

Polynomial & Rational Inequalities

To solve a Polynomial or Rational Inequality:

1. Rewrite the inequality so that all terms are on the left and zero is on the right.
(Make sure that rational expressions are written As one quotient/fraction.)
 2. Find the zeros of the expression on the left and/or where it is undefined.
 3. Use the zeros and undefined values to break the x-axis into intervals.
 4. Choose a value for x in each interval and evaluate it in the expression on the left.
 - Positive values mean that $f(x) > 0$.
 - Negative values mean that $f(x) < 0$.
- ★ Strict inequalities (< or >) will use open intervals, which means the endpoints of the intervals are not solutions; whereas not-strict inequalities (≤ or ≥) will use closed intervals, which means that the endpoints are solutions.

#12

Ex 1 Solve the inequality. $6x^2 \leq 6 + 5x$

$$6x^2 - 5x - 6 \leq 0$$

$$(2x-3)(3x+2) \leq 0$$

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

$$x = 3/2 \quad x = -2/3$$

+		-		+
-4/3		3/2		

ANSWER!

$[-2/3, 3/2]$

Test

$x = -1$ $(2(-1)-3)(3(-1)+2)$ $(-5)(-1)$ <u>5</u>	$x = 0$ $(-3)(2)$ <u>-6</u>	$x = 2$ $(2 \cdot 2 - 3)(3 \cdot 2 + 2)$ $(1)(8)$ <u>8</u>
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Ex 2 Solve the inequality. $x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x > 0$

$$x(x^2 + 2x - 3) > 0$$

$$x(x-1)(x+3) > 0$$

$$x=0 \quad x-1=0 \quad x+3=0$$

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

-		+		-		+
-3	0	1				

$(-3, 0) \cup (1, \infty)$

$x = -4 \quad x = 2 \quad x = 1/2 \quad x = 2$

$(-)(-)(-) \quad | \quad (-)(-)(+) \quad | \quad (-)(-)(+) \quad | \quad (+)(+)(+)$

Ex 3 Solve the inequality. $\frac{x^2 - x - 6}{x-1} \leq 0$

$$\frac{(x-3)(x+2)}{x-1} \leq 0$$

$$x-3=0 \quad x+2=0 \quad x-1=0$$

$$x=3 \quad x=-2 \quad x=1$$

-		+		-		+
-2	1	3				

$(-\infty, -2] \cup (1, 3]$

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

$(-)(-) \quad | \quad (-)(+) \quad | \quad (-)(+) \quad | \quad (+)(+)$

#44

Ex 4 Solve the inequality. $\frac{5}{x-3} > \frac{3}{x+1}$

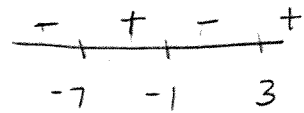
$$\frac{5}{x-3} - \frac{3}{x+1} > 0$$

$$\frac{5(x+1)}{(x-3)(x+1)} - \frac{3(x-3)}{(x+1)(x-3)} > 0$$

$$\frac{(5x+5) - (3x-9)}{(x-3)(x+1)} > 0$$

$$\frac{2x+14}{(x-3)(x+1)} > 0$$

$$\frac{2(x+7)}{(x-3)(x+1)} > 0$$



$x = -8$	$x = -6$	$x = 0$	$x = 4$
$\frac{2(-)}{(-)(-)}$	$\frac{2(+)}{(-)(-)}$	$\frac{2(+)}{(-)(+)}$	$\frac{2(+)}{(+)(+)}$

$$(7, -1) \cup (3, \infty)$$

WATCH BRACKETS!

Symbol tells you to use soft brackets

#58

Ex 5 A ball is thrown vertically upward with an initial velocity of 96 feet per second. The distance s (in feet) of the ball from the ground after t seconds is $s = 96t - 16t^2$. For what time interval is the ball more than 112 feet above the ground?

Note: You could also solve using $-16(t^2 - 6t + 7)$

$$96t - 16t^2 > 112$$

$$-16t^2 + 96t - 112 > 0$$

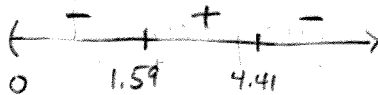
Solve using Quad. Formula: $A = -16$, $B = 96$, $C = -112$

$$t = \frac{-96 \pm \sqrt{96^2 - 4(-16)(-112)}}{2(-16)}$$

$$t = \frac{-96 \pm \sqrt{2048}}{-32}$$

$$t = \frac{-96 + \sqrt{2048}}{-32} \approx 1.59$$

$$t = \frac{-96 - \sqrt{2048}}{-32} \approx 4.41$$



The ball is more than 112 ft. above the ground after 1.59 sec. and before 4.41 sec.

