

Pre-Calculus Notes

Name: Key

Section 2.3 - Polynomial and Synthetic Division

REMAINDER THEOREM:

When the polynomial $P(x)$ is divided by $x - a$, the remainder is $P(a)$.

FACTOR THEOREM:

A number a is a solution of the polynomial equation $f(x) = 0$ if and only if $x - a$ is a factor of $f(x)$. * To be a factor, the remainder when $f(x)$ is divided by $x - a$ **MUST BE ZERO**.

Example 1: Using the theorems...

a. Find the remainder when $3x^5 - 2x^3 + 7x^2 - 10$ is divided by $x + 5$. Show your work by doing long division.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 3x^4 - 15x^3 + 73x^2 - 358x + 1790 \\
 x + 5 \overline{) 3x^5 + 0x^4 - 2x^3 + 7x^2 + 0x - 10} \\
 \underline{+ 3x^5 + 15x^4} \\
 -15x^4 - 2x^3 + 7x^2 + 0x - 10 \\
 \underline{+ 15x^4 + 75x^3} \\
 73x^3 + 7x^2 + 0x - 10 \\
 \underline{+ 73x^3 + 365x^2} \\
 -358x^2 + 0x - 10 \\
 \underline{+ 358x^2 + 1790x} \\
 1790x - 10 \\
 \underline{+ 1790x + 8950} \\
 -8960
 \end{array}$$

$$\boxed{3x^4 - 15x^3 + 73x^2 - 358x + 1790 - \frac{8960}{x+5}}$$

b. Is -2 a solution of the equation $x^6 + 4x^3 - 2x^2 + 5x - 1 = 0$? Why or why not?

$$(-2)^6 + 4(-2)^3 - 2(-2)^2 + 5(-2) - 1 = 0?$$

$$64 - 32 - 8 - 10 - 1 = 0?$$

$$13 \neq 0$$

No b/c when you plug -2 into the equation you get a false statement!

Example 2: Use synthetic division to divide.

* use synthetic division when dividing by $x - a$

a. $(2x^3 - 3x^2 + 4) \div (x - 2)$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr}
 2 & 2 & -3 & 0 & 4 \\
 & \downarrow & & & \\
 \hline
 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 8
 \end{array}$$

$$\boxed{2x^2 + x + 2 + \frac{8}{x-2}}$$

b. $(6x^3 - 2x^2 + 5x + 1) \div (x + 1)$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr}
 -1 & 6 & -2 & 5 & 1 \\
 & \downarrow & & & \\
 \hline
 & 6 & -8 & 13 & -12
 \end{array}$$

$$\boxed{6x^2 - 8x + 13 - \frac{12}{x+1}}$$

c. $(8x^4 - 16x^3 + 16x^2 - 27x + 18) \div (2x - 3)$

$(8x^4 - 16x^3 + 16x^2 - 27x + 18) \div 2(x - \frac{3}{2})$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} \frac{3}{2} & 8 & -16 & 16 & -27 & 18 \\ & \downarrow & 12 & -6 & 15 & -18 \\ \hline & 8 & -4 & 10 & -12 & 0 \end{array}$$

2

4 -2 5 -6

$4x^3 - 2x^2 + 5x - 6$

d. $(15x^4 - x^3 - 11x^2 + 17x + 9) \div (5x + 3)$

$(15x^4 - x^3 - 11x^2 + 17x + 9) \div 5(x + \frac{3}{5})$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} -\frac{3}{5} & 15 & -1 & -11 & 17 & 9 \\ & \downarrow & -9 & 6 & 3 & -12 \\ \hline & 15 & -10 & -5 & 20 & -3 \end{array}$$

5

3 -2 -1 4

$3x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 4 - \frac{3}{5x+3}$

Example 3:

a. Use synthetic substitution to evaluate the function.

$f(-2)$ for $f(x) = x^4 - 3x^3 + 7x^2 - 20$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} -2 & 1 & -3 & 7 & 0 & -20 \\ & \downarrow & -2 & 10 & -34 & 68 \\ \hline & 1 & -5 & 17 & -34 & 48 \end{array}$$

$f(-2) = 48$

b. Determine k so that $g(x) = 2x^3 + 5x^2 + kx - 16$ has $x - 2$ as a factor. ← no remainder

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 2 & 2 & 5 & k & -16 \\ & \downarrow & 4 & 18 & 2k+36 \\ \hline & 2 & 9 & k+18 & 2k+20 \end{array}$$

$2k + 20 = 0$

$2k = -20$

$k = -10$

We will now do p.159-161 #7, 13, 19, 25, 45(a,b), 69, 84 (see below) as classwork. It is due IN CLASS.

7. Use long division to divide $(4x^3 - 7x^2 - 11x + 5) \div (4x + 5)$.

13. Use long division to divide $(6x^3 + 10x^2 + x + 8) \div (2x^2 + 1)$.

19. Use synthetic division to divide $(3x^3 - 17x^2 + 15x - 25) \div (x - 5)$.

25. Use synthetic division to divide $(5x^3 - 6x^2 + 8) \div (x - 4)$.

45. Use synthetic division to find each function value. $f(x) = 4x^3 - 13x + 10$

a. $f(1)$

b. $f(-2)$

69. Simplify the rational expression $\frac{4x^3 - 8x^2 + x + 3}{2x - 3}$ by using long division or synthetic division.

84. Find the constant c such that the denominator will divide evenly into the numerator for the rational expression $\frac{x^3 + 4x^2 - 3x + c}{x - 5}$.