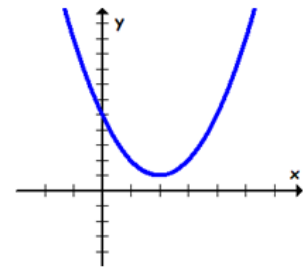


Notes AA7-3 Using the quadratic equation to find complex roots

When our quadratic equation has three terms, we need to use the quadratic <sup>formula</sup> equation to find complex roots

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

Find the roots of:  $y = x^2 - 4x + 5$ . Notice that it does not factor nicely because it has two complex and no real roots.



We need to solve  $0 = 1x^2 - 4x + 5 = 0$

$$a = \underline{1} \quad b = \underline{-4} \quad c = \underline{5}$$

Plug those into the equation:  $x = \frac{-(-4) \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4(1)(5)}}{2(1)}$  and solve for x.

$$= \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 20}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{4 \pm 2i}{2}$$

$$= \frac{4 \pm 2i}{2}$$

$$= 2 \pm i$$

two complex roots

$$2 + i \quad 2 - i$$

$$y = (x - (2 + i))(x - (2 - i))$$

complex conjugates

standard to factored  
factored to standard,

How do we factor  $(x^2 + \text{positive number})$ ?

example:  $x^2 + 25$

step 1: Set it = 0

$$x^2 + 25 = 0$$

step 2: Solve for x

$$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{-25}$$

$$x = \pm 5i$$

plus or fricking minus

step 3: These are the roots,  
now write the factors

$$(x-5i)(x- -5i)$$

$$x^2 + 25 = (x-5i)(x+5i)$$