

## PC12 Polynomial Functions Lesson

- Polynomials functions and equations
- Factoring, including the factor theorem and the remainder theorem
- Graphing and the characteristics of a graph (e.g., degree, extrema, zeros, end-behaviour)
- Solving equations algebraically and graphically

### 1. What is a polynomial function?

In the form  $ax^n + bx^{n-1} + \dots$

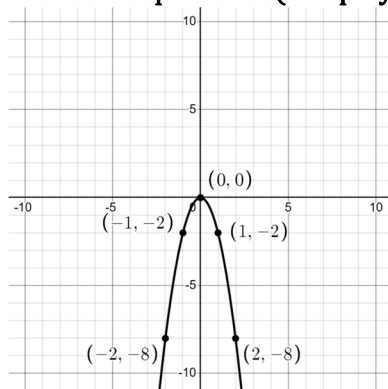
The coefficient of  $x$  are real numbers ex.  $3, \frac{2}{3}, \sqrt{2}, \pi$

But  $n \in \mathbb{W}$  for exponents

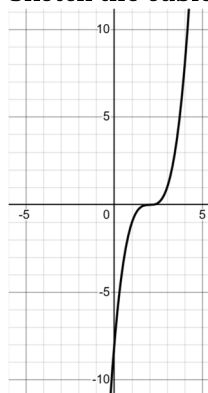
### 2. Polynomial functions are smooth and c\_\_\_\_\_.

continuous

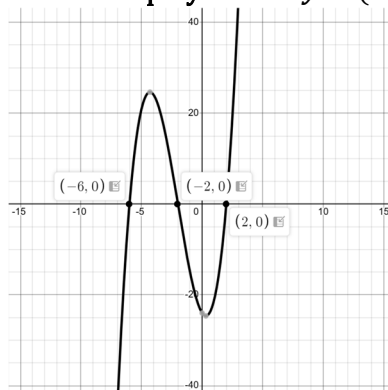
### 3. Sketch the quadratic (and polynomial) $f(x) = -2x^2$ and label 3 points.



### 4. Sketch the cubic polynomial $f(x) = (x - 2)^3$ and label 3 points.



### 5. Sketch the polynomial: $y = (x - 2)(x + 6)(x + 2)$



6. Is  $P(x) = \pi x^5 - \sqrt{2}x^2 + 1.\overline{3}$  a polynomial function?

Yes

7. Is  $P(x) = x^3 - 2x + \frac{1}{x}$  a polynomial function?

No

8.  $f(x) = (2x + 1)(x - 2)(x + 4)^{\frac{2}{3}}$

a. Find the x-intercepts.

$$2, -\frac{1}{2}, -4$$

b. Is  $f(x)$  a polynomial?

No (exponent is not a whole number)

9. Factor to find the roots of  $2x^3 + x^2 - 6x$

$$x(2x^2 + x - 6)$$

$$x(2x - 3)(x + 2)$$

The roots are:  $\frac{3}{2}, -2, 0$

10. Factor to solve when you land in the water  $h(t) = 8 - 18t^2$

$$0 = 2(4 - 9t^2)$$

Divide by 2

$$0 = 4 - 9t^2$$

$$9t^2 = 4$$

$$t^2 = \frac{4}{9}$$

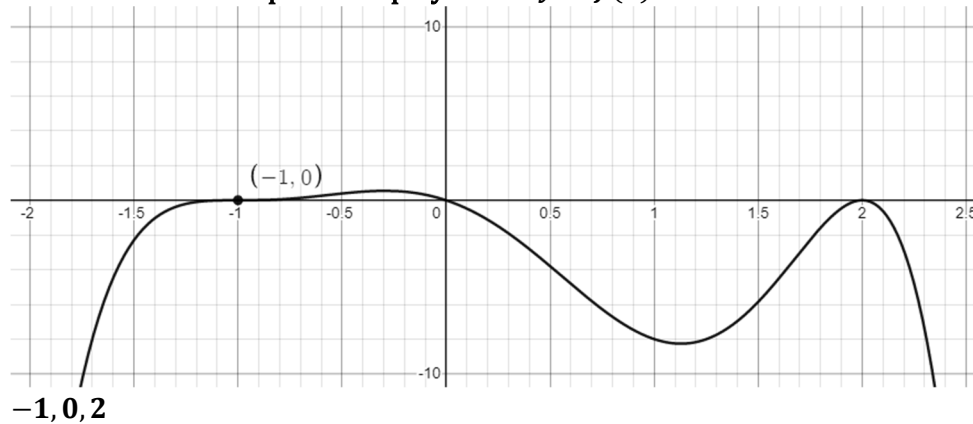
$$t = \pm \sqrt{\frac{4}{9}} = \pm \frac{2}{3}$$

