MATHEMATICS PREPARATION WORKBOOK

FP15 Finance

UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

Contents

Expanding brackets and simplifying expressions

Key points

- When you expand one set of brackets you must multiply everything inside the bracket by what is outside.
- When you expand two linear expressions, each with two terms of the form $ax + b$, where $a \neq 0$ and $b \neq 0$, you create four terms. Two of these can usually be simplified by collecting like terms.

Examples

Example 1 Expand $4(3x - 2)$

$4(3x - 2) = 12x - 8$	Multiply everything inside the bracket by the 4 outside the bracket

Example 2 Expand and simplify $3(x + 5) - 4(2x + 3)$

$3(x + 5) - 4(2x + 3)$ $= 3x + 15 - 8x - 12$ $= 3 - 5x$	**1** Expand each set of brackets separately by multiplying $(x + 5)$ by 3 and $(2x + 3)$ by -4 **2** Simplify by collecting like terms: $3x - 8x = -5x$ and $15 - 12 = 3$

Example 3 Expand and simplify $(x + 3)(x + 2)$

$(x + 3)(x + 2)$ $= x(x + 2) + 3(x + 2)$ $= x^2 + 2x + 3x + 6$ $= x^2 + 5x + 6$	**1** Expand the brackets by multiplying $(x + 2)$ by x and $(x + 2)$ by 3 **2** Simplify by collecting like terms: $2x + 3x = 5x$

Example 4 Expand and simplify $(x - 5)(2x + 3)$

$(x - 5)(2x + 3)$ $= x(2x + 3) - 5(2x + 3)$ $= 2x^2 + 3x - 10x - 15$ $= 2x^2 - 7x - 15$	**1** Expand the brackets by multiplying $(2x + 3)$ by x and $(2x + 3)$ by -5 **2** Simplify by collecting like terms: $3x - 10x = -7x$

Practice

Watch out!

When multiplying (or dividing) positive and negative numbers, if the signs are the same the answer is '+'; if the signs are different the answer is '–'.

1 Expand.

a $3(2x - 1)$ **b** $-2(5pq + 4q^2)$

2 Expand and simplify.

a $7(3x + 5) + 6(2x - 8)$ **b** $8(5p - 2) - 3(4p + 9)$

3 Expand.

a $3x(4x + 8)$ **b** $4k(5k^2 - 12)$

4 Expand and simplify.

a $3(y^2 - 8) - 4(y^2 - 5)$ **b** $2x(x + 5) + 3x(x - 7)$

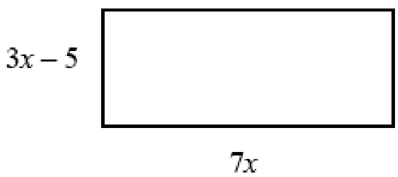
5 Expand and simplify.

a $13 - 2(m + 7)$ **b** $5p(p^2 + 6p) - 9p(2p - 3)$

6 The diagram shows a rectangle.

Write down an expression, in terms of x, for the area of the rectangle.

Show that the area of the rectangle can be written as $21x^2 - 35x$



7 Expand and simplify.

a $(x + 4)(x + 5)$ **b** $(x + 7)(x + 3)$

c $(x + 7)(x - 2)$ **d** $(x + 5)(x - 5)$

e $(5x - 3)(2x - 5)$ **f** $(3x - 2)(7 + 4x)$

g $(2x - 7)^2$ **h** $(4x - 3y)^2$

8 Expand and simplify.

a $\left(x+\frac{1}{x}\right)\left(x-\frac{2}{x}\right)$ **b** $\left(x+\frac{1}{x}\right)^2$

Surds and rationalising the denominator

Key points

- A surd is the square root of a number that is not a square number, for example $\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{3}, \sqrt{5}$, etc.
- Surds can be used to give the exact value for an answer.
- $\sqrt{ab} = \sqrt{a} \times \sqrt{b}$
- $\sqrt{\frac{a}{b}} = \frac{\sqrt{a}}{\sqrt{b}}$
- To rationalise the denominator means to remove the surd from the denominator of a fraction.
- To rationalise $\frac{a}{\sqrt{b}}$ you multiply the numerator and denominator by the surd $\sqrt{b}$
- To rationalise $\frac{a}{b+\sqrt{c}}$ you multiply the numerator and denominator by $b-\sqrt{c}$

Examples

Example 1 Simplify $\sqrt{50}$

$\sqrt{50} = \sqrt{25 \times 2}$	**1** Choose two numbers that are factors of 50. One of the factors must be a square number
$= \sqrt{25} \times \sqrt{2}$	**2** Use the rule $\sqrt{ab} = \sqrt{a} \times \sqrt{b}$
$= 5 \times \sqrt{2}$	**3** Use $\sqrt{25} = 5$
$= 5\sqrt{2}$	

Example 2 Simplify $\sqrt{147} - 2\sqrt{12}$

$\sqrt{147} - 2\sqrt{12}$ $= \sqrt{49 \times 3} - 2\sqrt{4 \times 3}$	**1** Simplify $\sqrt{147}$ and $2\sqrt{12}$. Choose two numbers that are factors of 147 and two numbers that are factors of 12. One of each pair of factors must be a square number
$= \sqrt{49} \times \sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{3}$	**2** Use the rule $\sqrt{ab} = \sqrt{a} \times \sqrt{b}$
$= 7 \times \sqrt{3} - 2 \times 2 \times \sqrt{3}$	**3** Use $\sqrt{49} = 7$ and $\sqrt{4} = 2$
$= 7\sqrt{3} - 4\sqrt{3}$ $= 3\sqrt{3}$	**4** Collect like terms

Example 3 Simplify $\left(\sqrt{7}+\sqrt{2}\right)\left(\sqrt{7}-\sqrt{2}\right)$

$\left(\sqrt{7}+\sqrt{2}\right)\left(\sqrt{7}-\sqrt{2}\right)$ $= \sqrt{49}-\sqrt{7}\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{2}\sqrt{7}-\sqrt{4}$ $= 7 - 2$ $= 5$	**1** Expand the brackets. A common mistake here is to write $\left(\sqrt{7}\right)^2 = 49$ **2** Collect like terms: $-\sqrt{7}\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{2}\sqrt{7}$ $= -\sqrt{7}\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{7}\sqrt{2} = 0$

Example 4 Rationalise $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$

$\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}}$ $= \frac{1\times\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{9}}$ $= \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$	**1** Multiply the numerator and denominator by $\sqrt{3}$ **2** Use $\sqrt{9} = 3$

Example 5 Rationalise and simplify $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{12}}$

$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{12}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{12}} \times \frac{\sqrt{12}}{\sqrt{12}}$ $= \frac{\sqrt{2}\times\sqrt{4\times3}}{12}$ $= \frac{2\sqrt{2}\sqrt{3}}{12}$ $= \frac{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{3}}{6}$	**1** Multiply the numerator and denominator by $\sqrt{12}$ **2** Simplify $\sqrt{12}$ in the numerator. Choose two numbers that are factors of 12. One of the factors must be a square number **3** Use the rule $\sqrt{ab} = \sqrt{a}\times\sqrt{b}$ **4** Use $\sqrt{4} = 2$ **5** Simplify the fraction: $\frac{2}{12}$ simplifies to $\frac{1}{6}$

