Here are some to try:

Find the maximum or minimum value of the following quadratics, and the corresponding value of x : **a** $y = x^2 + x - 3$ **b** $y = 3 + 3x - 2x^2$

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>a For $y = x^2 + x - 3$ $a = 1, b = 1, c = -3$. As $a > 0$, the shape is </p> <p>\therefore the minimum value occurs when $x = \frac{-b}{2a} = -\frac{1}{2}$ and $y = (-\frac{1}{2})^2 + (-\frac{1}{2}) - 3$ $= -3\frac{1}{4}$ The minimum value of y is $-3\frac{1}{4}$, occurring when $x = -\frac{1}{2}$.</p> | <p>b For $y = -2x^2 + 3x + 3$ $a = -2, b = 3, c = 3$. As $a < 0$, the shape is </p> <p>\therefore the maximum value occurs when $x = \frac{-b}{2a} = \frac{-3}{-4} = \frac{3}{4}$ and $y = -2(\frac{3}{4})^2 + 3(\frac{3}{4}) + 3$ $= 4\frac{1}{8}$ The maximum value of y is $4\frac{1}{8}$, occurring when $x = \frac{3}{4}$.</p> |
|--|--|

A vegetable gardener has 40 m of fencing to enclose a rectangular garden plot, where one side is an existing brick wall. If the two equal sides are x m long:

a show that the area enclosed is given by $A = x(40 - 2x)$ m²

b find the dimensions of the vegetable garden of maximum area.

a Side [XY] has length $(40 - 2x)$ m.
 Now area = length \times width
 $\therefore A = x(40 - 2x)$ m².

b $A = 40x - 2x^2 = -2x^2 + 40x$
 is a quadratic in x , with $a = -2, b = 40, c = 0$.
 As $a < 0$, the shape is

The maximum area occurs when $x = \frac{-b}{2a} = \frac{-40}{-4} = 10$
 \therefore the area is maximised when $YZ = 10$ m and $XY = 20$ m.

HW 6G #1-11 all