

# Polynomials and Polynomial Functions

Algebra 2  
Chapter 5

- This Slideshow was developed to accompany the textbook
  - *Larson Algebra 2*
  - *By Larson, R., Boswell, L., Kanold, T. D., & Stiff, L.*
  - *2011 Holt McDougal*
- Some examples and diagrams are taken from the textbook.

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## 5.1 Use Properties of Exponents

- When numbers get very big or very small, such as the mass of the sun =  $5.98 \times 10^{30}$  kg or the size of a cell =  $1.0 \times 10^{-6}$  m, we use scientific notation to write the numbers in less space than they normally would take.
- The properties of exponents will help you understand how to work with scientific notation.

## 5.1 Use Properties of Exponents

- What is an exponent and what does it mean?
  - A superscript on a number.
  - It tells the number of times the number is multiplied by itself.
- Example;
  - $x^3 = x \cdot x \cdot x$

Base                      Exponent

## 5.1 Use Properties of Exponents

- Properties of exponents
- $x^m \cdot x^n = x^{m+n}$  → product property
  - $x^2 \cdot x^3 =$
- $(xy)^m = x^m y^m$  → power of a product property
  - $(2 \cdot x)^3 =$
- $(x^m)^n = x^{mn}$  → power of a power property
  - $(2^3)^4 =$
- $\frac{x^m}{x^n} = x^{m-n}$  → quotient property
  - $\frac{x^4}{x^2} =$
- $\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^m = \frac{x^m}{y^m}$  → power of a quotient property
  - $\left(\frac{4}{2}\right)^3 =$

## 5.1 Use Properties of Exponents

- $x^0 = 1$  → zero exponent property
- $x^{-m} = \frac{1}{x^m}$  → negative exponent property
  - $2^3 =$
  - $2^2 =$
  - $2^1 =$
  - $2^0 =$
  - $2^{-1} =$
  - $2^{-2} =$
  - $2^{-3} =$

## 5.1 Use Properties of Exponents

- $5^{-4} 5^3 =$
- $((-3)^2)^3 =$
- $(3^2 x^2 y)^2 =$

## 5.1 Use Properties of Exponents

- $\frac{12x^5 a^2}{2x^4} \cdot \frac{2a}{3a^2}$
- $\frac{5x^2 y^{-3}}{8x^{-4}} \cdot \frac{4x^{-3} y^2}{10x^{-2} z^0} =$

## 5.1 Use Properties of Exponents

- To multiply or divide scientific notation
  - think of the leading numbers as the coefficients and the power of 10 as the base and exponent.
- Example:
  - $2 \times 10^2 \cdot 5 \times 10^3 =$

## Homework Quiz

- 5.1 Homework Quiz

## 5.2 Evaluate and Graph Polynomial Functions

- Large branches of mathematics spend all their time dealing with polynomials.
- They can be used to model many complicated systems.

## 5.2 Evaluate and Graph Polynomial Functions

- Polynomial in one variable
  - Function that has one variable and there are powers of that variable and all the powers are positive
- $4x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + 5$
- $100x^{1234} - 25x^{345} + 2x + 1$
- $2/x$
- $3xy^2$

Not Polynomials in one variable.

## 5.2 Evaluate and Graph Polynomial Functions

- Degree
  - Highest power of the variable
- What is the degree?
  - $4x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + 5$

## 5.2 Evaluate and Graph Polynomial Functions

- Types of Polynomial Functions
- Degree  $\rightarrow$  Type
  - 0  $\rightarrow$  Constant  $\rightarrow y = 2$
  - 1  $\rightarrow$  Linear  $\rightarrow y = 2x + 1$
  - 2  $\rightarrow$  Quadratic  $\rightarrow y = 2x^2 + x - 1$
  - 3  $\rightarrow$  Cubic  $\rightarrow y = 2x^3 + x^2 + x - 1$
  - 4  $\rightarrow$  Quartic  $\rightarrow y = 2x^4 + 2x^2 - 1$

## 5.2 Evaluate and Graph Polynomial Functions

- Functions
  - $f(x) = 4x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + 5$  means that this polynomial has the name  $f$  and the variable  $x$
  - $f(x)$  does not mean  $f$  times  $x$ !
- Direct Substitution
  - Example: find  $f(3)$