$$t = \frac{2}{3} \text{ (but reject negative time)}$$

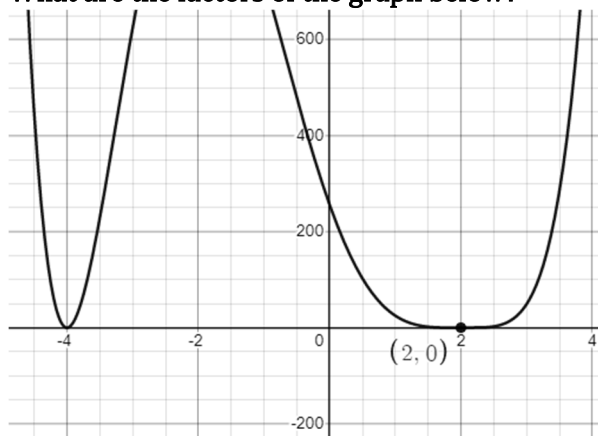
11. Given  $P(x) = (3x - 2)(x + \pi)^2$  what are the x-intercepts?

$$\frac{2}{3}, -\pi$$

12. What are the intercepts of the polynomial  $y = f(x)$  below?



13. What are the factors of the graph below?



$(x + 4)$  and  $(x - 2)$  (note we're not sure what the exponent should be yet ...)

14. Solve  $2x^2 = 4x$

$$2x^2 - 4x = 0$$

$$2x(x - 2) = 0$$

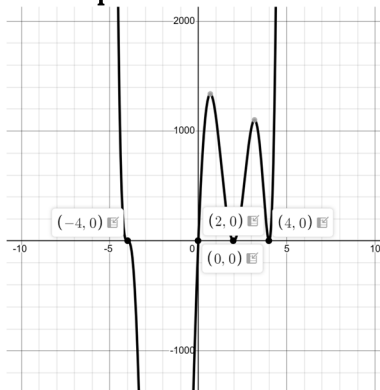
$$2, 0$$

15.  $P(x) = x(x - 2)^2(x + 4)^3(x - 4)^2$

a. Evaluate  $P(3)$

$$1029$$

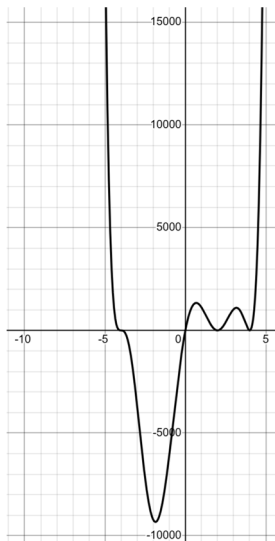
b. Intercepts?



x-ints: 0, 2, -4, 4

y-int (set  $x = 0$ ):  $P = 0(0 - 2)^2(0 + 4)^3(0 - 4)^2 = 0$

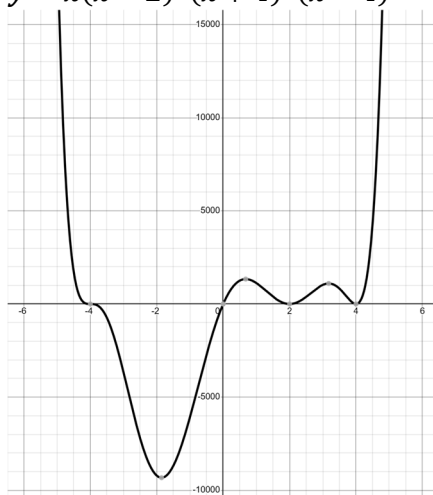
c. Describe the end-behavior of the graph as  $x \rightarrow \infty$  and  $x \rightarrow -\infty$



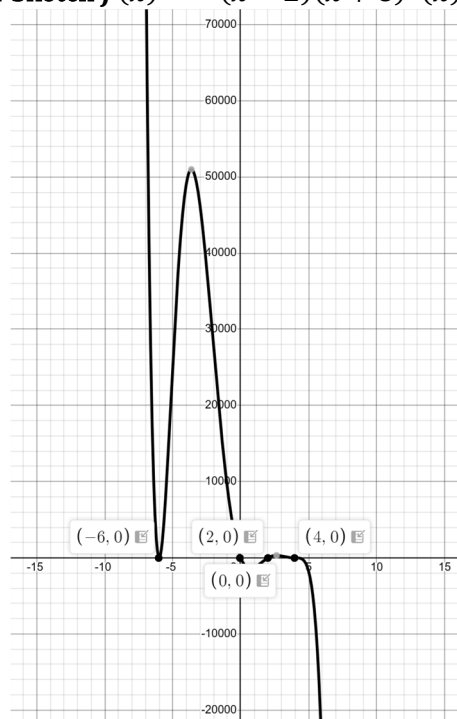
$+\infty$

- d. Sketch the polynomial  $P(x)$  while clearly showing the shape (based on the degree of the factors)

