

Ch 3

# Polynomials

Generic polynomial of degree  $n$ .

$$f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} \dots + a_1 x + a_0$$

$a_n, a_{n-1}, \dots, a_1, a_0$  coefficients

leading term : term with ~~the~~ largest degree

Ex.  $f(x) = x^2 \left[ -3x^4 \right]$

leading term =  $-3x^4$

degree : exponent on the leading term.

Ex.  $f(x)$  has degree 4

leading coefficient : number in front of the variable of the leading term.

Ex: the leading coefficient of  $f(x)$

is  $-3$

Constant term :  $a_0$  for  $f(x)$   $a_0 = 0$

# End behavior

two general forms

leading term at least  $x^7$

end behavior  $+\infty$

~~odd leading~~  
odd degree

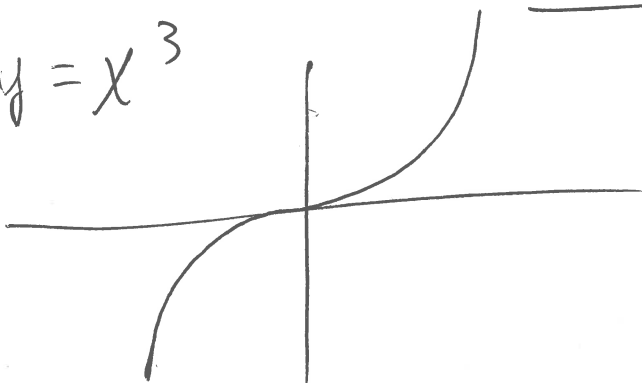
end behavior is  $-\infty$

leading term at least  $x^{10}$

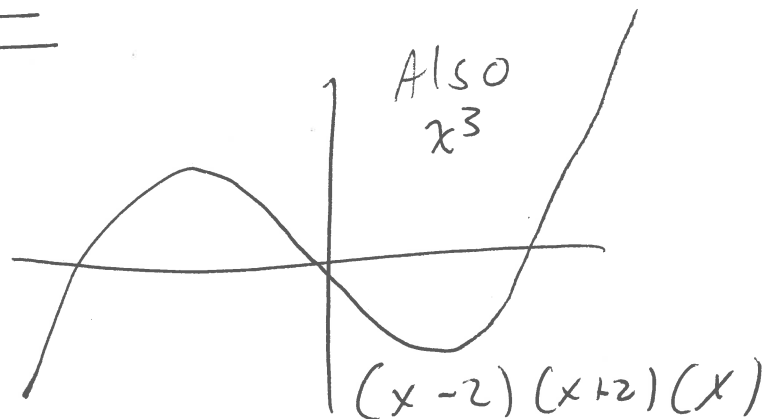
even degree

Number of direction changes is at most  $n-1$

$$y = x^3$$



Also  $x^3$



Zeros, roots, factors, x-intercepts

$x=5$  is a <sup>(or root)</sup> zero of  $f$

$$f(x) \text{ iff } f(5) = 0$$

$x$ -intercept where crosses  $x$ -axis

So if  $x=5$  is an  $x$ -intercept

$$\text{then } f(5) = 0.$$

If  $x=5$  is a zero of  $f(x)$  then  $(x-5)$  is a factor of  $f(x)$ .

If

$$f(5) = 0 \quad \text{~~iff } f(x) = (x-5)g(x)~~$$

then  $\underline{f(x)} = (x-5)g(x)$

# Multiplicity of zeros

Multiplicity is the number of times the zero shows up in the factorization.

