

## Lesson 12 – Working with Polynomial Equations

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### Lesson Objectives

- Mastery of the factoring of polynomials using the algebraic processes of synthetic division
- Mastery of the algebraic processes of solving polynomial equations by factoring (Factor Theorem & Rational Root Theorem)
- Mastery of the algebraic processes of solving polynomial inequalities by factoring (Factor Theorem & Rational Root Theorem)

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### (A) FAST FIVE

- Factor  $x^2 - x - 2$
- Explain what is meant by the term “factor of a polynomial”
- Explain what is meant by the term “root of a polynomial”
- Divide  $x^3 - x^2 - 14x + 24$  by  $x - 2$
- Divide  $x^3 - x^2 - 14x + 24$  by  $x + 3$

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### (A) Roots & Factors

- In our work with quadratics, we saw the “factored” form or “intercept” form of a quadratic equation/expression
- i.e.  $f(x) = x^2 - x - 2 = (x - 2)(x + 1) \rightarrow$  factored form of eqn
- So when we solve  $f(x) = 0 \rightarrow 0 = (x - 2)(x + 1)$ , we saw that the zeroes/x-intercepts/roots were  $x = 2$  and  $x = -1$
- So we established the following connection:
  - Factors  $\rightarrow (x - 2)$  and  $(x + 1)$
  - Roots  $\rightarrow x = 2$  and  $x = -1$
- So we will now reiterate the following connections:
  - If  $(x - R)$  is a **factor** of  $P(x)$ , then  $x = R$  is **root** of  $P(x)$   
AND THE CONVERSE
  - If  $x = R$  is a **root** of  $P(x)$ , then  $(x - R)$  is a **factor** of  $P(x)$

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### (B) Review

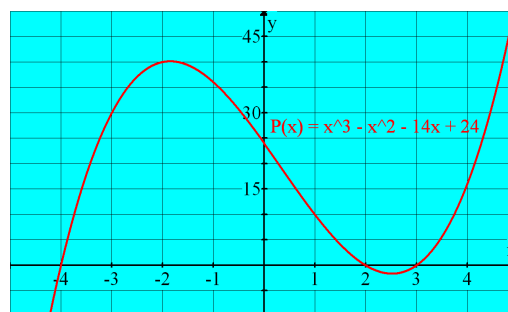
- Divide  $x^3 - x^2 - 14x + 24$  by  $x - 2$  and notice the remainder
- Then evaluate  $P(2)$ . What must be true about  $(x - 2)$ ?
- Divide  $x^3 - x^2 - 14x + 24$  by  $x + 3$  and notice the remainder
- Then evaluate  $P(-3)$ . What must be true about  $(x + 3)$ ?
- Now graph  $f(x) = x^3 - x^2 - 14x + 24$  and see what happens at  $x = 2$  and  $x = -3$
- So our conclusion is:  $x - 2$  is a factor of  $x^3 - x^2 - 14x + 24$ , whereas  $x + 3$  is not a factor of  $x^3 - x^2 - 14x + 24$

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### (B) Review – Graph of $P(x) = x^3 - x^2 - 14x + 24$



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### (C) The Factor Theorem

- State the Factor Theorem

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### (C) The Factor Theorem

- We can use the ideas developed in the review to help us to draw a connection between the polynomial, its factors, and its roots.
- What we have seen in our review are the key ideas of the Factor Theorem - in that if we know a root of an equation, we know a factor and the converse, that if we know a factor, we know a root.
- The Factor Theorem is stated as follows:  $x - a$  is a factor of  $f(x)$  if and only if  $f(a) = 0$ . To expand upon this idea, we can add that  $ax - b$  is a factor of  $f(x)$  if and only if  $f(b/a) = 0$ .
- Working with polynomials,  $(x + 1)$  is a factor of  $x^2 + 2x + 1$  because when you divide  $x^2 + 2x + 1$  by  $x + 1$  you get a 0 remainder and when you substitute  $x = -1$  into  $x^2 + 2x + 1$ , you get 0

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### (D) Examples

- ex 1. Show that  $x - 2$  is a factor of  $x^3 - 7x + 6$
- ex 2. Show that  $-2$  is a root of  $2x^3 + x^2 - 2x + 8 = 0$ . Find the other roots of the equation. (Show with GDC)
- ex 3. Factor  $x^3 + 1$  completely
- ex 4. Factor  $x^3 - 1$  completely
- ex 4. Is  $x - \sqrt{2}$  a factor of  $x^4 - 5x^2 + 6$ ?

