

NOTES: Section 5.6 – Find Rational Zeros

Goals: #1 - I can find the possible rational zeros of a polynomial.



#2 - I can find all the real zeros of a polynomial.

Homework: Lesson 5.6 Worksheet

Warm Up:

1. Divide: $(6x^4 - x^3 - x^2 + 11x - 18) \div (2x^2 + x - 3)$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 3x^2 - 2x + 5 \\
 2x^2 + x - 3 \overline{) 6x^4 - x^3 - x^2 + 11x - 18} \\
 \underline{6x^4 + 3x^3 - 9x^2} \\
 -4x^3 + 8x^2 + 11x \\
 \underline{-4x^3 - 2x^2 + 6x} \\
 -10x^2 + 5x - 18 \\
 \underline{-10x^2 + 5x - 15} \\
 -3
 \end{array}$$

$$3x^2 - 2x + 5 + \frac{-3}{2x^2 + x - 3}$$

2. One zero of $f(x) = x^3 - x^2 - 17x - 15$ is $x = -1$. What are the other two zeros of the function?

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr}
 -1 & 1 & -1 & -17 & -15 \\
 & \downarrow & & & \\
 & & -1 & 2 & 15 \\
 \hline
 & 1 & -2 & -15 & 0
 \end{array}$$

$$0 = (x+1)(x^2 - 2x - 15)$$

$$0 = (x+1)(x-5)(x+3)$$

$$x+1=0$$

$$x-5=0$$

$$x+3=0$$

$$\boxed{x = -1}$$

$$\boxed{x = 5}$$

$$\boxed{x = -3}$$

Notes:

• Rational Zero Theorem:

If a polynomial $f(x)$ has integer coefficients, then every rational zero of f has the following form:

$$\frac{p}{q} = \frac{\text{factors of constant term}}{\text{factors of leading coefficient}}$$

Example #1: List the possible rational zeros of f using the rational zero theorem.

1. $f(x) = \frac{x^3 + 2x^2 - 11x + 12}{a \quad P}$

factors of 12: $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4, \pm 6, \pm 12$

factors of 1: ± 1

possible rational

zeros $(\frac{p}{q})$: $\pm \frac{1}{1}, \pm \frac{2}{1}, \pm \frac{3}{1}, \pm \frac{4}{1}, \pm \frac{6}{1}, \pm \frac{12}{1}$

$\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4, \pm 6, \pm 12$

2. $f(x) = \frac{4x^4 - x^3 - 3x^2 + 9x - 10}{q \quad P}$

-10 : $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 5, \pm 10$

4: $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4$

$\frac{p}{q}$: $\pm \frac{1}{1}, \pm \frac{2}{1}, \pm \frac{5}{1}, \pm \frac{10}{1}$

$\pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{2}{2}, \pm \frac{5}{2}, \pm \frac{10}{2}$

$\pm \frac{1}{4}, \pm \frac{2}{4}, \pm \frac{5}{4}, \pm \frac{10}{4}$

$\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 5, \pm 10, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{5}{2}$
 $\pm \frac{1}{4}, \pm \frac{5}{4}$

Example #2: Find all real zeros of $f(x) = \frac{x^3 - 8x^2 + 11x + 20}{q \quad P}$

20: $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 5, \pm 10, \pm 20$

1: ± 1

$\frac{p}{q}$: $\pm \frac{1}{1}, \pm \frac{2}{1}, \pm \frac{4}{1}, \pm \frac{5}{1}, \pm \frac{10}{1}, \pm \frac{20}{1}$

$\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 5, \pm 10, \pm 20$

$0 = (x+1)(x^2 - 9x + 20)$

$0 = (x+1)(x-5)(x-4)$

$x = -1 \quad x = 5 \quad x = 4$

Test $x=1$:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & 1 & -8 & 11 & 20 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ & & 1 & -7 & 4 \\ \hline & 1 & -7 & 4 & 24 \end{array} \rightarrow \text{not a zero!}$$

Test $x=-1$:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -1 & 1 & -8 & 11 & 20 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ & & -1 & 9 & -20 \\ \hline & 1 & -9 & 20 & 0 \end{array} \rightarrow \text{a zero!}$$

You practice: Find all real zeros of $f(x) = \frac{x^3 - 4x^2 - 15x + 18}{q \quad P}$

18: $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6, \pm 9, \pm 18$

1: ± 1

$\frac{p}{q}$: $\pm \frac{1}{1}, \pm \frac{2}{1}, \pm \frac{3}{1}, \pm \frac{6}{1}, \pm \frac{9}{1}, \pm \frac{18}{1}$

