

Lesson 14 – Working with Polynomials – FTA, Inequalities, Multiplicity & Roots of Unity

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10/16/16 HL1 Math - Santowski 1

(A) Opening Example - 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 $y = |P(|x|)|$
- Hence, sketch a graph of the reciprocal of $y = x^4 - x^3 - 7x^2 + 13x - 6$

10/16/16 HL1 Math - Santowski 2

(A) Opening Example - 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 $(2, \infty)$

10/16/16 HL1 Math - Santowski 3

(B) Multiplicity of Roots

- Factor the following polynomials:
 - (i) $P(x) = x^2 - 14x + 49$
 - (ii) $P(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x + 1$
 - (iii) Now solve each polynomial equation, $P(x) = 0$
 - (iv) Solve $0 = 5(x + 1)^2(x - 2)^3$
 - (v) Solve $0 = x^4(x - 3)^2(x + 5)$
 - (vi) Solve $0 = (x + 1)^3(x - 1)^2(x - 5)(x + 4)$
- Graph each polynomial from Q iv, v, vi

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(B) 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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(B) Multiplicity → Graphic Connection

Even Multiplicity

Odd Multiplicity

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(C) Solving & Factoring on the TI-84

- Use your calculator to answer the following Qs:
 - (a) Solve $2x^3 - 9x^2 - 8x = -15$ non-graphically
 - (b) Solve $0 = 2x^3 - 9x^2 + 7x + 6$ non-graphically
 - (c) Use a graph to factor
 $P(x) = x^4 - x^3 - 7x^2 + 13x - 6$

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(C) Solving & Factoring on the TI-84

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

10/16/16 HL.1 Math - Santowski 8

(C) Solving & Factoring on the TI-84

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

10/16/16 HL.1 Math - Santowski 9

(C) Solving & Factoring on the TI-84

- (CA) Factor the following polynomials:
 - $P(x) = -2x^3 - x^2 + 25x - 12$
 - $P(x) = 4x^3 - 12x^2 - 19x + 12$
 - $P(x) = 12x^4 + 32x^3 - 15x^2 - 8x + 3$

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(D) Using Complex Numbers → Solving Equations

- One real root of a cubic polynomial -4 and one complex root is $2i$
 - (a) What is the other root?
 - (b) What are the factors of the cubic?
 - (c) If the y -intercept of the cubic is -4 , determine the equation in factored form and in expanded form.

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(D) Solving Polynomials if $x \in \mathbb{C}$

- Factor and solve $3 - 2x^2 - x^4 = 0$ if $x \in \mathbb{C}$
- Factor and solve $3x^3 - 7x^2 + 8x - 2 = 0$ if $x \in \mathbb{C}$
- Factor and solve $2x^3 + 14x - 20 = 9x^2 - 5$ if $x \in \mathbb{C}$
- Now write each polynomial as a product of its factors
- Explain the graphic significance of your solutions for x

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(D) Solving if $x \in \mathbf{C}$ – Solution to Ex 1

- Factor and solve $3 - 2x^2 - x^4 = 0$ if $x \in \mathbf{C}$ and then write each polynomial as a product of its factors
- Solutions are $x = \pm 1$ and $x = \pm j\sqrt{3}$
- So rewriting the polynomial in factored form (over the reals) is $P(x) = -(x^2 + 3)(x - 1)(x + 1)$
- And in factored form over the complex numbers:

$$P(x) = -(x - 1)(x + 1)(x - i\sqrt{3})(x + i\sqrt{3})$$

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(D) Solving if $x \in \mathbf{C}$ – Graphic Connection

- With $P(x) = 3 - 2x^2 - x^4$, we can now consider a graphic connection, given that

$$P(x) = -(x^2 + 3)(x - 1)(x + 1)$$
- or given that

$$P(x) = -(x - 1)(x + 1)(x - i\sqrt{3})(x + i\sqrt{3})$$

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(E) Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

- The fundamental theorem of algebra can be stated in many ways:
 - (a) If $P(x)$ is a polynomial of degree n then $P(x)$ will have exactly n zeroes (real or complex), some of which may repeat.
 - (b) Every polynomial function of degree $n \geq 1$ has exactly n complex zeroes, counting multiplicities
 - (c) If $P(x)$ has a nonreal root, $a + bi$, where $b \neq 0$, then its conjugate, $a - bi$ is also a root
 - (d) Every polynomial can be factored (over the real numbers) into a product of linear factors and irreducible quadratic factors
- What does it all mean \rightarrow we can solve EVERY polynomial (it may be REALLY difficult, but it can be done!)

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(F) Using the FTA

- Write an equation of a polynomial whose roots are $x = 1$, $x = 2$ and $x = \frac{3}{4}$
- Write the equation of a polynomial whose roots are 1, -2, -4, & 6 and a point (-1, -84)
- Write the equation of a polynomial whose roots are $x = 2$ (with a multiplicity of 2) as well as $x = -1 \pm \sqrt{2}$

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(F) Using the FTA

- Given that $1 - 3i$ is a root of $x^4 - 4x^3 + 13x^2 - 18x - 10 = 0$, find the remaining roots.
- Write an equation of a third degree polynomial whose given roots are 1 and i . Additionally, the polynomial passes through (0,5)
- Write the equation of a quartic wherein you know that one root is $2 - i$ and that the root $x = 3$ has a multiplicity of 2.

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(G) Further Examples

- The equation $x^3 - 3x^2 - 10x + 24 = 0$ has roots of 2, h , and k . Determine a quadratic equation whose roots are $h - k$ and hk .
- The 5th degree polynomial, $f(x)$, is divisible by x^3 and $f(x) - 1$ is divisible by $(x - 1)^3$. Find $f(x)$.

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(H) Nth Roots of Unity

- Find the cubed roots of unity
- i.e. solve $x = \sqrt[3]{1}$

10/16/16

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19

(H) Nth Roots of Unity

- Find the cubed roots of unity → $x = \sqrt[3]{1}$
- Cube both sides & create a polynomial $x = \sqrt[3]{1}$
 $(x)^3 = (\sqrt[3]{1})^3$
 $x^3 = 1$
 $x^3 - 1 = 0$
- So now solve $x^3 - 1 = 0$
 $(x - 1)(x^2 + x + 1) = 0$

10/16/16

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20

(I) Further Examples - Challenge

- Find the polynomial $p(x)$ with integer coefficients such that one solution of the equation $p(x)=0$ is $1+\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{3}$.

10/16/16

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21

(I) Further Examples - Challenge

- Start with the linear polynomial: $y = -3x + 9$. The x-coefficient, the root and the intercept are -3, 3 and 9 respectively, and these are in arithmetic progression. Are there any other linear polynomials that enjoy this property?
- What about quadratic polynomials? That is, if the polynomial $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ has roots r_1 and r_2 can a , r_1 , b , r_2 and c be in arithmetic progression?

10/16/16

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22