

5-4: DIVIDING POLYNOMIALS

Algebra 2
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POLYNOMIAL LONG DIVISION

◦ Numerical

$$22 \overline{)770}$$

◦ Polynomial

$$2x+1 \overline{)6x^2+7x+2}$$

The remainder for each problem is 0, so 22 is a factor of 770 and $2x+1$ is a factor of $6x^2+7x+2$.

USING POLYNOMIAL LONG DIVISION

Use long division to divide $5x^2 + 2x + 3$ by $x + 1$.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 5x - 3 \\
 \textcircled{x+1} \overline{) 5x^2 + 2x + 3} \\
 \underline{-5x^2 + 5x} \\
 -3x + 3 \\
 \underline{-3x - 3} \\
 6
 \end{array}$$

The *degree* is less than $x + 1$ so this is the *Remainder*

The *quotient* is $5x - 3$, $R6$.

Divide: $\frac{5x^2}{x} = 5x$

Multiply: $5x(x+1) = 5x^2 + 5x$

Subtract to get $-3x$. Bring down 3.

Divide: $\frac{-3x}{x} = -3$

Multiply: $-3(x+1) = -3x - 3$

Subtract to get 6.

Complete Got It? #1 p. 304
 $3x - 8$, $R0$

DIVISION ALGORITHM FOR POLYNOMIALS

You can divide polynomial $P(x)$ by polynomial $D(x)$ to get polynomial quotient $Q(x)$ and polynomial remainder $R(x)$. The result is $P(x) = D(x)Q(x) + R(x)$.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 Q(x) \\
 D(x) \overline{) P(x)} \\
 \cdot \\
 \cdot \\
 \hline
 R(x)
 \end{array}$$

If $R(x) = 0$, then $P(x) = D(x)Q(x)$ and $D(x)$ and $Q(x)$ are factors of $P(x)$.

To use long division, $P(x)$ and $D(x)$ should be in standard form with zero coefficients where appropriate. The process stops when the degree of the remainder, $R(x)$, is less than the degree of the divisor, $D(x)$.

CHECKING FACTORS

Is $x^2 + 1$ a factor of $3x^4 - 4x^3 + 12x^2 + 5$?

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \overline{3x^4 - 4x^3 + 12x^2 + 0x + 5} \\
 \underline{-3x^4 + 0x^3 + 3x^2} \\
 -4x^3 + 9x^2 + 0x \\
 \underline{-4x^3 + 0x^2 - 4x} \\
 9x^2 - 4x + 5 \\
 \underline{-9x^2 + 0x + 9} \\
 -4x - 4
 \end{array}$$

The *degree* is less than the divisor so this is the *Remainder*

The quotient is: $3x^2 - 4x + 9$, $R = -4x - 4$

The remainder is not 0 so $x^2 + 1$ is not a factor of $3x^4 - 4x^3 + 12x^2 + 5$

Is $x^2 - 2$ a factor of $P(x) = x^4 - x^2 - 2$? If it is, write $P(x)$ as a product of two factors.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \overline{x^4 + 0x^3 - x^2 + 0x - 2} \\
 \underline{-x^4 + 0x^3 - 2x^2} \\
 x^2 + 0x - 2 \\
 \underline{-x^2 + 0x - 2} \\
 0
 \end{array}$$

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

HOMEWORK: p.308 #9-16, 72-78 even

p.308 #9-16, 72-78 even

9. quotient: $x - 8$

10. quotient: $3x - 5$

11. quotient: $x^2 + 4 + 3$, R 5

12. quotient: $2x^2 + 5x + 2$

13. quotient: $3x^2 + 3x + 2$

14. quotient: $9x - 12$, R -32

15. quotient: $x - 10$, R 40

16. quotient: $x^2 + 4x + 3$

72. The real solutions are 0 and 1.

74. $\frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{17}}{2}$

76. 1, $-\frac{5}{7}$

78. $3 \pm \sqrt{2}$

SYNTHETIC DIVISION

- Can only use synthetic division when you divide a polynomial by "x - a"
- Write out ALL coefficients (including zeroes!) of polynomial when in standard form.
- For a divisor, use "a." (Reverse the sign of the number in "x - a.")

EXAMPLE 1

$$(x^3 - 14x^2 + 51x - 54) \div (x + 2)$$

-2	1	-14	51	-54
		-2	32	-166
	1	-16	83	-220

The quotient is $x^2 - 16x + 83$, $R - 220$

Final Number in Bottom Row is the Remainder

EXAMPLE 2

$$(x^3 - 57x + 56) \div (x - 7)$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 7 & 1 & 0 & -57 & 56 \\ & & 7 & 49 & -56 \\ \hline & 1 & 7 & -8 & 0 \end{array}$$

The quotient is $x^2 + 7x - 8$, $R0$

REMAINDER THEOREM

- If you divide a polynomial $P(x)$ by $x - a$, then the remainder is $P(a)$.

$$\text{Reason: } P(x) = D(x)Q(x) + R(x)$$

$$P(x) = (x - a)Q(x) + R(x)$$

$$P(a) = (a - a)Q(a) + R(a)$$

$$P(a) = 0 + R(a)$$

$$P(a) = R(a)$$

EXAMPLE 3

- Find $P(3)$ for $P(x) = x^5 - 2x^3 - x^2 + 2$ using synthetic division.

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrrr} 3 & 1 & 0 & -2 & -1 & 0 & 2 \\ & & 3 & 9 & 21 & 60 & 180 \\ \hline & 1 & 3 & 7 & 20 & 60 & 182 \end{array}$$

$$P(3) = 182$$

Complete Got It? #5 p. 307 $P(-4) = 0$

HOMEWORK: p.308 #21-27 odd, 33-39 odd,
71-79 odd