

Simplifying a rational expression

Rational fraction = $\frac{P}{Q}$ P, Q are polynomials.

Ex :
$$\frac{x^3 + 3x^2 + 2x}{x^2 + 9x + 8} = \frac{x(x^2 + 3x + 2)}{x^2 + 9x + 8} = \frac{\cancel{x(x+1)}(x+2)}{\cancel{(x+1)}(x+8)} = \frac{x(x+2)}{x+8}$$

$$A^2 - B^2 = (A-B)(A+B)$$

$$A^3 + B^3 = (A+B)(A^2 - AB + B^2)$$

$$A^2 + 2AB + B^2 = (A+B)^2$$

$$A^3 - B^3 = (A-B)(A^2 + AB + B^2)$$

$$A^2 - 2AB + B^2 = (A-B)^2$$

Ex :
$$\frac{2(x-2)(x^3+8)}{(-2x+5)(x^2-4)} = \frac{2\cancel{(x-2)}\cancel{(x+2)}(x^2-2x+4)}{(-2x+5)\cancel{(x-2)}\cancel{(x+2)}} = \frac{2(x^2-2x+4)}{-2x+5}$$

$$* x^2 + 3x + 2 = 0$$

$$\Delta = 9 - 4(2) = 1$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = \frac{-3+1}{2} = -1 \\ x_2 = \frac{-3-1}{2} = -2 \end{cases}$$

$$* x^2 + 9x + 8 = 0$$

$$\Delta = 9^2 - 4(8)(1) = 81 - 32 = 49 = 7^2$$

$$x_1 = \frac{-9+7}{2(1)} = -1$$

$$x_2 = \frac{-9-7}{2} = -\frac{16}{2} = -8$$

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

$$\Delta = (-2)^2 - 4(1)(4) = 4 - 16 = -12 < 0$$

no roots.