

Homework 2-2

Solving Polynomial Equations

1. Solve $4x^3 - x^2 - 4x + 1 = 0$ for all value(s) of x .

$$x^2(4x-1) - 1(4x-1) = 0$$

$$(4x-1)(x^2-1) = 0$$

$$(4x-1)(x+1)(x-1) = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c|c} x = 1/4 & x = -1 & x = 1 \end{array}$$

2. Find the roots of the polynomial equation $x^5 - 10x^3 + 9x = 0$.

$$x(x^4 - 10x^2 + 9) = 0$$

$$x(x^2 - 9)(x^2 - 1) = 0$$

$$x(x+3)(x-3)(x+1)(x-1) = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c|c|c|c} x = 0 & x = -3 & x = 3 & x = -1 & x = 1 \end{array}$$

3. You are given the polynomial function $P(x) = 6x^3 + kx^2 - 52x + 15$. You know that one of the roots is $x = 1.5$. What is the value of k ? What are the zeros of $P(x)$?

$$0 = 6(1.5)^3 + k(1.5)^2 - 52(1.5) + 15$$

$$0 = 20.25 + 2.25k - 78 + 15$$

$$0 = 2.25k - 42.75$$

$$\begin{array}{r} +42.75 \quad \quad +42.75 \\ \hline 42.75 = 2.25k \end{array}$$

$$42.75 = 2.25k$$

$$19 = k$$

$$P(x) = 6x^3 + 19x^2 - 52x + 15$$

$$(x-1.5)(\text{purple box})$$

Since we can't factor this, we can divide to find the other factor!

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1.5 & 6 & 19 & -52 & 15 \\ & \downarrow & 9 & 42 & -15 \\ \hline & 6 & 28 & -10 & 0 \end{array}$$

$x^2 \quad x \quad c \quad r$

$$(x-1.5)(\underline{6x^2 + 28x - 10})$$

$$(x-1.5)(3x^2 + 14x - 5)$$

$$(x-1.5)(3x^2 + 15x - 1x - 5)$$

$$(x-1.5)(3x(x+5) - 1(x+5))$$

$$(x-1.5)(x+5)(3x-1)$$

4. Which of the following expressions can be reduced further?

(1) $\frac{x+7}{7}$

(3) $\frac{2x+5}{5}$

(2) $\frac{5(x+3)}{3x}$

(4) $\frac{x(x+1)}{2x}$

5. Solve $\frac{x^2}{x-4} = \frac{16}{x-4}$

LCD: $x-4$

~~(x-4)~~ $\frac{x^2}{\cancel{x-4}} = \frac{16}{\cancel{x-4}}$ ~~(x-4)~~

$x^2 = 16$

~~$x=4$~~ $\boxed{x=-4}$

6. Divide $\frac{x^4 + 3x^2 + 2x - 4}{x+2}$ and write your answer in quotient remainder form.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^3 - 2x^2 + 7x - 12 \\
 x+2 \overline{) x^4 + 0x^3 + 3x^2 + 2x - 4} \\
 \underline{-(x^4 + 2x^3)} \downarrow \\
 -2x^3 + 3x^2 \downarrow \\
 \underline{-(+2x^3 + 4x^2)} \downarrow \\
 7x^2 + 2x \downarrow \\
 \underline{-(7x^2 + 14x)} \downarrow \\
 -12x - 4 \downarrow \\
 \underline{-(+12x + 24)} \\
 20
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 -2 \overline{) 1 \ 0 \ 3 \ 2 \ -4} \\
 \underline{ -2 \ 4 \ -14 \ 24} \\
 1 \ -2 \ 7 \ -12 \ 20 \\
 x^3 \ x^2 \ x \ c \ R
 \end{array}$$

$\boxed{x^3 - 2x^2 + 7x - 12 + \frac{20}{x+2}}$

☐ I got

☐ I almost got it...

☐ I need more practice...

☐ I don't get it... Help!