

3.2 The Factor Theorem and the Remainder Theorem

3.2.1 Exercises

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3.2

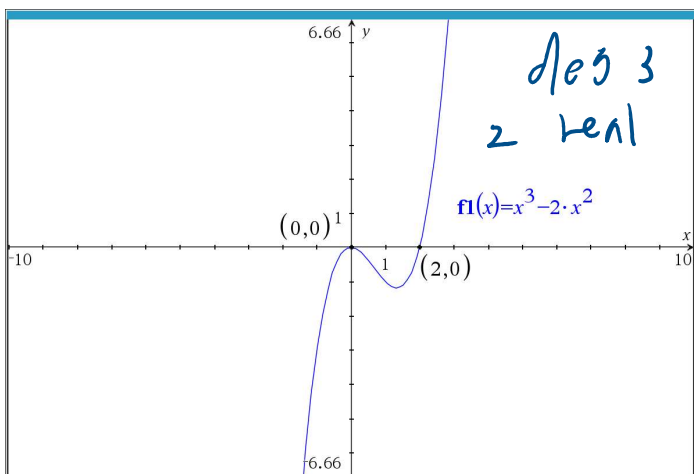
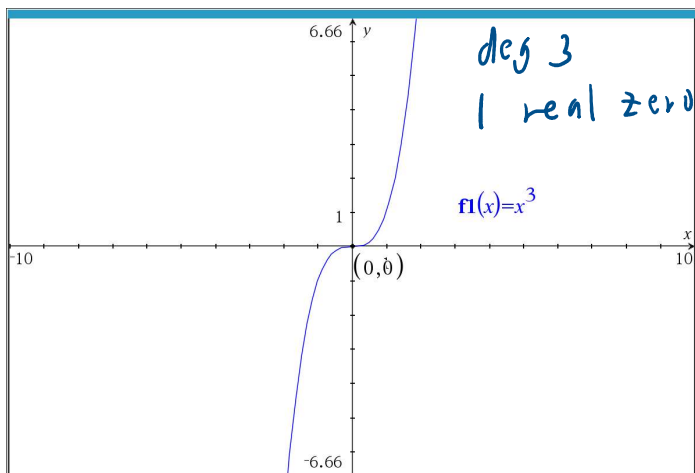
Memorize

**Theorem 3.7.** Suppose  $f$  is a polynomial of degree  $n \geq 1$ . Then  $f$  has at most  $n$  real zeros, counting multiplicities.

Memorize

**Definition 1.9.** The **zeros** of a function  $f$  are the solutions to the equation  $f(x) = 0$ . In other words,  $x$  is a zero of  $f$  if and only if  $(x, 0)$  is an  $x$ -intercept of the graph of  $y = f(x)$ .

**Definition 3.3.** Suppose  $f$  is a polynomial function and  $m$  is a natural number. If  $(x - c)^m$  is a factor of  $f(x)$  but  $(x - c)^{m+1}$  is not, then we say  $x = c$  is a zero of **multiplicity**  $m$ .



zero

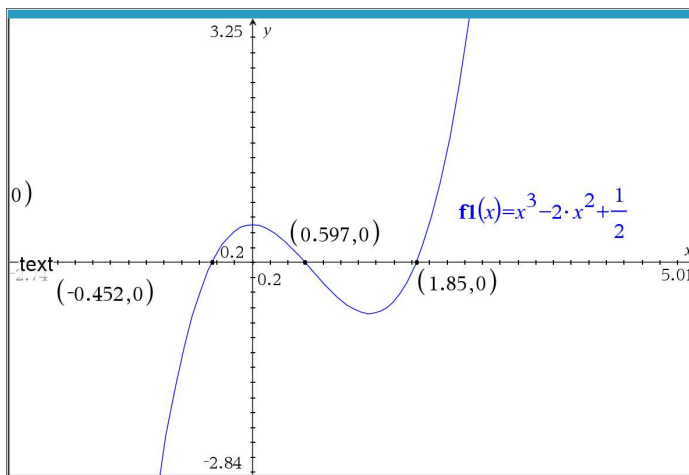
$$f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2$$