Example 6 Rationalise and simplify $\dfrac{3}{2+\sqrt{5}}$

$\dfrac{3}{2+\sqrt{5}} = \dfrac{3}{2+\sqrt{5}} \times \dfrac{2-\sqrt{5}}{2-\sqrt{5}}$	**1** Multiply the numerator and denominator by $2-\sqrt{5}$
$= \dfrac{3\left(2-\sqrt{5}\right)}{\left(2+\sqrt{5}\right)\left(2-\sqrt{5}\right)}$	**2** Expand the brackets
$= \dfrac{6-3\sqrt{5}}{4+2\sqrt{5}-2\sqrt{5}-5}$	**3** Simplify the fraction
$= \dfrac{6-3\sqrt{5}}{-1}$	**4** Divide the numerator by −1 Remember to change the sign of all terms when dividing by −1
$= 3\sqrt{5}-6$	

Practice

Hint

One of the two numbers you choose at the start must be a square number.

Watch out!

Check you have chosen the highest square number at the start.

1 Simplify.

a $\sqrt{45}$ **b** $\sqrt{125}$

c $\sqrt{48}$ **d** $\sqrt{175}$

2 Simplify.

a $\sqrt{72}+\sqrt{162}$ **b** $\sqrt{45}-2\sqrt{5}$

c $\sqrt{50}-\sqrt{8}$ **d** $\sqrt{75}-\sqrt{48}$

3 Expand and simplify.

a $(\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{3})(\sqrt{2}-\sqrt{3})$ **b** $(3+\sqrt{3})(5-\sqrt{12})$

c $(4-\sqrt{5})(\sqrt{45}+2)$ **d** $(5+\sqrt{2})(6-\sqrt{8})$

4 Rationalise and simplify, if possible.

a $\dfrac{2}{\sqrt{7}}$ **b** $\dfrac{2}{\sqrt{8}}$

c $\dfrac{\sqrt{8}}{\sqrt{24}}$ **d** $\dfrac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{45}}$

5 Rationalise and simplify.

a $\frac{1}{3-\sqrt{5}}$ **b** $\frac{2}{4+\sqrt{3}}$

6 Expand and simplify $\left(\sqrt{x}+\sqrt{y}\right)\left(\sqrt{x}-\sqrt{y}\right)$

7 Rationalise and simplify, if possible.

a $\frac{1}{\sqrt{9}-\sqrt{8}}$ **b** $\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}-\sqrt{y}}$

Rules of indices

Key points

- $a^m \times a^n = a^{m+n}$
- $\frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}$
- $(a^m)^n = a^{mn}$
- $a^0 = 1$
- $a^{\frac{1}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{a}$ i.e. the *n*th root of *a*
- $a^{\frac{m}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{a^m} = \left(\sqrt[n]{a}\right)^m$
- $a^{-m} = \frac{1}{a^m}$
- The square root of a number produces two solutions, e.g. $\sqrt{16} = \pm 4$.

Examples

Example 1 Evaluate 10^0

$10^0 = 1$	Any value raised to the power of zero is equal to 1

Example 2 Evaluate $9^{\frac{1}{2}}$

$9^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{9}$ $= 3$	Use the rule $a^{\frac{1}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{a}$

Example 3 Evaluate $27^{\frac{2}{3}}$

$27^{\frac{2}{3}} = \left(\sqrt[3]{27}\right)^2$ $= 3^2$ $= 9$	**1** Use the rule $a^{\frac{m}{n}} = \left(\sqrt[n]{a}\right)^m$ **2** Use $\sqrt[3]{27} = 3$

Example 4 Evaluate 4^{-2}

$4^{-2} = \frac{1}{4^2}$ $= \frac{1}{16}$	**1** Use the rule $a^{-m} = \frac{1}{a^m}$ **2** Use $4^2 = 16$

Example 5 Simplify $\dfrac{6x^5}{2x^2}$

$\dfrac{6x^5}{2x^2} = 3x^3$	$6 \div 2 = 3$ and use the rule $\dfrac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}$ to give $\dfrac{x^5}{x^2} = x^{5-2} = x^3$

Example 6 Simplify $\dfrac{x^3 \times x^5}{x^4}$

$\dfrac{x^3 \times x^5}{x^4} = \dfrac{x^{3+5}}{x^4} = \dfrac{x^8}{x^4}$ $= x^{8-4} = x^4$	**1** Use the rule $a^m \times a^n = a^{m+n}$ **2** Use the rule $\dfrac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}$

Example 7 Write $\dfrac{1}{3x}$ as a single power of x

$\dfrac{1}{3x} = \dfrac{1}{3}x^{-1}$	Use the rule $\dfrac{1}{a^m} = a^{-m}$, note that the fraction $\dfrac{1}{3}$ remains unchanged

Example 8 Write $\dfrac{4}{\sqrt{x}}$ as a single power of x

$\dfrac{4}{\sqrt{x}} = \dfrac{4}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}$ $= 4x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$	**1** Use the rule $a^{\frac{1}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{a}$ **2** Use the rule $\dfrac{1}{a^m} = a^{-m}$

Practice

1 Evaluate.

a 14^0 **b** 3^0

2 Evaluate.

a $49^{\frac{1}{2}}$ **b** $64^{\frac{1}{3}}$

3 Evaluate.

a $25^{\frac{3}{2}}$ **b** $8^{\frac{5}{3}}$

4 Evaluate.

a 5^{-2} **b** 4^{-3}

5 Simplify.

a $\frac{3x^2 \times x^3}{2x^2}$ **b** $\frac{10x^5}{2x^2 \times x}$

c $\frac{(2x^2)^3}{4x^0}$ **d** $\frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}} \times x^{\frac{3}{2}}}{x^{-2} \times x^3}$

> **Watch out!**
>
> Remember that any value raised to the power of zero is 1. This is the rule $a^0 = 1$.

6 Evaluate.

a $4^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ **b** $27^{-\frac{2}{3}}$ **c** $9^{-\frac{1}{2}} \times 2^3$

7 Write the following as a single power of x.

a $\frac{1}{x}$ **b** $\frac{1}{x^7}$ **c** $\sqrt[4]{x}$

8 Write the following without negative or fractional powers.

a $x^{\frac{2}{5}}$ **b** $x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ **c** $x^{-\frac{3}{4}}$

9 Write the following in the form ax^n.

a $5\sqrt{x}$ **b** $\frac{2}{x^3}$ **c** $\frac{1}{3x^4}$

10 Write as sums of powers of x.

a $\frac{x^5 + 1}{x^2}$ **b** $x^2\left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)$ **c** $x^{-4}\left(x^2 + \frac{1}{x^3}\right)$

Factorising expressions

Key points

- Factorising an expression is the opposite of expanding the brackets.
- A quadratic expression is in the form $ax^2 + bx + c$, where $a \neq 0$.
- To factorise a quadratic equation find two numbers whose sum is b and whose product is ac.
- An expression in the form $x^2 - y^2$ is called the difference of two squares. It factorises to $(x - y)(x + y)$.

