

5.5 – Apply the Remainder and Factor Theorems

Polynomial Long Division

Example 1 Divide $3x^4 - 5x^3 + 4x - 6$ by $x^2 - 3x + 5$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \overline{3x^2 + 4x - 3} \\
 x^2 - 3x + 5 \overline{)3x^4 - 5x^3 + 0x^2 + 4x - 6} \\
 \underline{-(3x^4 - 9x^3 + 15x^2)} \quad | \\
 \overline{4x^3 - 15x^2 + 4x} \\
 \underline{-(4x^3 - 12x^2 + 20x)} \quad | \\
 \overline{-3x^2 - 16x - 6} \\
 \underline{-(-3x^2 + 9x - 15)} \quad | \\
 \overline{-25x + 9} \leftarrow \text{remainder}
 \end{array}$$

$3x^2 + 4x - 3 + \frac{-25x + 9}{x^2 - 3x + 5}$

- ① $\frac{3x^4}{x^2} = 3x^2$
- ② $3x^2(x^2 - 3x + 5)$
- ③ Subtract
- ④ $\frac{4x^3}{x^2} = 4x$
- ⑤ $4x(x^2 - 3x + 5)$
- ⑥ $\frac{-3x^2}{x^2} = -3$
- ⑦ $-3(x^2 - 3x + 5)$

Example 2 Divide $x^3 + 5x^2 - 7x + 2$ by $x - 2$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \overline{x^2 + 7x + 7} \\
 x - 2 \overline{)x^3 + 5x^2 - 7x + 2} \\
 \underline{-(x^3 - 2x^2)} \quad | \\
 \overline{7x^2 - 7x} \\
 \underline{-(7x^2 - 14x)} \quad | \\
 \overline{7x + 2} \\
 \underline{-(7x - 14)} \quad | \\
 \overline{16} \leftarrow \text{remainder}
 \end{array}$$

$x^2 + 7x + 7 + \frac{16}{x - 2}$

Use Synthetic Division

$$\begin{array}{l}
 x - 2 = 0 \\
 +2 \quad +2 \\
 x = 2
 \end{array}$$

	2	1	5	-7	2
		2	14	14	
		$\overline{\quad}$			
		1	7	7	$\overline{r = 16}$
		\downarrow	\downarrow	\downarrow	
		x^2	$+7x$	$+7$	$+ \frac{16}{x-2}$
		$\overline{\quad}$			

Remainder Theorem—If a polynomial $f(x)$ is divided by $x - k$, then the remainder is $r = f(k)$

Example 3 Use the remainder theorem. Divide $2x^3 + x^2 - 8x + 5$ by $x + 3$

$$\begin{array}{r} x+3=0 \\ -3 \quad -3 \\ \hline x=-3 \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{r} -3 \Big| 2 \quad 1 \quad -8 \quad 5 \\ \quad \quad -6 \quad 15 \quad -21 \\ \hline \quad \quad 2 \quad -5 \quad 7 \quad \boxed{r=-16} \end{array}$$

$$\boxed{2x^2 - 5x + 7 + \frac{-16}{x+3}}$$

Factor Theorem—A polynomial $f(x)$ has a factor $x - k$ if and only if $f(k) = 0$

Example 4 Factor $3x^3 - 4x^2 - 28x - 16$ completely given that $x + 2$ is a factor.

$$\begin{array}{r} x+2=0 \\ -2 \quad -2 \\ \hline x=-2 \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{r} -2 \Big| 3 \quad -4 \quad -28 \quad -16 \\ \quad \quad -6 \quad 20 \quad 16 \\ \hline \quad \quad 3 \quad -10 \quad -8 \quad \boxed{0} \end{array}$$

$$(3x^2 - 10x - 8)(x+2)$$

$$x^2 - 10x - 24$$

$$(x+2)(x-12)$$

$$\boxed{(3x+2)(x-4)(x+2)}$$

HW: (3, 9, 11, 17, 21, 22)

EXAMPLES

1 and 2

on pp. 362–363
for Exs. 3–10

USING LONG DIVISION Divide using polynomial long division.

3. $(x^2 + x - 17) \div (x - 4)$
4. $(3x^2 - 11x - 26) \div (x - 5)$
5. $(x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x + 2) \div (x - 1)$
6. $(8x^2 + 34x - 1) \div (4x - 1)$
7. $(3x^3 + 11x^2 + 4x + 1) \div (x^2 + x)$
8. $(7x^3 + 11x^2 + 7x + 5) \div (x^2 + 1)$
9. $(5x^4 - 2x^3 - 7x^2 - 39) \div (x^2 + 2x - 4)$
10. $(4x^4 + 5x - 4) \div (x^2 - 3x - 2)$

EXAMPLE 3

on p. 363
for Exs. 11–20

USING SYNTHETIC DIVISION Divide using synthetic division.

11. $(2x^2 - 7x + 10) \div (x - 5)$
12. $(4x^2 - 13x - 5) \div (x - 2)$
13. $(x^2 + 8x + 1) \div (x + 4)$
14. $(x^2 + 9) \div (x - 3)$
15. $(x^3 - 5x^2 - 2) \div (x - 4)$
16. $(x^3 - 4x + 6) \div (x + 3)$
17. $(x^4 - 5x^3 - 8x^2 + 13x - 12) \div (x - 6)$
18. $(x^4 + 4x^3 + 16x - 35) \div (x + 5)$

ERROR ANALYSIS Describe and correct the error in using synthetic division to divide $x^3 - 5x + 3$ by $x - 2$.

19.

2	1	0	-5	3
	2	2	4	-2
	1	2	-1	1

$$\frac{x^3 - 5x + 3}{x - 2} = x^3 + 2x^2 - x + 1$$

20.

2	1	-5	3
	2	-6	
	1	-3	-3

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

EXAMPLE 4

on p. 364
for Exs. 21–28

FACTOR Given polynomial $f(x)$ and a factor of $f(x)$, factor $f(x)$ completely.

21. $f(x) = x^3 - 10x^2 + 19x + 30; x - 6$
22. $f(x) = x^3 + 6x^2 + 5x - 12; x + 4$
23. $f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 - 40x - 64; x - 8$
24. $f(x) = x^3 + 18x^2 + 95x + 150; x + 10$
25. $f(x) = x^3 + 2x^2 - 51x + 108; x + 9$
26. $f(x) = x^3 - 9x^2 + 8x + 60; x + 2$
27. $f(x) = 2x^3 - 15x^2 + 34x - 21; x - 1$
28. $f(x) = 3x^3 - 2x^2 - 61x - 20; x - 5$