$$f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2$$

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

zeros                      multiplicity

$x=0$	2
$x=2$	$\frac{1}{3}$

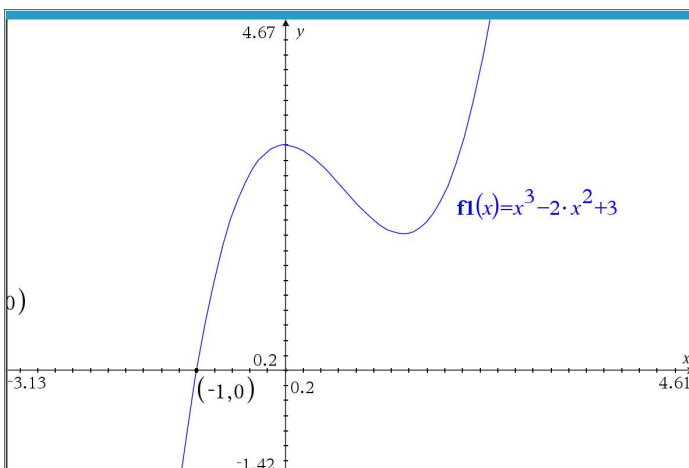


deg = 3

3 distinct real zeros  
each with  
multiplicity 1

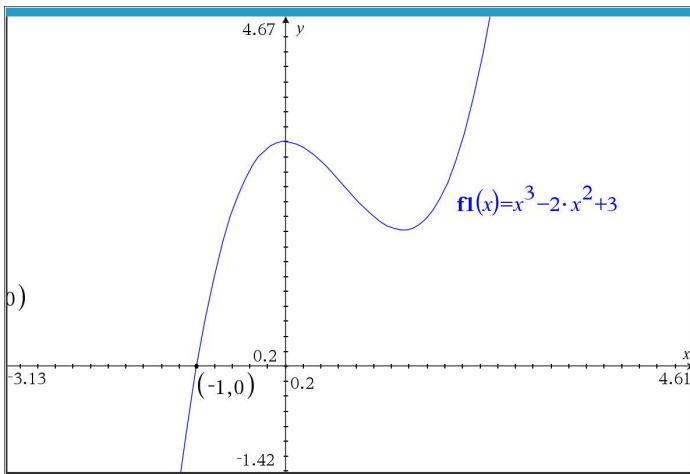
solve( $x^3=0,x$ )

$x=0$



deg = 3

1 real zero  $x = -1$   
mult. 1  
2 complex solutions



deg = 3

1 real zero  $x = -1$   
mult. 1

2 complex solutions

solve( $x^3 - 2x^2 + 3 = 0, x$ )

$x = -1$

cSolve( $x^3 - 2x^2 + 3 = 0, x$ )

$x = \frac{3}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cdot i$  or  $x = \frac{3}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cdot i$  or  $x = -1$

$i^2 = -1$  memorize

Memorize

**Connections Between Zeros, Factors and Graphs of Polynomial Functions**

Suppose  $p$  is a polynomial function of degree  $n \geq 1$ . The following statements are equivalent:

- The real number  $c$  is a zero of  $p$
- $p(c) = 0$
- $x = c$  is a solution to the polynomial equation  $p(x) = 0$
- $(x - c)$  is a factor of  $p(x)$
- The point  $(c, 0)$  is an  $x$ -intercept of the graph of  $y = p(x)$

3.2:

In Exercises 31 - 40, you are given a polynomial and one of its zeros. Use the techniques in this section to find the rest of the real zeros and factor the polynomial.

32.  $x^3 - 24x^2 + 192x - 512, c = 8$

Let  $p(x) = x^3 - 24x^2 + 192x - 512$

$8^3 - 24 \cdot 8^2 + 192 \cdot 8 - 512 = 0$

Handwritten polynomial long division:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^2 - 16x + 64 \\
 x - 8 \overline{) x^3 - 24x^2 + 192x - 512} \\
 \underline{x^3 - 8x^2} \phantom{+ 192x - 512} \\
 -16x^2 + 192x - 512 \\
 \underline{-16x^2 + 128x} \phantom{- 512} \\
 64x - 512 \\
 \underline{64x - 512} \\
 0
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^3 - 8x^2 \\
 \hline
 -16x^2 + 192x \\
 -16x^2 + 128x \\
 \hline
 64x - 512 \\
 64x - 512 \\
 \hline
 0
 \end{array}$$

$$p(8) = 0$$

$$p(x) = (x-8)(x^2 - 16x + 64)$$

$$p(x) = 0 \text{ if } \boxed{x=8} \text{ or } x^2 - 16x + 64 = 0$$

mult. 1

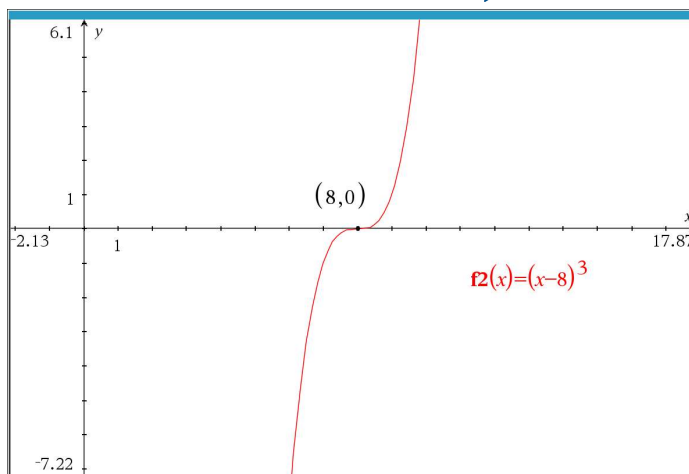
$$(x-8)^2 = 0$$

$$\boxed{x=8 \text{ mult } 2}$$

$$x=8 \text{ mult } 3$$

$$p(x) = (x-8)^3$$

3 is odd  
 $\Rightarrow$  graph crosses  
 $x$ -axis at  
 $x=8$



Synthetic division: only applies when divisor is a linear function

$$32. x^3 - 24x^2 + 192x - 512, c = 8$$

linear function

32.  $x^3 - 24x^2 + 192x - 512, c = 8$

$$(x^3 - 24x^2 + 192x - 512) \div x - 8$$

8

multiply

1	-24	192	-512
	-128	512	
	64	(0)	