Examples

Example 1 Factorise $15x^2y^3 + 9x^4y$

$15x^2y^3 + 9x^4y = 3x^2y(5y^2 + 3x^2)$	The highest common factor is $3x^2y$. So take $3x^2y$ outside the brackets and then divide each term by $3x^2y$ to find the terms in the brackets

Example 2 Factorise $4x^2 - 25y^2$

$4x^2 - 25y^2 = (2x + 5y)(2x - 5y)$	This is the difference of two squares as the two terms can be written as $(2x)^2$ and $(5y)^2$

Example 3 Factorise $x^2 + 3x - 10$

$b = 3$, $ac = -10$	**1** Work out the two factors of $ac = -10$ which add to give $b = 3$ (5 and −2)
So $x^2 + 3x - 10 = x^2 + 5x - 2x - 10$	**2** Rewrite the b term ($3x$) using these two factors
$= x(x + 5) - 2(x + 5)$	**3** Factorise the first two terms and the last two terms
$= (x + 5)(x - 2)$	**4** $(x + 5)$ is a factor of both terms

Example 4 Factorise $6x^2 - 11x - 10$

$b = -11$, $ac = -60$ So $6x^2 - 11x - 10 = 6x^2 - 15x + 4x - 10$ $= 3x(2x - 5) + 2(2x - 5)$ $= (2x - 5)(3x + 2)$	**1** Work out the two factors of $ac = -60$ which add to give $b = -11$ (-15 and 4) **2** Rewrite the b term ($-11x$) using these two factors **3** Factorise the first two terms and the last two terms **4** ($2x - 5$) is a factor of both terms

Example 5 Simplify $\dfrac{x^2 - 4x - 21}{2x^2 + 9x + 9}$

$\dfrac{x^2 - 4x - 21}{2x^2 + 9x + 9}$	**1** Factorise the numerator and the denominator
For the numerator: $b = -4$, $ac = -21$ So $x^2 - 4x - 21 = x^2 - 7x + 3x - 21$ $= x(x - 7) + 3(x - 7)$ $= (x - 7)(x + 3)$	**2** Work out the two factors of $ac = -21$ which add to give $b = -4$ (-7 and 3) **3** Rewrite the b term ($-4x$) using these two factors **4** Factorise the first two terms and the last two terms **5** ($x - 7$) is a factor of both terms
For the denominator: $b = 9$, $ac = 18$ So $2x^2 + 9x + 9 = 2x^2 + 6x + 3x + 9$ $= 2x(x + 3) + 3(x + 3)$ $= (x + 3)(2x + 3)$	**6** Work out the two factors of $ac = 18$ which add to give $b = 9$ (6 and 3) **7** Rewrite the b term ($9x$) using these two factors **8** Factorise the first two terms and the last two terms **9** ($x + 3$) is a factor of both terms
So $\dfrac{x^2 - 4x - 21}{2x^2 + 9x + 9} = \dfrac{(x-7)(x+3)}{(x+3)(2x+3)}$ $= \dfrac{x - 7}{2x + 3}$	**10** ($x + 3$) is a factor of both the numerator and denominator so cancels out as a value divided by itself is 1

Practice

> **Hint**
>
> Take the highest common factor outside the bracket.

1 Factorise.

a $6x^4y^3 - 10x^3y^4$ **b** $21a^3b^5 + 35a^5b^2$

c $25x^2y^2 - 10x^3y^2 + 15x^2y^3$

2 Factorise

a $x^2 + 7x + 12$ **b** $x^2 + 5x - 14$

c $x^2 - 11x + 30$ **d** $x^2 - 5x - 24$

3 Factorise

a $36x^2 - 49y^2$ **b** $4x^2 - 81y^2$

c $18a^2 - 200b^2c^2$

4 Factorise

a $2x^2 + x - 3$ **b** $6x^2 + 17x + 5$

c $2x^2 + 7x + 3$ **d** $9x^2 - 15x + 4$

5 Simplify the algebraic fractions.

a $\frac{2x^2 + 4x}{x^2 - x}$ **b** $\frac{x^2 + 3x}{x^2 + 2x - 3}$

c $\frac{x^2 - 2x - 8}{x^2 - 4x}$ **d** $\frac{x^2 - 5x}{x^2 - 25}$

6 Simplify

a $\frac{9x^2 - 16}{3x^2 + 17x - 28}$ **b** $\frac{2x^2 - 7x - 15}{3x^2 - 17x + 10}$

c $\frac{4 - 25x^2}{10x^2 - 11x - 6}$ **d** $\frac{6x^2 - x - 1}{2x^2 + 7x - 4}$

7 Simplify $\frac{(x+2)^2 + 3(x+2)^2}{x^2 - 4}$

Completing the square

Key points

- Completing the square for a quadratic rearranges $ax^2 + bx + c$ into the form $p(x + q)^2 + r$
- If $a \neq 1$, then factorise using a as a common factor.

Examples

Example 1 Complete the square for the quadratic expression $x^2 + 6x - 2$

$x^2 + 6x - 2$ $= (x + 3)^2 - 9 - 2$ $= (x + 3)^2 - 11$	**1** Write $x^2 + bx + c$ in the form $\left(x+\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 + c$ **2** Simplify

Example 2 Write $2x^2 - 5x + 1$ in the form $p(x + q)^2 + r$

$2x^2 - 5x + 1$	
$= 2\left(x^2 - \frac{5}{2}x\right) + 1$	**1** Before completing the square write $ax^2 + bx + c$ in the form $a\left(x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x\right) + c$
$= 2\left[\left(x - \frac{5}{4}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{5}{4}\right)^2\right] + 1$	**2** Now complete the square by writing $x^2 - \frac{5}{2}x$ in the form $\left(x+\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2$
$= 2\left(x - \frac{5}{4}\right)^2 - \frac{25}{8} + 1$	**3** Expand the square brackets – don't forget to multiply $\left(\frac{5}{4}\right)^2$ by the factor of 2
$= 2\left(x - \frac{5}{4}\right)^2 - \frac{17}{8}$	**4** Simplify

Practice

1 Write the following quadratic expressions in the form $(x + p)^2 + q$

a $x^2 + 4x + 3$ **b** $x^2 - 10x - 3$

c $x^2 - 8x$ **d** $x^2 + 6x$

2 Write the following quadratic expressions in the form $p(x + q)^2 + r$

a $2x^2 - 8x - 16$ **b** $4x^2 - 8x - 16$

c $3x^2 + 12x - 9$ **d** $2x^2 + 6x - 8$

3 Complete the square.

a $2x^2 + 3x + 6$ **b** $3x^2 - 2x$

c $5x^2 + 3x$ **d** $3x^2 + 5x + 3$

4 Write $(25x^2 + 30x + 12)$ in the form $(ax + b)^2 + c$.

Solving quadratic equations by factorisation

Key points

- A quadratic equation is an equation in the form $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ where $a \neq 0$.
- To factorise a quadratic equation find two numbers whose sum is b and whose products is ac.
- When the product of two numbers is 0, then at least one of the numbers must be 0.
- If a quadratic can be solved it will have two solutions (these may be equal).

