

- Plan
1. Polynomial division and factorisation
 2. Rational and radical equations
 3. Inequalities
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1. Polynomial division and factorisation

Want to divide a polynomial $f(x)$
with a polynomial $g(x)$
and get a polynomial $q(x)$
with a remainder $r(x)$

$$g(x) \cdot \left| \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = q(x) + \frac{r(x)}{g(x)} \text{ with } \deg(r(x)) < \deg(g(x)) \right.$$

gives $f(x) = q(x) \cdot g(x) + r(x)$

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

$$\begin{array}{r} \boxed{3x^2} + 2x + 1 : (\boxed{x} - 2) = \overset{3x^2 : x}{3x} + \overset{8x : x}{8} + \frac{17}{x-2} \\ \underline{-(3x^2 - 6x)} \leftarrow \cdot (x-2) \\ \boxed{8x} + 1 \\ \underline{-(8x - 16)} \leftarrow \cdot (x-2) \\ \boxed{17} \end{array}$$

$\boxed{17}$ is called the remainder

so $q(x) = 3x + 8$ and $r(x) = 17$

check: $(3x+8 + \frac{17}{x-2}) \cdot (x-2)$

$$= (3x+8) \cdot (x-2) + \frac{17}{\cancel{x-2}} \cdot \cancel{(x-2)}$$

$$= 3x^2 - 6x + 8x - 16 + 17$$

$$= 3x^2 + 2x + 1 = f(x) \quad \text{-so ok!}$$

Two applications of polynomial division

A) To find asymptotes of rational functions

EX $\frac{3x^2 + 2x + 1}{x-2} = 3x + 8 + \frac{17}{x-2}$

has a vertical asymptote: the line $x=2$

and a non-vertical asymptote: the line $y=3x+8$

B) To factorise a polynomial as a product of degree 1 (linear) polynomials

EX Factorise $x^3 - 4x^2 - 11x + 30$ into linear factors.

Solution Three steps.

Step I Guess an integer root (zero)

[Note: has to divide 30]

I try $x = -3$ and get

$$(-3)^3 - 4 \cdot (-3)^2 - 11 \cdot (-3) + 30$$

$$= -27 - 36 + 33 + 30 = 0$$

Then $(x - (-3)) = (x + 3)$ is a factor

Step II Use polynomial division to find a polynomial of lower degree:

$$(x^3 - 4x^2 - 11x + 30) : (x + 3) \stackrel{\text{by poly. div.}}{=} x^2 - 7x + 10$$

Note: Remainder is 0.

This means $x^3 - 4x^2 - 11x + 30 = (x^2 - 7x + 10) \cdot (x + 3)$

Step III We find the roots of $x^2 - 7x + 10$

They are $x = 2$, $x = 5$

so $x^2 - 7x + 10 = (x - 2) \cdot (x - 5)$

and $x^3 - 4x^2 - 11x + 30 = \underline{\underline{(x - 2) \cdot (x - 5) \cdot (x + 3)}}$

Note 1 Not always possible to factorise

Ex $x^2 + 5$ has no roots!

$$x^2 + 2x + 3 \quad \text{---||---} \quad \text{since } b^2 - 4ac \\ \Rightarrow 2^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 3 = 4 - 12 < 0$$

Note 2 I can be difficult to guess roots!
- they don't have to be integers.

Start: 11.00

2. Rational and radical equations

A rational equation: $\frac{p(x)}{q(x)} = 0$

where $p(x)$ and $q(x)$ are polynomials.

Ex Equation $\frac{x+1}{(x-1)(x+3)} = 0$ then $x+1 = 0$
and $(x-1)(x+3) \neq 0$
so $x = -1$ i.e. $x \neq 1, x \neq -3$

Ex Probl. 10a from last week

$$1 + x + x^2 + \dots + x^{99} = 0 \quad (*)$$

$$\frac{x^{100} - 1}{x - 1} = 0 \quad (x \neq 1)$$

$$\text{so } x^{100} = 1 \quad (x \neq 1)$$

$$\text{so } x = \pm \sqrt[100]{1} = \pm 1 \quad (x \neq 1)$$

$$\underline{\underline{x = -1}}$$

check: $x = 1$ is not a solution of $(*)$

$$\text{Ex. Eq. } \frac{x+1}{(x-1)(x+3)} = 2$$

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

(4) multiply -2 with $\frac{(x-1)(x+3)}{(x-1)(x+3)}$ which is 1

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

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

$$\frac{-2x^2 - 3x + 7}{(x-1)(x+3)} = 0$$

that is $-2x^2 - 3x + 7 = 0$

with $x \neq 1$, $x \neq -3$

which you can solve.

Radical equations

- the unknown is under a root!

Ex $2\sqrt{x+1} = x-2$

square both sides

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

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

$$x^2 - 8x = 0$$

$$x(x-8) = 0$$

so $x = 0$ or $x = 8$

Note Not all of these need to be solutions of the original eq.

