



A diagram showing the polynomial  $3x^4 - 2x^2 + x - 5$ . Above the polynomial, a horizontal blue line spans the width of the expression. From this line, three blue arrows point downwards to the exponents of the first three terms: the first arrow points to the exponent 4 of  $3x^4$ , the second arrow points to the exponent 2 of  $-2x^2$ , and the third arrow points to the exponent 1 of  $+x$ . This illustrates that the exponents decrease from left to right.

$$3x^4 - 2x^2 + x - 5$$

Exponents decrease from left to right.



A diagram showing the polynomial  $3x^4 - 2x^2 + x - 5$ . A blue arrow points from the bottom right towards the constant term  $-5$ , indicating that the constant term is written last.

$$3x^4 - 2x^2 + x - 5$$

Constant term is written last.