

In the mid 1500s, an Italian mathematician named Gerolamo Cardano posed a simple sounding algebraic problem:

Find two numbers that add to 10 and multiply to 40.

This simple premise lead to the invention of a new set of numbers that have turned out to be interesting and useful in the development of deeper mathematical thought.

1. Let x and y be the numbers in Cardano's problem. Write two equations to represent the problem that he posed.

$$x + y = 10 \rightarrow x = 10 - y$$

$$x \cdot y = 40 \quad x \cdot y = 40 \quad (10 - y) \cdot y = 40$$

2. Solve this SYSTEM OF EQUATIONS to find values of x and y . Is there a problem with the solutions you found? Explain why or why not.

$$y = \frac{10 \pm \sqrt{100 - 160}}{2} = \frac{10 \pm \sqrt{-40}}{2}$$

$$10y - y^2 = 40$$

$$0 = y^2 - 10y + 40$$

$$y = \frac{-(10) \pm \sqrt{(-10)^2 - 4(1)(40)}}{2(1)}$$

Handwritten note: $\sqrt{-40}$, no real solution

3. Definitions:

- **Imaginary Unit:** $i = \sqrt{-1}$
- **Complex Number:** any number that can be expressed using the Imaginary Unit. For example, $5 + 2i$, $-3i$, $5 - \sqrt{15}i$.
- **Real Part** of a Complex Number: the value of a complex number that does not include i .
- **Imaginary Part** of a Complex Number: the value of a complex number that doe include i .

- a. Use the Quadratic Formula to solve the equation $x^2 + x + 1 = 0$. Determine the Real and Imaginary parts of each solution.

$$x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1^2 - 4(1)(1)}}{2(1)} = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1 - 4}}{2} = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{-3}}{2}$$

$$\text{Real} = -\frac{1}{2} \quad \text{Imaginary} = \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}i}{2}$$

- b. Use the Quadratic Formula to solve the equation $6x^2 - 6x + 2 = 0$. Determine the Real and Imaginary parts of each solution.

$$x = \frac{-(-6) \pm \sqrt{(-6)^2 - 4(6)(2)}}{2(6)} = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{36 - 48}}{12} = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{-12}}{12}$$

$$\text{Real} = \frac{6}{12} = \frac{1}{2} \quad \text{Imaginary} = \pm \frac{\sqrt{12}i}{12}$$

- c. A quadratic function has complex roots $x = 2 - i$ and $x = 2 + i$. Write the function in Standard Form. So $(x - (2 - i))(x - (2 + i))$ are factors.

$$(x - 2 + i)(x - 2 - i) \rightarrow x^2 - 4x + 4 - i^2 = x^2 - 4x + 5$$

x	x^2	$-2ix$	i^2
-2	$2x^2$	4	$-2i$
$-i$	$-4ix$	$2i$	$-i^2$

- d. The polynomial function $p(x) = x^3 + 4x^2 + 11x + 8$ has a zero at $x = -1$. Find the two complex roots of $p(x)$. So $x + 1$ is factor.

x	x^2	$+3x$	$+8$
$+$	x^3	$3x^2$	$8x$
$+$	x^2	$3x$	8

$$x^2 + 3x + 8$$

$$x = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{3^2 - 4(1)(8)}}{2(1)} = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{9 - 32}}{2} = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{-23}}{2}$$

4. Notes to Self:

- How can you use the Quadratic Formula to determine whether or not a quadratic function has complex roots?

Look at the square root.

If square root of negative, then cpx roots.

- How can you use the Complex Roots of a parabola to write the function in Standard Form?

If $x=r$ is a root, then $(x-r)$ is a factor.

Use distributive property to expand to std form.

- If an n^{th} degree polynomial has 2 real roots, how many complex roots must it have? If it has 3 real roots, how many complex roots must it have?

Must have $n-2$ cpx roots

or $n-3$ cpx roots.

Real + cpx = n .

5. Extra Practice:

- a. Find all the roots (real and complex) of each polynomial:

i. $f(x) = x^2 + x + 11$

$$x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1^2 - 4(1)(11)}}{2(1)}$$

$$= \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1-44}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{43}i}{2}$$

ii. $g(x) = (x^2 - 4)(x^2 + x + 2)$

$$(x+2)(x-2)$$

$$x = -2, x = 2$$

$$x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1^2 - 4(1)(2)}}{2(1)}$$

$$= \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1-8}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{7}i}{2}$$

iii. $h(x) = (x^2 - 2x - 8)(x^2 + 9)$

$$(x-4)(x+2)$$

$$x = 4, x = -2$$

$$x^2 + 9 = 0$$

$$x^2 = -9$$

$$x = \pm 3i$$

- b. Solve each equation below (find real and complex solutions):

i. $-5x^2 = 3x + 10$

$$-5x^2 - 3x - 10 = 0$$

$$x = \frac{-(-3) \pm \sqrt{(-3)^2 - 4(-5)(-10)}}{2(-5)}$$

$$= \frac{3 \pm \sqrt{9 - 200}}{-10} = \frac{3 \pm \sqrt{191}i}{-10}$$

ii. $(x^2 + 3x + 5)(x - 4)^2(2x + 1) = 0$

$$x = 4, x = -1/2$$

$$x = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{3^2 - 4(1)(5)}}{2(1)}$$

$$= \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{9 - 20}}{2}$$

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

iii. $(x^2 + 25)(x^2 - 1)(x^2 + 9) = 0$

$$x = \pm 5i, x = \pm 1, x = \pm 3i$$

6. Review (Rational Expressions): Simplify each expression below:

a. $\frac{3x}{x+1} + \frac{3}{x+1} = \frac{3x+3}{x+1}$

$$= 3$$

b. $\frac{x^2}{x+3} - \frac{9}{x+3}$

$$\frac{x^2 - 9}{x+3} = \frac{(x-3)(x+3)}{x+3}$$

c. $\frac{1}{x-1} + \frac{1}{x+1} = \frac{(x+1)}{(x+1)(x-1)} + \frac{1}{(x+1)(x-1)}$

$$\frac{x+1+x-1}{(x+1)(x-1)} = \frac{2x}{(x+1)(x-1)}$$

d. $\frac{x}{x^3} \cdot \frac{(x-3)(x+3)}{x} = \frac{x+3}{x}$

e. $\frac{(x^2-25)(x^2+6x+5)(x-1)}{(x^2+10x+25)(x^2-1)}$

$$= \frac{(x+5)(x-5)(x+5)(x+1)(x-1)}{(x+5)(x+5)(x+1)(x-1)} = x-5$$