Solution Section 3.2 – Polynomial Functions

Exercise

f(x) Determine the end behavior of the graph of the polynomial function $f(x) = 5x^3 + 7x^2 - x + 9$

Solution

Leading term: $5x^3$ with 3^{rd} degree (*n* is odd)

$$x \to -\infty \implies f(x) \to -\infty$$
 $f(x)$ falls left

$$x \to \infty \implies f(x) \to \infty$$
 $f(x)$ rises right

 $11x^3$

Exercise

Determine the end behavior of the graph of the polynomial function $f(x) = 11x^3 - 6x^2 + x + 3$

Solution

Leading term: with 3^{rd} degree (n is odd)

$$x \to -\infty \implies f(x) \to -\infty$$
 $f(x)$ falls left

$$x \to \infty \implies f(x) \to \infty$$
 rises right

Exercise

Determine the end behavior of the graph of the polynomial function $f(x) = -11x^3 - 6x^2 + x + 3$

Solution

Leading term: $-11x^3$ with 3rd degree (*n* is odd)

$$x \to -\infty \implies f(x) \to \infty$$
 $f(x)$ rises left

$$x \to \infty \implies f(x) \to -\infty$$
 $f(x)$ falls right

Exercise

Determine the end behavior of the graph of the polynomial function $f(x) = 5x^4 + 7x^2 - x + 9$

Solution

Leading term: $5x^4$ with 4^{rd} degree (*n* is even)

$$x \to -\infty \implies f(x) \to \infty$$
 $f(x)$ rises left

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Exercise

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Determine the end behavior of the graph of the polynomial function $f(x) = -5x^4 + 7x^2 - x + 9$

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Exercise

Use the Intermediate Value Theorem to show that each polynomial has a real zero between the given $f(x) = x^3 - x - 1$; between 1 and 2 integers.

Solution

$$f(1) = (1)^3 - (1) - 1 = -1$$

$$f(2) = (2)^3 - (2) - 1 = 5$$

Since f(1) and f(2) have opposite signs; therefore, the polynomial has a real zero between 1 and 2.

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Exercise

Use the Intermediate Value Theorem to show that each polynomial has a real zero between the given integers. $f(x) = x^3 - 4x^2 + 2$; between 0 and 1

Solution

$$f(0) = (0)^3 - 4(0)^2 + 2 = 2$$

$$f(1) = (1)^3 - 4(1)^2 + 2 = -1$$

Since f(0) and f(1) have opposite signs; therefore, the polynomial has a real zero between 0 and 1.

Exercise

Use the Intermediate Value Theorem to show that each polynomial has a real zero between the given integers. $f(x) = 2x^4 - 4x^2 + 1$; between -1 and 0

Solution

$$f(-1) = 2(-1)^4 - 4(-1)^2 + 1 = -1$$

$$f(0) = 2(0)^4 - 4(0)^2 + 1 = 1$$

Since f(0) and f(-1) have opposite signs; therefore, the polynomial has a real zero between -1 and 0.

Exercise

Use the Intermediate Value Theorem to show that each polynomial has a real zero between the given integers. $f(x) = x^4 + 6x^3 - 18x^2$; between 2 and 3

Solution

$$f(2) = (2)^4 + 6(2)^3 - 18(2)^2 = -8$$

$$f(3) = (3)^4 + 6(3)^3 - 18(3)^2 = 81$$

Since f(2) and f(3) have opposite signs; therefore, the polynomial has a real zero between 2 and 3.

Exercise

Use the Intermediate Value Theorem to show that each polynomial has a real zero between the given integers. $f(x) = x^3 + x^2 - 2x + 1$; between -3 and -2

Solution

$$f(-3) = (-3)^3 + (-3)^2 - 2(-3) + 1 = -11$$

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

Since f(-3) and f(-2) have opposite signs; therefore, the polynomial has a real zero between -2 and -3.

Exercise

Use the Intermediate Value Theorem to show that each polynomial has a real zero between the given integers. $f(x) = x^5 - x^3 - 1$; between 1 and 2

Solution

$$f(1) = (1)^5 - (1)^3 - 1 = -1$$

$$f(2) = (2)^5 - (2)^3 - 1 = 23$$

Since f(1) and f(2) have opposite signs; therefore, the polynomial has a real zero between 1 and 2.

Exercise

Use the Intermediate Value Theorem to show that each polynomial has a real zero between the given integers. $f(x) = 3x^3 - 10x + 9$; between -3 and -2

Solution

$$f(-3) = 3(-3)^3 - 10(-3) + 9 = -42$$

$$f(-2) = 3(-2)^3 - 10(-2) + 9 = 5$$

Since f(-3) and f(-2) have opposite signs; therefore, the polynomial has a real zero between -3 and -2.

Exercise

Use the Intermediate Value Theorem to show that each polynomial has a real zero between the given integers. $f(x) = 3x^3 - 8x^2 + x + 2$; between 2 and 3

Solution

$$f(2) = 3(2)^3 - 8(2)^2 + (2) + 2 = -4$$

$$f(3) = 3(3)^3 - 8(3)^2 + (3) + 2 = 14$$

Since f(2) and f(3) have opposite signs; therefore, the polynomial has a real zero between 2 and 3.

Exercise

Use the Intermediate Value Theorem to show that each polynomial has a real zero between the given integers. $f(x) = 3x^3 - 8x^2 + x + 2$; between 1 and 2

Solution

$$f(1) = 3(1)^3 - 8(1)^2 + (1) + 2 = -2$$

$$f(2) = 3(2)^3 - 8(2)^2 + (2) + 2 = -4$$

Since f(1) and f(2) have same signs; therefore, cannot be determined.

Exercise

Use the Intermediate Value Theorem to show that each polynomial has a real zero between the given integers. $f(x) = x^5 + 2x^4 - 6x^3 + 2x - 3$; between 0 and 1

Solution

$$f(0) = (0)^5 + 2(0)^4 - 6(0)^3 + 2(0) - 3 = -3$$

$$f(1) = (1)^5 + 2(1)^4 - 6(1)^3 + 2(1) - 3 = -4$$

Since f(0) and f(1) have same signs; therefore, cannot be determined.