

The Square Root Of Murder Professor Sophie Knowles Manual

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The intriguing phrase "the square root of murder professor sophie knowles" evokes a compelling blend of mathematical mystery and criminology. While it may initially seem like a cryptic puzzle, it references a popular crime novel series centered around Professor Sophie Knowles, a brilliant mathematician turned detective. This article dives deep into the world of Professor Sophie Knowles, exploring her background, her unique approach to solving murders, and the significance of the title, which hints at the complex interplay between mathematics and crime-solving.

Introduction to Professor Sophie Knowles

Who Is Professor Sophie Knowles?

Professor Sophie Knowles is a fictional character created by renowned author Jane Mitchell. She is depicted as a highly intelligent mathematician who, after a personal tragedy, embarks on a career in criminal investigation. Her expertise in advanced mathematics, particularly in areas like probability theory, cryptography, and forensic analysis, makes her an exceptional detective in her own right.

The Origin of the Series

The series began with the publication of "The Square Root of Murder," a novel that introduced readers to Sophie's world. The book was praised for its innovative blend of mathematical logic and suspenseful storytelling, appealing to both mystery enthusiasts and mathematics aficionados.

The Significance of the Title: "The Square Root of Murder"

Symbolism and Meaning

The phrase "the square root of murder" is more than just a catchy title; it symbolizes the core themes of the series:

- Mathematical Foundations: The title suggests that solving murders involves unraveling complex, layered clues—akin to extracting a root in mathematics.
- Deeper Investigation: Just as a square root uncovers the fundamental value beneath a square,

Sophie aims to uncover the underlying motives and truths behind each crime.

- Analytical Precision: The title emphasizes her analytical approach, breaking down seemingly unsolvable cases into manageable problems.

Connection to the Plot

In the original novel, the murder case hinges on cryptic mathematical clues, including numerical patterns and coded messages. The title encapsulates this theme, highlighting how Sophie's mathematical prowess is central to cracking the case.

Character Profile: Professor Sophie Knowles

Background and Education

- Academic Credentials: Holds a Ph.D. in Mathematics from Cambridge University.
- Specializations: Cryptography, statistical analysis, forensic mathematics.
- Personal History: Witnessed her father's wrongful conviction as a child, fueling her desire for justice.

Personality Traits

- Highly analytical and logical.
- Compassionate but reserved.
- Persistent and meticulous in her investigations.

Skills and Expertise

- Mastery in pattern recognition and data analysis.
- Fluent in multiple languages, aiding in international cases.
- Skilled in digital forensics and cyber investigations.

The Methodology: How Sophie Solves Murders

Mathematical and Logical Techniques

Professor Knowles employs a variety of mathematical tools to solve crimes, including:

- Probability Theory: To assess the likelihood of suspects' motives.
- Cryptography: Deciphering coded messages left at crime scenes.
- Statistical Analysis: Analyzing patterns in victim and suspect data.
- Graph Theory: Mapping relationships and connections between individuals.

Case Workflow

- Initial Clue Collection: Gathering physical evidence, digital data, and witness testimonies.
- Data Analysis: Applying mathematical models to interpret clues.
- Hypothesis Testing: Using logical deduction to narrow down suspects.
- Reconstruction: Piecing together events to reveal the truth.
- Final Revelation: Presenting findings that lead to justice.

Notable Cases in the Series

"The Square Root of Murder"

The debut novel where Sophie unravels a complex murder involving encrypted messages. The killer leaves cryptic numerical clues, which Sophie deciphers using advanced mathematical techniques.

"The Algorithm of Death"

A cyber-crime case involving a series of murders linked to a mysterious algorithm used to select victims. Sophie's cryptographic skills play a pivotal role in catching the perpetrator.

"The Probability of Justice"

A case centered around wrongful accusations and statistical evidence. Sophie must navigate the complexities of probability to prove innocence and identify the real culprit.

Themes and Messages

The Power of Mathematics in Crime Solving

The series illustrates how mathematical logic can be a powerful tool in unraveling mysteries, emphasizing the importance of analytical thinking in real-world investigations.

Justice and Truth

Sophie's dedication underscores a core theme: relentless pursuit of truth and justice, often

challenging societal biases and misconceptions.

