

Find the roots (zeroes or x-intercepts) of the following functions:

Linear : Degree is 1

$$y = 5x + 10$$

$$0 = 5x + 10$$

-10 -10

$$\frac{-10}{5} = \frac{5x}{5}$$

$$\underline{\underline{-2 = x}}$$

$$y = -3x - 12$$

$$0 = -3x - 12$$

+12 +12

$$\frac{12}{-3} = \frac{-3x}{-3}$$

$$\underline{\underline{-4 = x}}$$



Find the roots (zeroes or x-intercepts) of the following functions:

Quadratic
Degree is 2
 $y = x^2 + 6x + 5$



$y = (x+5)(x+1)$

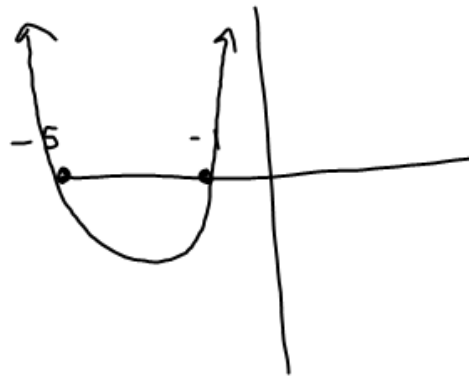
$0 = (x+5)(x+1)$

$0 = x+5$

$x = -5$

$0 = x+1$

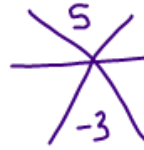
$x = -1$



Solve Quadratics

- factoring
- quadratic formula
- completing the square
- [• square root method.]

$y = x^2 - 3x + 5$



$a=1$
 $b=-3$
 $c=5$

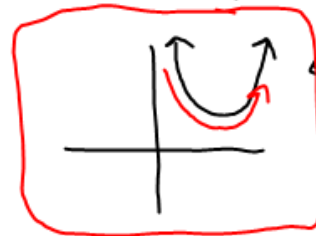
$$\frac{(-b) \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$\frac{3 \pm \sqrt{(-3)^2 - 4(1)(5)}}{2(1)}$$

$$\frac{3 \pm \sqrt{9 - 20}}{2}$$

$$\frac{3 \pm \sqrt{-11}}{2}$$

$$\frac{3 \pm i\sqrt{11}}{2}$$



Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

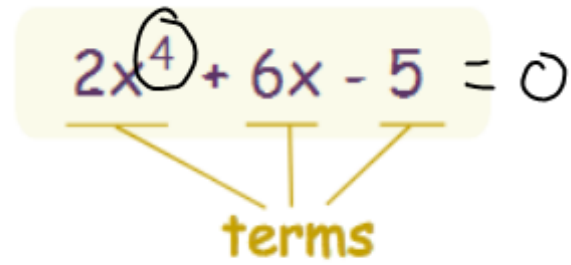
The "Fundamental Theorem of Algebra" is **not** the start of algebra or anything, but it does say something interesting about polynomials :

Any polynomial of degree n has n roots
but we may need to use complex numbers
(imaginary #'s)

- A **Polynomial** looks like this:

$$2x^4 + 6x - 5 = 0$$

terms



example of a polynomial
this one has 3 terms

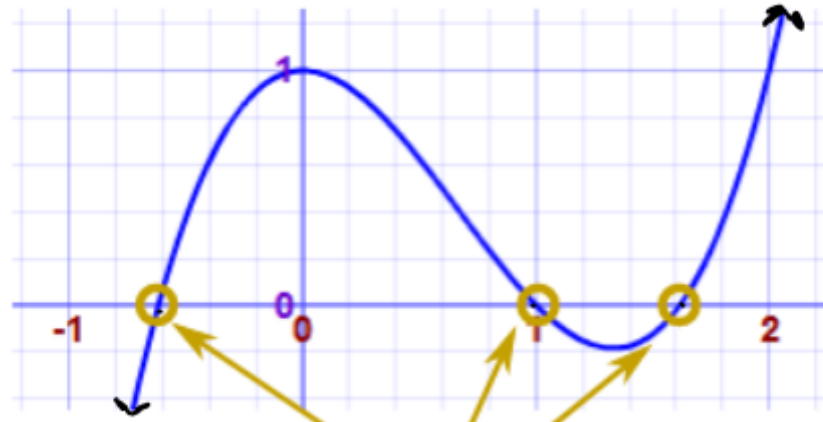
● The Degree of a Polynomial with one variable is ...