## 5.2 Evaluate and Graph Polynomial Functions

- Synthetic Substitution
  - Example: find  $f(2)$  if  $f(y) = -y^6 + 4y^4 + 3y^2 + 2y$

Coefficients with placeholders

2	-1	0	4	0	3	2	0
	-2	-4	0	0	6	16	
	-1	-2	0	0	3	8	16

•  $f(2) = 16$

## 5.2 Evaluate and Graph Polynomial Functions

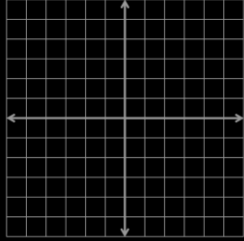
- End Behavior
    - Polynomial functions always go towards  $\infty$  or  $-\infty$  at either end of the graph
- |             | Leading Coefficient + | Leading Coefficient - |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Even Degree |                       |                       |
| Odd Degree  |                       |                       |
- Write
    - $f(x) \rightarrow \pm\infty$  as  $x \rightarrow -\infty$  and  $f(x) \rightarrow \pm\infty$  as  $x \rightarrow +\infty$

## 5.2 Evaluate and Graph Polynomial Functions

- Graphing polynomial functions
  - Make a table of values
  - Plot the points
  - Make sure the graph matches the appropriate end behavior

## 5.2 Evaluate and Graph Polynomial Functions

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



## Homework Quiz

- [5.2 Homework Quiz](#)

## 5.3 Add, Subtract, and Multiply Polynomials

- Adding, subtracting, and multiplying are always good things to know how to do.
- Sometimes you might want to combine two or more models into one big model.

## 5.3 Add, Subtract, and Multiply Polynomials

- Adding and subtracting polynomials
  - Add or subtract the coefficients of the terms with the same power.
  - Called combining like terms.
- Examples:
  - $(5x^2 + x - 7) + (-3x^2 - 6x - 1)$
  - $(3x^3 + 8x^2 - x - 5) - (5x^3 - x^2 + 17)$

## 5.3 Add, Subtract, and Multiply Polynomials

- Multiplying polynomials
  - $(x + 2)(x^2 + 3x - 4)$ 
    - Use the distributive property
- Examples:
  - $(x - 3)(x + 4)$

## 5.3 Add, Subtract, and Multiply Polynomials

- $(x - 1)(x + 2)(x + 3)$

## 5.3 Add, Subtract, and Multiply Polynomials

- Special Product Patterns
  - Sum and Difference
    - $(a - b)(a + b) = a^2 - b^2$
  - Square of a Binomial
    - $(a \pm b)^2 = a^2 \pm 2ab + b^2$
  - Cube of a Binomial
    - $(a \pm b)^3 = a^3 \pm 3a^2b + 3ab^2 \pm b^3$

## 5.3 Add, Subtract, and Multiply Polynomials

- $(x + 2)^3$
- $(x - 3)^2$

## Homework Quiz

- 5.3 Homework Quiz

## 5.4 Factor and Solve Polynomial Equations

- A manufacturer of shipping cartons who needs to make cartons for a specific use often has to use special relationships between the length, width, height, and volume to find the exact dimensions of the carton.
- The dimensions can usually be found by writing and solving a polynomial equation.
- This lesson looks at how factoring can be used to solve such equations.

## 5.4 Factor and Solve Polynomial Equations

### How to Factor

1. Greatest Common Factor
  - Comes from the distributive property
  - If the same number or variable is in each of the terms, you can bring the number to the front times everything that is left.
  - $3x^2y + 6xy - 9xy^2 =$
  - Look for this first!

## 5.4 Factor and Solve Polynomial Equations

2. Check to see how many terms

- Two terms
  - Difference of two squares:  $a^2 - b^2 = (a - b)(a + b)$ 
    - $9x^2 - y^4 =$
  - Sum of Two Cubes:  $a^3 + b^3 = (a + b)(a^2 - ab + b^2)$ 
    - $8x^3 + 27 =$
  - Difference of Two Cubes:  $a^3 - b^3 = (a - b)(a^2 + ab + b^2)$ 
    - $y^3 - 8 =$