$\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6, \pm 9, \pm 18$

$0 = (x-1)(x^2 - 3x - 18)$

$0 = (x-1)(x-6)(x+3)$

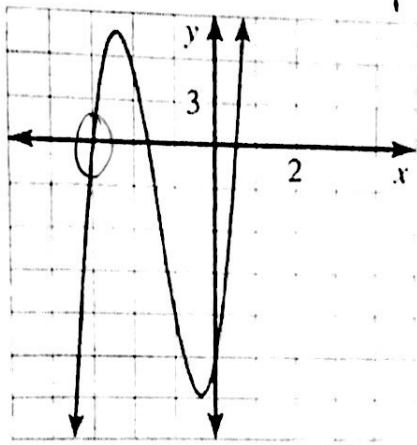
$x = 1 \quad x = 6 \quad x = -3$

Test $x=1$:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & 1 & -4 & -15 & 18 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ & & 1 & -3 & -18 \\ \hline & 1 & -3 & -18 & 0 \end{array}$$

Example #3: Use the graph to help find all real zeros of the function.

1. $f(x) = \frac{6x^3 + 25x^2 + 16x - 15}{q}$



$6 \cdot -5 = -30$
 $7 = 10 + -3$

$p: \pm 1, \pm 3, \pm 5, \pm 15$

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

$\frac{p}{q}: \pm \frac{1}{1}, \pm \frac{3}{1}, \pm \frac{5}{1}, \pm \frac{15}{1}, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{3}{2}, \pm \frac{5}{2}, \pm \frac{15}{2},$

$\pm \frac{1}{3}, \pm \frac{3}{3}, \pm \frac{5}{3}, \pm \frac{15}{3}, \pm \frac{1}{6}, \pm \frac{3}{6}, \pm \frac{5}{6}, \pm \frac{15}{6}$

$\pm 1, \pm 3, \pm 5, \pm 15, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{3}{2}, \pm \frac{5}{2}, \pm \frac{15}{2},$

$\pm \frac{1}{3}, \pm \frac{5}{3}, \pm \frac{1}{6}, \pm \frac{5}{6}$

$0 = (x+3)(6x^2 + 7x - 5)$

$0 = (x+3)(6x^2 + 10x - 3x - 5)$

$0 = (x+3)(2x(3x+5) - 1(3x+5))$

$0 = (x+3)(3x+5)(2x-1)$
 $x = -3 \quad x = -\frac{5}{3} \quad x = \frac{1}{2}$

Example #2: Find all real zeros of $f(x) = \frac{3x^4 - 6x^3 - 32x^2 + 35x - 12}{q}$

$12: \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4, \pm 6, \pm 12$

$3: \pm 1, \pm 3$

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

$\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4, \pm 6, \pm 12,$

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

$x = -3, 4$

$1 \mid 3 \quad -6 \quad -32 \quad 35 \quad -12$
 $\downarrow 3 \quad -3 \quad -35 \quad 0$
 $3 \quad -3 \quad -35 \quad 0 \quad -12$

$-3 \mid 3 \quad -6 \quad -32 \quad 35 \quad -12$
 $\downarrow -9 \quad 45 \quad -39 \quad 12$
 $3 \quad -15 \quad 13 \quad -4 \quad 0$

$4 \mid 3 \quad -15 \quad 13 \quad -4$
 $\downarrow 12 \quad -12 \quad 4$
 $3 \quad -3 \quad 1 \quad 0$

$0 = 3x^2 - 3x + 1$
 $x = \frac{3 \pm \sqrt{(-3)^2 - 4(3)(1)}}{2(3)}$

$x = \frac{3 \pm \sqrt{-3}}{6}$

$\frac{p}{q}: \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4 = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm \frac{1}{3}, \pm \frac{2}{3}, \pm \frac{1}{2}$

You practice: Find all real zeros of $f(x) = \frac{2x^3 + 5x^2 - 11x - 14}{q}$

$14: \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 7, \pm 14$

$2: \pm 1, \pm 2$

$\frac{p}{q}: \pm \frac{1}{1}, \pm \frac{2}{1}, \pm \frac{7}{1}, \pm \frac{14}{1}$
 $\pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{2}{2}, \pm \frac{7}{2}, \pm \frac{14}{2}$

$\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 7, \pm 14,$

$\pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{7}{2}$

$-1 \mid 2 \quad 5 \quad -11 \quad -14$
 $\downarrow -2 \quad -3 \quad 14$
 $2 \quad 3 \quad -14 \quad 0$

-28
 $7 + -4 = 3$

$0 = (x+1)(2x^2 + 3x - 14)$

$0 = (x+1)(2x^2 + 7x - 4x - 14)$

$0 = (x+1)(x(2x+7) - 2(2x+7))$

$0 = (x+1)(2x+7)(x-2)$

$x = -1 \quad x = -\frac{7}{2} \quad x = 2$