... the largest exponent of that variable.

this makes it Degree 3

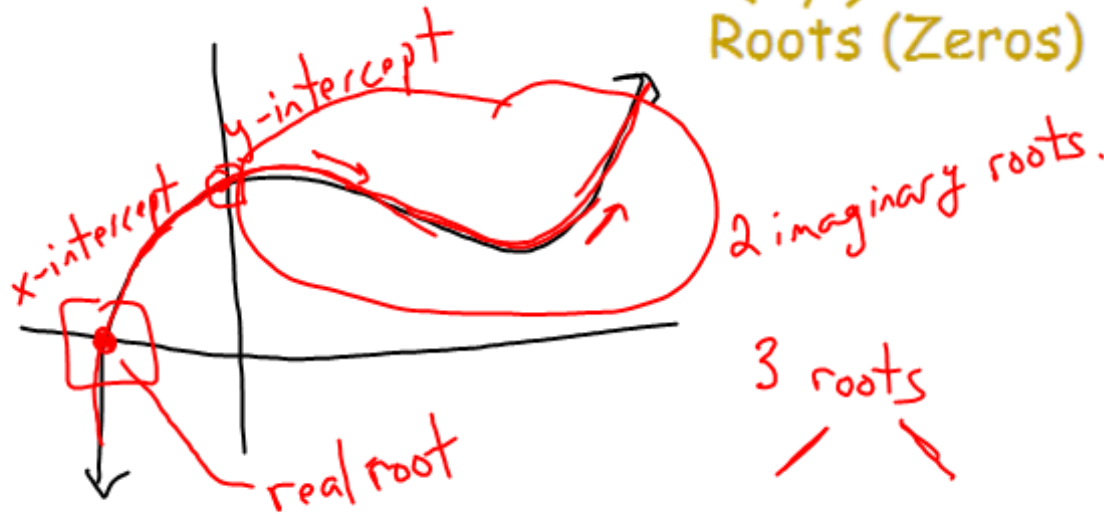
$$4x^3 + 2x^2 - 7$$

- A "root" (or "zero") is where the **polynomial is equal to zero.**



Roots (Zeros)

degree is 3



3 roots
/ \

So, a polynomial of degree 3 will have 3 roots (places where the polynomial is equal to zero). A polynomial of degree 4 will have 4 roots. And so on.

The "Fundamental Theorem of Algebra" is **not** the start of algebra or anything, but it does say something interesting about polynomials :

Any polynomial of degree **n** has **n** roots
but we may need to use complex numbers

Example: what are the roots of $x^2 - 9$?

$x^2 - 9$ has a degree of 2 (the largest exponent of x is 2), so there are 2 roots.

Let us solve it. We want it to be equal to zero:

$$\rightarrow x^2 - 9 = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -9 \\ 3 \times -3 \\ \hline 0 \end{array}$$

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

$$x+3=0$$

$$x = -3$$

$$x-3=0$$

$$x = 3$$

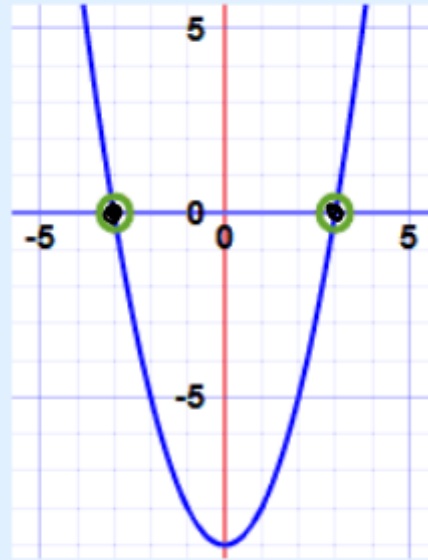
$$x^2 - 9 = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{r} +9 \quad +9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{9}$$

$$x = \pm 3$$

So the roots are -3 and $+3$



And there is something else of interest:

std. form $ax^2 + bx + c$

factored form = $(\quad x \quad)$

- A polynomial **can be rewritten like this:**

any polynomial \rightsquigarrow $a(x-r_1)(x-r_2)(x-r_3)\dots$

roots (zeros)

factors



The factors like $(x-r_1)$ are called **Linear Factors**, because they make a **line** when we plot them.