The Complexity of Human Nature

While mathematics provides clarity, the series also explores the intricate motives behind crimes, highlighting that not all mysteries are purely logical.

Reception and Impact

Critical Acclaim

The "Sophie Knowles" series has garnered praise for its innovative approach, blending STEM elements with compelling storytelling. Critics commend Jane Mitchell's ability to make complex mathematical concepts accessible and engaging.

Popularity Among Readers

The series appeals to a diverse audience, from mystery lovers to math enthusiasts, fostering greater interest in forensic mathematics and analytical crime-solving.

Educational Value

Many educators utilize the series to inspire students in STEM fields, demonstrating real-world applications of mathematics.

Conclusion

The square root of murder professor sophie knowles is more than a provocative phrase; it encapsulates a groundbreaking intersection of mathematics and criminal investigation. Through her methodical approach, Professor Sophie Knowles exemplifies how analytical skills can be harnessed to solve complex crimes, revealing truths hidden beneath layers of deception. The series not only entertains but also educates, inspiring a new appreciation for the power of logic and mathematics in unraveling mysteries. Whether you're a fan of thrilling detective stories or a mathematics enthusiast, Sophie's adventures offer a compelling journey into the fascinating world where numbers solve crimes.

The Square Root of Murder Professor Sophie Knowles is a captivating mystery novel that has garnered significant attention from readers and critics alike. Blending mathematical intrigue with a gripping murder investigation, Sophie Knowles crafts a story that challenges both the intellect and the emotions. This review delves into the various facets of the novel, exploring its plot, characters, themes, and overall impact. Whether you're a fan of crime thrillers, mathematics, or character-driven

stories, this book offers a rich reading experience worth exploring.

Introduction to the Novel

Professor Sophie Knowles' *The Square Root of Murder* is a compelling crime novel set against the backdrop of academic life and mathematical enigma. At its core, the story revolves around a series of murders that seem to be connected through cryptic mathematical clues, leading the protagonist—a brilliant mathematician—to unravel a complex web of secrets. The novel's unique premise combines the intellectual rigor of mathematics with the suspense of a murder mystery, creating a fresh take on the genre.

Plot Summary

The story begins with the discovery of a murdered scholar at a prestigious university. The victim, renowned for his work in number theory, leaves behind a series of perplexing clues that point to mathematical concepts. Professor Sophie Knowles, a former student of the victim and now a respected mathematician herself, is drawn into the investigation when her own research becomes intertwined with the case.

As the narrative unfolds, Sophie uncovers a pattern rooted in the properties of square roots, prime numbers, and fractal sequences. The killer appears to be sending a message—each murder is linked to a specific mathematical idea, culminating in a final, deadly puzzle. Sophie must race against time to decipher the cryptic clues, identify the murderer, and prevent further tragedy.

Characters and Character Development

The strength of *The Square Root of Murder* lies in its well-crafted characters. Sophie Knowles is portrayed as a highly intelligent, resilient protagonist with a deep passion for mathematics. Her personal backstory, including her struggles to prove her worth in a male-dominated academic environment, adds depth to her character.

Supporting characters include:

- Dr. Marcus Reed: A detective with a keen mind for logic and a growing respect for Sophie.
- Professor Harold Langston: The murdered scholar, whose enigmatic personality and complex relationships with colleagues provide vital clues.
- Lydia Chen: A graduate student and assistant who aids Sophie in deciphering mathematical codes.

The characters evolve throughout the novel, facing moral dilemmas, personal doubts, and

professional rivalries. Their interactions enrich the narrative, making it not only a mystery but also a story about trust, ambition, and intellectual curiosity.

Thematic Analysis

Several themes underpin the novel, elevating it beyond a simple whodunit:

- Mathematics and Logic: The novel celebrates the beauty and complexity of mathematics, illustrating how logical reasoning can be both a tool and a metaphor for uncovering truth.
- Mystery and Suspense: The suspense is maintained through intricate clues and unexpected twists, keeping readers engaged from start to finish.
- Intellectual Pursuit vs. Personal Life: Sophie's journey explores the tension between professional dedication and personal relationships, highlighting the sacrifices made for academic passion.
- Trust and Deception: The story examines how appearances can be deceiving, emphasizing the importance of critical thinking and skepticism.

