

sci.math: "(2x-4)/x - 5/(x+1), an unorthodox method ?!"

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Dear Folk,

Here is a strange solving way:

We write the cross product:

$$(2x - 4) * (x + 1) = 5 * x \quad (1)$$

and  $(2x - 4) * (x + 1) = -5 * (-x) \quad (2)$

Pairing factors in (1)

$$x + 1 = 5, 2x - 4 = x \Rightarrow x = 4$$

Pairing factors in (2)

$$x + 1 = -x, 2x - 4 = -5 \Rightarrow x = -1/2 ;$$

of course we try a 'clever' pairing, so we avoid

in (1) pairing  $x + 1$  and  $x$ .

Mathemagic or ...

Alain.