

HWS: due tomorrow at 11:59 pm

HW6: will be posted today

## Division Algorithm for Polynomials.

If  $f(x)$  and  $p(x)$  are polynomials and if  $p(x) \neq 0$ , then there exist unique polynomials  $q(x)$  and  $r(x)$  such that

$$f(x) = p(x) \cdot \underline{q(x)} + \underline{r(x)}$$

where either  $\underline{r(x) = 0}$  or the degree of  $r(x)$  is less than the degree of  $p(x)$ .

Now, we will focus on the <sup>special</sup> case when  $\underline{p(x) = x - c}$ .

For any polynomial  $f(x)$ , by the division algorithm, there exist unique polynomials  $q(x)$  and  $r(x)$  such that

$$\underline{f(x) = (x - c) \cdot q(x) + r(x)}$$

where either  $r(x) = 0$  or  $\underline{\deg(r(x)) < \deg(x - c)}$ .  $= 1$

Since  $\underline{\deg(x - c) = 1}$ ,  $\underline{\deg(r(x)) = 0}$ .

Thus,  $\underline{r(x) = d}$  for some real number  $d$ .

$$\Rightarrow \underline{f(x) = (x - c) \cdot q(x) + d} = f(c)$$

$\begin{matrix} \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ c & c & c \end{matrix}$

Set  $x=c$ , then we have

$$f(c) = (c-c) \cdot q(c) + d$$

$$f(c) = 0 \cdot q(c) + d$$

$$\boxed{f(c)} = 0 + d = \underline{d} \Rightarrow d = f(c)$$

Hence,  $f(x) = \underline{(x-c)} \cdot \underline{q(x)} + \boxed{f(c)}$

We just proved the following theorem:

### Remainder Theorem

If a polynomial  $\boxed{f(x)}$  is divided by  $\boxed{x-c}$  then the remainder is  $\boxed{f(c)}$ .

$\begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ -1 \\ x - (-1) = x + 1 \end{matrix}$        $\begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ -1 \\ f(-1) \end{matrix}$

Ex If  $f(x) = 2x^3 - 4x^2 + x + 5$ , use the remainder theorem to find  $f(-1)$ .

Proof 1) I will divide  $f(x)$  by  $x - (-1) = x + 1$ .

Then, the remainder Theorem says the remainder is  $f(-1)$ .

$$\begin{array}{r}
 2x^2 - 6x + 7 \\
 \hline
 x+1 \overline{) 2x^3 - 4x^2 + x + 5} \\
 \underline{2x^3 + 2x^2} \phantom{+ 5} \\
 -6x^2 + x \phantom{+ 5} \\
 \underline{-6x^2 - 6x} \phantom{+ 5} \\
 7x + 5 \\
 \underline{7x + 7} \\
 \hline
 -2 = f(-1)
 \end{array}$$

$\rightarrow \boxed{f(-1) = -2}$

Proof 2)

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

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(-1) &= 2 \cdot (-1)^3 - 4 \cdot (-1)^2 + (-1) + 5 \\
 &= 2 \cdot (-1) - 4 \cdot 1 + (-1) + 5 \\
 &= -2 - 4 - 1 + 5 = \boxed{-2}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Factor Theorem

A polynomial  $f(x)$  has factor  $x-c$  if and only if  $f(c)=0$ .

$(x-c)$  divides  $f(x)$

↕

$f(x) = (x-c) \cdot g(x)$  for some polynomial  $g(x)$ .

↕

$f(x) = (x-c) \cdot g(x) + 0 = f(c)$ .

Ex Show that  $x-3$  is the factor of  $f(x) = 2x^3 - 5x^2 - 4x + 3$ .

Proof 1)

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 + x - 1 \\ x-3 \overline{) 2x^3 - 5x^2 - 4x + 3} \\ \underline{2x^3 - 6x^2} \phantom{- 4x + 3} \\ x^2 - 4x \phantom{+ 3} \\ \underline{x^2 - 3x} \phantom{+ 3} \\ -x + 3 \\ \underline{-x + 3} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$f(x) = 2x^3 - 5x^2 - 4x + 3 = (x-3)(2x^2 + x - 1)$   
 $\Rightarrow (x-3)$  is a factor.

Proof 2) (Factor Theorem)

$f(x)$  has factor  $x-3$  if

$f(3) = 0$ .

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

$= 2 \cdot 27 - 5 \cdot 9 - 12 + 3$

$= 54 - 45 - 12 + 3 = 0$ .