Example: $x^2 - 9$

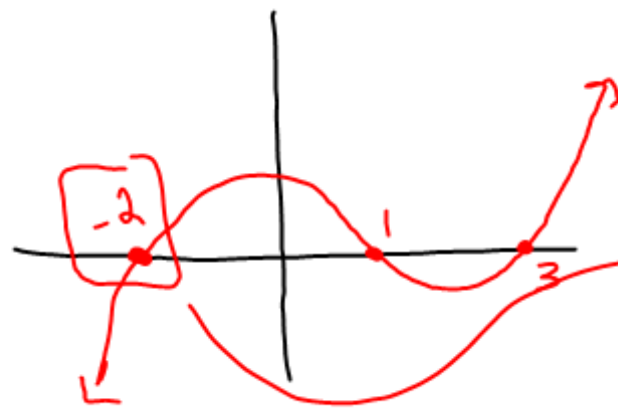
The roots are $r_1 = -3$ and $r_2 = +3$ (as we discovered above) so the factors are:

$$\rightarrow | x^2 - 9 = \underbrace{(x+3)(x-3)}$$

(in this case a is equal to 1 so I didn't put it in)

The Linear Factors are **$(x+3)$** and **$(x-3)$**

So knowing the **roots** means we also know the **factors**.



-2, 1, 3 : "roots"

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

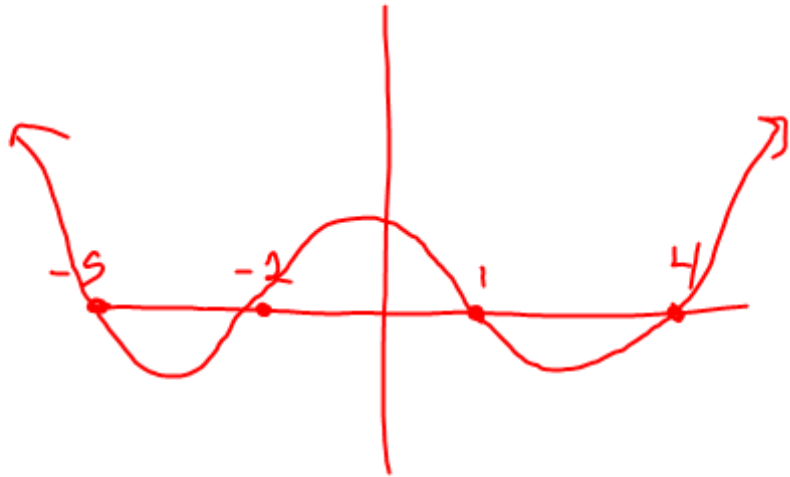
$$0 = (x + 2)$$

-2 -2

$$0 = (x - 1)$$

$$-2 = x$$

$$0 = (x - 3)$$



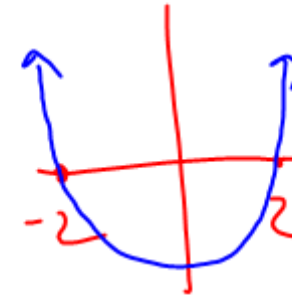
$$y = (x+5)(x+2)(x-1)(x-4)$$

Example: $3x^2 - 12$

It is degree 2, so there are 2 roots.

Let us find the roots: We want it to be equal to zero:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{leading coefficient} \\ \rightarrow \boxed{3}x^2 - 12 = 0 \\ \quad \quad \quad +12 \quad +12 \end{array}$$



$$\frac{3x^2}{3} = \frac{12}{3}$$

$$x = -2 \quad x = 2$$

$$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{4}$$

$$y = \boxed{3}(x+2)(x-2)$$

$$\boxed{x = \pm 2}$$

So the roots are:

$$x = -2 \text{ and } x = +2$$

And so the factors are:

$$3x^2 - 12 = \underline{\underline{3(x+2)(x-2)}}$$

Likewise, when we know the **factors** of a polynomial we also know the **roots**.

Example: $3x^2 - 18x + 24$

It is degree 2 so there are 2 factors.

$$3x^2 - 18x + 24 = a(x-r_1)(x-r_2)$$

$$3(x^2 - 6x + 8)$$

$$3(x-4)(x-2)$$

$$x=4 \quad x=2$$

~~$$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ -4 \quad -2 \\ \hline -6 \end{array}$$~~

Complex Numbers

We **may** need to use Complex Numbers to make the polynomial equal to zero.

