

Mth 30, Homework 6 on sections 3.6, 3.7

Due by Mon, Mar 16.

Please use lots of space and explain your answers, showing clearly any work you had to do. Each question is worth 3 points.

Section 3.6 Zeros of Polynomials

- (1) Suppose you know that $f(13) = 0$ for a certain polynomial $f(x)$. Can you say anything about the factors of $f(x)$? (Remember the Factor Theorem.)
 - (2) List the possible rational zeros of $3x^5 + 17x^4 - 19x + 4$ according to the theorem – no need to check if any are actual zeros.
 - (3) For the polynomial $f(x) = 2x^3 + x^2 - 7x - 6$,
 - (a) List all possible rational zeros. (You should find 12 possibilities.)
 - (b) Start testing to find one that is an actual zero by using synthetic division and looking for zero remainders.
 - (c) When you find an actual zero $x = k$, use the quotient and $(x - k)$ to factor $f(x)$. Then factor the quotient (it might need the ac method).
 - (d) Use the complete factorization of $f(x)$ to give all of its zeros, by the Factor Theorem.
 - (4) For the polynomial $f(x) = 2x^3 + 7x^2 - 5x - 4$,
 - (a) List all possible rational zeros.
 - (b) Find all the actual zeros of $f(x)$ by the same method as in the last question.
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Section 3.7 Rational Functions

- (5) Decide if these rational functions have horizontal asymptotes. If they do, give the equation of the horizontal asymptote line (it will be $y =$ a number). No need to graph these functions.

(a) $f(x) = \frac{x^3}{x^2 + 4}$ (b) $g(x) = \frac{5x}{x^2 + 4}$ (c) $h(x) = \frac{5x^3}{x^3 + 4}$

(Hint: the way to find horizontal asymptotes is to first compare the degrees of top and bottom. There are three possibilities...)

(6) Let $f(x)$ be the rational function

$$f(x) = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x^3 + 9x^2 + 14x}$$

and find

- (a) its domain,
- (b) the equations of the vertical asymptote lines,
- (c) the equation of the horizontal asymptote line.

(Hint: Factor the bottom and see where it is zero to help answer parts (a) and (b). Remember that the equations of vertical lines are $x = \text{number}$, and horizontal lines are $y = \text{number}$.)

(7) For the rational function

$$g(x) = \frac{x - 2}{x + 1}$$

find its x and y intercepts. Find its vertical and horizontal asymptotes. With this information sketch the graph, using a table of values to find more points if needed.

(Remember, finding where the top is zero gives the x -intercepts, and finding where the bottom is zero gives the vertical asymptotes.)

(8) For the rational function

$$h(x) = \frac{x^2 - 3x - 4}{x^2 - x - 6}$$

find its x and y intercepts. Find its vertical and horizontal asymptotes. With this information sketch the graph, using a table of values to find more points if needed.

(9) Using the same steps as in the last question, carefully sketch the graph of:

$$f(x) = \frac{(2x - 1)(x + 3)}{(x + 1)(x - 3)}$$

If you're stuck on a question:

- Ask me about it after class.
- Come to my office hours: Mon 4:30 - 5:30, Wed 4:30 - 5:30 in CP 317.
- Go to the Math Tutorial Lab in person in CP 303 or online.