Examples

Example 1 Solve $5x^2 = 15x$

$5x^2 = 15x$ $5x^2 - 15x = 0$	**1** Rearrange the equation so that all of the terms are on one side of the equation and it is equal to zero. Do not divide both sides by x as this would lose the solution $x = 0$.
$5x(x - 3) = 0$	**2** Factorise the quadratic equation. $5x$ is a common factor.
So $5x = 0$ or $(x - 3) = 0$	**3** When two values multiply to make zero, at least one of the values must be zero.
Therefore $x = 0$ or $x = 3$	**4** Solve these two equations.

Example 2 Solve $x^2 + 7x + 12 = 0$

$x^2 + 7x + 12 = 0$ $b = 7$, $ac = 12$	**1** Factorise the quadratic equation. Work out the two factors of $ac = 12$ which add to give you $b = 7$. (4 and 3)
$x^2 + 4x + 3x + 12 = 0$	**2** Rewrite the b term ($7x$) using these two factors.
$x(x + 4) + 3(x + 4) = 0$	**3** Factorise the first two terms and the last two terms.
$(x + 4)(x + 3) = 0$	**4** $(x + 4)$ is a factor of both terms.
So $(x + 4) = 0$ or $(x + 3) = 0$	**5** When two values multiply to make zero, at least one of the values must be zero.
Therefore $x = -4$ or $x = -3$	**6** Solve these two equations.

Example 3 Solve $9x^2 - 16 = 0$

$9x^2 - 16 = 0$ $(3x + 4)(3x - 4) = 0$ So $(3x + 4) = 0$ or $(3x - 4) = 0$ $x = -\frac{4}{3}$ or $x = \frac{4}{3}$	**1** Factorise the quadratic equation. This is the difference of two squares as the two terms are $(3x)^2$ and $(4)^2$. **2** When two values multiply to make zero, at least one of the values must be zero. **3** Solve these two equations.

Example 4 Solve $2x^2 - 5x - 12 = 0$

$b = -5$, $ac = -24$ So $2x^2 - 8x + 3x - 12 = 0$ $2x(x - 4) + 3(x - 4) = 0$ $(x - 4)(2x + 3) = 0$ So $(x - 4) = 0$ or $(2x + 3) = 0$ $x = 4$ or $x = -\frac{3}{2}$	**1** Factorise the quadratic equation. Work out the two factors of $ac = -24$ which add to give you $b = -5$. (-8 and 3) **2** Rewrite the b term ($-5x$) using these two factors. **3** Factorise the first two terms and the last two terms. **4** $(x - 4)$ is a factor of both terms. **5** When two values multiply to make zero, at least one of the values must be zero. **6** Solve these two equations.

Practice

1 Solve

a $6x^2 + 4x = 0$ **b** $28x^2 - 21x = 0$

c $x^2 + 7x + 10 = 0$ **d** $x^2 - 5x + 6 = 0$

e $x^2 - 3x - 4 = 0$ **f** $x^2 + 3x - 10 = 0$

2 Solve

a $x^2 - 3x = 10$ **b** $x^2 - 3 = 2x$

c $x(3x + 1) = x^2 + 15$ **d** $3x(x - 1) = 2(x + 1)$

Hint

Get all terms onto one side of the equation.

Solving quadratic equations by completing the square

Key points

- Completing the square lets you write a quadratic equation in the form $p(x + q)^2 + r = 0$.

Examples

Example 1 Solve $x^2 + 6x + 4 = 0$. Give your solutions in surd form.

$x^2 + 6x + 4 = 0$	**1** Write $x^2 + bx + c = 0$ in the form $\left(x+\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 + c = 0$
$(x + 3)^2 - 9 + 4 = 0$	
$(x + 3)^2 - 5 = 0$	**2** Simplify.
$(x + 3)^2 = 5$	**3** Rearrange the equation to work out x. First, add 5 to both sides.
$x + 3 = \pm\sqrt{5}$	**4** Square root both sides. Remember that the square root of a value gives two answers.
$x = \pm\sqrt{5} - 3$	**5** Subtract 3 from both sides to solve the equation.
So $x = -\sqrt{5} - 3$ or $x = \sqrt{5} - 3$	**6** Write down both solutions.

Example 2 Solve $2x^2 - 7x + 4 = 0$. Give your solutions in surd form.

$2x^2 - 7x + 4 = 0$	
$2\left(x^2 - \frac{7}{2}x\right) + 4 = 0$	**1** Before completing the square write $ax^2 + bx + c$ in the form $a\left(x^2 + \frac{b}{a}x\right) + c$
$2\left[\left(x - \frac{7}{4}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{7}{4}\right)^2\right] + 4 = 0$	**2** Now complete the square by writing $x^2 - \frac{7}{2}x$ in the form $\left(x+\frac{b}{2a}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{b}{2a}\right)^2$
$2\left(x - \frac{7}{4}\right)^2 - \frac{49}{8} + 4 = 0$	**3** Expand the square brackets.
$2\left(x - \frac{7}{4}\right)^2 - \frac{17}{8} = 0$	**4** Simplify.
	(continued on next page)
$2\left(x - \frac{7}{4}\right)^2 = \frac{17}{8}$	**5** Rearrange the equation to work out x. First, add $\frac{17}{8}$ to both sides.

$\left(x-\frac{7}{4}\right)^2=\frac{17}{16}$	**6** Divide both sides by 2.
$x-\frac{7}{4}=\pm\frac{\sqrt{17}}{4}$	**7** Square root both sides. Remember that the square root of a value gives two answers.
$x=\pm\frac{\sqrt{17}}{4}+\frac{7}{4}$	**8** Add $\frac{7}{4}$ to both sides.
So $x=\frac{7}{4}-\frac{\sqrt{17}}{4}$ or $x=\frac{7}{4}+\frac{\sqrt{17}}{4}$	**9** Write down both the solutions.

Practice

1 Solve by completing the square.

a $x^2 - 4x - 3 = 0$

b $x^2 - 10x + 4 = 0$

c $x^2 + 8x - 5 = 0$

d $x^2 - 2x - 6 = 0$

2 Solve by completing the square.

a $(x - 4)(x + 2) = 5$

b $2x^2 + 6x - 7 = 0$

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

Hint

Get all terms onto one side of the equation.