## 5.4 Factor and Solve Polynomial Equations

- Three terms
  - General Trinomials  $\rightarrow ax^2 + bx + c$
  - 1. Write two sets of parentheses (    )(    )
  - 2. Guess and Check
  - 3. The Firsts multiply to make  $ax^2$
  - 4. The Lasts multiply to make  $c$
  - 5. The Outers + Inners make  $bx$ 
    - $x^2 + 7x + 10 =$
    - $x^2 + 3x - 18 =$
    - $6x^2 - 7x - 20 =$

## 5.4 Factor and Solve Polynomial Equations

- Four terms
  - Grouping
    - Group the terms into sets of two so that you can factor a common factor out of each set
    - Then factor the factored sets (Factor twice)
    - $b^3 - 3b^2 - 4b + 12 =$

## 5.4 Factor and Solve Polynomial Equations

- 3. Try factoring more!
- Examples:
  - $a^2x - b^2x + a^2y - b^2y =$

## 5.4 Factor and Solve Polynomial Equations

- $3a^2z - 27z =$
- $n^4 - 81 =$

## 5.4 Factor and Solve Polynomial Equations

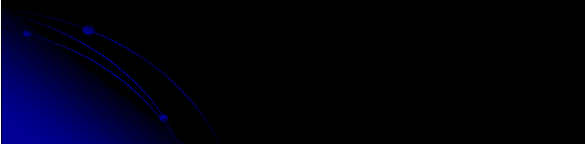
- Solving Equations by Factoring
  - Make = 0
  - Factor
  - Make each factor = 0 because if one factor is zero, 0 time anything = 0

## 5.4 Factor and Solve Polynomial Equations

- $2x^5 = 18x$

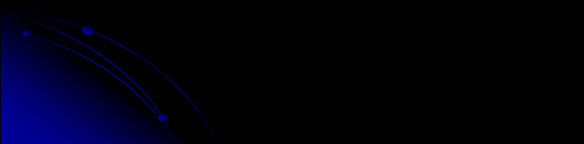
## Homework Quiz

- 5.4 Homework Quiz



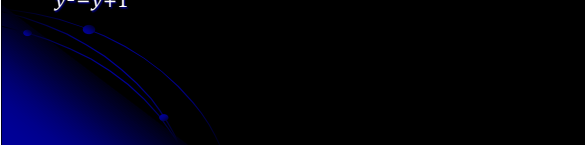
## 5.5 Apply the Remainder and Factor Theorems

- So far we done add, subtracting, and multiplying polynomials.
- Factoring is similar to division, but it isn't really division.
- Today we will deal with real polynomial division.



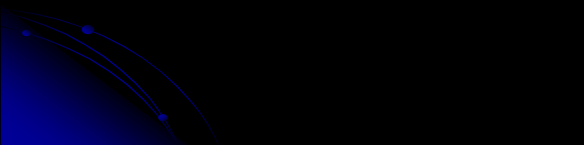
## 5.5 Apply the Remainder and Factor Theorems

- Long Division
  - Done just like long division with numbers

$$\frac{y^4 + 2y^2 - y + 5}{y^2 - y + 1}$$


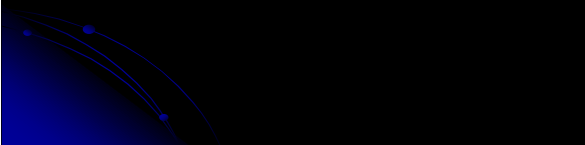
## 5.5 Apply the Remainder and Factor Theorems

- $\frac{x^3 + 4x^2 - 3x + 10}{x + 2}$



## 5.5 Apply the Remainder and Factor Theorems

- Synthetic Division
  - Shortened form of long division for dividing by a **binomial**
  - Only when dividing by  $(x - r)$

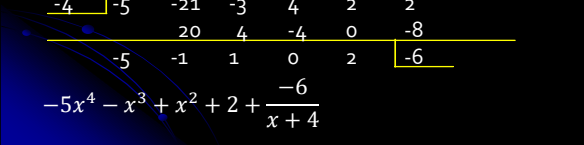


## 5.5 Apply the Remainder and Factor Theorems

- Synthetic Division
  - Example:  $(-5x^5 - 21x^4 - 3x^3 + 4x^2 + 2x + 2) / (x + 4)$

