

SM3 Theorems 2-4 (Polynomials)

Multiplicity: the number of times a zero is repeated for a polynomial. $y = (x - 1)^2 = (x - 1)(x - 1)$ $x = 1$ is a “zero” of the polynomial twice.

“ $x = 1$ is a zero of the polynomial with multiplicity 2”

Fundamental Theorem of Algebra: If a polynomial has a degree of “n”, then the polynomial has “n” zeroes (provided that repeat zeroes, called “multiplicities” are counted separately).

$$y = 6x^4 + 42x^3 + 96x^2 + 28x + 48 \quad \text{“4th Degree”} \rightarrow 4 \text{ zeroes}$$

Linear Factorization Theorem: If a polynomial has a degree of “n”, then the polynomial can be factored into “n” linear factors.

$$y = 6(x + 4)(x + 3)(x - 2i)(x + 2i)$$

Since each linear factor has one zero, these two theorems are almost saying the same thing.

Quadratic Formula: gives zeroes of 2nd degree polynomials and proves two more theorems. $x = \frac{-b}{2a} \pm \frac{\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

1. **Complex Conjugates Theorem**: If $f(x)$ is a function with real coefficients and if $(a + bi)$ is a zero of $f(x)$, then its complex conjugate $(a - bi)$ is also a zero of $f(x)$.

Example: $y = x^2 - 4x + 5$ Factorization: $y = (x - 2 - 3i)(x - 2 + 3i)$ Zeroes: $x = 2 - 3i$,
 $x = 2 + 3i$

2. **Irrational Roots (Zeroes) Theorem**: If an irrational number is the zero of a polynomial, then the conjugate of the irrational number is also a zero.

Example: $y = x^2 + 4x + 1$ Factorization: $y = (x + 2 - \sqrt{3})(x + 2 + \sqrt{3})$ Zeroes: $x = 2 - \sqrt{3}$, $x = 2 + \sqrt{3}$

Example: $y = x^2 + 4$ Factorization: $y = (x + 2i)(x - 2i)$ Zeroes: $3 - \sqrt{2}$, $3 + \sqrt{2}$