

Feb. 15, 2017

Sect. 3-7

Finding Polynomial Zeros

Rational Zero "Test"

List the Possibles

Descartes's Rule of Signs

Fundamental Thm of Algebra

Find the Roots (Zeros)

$$f(x) = x^2 + 5x + 6$$

$$\text{Solve: } x^2 + 5x + 6 = 0$$

$$(x + 3)(x + 2) = 0$$

$$x + 3 = 0 \quad x + 2 = 0$$

$$x = -3 \quad \text{or} \quad x = -2$$

$$(x^3 - 5x^2) - (4x + 20) = 0$$

$$x^2(x - 5) - 4(x - 5) = 0$$

$$(x - 5)(x^2 - 4) = 0$$

$$(x - 5)(x + 2)(x - 2) = 0$$

$$x - 5 = 0$$

$$x + 2 = 0$$

$$x - 2 = 0$$

$$x = 5$$

$$x = -2$$

$$x = 2$$

$$x^2 + 2x - 6 = 0 \quad x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$x = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{2^2 - 4(1)(-6)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{28}}{2} = \frac{-2 \pm 2\sqrt{7}}{2}$$

$$x = -1 \pm \sqrt{7}$$

.

$$x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x + 8 = 0$$

Won't factor.

Now what?

## Rational Zero "Test"

Gives us a list of possible rational zeros.

$$f(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$$

list:  $\pm \frac{\text{factors of } d}{\text{factors of } a}$

List the possible rational zeros

$$f(x) = x^2 + 5x + 6$$

$$\text{list : } \pm \frac{\text{factors } 6}{\text{factors } 1}$$

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

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

$$\pm 1, 2, 3, 6$$

$$f(x) = 2x^3 - 5x^2 + 4$$

$$\text{list: } \pm \frac{\text{factor 4}}{\text{factor 2}}$$

$$\pm \frac{1, 2, 4}{1, 2}$$

$$\pm \frac{1}{1}, \frac{2}{1}, \frac{4}{1}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{2}, \frac{4}{2}$$

$$\pm 1, 2, 4, \frac{1}{2}$$

,



$$1. \quad x^3 + 5x^2 - 2x - 15$$

$$\pm \frac{1, 3, 5, 15}{1} \Rightarrow \pm 1, 3, 5, 15$$


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$$2. \quad 36x^3 + 144x^2 - x - 4 = 0$$

$$\pm \frac{1, 2, 4}{1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 12, 18, 36}$$

$$\pm 1, 2, 4, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{4}{3}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{9}, \frac{2}{9}, \frac{4}{9}, \frac{1}{12}, \frac{1}{18}, \frac{1}{36}$$

## Descartes's Rule of Signs

Gives us the # of positive real and negative real roots.

Count Sign Changes

$$f(x) = x^2 - x - 6$$

Pos: 1 sign change

There is 1 pos. real root.

Neg:  $f^*(x) = x^2 + x - 6$

1 s.c.

There is 1 neg. real root.

$$2. f(x) = 36x^3 + 144x^2 - x - 4$$

$$\text{Neg: } f^*(x) = -36x^3 + 144x^2 + x - 4$$

2 s.c.

There are 2 or 0 neg. real roots.

$$f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 + 3x - 5$$

Pos: 3 s.c.

There are 3 or 1 pos. real roots.

.....

Neg:  $f^*(x) = -x^3 - 2x^2 - 3x - 5$

0 s.c.

There are 0 neg. real roots.

Why subtract 2?

Quad. Form:

$$\frac{2 \pm i\sqrt{7}}{3}$$

Complex answers ALWAYS  
come in pairs.

## Conjugate Pairs.

$2 + i$  is a root, then

$2 - i$  is also an answer.

$-4 - 5i$  is a root, then

$-4 + 5i$  is also a root.

$6 + \sqrt{7}$  is a root,  
then  $6 - \sqrt{7}$  is also a root.



Find all of the roots

$$23. f(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x + 8$$

$$\text{list: } \pm \frac{\text{fact. } 8}{\text{fact. } 1} = \pm 1, 2, 4, 8$$

DRoS: There are 2 or 0 pos. real roots.

$$f^*(x) = -x^3 - 5x^2 - 2x + 8$$

There is 1 neg. real root.

