

6.7 Writing Polynomial Functions

std. 10.0

r is a zero
 $x-r$ is a factor

Theorem If r_1, r_2, \dots are zeros of $f(x)$, then
 $f(x) = (x - r_1)(x - r_2) \dots$

Examples: Write a polynomial function of least degree with the given zeros.

ex. 1

0, -1, $\frac{2}{3}$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= x(x+1)\left(x - \frac{2}{3}\right) \\ &= x(x+1)(3x-2) \\ &= (x^2+x)(3x-2) \\ f(x) &= 3x^3 + x^2 - 2x \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\rightarrow x = \frac{2}{3} \\ &3x - 2 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

ex. 2

$-\sqrt{2}, 3i$
 $\sqrt{2}, -3i$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= (x+\sqrt{2})(x-\sqrt{2})(x-3i)(x+3i) \\ &= (x^2-2)(x^2+9) \\ f(x) &= x^4 + 7x^2 - 18 \end{aligned}$$

ex. 3

1, -2, $3-\sqrt{2}$, $3+\sqrt{2}$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= (x-1)(x+2)(x-(3-\sqrt{2}))(x-(3+\sqrt{2})) \\ &= (x^2+x-2)(x^2 - (3+\sqrt{2})x - (3-\sqrt{2})x + (9-2)) \\ &= (x^2+x-2)(x^2 - 6x + 7) \\ f(x) &= x^4 - 5x^3 - x^2 + 19x - 14 \end{aligned}$$

Quiz 69

-2 is a zero of $f(x) = 3x^3 + x^2 - 8x + 4$
find the other zeros