

Sec 1.6.4  
Solving Equations in Quadratic Form  
....that are not quadratic



$$5x^{2/3} + 11x^{1/3} + 2 = 0 \longrightarrow 5(x^{1/3})^2 + 11x^{1/3} + 2 = 0$$

Rewrite-  
Let  $u = x^{1/3}$

$$5u^2 + 11u + 10 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} u &= x^{1/3} \\ \left(\frac{-1}{5}\right)^3 &= (x^{1/3})^3 \\ \frac{-1}{125} &= x \end{aligned} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (-2)(x^{1/3})^3 = u^2 + 11u + 10 \\ (-2)(x^{1/3})^3 = (u+1)(u+10) \\ -8 = x (5u+1)(u+2) \\ u = -1/5 \text{ or } -2 \end{array} \right.$$

Determine exact solutions-

$$\begin{aligned}x^4 - 2x^2 - 48 &= 0 \\(x^2 - 8)(x^2 + 6) &= 0 \\ \sqrt{x^2} &= \sqrt{8} \quad \sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{-6} \\ x &= \pm 2\sqrt{2} \quad x = \pm\sqrt{6}i\end{aligned}$$

Option.... Let  $u = x^2$

$$(x^2)^2 - 2x^2 - 48 = 0$$

Since it's quartic with an  $x$  squared, we can use the "x" method and not u-substitution. WE STILL CAN'T USE THE QUADRATIC FORMULA, HOWEVER.

$$x - \sqrt[3]{x+40} = 0 \quad \text{-----} \rightarrow u^2 - 13u + 40 = 0$$

Let  $x = u^2$  ←

Why?

Removes the radical....

$$(u-8)(u-5) = 0$$

$$u = 8 \text{ or } 5$$

$$x = u^2$$

$$x = 8^2 \\ = 64$$

$$x = 5^2 \\ = 25$$

$$x^{-2} - x^{-1} - 20 = 0 \quad \cdots \cdots \rightarrow (x^{-1})^2 - (x)^{-1} - 20 = 0$$

Let  $u = x^{-1}$

$$(5)^{-1}(x^{-1})^{-1}$$

$$\frac{1}{5} = x$$

$$u^2 - u - 20 = 0$$

$$(u-5)(u+4) = 0$$

$$u = 5 \text{ or } -4$$

$$(-4)^{-1} = (x^{-1})^{-1}$$

$$\frac{1}{-4} = x$$

$$5^{-1} = \frac{1}{5} \text{ or } -4^{-1} = \frac{1}{-4}$$

...

$$(x-5)^2 + 7(x-5) - 18 = 0$$

Let  $u = x - 5$

Rewrite-

$$u^2 + 7u - 18 = 0$$

$$(u + 9)(u - 2) = 0$$

$$u = -9 \text{ or } 2$$

$$-9 = x - 5$$

$$\boxed{-4 = x}$$

$$2 = x - 5$$

$$\boxed{7 = x}$$

$$(x^2 - x)^2 - 14(x^2 - x) + 24 = 0$$

Let  $u = ????$   $x^2 - x$

$$u^2 - 14u + 24 = 0$$

$$(u-12)(u-2) = 0$$

$$u = 12 \text{ or } 2$$

$$\{-3, -1, 2, 4\}$$

$$12 = x^2 - x$$

$$0 = x^2 - x - 12$$

$$= (x-4)(x+3)$$

$$x = 4 \text{ or } -3$$

$$2 = x^2 - x$$

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

$$(x-2)(x+1)$$

$$x = 2 \text{ or } -1$$

**-Suggested Practice-**

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42-58 evens

$$42. \pm 3, \pm 2 \quad 50. -125, \frac{27}{8}$$

$$44. \pm 1, \pm 3\frac{1}{2} \quad 52. -243, 32$$

$$46. 36 \quad 54. 1$$

$$48. -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3} \quad 56. -12, -1$$

$$58. -2, -1, 3, 4$$

Simplify

$$\sqrt{75}$$

$$\sqrt{32}$$

$$\sqrt{300}$$

$$\sqrt{-18}$$

$$\sqrt{-72}$$

$$\sqrt{-8}$$

Examples

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{20} &= \sqrt{4 \cdot 5} \\ &= 2\sqrt{5}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{-50} &= \sqrt{-1 \cdot 25 \cdot 2} \\ &= 5i\sqrt{2}\end{aligned}$$

Determine  $u = ?$

$$(x-5)^2 - 4(x-5) - 21 = 0$$

$$\text{Let } u = x-5$$

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

none? use quadratic type x method  
or

$$\text{Let } u = x^2$$

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$$x^{2/3} - 9x^{1/3} + 8 = 0$$

$$\text{Let } u = x^{1/3}$$

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$$x^{-2} + 3x^{-1} + 2 = 0$$

$$\text{Let } u = x^{-1}$$

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$$x + 3x^{1/2} - 10 = 0$$

$$\text{Let } u^2 = x$$

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$$u^2 + 3(u^2)^{1/2} - 10 = 0$$

