

Algebra 2

5.6

Evaluate functions using 'synthetic substitution'

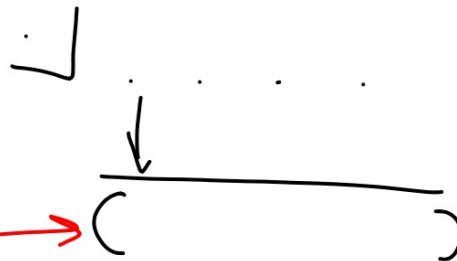
Determine whether a binomial is a factor of a given polynomial

remainder theorem

synthetic substitution

depressed polynomial

factor theorem



$$f(a) = \underline{4}a^2 - \underline{3}a + \underline{6} \quad \text{by } a - 2.$$

$$f(2) = 4 \cdot 4 - 3 \cdot 2 + 6$$

$$16 - 6 + 6 = 16$$

Method 1 Long Division

$$\begin{array}{r}
 4a + 5 + \frac{16}{a-2} \\
 a-2 \overline{) 4a^2 - 3a + 6} \\
 \underline{-4a^2 + 8a} \\
 5a + 6 \\
 \underline{-5a + 10} \\
 16
 \end{array}$$

Method 2 Synthetic Division

$$\begin{array}{r|rrr}
 2 & 4 & -3 & 6 \\
 & \downarrow & 8 & 10 \\
 \hline
 & 4 & 5 & 16
 \end{array}$$

$$4a + 5 + \frac{16}{a-2}$$

remainder = $f(2)$.

$$f(6) = \quad a = 6$$

Example 1 Synthetic Substitution

If $f(x) = 2x^4 - 5x^2 + 8x - 7$, find $f(6)$.

$$2 \cdot 6^4 - 5 \cdot 6^2 + 8 \cdot 6 - 7 \rightarrow 2 \ 4 \ 5 \ 3$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 6 & 2 & 0 & -5 & 8 & -7 \\ & \downarrow & 12 & 72 & 402 & 2460 \\ \hline & 2 & 12 & 67 & 410 & \end{array}$$

$$2x^3 + 12x^2 + \dots$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ 2 \ 4 \ 5 \ 3 \end{array}$$

synthetic substitution (synth. division)
direct substitution (order of operations)
Follow directions

$$f(3) = 7$$

Use ~~synthetic~~ ^{direct} substitution to find $f(3)$ and $f(-4)$ for each function.

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

5. $f(x) = 5x^4 - 6x^2 + 2$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 3 & 1 & -2 & -1 & 1 \\ & \downarrow & 3 & 3 & 6 \\ \hline & 1 & 1 & 2 & 7 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -4 & 1 & -2 & -1 & 1 \\ & \downarrow & -4 & 24 & -92 \\ \hline & 1 & -6 & 23 & -91 \end{array}$$

$$f(-4) = -91$$

How do I know whether something is a factor?

Ex: is 6 a factor of 522?

$$\begin{array}{r} 87 \text{ R.0} \\ 6 \overline{) 522} \end{array}$$

FACTORS OF POLYNOMIALS

Divide $f(x) = x^4 + x^3 - 17x^2 - 20x + 32$ by $x - 4$.

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depressed polynomial
factor theorem ($R=0$)

Key Concept

Factor Theorem

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

Example 2 Use the Factor Theorem

Show that $x + 3$ is a factor of $x^3 + 6x^2 - x - 30$. Then find the remaining factors of the polynomial.

How many more should there be?

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -3 & 1 & 6 & -1 & -30 \\ & \downarrow & -3 & -9 & 30 \\ \hline & 1 & 3 & -10 & 0 \end{array}$$

$x^2 + 3x - 10$

$(x+5)(x-2)$

~~$(x+3)$~~

~~$\begin{matrix} -10 \\ 5 \times -2 \\ 3 \end{matrix}$~~

Given a polynomial and one of its factors, find the ^{all} remaining factors of the polynomial. Some factors may not be binomials.

6. $x^3 - x^2 - 5x - 3$ $x + 1$

7. $x^3 - 3x + 2$; $x - 1$

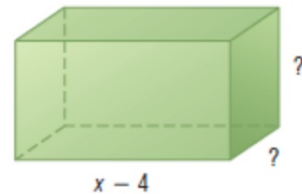
$$\begin{array}{r}
 -1 \overline{) 1 \quad -1 \quad -5 \quad -3} \\
 \underline{ 1 \quad -1 \quad -2 \quad -3} \\
 1 \quad -2 \quad -3 \quad 0
 \end{array}$$

$\begin{array}{r} -3 \\ \times 1 \\ \hline -2 \end{array}$
 $x^2 - 2x - 3$
 $(x+1)(x-3)(x+1)$

$$V = (B)(h) = \underbrace{(\quad)(\quad)}_{\text{Base}} (\quad)$$

Example 3 Find All Factors of a Polynomial

GEOMETRY The volume of the rectangular prism is given by $V(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 - 36x + 32$. Find the missing measures.



$$\begin{array}{r}
 4 \overline{) 1 \quad 3 \quad -36 \quad 32} \\
 \underline{ 4 \quad 28 \quad -32} \\
 1 \quad 7 \quad -8 \quad 0 \\
 \hline
 x^2 + 7x - 8 \\
 (x+8)(x-1)
 \end{array}$$

~~$$\begin{array}{r}
 8 \overline{) -8} \\
 \underline{-8} \\
 0
 \end{array}$$~~