Writing Style and Pacing

Sophie Knowles' writing style is precise yet accessible, making complex mathematical concepts understandable without oversimplification. Her narrative weaves technical details seamlessly into the story, appealing to both math enthusiasts and casual readers.

The pacing is well-balanced—early chapters introduce characters and setting, gradually building tension as clues are uncovered. The middle sections intensify with revelations and plot twists, culminating in a dramatic climax. The resolution provides satisfying answers without feeling rushed, tying up loose ends while leaving some room for reflection.

Strengths of the Novel

- Unique Premise: Combining murder mystery with mathematical puzzles offers a fresh experience.
- Strong Protagonist: Sophie Knowles is a relatable and inspiring character, especially for readers interested in STEM fields.
- Educational Elements: The novel introduces readers to various mathematical concepts in an engaging way.
- Well-Constructed Plot: Intricate clues and logical deductions create a compelling narrative.
- Atmospheric Setting: The academic environment adds authenticity and depth to the story.

Features and Highlights

- Detailed explanation of mathematical puzzles integrated into the plot.
- Clever use of cryptography and pattern recognition.
- Flashbacks that reveal character motivations and backstory.
- Tense scenes that keep readers guessing.

Weaknesses and Critiques

While the novel is highly praised, it has some limitations:

- Pace Variability: Certain sections, such as detailed mathematical explanations, may slow down the narrative for some readers.
- Complexity of Math Content: Readers unfamiliar with advanced mathematics might find some clues challenging to follow.
- Character Depth: Although Sophie is well-developed, some supporting characters could have benefited from deeper exploration.
- Predictability: A few plot twists are somewhat foreseeable, especially for avid mystery fans.

Audience and Recommended Readership

The Square Root of Murder appeals primarily to:

- Fans of mystery and crime thrillers.
- Readers interested in mathematics and logic puzzles.
- Those who enjoy character-driven stories with intellectual themes.
- Academic communities and STEM professionals seeking engaging fiction.

It may be less suitable for readers looking for fast-paced action without technical details or for those uncomfortable with complex puzzle-solving.

Comparison with Similar Works

Compared to traditional murder mysteries, Sophie Knowles' novel stands out for its incorporation of mathematical puzzles. It shares similarities with works like:

- The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown, in blending art, history, and cryptography.

- The Oxford Murders by Guillermo Martínez, which also involves mathematical clues.
- The Rule of Four by Ian Caldwell and Dustin Thomason, combining academia with mystery.

However, The Square Root of Murder is more specialized in its focus on mathematics, making it uniquely appealing to a niche audience.

Final Verdict

In conclusion, The Square Root of Murder by Professor Sophie Knowles is a thoughtfully crafted novel that successfully combines the allure of a murder mystery with the elegance of mathematical logic. Its engaging plot, compelling characters, and thematic richness make it a noteworthy addition to the crime genre. While some may find the technical sections challenging, the overall storytelling is accessible and stimulating.

Pros:

- Innovative blend of math and mystery
- Well-developed protagonist
- Engaging and suspenseful narrative
- Educational and entertaining

Cons:

- Potentially slow pacing in technical parts
- Some plot twists predictable
- Limited character depth in supporting roles

Overall, this book is highly recommended for readers seeking a intellectually stimulating mystery that rewards careful thought and keen observation. Sophie Knowles demonstrates that even in the realm of crime fiction, logic and deduction remain powerful tools for uncovering truth. Whether you're a math enthusiast or a mystery lover, The Square Root of Murder offers a unique and satisfying reading experience that challenges the mind and excites the imagination.

Question Who is Professor Sophie Knowles and what is her connection to 'The Square Root of Murder'? Professor Sophie Knowles is a renowned criminologist and the fictional protagonist in the novel 'The Square Root of Murder,' where she investigates complex murder cases with mathematical and psychological insights. **Answer** What is the main plot of 'The Square Root of Murder' involving Professor Sophie Knowles? The novel follows Professor Sophie Knowles as she unravels a series of murders that appear linked through mathematical patterns and cryptic clues, challenging

her analytical skills. How does Professor Sophie Knowles use her expertise to solve the murders in the story? She applies her knowledge of mathematics, statistical analysis, and criminology to decode patterns and uncover the motive behind the murders. Is 'The Square Root of Murder' based on real events or purely fictional? The book is a work of fiction, blending mathematical puzzles and criminal investigation to create a suspenseful storyline featuring Professor Sophie Knowles. Why has 'The Square Root of Murder' gained popularity among fans of crime fiction and mathematics? Its unique combination of mathematical reasoning and detective work, along with Professor Sophie Knowles' compelling character, has made it a trending title among readers interested in crime and puzzle-solving.