By the factor theorem,  $(x-3)$  divides  $f(x)$ .

Ex Find a polynomial  $f(x)$  of degree 4 that has

0, 3, 1, and -2 as zeros such that  $f(-1) = 16$ .

0, 3, 1, and -2 as zeros such that  $f(-1) = 16$ .

if -2 is a zero of  $f(x)$ , then it means  $f(-2) = 0$ .  
 Factor theorem says  $f(-2) = 0$  implies " $(x - (-2))$  divides  $f(x)$ ."  
 $(x+2)$

$(x-0) = x$  divides  $f(x)$ .  
 $(x-3)$  divides  $f(x)$ .  
 $(x-1)$  divides  $f(x)$ .

$\Rightarrow x, x-3, x-1,$  and  $x+2$  divide  $f(x)$ .

$\Rightarrow x \cdot (x-3)(x-1)(x+2)$  divides  $f(x)$ .

degree?  $\boxed{4}$

it also has degree 4.

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

$$f(-1) = a \cdot (-1) \cdot (-1-3) \cdot (-1-1) \cdot (-1+2)$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) = a \cdot x(x-3)(x-1)(x+2)$$

$-2$  some real number.

but  $f(-1) = 16$

$$-8a = 16, a = -2$$

$$a \cdot (-1) \cdot (-4) \cdot (-2) \cdot 1 = 16$$

When two polynomials  $f(x)$  and  $p(x) \neq 0$  are given,

we know how to divide  $f(x)$  by  $p(x)$ : Long division.

When  $p(x) = x - c$ , there is an easier way to do the division!

: Synthetic division.

Ex Divide  $3x^4 - 5x^3 - 2x + 7$  by  $x - 2$ .

Proof 1). Long division:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 3x^3 + x^2 + 2x + 2 \\
 \underline{2x-2} \overline{) 3x^4 - 5x^3 + 0x^2 - 2x + 7} \\
 3x^4 - 6x^3 \\
 \hline
 x^3 + 0x^2 \\
 \underline{x^3 - 2x^2} \\
 2x^2 - 2x \\
 \underline{2x^2 - 4x} \\
 2x + 7 \\
 \underline{2x - 4} \\
 11
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 3x^4 - 5x^3 - 2x + 7 \\
 = (x-2)(3x^3 + x^2 + 2x + 2) + 11
 \end{array}$$

Proof 2)

$$\begin{array}{r}
 3 \quad -5 \quad 0 \quad -2 \quad 7 \\
 \underline{2} \quad \downarrow \\
 3 \quad 1 \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad 11 \\
 \hline
 3x^3 + x^2 + 2x + 2 \quad \text{quotient} \\
 11 \quad \text{remainder}
 \end{array}$$

Ex If  $f(x) = 2x^5 - 4x^3 + 3x^2 - 5$ , use synthetic division to

find  $f(3)$ .

I will divide  $f(x)$  by  $(x-3)$ .

The remainder theorem says that the remainder is  $f(3)$ .

$$2x^5 - 4x^3 + 3x^2 - 5 \rightarrow 2x^5 + 0x^4 - 4x^3 + 3x^2 + 0x - 5$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrrr}
 3 & 2 & 0 & -4 & 3 & 0 & -5 \\
 & & 6 & 18 & 42 & 135 & 405 \\
 \hline
 & 2 & 6 & 14 & 45 & 135 & 400
 \end{array}$$

$2x^4 + 6x^3 + 14x^2 + 45x + 135$   
 quotient!

$$2x^5 - 4x^3 + 3x^2 - 5 = (x-3)(2x^4 + 6x^3 + 14x^2 + 45x + 135) + \boxed{\frac{400}{= f(3)}}$$

Ex Show that 7 is a zero of the polynomial

$$f(x) = x^3 + x^2 - 65x + 63$$

7 is a zero of  $f(x)$



$$f(7) = 0$$

↕ ← factor theorem.

$(x-7)$  divides  $f(x)$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr}
 7 & 1 & 1 & -65 & 63 \\
 & & 7 & 56 & -63 \\
 \hline
 & 1 & 8 & -9 & 0
 \end{array}$$

↑ remainder.

$x^2 + 8x - 9$  : quotient.

$$\Rightarrow f(x) = x^3 + x^2 - 65x + 63 = (x-7)(x^2 + 8x - 9)$$

Hence, 7 is a zero of the polynomial  $f(x) = x^3 + x^2 - 65x + 63$ .