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### (D) Further Examples

- Ex 1 → Factor  $P(x) = 2x^3 - 9x^2 + 7x + 6$  & then solve  $P(x) = 0$
- Hence, sketch  $y = |P(x)|$
- Solve  $2x^3 - 9x^2 + 7x + 6 < 0$
- Ex 2 → Factor  $3x^3 - 7x^2 + 8x - 2$  & then solve  $P(x) = 0$
- Hence, sketch  $y = |P(x)|$
- Solve  $3x^3 - 7x^2 + 8x \geq 2$
- Ex 3 → Factor & solve  $f(x) = 3x^3 + x^2 - 22x - 24$
- Hence, sketch  $y = |P(x)|$
- Solve  $-3x^3 \leq x^2 - 22x - 24$

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### (D) Further Examples: Systems

- ex.1 Solve  $2x^3 - 9x^2 - 8x = -15$  and then show on a GDC
- ie. Solve the system 
$$\begin{cases} y = 2x^3 - 9x^2 - 8x \\ y = -15 \end{cases}$$
- ex 2. Solve  $2x^3 + 14x - 20 = 9x^2 - 5$  and then show on a GDC
- ie. Solve the system 
$$\begin{cases} y = 2x^3 + 14x - 20 \\ y = 9x^2 - 5 \end{cases}$$

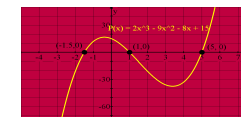
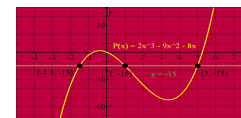
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### (D) Further Examples - Solutions

- Solve  $2x^3 - 9x^2 - 8x = -15$  and then show on a GDC
- Now graph both
- $g(x) = 2x^3 - 9x^2 - 8x$  and then  $h(x) = -15$  and find intersection
- OR graph:
- $f(x) = 2x^3 - 9x^2 - 8x + 15$



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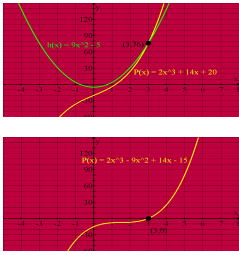
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### (D) Further Examples - Solutions

- Solve  $2x^3 + 14x - 20 = 9x^2 - 5$  and then show on a GDC
- Explain that different solution sets are possible depending on the number set being used (real or complex)



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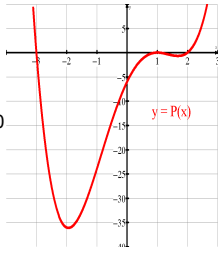
### (D) Further Examples - Quartics

- Solve  $x^4 - x^3 - 7x^2 + 13x - 6 = 0$
- Hence solve  $x^4 - x^3 + 13x \geq 6 + 7x^2$
- Hence, sketch a graph of  $P(x) = |x^4 - x^3 - 7x^2 + 13x - 6|$
- Hence, sketch a graph of the reciprocal of  $x^4 - x^3 - 7x^2 + 13x - 6$

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### (D) Further Examples - Solutions

- Solve  $x^4 - x^3 - 7x^2 + 13x - 6 = 0$
- $P(x) = 0 = (x - 1)^2(x + 3)(x - 2)$
- Solve  $x^4 - x^3 - 7x^2 + 13x - 6 \geq 0$
- So  $P(x) \geq 0$  on  $[-\infty, -3)$  or  $(2, \infty)$



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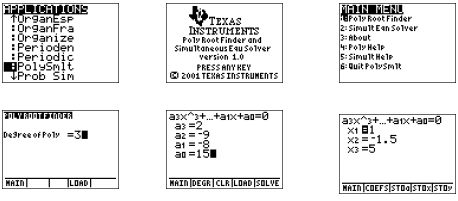
### (E) Solving & Factoring on the TI-84

- Factor & solve the following on your calculator:
- $2x^3 - 9x^2 - 8x = -15$
- $0 = 2x^3 - 9x^2 + 7x + 6$
- $x^4 - x^3 - 7x^2 + 13x - 6 = 0$

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### (E) Solving & Factoring on the TI-84

