



Lesson 4.5 Solving Polynomial Equations

Review

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Lesson 4.6: Fundamental Theorem
of Algebra

By : Lily

Lesson 4.5 Review- Solving Polynomial Equations

a. $x^3 - 6x^2 + 12x - 8 = 0$	b. $x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x + 1 = 0$
c. $x^3 - 3x + 2 = 0$	d. $x^3 + x^2 - 2x = 0$
e. $x^3 - 3x - 2 = 0$	f. $x^3 - 3x^2 + 2x = 0$

A.	B.
C.	D.
E.	F.

Your Task:

- Match each cubic polynomial equation with the graph of its related polynomial function
- Solve each equation

a.	_____	x = _____
b.	_____	x = _____
c.	_____	x = _____
d.	_____	x = _____
e.	_____	x = _____
f.	_____	x = _____

EXAMPLE 1 Solving a Polynomial Equation by Factoring

Solve $2x^3 - 12x^2 + 18x = 0$.

SOLUTION

$2x^3 - 12x^2 + 18x = 0$	Write the equation.
$2x(x^2 - 6x + 9) = 0$	Factor common monomial.
$2x(x - 3)^2 = 0$	Perfect Square Trinomial Pattern
$2x = 0$ or $(x - 3)^2 = 0$	Zero-Product Property
$x = 0$ or $x = 3$	Solve for x.

▶ The solutions, or roots, are $x = 0$ and $x = 3$.

REPEATED SOLUTION:

- When a factor appears more than once
- such as $(x - 3)$
- $x = 0$ and $x = 3$
- NOTE: the graph touches the x-axis at $x = 3$ but does not cross the x-axis

Rules for a Repeated Solution

- When $(x - k)$ is raised to an *even* power, the graph touches the x-axis at $x = k$ but does NOT cross it
- When $(x - k)$ is raised to an *odd* power, the graph crosses the x-axis at $x = k$

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Solve the equation.

1. $4x^4 - 40x^2 + 36 = 0$	2. $2x^4 + 24x = 14x^3$
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Find the zeros of the function. Then sketch a graph of the function.

3. $f(x) = 3x^4 - 6x^2 + 3$	4. $f(x) = x^3 + x^2 - 6x$
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Your Task:

- Do problems 1 and 3

Lesson 4.5 Review- Solving Polynomial Equations

Core Concept

The Rational Root Theorem

If $f(x) = a_n x^n + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$ has *integer* coefficients, then every rational solution of $f(x) = 0$ has the following form:

$$\frac{p}{q} = \frac{\text{factor of constant term } a_0}{\text{factor of leading coefficient } a_n}$$

STUDY TIP

Notice that you can use the Rational Root Theorem to list possible zeros of polynomial functions.

The Rational Root Theorem can be a starting point for finding solutions of polynomial equations. However, the theorem lists only *possible* solutions. In order to find the *actual* solutions, you must test values from the list of possible solutions.

Rational Root Theorem EXAMPLE

$$64x^3 + 152x^2 - 62x - 105$$

Leading coefficient: _____ Factors: _____

Constant term: _____ Factors: _____

Possible Zeros (list at least 10):

Once you have all the possible zeros, use synthetic division to find a factor

Your Task:

1) Do problem 6

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- Find all real solutions of $x^3 - 5x^2 - 2x + 24 = 0$.
- Find all real zeros of $f(x) = 3x^4 - 2x^3 - 37x^2 + 24x + 12$.

Core Concept

The Irrational Conjugates Theorem

Let f be a polynomial function with rational coefficients, and let a and b be rational numbers such that \sqrt{b} is irrational. If $a + \sqrt{b}$ is a zero of f , then $a - \sqrt{b}$ is also a zero of f .

EXAMPLE 5 Using Zeros to Write a Polynomial Function

Write a polynomial function f of least degree that has rational coefficients, a leading coefficient of 1, and the zeros 3 and $2 + \sqrt{5}$.

SOLUTION

Because the coefficients are rational and $2 + \sqrt{5}$ is a zero, $2 - \sqrt{5}$ must also be a zero by the Irrational Conjugates Theorem. Use the three zeros and the Factor Theorem to write $f(x)$ as a product of three factors.