Ex!  $f(x) = (x-2)(x-3)^2(x-4)^3$

$f(x)$  has degree 6

$f(x)$  has 3 zeros

$x=2$  mult. 1

$x=3$  mult. 2

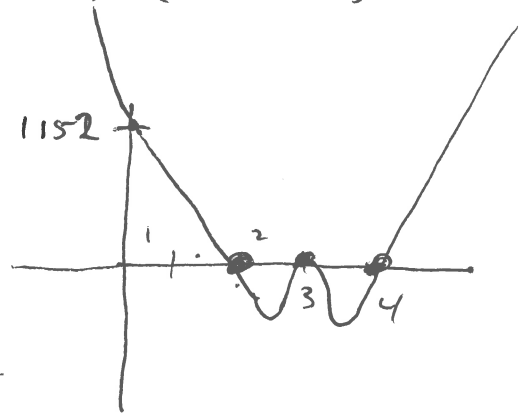
$x=4$  mult. 3

leading term =  $x^6$

$$f(x) = (x-2)(x-3)(x-3)(x-4)(x-4)(x-4)$$

Even multiplicity touches axis

Odd multiplicity crosses axis



$$f(x) = (x+5)^3 (x-3)^4$$

Find a) leading term  $x^7$

b) degree 7

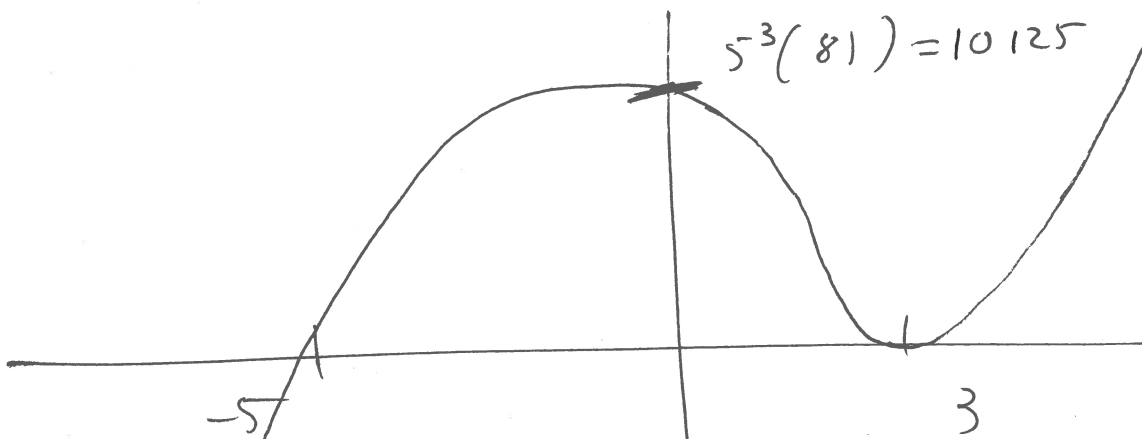
c) zeros & multiplicity

d) Sketch graph

$$f(x) = (x+5)(x+5)(x+5)(x-3)(x-3)(x-3)(x-3)$$

zeros :  $x = -5$  mult 3 crosses

$x = 3$  mult 4 touches



leading coefficient = 1

constant term  $f(0) = 5^3 \cdot (-3)^4$

TEST Sketch  
Ex:

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

Find : leading term  $(-2x^3)(x)(x)^2 = -2x^6$

leading coefficient  $(-2)$

degree  $[6]$

constant term  $[f(0) = 0]$

zeros & mult

$$-2x^3 (x+1) (x+2)^2 = 0$$

$$x^3 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x+1 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad (x+2)^2 = 0$$