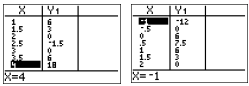
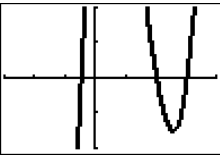
- Solve  $2x^3 - 9x^2 - 8x = -15$  turn it into a "root" question  
 → i.e Solve  $P(x) = 0 \rightarrow$  Solve  $0 = 2x^3 - 9x^2 - 8x + 15$



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### (E) Solving & Factoring on the TI-84

- Factor & Solve the following:

- $0 = 2x^3 - 9x^2 + 7x + 6 \rightarrow$  roots at  $x = -0.5, 2, 3 \rightarrow$  would imply factors of  $(x - 2)$ ,  $(x - 3)$  and  $(x + \frac{1}{2}) \rightarrow P(x) = 2(x + \frac{1}{2})(x - 2)(x - 3)$
- So when factored  $P(x) = (2x + 1)(x - 2)(x - 3)$

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## (F) Multiplicity of Roots

- Factor the following polynomials:
  - $P(x) = x^2 - 2x - 15$
  - $P(x) = x^2 - 14x + 49$
  - $P(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x + 1$
- Now solve each polynomial equation,  $P(x) = 0$ 
  - Solve  $0 = 5(x + 1)^2(x - 2)^3$
  - Solve  $0 = x^4(x - 3)^2(x + 5)$
  - Solve  $0 = (x + 1)^3(x - 1)^2(x - 5)(x + 4)$

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## (F) Multiplicity of Roots

- If  $r$  is a zero of a polynomial and the exponent on the factor that produced the root is  $k$ ,  $(x - r)^k$ , then we say that  $r$  has **multiplicity** of  $k$ . Zeros with a multiplicity of 1 are often called **simple zeroes**.
- For example, the polynomial  $x^2 - 14x + 49$  will have one zero,  $x = 7$ , and its multiplicity is 2. In some way we can think of this zero as occurring twice in the list of all zeroes since we could write the polynomial as,  $(x - 7)^2 = (x - 7)(x - 7)$
- Written this way the term  $(x - 7)$  shows up twice and each term gives the same zero,  $x = 7$ .
- Saying that the multiplicity of a zero is  $k$  is just a shorthand to acknowledge that the zero will occur  $k$  times in the list of all zeroes.

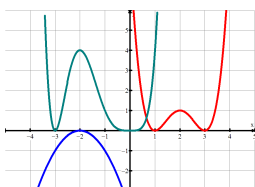
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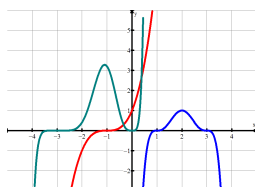
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## (F) Multiplicity → Graphic Connection

### Even Multiplicity



### Odd Multiplicity



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## (G) Examples - Applications

- ex 5. You have a sheet of paper 30 cm long by 20 cm wide. You cut out the 4 corners as squares and then fold the remaining four sides to make an open top box.
  - (a) Find the equation that represents the formula for the volume of the box.
  - (b) Find the volume if the squares cut out were each 2 cm by 2 cm.
  - (c) What are the dimensions of the squares that need to be removed if the volume is to be 1008 cm<sup>3</sup>?

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## (G) Examples - Applications

- The volume of a rectangular-based prism is given by the formula  $V(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 - 8x + 12$ 
  - (i) Express the height, width, depth of the prism in terms of  $x$
  - (ii) State any restrictions for  $x$ . Justify your choice
  - (iii) what would be the dimensions on a box having a volume of 650 cubic units?
  - (iv) now use graphing technology to generate a reasonable graph for  $V(x)$ . Justify your window/view settings

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## (G) Examples - Applications

- The equation  $p(m) = 6m^5 - 15m^4 - 10m^3 + 30m^2 + 10$  relates the production level,  $p$ , in thousands of units as a function of the number of months of labour since October,  $m$ .
- Use graphing technology to graph the function and determine the following:
  - maximums and minimums. Interpret in context
  - Intervals of increase and decrease. Interpret
  - Explain why it might be realistic to restrict the domain. Explain and justify a domain restriction
  - Would  $0 \leq m \leq 3$  be a realistic domain restriction?
- Find when the production level is 15,500 units (try this one algebraically as well)

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