

2-5 The Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

Fundamental Theorem of Algebra P. 135

If $f(x)$ is a polynomial of degree n , where $n > 0$, then f has at least one zero in the complex number system (which means reals and nonreals).

I. Find all the zeros of the polynomial and write the linear factorization.

Ex 1) $f(x) = x^2 - 6x + 9$

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

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

$$x=3 \text{ repeated}$$

$$(x-3)(x-3)$$



Ex 2) $f(x) = x^3 + 4x$

$$x(x^2+4) = 0$$

$$x=0$$

$$x^2+4=0$$

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

$$x = \pm 2i$$

$$x(x^2+4)$$

$$x(x-2i)(x+2i)$$

$$-2i \cdot 2i = -4i^2$$

$$+4$$

Ex 3) $f(x) = x^5 + x^3 + 2x^2 - 12x + 8$ (Graph and find all rational zeros first.)

- - + + +
Pos 2 or 0
Neg. 1

	1	0	1	2	-12	8
-2	1	-2	5	-8	4	0
	1	-1	4	-4	0	
	1	0	4	0	0	

$x^2 + 4 = 0$
 $\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{-4}$
 $x = \pm 2i$

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

$x = -2$

$x = 1$

$x = 1$

$x = \pm 2i$

Ex 4) $f(x) = x^2 + 6x - 2$

36 - -8

$a = 1$
 $b = 6$
 $c = -2$

$x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{6^2 - 4(1)(-2)}}{2(1)}$

$x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{44}}{2} \rightarrow \sqrt{4} \cdot \sqrt{11} = 2\sqrt{11}$

$x = \frac{-6 \pm 2\sqrt{11}}{2}$

$x = -3 \pm \sqrt{11}$

$[x - (-3 + \sqrt{11})][x - (-3 - \sqrt{11})]$

$(x + 3 - \sqrt{11})(x + 3 + \sqrt{11})$