Coefficients with placeholders

-4	-5	-21	-3	4	2	2
	20	4	-4	0	-8	
	-5	-1	1	0	2	-6

$$-5x^4 - x^3 + x^2 + 2 + \frac{-6}{x + 4}$$


## 5.5 Apply the Remainder and Factor Theorems

- $(2y^5 + 64)(2y + 4)^{-1}$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrrr} -2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 32 \\ & & -2 & 4 & -8 & 16 & -32 \\ \hline & 1 & -2 & 4 & -8 & 16 & 0 \end{array}$$

$\frac{2y^5 + 64}{2y + 4} \rightarrow \frac{y^5 + 32}{y + 2}$

- $y^4 - 2y^3 + 4y^2 - 8y + 16$

## 5.5 Apply the Remainder and Factor Theorems

- Remainder Theorem

- if polynomial  $f(x)$  is divided by the binomial  $(x - a)$ , then the remainder equals  $f(a)$ .
- Synthetic substitution
- Example: if  $f(x) = 3x^4 + 6x^3 + 2x^2 + 5x + 9$ , find  $f(9)$ 
  - Use synthetic division using  $(x - 9)$  and see remainder.

## 5.5 Apply the Remainder and Factor Theorems

- The Factor Theorem

- The binomial  $x - a$  is a factor of the polynomial  $f(x)$  iff  $f(a) = 0$

## 5.5 Apply the Remainder and Factor Theorems

- Using the factor theorem, you can find the factors (and zeros) of polynomials
- Simply use synthetic division using your first zero (you get these off of problem or off of the graph where they cross the x-axis)
- The polynomial answer is one degree less and is called the depressed polynomial.
- Divide the depressed polynomial by the next zero and get the next depressed polynomial.
- Continue doing this until you get to a quadratic which you can factor or use the quadratic formula to solve.

## 5.5 Apply the Remainder and Factor Theorems

- Show that  $x - 2$  is a factor of  $x^3 + 7x^2 + 2x - 40$ . Then find the remaining factors.

## Homework Quiz

- [5.5 Homework Quiz](#)



## 5.6 Find Rational Zeros

- Rational Zero Theorem
  - Given a polynomial function, the rational zeros will be in the form of  $p/q$  where  $p$  is a factor of the last (or constant) term and  $q$  is the factor of the leading coefficient.

## 5.6 Find Rational Zeros

- List all the possible rational zeros of
- $f(x) = 2x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x + 9$

## 5.6 Find Rational Zeros

- Find all rational zeros of  $f(x) = x^3 - 4x^2 - 2x + 20$

## Homework Quiz

- [5.6 Homework Quiz](#)

## 5.7 Apply the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

- When you are finding the zeros, how do you know when you are finished?
- Today we will learn about how many zeros there are for each polynomial function.

## 5.7 Apply the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

- Fundamental Theorem of Algebra
  - A polynomial function of degree greater than zero has at least one zero.
  - These zeros may be imaginary however.
  - There is the same number of zeros as there is degree – you may have the same zero more than once though.
    - Example  $x^2 + 6x + 9 = 0 \rightarrow (x + 3)(x + 3) = 0 \rightarrow$  zeros are  $-3$  and  $-3$

## 5.7 Apply the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

- Complex Conjugate Theorem
  - If the complex number  $a + bi$  is a zero, then  $a - bi$  is also a zero.
  - Complex zeros come in pairs
- Irrational Conjugate Theorem
  - If  $a + \sqrt{b}$  is a zero, then so is  $a - \sqrt{b}$

## 5.7 Apply the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

- Given a function, find the zeros of the function.  
 $f(x) = x^3 - 7x^2 + 16x - 10$

## 5.7 Apply the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

- Write a polynomial function that has the given zeros.  $2, 4i$

## 5.7 Apply the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

- Descartes' Rule of Signs
  - If  $f(x)$  is a polynomial function, then
    - The number of **positive** real zeros is equal to the number of sign changes in  $f(x)$  or less by even number.
    - The number of **negative** real zeros is equal to the number of sign changes in  $f(-x)$  or less by even number.