* Verify Graphically *

#60

Ex 6 The monthly revenue achieved by selling x boxes of candy is calculated to be $x(5 - 0.05x)$ dollars. The wholesale cost of each box of candy is \$1.50. How many boxes must be sold each month to achieve a profit of at least \$60?

$$\text{Profit} = \text{Revenue} - \text{Cost}$$

$$P(x) = x(5 - 0.05x) - 1.50x$$

$$P(x) = 5x - 0.05x^2 - 1.50x$$

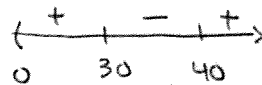
$$P(x) = -0.05x^2 + 3.5x$$

$$-0.05x^2 + 3.5x \geq 60$$

$$-0.05x^2 + 3.5x - 60 \geq 0$$

$$x^2 - 70x + 1200 \leq 0 \quad (\text{Divide By } -0.05)$$

$$(x-40)(x-30) \leq 0$$



The profit is at least \$60 when 30 to 40 boxes are sold.

The Real Zeros of a Polynomial Function

The Remainder Theorem: Let f be a polynomial function. If $f(x)$ is divided by $x - c$, then the remainder is $f(c)$.

The Factor Theorem: Let f be a polynomial function. Then $x - c$ is a factor of $f(x)$ if and only if $f(c) = 0$.

1. If $f(c) = 0$, then $x - c$ is a factor of $f(x)$.
2. If $x - c$ is a factor of $f(x)$, then $f(c) = 0$.

Note: if sum of coeff. = 0, then $x=1$ is a zero of polynomial!

Ex 1 Use the Remainder or Factor Theorem to find the following.

<p>a) Find the remainder if $f(x) = 2x^4 - 5x^2 + x - 1$ is divided by $x + 3$.</p> $ \begin{array}{r} -3 \overline{) 2 \ 0 \ -5 \ 1 \ -1} \\ \underline{-6 \ 18 \ -39 \ 114} \\ 2 \ -6 \ 13 \ -38 \ 113 \end{array} $ <p>THE REMAINDER IS $\frac{113}{x+3}$</p>	<p>b) Is $x + \frac{1}{4}$ a factor of $f(x) = 4x^5 + x^4 - 12x - 3$?</p> $ \begin{array}{r} -\frac{1}{4} \overline{) 4 \ 1 \ 0 \ 0 \ -12 \ -3} \\ \underline{ 4 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ -12 \ 0} \\ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ -12 \ 0 \end{array} $ <p>since $f(-\frac{1}{4}) = 0$, $(x + \frac{1}{4})$ is a factor of $f(x)$.</p> <p><u>Note:</u> Don't forget PLACE HOLDERS!!</p>	<p>c) Is $x + 3$ a factor of $f(x) = x^3 - 5x + 12$?</p> $ \begin{array}{r} -3 \overline{) 1 \ 0 \ -5 \ 12} \\ \underline{-3 \ 9 \ -12} \\ 1 \ -3 \ 4 \ 0 \end{array} $ <p>YES, $(x+3)$ is a factor of $f(x)$ since $f(-3) = 0$</p>
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Number of Real Zeros: A polynomial function cannot have more real zeros than its degree.

Descartes' Rule of Signs: Let f be a polynomial function written in standard form.

- The number of **positive real zeros** of f either equals the number of variations in the sign of the nonzero coefficients of $f(x)$ or else equals that number less an even integer.
- The number of **negative real zeros** of f either equals the number of variations in the sign of the nonzero coefficients of $f(-x)$ or else equals that number less an even integer.

Ex 2 Tell the maximum number of real zeros of the polynomial. Then use Descartes' Rule of signs to find how many positive and negative zeros the polynomial may have.

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

max # zeros = 5,

BASED ON DEGREE.

Descartes Rule:

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

\ominus to \oplus sign change

1 REAL POS. ZERO

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

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

No sign changes

Max # of Real Zeros: 5 # Positive Zeros: 1 # Negative Zeros: 0

Rational Zeros Theorem: Let f be a polynomial function of degree 1 or higher in standard form where each coefficient is an integer. If $\frac{p}{q}$, in lowest terms, is a rational zero of f , then p must be a factor of the constant of the polynomial and q must be a factor of the leading coefficient of the polynomial.

Ex 3 List the possible rational zeros of the function below, then find the rational zeros. Write the function in factored form.