$$x = 0$$

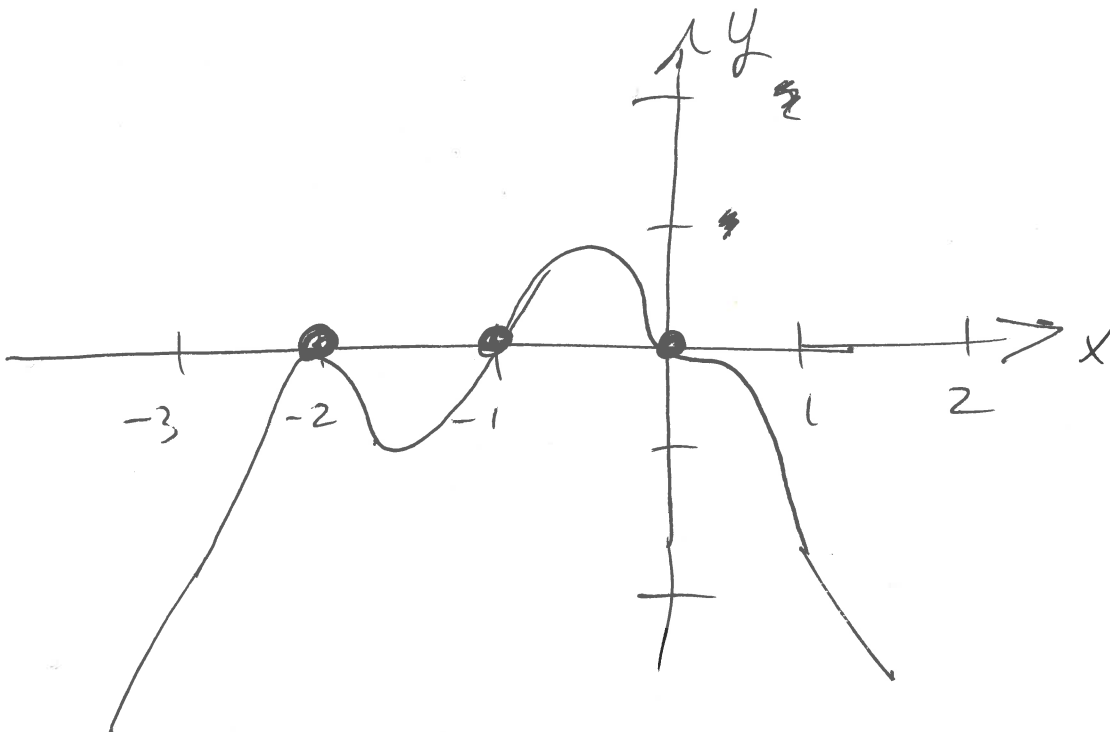
$$x = -1$$

$$x = -2$$

mult 3  
crosses

mult 1  
crosses

mult 2  
touches.



# Fundamental theorem of algebra

If  $f(x)$  is a polynomial of degree  $n$  it has exactly  $n$  zeros up to multiplicity.

Ex:  $f(x) = -2x^3(x+1)(x+2)^2$

degree 6 & has 6 zeros

$$x = 0, 0, 0, -1, -2, -2$$

### 3.2 Polynomial and Synthetic Division

We can use long division to divide polynomials the same way we use long division to divide integers.

**Example 3.2.1.** Simplify this fraction:  $\frac{x^4 + 5x^3 + 6x^2 - x - 2}{x + 2} = x^3 + 3x^2 - 1$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \overline{) \begin{array}{r} x^4 + 5x^3 + 6x^2 - x - 2 \\ - (x^4 + 2x^3) \\ \hline 3x^3 + 6x^2 \\ - (3x^3 + 6x^2) \\ \hline 0 - x - 2 \\ - (-x - 2) \\ \hline 0 \end{array} \\
 x + 2 \overline{) x^4 + 5x^3 + 6x^2 - x - 2} \\
 \underline{-(x^4 + 2x^3)} \phantom{+ 6x^2 - x - 2} \\
 3x^3 + 6x^2 \phantom{- x - 2} \\
 \underline{-(3x^3 + 6x^2)} \phantom{- x - 2} \\
 0 - x - 2 \\
 \underline{-(-x - 2)} \\
 0
 \end{array}$$

So we know that

$$(x + 2) \left( \frac{x^4 + 5x^3 + 6x^2 - x - 2}{x + 2} \right) = (x^3 + 3x^2 - 1)(x + 2)$$

More specifically we have a factor of  $f(x) = x^4 + 5x^3 + 6x^2 - x - 2$ .

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



Example 3.2.2.  $\frac{5x^3 + 18x^2 + 8x - 6}{x + 3}$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \textcircled{5x^2 + 3x - 1} \\
 x+3 \overline{) 5x^3 + 18x^2 + 8x - 6} \\
 \underline{-(5x^3 + 15x^2)} \downarrow \\
 \textcircled{3x^2 + 8x} \\
 \underline{-(3x^2 + 9x)} \downarrow \\
 \textcircled{-x - 6} \\
 \underline{-(-x - 3)} \\
 \text{remainder} \rightarrow \textcircled{-3}
 \end{array}$$