## 5.7 Apply the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

- Determine the possible number of positive real zeros, negative real zeros, and imaginary zeros for  $g(x) = 2x^4 - 3x^3 + 9x^2 - 12x + 4$ 
  - Positive zeros:
    - 4, 2, or 0
  - Negative zeros:  $g(-x) = 2x^4 + 3x^3 + 9x^2 + 12x + 4$ 
    - 0

Positive	Negative	Imaginary	Total
4	0	0	4
2	0	2	4
0	0	4	4

## Homework Quiz

- [5.7 Homework Quiz](#)

## 5.8 Analyze Graphs of Polynomial Functions

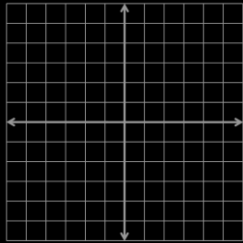
- If we have a polynomial function, then
  - $k$  is a zero or root
  - $k$  is a solution of  $f(x) = 0$
  - $k$  is an x-intercept if  $k$  is real
  - $x - k$  is a factor

## 5.8 Analyze Graphs of Polynomial Functions

- Use x-intercepts to graph a polynomial function
- $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x + 2)^2(x - 3)$ 
  - since  $(x + 2)$  and  $(x - 3)$  are factors of the polynomial, the x-intercepts are -2 and 3
  - plot the x-intercepts
- Create a table of values to finish plotting points around the x-intercepts
- Draw a smooth curve through the points

## 5.8 Analyze Graphs of Polynomial Functions

- Graph  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x + 2)^2(x - 3)$

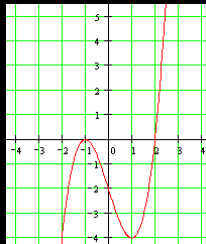


## 5.8 Analyze Graphs of Polynomial Functions

- Turning Points
  - Local Maximum and minimum (turn from going up to down or down to up)
  - The graph of every polynomial function of degree  $n$  can have at most  $n-1$  turning points.
  - If a polynomial function has  $n$  distinct real zeros, the function will have exactly  $n-1$  turning points.
  - Calculus lets you find the turning points easily.

## 5.8 Analyze Graphs of Polynomial Functions

- What are the turning points?



## Homework Quiz

- [5.8 Homework Quiz](#)

## 5.9 Write Polynomial Functions and Models

- You keep asking, "Where will I ever use this?" Well today we are going to model a few situations with polynomial functions.

## 5.9 Write Polynomial Functions and Models

- Writing a function from the x-intercepts and one point
  - Write the function as factors with an  $a$  in front
  - $y = a(x - p)(x - q) \dots$
  - Use the other point to find  $a$
- Example:
  - x-intercepts are  $-2, 1, 3$  and  $(0, 2)$

## 5.9 Write Polynomial Functions and Models

- Show that the  $n$ th-order differences for the given function of degree  $n$  are nonzero and constant.
  - Find the values of the function for equally spaced intervals
  - Find the differences of the  $y$  values
  - Find the differences of the differences and repeat until all are the same value

## 5.9 Write Polynomial Functions and Models

- Show that the 3<sup>rd</sup> order differences are constant of  $f(x) = 2x^3 + x^2 + 2x + 1$

## 5.9 Write Polynomial Functions and Models

- Finding a model given several points
  - Find the degree of the function by finding the finite differences
    - Degree = order of constant nonzero finite differences
  - Write the basic standard form functions (i.e.  $f(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$ )
  - Fill in  $x$  and  $f(x)$  with the points
  - Use some method to find  $a, b, c,$  and  $d$ 
    - Cramer's rule or graphing calculator using matrices or computer program

## 5.9 Write Polynomial Functions and Models

- Find a polynomial function to fit:
  - $f(1) = -2, f(2) = 2, f(3) = 12, f(4) = 28, f(5) = 50, f(6) = 78$

## 5.9 Write Polynomial Functions and Models

- Regressions on TI Graphing Calculator
1. Push STAT ↓ Edit...
  2. Clear lists, then enter  $x$ 's in 1<sup>st</sup> column and  $y$ 's in 2<sup>nd</sup>
  3. Push STAT → CALC ↓ (regression of your choice)
  4. Push ENTER twice
  5. Read your answer

## 5.9 Write Polynomial Functions and Models

- Regressions using Microsoft Excel
1. Enter  $x$ 's and  $y$ 's into 2 columns
  2. Insert X Y Scatter Chart
  3. In Chart Tools: Layout pick Trendline → More Trendline options
  4. Pick a Polynomial trendline and enter the degree of your function AND pick Display Equation on Chart
  5. Click Done
  6. Read your answer off of the chart.

## Homework Quiz

- 5.9 Homework Quiz