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

\uparrow \uparrow
 q p

Possible Zeros: $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{3}{2}$

$$x=1 \left| \begin{array}{cccc} 2 & 5 & -1 & -6 \\ 2 & 7 & 6 & 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$2x^2 + 7x + 6 = 0$$

FACTORS OF 6	± 1	± 2	± 3	± 6
FACTORS OF 2	± 1	± 2		

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

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

$$x = -3/2 \quad x = -2$$

Rational Zeros: $x=1, -3/2, -2$ Factored Form of $f(x) = \underline{(x-1)(2x+3)(x+2)}$

Ex 4 Solve the following polynomial equation in the real number system.

$$2x^4 + x^3 - 24x^2 + 20x + 16 = 0 \quad \text{At most } \rightarrow 4 \text{ real zeros}$$

① sign changes \rightarrow 2 real zeros or none

$$f(-x) = 2(-x)^4 + (-x)^3 - 24(-x)^2 + 20(-x) + 16$$

$$f(-x) = 2x^4 - x^3 - 24x^2 - 20x + 16$$

2 sign changes \rightarrow 2 negative zeros or none

$$\begin{array}{l} p \rightarrow 16 \\ q \rightarrow 2 \end{array} \Rightarrow \frac{\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 16}{\pm 1, \pm 2} \rightarrow \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 16, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm 8$$

$$2 \left| \begin{array}{cccc} 2 & 1 & -24 & 20 & 16 \\ 4 & 10 & -28 & -16 & \end{array} \right.$$

$$2 \quad 5 \quad -14 \quad -8 \quad | \quad 0$$

$$2x^2 - 3x - 2 = 0$$

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

$$x = -1/2 \quad x = 2$$

$$-4 \left| \begin{array}{cccc} 2 & 5 & -14 & 8 \\ -8 & 12 & 8 & \end{array} \right.$$

$$2 \quad -3 \quad -2 \quad | \quad 0$$

THE FACTORS ARE $f(x) = (x-2)(x+4)(2x+1)(x-2)$
 $\therefore f(x) = (x-2)^2(x+4)(2x+1)$
 THE ZEROS ARE $x=2, x=-4, x=-1/2$

Intermediate Value Theorem: Let f denote a polynomial function. If $a < b$ and if $f(a)$ and $f(b)$ are opposite in sign, then there is at least one zero of f between a and b .

Ex 3 Show that the function $f(x) = x^4 + 8x^3 - x^2 + 2$ has a zero in the interval $[-1, 0]$.

$$f(-1) = (-1)^4 + 8(-1)^3 - (-1)^2 + 2$$

$$f(-1) = 1 - 8 - 1 + 2$$

$$f(-1) = -6 \text{ (negative)}$$

$$f(0) = 2 \text{ (positive)}$$

Since $f(x)$ changes from negative to positive in $[-1, 0]$, there is at least one zero in $[-1, 0]$.

Ex 4 Given a solution r that is in the interval $-3 \leq r \leq -2$, use the Intermediate Value Theorem to approximate the solution of $3x^3 - 10x + 9 = 0$.

$$f(-3) = -42$$

$$f(-2) = 5$$

② Divide into 10 subintervals between $[-3, -2]$

③ Evaluate at endpoints until you get a sign change

$$f(-2.1) = 2.217$$

$$f(-2.2) = -0.944$$

} changes from + to -

④ Repeat step 2

using $[-2.2, -2.1]$

$$f(-2.18) = -2.207$$

$$f(-2.17) = .0456$$

} changes sign

⑤ $r \approx -2.17$

Ex 5 Solve the following problems.

a) Find k such that $x + 2$ is a factor of $f(x) = x^4 - kx^3 + kx^2 + 1$.

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} -2 & 1 & -k & k & 0 & 1 \\ & & -2 & 2k+4 & -6k-8 & 12k+16 \end{array}$$

$$1 \quad -k-2 \quad 3k+4 \quad -6k-8 \quad 12k+17$$

set = 0

$$12k+17=0$$

$$k = -17/12$$

b) If -2 is one solution of the equation $x^3 + 5x^2 + 5x - 2 = 0$, what the sum of the remaining solutions?

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -2 & 1 & 5 & 5 & -2 \\ & & -2 & -6 & 2 \\ \hline & 1 & 3 & -1 & 0 \end{array}$$

$x^2 + 3x - 1 \Rightarrow$ USE QUADRATIC FORMULA

$$x = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{(3)^2 - 4(1)(-1)}}{2(1)} = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{13}}{2}$$

$$\text{Then sum: } \frac{-3 + \sqrt{13}}{2} + \frac{-3 - \sqrt{13}}{2} = \frac{-6}{2} = -3$$

The sum of the remaining solutions is -3 .

Ex 6 Is $\frac{2}{3}$ a zero of $f(x) = x^7 + 6x^5 - x^4 + x + 2$? Explain your answer.

