

# Extension of Ferrari's Method to Solve Reducible Quintic Equation

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**Abstract:** Ferrari's method has been used to solve a biquadratic equation. In this paper the method has been extended to solve a reducible quintic equation. The general quintic equation can be divided into reducible and irreducible quantities. In this paper the technique to solve a reducible quintic equation is as follows. First multiply the quintic equation by variable 'x' the equation becomes a sextic equation (sixth degree equation). Then splitting the resulting equation into the product of two cubic factors. The sextic equation will split into two separate cubic equations, which can be solved by Cardan's method.

## Introduction

In mathematics a quintic function is a function of the form  $f(x) = a_0x^5 + a_1x^4 + a_2x^3 + a_3x^2 + a_4x + a_5$  where  $(a_0 \neq 0)$  or in other words a function defined by a polynomial of degree 5, getting  $f(x) = 0$  produce a quintic equation of the form  $a_0x^5 + a_1x^4 + a_2x^3 + a_3x^2 + a_4x + a_5 = 0$ , where  $a_i$ 's are rational. There are two types of quintic: reducible and irreducible quantities, our main concern is about reducible quantities. A quintic is reducible in  $x$  if it is reducible to (linear  $\times$  quadratic) or (quadratic  $\times$  cubic). Otherwise it is said to be irreducible. Solving a quintic equation [4,7,8] in terms of radicals was a major problem in algebra from the 16<sup>th</sup> century, cubic and biquadratic equations [1,2,3] were resolved until the half of the century, when the impossibility of such a general solution was proved (Abel-Ruffini theorem) some quintic equations [6,7] can be solved in terms of radicals. These include the reducible quantities and solvable irreducible quantities for characterizing solvable quantities. "Galois theory" developed a technique which gave a rise to group theory and Galois theory [5]. But reducible quantities are always solvable in radicals [7].

## Explanation of method

every fifth degree equation  $A_0x^5 + A_1x^4 + A_2x^3 + A_3x^2 + A_4x + A_5 = 0$  ... (1)

(Where  $(A_0 \neq 0)$  and  $A_i$ 's are rational) can be reduced to the form  $x^5 + a_0x^4 + a_1x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_3x + a_4 = 0$ ,  $a_i \in \mathbb{Z}$  ... (2) (by multiplying the root of (1) by a suitable factor)

If the quintic equation (1) is reducible over rational then (2) is also.

Then equation (2) will be reducible in the form either (linear  $\times$  quartic) or (quadratic  $\times$  cubic) there is no other form of reducible quantities.

Case I: if (2) = linear  $\times$  quartic = 0

$\rightarrow$  (2) has a linear factor  $\rightarrow$  equation (2) has an integer solution because the coefficient of  $x^5$  is one in (2) which can be found out easily using properties of a continuous function i.e. if  $f(\alpha) = +ve$  and

$f(\beta) = -ve$ . Then there exists  $c \in (\alpha, \beta)$  s.t.  $f(c) = 0$  (if there does not exist such an integer) then (2) can not be reduced to the form Linear x quartic.

Case II: if the quintic equation (2) is reducible in the form (quadratic x cubic)

$$f(x) = (\text{quadratic}) \times (\text{cubic}) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow xf(x) = x((\text{quadratic}) \times (\text{cubic})) = 0$$

$$= (\text{cubic}) \times (\text{cubic})$$

$\rightarrow xf(x) = 0$  can be reduced in two cubic factors

Now let us try to reduce  $xf(x)$  in two cubic factors

$$xf(x) = 0 \rightarrow x(x^5 + a_0x^4 + a_1x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_3x + a_4) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow x^6 + a_0x^5 + a_1x^4 + a_2x^3 + a_3x^2 + a_4x = 0 \quad \dots(3)$$

$$\rightarrow x^6 + a_0x^5 = -a_1x^4 - a_2x^3 - a_3x^2 - a_4x$$

Adding  $(a_0^2x^4)/4$  both sides

$$x^6 + a_0x^5 + (a_0^2x^4)/4 = (a_0^2x^4)/4 - a_1x^4 - a_2x^3 - a_3x^2 - a_4x$$

$$\rightarrow (x^3 + (a_0/2)x^2)^2 = ((a_0^2 - 4a_1)/4)x^4 - a_2x^3 - a_3x^2 - a_4x \quad \dots(4)$$

Introducing  $\lambda_1x + \lambda_2$

$$(x^3 + \frac{a_0}{2}x^2 + \lambda_1x + \lambda_2)^2 = (x^3 + \frac{a_0}{2}x^2)^2 + 2(\lambda_1x + \lambda_2)(x^3 + \frac{a_0}{2}x^2) + (\lambda_1x + \lambda_2)^2 \quad \dots(5)$$