So we know that

$$\frac{5x^3 + 18x^2 + 8x - 6}{x + 3} = 5x^2 + 3x - 1 + \frac{-3}{x + 3}$$

If we write it with no denominators we get an expression of the form:

$$\underbrace{5x^3 + 18x^2 + 8x - 6}_{P(x)} = \underbrace{(5x^2 + 3x - 1)}_{q(x)} \underbrace{(x + 3)}_{D(x)} + \underbrace{-3}_{r(x)}$$

This form illustrates the theorem known as **The Division Algorithm** which states that any two polynomials  $P(x)$  and  $D(x)$  (where  $D(x)$  is of lower degree) can be written as

$$P(x) = D(x) \cdot q(x) + r(x)$$

More formally:

$$\frac{P(x)}{D(x)} = q(x) + \frac{r(x)}{D(x)}$$

#### The Division Algorithm

If  $P(x)$  and  $D(x)$  are polynomials such that  $D(x) \neq 0$  and the degree of  $D(x)$  is less than or equal to the degree of  $P(x)$ , there exist unique polynomials  $q(x)$  and  $r(x)$  such that

$$P(x) = D(x) \cdot q(x) + r(x) \quad \leftarrow \text{No fractions}$$

OR

$$\frac{P(x)}{D(x)} = q(x) + \frac{r(x)}{D(x)}$$

Synthetic Division (The easy way to divide)

$x + a$  must be dividing by this

Example 3.2.3. Divide using synthetic division.

$5x^3 + 18x^2 + 8x - 6$

$x + 3$

add    add     $x + 3$     add

$-3$	5	18	8	-6
	↓	↗	↓	↗
	5	-15	-9	3
		↓	↗	↓
		3	-1	$-3$

two rows

answer row

remainder

$5x^2 + 3x - 1$  ← quotient

$$5x^3 + 18x^2 + 8x - 6 = (5x^2 + 3x - 1)(x + 3) - 3$$

$P(-3)$

**The Remainder Theorem**  
 Suppose  $p(x)$  is a polynomial of degree at least 1 and  $c$  is a real number. When  $p(x)$  is divided by  $x - c$  the remainder is  $p(c)$ .

Example 3.2.4. Use the remainder theorem to find the value of  $p(-3)$  where

$p(x) = 5x^3 + 18x^2 + 8x - 6$

$$P(x) = 5x^3 + 18x^2 + 8x - 6 = (5x^2 + 3x - 1)(x + 3) - 3$$

$$P(-3) = (5x^2 + 3x - 1) \underbrace{(-3 + 3)}_0 - 3$$

$$= \boxed{-3}$$

want to know  $P(-3)$  then do synthetic division with  $-3$ .

-3 |

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**Example 3.2.5.** Suppose we know that  $x = -2$  is a zero of the polynomial  $f(x) = 2x^3 + x^2 - 5x + 2$ . Find all the zeros of the polynomial and write it in factored form.

Since we know that  $x = -2$  is a zero then we know that

$$f(x) = 2x^3 + x^2 - 5x + 2 = (x + 2) \cdot q(x)$$

and we can use synthetic division to find  $q(x)$ .

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr}
 -2 & 2 & 1 & -5 & 2 \\
 & \downarrow & -4 & 6 & -2 \\
 \hline
 & 2 & -3 & 1 & 0 \\
 & \underbrace{\hspace{2cm}} & & & \uparrow \text{remainder} \\
 & q(x) & & & 
 \end{array}$$

$$2x^3 + x^2 - 5x + 2 = (x + 2)(2x^2 - 3x + 1)$$

$$= (x + 2)(2x - 1)(x - 1)$$

$$\text{Zeros } x = -2, x = \frac{1}{2}, x = 1$$

**Example 3.2.6.** Use synthetic division to divide  $\frac{-3x^4}{x+2}$   $8x^2 + 2x - 3 = 0$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4 - 4(8)(-3)}}{2(8)}$$

$$= \frac{-2 \pm 10}{16} = \frac{8}{16} \text{ or } \frac{-12}{16}$$

**Example 3.2.7.** Given that  $(x+2)$  and  $(x-4)$  are factors of  $f(x) = 8x^4 - 14x^3 - 71x^2 - 10x + 24$  find all the zeros of  $f(x)$ .

