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## Polynomial Division

# Numerical Long Division Review

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## **Polynomial Long Division**

$\begin{array}{r} 2x-4 \\ x+5 \overline{) (2x^2 + 6x - 3)} \\ 2x^2 + 10x \\ \hline -4x-3 \\ -4x-20 \\ \hline 17 \\ q(x) = 2x-4 \\ r(x) = 17 \\ (2x^2 + 6x - 3) = (x+5)(2x-4) + 17 \end{array}$	$3x-4 \overline{) 12x^3 - 10x^2 + x - 4}$
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**Example 1:** Determine the quotient and remainder for  $(-11x + 4x^3 - 9) \div (2x - 3)$ ,  $x \neq \frac{3}{2}$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \begin{array}{c}
 2x^2 + 3x - 1 \\
 \hline
 2x-3 \sqrt{4x^3 + 0x^2 - 11x - 9} \\
 4x^3 - 6x^2 \\
 \hline
 6x^2 - 11x \\
 6x^2 - 9x \\
 \hline
 -2x - 9 \\
 -2x + 3 \\
 \hline
 -12
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{l}
 -11x + 4x^3 - 9 \\
 = \\
 (2x-3)(2x^2 + 3x - 1) - 12
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

**Example 2:** When a polynomial is divided by  $2x - 5$ , the quotient is  $2x^2 + 3x - 1$  with a remainder of -3. What is the polynomial?

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= (2x-5)(2x^2+3x-1) - 3 \\ &= 4x^3 + 6x^2 - 2x - 10x^2 - 15x + 5 - 3 \\ &= 4x^3 - 4x^2 - 17x + 2 \end{aligned}$$

**Example 3:** The volume of a rectangular prism is shown by the expression  $2x^3 + 15x^2 + 22x - 15$ . Determine the expressions for each of the dimensions of the rectangular prism if the height is  $x + 3$ .

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 + 9x - 5 \\ x+3 \sqrt{2x^3 + 15x^2 + 22x - 15} \\ \underline{-2x^3 - 6x^2} \\ \hline 9x^2 + 22x \\ \underline{-9x^2 - 27x} \\ \hline -5x - 15 \\ \underline{-5x - 15} \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \quad \begin{aligned} v &= lwh \\ v(x) &= l(x)w(x)h(x) \\ &= (2x-1)(x+5)(x+3) \end{aligned}$$

### Synthetic Division

Good news ☺ There's a great short cut if the divisor is of the form  $x - k$ .

Divide  $2x^2 + 5x - 8$  by  $x + 3$ .

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x-1 \\ x+3 \sqrt{2x^2 + 5x - 8} \\ \underline{-2x^2 - 6x} \\ \hline -x + 8 \\ \underline{-x - 3} \\ \hline 5 \end{array}$$

(left      rem)

$$q(x) = 2x-1$$

$$r = -5$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x-1 \\ x+3 \sqrt{2x^2 + 5x - 8} \\ \underline{-2x^2 - 6x} \\ \hline -x + 8 \\ \underline{-x - 3} \\ \hline 5 \end{array}$$

$$q = 2x-1$$

$$r = -5$$

Now let's STOP and review.

### Summary

- Long division or synthetic division can be used to determine the quotient and remainder when a polynomial (dividend) is divided by another polynomial (divisor) of the same or a lesser degree.
- To carry out the division, ensure the terms of the polynomial are in descending order of degree. Missing powers of  $x$  in the dividend or divisor are included using a coefficient of 0 to keep work accurate and aligned correctly.
- The division is completed when the degree of the remaining terms after subtraction is less than the degree of the divisor.
- The result of the division  $P(x) \div d(x)$ , where  $P(x)$  is the polynomial dividend and  $d(x)$  is the divisor, is given by

$$\frac{P(x)}{d(x)} = q(x) + \frac{r(x)}{d(x)}$$

Where  $q(x)$  is the quotient and  $r(x)$  is the remainder.

- The polynomial dividend can be expressed in terms of the quotient, divisor and remainder using

$$P(x) = d(x)q(x) + r(x)$$

To check the result of the division, multiply the quotient by the divisor and add the remainder. The result should be the dividend.

### Remainder Theorem

Determine the remainder when  $6x^2 + 5x - 2$  is divided by  $x - 3$ .