Solving quadratic equations by using the formula

Key points

- Any quadratic equation of the form $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ can be solved using the formula
  $x = \dfrac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$
- If $b^2 - 4ac$ is negative then the quadratic equation does not have any real solutions.
- It is useful to write down the formula before substituting the values for a, b and c.

Examples

Example 1 Solve $x^2 + 6x + 4 = 0$. Give your solutions in surd form.

$a = 1$, $b = 6$, $c = 4$ $x = \dfrac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$	**1** Identify a, b and c and write down the formula. Remember that $-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}$ is all over $2a$, not just part of it.
$x = \dfrac{-6 \pm \sqrt{6^2 - 4(1)(4)}}{2(1)}$	**2** Substitute $a = 1$, $b = 6$, $c = 4$ into the formula.
$x = \dfrac{-6 \pm \sqrt{20}}{2}$	**3** Simplify. The denominator is 2, but this is only because $a = 1$. The denominator will not always be 2.
$x = \dfrac{-6 \pm 2\sqrt{5}}{2}$	**4** Simplify $\sqrt{20}$. $\sqrt{20} = \sqrt{4 \times 5} = \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{5} = 2\sqrt{5}$
$x = -3 \pm \sqrt{5}$	**5** Simplify by dividing numerator and denominator by 2.
So $x = -3 - \sqrt{5}$ or $x = \sqrt{5} - 3$	**6** Write down both the solutions.

Example 2 Solve $3x^2 - 7x - 2 = 0$. Give your solutions in surd form.

$a = 3$, $b = -7$, $c = -2$ $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$	**1** Identify a, b and c, making sure you get the signs right and write down the formula. Remember that $-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}$ is all over $2a$, not just part of it.
$x = \frac{-(-7) \pm \sqrt{(-7)^2 - 4(3)(-2)}}{2(3)}$	**2** Substitute $a = 3$, $b = -7$, $c = -2$ into the formula.
$x = \frac{7 \pm \sqrt{73}}{6}$	**3** Simplify. The denominator is 6 when $a = 3$. A common mistake is to always write a denominator of 2.
So $x = \frac{7 - \sqrt{73}}{6}$ or $x = \frac{7 + \sqrt{73}}{6}$	**4** Write down both the solutions.

Practice

1 Solve, giving your solutions in surd form.

a $3x^2 + 6x + 2 = 0$ **b** $2x^2 - 4x - 7 = 0$

2 Solve the equation $x^2 - 7x + 2 = 0$

Give your solutions in the form $\frac{a \pm \sqrt{b}}{c}$, where a, b and c are integers.

3 Solve $10x^2 + 3x + 3 = 5$

Give your solution in surd form.

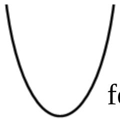
Hint

Get all terms onto one side of the equation.

Sketching quadratic graphs

Key points

- The graph of the quadratic function $y = ax^2 + bx + c$, where $a \neq 0$, is a curve called a parabola.
- Parabolas have a line of symmetry and a shape as shown.

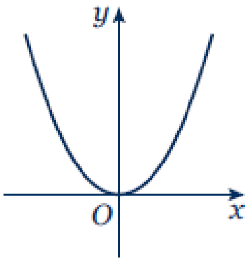

for $a > 0$


for $a < 0$

- To sketch the graph of a function, find the points where the graph intersects the axes.
- To find where the curve intersects the y-axis substitute $x = 0$ into the function.
- To find where the curve intersects the x-axis substitute $y = 0$ into the function.
- At the turning points of a graph the gradient of the curve is 0 and any tangents to the curve at these points are horizontal.
- To find the coordinates of the maximum or minimum point (turning points) of a quadratic curve (parabola) you can use the completed square form of the function.

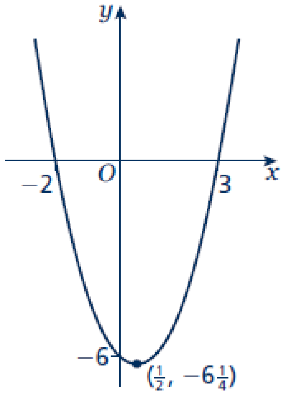
Examples

Example 1 Sketch the graph of $y = x^2$.

	The graph of $y = x^2$ is a parabola. When $x = 0$, $y = 0$. $a = 1$ which is greater than zero, so the graph has the shape: 

Example 2 Sketch the graph of $y = x^2 - x - 6$.

When $x = 0$, $y = 0^2 - 0 - 6 = -6$ So the graph intersects the y-axis at $(0, -6)$	**1** Find where the graph intersects the y-axis by substituting $x = 0$.
When $y = 0$, $x^2 - x - 6 = 0$	**2** Find where the graph intersects the x-axis by substituting $y = 0$.
$(x + 2)(x - 3) = 0$	**3** Solve the equation by factorising.
$x = -2$ or $x = 3$	**4** Solve $(x + 2) = 0$ and $(x - 3) = 0$.
So, the graph intersects the x-axis at $(-2, 0)$ and $(3, 0)$	**5** $a = 1$ which is greater than zero, so the graph has the shape: 
	(continued on next page)
$x^2 - x - 6 = \left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{4} - 6$ $= \left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{25}{4}$	**6** To find the turning point, complete the square.

When $\left(x-\frac{1}{2}\right)^2=0$, $x=\frac{1}{2}$ and $y=-\frac{25}{4}$, so the turning point is at the point $\left(\frac{1}{2},-\frac{25}{4}\right)$ 	**7** The turning point is the minimum value for this expression and occurs when the term in the bracket is equal to zero.

Practice

1 Sketch the graph of $y = -x^2$.

2 Sketch each graph, labelling where the curve crosses the axes.

a $y = (x + 2)(x - 1)$ **b** $y = x(x - 3)$

3 Sketch each graph, labelling where the curve crosses the axes.

a $y = x^2 - x - 6$ **b** $y = x^2 - 5x + 4$ **c** $y = x^2 - 4$

4 Sketch each graph. Label where the curve crosses the axes and write down the coordinates of the turning point.

a $y = x^2 - 5x + 6$ **b** $y = -x^2 + 7x - 12$

5 Sketch the graph of $y = x^2 + 2x + 1$. Label where the curve crosses the axes and write down the equation of the line of symmetry.

Solving linear simultaneous equations using the elimination method

Key points

- Two equations are simultaneous when they are both true at the same time.
- Solving simultaneous linear equations in two unknowns involves finding the value of each unknown which works for both equations.
- Make sure that the coefficient of one of the unknowns is the same in both equations.
- Eliminate this equal unknown by either subtracting or adding the two equations.

Examples

Example 1 Solve the simultaneous equations $3x + y = 5$ and $x + y = 1$

$3x + y = 5$ $-\quad x + y = 1$ $2x \quad = 4$ So $x = 2$	**1** Subtract the second equation from the first equation to eliminate the y term.
Using $x + y = 1$ $2 + y = 1$ So $y = -1$	**2** To find the value of y, substitute $x = 2$ into one of the original equations.
Check: equation 1: $3 \times 2 + (-1) = 5$ YES equation 2: $2 + (-1) = 1$ YES	**3** Substitute the values of x and y into both equations to check your answers.