$$\frac{8x^4 - 14x^3 - 71x^2 - 10x + 24}{(x+2)(x-4)} = \frac{(x+2)(x-4)g(x)}{(x+2)(x-4)}$$

-2	8	-14	-71	-10	24	$\leftarrow x^4$
↓	-16	60	22	-24		
+4	8	-30	-11	12	0	$\leftarrow 8x^3 - 30x^2 - 11x + 12$
↓	32	8	-12			
	8	2	-3	0		$\leftarrow 8x^2 + 2x - 3$

$$8x^2 + 2x - 3 = (4x + 3)(2x - 1)$$

$x = -2$        $x = -\frac{3}{4}$        $4x + 3 = 0$        $2x - 1 = 0$   
 $x = 4$        $x = \frac{1}{2}$        $x = -\frac{3}{4}$        $4x = -3$   
 $4x + 3 = 0$

**Example 3.2.8.** Create a polynomial  $p$  which has the desired characteristics. Leave the polynomial in factored form.

- degree 4 ✓
- root of multiplicity 2 at  $x = 1$  ✓
- roots of multiplicity 1 at  $x = 0$  and  $x = -3$ . ✓
- the graph passes through the point  $(2, 20)$

$$\rightarrow A(x-1)(x-1)(x+3)x = p(x)$$

$$p(2) = 20 = A(2-1)(2-1)(2+3)(2)$$

$$\frac{20}{10} = \frac{10A}{10}$$

$$2 = A$$

$$p(x) = 2x(x-1)^2(x+3)$$

## 3.3 Real Zeros of a Polynomial

**The Rational Roots Test**

If the polynomial  $f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_2 x^2 + a_1 x + a_0$  has integer coefficients, every rational zero of  $f$  has the form

$$\text{Rational zero} = \frac{p}{q}$$

where  $p$  and  $q$  have no common factors other than 1, and

$p$  = a factor of the constant term  $a_0$

$q$  = a factor of the constant term  $a_n$ .

**Example 3.3.1.** Use the rational roots test to find all the real zeros of

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

Factors of 4 =  $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4$   
 Factors of 1 =  $\pm 1$

1	1	-4	-1	4
		1	-3	-4
1	-3	-4	0	✓

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

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

2.  $p(x) = x^3 + 7x^2 + 9x - 5$

Factors of 5 =  $\pm 1, \pm 5$   
 Factors of 1 =  $\pm 1$

try 1

1	1	7	9	-5
		1	8	17
1	8	17	Not zero	

$$x^2 + 2x - 1 = 0$$

try -5

-5	1	7	9	-5
		-5	-10	5
1	2	-1	0	✓

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$= \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4 - 4(1)(-1)}}{2}$$

$$\frac{-2 \pm 2\sqrt{2}}{2} = -1 \pm \sqrt{2}$$

$$= \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{8}}{2}$$

Hw

$$\frac{2x^3 - 16x^2 + 7x - 38}{2x^2 + 5} = f(x)$$

ex

$$x - 8$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \underline{2x^2 + 5} \overline{) 2x^3 - 16x^2 + 7x - 38} \\ - (2x^3 + 0x^2 + 5x) \leftarrow x(2x^2 + 5) \\ \hline \quad \underline{-16x^2 + 2x - 38} \\ \quad - (-16x^2 + 0x - 40) \leftarrow -8(2x^2 + 5) \\ \quad \hline \qquad \qquad \underline{2x + 2} \end{array}$$

$$x - 8 + \frac{2x + 2}{2x^2 + 5} = f(x)$$

HW

$$f(x) = \frac{x^3 - 6x^2 + 13}{x-2}$$

$\swarrow 0x$

Divide: synthetic division

+2	1	-6	0	13	
	↓	2	-8	-16	
	1	-4	-8	-3	↙ remainder

$$f(x) = \underbrace{x^2 - 4x - 8}_{q(x)} + \frac{-3}{x-2}$$

$$x^3 - 6x^2 + 13 = \underbrace{(x^2 - 4x - 8)}_{q(x)} \underbrace{(x-2)}_{d(x)} - 3$$

$+ r$

long division

	$\underbrace{x^2 - 4x - 8}_{q(x)}$	
$\underbrace{x-2}_{d(x)}$	$x^3 - 6x^2 + 13$	
-	$(x^3 - 2x^2)$	↙ $x^2(x-2)$
$-4x^2 + 13$		
-	$(-4x^2 + 8x)$	↙ $-4x(x-2)$
$-8x + 13$		
-	$(-8x + 16)$	↙ $-8(x-2)$
$-3$		↙ $r = -3$



### 3.4 Complex Numbers

Q: What is a complex number?