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \begin{array}{c} 6 & 5 & -2 \\ \underline{-} & 18 & 69 \\ 6 & 23 & 67 \end{array} & q(x) = 6x + 23 \\
 \end{array}$$

$r = 67$

$$f(3) = 6(3)^2 + 5(3) - 2 = 54 + 15 - 2 = 67$$

### Remainder Theorem

When a polynomial  $P(x)$  is divided by a linear factor  $(x-k)$ , the remainder is given by  $P(k)$

Proof :  $P(k) =$

**Example 1:** Find the remainder when:

a.  $(6x^3 - 2x + 3) \div (x - 1)$

$$\begin{aligned}f(1) &= 6 - 2 + 3 \\&= 7 \\r &= 7\end{aligned}$$

b.  $(8x^2 - 6x + 2) \div (2x - 3)$

$$\begin{aligned}f\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) &= \frac{11}{2} \\r &= 2 \cdot \frac{11}{2} \\r &= 11\end{aligned}$$

**Example 2:** When  $3x^3 + 4x^2 - kx + 2$  is divided by  $x + 3$ , the remainder is -1. Find k.

$$\begin{aligned}f(x) &= \\f(-3) &= -1 = 3(-3)^3 + 4(-3)^2 - k(-3) + 2 \\k &= 14\end{aligned}$$

**Factor Theorem**Factor  $x^2 + 9x + 20$ .Determine the remainder for  $(x^2 + 9x + 20) \div (x + 5)$ 

$$\begin{aligned}(x+5)(x+4) &\\f(-5) &= r \\25 - 45 + 20 &= r \\r &= 0\end{aligned}$$

## Factor Theorem

 $(x-k)$  is a factor of  $p(x) \Leftrightarrow p(k) = r = 0$ **Example 1:** Determine whether  $x - 3$  a factor of each of the following:

a.  $x^3 - 2x^2 + x - 12$

$$\hookrightarrow f(3) = 0$$

$\therefore x-3$  is  
a factor

b.  $2x^4 - 5x - 10$

$$f(3) = 137$$

$$137 \neq 0$$

$\therefore x-3$  is not  
a factor

**Example 2:** Determine the value of k if  $x + 1$  is a factor of the function  $f(x) = x^5 - 3x^4 + kx^2 + 13$ .

$$f(-1) = 0$$

solve for k

### Polynomial Factoring

Expand the expression  $(2x + 1)(x - 4)(x + 3)$

Using the expanded expression and the factor theorem, verify that  $2x + 1$ ,  $x - 4$  and  $x + 3$  are factors.

Brainstorm a strategy that you could follow to find the factors of a polynomial expression.

Unfortunately, there is no general formula that lets us plug in a polynomial and output the roots/factors

- 1) Guess and check for roots to identify linear factors
  - 2) Synthetic Division
  - 3) Repeat with your quotient which is degree 1 less than above
- Hope this works until we get down to a quadratic because we have the quadratic equation

1. Factor  $x^3 + 3x^2 - 4x - 12$ .

2. Factor  $6x^4 + x^3 - 46x^2 - 39x + 18$ .

find 1 root and you can get all the other roots

More practice. **Have fun!**

Use polynomial division to simplify each of the following quotients.

a) 
$$\frac{x^4 + 3x^3 - x^2 - x + 6}{x + 3}$$

d) 
$$\frac{2x^4 + 8x^3 - 5x^2 - 4x + 2}{x^2 + 4x - 2}$$

g) 
$$\frac{x^3 - 2x^2 - 4}{x - 2}$$

b) 
$$\frac{2x^4 - 5x^3 + 2x^2 + 5x - 10}{x - 2}$$

e) 
$$\frac{3x^4 - x^3 + 8x^2 + 5x + 3}{x^2 - x + 3}$$

h) 
$$\frac{x^3 - 4x^2 + 9}{x - 3}$$

c) 
$$\frac{7x^4 - 10x^3 + 3x^2 + 3x - 3}{x - 1}$$

f) 
$$\frac{3x^4 + 9x^3 - 5x^2 - 6x + 2}{3x^2 - 2}$$

i) 
$$\frac{x^4 - 13x - 42}{x^2 - x - 6}$$

**Answers**

a)  $x^3 - x + 2$    b)  $2x^3 - x^2 + 5$    c)  $7x^3 - 3x^2 + 3$

d)  $2x^2 - 1$    e)  $3x^2 + 2x + 1$    f)  $x^2 + 3x - 1$

g)  $x^2 + 2x + 2$    h)  $x^2 - x - 3$    i)  $x^2 + x + 7$