

## Synthetic Division

To get the zero for a function, **sometimes we are guessing the values for x, the so-called** rational roots test.

Rational roots test is a handy way of obtaining a list of useful first guesses when you are trying to find the zeroes (roots) of a polynomial.

**Example: solve the function  $y=x^2 - 5x + 6$**   $\Rightarrow y = a_2 x^2 + a_1 x + a_0$

$a_n = 1$  &  $a_0 \Rightarrow \text{Constant}$

**Solution:** we examine the leading coefficient ( $X^2$ ), we have +1 constant +6, what will be the possible values of x

$1, -1, 2, -2, +3, -3, +6, -6$ . for constants,  $\pm \frac{1,6}{1,1}, \pm \frac{2,3}{1,1}$

Next step, we let  $x+3=0$  as first trial  $x=-3$

$$\begin{array}{r} & 1 & -5 & +6 \\ -3 & \swarrow & \downarrow & \\ & -3 & +24 & \\ \hline & -8 & 30 & \\ f(-3) & = & 9 + 15 + 6 = 30 & \end{array}$$

$6 \left. \begin{array}{l} \uparrow (1)(6) \\ \uparrow (-1)(-6) \\ \uparrow (2)(3) \\ \uparrow (-2)(-3) \\ \uparrow (1)(6) \\ \uparrow (-1)(-6) \end{array} \right\}$

1-We write coefficients only without  $x^2$  or x

2- Coefficient of  $x^2$  carrying down

3-multiply  $-3*1$ .

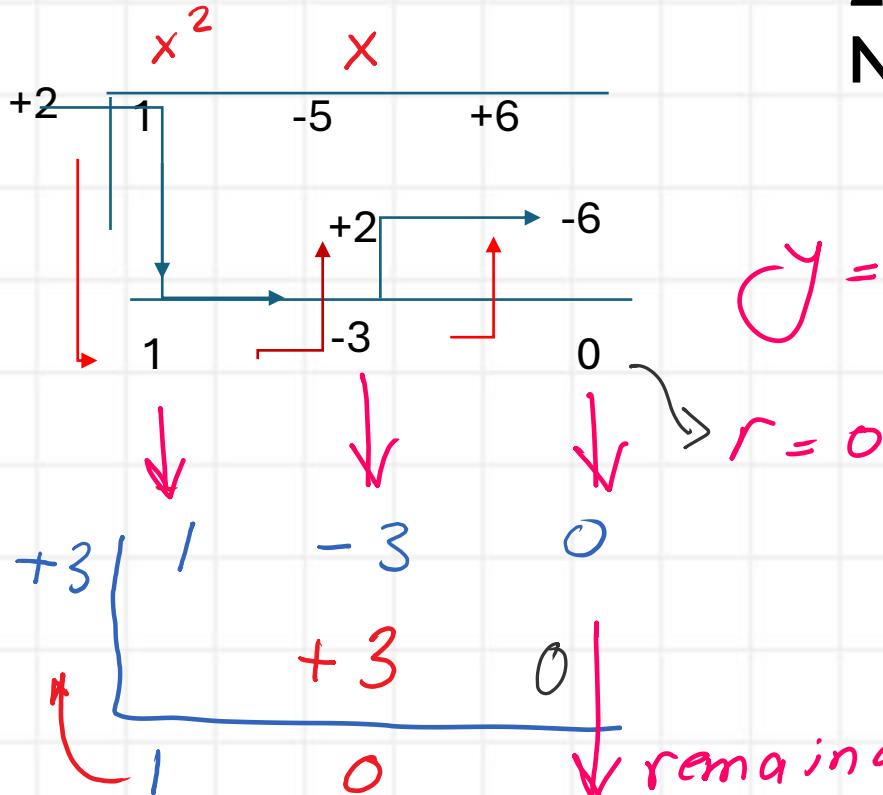
4- add  $(-3)+(-5)=-8$

5-multiply  $(-8)*(-3)=24$

6-add +24 to +6=+30.

## Continue for roots finding.

Example: solve the function  $y=x^2 - 5x + 6$



2<sup>nd</sup> trial :

Next step we let  $X-2=0$  i.e  $x=2$

$y = (x-2)*(x-3)=0$  the result shows that we have two roots  $x_1=2, x_2=3$

$r = 0$

$\Rightarrow$  there is a root

<https://www.mathportal.org/calculators/polynomials-solvers/polynomial-graphing-calculator.php>

