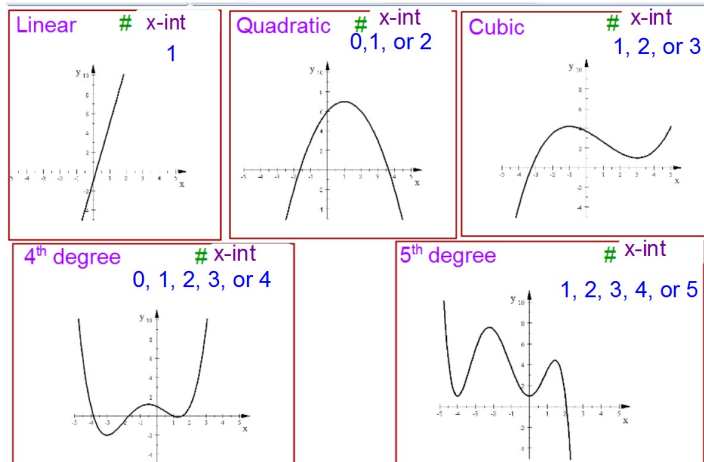


Number of extrema of a polynomial:

If the degree of the polynomial is  $n$   
then there can be up to  $n-1$  extrema.



X - Intercepts -- Can have up to  $n$  x-intercepts.  
 $n$  = degree of polynomial

**EVEN** Functions may have no x-intercept or multiple x-intercepts.  
**ODD** Functions must have at least 1 x-intercept

Graph the following equation in a Standard Window:

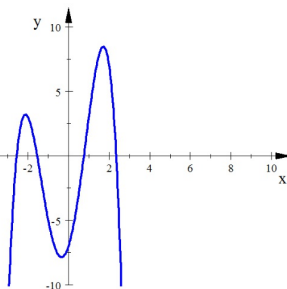
$$y = -x^4 - x^3 + 7x^2 + 5x - 7$$

Is this a "good" window for this function?

This is a negative even function so its end behavior is correct. ↘ ↘

Graph can have up to 4 x-intercepts and the graph shows all 4 of them.

Graph can have up to 3 extremes and the graph shows all 3 of them.



Since the graph shows the correct end behavior and shows the maximum number of x-intercepts and extremes this is a GOOD window to show the graph and all of its characteristics.

**Y - intercepts** -- All polynomials have exactly ONE y-intercept.

x-intercepts of a graph are also called:

- Real Zeros
- Real Roots
- Real Solutions

Every polynomial equation has exactly **n** solutions, where **n** is the degree of the polynomial.

Some of these solutions may be imaginary so not all solutions can be found on a graph.

Agilemind - Topic 5 - Analyzing Polynomial Functions

Answer questions #6 & 7 on SAS3

Agilemind website:

Exploring "Long-term Behavior and Real Zeros"

Page 10

6. How many distinct real zeros can a cubic function have?

1, 2, or 3

7. Think about linear, quadratic, and cubic polynomials. Based on these three function types, what seems to be the relationship between the degree of a polynomial and the number of distinct real zeros it will have?

Polynomials can have up to  $n$  distinct real zeros where  $n$  is the degree of the polynomial.

Even polynomials may have NO real zeros.

Odd polynomials must have AT LEAST ONE real zero.

Agilemind - Topic 5 - Analyzing Polynomial Functions

Answer questions #8 & 9 on SAS3

Agilemind website:

Exploring "Long-term Behavior and Real Zeros"

Page 11

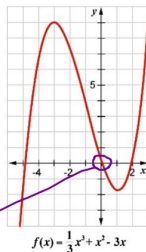
8. How can you determine the y-intercept of the graph of a polynomial function?

If you have the graph of a polynomial you can determine the y-intercept by finding the point where the graph crosses the y-axis.

y-intercept appears to be zero.

If you can't tell from the graph and have the equation you simply replace x with zero and determine what y equals.

$$f(0) = \frac{1}{3}(0)^3 + (0)^2 - 2(0) = 0$$



9. Consider the graph of the quadratic function  $g(x) = -2x^2 - 3x + 6$ . What are the coordinates of the y-intercept?

Without the graph just replace x with zero.

$$g(0) = -2(0)^2 - 3(0) + 6 = 6$$

y-intercept is the point (0,6)

When in Standard Form, the y-intercept of a polynomial is always the **constant**.

x-intercepts are Real Zeros of a polynomial.

Given this polynomial in factored form state the x-intercepts of the graph:

$$y = 3x(x - 8)(2x + 3)(x^2 + 7)$$

x-intercepts are Real Solutions.

$x\text{-int} = 0, 8, -\frac{3}{2}$

$$3x = 0$$

$$x = 0$$

$$x - 8 = 0$$

$$x = 8$$

$$2x + 3 = 0$$

$$2x = -3$$

$$x = -\frac{3}{2}$$

$$x^2 + 7 = 0$$

$$x^2 = -7$$

$$x = \pm \sqrt{-7}$$

these are not real solutions, therefore, they are not x-intercepts

Suppose you need to find a 3rd-degree polynomial function with zeros of 1, 2, and 4. Construct a polynomial equation with these zeros.

Agilemind - Topic 5 - Analyzing Polynomial Functions

Exploring "Long-term Behavior and Real Zeros"

[Page 8](#)

[this page answers the previous question.](#)

Agilemind - Topic 5 - Analyzing Polynomial Functions

[Answer Question #10 on SAS3](#)

Agilemind website:

Exploring "Long-term Behavior and Real Zeros"

[page 12](#)

**Hwk #24**

Agilemind - Topic 5 - Analyzing Polynomial Functions

Exploring "Long-term Behavior and Real Zeros"

[Guided Practice pages 1-11](#)

[You'll need to look up the formulas for  
Volume of a Cylinder and a Sphere first.](#)