A: It is a number of the form  $a + bi$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are real numbers and  $i^2 = -1$ .

- $a$  is called the **real part**
- $b$  is called the **imaginary part**.
- The **conjugate** of  $a + bi$  is  $a - bi$ .

$1 + \sqrt{2}$  conjugate is  $1 - \sqrt{2}$

Ex:  $7 = 7 + 0i$

$1 + 2i, 3i, i$

1.  $a + bi = c + di \iff a = c \text{ and } b = d$

2.  $(a + bi) + (c + di) = (a + c) + (b + d)i$

3.  $(a + bi) \cdot (c + di) = ac + adi + bci + bd i^2 = (ac - bd) + (ad + bc)i$

$\frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{2}i$

4.  $(a + bi)(a - bi) = a^2 + b^2$

$i^2 = -1$

$\sqrt{3} - 14i$

$14i - \sqrt{3}$

Example 3.4.1.

a.  $(4 + i) + (5 + 3i) = 9 + 4i$

b.  $(2i + 7) - 2i = 7$

$(a + bi)(a - bi) = a^2 - abi + abi - b^2 i^2$

c.  $(3 + 2i) + (4 - i) - (7 + i) = 0$

$= a^2 - b^2 i^2$

d.  $(5 + 2i)(4 - 3i) = 20 - 15i + 8i - 6(i^2)$

$= a^2 - b^2(-1)$

$= 20 - 7i + 6$

$= a^2 + b^2$

$= 26 - 7i$

$i^2 = -1$

e.  $\frac{i}{3+i}$

$\frac{(i)(3-i)}{(3+i)(3-i)} = \frac{3i - i^2}{9 - 3i + 3i - i^2}$

$= \frac{3i + 1}{10}$

$-i^2 = -(-1) = +1$

write in  $a + bi$  form.

$\frac{1}{10} + \frac{3}{10}i$

$$\sqrt{-1}$$

$$\begin{cases} i^0 \\ i^2 = -1 \\ i^3 = i^2 \cdot i = -i \\ i^4 = i^2 \cdot i^2 = (-1)(-1) = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} i^5 = i^4 \cdot i = i \\ i^6 = i^4 \cdot i^2 = -1 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} i^7 = \boxed{-i} \\ i^8 = \boxed{1} \end{cases} \quad \swarrow \quad i^{n4} = \boxed{1}$$

$$i^{25} = i^{24} \cdot i = \boxed{i}$$

$$i^{1003} = i^{1000} \cdot i^3 = \boxed{-i}$$

$$f. \frac{(3-5i)(2+i)}{(2-i)(2+i)} = \frac{6+3i-10i-5\cancel{i^2}}{4+1} = \frac{11-7i}{5}$$

$$g. (3-\sqrt{-4}) + (-8+\sqrt{-25}) = 3 - i\sqrt{4} + (-8 + i\sqrt{25}) \\ = 3 - 2i - 8 + 5i = \boxed{-5 + 3i}$$

$$h. (\sqrt{-5})(\sqrt{-5}) = (i\sqrt{5})(i\sqrt{5}) = i^2(\sqrt{5})^2 = \boxed{-5}$$

$$i. (2-\sqrt{-1})(5+\sqrt{-9}) = (2-i)(5+3i) \\ = 10 + 6i - 5i - 3\cancel{i^2} \leftarrow i^2 = -1$$

$$j. \frac{1}{3i} = \boxed{13+i}$$

$$\frac{1}{3i} \cdot \frac{i}{i} = \frac{i}{3i^2} = \boxed{-\frac{i}{3}}$$

Complex numbers in quadratic equations

Example 3.4.2. Solve for  $x$ :  $x^2 + 6x + 10 = 0$ 

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{36 - 4(1)(10)}}{2(1)}$$

$$= \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2} = \frac{-6 \pm 2i}{2} = \boxed{-3 \pm i}$$