Example 2 Solve $x + 2y = 13$ and $5x - 2y = 5$ simultaneously.

$x + 2y = 13$ $+\quad 5x - 2y = 5$ $6x \quad = 18$ So $x = 3$	**1** Add the two equations together to eliminate the y term.
Using $x + 2y = 13$ $3 + 2y = 13$ So $y = 5$	**2** To find the value of y, substitute $x = 3$ into one of the original equations.
Check: equation 1: $3 + 2 \times 5 = 13$ YES equation 2: $5 \times 3 - 2 \times 5 = 5$ YES	**3** Substitute the values of x and y into both equations to check your answers.

Example 3 Solve $2x + 3y = 2$ and $5x + 4y = 12$ simultaneously.

$(2x + 3y = 2) \times 4 \rightarrow \quad 8x + 12y = 8$ $(5x + 4y = 12) \times 3 \rightarrow \quad 15x + 12y = 36$ $7x \quad = 28$ So $x = 4$	**1** Multiply the first equation by 4 and the second equation by 3 to make the coefficient of *y* the same for both equations. Then subtract the first equation from the second equation to eliminate the *y* term.
Using $2x + 3y = 2$ $2 \times 4 + 3y = 2$ So $y = -2$	**2** To find the value of *y*, substitute $x = 4$ into one of the original equations.
Check: equation 1: $2 \times 4 + 3 \times (-2) = 2$ YES equation 2: $5 \times 4 + 4 \times (-2) = 12$ YES	**3** Substitute the values of *x* and *y* into both equations to check your answers.

Practice

Solve these simultaneous equations.

1 $4x + y = 8$
$x + y = 5$

2 $3x + y = 7$
$3x + 2y = 5$

3 $4x + y = 3$
$3x - y = 11$

4 $3x + 4y = 7$
$x - 4y = 5$

Solving linear simultaneous equations using the substitution method

Key points

- The subsitution method is the method most commonly used for A level. This is because it is the method used to solve linear and quadratic simultaneous equations.

Examples

Example 1 Solve the simultaneous equations $y = 2x + 1$ and $5x + 3y = 14$

$5x + 3(2x + 1) = 14$	**1** Substitute $2x + 1$ for y into the second equation.
$5x + 6x + 3 = 14$ $11x + 3 = 14$	**2** Expand the brackets and simplify.
$11x = 11$ So $x = 1$	**3** Work out the value of x.
Using $y = 2x + 1$ $y = 2 \times 1 + 1$ So $y = 3$	**4** To find the value of y, substitute $x = 1$ into one of the original equations.
Check: equation 1: $3 = 2 \times 1 + 1$ YES equation 2: $5 \times 1 + 3 \times 3 = 14$ YES	**5** Substitute the values of x and y into both equations to check your answers.

Example 2 Solve $2x - y = 16$ and $4x + 3y = -3$ simultaneously.

$y = 2x - 16$	**1** Rearrange the first equation.
$4x + 3(2x - 16) = -3$	**2** Substitute $2x - 16$ for y into the second equation.
$4x + 6x - 48 = -3$ $10x - 48 = -3$	**3** Expand the brackets and simplify.
$10x = 45$ So $x = 4\frac{1}{2}$	**4** Work out the value of x.
Using $y = 2x - 16$ $y = 2 \times 4\frac{1}{2} - 16$ So $y = -7$	**5** To find the value of y, substitute $x = 4\frac{1}{2}$ into one of the original equations.
Check: equation 1: $2 \times 4\frac{1}{2} - (-7) = 16$ YES equation 2: $4 \times 4\frac{1}{2} + 3 \times (-7) = -3$ YES	**6** Substitute the values of x and y into both equations to check your answers.

Practice

Solve these simultaneous equations.

1 $y = x - 4$
$2x + 5y = 43$

2 $y = 2x - 3$
$5x - 3y = 11$

3 $2y = 4x + 5$
$9x + 5y = 22$

4 $2x = y - 2$
$8x - 5y = -11$

5 Solve the simultaneous equations $3x + 5y - 20 = 0$ and $2(x + y) = \frac{3(y - x)}{4}$.

Solving linear and quadratic simultaneous equations

Key points

- Make one of the unknowns the subject of the linear equation (rearranging where necessary).
- Use the linear equation to substitute into the quadratic equation.
- There are usually two pairs of solutions.

Examples

Example 1 Solve the simultaneous equations $y = x + 1$ and $x^2 + y^2 = 13$

$x^2 + (x + 1)^2 = 13$	**1** Substitute $x + 1$ for y into the second equation.
$x^2 + x^2 + x + x + 1 = 13$ $2x^2 + 2x + 1 = 13$	**2** Expand the brackets and simplify.
$2x^2 + 2x - 12 = 0$ $(2x - 4)(x + 3) = 0$	**3** Factorise the quadratic equation.
So $x = 2$ or $x = -3$	**4** Work out the values of x.
Using $y = x + 1$ When $x = 2$, $y = 2 + 1 = 3$ When $x = -3$, $y = -3 + 1 = -2$	**5** To find the value of y, substitute both values of x into one of the original equations.
So the solutions are $x = 2$, $y = 3$ and $x = -3$, $y = -2$	
Check: equation 1: $3 = 2 + 1$ YES and $-2 = -3 + 1$ YES equation 2: $2^2 + 3^2 = 13$ YES and $(-3)^2 + (-2)^2 = 13$ YES	**6** Substitute both pairs of values of x and y into both equations to check your answers.

Example 2 Solve $2x + 3y = 5$ and $2y^2 + xy = 12$ simultaneously.

$x = \frac{5-3y}{2}$	**1** Rearrange the first equation.
$2y^2 + \left(\frac{5-3y}{2}\right)y = 12$	**2** Substitute $\frac{5-3y}{2}$ for x into the second equation. Notice how it is easier to substitute for x than for y.
$2y^2 + \frac{5y-3y^2}{2} = 12$ $4y^2 + 5y - 3y^2 = 24$ $y^2 + 5y - 24 = 0$	**3** Expand the brackets and simplify.
$(y + 8)(y - 3) = 0$	**4** Factorise the quadratic equation.
So $y = -8$ or $y = 3$	**5** Work out the values of y.
Using $2x + 3y = 5$ When $y = -8$, $2x + 3 \times (-8) = 5$, $x = 14.5$ When $y = 3$, $2x + 3 \times 3 = 5$, $x = -2$ So the solutions are $x = 14.5$, $y = -8$ and $x = -2$, $y = 3$	**6** To find the value of x, substitute both values of y into one of the original equations.
Check: equation 1: $2 \times 14.5 + 3 \times (-8) = 5$ YES and $2 \times (-2) + 3 \times 3 = 5$ YES equation 2: $2\times(-8)^2 + 14.5\times(-8) = 12$ YES and $2 \times (3)^2 + (-2) \times 3 = 12$ YES	**7** Substitute both pairs of values of x and y into both equations to check your answers.

