

Math-3A

Lesson 2-3

Factoring Quadratics with Lead
Coefficient Not = 1,
Complex Conjugates

Factor the quadratic expressions.

$$3x^3 + 15x^2 - 42x$$

$$5x^3 - 25x^2 - 20x$$

What if there is no common factor AND the lead coefficient is NOT equal to 1?

$$ax^2 + bx + c$$

(These come from multiplying binomials that also do not have lead coefficients of 1.)

$$(2x + 1)(x + 3)$$

Use the “box method” to multiply the binomials

$$2x^2 + 7x + 3$$

	x	3
2x	$2x^2$	$6x$
1	x	3

Notice a nice pattern when you multiply this out (“simplify”)

$$(2x + 1)(x + 3)$$

“right plus right” *does not* add up to 7, but notice something.

$$2x^2 + 7x + 3$$

Left times left is left

Right times right is right

$$(2x + 1)(x + 3)$$

$6x$

x

$$6x + x = 7x$$

$$2x^2 + 7x + 3$$

$$1 + 6 = 7$$

$$6 = 1 * 6$$

$$2 * 3 = 6$$

Are there any other factors of 6 that add up to 7?

$$2 * 15 = 30$$

$$2x^2 + 13x + 15$$

10 + 3 = 13

$$30 = 10 * 3$$

Are there any other factors of 30 that add up to 13?

This tells us to break 13x into 10x + 3x

$$2x^2 + 13x + 15$$

$$2x^2 + 10x + 3x + 15$$

These are all of the terms in “the box”

	x	5
2x	2x ²	10x
3	3x	15

What is the bottom-left term in the box?

$$x * (\underline{3}) = 3x$$

What is the top-right term in the box?

$$2x * (\underline{5}) = 10x$$

Final check: $3 * 5 = 15$?

Factored form:

$$2x^2 + 13x + 15$$

$$\rightarrow (2x + 3)(x + 5)$$

$$4 * 10 = 40$$

These are all of the terms in “the box”

$$4x^2 + 13x + 10$$

	$4x$	5
x	$4x^2$	$5x$
2	$8x$	10

$$8 + 5 = 13$$

Other factors of 40
that add up to 13?

$$40 = 8 * 5$$

This tells us to break
 $13x$ into $8x + 5x$

Since $4x^2$ can be factored 2 ways, look
for the common factors of the 1st row.

‘ x ’ is the common factor of $4x^3$ and $5x$

Look for the common factors of
the 1st column

‘ $4x$ ’ is the common factor of $4x^3$ and $8x$

$$4x * (\underline{2}) = 8x$$

$$x * (\underline{5}) = 5x$$

Final check: $2 * 5 = 10$?

$$4x^2 + 13x + 10$$

$$4x^2 + 8x + 5x + 10$$

Factored form:

$$4x^2 + 13x + 10$$

$$\rightarrow (x + 2)(4x + 5)$$

$$3 * 8 = 24$$

These are all of the terms in “the box”

$$3x^2 + 14x + 8$$

$$2 + 12 = 14$$

Other factors of 24
that add up to 14?

$$24 = 2 * 12$$

This tells us to break
14x into 2x + 12x

$$3x^2 + 14x + 8$$

$$3x^2 + 2x + 12x + 8$$

	x	4
3x	3x ²	12x
2	2x	8

What is the bottom-left term in the box?

$$x * (\underline{2}) = 2x$$

What is the top-right term in the box?

$$3x * (\underline{4}) = 12x$$

$$\text{Final check: } 2 * 4 = 8?$$


Factored form:

$$3x^2 + 14x + 8$$

$$\rightarrow (3x + 2)(x + 4)$$

Factor


$$5 * 4 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$5x^2 + 12x + 4$$


$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} * \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} + \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = 12$$

$$11 * (-9) = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$11x^2 + 2x - 9$$


$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} * \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} + \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = 2$$

Factor


$$9 \cdot 10 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$


$$9x^2 - 13x - 10$$

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} \cdot \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} + \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = -13$$

$$12 \cdot 5 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$



$$12x^2 - 16x + 5$$

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} \cdot \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} + \underline{\hspace{2cm}} = -16$$

Factor


$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} * \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$


$$6x^2 - 5x - 6$$

$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} * \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} * \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$



$$8x^2 - 2x - 3$$

$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} * \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

Factor


$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} * \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$


$$7x^2 - 12x - 4$$

$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} * \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} * \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$


$$6x^2 - 29x + 9$$

$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} * \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$