Related keywords: square root of murder, professor sophie knowles, murder mystery, forensic professor, academic thriller, mathematical crime, detective story, academic investigator, crime fiction, university professor thriller

real life use of square roots

Real life use of square roots extends far beyond the classroom, impacting various fields such as engineering, architecture, finance, and everyday problem-solving. Understanding how square roots are applied in real-world scenarios can help you appreciate their importance and utility. From calculating distances to determining optimal dimensions, square roots serve as a fundamental mathematical tool that simplifies complex calculations and enhances decision-making processes.

Understanding Square Roots in Practical Applications

Square roots are the inverse of squaring a number. If a number multiplied by itself equals a given value, then the square root of that value is the original number. This concept may seem abstract, but it has numerous tangible applications in everyday life and professional fields.

1. Geometry and Construction

Calculating Diagonal Lengths

One of the most common real-life uses of square roots involves geometry, especially when calculating the length of a diagonal in rectangular or square shapes.

- **Example:** Determining the diagonal of a rectangular garden or room.
- If a room is 6 meters long and 8 meters wide, the diagonal can be calculated using the

Pythagorean theorem:

- Diagonal = $\sqrt{6^2 + 8^2} = \sqrt{36 + 64} = \sqrt{100} = 10$ meters.

This calculation helps in planning for movement, placing furniture, or installing flooring.

Designing Structures with Correct Dimensions

Architects and engineers often use square roots to ensure structures are safe and balanced.

- When designing ramps or stairs, the slope and length are related through the Pythagorean theorem, which involves square roots.
- To find the length of a ramp with a specific height and slope, engineers calculate the hypotenuse using square roots.

2. Physics and Engineering

Calculating Speed and Distance

Square roots are integral to various physics formulas, especially those involving motion.

- **Example:** To determine the velocity of an object when acceleration and time are known, the formula involves square roots.
- For uniformly accelerated motion, the velocity can be calculated as: $v = \sqrt{2as}$, where 'a' is acceleration and 's' is the distance traveled.

Electrical Engineering and Signal Processing

Electrical engineers frequently employ square roots when working with power, voltage, and current calculations.

- Calculating the root mean square (RMS) voltage or current involves taking square roots of mean squared values, which gives a measure of effective voltage or current.
- This is essential for designing circuits and ensuring safety standards are met.

3. Finance and Statistics

Risk Assessment and Standard Deviation

In finance, square roots are vital in measuring volatility and risk.

- The standard deviation, a measure of risk, is calculated by taking the square root of the variance.
- This helps investors understand the volatility of an asset or portfolio, guiding investment decisions.

Calculating Compound Interest and Growth

While less direct, square roots can appear when solving for variables in compound interest formulas, especially when dealing with exponential growth or decay models.

4. Everyday Problem-Solving

Determining Optimal Dimensions

In daily life, square roots can help in planning and optimization tasks.

- For example, if you want to create a square garden with a specific area, you can find the length of each side by calculating the square root of the area.
- Suppose you want a garden with an area of 100 square meters; each side should be $\sqrt{100} = 10$ meters.

Distance and Navigation

Square roots help in calculating straight-line distances between two points on a map.

- Given the horizontal and vertical differences in coordinates, you can find the direct distance using the Pythagorean theorem.
- If the change in x is 3 km and change in y is 4 km, the straight-line distance is $\sqrt{(3^2 + 4^2)} = 5$ km.

5. Computer Science and Data Analysis

Algorithms and Machine Learning

Square roots are used in various algorithms, especially in distance metrics like Euclidean distance.

- Calculating similarities between data points involves computing the square root of the sum of squared differences across features.
- This process is fundamental in clustering, classification, and recommendation systems.

Performance Metrics

In evaluating models, root mean square error (RMSE) involves square roots to measure prediction accuracy.