Practice

Solve these simultaneously equations.

1 $y = 2x + 1$
$x^2 + y^2 = 10$

2 $y = 6 - x$
$x^2 + y^2 = 20$

3 $y = 3x - 5$
$y = x^2 - 2x + 1$

4 $y = x - 5$
$y = x^2 - 5x - 12$

5 $y = 2x$
$y^2 - xy = 8$

6 $2x + y = 11$
$xy = 15$

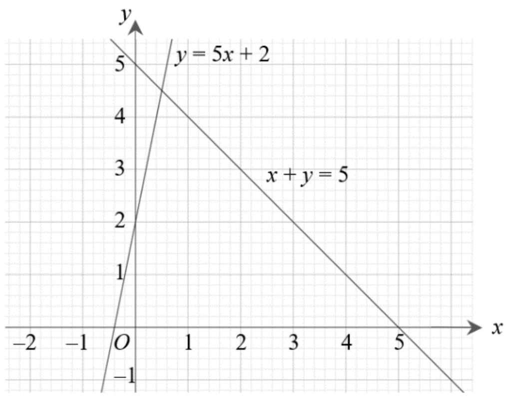
Solving simultaneous equations graphically

Key points

- You can solve any pair of simultaneous equations by drawing the graph of both equations and finding the point/points of intersection.

Examples

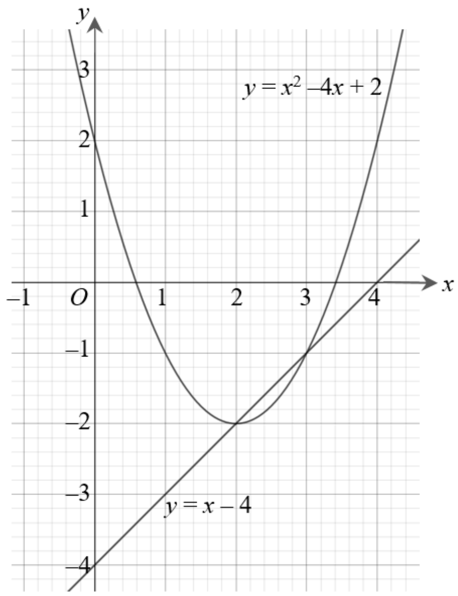
Example 1 Solve the simultaneous equations $y = 5x + 2$ and $x + y = 5$ graphically.

$y = 5 - x$	**1** Rearrange the equation $x + y = 5$ to make y the subject.
$y = 5 - x$ has gradient –1 and y-intercept 5. $y = 5x + 2$ has gradient 5 and y-intercept 2. 	**2** Plot both graphs on the same grid using the gradients and y-intercepts.
Lines intersect at $x = 0.5, y = 4.5$	**3** The solutions of the simultaneous equations are the point of intersection.
Check: First equation $y = 5x + 2$: $4.5 = 5 \times 0.5 + 2$ YES Second equation $x + y = 5$: $0.5 + 4.5 = 5$ YES	**4** Check your solutions by substituting the values into both equations.

Example 2 Solve the simultaneous equations $y = x - 4$ and $y = x^2 - 4x + 2$ graphically.

x	0	1	2	3	4
y	2	–1	–2	–1	2

1 Construct a table of values and calculate the points for the quadratic equation.



2 Plot the graph.

3 Plot the linear graph on the same grid using the gradient and y-intercept.
$y = x – 4$ has gradient 1 and y-intercept –4.

The line and curve intersect at
$x = 3$, $y = -1$ and $x = 2$, $y = -2$

4 The solutions of the simultaneous equations are the points of intersection.

Check:
First equation $y = x - 4$:
$-1 = 3 - 4$ YES
$-2 = 2 - 4$ YES
Second equation $y = x^2 - 4x + 2$:
$-1 = 3^2 - 4 \times 3 + 2$ YES
$-2 = 2^2 - 4 \times 2 + 2$ YES

5 Check your solutions by substituting the values into both equations.

Practice

1 Solve these pairs of simultaneous equations graphically.

a $y = 3x - 1$ and $y = x + 3$

b $y = x - 5$ and $y = 7 - 5x$

2 Solve these pairs of simultaneous equations graphically.

a $x + y = 0$ and $y = 2x + 6$

b $4x + 2y = 3$ and $y = 3x - 1$

Hint

Rearrange the equation to make y the subject.

3 Solve these pairs of simultaneous equations graphically.

a $y = x - 1$ and $y = x^2 - 4x + 3$

b $y = 1 - 3x$ and $y = x^2 - 3x - 3$

4 Solve the simultaneous equations $x + y = 1$ and $x^2 + y^2 = 25$ graphically.

Linear inequalities

Key points

- Solving linear inequalities uses similar methods to those for solving linear equations.
- When you multiply or divide an inequality by a negative number you need to reverse the inequality sign, e.g. < becomes >.

Examples

Example 1 Solve $-8 \leq 4x < 16$

$-8 \leq 4x < 16$ $-2 \leq x < 4$	Divide all three terms by 4.

Example 2 Solve $4 \leq 5x < 10$

$4 \leq 5x < 10$ $\frac{4}{5} \leq x < 2$	Divide all three terms by 5.

Example 3 Solve $2x - 5 < 7$

$2x - 5 < 7$ $2x < 12$ $x < 6$	**1** Add 5 to both sides. **2** Divide both sides by 2.

Example 4 Solve $2 - 5x \geq -8$

$2 - 5x \geq -8$ $-5x \geq -10$ $x \leq 2$	**1** Subtract 2 from both sides. **2** Divide both sides by −5. Remember to reverse the inequality when dividing by a negative number.

Example 5 Solve $4(x - 2) > 3(9 - x)$

$4(x - 2) > 3(9 - x)$ $4x - 8 > 27 - 3x$ $7x - 8 > 27$ $7x > 35$ $x > 5$	**1** Expand the brackets. **2** Add $3x$ to both sides. **3** Add 8 to both sides. **4** Divide both sides by 7.

Practice

1 Solve these inequalities.

a $4x > 16$ **b** $5x - 7 \leq 3$ **c** $1 \geq 3x + 4$

2 Solve these inequalities.

a $\frac{x}{5} < -4$ **b** $10 \geq 2x + 3$ **c** $7 - 3x > -5$

3 Solve

a $2 - 4x \geq 18$ **b** $3 \leq 7x + 10 < 45$ **c** $6 - 2x \geq 4$

4 Solve these inequalities.

a $3t + 1 < t + 6$ **b** $2(3n - 1) \geq n + 5$

5 Find the set of values of x for which $2x + 1 > 11$ and $4x - 2 > 16 - 2x$.

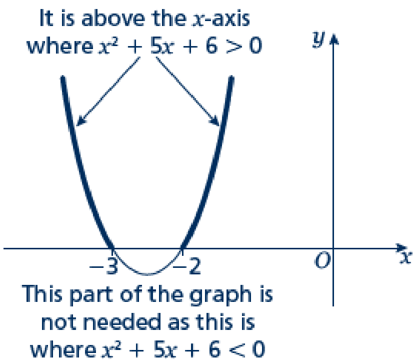
Quadratic inequalities

Key points

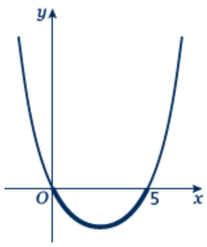
- First replace the inequality sign by = and solve the quadratic equation.
- Sketch the graph of the quadratic function.
- Use the graph to find the values which satisfy the quadratic inequality.