Putting the value of  $(x^3 + \frac{a_0}{2}x^2)$  from (4) in (5)

$$(x^3 + \frac{a_0}{2}x^2 + \lambda_1x + \lambda_2)^2 = \frac{a_0^2 - 4a_1}{4}x^4 - a_2x^3 - a_3x^2 - a_4x + 2(\lambda_1x + \lambda_2)(x^3 + \frac{a_0}{2}x^2) + (\lambda_1x + \lambda_2)^2$$

$$= (2\lambda_1 + \frac{a_0^2 - 4a_1}{4})x^4 + (a_0\lambda_1 + 2\lambda_2 - a_2)x^3 + (a_0\lambda_2 + \lambda_1^2 - a_3)x^2 + (2\lambda_1\lambda_2 - a_4)x + \lambda_2^2 \quad \dots(6)$$

R.H.S. of (6) is of the form

$$ax^4 + bx^3 + cx^2 + dx + e \quad \dots(7)$$

to make R.H.S. a perfect square

$$\text{if R.H.S.} = (Ax^2 + Bx + C)^2$$

$$\rightarrow ad^2 = b^2e \quad \dots(8)$$

$$(b^2 - 4ac)^2 = 64a^3e \quad \dots(9)$$

Comparing (6) and (7) we have

$$a = 2\lambda_1 + \frac{a_0^2 - 4a_1}{4}, \quad b = (a_0\lambda_1 + 2\lambda_2 - a_2),$$

$$c = a_0\lambda_2 + \lambda_1^2 - a_3, \quad d = 2\lambda_1\lambda_2 - a_4, \quad e = \lambda_2^2$$

these put in (8) and (9)

$$(2\lambda_1 + \frac{a_0^2 - 4a_1}{4}) (2\lambda_1\lambda_2 - a_4)^2 = (a_0\lambda_1 + 2\lambda_2 - a_2)^2(\lambda_2^2) \dots (A)$$

$$[(a_0\lambda_1 + 2\lambda_2 - a_2)^2 - 4(2\lambda_1 + \frac{a_0^2 - 4a_1}{4})(a_0\lambda_2 + \lambda_1^2 - a_3)]^2 = 64(2\lambda_1 + \frac{a_0^2 - 4a_1}{4})^3 \lambda_2^2 \dots (B)$$

Let us take

$$f_1(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = 0 \quad [\rightarrow A]$$

$$f_2(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = 0 \quad [\rightarrow B]$$

now our main intension is to find common solution of (A) and (B)

if equation (3) is reducible in the form (cubic x cubic)

then (A) and (B) must have a rational common solution.

To find that common solution

$$\text{Choose } \lambda_1 \text{ such that } (2\lambda_1 + \frac{a_0^2 - 4a_1}{4}) = \alpha^2$$

Where  $\alpha$  is rational

Find the value of  $\lambda_2$  from (A) it must be rational. If these rational values of  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  also satisfy (B) then the equation (2) will be reducible over rational in the form (quadratic x cubic)

Now R.H.S. of (6) become a perfect square of the type  $(Ax^2+Bx+C)^2$

Then by equation (6)

$$(x^3 + \frac{a_0}{2}x^2 + \lambda_1x + \lambda_2)^2 = \pm(Ax^2+Bx+C)$$

By solving these two cubic equation we will get 6 root of the equation (3) leave the root  $x=0$ .

The remaining 5 root are the root of quintic equation (2).

### Example:

$$1. \quad 2x^5 - 10x^3 + 12x - x^4 + 5x^2 - 6 = 0$$

$$2x^5 - x^4 - 10x^3 + 5x^2 + 12x - 6 = 0 \dots (1)$$

Multiplying the root of equation (1) by 2,  $y=2x$

$$2y^5 - 2y^4 - 40y^3 + 40y^2 + 192y - 192 = 0$$

$$\rightarrow y^5 - y^4 - 20y^3 + 20y^2 + 96y - 96 = 0 \dots (2)$$

Clearly  $y=1$  is a root of (2) so  $x=1/2$  is a root of (1)  $(2x-1)$  is a factor of (1) other four root of (1) are given by  $\pm\sqrt{2}, \pm\sqrt{3}$ .

