

# **Unit 5: Factorization**

# Overview

### **Factorization:**

The process of expressing an algebraic expression in terms of its factors is called factorization.

### **Remainder Theorem:**

If a polynomial p(x) is divided by a linear divisor (x-a), then the remainder is p(a).

## Zero of a Polynomial:

If a specific number x = a is substituted for the variable x in a polynomial p(x) so that the value p(a) is zero, then x = a is called a zero of the polynomial p(x).

#### **Factor Theorem:**

The polynomial (x-a) is a factor of the polynomial p(x) if and only if p(a) = 0.

#### **Rational Root Theorem:**

Let  $a_0x^n+a_1x^{n-1}+...+a_{n-1}x+a_n=0$ ,  $a_0\neq 0$  be a polynomial equation of degree n with integral coefficients. If  $\frac{p}{q}$  is a rational root (expressed in lowest terms) of the equation, then p is a factor of the constant term  $a_n$  and q is a factor of the leading coefficient  $a_0$ .

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