$$x^2 + 6x + 10 = (x - (-3+i))(x - (-3-i))$$

Example 3.4.3. Solve for  $x$ :  $x^2 + 1 = 0$ 

$$x^2 + 1 = (x+i)(x-i)$$

$$\frac{-1 \quad -1}{\quad}$$

$$x^2 = -1$$

$$x = \pm \sqrt{-1}$$

$$\boxed{x = \pm i}$$

Example 3.4.4. Solve for  $x$ :  $9x^2 - 6x + 37 = 0$   $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 x &= \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{36 - 4(9)(37)}}{2(9)} = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{36 - 36(37)}}{18} \\
 &= \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{36(1-37)}}{18} = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{-1296}}{18} \\
 &= \frac{6 \pm 36i}{18} = \frac{6 \pm i\sqrt{1296}}{18}
 \end{aligned}$$

#### The Linear Factorization Theorem

If  $f(x)$  is a polynomial of degree  $n$ , where  $n > 0$ , then  $f$  has precisely  $n$  linear factors

$$f(x) = a_n(x - c_1)(x - c_2) \cdots (x - c_n)$$

where  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  are complex numbers.

Example 3.4.5. Find all the zeros of

1.  $f(x) = (x + 5)(x - 8)^2$

$$x = -5, 8, 8$$

2.  $f(t) = (t - 3)(t - 2)(t - 3i)(t + 3i) = 0$

$$t - 3 = 0 \quad t - 2 = 0 \quad t - 3i = 0 \quad t + 3i = 0$$

$$t = 3 \quad t = 2 \quad t = 3i \quad t = -3i$$

Ex 3.  $f(x) = \cancel{(x-3)^2} (x - 3 + 2i)(x - 3 - 2i)$

$$x - 3 + 2i = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x - 3 - 2i = 0$$

$$x = 3 - 2i \quad x = 3 + 2i$$

**Example 3.4.6.** Find a polynomial function of degree 7 with integer coefficients that has ONLY the zeros  $c = 4$ ,  $c = -3i$  and  $c = 3i$  *leave factored.*

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

**Example 3.4.7.** Find all zeros of  $f(x) = 4x^3 + 12x^2 + 11x + 6$  given that  $x = -2$  is one of the zeros.

$$\frac{4x^3 + 12x^2 + 11x + 6}{x+2} = \frac{(x+2)g(x)}{x+2}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -2 \left| \begin{array}{cccc} 4 & 12 & 11 & 6 \\ \downarrow & -8 & -8 & -6 \\ \hline 4 & 4 & 3 & 0 \end{array} \right. \end{array}$$

$$\sqrt{32} = \sqrt{16} \cdot \sqrt{2}$$

$$4x^2 + 4x + 3 = g(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} a &= 4 \\ b &= 4 \\ c &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$= \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 4(4)(3)}}{2(4)} = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{-32}}{8} = \left[ \frac{-4 \pm i\sqrt{32}}{8} \right]$$

$$= \frac{-4 \pm i4\sqrt{2}}{8} = \left[ \frac{-1 \pm i\sqrt{2}}{2} \right]$$

**Example 3.4.8.** Find all the roots of  $f(x) = x^3 - 7x^2 - x + 87$  knowing that  $5 + 2i$  is a zero.

$5 + 2i$  is a zero so  $5 - 2i$  is a zero.

$x = 5 + 2i$  ← all real parts on left

$(x - 5)^2 = (2i)^2$  ← square both sides

$$x^2 - 10x + 25 = -4$$

$$x^2 - 10x + 29 = 0$$

don't know  
↓

$$x^3 - 7x^2 - x + 87 = (x^2 - 10x + 29)(x + A)$$

$$= x^3 + \underbrace{Ax^2 - 10x^2}_{-7x^2} - 10Ax + 29x + 29A$$

$$Ax^2 - 10x^2 = -7x^2$$

$$A - 10 = -7$$

$$A = 3$$

$$f(x) = (x^2 - 10x + 29)(x + 3)$$

3 zeros

$$x = 5 + 2i$$

$$x = 5 - 2i$$

$$x = -3$$