2.

$$x^5 + x^4 - 2x^3 - 2x^2 - 2x + 1 = 0 \dots (1)$$

$$\rightarrow x(x^5 + x^4 - 2x^3 - 2x^2 - 2x + 1) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow x^6 + x^5 - 2x^4 - 2x^3 - 2x^2 + x = 0$$

$$\rightarrow x^6 + x^5 = 2x^4 + 2x^3 + 2x^2 - x$$

Adding  $\frac{1}{4}x^4$  both side

$$x^6 + x^5 + \frac{1}{4}x^4 = \left(\frac{1}{4} + 2\right)x^4 + 2x^3 + 2x^2 - x$$

$$\left(x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2\right)^2 = \frac{9}{4}x^4 + 2x^3 + 2x^2 - x \quad \dots(2)$$

Introducing  $\lambda_1 x + \lambda_2$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left(x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \lambda_1 x + \lambda_2\right)^2 &= \left(x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2\right)^2 + 2(\lambda_1 x + \lambda_2)\left(x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2\right) + (\lambda_1 x + \lambda_2)^2 \\ &= \frac{9}{4}x^4 + 2x^3 + 2x^2 - x + 2(\lambda_1 x + \lambda_2)\left(x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2\right) + (\lambda_1 x + \lambda_2)^2 \\ &= (2\lambda_1 + \frac{9}{4})x^4 + (2 + \lambda_1 + 2\lambda_2)x^3 + (2 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_1^2)x^2 + (-1 + 2\lambda_1\lambda_2)x + \lambda_2^2 \quad \dots(3) \end{aligned}$$

Comparing with (7)

$$a = (2\lambda_1 + \frac{9}{4}), \quad b = (2 + \lambda_1 + 2\lambda_2), \quad c = (2 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_1^2),$$

$$d = (-1 + 2\lambda_1\lambda_2), \quad e = \lambda_2^2$$

putting in (8) and (9)

$$(2\lambda_1 + \frac{9}{4})(-1 + 2\lambda_1\lambda_2)^2 = (2 + \lambda_1 + 2\lambda_2)^2 \lambda_2^2 \quad \dots(A)$$

$$[(2 + \lambda_1 + 2\lambda_2)^2 - 4(2\lambda_1 + \frac{9}{4})(2 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_1^2)]^2 = 64(2\lambda_1 + \frac{9}{4})^2 \lambda_2^2 \quad \dots(B)$$

$$\lambda_1 = -1 \text{ in (A)}$$

$$\frac{1}{4}(-1 - 2\lambda_2)^2 = (1 + 2\lambda_2)^2 \lambda_2^2$$

$$\frac{1}{4}(1 + 2\lambda_2)^2 - (1 + 2\lambda_2)^2 \lambda_2^2 = 0$$

$$(1 + 2\lambda_2)^2 \left(\frac{1}{4} - \lambda_2^2\right) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow 1 + 2\lambda_2 = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{4} - \lambda_2^2 = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \lambda_2 = -\frac{1}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_2 = \pm \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(-1 - \frac{1}{2}\right), \left(-1, \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$\text{At } \left(-1 - \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$a = \frac{1}{4}, \quad b = 2 - 1 - 1 = 0, \quad c = 2 - \frac{1}{2} + 1 = \frac{5}{2}, \quad d = -1 + 1 = 0, \quad e = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\rightarrow \left(-4 \cdot \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{5}{2}\right)^2 \neq 64 \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^3 \cdot \frac{1}{4}$$

At  $(-1, \frac{1}{2})$

$$[(2-1+1)^2 - 4 \cdot (\frac{1}{4})(2 + \frac{1}{2} + 1)]^2 = 64 \cdot (\frac{1}{4})^{\frac{31}{4}}$$

$$[4 - \frac{7}{2}]^2 = \frac{1}{4}$$

$\frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{4}$  then

Putting  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = (-1, \frac{1}{2})$

$$(x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \lambda_1x + \lambda_2)^2 = \frac{1}{4}x^4 + 2x^3 + \frac{7}{2}x^2 - 2x + \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\rightarrow (x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 - x + \frac{1}{2})^2 = (\frac{1}{2}x^2 + 2x - \frac{1}{2})^2$$

$$\rightarrow (x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 - x + \frac{1}{2}) = \pm (\frac{1}{2}x^2 + 2x - \frac{1}{2})$$

$$\rightarrow x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 - x + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}x^2 - 2x + \frac{1}{2} = 0 \text{ and } x^3 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 - x + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + 2x - \frac{1}{2} = 0$$

$$\rightarrow x^3 - 3x + 1 = 0 \text{ and } x^3 + x^2 + x = 0$$

$$\rightarrow x^3 - 3x + 1 = 0 \text{ and } x(x^2 + x + 1) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow x = 2\cos\frac{2\pi}{9}, 2\cos\frac{8\pi}{9}, 2\cos\frac{14\pi}{9} \text{ and } x = 0, \frac{-1 \pm i\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

So the root of equation (1) are  $2\cos\frac{2\pi}{9}, 2\cos\frac{8\pi}{9}, 2\cos\frac{14\pi}{9}, \frac{-1 \pm i\sqrt{3}}{2}$ .

## Conclusion

In this study, the given quintic is first converted to a Sextic equation by adding a root, and the resulting sextic equation is split into two cubic factor by Ferrari method. The resultant cubic equation are then solved to obtained five roots of the given quintic. So the proposed work of this paper has been done.

## References

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