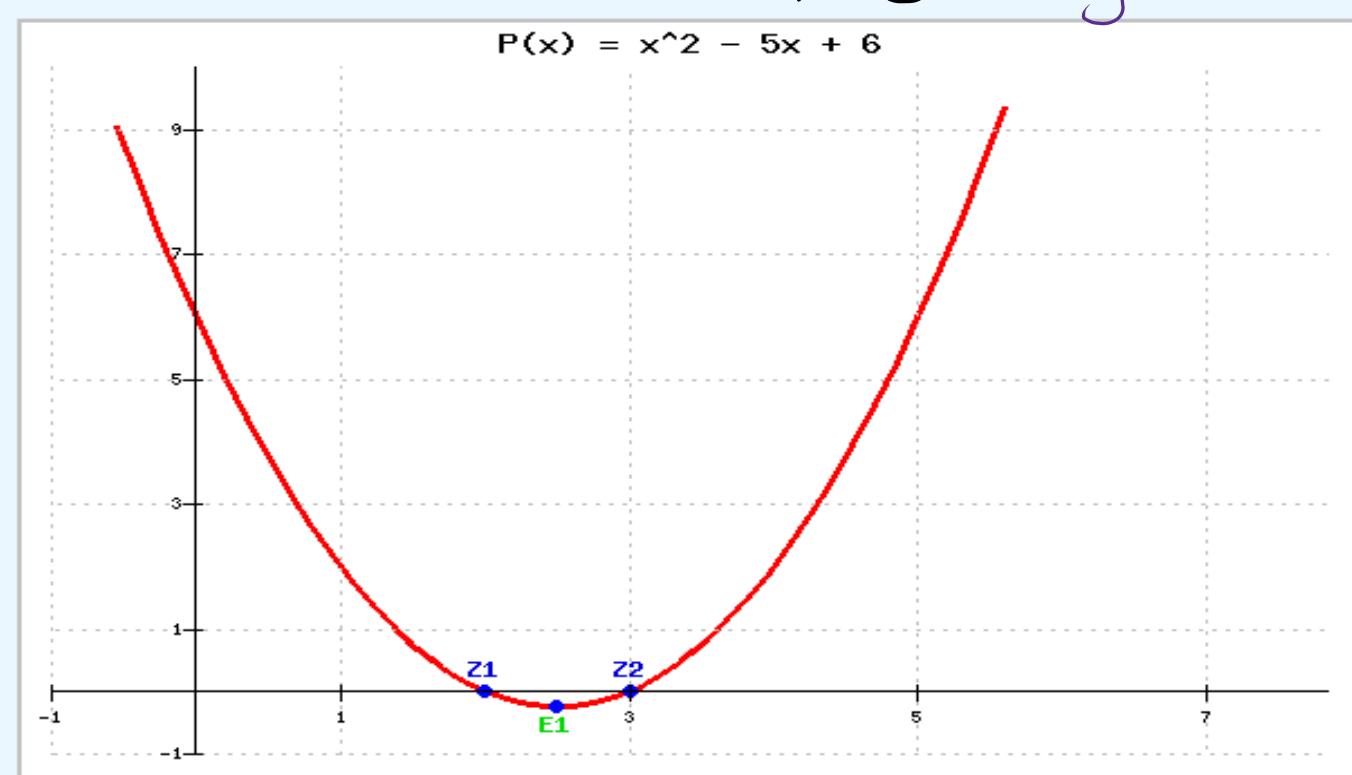
$$P(x) = x^2 - 5x + 6$$

There are two roots that make  $f(x) = 0$

$$x = 2$$

$$x = 3$$

$$\begin{aligned} x = 0 &\rightarrow y = 6 \\ x = 2 &\rightarrow y = 0 \\ x = 3 &\rightarrow y = 0 \end{aligned}$$



Example: Divide  $5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6$  by  $(x+2)$  by synthetic division

Solution Consider  $x+2 = 0$

$x = -2$   
we put at the Left

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} & x^4 & x^3 & x^2 & x & C \\ -2 | & 5 & 6 & -9 & -7 & +6 \\ & \downarrow & \uparrow & & & \\ & 5 & -4 & & & \end{array}$$

Steps 1  $\rightarrow$  3

Step-1 : add 5 to 0 = 5

Step-2 : Multiply  $5(-2) = -10$

Step-3 : add  $(-10)$  to 6  $\Rightarrow -4$

Divide  $5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6$  by  $(x + 2)$  Contd

$$\begin{array}{r} -2 \mid 5 & 6 & -9 & -7 & +6 \\ & \downarrow & \uparrow & & \\ & -10 & & & \\ \hline & +8 & & & \\ & +2 & & & +10 \\ \hline -1 & -5 & & & +16 \end{array}$$