Try them:

$$\begin{aligned} f(-1) &= (-1)^3 - 5(-1)^2 + 2(-1) + 8 \\ &= -1 - 5 - 2 + 8 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

or

$\overline{-1}$	1	-5	2		8
	$\downarrow$	-1	6		-8
	+	1	-6		8
					<span style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 2px;">0</span>

This reduces the cubic  
down to a quadratic.

$$x^2 - 6x + 8 = 0$$

$$(x - 2)(x - 4) = 0$$

$$x - 2 = 0 \quad x - 4 = 0$$

$$x = 2$$

$$x = 4$$

So the roots of

$$f(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x + 8$$

are  $\{-1, 2, 4\}$

$$29. \quad f(x) = x^3 - 6x^2 + 13x - 10$$

$$\text{list : } \pm \frac{1, 2, 5, 10}{1} = \pm 1, 2, 5, 10$$

DRoS : There are 3 or 1 pos. real roots.  
There are 0 neg. real roots.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \boxed{1} \\
 \downarrow \\
 + \quad \downarrow \\
 \hline
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{r}
 1 \quad -6 \quad 13 \quad | \quad -10 \\
 1 \quad -5 \quad 8 \quad | \quad -2 \\
 \hline
 \end{array}$$
  

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \boxed{2} \\
 \downarrow \\
 + \quad \downarrow \\
 \hline
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{r}
 1 \quad -6 \quad 13 \quad | \quad -10 \\
 1 \quad -4 \quad 5 \quad | \quad 0 \\
 \hline
 \end{array}$$

$$x^2 - 4x + 5$$

$$x^2 - 4x + 5 = 0$$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$x = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4(1)(5)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 20}}{2} = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{4 \pm 2i}{2} = 2 \pm i$$

$$\frac{5}{-1 \pm \sqrt{5}}$$

So the roots of


$$f(x) = x^3 - 6x^2 + 13x - 10$$

are  $\{2, 2+i, 2-i\}$



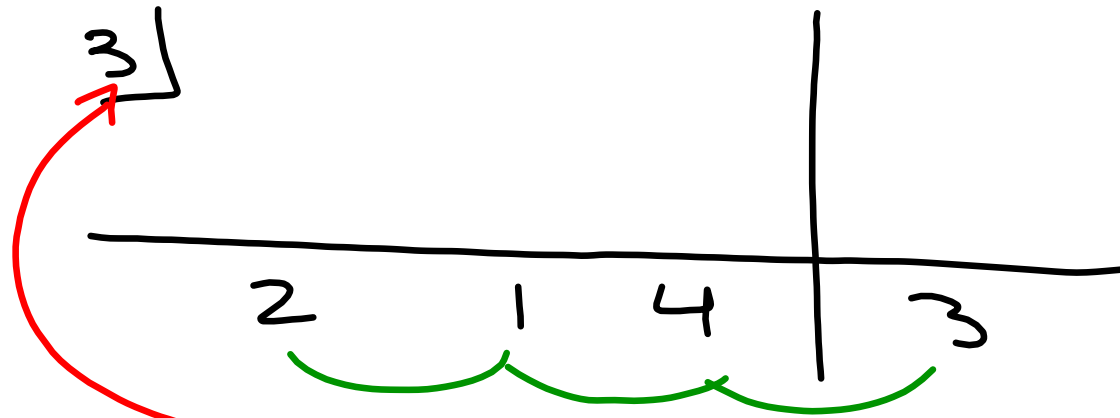
Here are a few other  
"tricks" to help you  
eliminate or find roots.

$$\begin{array}{r|l}
 1 & 1 \quad -6 \quad 13 \quad -10 \\
 + \downarrow & 1 \quad -5 \quad 8 \quad 8 \\
 \hline
 & 1 \quad -5 \quad 8 \quad -2
 \end{array}$$


  
 Alternating signs.

No answers less than 1.

i.e. All answers are greater than 1.



No answers greater than **3**  
i.e. All answers are less than 3.

Test for  $-1/1$  root of  $f(x)$

Add the coeffs of  $f(x)$ .

                                                                                                                                                                                               
 = 0? If yes, then 1 is a root.

Change the odd deg. coeffs of  $f(x)$ , then add.  
 = 0? If yes, then -1 is a root.