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



16. Sketch  $f(x) = -(x - 2)(x + 6)^2(x)(x - 4)^3$



17. Identify the degree of the polynomial  $P(x)$  below:

$$P(x) = 16x^5 - 44x^6 + x^8 + 640x^4 - 512x^3 - 3072x^2 + 4096x$$

8

18. Enrichment: What is the degree of the following polynomial:  $y = 5x^2y^3 + 4x - 7$

5

19.  $P(x) = (x - 2)^2(x + 6)^3$

What is the significance of the multiplicity (exponent of the factor) being 2?

Bounces of the x-axis.

20. What is the significance of the multiplicity (exponent of the factor) being 3 (or odd)?

Cuts through the x-axis with an "S" shape

21.  $P(x) = (x - 3)^1(x + 2)^1x^1$

What is the significance of the multiplicity (exponent of the factor) being 1?

Cuts through the x-axis in relatively straight manner.

22. State the Factor Theorem

The Factor Theorem states that a polynomial  $f(x)$  has a factor  $(x - a)$  iff  $f(a) = 0$ .

Ex.  $f(x) = (x - 2)(x + 4)$

$f(2) = 0$

23. State the Remainder Theorem

The Remainder Theorem states that if a polynomial  $f(x)$  is divided by  $(x - a)$ , the remainder of this division is equal to  $f(a)$ . In other words, when you substitute  $x = a$  into the polynomial, the value you get is the remainder when  $f(x)$  is divided by  $(x - a)$ . This theorem is useful for evaluating polynomials at specific points and is closely related to the Factor Theorem.

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

According to the remainder theorem  $P(2)$  gives you the remainder.

Rem =  $(2)^3 + 2(2)^2 - (2) + 3 = 17$

$P(x) = x^2 - 2x - 8$

We will divide by  $(x + 2)$

$P(-2) = (-2)^2 - 2(-2) - 8 = 0$

By the way  $P(x) = (x + 2)(x - 4) = 0$

$x = -2, 4$

24. State the rational root theorem (also called the Rational Zero Theorem)

The Rational Root Theorem states that if a polynomial  $f(x) = a_nx^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$  has a rational root of the form  $\frac{p}{q}$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are integers with no common factors other than 1 (i.e., the fraction is in lowest terms), then:

- $p$  must be a factor of the constant term  $a_0$ .
- and  $q$  must be a factor of the leading coefficient  $a_n$ .

This theorem helps identify possible rational roots of a polynomial, which can be tested by substitution or synthetic division to find actual roots.

25.  $P(x) = x^3 + 2x^2 - 4x - 8$ .

a. Factor by grouping

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

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

$$(x + 2)(x + 2)(x - 2)$$

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

b. Factor using the rational root theorem and then sketch.

$$P(2) = 0$$

$\therefore (x - 2)$  is a factor

$$\text{Use long division: } (x^3 + 2x^2 - 4x - 8) \div (x - 2)$$

26.  $P(x) = -x^4 + 6x^2 + 8x + 3$ . Fully factor and sketch this polynomial given  $(x - 3)$  is a factor.

27. Although you are welcome to use the Factor Theorem to factor polynomials, sometimes its faster to try to pull out a GCF first. Fully factor and sketch:  $y = 4x^3 - 14x^2 + 12x$

28.  $\frac{x^3 - 2x^2 + 3x + 2}{x + 2}$

a. Use long division to find the remainder.

b. Use synthetic division to find the remainder.

c. Use the remainder theorem to find the remainder.

d. Express in the form Quotient +  $\frac{\text{remainder}}{\text{divisor}}$

29.  $P(x) = \frac{x^3 - 2x + 3}{x - 1}$ . Find the remainder using long division or synthetic division

30. Factor and sketch:  $y = 2x^3 + x^2 - 4x - 3$

31. Factor and sketch:  $y = x^4 - 2x^3 - 32x^2 + 96x$

32. Enrichment:  $P(x) = (2x - 3)^2(3x - 1)$

a. Identify the roots of this polynomials and sketch.

b. Expand this polynomial.

c. Factor this polynomial using the Rational Root Theorem.



33. Fractional roots: Factor  $12x^4 - 20x^3 + 11x^2 - 2x$

34. What is the equation of the mystery degree 4 function below?

