WORKBOOK EXAMPLES CHAPTER 4 MATH 1100

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21 March 2020



OUTLINE

1 §4.1: POLYNOMIAL FUNCTIONS AND MODELS

OBJECTIVES

Determine the behavior of the graph of a polynomial function using the leading term test.

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Determine the behavior of the graph of a polynomial function using the leading term test.

Factor polynomial functions, and find the zeros and their multiplicities.

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where the coefficients $a_n, a_{n-1}, \ldots, a_1, a_0$ are real numbers and the exponents are whole numbers.

$$g(x) = -\frac{1}{6}x^3 - 4x + 8.$$

Determine the leading term, the leading coefficient, and the degree of the polynomial. Then classify the polynomial as a constant, linear, quadratic, cubic or quartic.

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SOLUTION:

The leading term, i.e. the term with the highest degree, is

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The degree of g(x) is 3.

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The polynomial is a cubic polynomial.

$$g(x) = 2.4x^4 + 5x^2 - x + \frac{5}{8}.$$

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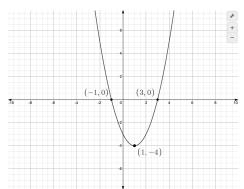
$$f(x) = x^2 - 2x - 3 = (x+1)(x-3),$$

EXAMPLE

Given

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

FIGURE:
$$f(x) = x^2 - 2x - 3$$



find the zeros of f(x):

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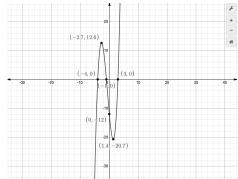
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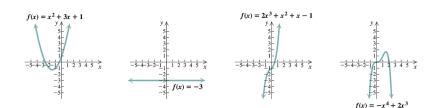
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EXAMPLES OF POLYNOMIAL FUNCTIONS

FIGURE: Polynomial Functions



EXAMPLES OF NONPOLYNOMIAL FUNCTIONS

FIGURE: Nonpolynomial Functions