Examples

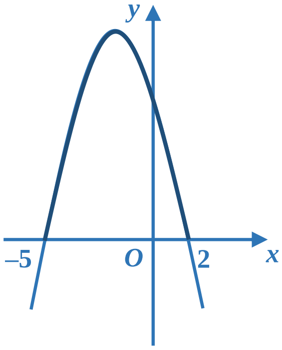
Example 1 Find the set of values of x which satisfy $x^2 + 5x + 6 > 0$

$x^2 + 5x + 6 = 0$ $(x + 3)(x + 2) = 0$ $x = -3$ or $x = -2$	**1** Solve the quadratic equation by factorising.
	**2** Sketch the graph of $y = (x + 3)(x + 2)$ **3** Identify on the graph where $x^2 + 5x + 6 > 0$, i.e. where $y > 0$
$x < -3$ or $x > -2$	**4** Write down the values which satisfy the inequality $x^2 + 5x + 6 > 0$

Example 2 Find the set of values of x which satisfy $x^2 - 5x \leq 0$

$x^2 - 5x = 0$ $x(x - 5) = 0$ $x = 0$ or $x = 5$	**1** Solve the quadratic equation by factorising.
	**2** Sketch the graph of $y = x(x - 5)$ **3** Identify on the graph where $x^2 - 5x \leq 0$, i.e. where $y \leq 0$
$0 \leq x \leq 5$	**4** Write down the values which satisfy the inequality $x^2 - 5x \leq 0$

Example 3 Find the set of values of x which satisfy $-x^2 - 3x + 10 \geq 0$

$-x^2 - 3x + 10 = 0$ $(-x + 2)(x + 5) = 0$ $x = 2$ or $x = -5$	**1** Solve the quadratic equation by factorising.
	**2** Sketch the graph of $y = (-x + 2)(x + 5) = 0$ **3** Identify on the graph where $-x^2 - 3x + 10 \geq 0$, i.e. where $y \geq 0$
$-5 \leq x \leq 2$	**3** Write down the values which satisfy the inequality $-x^2 - 3x + 10 \geq 0$

Practice

1 Find the set of values of x for which $(x + 7)(x - 4) \leq 0$

2 Find the set of values of x for which $2x^2 - 7x + 3 < 0$

3 Find the set of values of x for which $12 + x - x^2 \geq 0$

4 Find the set of values which satisfy the following inequalities.

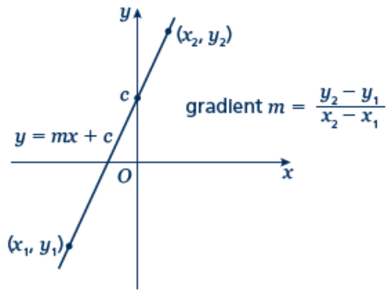
$x(2x - 9) < -10$

$6x^2 \geq 15 + x$

Straight line graphs

Key points

- A straight line has the equation $y = mx + c$, where m is the gradient and c is the y-intercept (where $x = 0$).
- The equation of a straight line can be written in the form $ax + by + c = 0$, where a, b and c are integers.
- When given the coordinates (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) of two points on a line the gradient is calculated using the formula $m = \dfrac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$



Examples

Example 1 A straight line has gradient $-\frac{1}{2}$ and y-intercept 3.

Write the equation of the line in the form $ax + by + c = 0$.

$m = -\frac{1}{2}$ and $c = 3$ So $y = -\frac{1}{2}x + 3$ $\frac{1}{2}x + y - 3 = 0$ $x + 2y - 6 = 0$	**1** A straight line has equation $y = mx + c$. Substitute the gradient and y-intercept given in the question into this equation. **2** Rearrange the equation so all the terms are on one side and 0 is on the other side. **3** Multiply both sides by 2 to eliminate the denominator.

Example 2 Find the gradient and the y-intercept of the line with the equation $3y - 2x + 4 = 0$.

$3y - 2x + 4 = 0$ $3y = 2x - 4$ $y = \frac{2}{3}x - \frac{4}{3}$ Gradient $= m = \frac{2}{3}$ y-intercept $= c = -\frac{4}{3}$	**1** Make y the subject of the equation. **2** Divide all the terms by three to get the equation in the form $y = \dots$ **3** In the form $y = mx + c$, the gradient is m and the y-intercept is c.

Example 3 Find the equation of the line which passes through the point (5, 13) and has gradient 3.

$m = 3$ $y = 3x + c$	**1** Substitute the gradient given in the question into the equation of a straight line $y = mx + c$.
$13 = 3 \times 5 + c$	**2** Substitute the coordinates $x = 5$ and $y = 13$ into the equation.
$13 = 15 + c$ $c = -2$	**3** Simplify and solve the equation.
$y = 3x - 2$	**4** Substitute $c = -2$ into the equation $y = 3x + c$

Example 4 Find the equation of the line passing through the points with coordinates (2, 4) and (8, 7).

$x_1 = 2$, $x_2 = 8$, $y_1 = 4$ and $y_2 = 7$ $m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{7-4}{8-2} = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$	**1** Substitute the coordinates into the equation $m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$ to work out the gradient of the line.
$y = \frac{1}{2}x + c$	**2** Substitute the gradient into the equation of a straight line $y = mx + c$.
$4 = \frac{1}{2} \times 2 + c$	**3** Substitute the coordinates of either point into the equation.
$c = 3$	**4** Simplify and solve the equation.
$y = \frac{1}{2}x + 3$	**5** Substitute $c = 3$ into the equation $y = \frac{1}{2}x + c$

Practice

1 Find the gradient and the y-intercept of the following equations.

a $y = 3x + 5$ **b** $y = -\frac{1}{2}x - 7$

c $2y = 4x - 3$ **d** $x + y = 5$

> **Hint**
> Rearrange the equations to the form $y = mx + c$

3 Find, in the form $ax + by + c = 0$ where a, b and c are integers, an equation for each of the lines with the following gradients and y-intercepts.

a gradient $-\frac{1}{2}$, y-intercept -7 **b** gradient 2, y-intercept 0

5 Write an equation for the line which passes through the point (6, 3) and has gradient $-\frac{2}{3}$

6 Write an equation for the line passing through each of the following pairs of points.

a (4, 5), (10, 17) **b** (0, 6), (–4, 8)