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(x) &= (x - 3)[x - (2 + \sqrt{5})][x - (2 - \sqrt{5})] && \text{Write } f(x) \text{ in factored form.} \\
 &= (x - 3)(x - 2 - \sqrt{5})(x - 2 + \sqrt{5}) && \text{Regroup terms.} \\
 &= (x - 3)(x - 2)^2 - 5 && \text{Multiply.} \\
 &= (x - 3)(x^2 - 4x + 4) - 5 && \text{Expand binomial.} \\
 &= (x - 3)(x^2 - 4x - 1) && \text{Simplify.} \\
 &= x^3 - 4x^2 - x - 3x^2 + 12x + 3 && \text{Multiply.} \\
 &= x^3 - 7x^2 + 11x + 3 && \text{Combine like terms.}
 \end{aligned}$$

Check

You can check this result by evaluating f at each of its three zeros.

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(3) &= 3^3 - 7(3)^2 + 11(3) + 3 = 27 - 63 + 33 + 3 = 0 \quad \checkmark \\
 f(2 + \sqrt{5}) &= (2 + \sqrt{5})^3 - 7(2 + \sqrt{5})^2 + 11(2 + \sqrt{5}) + 3 \\
 &= 38 + 17\sqrt{5} - 63 - 28\sqrt{5} + 22 + 11\sqrt{5} + 3 \\
 &= 0 \quad \checkmark
 \end{aligned}$$

Because $f(2 + \sqrt{5}) = 0$, by the Irrational Conjugates Theorem $f(2 - \sqrt{5}) = 0$. \checkmark

- $[x - (a + \sqrt{b})][x - (a - \sqrt{b})]$
- $[(x - a) - \sqrt{b}][(x - a) + \sqrt{b}]$
- $[(x - a)^2 - b]$
- $[(x^2 + a^2x + a^2) - b]$
- Multiply by the remaining factor
- Combine like terms

Your Task:

Solve the equations.

- 1) $2x^4 - 4x^3 = -2x^2$
- 2) $a^3 - 4a^2 + 4a = 0$
- 3) $y^3 - 27 = 9y^2 - 27y$

Find the zeros of the function. Then sketch the function of the graph.

- 4) $h(x) = x^4 + x^3 - 6x^2$
- 5) $n(x) = -x^3 - 2x^2 + 15x$
- 6) $p(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 - 4x + 20$

Write a polynomial function f of least degree with a leading coefficient of one and the given zeros.

- 11) $-2, 1 + \sqrt{7}$
- 12) $4, 6 - \sqrt{7}$
- 13) $-6, 0, 3 - \sqrt{5}$

DN) a D

(2,0)

b C

(-1,0)

c A

(1,0)(-2,0)

d E

(-2,0)(0,0)(1,0)

e B

(-1,0)(0,0)

f F

(0,0)(1,0)(2,0)

1) $4x^4 - 40x^2 + 36 = 0$

$4(x^4 - 10x^2 + 9)$

$4(x^2 - 1)(x^2 - 9)$

$4(x+1)(x-1)(x+3)(x-3)$

$x = \pm 1, \pm 3$

3) $f(x) = 3x^4 - 6x^2 + 3$

$3x^4 - 6x^2 + 3$

$3(x^4 - 2x^2 + 1)$

$3(x^2 - 1)(x^2 - 1)$

$3(x+1)^2(x-1)^2$

$x = \pm 1$

!RT) $64x^3 + 152x^2 - 62x - 105$

Leading coefficient: 64

Constant term: 105

Factors: $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 8, \pm 16, \pm 32, \pm 64$

Factors: $\pm 1, \pm 3, \pm 5, \pm 7, \pm 15, \pm 21, \pm 35, \pm 105$

Possible Zeros:

$\pm \frac{3}{2}, \pm \frac{5}{2}, \pm \frac{7}{2}, \pm \frac{15}{2}, \pm \frac{35}{2}, \pm \frac{105}{2}, \pm \frac{21}{2}, \pm \frac{35}{4}, \pm \frac{35}{16}, \pm 3, \pm 7, \pm 15, \pm 105$