-16

remainder

$$x^2 - 16x + 64$$

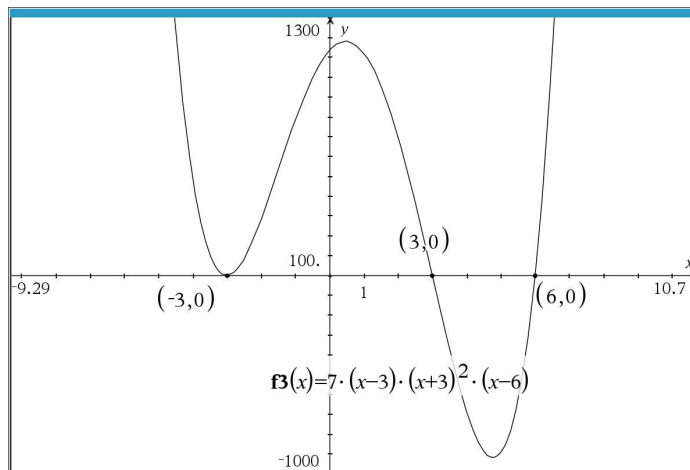
3.1

In Exercises 41 - 45, create a polynomial  $p$  which has the desired characteristics. You may leave the polynomial in factored form.

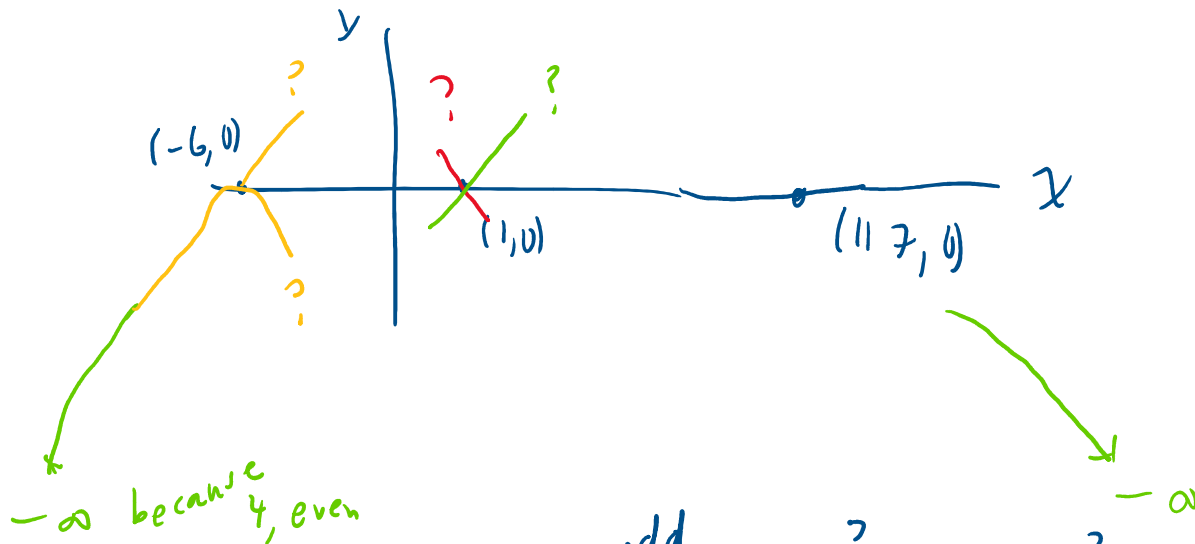
- 43.
- The solutions to  $p(x) = 0$  are  $x = \pm 3$  and  $x = 6$
  - The leading term of  $p(x)$  is  $7x^4$
  - The point  $(-3, 0)$  is a local minimum on the graph of  $y = p(x)$ .

$$p(x) = 7(x-3)(x-6)(x+3)^2$$

$$= 7x^4 + \dots$$



- 45.
- $p$  is degree 4.
  - as  $x \rightarrow \infty, p(x) \rightarrow -\infty$
  - $p$  has exactly three  $x$ -intercepts:  $(-6, 0)$ ,  $(1, 0)$  and  $(117, 0)$
  - The graph of  $y = p(x)$  crosses through the  $x$ -axis at  $(1, 0)$ .



$$p(x) = a(x-1)^{\text{odd}} (x+6)^? (x-117)^?$$

$$x \rightarrow \infty \quad p(x) = a(+)(+)(+) \rightarrow -\infty$$

$$\Rightarrow a < 0$$

$$x \rightarrow \infty \quad p(x) = \underbrace{-(-)^{\text{odd } m}}_{-} (-)^n (-)^q \rightarrow -\infty$$

Finish at home

$$m + n + q = 4$$

↑  
odd