

-1 and 2 are solutions of this equation. The other two solutions are imaginary. Use division to help you find the other two solutions.

$$x^4 - x^3 + 2x^2 - 4x - 8 = 0$$

Do synthetic division w/ one of the zeros:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrrr} -1 & 1 & -1 & 2 & -4 & -8 \\ & & -1 & 2 & -4 & 8 \\ \hline & 1 & -2 & 4 & -8 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\rightarrow x^3 - 2x^2 + 4x - 8$$

DIVIDE THIS RESULT BY the other zero

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 2 & 1 & -2 & 4 & -8 \\ & & 2 & 0 & 8 \\ \hline & 1 & 0 & 4 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{array}{l} x^2 + 4 \\ \text{find the zeros of this} \end{array} \left. \begin{array}{l} x^2 + 4 = 0 \\ \sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{-4} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\boxed{x = \pm 2i}$$

Theorem

Remainder Theorem

If a polynomial $P(x)$ of degree $n \geq 1$ is divided by $(x - a)$, where a is a constant, then the remainder is $P(a)$.

Find the remainder to this quotient: $\frac{2x^3 + x^2 - 7x - 10}{x - 2}$

$$2(2)^3 + (2)^2 - 7(2) - 10 = \boxed{-4}$$

This Theorem states: the remainder when dividing two polynomials can be found by substituting the zero of the divisor into the dividend.

Use this division problem

$$\frac{x^3 - 5x^2 + 8x - 11}{x + 3} = x^2 - 8x + 32 - \frac{107}{x+3}$$

What is the remainder? -107

What is the zero of the divisor? -3

Evaluate the dividend using the zero of the divisor.

$$(-3)^3 - 5(-3)^2 + 8(-3) - 11 = -107$$

What do you notice?

When you evaluate the dividend using the zero of the divisor you get the same value as the remainder when you divided!

What is the remainder of this quotient?

$$\frac{5x^2 + 8x - 11}{x + 3}$$

$$5(-3)^2 + 8(-3) - 11 = \boxed{10}$$

Or, you could just do the division to find the remainder.

Is $x + 2$ a factor of $2x^3 + 5x^2 + x - 6$

Only if the remainder is zero!

Use Division

$$\begin{array}{r} -2 \overline{) 2 \ 5 \ 1 \ -6} \\ \underline{-4 \ -2 \ 2} \\ 2 \ 1 \ -1 \ \boxed{-4} \end{array}$$

The remainder is -4

Use the Remainder Theorem

$$2(-2)^3 + 5(-2)^2 + (-2) - 6 = \boxed{-4}$$

Is $X+3$ a factor of $x^3 - 2x^2 + 10x - 21$?

Use Division

$$\begin{array}{r} -3 \overline{) 1 \ -2 \ 10 \ -21} \\ \underline{-3 \ 15 \ -75} \\ 1 \ -5 \ 25 \ \boxed{-96} \end{array}$$

The remainder is -96

Use the Remainder Theorem

$$(-3)^3 - 2(-3)^2 + 10(-3) - 21 = \boxed{-96}$$

The remainder theorem can be used to "check" to see if your answer when doing some polynomial division problems is reasonable.

$$\frac{3x^3 - 7x^2 + 8x - 4}{x - 2} = \boxed{3x^2 - x + 6 \quad R = 8}$$

Is this answer reasonable?

$$3(2)^3 - 7(2)^2 + 8(2) - 4 = ? \quad 8$$

Since the Remainder Theorem gives the same remainder as my division this answer is reasonable.

You can only "check" this way if the divisor is linear with a leading coefficient of 1

Is the given answer reasonable?

$$\frac{-2x^3 + x^2 - 4x + 7}{x - 3} = \boxed{-2x^2 - 5x - 19 \quad R = 50}$$

use the Remainder Theorem

$$-2(3)^2 - 5(3) - 19 = -50$$

Since the Remainder Theorem gives a different remainder as my division this answer is NOT reasonable. I must have made a mistake.

Sec 6-4: Solving Polynomial Equations

- Solve by factoring
- Solve by graphing

Find all Complex solutions by Factoring.

$$96a^4 - 224a^3 - 40a^2 = 0$$

$$8a^2 (12a^2 - 28a - 5)$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cc} -60 & \\ +2 & -30 \\ & -28 \end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{c} 2a-5 \\ 6a \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 12a^2 & -30a \\ \hline +2a & -5 \\ \hline \end{array} \\ +1 \end{array}$$

$$= 8a^2 (6a+1)(2a-5)$$

$$a = 0, -1/6, 5/2$$

Find all Complex solutions by Factoring.

$$3x^7 + 6x^5 - 9x^3 = 0$$

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

$$\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cc} -3 & \\ +3 & -1 \\ & +2 \end{array} \Rightarrow (x^2+3)(x^2-1) \end{array}$$

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

$$\begin{array}{l} \hookrightarrow x^2+3=0 \\ \sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{-3} \end{array}$$

$$x = 0, \pm 1, \pm i\sqrt{3}$$