(ANSWERS MAY VARY \rightarrow SAMPLE ANSWERS)

b) $3x^4 - 2x^3 - 37x^2 + 24x + 12$

$\pm 12, \pm 6, \pm 4, \pm 3, \pm 2, \pm 1, \pm \frac{4}{3}, \pm \frac{2}{3}, \pm \frac{1}{3}$

3	-2	-37	24	12
↓	3	1	-36	-12
3	1	-36	-12	0

$3x^3 + x^2 - 36x - 12$

$\rightarrow [x^2(3x+1) - 12(3x+1)](x-1)$

$(x^2 - 12)(3x+1)(x-1)$

$(x + \sqrt{12})(x - \sqrt{12})(3x+1)(x-1)$

$x = -1, \pm \sqrt{12}, -\frac{1}{3}, 1$

$$1) 2x^4 - 4x^3 = -2x^3$$

$$2x^4 - 4x^3 + 2x^3 = 0$$

$$2x^3(x^2 - 2x + 1) = 0$$

$$2x^3(x-1)^2$$

$$\boxed{x=0} \quad \boxed{x=1}$$

$$2) a^3 - 4a^2 + 4a = 0$$

$$a(a^2 - 4a + 4) = 0$$

$$a(a-2)^2 = 0$$

$$\boxed{a=0} \quad \boxed{a=2}$$

$$3) y^3 - 27 = 9y^2 - 27y$$

$$(y-3)(y^2 + 3y + 9) = 9y(y-3)$$

$$(y-3)(y^2 + 3y + 9) - 9y(y-3) = 0$$

$$(y^2 + 3y + 9 - 9y)(y-3) = 0$$

$$(y^2 - 6y + 9)(y-3) = 0$$

$$(y-3)^2(y-3) = 0$$

$$(y-3)$$

$$\boxed{y=3}$$

$$4) h(x) = x^4 + x^3 - 6x^2$$

$$h(x) = x^2(x^2 + x - 6)$$

$$h(x) = x(x+5)(x-1)$$

$$\boxed{x=0} \quad \boxed{x=-5} \quad \boxed{x=1}$$

$$5) n(x) = -x^3 - 2x^2 + 15x$$

$$n(x) = -x(x^2 + 2x - 15)$$

$$n(x) = -x(x+5)(x-3)$$

$$\boxed{x=0} \quad \boxed{x=-5} \quad \boxed{x=3}$$

$$6) p(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 - 4x + 20$$

$$p(x) = x^2(x-5) - 4(x-5)$$

$$p(x) = (x^2 - 4)(x-5)$$

$$p(x) = (x+2)(x-2)(x-5)$$

$$\boxed{x=2} \quad \boxed{x=-2} \quad \boxed{x=5}$$

$$(11) \cdot -2, 1 + \sqrt{7}$$

$$(x+2)[x-(1+\sqrt{7})][x-(1-\sqrt{7})]$$

$$(x+2)[(x-1)^2 - 7]$$

$$(x+2)[x^2 - 2x + 1 - 7]$$

$$(x+2)(x^2 - 2x - 6)$$

$$x^3 - 2x^2 - 6x + 2x^2 - 4x - 12$$

$$\boxed{x^3 - 10x - 12}$$

$$(12) \quad 4, 6 - \sqrt{7}$$

$$(x-4)[x-(6-\sqrt{7})][x-(6+\sqrt{7})]$$

$$(x-4)[(x-6)^2 - 7]$$

$$(x-4)[x^2 - 12x + 36 - 7]$$

$$(x-4)(x^2 - 12x + 29)$$

$$x^3 - 12x^2 + 29x - 4x^2 + 48x - 116$$

$$\boxed{x^3 - 16x^2 + 77x - 116}$$

$$(13) \quad -6, 0, 3 - \sqrt{5}$$

$$x(x+6)[x-(3-\sqrt{5})][x-(3+\sqrt{5})]$$

$$x(x+6)[(x-3)^2 - 5]$$

$$x(x+6)[x^2 - 6x + 9 - 5]$$

$$x(x+6)(x^2 - 6x + 4)$$

$$x(x^3 - 6x^2 + 4x + 6x^2 - 36x + 24)$$

$$x^4 - \cancel{6x^3} + 4x^3 + \cancel{6x^3} - 36x^2 + 24$$

$$\boxed{x^4 - 32x^2 + 24}$$