- Lower RMSE indicates better model performance.

6. Practical Tips for Using Square Roots in Real Life

- **Use calculators or digital tools:** For complex calculations, rely on scientific calculators or software to accurately compute square roots.
- **Estimate when needed:** If an approximate value suffices, estimate by finding nearby perfect squares.
- **Practice problem-solving:** Familiarize yourself with common formulas involving square roots to enhance quick reasoning.

Conclusion

Square roots are more than just theoretical mathematical concepts; they are practical tools that facilitate problem-solving across diverse domains. Whether you're designing a building, analyzing financial risks, navigating with maps, or working with data, understanding how to apply square roots can lead to more accurate calculations and better decisions. Recognizing their real-life applications underscores the importance of mastering this fundamental mathematical operation, making it an invaluable skill in everyday life and professional endeavors alike.

Real Life Use of Square Roots: Unlocking the Mathematics Behind Everyday Phenomena

In our daily lives, mathematics often operates behind the scenes, quietly shaping the world around us. Among the fundamental concepts in mathematics, square roots stand out as a powerful tool that extends far beyond classroom exercises. From engineering and physics to finance and technology, the real-life applications of square roots are both diverse and vital. Understanding how this mathematical operation functions in practical contexts not only deepens our appreciation for its elegance but also reveals its indispensable role in solving real-world problems.

What Is a Square Root?

Before diving into specific applications, it's essential to understand what a square root represents. The square root of a number is a value that, when multiplied by itself, yields the original number. For example, the square root of 25 is 5 because $5 \times 5 = 25$.

Mathematically, if x is a number, then:

$$\sqrt{x} = y \text{ such that } y \times y = x$$

Square roots are denoted by the radical symbol ($\sqrt{}$), and they are fundamental in algebra, geometry, and calculus. Their practical relevance is often linked to their ability to relate linear and quadratic relationships, measure distances, and optimize processes.

Square Roots in Engineering and Physics

- Calculating Distances and Velocities

One of the most common real-world applications of square roots appears in physics, particularly in calculating distances and velocities in various scenarios.

The Distance Formula

In physics and engineering, the distance between two points in a plane with coordinates (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) is given by the Euclidean distance formula:

$$\text{Distance} = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$$

This formula is derived from the Pythagorean theorem, which itself relies on square roots to determine the hypotenuse of a right-angled triangle.

Practical example:

Suppose a drone flies from point A at (2, 3) to point B at (7, 9). To find the straight-line distance, we use:

$$\text{Distance} = \sqrt{(7 - 2)^2 + (9 - 3)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{5^2 + 6^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{25 + 36}$$

= 761 7.81 units

This calculation allows engineers and pilots to determine the most direct route, optimizing fuel consumption and travel time.

- Signal Processing and Engineering

In electrical engineering, square roots are used in calculating root mean square (RMS) values for alternating current (AC) signals. The RMS value provides a measure of the effective voltage or current, which is essential for designing circuits and ensuring safety.

RMS Calculation:

Given a set of instantaneous current values, the RMS is calculated by:

$$\text{RMS} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{n}\right) \times (i_1^2 + i_2^2 + \dots + i_n^2)}$$

This ensures that the power delivered by AC signals can be compared to direct current (DC) systems, which is critical in power distribution and electronic device design.

Square Roots in Finance and Economics

- Risk Assessment and Portfolio Variance

In finance, square roots are crucial in measuring risk and volatility. The standard deviation of returns, a key metric for risk, involves the square root of variance:

$$\text{Standard Deviation} = \sqrt{\text{Variance}}$$

Variance measures how much the returns of an asset fluctuate, calculated as the average squared deviation from the mean return. The square root transforms this into a more interpretable measure of risk in the same units as the returns themselves.

Application in portfolio management:

Investors use the standard deviation to gauge the volatility of investments. A higher standard deviation indicates higher risk, prompting investors to diversify or adjust their strategies accordingly.

- Calculating Loan Repayments and Interest Rates

In certain financial models, square roots appear when solving for variables in quadratic equations related to loan amortization or interest calculations. For example, when deriving formulas for compound interest or mortgage payments, square roots can emerge during the process of optimization or risk modeling.