We have to test the candidates:

$$\begin{array}{l} \underline{x=0} \quad \text{l.h.s. } 2 \cdot \sqrt{0+1} = 2 \cdot \sqrt{1} = 2 \\ \quad \quad \quad \text{r.h.s. } 0 - 2 = -2 \end{array} \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} \underline{x=0} \\ \text{l.h.s.} \\ \text{r.h.s.} \end{array}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{not equal} \\ \text{so } x=0 \\ \text{is not a} \\ \text{solution} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \underline{x=8} \quad \text{l.h.s. } 2 \cdot \sqrt{8+1} = 2 \cdot \sqrt{9} = 2 \cdot 3 = 6 \\ \quad \quad \quad \text{r.h.s. } 8 - 2 = 6 \end{array} \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{l} \underline{x=8} \\ \text{l.h.s.} \\ \text{r.h.s.} \end{array}} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{equal!} \\ \text{so} \\ \underline{x=8} \\ \text{is the only} \\ \text{solution.} \end{array}$$

3. Inequalities

$-2 < -1$ read: 'minus two is less than minus one'

$\frac{1}{9} > \frac{1}{12}$ read: 'one ninth is bigger than one twelfth'

Also \leq , \geq

An inequality is claim that one expression (number) is less than, bigger than... another expression (number).

The solutions of an inequality are those values of x which make the claim true.

Ex $x-1 \geq 2$ is a claim

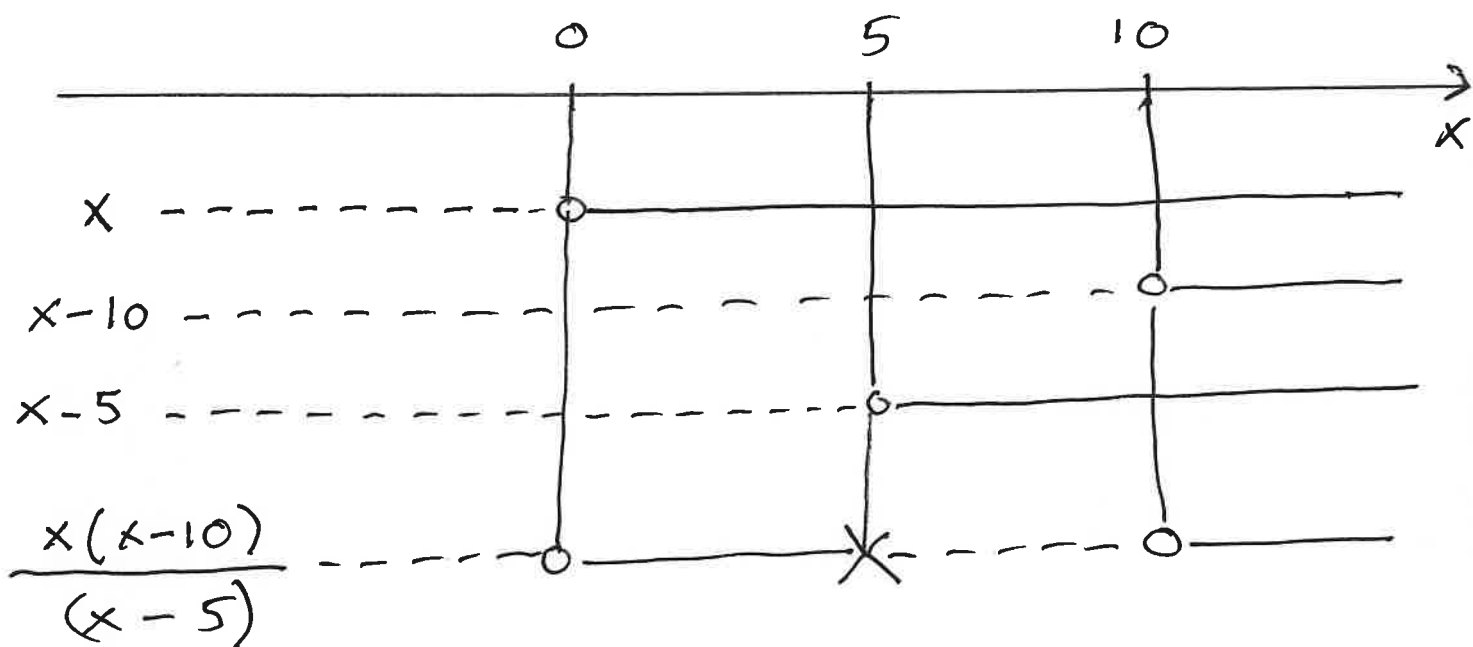
— is true if $x=5$ since $5-1 \geq 2$

— is not true if $x=2$ since $2-1 \geq 2$ is not true! (6)

The solutions of the inequality are all the values of x such that $x \geq 3$ - an infinite set of numbers.

Ex Solve the inequality $\frac{x(x-10)}{x-5} \geq 0$

Solution Because we have 0 on the r.h.s. and factorised l.h.s. we can use a sign diagram.



that is $0 \leq x < 5$ or $x \geq 10$

we also write $x \in [0, 5)$ or $x \in [10, \infty)$