Step 4

## Step ④

$$\text{Multiply } (-4 \times -2) = +8$$

Step ⑤ add  $+8 + (-9) = -1$

Step ⑥ Multiply  $(-1)$  by  $(-2) = +2$

$$\text{Step } \textcircled{7} \quad \text{add } +2 + (-7) = -5$$

Step 8 Multiply  $(-5)$  by  $(-2) = +10$

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Divide: 
$$\frac{5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6}{(x+2)}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ -2 \overline{)5 \ 6 \ -9 \ -7 \ +6} \\ \underline{-10} \quad \underline{+8} \quad \underline{+2} \quad \underline{+10} \\ 5 \ -4 \ -1 \ -5 \ +16 \end{array}$$

Step 9

Step 9: Add 6 to 10  $\Rightarrow 16$   
 remainder = 16

Rewrite as

$$5x^3 - 4x^2 - 5x - 5 + \frac{16}{(x+2)}$$

No root

\*Quotient with a remainder of 16

remainder is not zero

Example: Divide:  $5x^4 + 6x^3$   
 $- 9x^2 - 7x + 6$

Try Long division

by  $(x+2)$

Solution

Coefficients are placed, For  $x+2=0$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 5x^3 \\
 \hline
 x+2 \left[ 5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \right. \\
 \hline
 -5x^4 - 10x^3 \\
 \hline
 0 \quad -4x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6
 \end{array}$$

Step 3: Subtract From the Line above

$$-(5x^4 + 10x^3) + 5x^4 + 6x^3 = -4x^3$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Step 1: } & \frac{5x^4}{x} \\
 & = 5x^3
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Step 2: Multiply} \\
 & (5x^3)(x+2) \\
 & = 5x^4 + 10x^3
 \end{aligned}$$

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Example:  $5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6$  /  $(x+2)$   
 by Long division Contd

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \begin{array}{c} 5x^3 \\ - 4x^2 \\ \hline \end{array} \\
 \begin{array}{c} x+2 \left[ \begin{array}{r} 5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \\ - 5x^4 - 10x^3 \\ \hline 0 - 4x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \\ + 4x^3 + 8x^2 \\ \hline - x^2 - 7x + 6 \\ + 4x^3 + 8x^2 \\ \hline \end{array} \right] \\
 \begin{array}{c} \text{From previous slide} \\ \text{Step 5: divide} \end{array}
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Step 7: subtract from the line above  
 $+ 4x^3 + 8x^2$

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

Example:

Divide  $5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6$

by  $(x+2)$  by Long division

Contd

Solution Coefficients are placed, For  $x+2=0$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5x^3 - 4x^2 - x \\ \hline x+2 \left[ 5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \right. \\ \hline -5x^4 - 10x^3 \\ \hline 0 - 4x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \\ \hline + 4x^3 + 8x^2 \\ \hline -x^2 - 7x + 6 \end{array}$$

Step 8: Divide  $\Rightarrow \frac{-x^2}{x} = -x$

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Example:

Divide  $5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6$

by  $(x+2)$  by Long division

Solution Coefficients are placed, For  $x+2=0$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5x^3 - 4x^2 - x \\ \hline x+2 \left[ 5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \right] \\ -5x^4 - 10x^3 \\ \hline 0 - 4x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \\ + 4x^3 + 8x^2 \\ \hline 0 - x^2 - 7x + 6 \\ + x^2 + 2x^2 \\ \hline -5x + 6 \end{array}$$

Step 9:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Multiply } (-x)(x+2) \\ = -x^2 - 2x \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Step 10: Subtract} \\ = +x^2 + 2x^2 \end{aligned}$$

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Example:

Divide  $5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6$

by  $(x+2)$  by Long division

Solution Coefficients are placed, For  $x+2=0$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5x^3 - 4x^2 - x \\ \hline x+2 \left[ 5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \right. \\ \hline -5x^4 - 10x^3 \\ \hline 0 \quad -4x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \\ \hline +4x^3 + 8x^2 \\ \hline 0 \quad -x^2 - 7x + 6 \\ \hline +x^2 + 2x^2 \\ \hline -5x + 6 \end{array}$$

Step 11

Divide  $\frac{-5x}{x} = -5$

Step 12: Multiply

$$-5(x+2) = -5x - 10$$

Step 13: subtract

$$+5x + 10$$

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Quotient

Divisor  $x+2$  Dividend

$$\begin{array}{r}
 5x^3 - 4x^2 - x - 5 \\
 \hline
 5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \\
 \hline
 -5x^4 - 10x^3 \\
 \hline
 0 - 4x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 -4x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \\
 + 4x^3 + 8x^2 \\
 \hline
 0 - x^2 - 7x + 6 \\
 + x^2 + 2x \\
 \hline
 -5x + 6 \\
 + 5x + 10 \\
 \hline
 0 + (16)
 \end{array}$$

Same result is obtained

$$\begin{array}{r}
 5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \\
 \hline
 x+2
 \end{array}$$

$$= (5x^3 - 4x^2 - x - 5) + \frac{16}{x+2}$$

Remainder

\*Quotient with a remainder of 16

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