A Complex Number is a combination of a Real Number and an Imaginary Number

$$a + bi$$

The diagram shows the expression $a + bi$ with three labels and arrows pointing to its components: 'Real Part' points to a , 'Imaginary Part' points to b , and $\sqrt{-1}$ points to i .

And here is an example:

Example: $x^2 - x + 1$

Can we make it equal to zero?

$$a=1 \quad b=-1 \quad c=1$$

$$x^2 - x + 1 = 0$$

~~$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ -1 \end{array}$$~~

Not factorable.

$$\frac{1 \pm \sqrt{(-1)^2 - 4(1)(1)}}{2(1)} \quad \text{"discriminant"}$$

$$\frac{1 \pm \sqrt{-3}}{2}$$

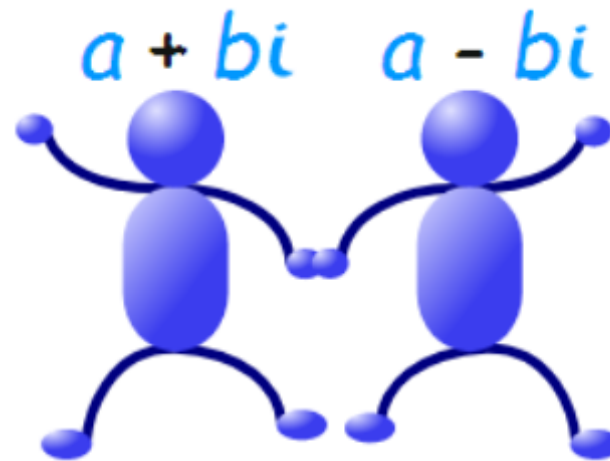
$$\frac{1 \pm i\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

Complex Pairs

So the roots r_1, r_2, \dots **etc** may be Real or Complex Numbers.

But there is something interesting...

Complex Roots **always come in pairs!**



You saw that in our example above:

Example: $x^2 - x + 1$

Has these roots:

$$0.5 - 0.866i \quad \text{and} \quad 0.5 + 0.866i$$

The pair are actually complex conjugates (where we **change the sign in the middle**) like this:

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Conjugate} \nearrow \underline{a + bi} \\ \underline{a - bi} \nwarrow \text{Conjugate} \end{array}$$

Always in pairs? Yes

So we either get:

- **no** complex roots
- **2** complex roots
- **4** complex roots,
- etc

And **never** 1, 3, 5, etc.

Which means we automatically know this:

Degree	Roots	Possible Combinations
1	1	1 Real Root
2	2	2 Real Roots, or 2 Complex Roots
3	3	3 Real Roots, or 1 Real and 2 Complex Roots
4	4	4 Real Roots, or 2 Real and 2 Complex Roots, or 4 Complex Roots
etc		etc!

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5 real roots; 3 real 2 imag. ; 1 real 4 imag

And so:

When the degree is odd (1, 3, 5, etc) there is **at least one real root** ... guaranteed!

Example: $3x-6$

The degree is 1.

There is one real root



You can actually see that it **must go through the x-axis** at some point.

According to the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra,
how many roots does this function have?

$$y = x^3 + 5x^2 - x - 5$$

What type of roots are there?

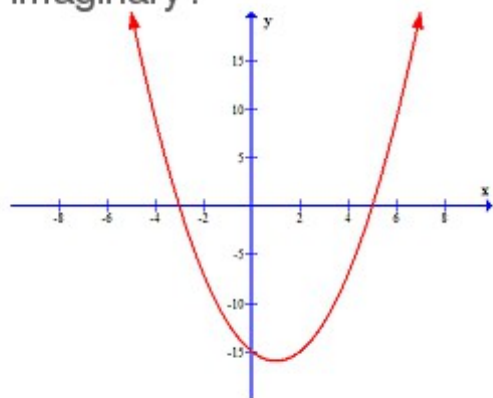
How many of each type of root would there be?

The factored form of a polynomial function is
 $y = (x + 4)(x - 2)(x - 1)(x + 1)$.

According to the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra, what is the degree of this function?

What are the roots of this function?

The following graph is of a polynomial function of degree 2. Are the solutions of this function real or imaginary?



HW #1: Fundamental Theorem of Algebra