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrrrr} \frac{2}{3} & 1 & 0 & 6 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ & & \frac{2}{3} & 4 & \frac{10}{3} & \frac{178}{3} & \frac{356}{3} & \frac{712}{27} \\ \hline & 1 & \frac{2}{3} & 5\frac{2}{3} & \frac{39}{3} & \frac{178}{3} & \frac{356}{3} & \frac{712}{27} \\ & & & & \frac{39}{27} & \frac{178}{81} & \frac{356}{243} & \frac{712}{2187} \end{array}$$

$x = \frac{2}{3}$ yields a remainder of $\frac{7250}{2187}$. Therefore it is NOT A ZERO.

3.7 Ex 1

A 5th degree polynomial has zeros 4, 6i, AND (2-i). What are the remaining zeros?

-6i AND (2+i)

Remember conjugates?

3.7 Ex 2

Form a polynomial in standard form. Degree = 5

Zeros are 2, 1+2i, -5i.

Other 2 zeros: 1-2i, 5i

So, factors are: $f(x) = (x-2)(x-(1+2i))(x-(1-2i))(x-5i)(x+5i)$

Rewrite: $f(x) = (x-2)(x-1-2i)(x-1+2i)(x-5i)(x+5i)$
(group (x-i))

$$f(x) = (x-2) [(x-1)^2 - 4i^2] (x^2 - 25i^2)$$

$$f(x) = (x-2) [x^2 - 2x + 1 - 4(-1)] (x^2 - 25(-1))$$

$$f(x) = (x-2)(x^2 - 2x + 5)(x^2 + 25)$$

Use "box" technique

- like punnet square

$$\begin{array}{r|l} & x^2 - 2x - 5 \\ x & x^3 - 2x^2 - 5x \\ -2 & -2x^2 = 4x + 10 \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^3 - 4x^2 - 9x + 10$$

$$f(x) = (x^3 - 4x^2 - 9x + 10)(x^2 + 25)$$

$$\begin{array}{r|l} & x^3 - 4x^2 - 9x + 10 \\ x^2 & x^5 - 4x^4 - 9x^3 + 10x^2 \\ 25 & 25x^3 - 100x^2 - 225x + 250 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = x^5 - 4x^4 - 16x^3 - 90x^2 - 225x + 250$$

Ex3 $(1+3i)$ is a zero. Find the remaining zeros.

$$g(x) = x^4 - 7x^3 + 14x^2 - 38x - 60$$

$$\frac{p}{q} = \frac{\text{FACTORS OF } 60}{\text{FACTORS OF } 1} \Rightarrow \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4, \pm 5, \pm 6, \pm 10, \pm 12, \pm 15, \pm 20, \pm 30, \pm 60$$

USE TRIAL AND
ERROR UNTIL
YOU GET ONE!

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} -1 & 1 & -7 & 14 & -38 & -60 \\ & & -1 & 8 & -22 & 60 \\ \hline & 1 & -8 & 22 & -60 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 6 & 1 & -8 & 22 & -60 \\ & & 6 & -12 & 60 \\ \hline & 1 & -2 & 10 & 0 \end{array}$$

THE REMAINING REAL ZEROS: $x = -1, x = 6$

THE OTHER IMAGINARY ZERO: $(1-3i)$

Ex 4 b

$$f(x) = 2x^4 + x^3 - 35x^2 - 113x + 65$$

possible zeros: $\frac{\text{Factors of } 65}{\text{Factors of } 2} = \frac{\pm 1 \mid \pm 5 \mid \pm 13 \mid \pm 65}{\pm 1 \mid \pm 2}$

$$\pm 1, \pm 5, \pm 13, \pm 65, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{5}{2}, \pm \frac{13}{2}, \pm \frac{65}{2}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 5 & 2 & 1 & -35 & -113 & 65 \\ & & 10 & 55 & 100 & -65 \\ \hline & 2 & 11 & 20 & -13 & 0 \end{array}$$

$x = 5$ is a zero,
 $(x - 5)$ is a factor.

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} \frac{1}{2} & 2 & 11 & 20 & -13 \\ & & 1 & 6 & 13 \\ \hline & 2 & 12 & 26 & 0 \end{array}$$

$x = \frac{1}{2}$ is a zero
 $(x - \frac{1}{2})$ is a factor
 $\Rightarrow (2x - 1)$ is a factor

$$2x^2 + 12x + 26 = 0$$

$$2(x^2 + 6x + 13) = 0$$

Doesn't factor.

USE QUADRATIC FORMULA.

$$A = 2$$

$$B = 12$$

$$C = 26$$

$$x = \frac{-12 \pm \sqrt{12^2 - 4(2)(26)}}{2(2)} = \frac{-12 \pm \sqrt{-64}}{4} = \frac{-12 \pm 8i}{4}$$

$x = -3 \pm 2i$ THESE ARE COMPLEX ZEROS

$\therefore (x - (-3 + 2i))$ AND $(x - (-3 - 2i))$ ARE FACTORS

$$f(x) = (x - 5)(2x - 1)(x^2 + 6x + 13)$$