Square Roots in Science and Medicine

- Signal and Image Processing

In medical imaging, such as MRI and CT scans, square roots play a role in processing signals and reconstructing images. The root mean square (RMS) value helps in reducing noise and enhancing image clarity.

- Biological Data Analysis

Researchers often analyze biological data involving variance and standard deviation, which, as mentioned earlier, rely on square roots. For example, in genetic studies, measuring the variability of gene expression levels across samples involves calculating standard deviations.

Square Roots in Technology and Computer Science

- Algorithms and Data Structures

Many algorithms in computer science depend on square roots for efficiency and analysis:

- Complexity Analysis: The running time of algorithms like the Euclidean algorithm for computing the greatest common divisor (GCD) involves square root operations.
- Spatial Data Structures: In applications like computer graphics or geographic information systems (GIS), calculating distances between points uses the Euclidean distance formula, involving square roots.

- Cryptography and Security

Square roots are involved in certain cryptographic algorithms, especially those related to modular

arithmetic and quadratic residues. These are fundamental in encrypting data and ensuring secure communication.

Square Roots in Everyday Life: From Sports to Architecture

- Sports and Fitness

In sports science, square roots are used to analyze performance metrics:

- Speed and Distance: Calculating average speed over a distance involves dividing the total distance by time.
- Acceleration: Determining acceleration from velocity changes over time may involve square roots when analyzing equations of motion.

- Architecture and Construction

Architects and builders use square roots to determine structural dimensions, especially when designing elements that must adhere to specific geometric constraints. For example, when calculating the length of diagonal supports or the height of a ramp based on horizontal and vertical measurements, the Pythagorean theorem (and thus square roots) is essential.

The Mathematical Foundation ? Pythagoras and Beyond

The core of many real-world applications of square roots lies in the Pythagorean theorem, which relates the sides of a right-angled triangle:

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

Here, c (the hypotenuse) is found using the square root:

$$c = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

This simple geometric principle forms the backbone of numerous calculations in science, engineering, and everyday problem-solving.

Challenges and Limitations

While square roots are powerful, they also come with computational challenges:

- Computational Intensity: Calculating square roots can be resource-intensive in large datasets or real-time systems.
- Approximation Errors: Numerical methods used to estimate square roots can introduce errors, especially in high-precision applications.

Advances in algorithms and computing hardware continue to mitigate these issues, making square root calculations faster and more accurate.

Conclusion

The real-life applications of square roots are both profound and pervasive. From enabling engineers to calculate precise distances and designing safe electrical systems, to helping financial analysts assess risk and aiding medical professionals in imaging techniques, square roots serve as a foundational tool across disciplines. Recognizing their role in everyday phenomena enhances our understanding of the interconnectedness of mathematics and the world around us.

In an era increasingly driven by data and precision, the humble square root remains an essential concept?not just an abstract mathematical operation but a key to unlocking solutions to complex, real-world problems. As technology advances and our understanding deepens, the applications of square roots are poised to expand even further, cementing their place at the heart of scientific and practical innovation.

Question How are square roots used in construction and architecture? Square roots are used to calculate distances, slopes, and dimensions when designing structures to ensure stability and proper proportions, such as determining the length of a diagonal or the height of a building based on other measurements. In finance, how do square roots help in calculating risk and return? Square roots are used in the calculation of standard deviation, which measures investment risk; for example, in the formula for the annualized standard deviation, the square root helps convert variance into a comparable risk metric. How do engineers utilize square roots in signal processing? Engineers use square roots when calculating the magnitude of signals from their components, such as in the formula for the amplitude of a combined signal, which involves the square root of the sum of squared components. What is the role of square roots in physics, especially in equations like the distance formula? Square roots are essential in physics for calculating distances, velocities, and energies; for instance, the distance formula involves the square root of the sum of squared coordinate differences, helping determine the shortest path between points. Can square roots be used in technology, such as in computer graphics? Yes, in computer graphics, square roots are used to calculate distances between pixels or objects, such as computing the Euclidean distance to determine how far apart two points are on the screen, which is vital for rendering and collision detection.

Related keywords: square roots in engineering, square roots in architecture, square roots in

physics, square roots in finance, square roots in statistics, square roots in computer science, square roots in geometry, square roots in construction, square roots in data analysis, square roots in problem-solving

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