

Chapter 8: Remainder and Factor Theorems

Exercise 8(B)

Solution:

(i) Here, $f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 - 9x + 18$

So, $x - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = 2$

Thus, remainder = $f(2)$
 $= (2)^3 - 2(2)^2 - 9(2) + 18$
 $= 8 - 8 - 18 + 18$
 $= 0$

Therefore, $(x - 2)$ is a factor of $f(x)$.

Now, performing division of polynomial $f(x)$ by $(x - 2)$ we have

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 - 9 \\ x - 2 \overline{) x^3 - 2x^2 - 9x + 18} \\ \underline{x^3 - 2x^2} \\ -9x + 18 \\ \underline{-9x + 18} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

Thus, $x^3 - 2x^2 - 9x + 18 = (x - 2)(x^2 - 9) = (x - 2)(x + 3)(x - 3)$

(ii) Here, $f(x) = 2x^3 + 5x^2 - 28x - 15$

So, $x + 5 = 0 \Rightarrow x = -5$

Thus, remainder = $f(-5)$
 $= 2(-5)^3 + 5(-5)^2 - 28(-5) - 15$
 $= -250 + 125 + 140 - 15$
 $= -265 + 265$
 $= 0$

Therefore, $(x + 5)$ is a factor of $f(x)$.

Now, performing division of polynomial $f(x)$ by $(x + 5)$ we get

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$$\begin{array}{r}
 2x^2 - 5x - 3 \\
 x + 5 \overline{) 2x^3 + 5x^2 - 28x - 15} \\
 \underline{2x^3 + 10x^2} \\
 -5x^2 - 28x - 15 \\
 \underline{-5x^2 - 25x} \\
 -3x - 15 \\
 \underline{-3x - 15} \\
 0
 \end{array}$$

So, $2x^3 + 5x^2 - 28x - 15 = (x + 5)(2x^2 - 5x - 3)$

Further, on factorisation

$$= (x + 5)[2x^2 - 6x + x - 3]$$

$$= (x + 5)[2x(x - 3) + 1(x - 3)] = (x + 5)(2x + 1)(x - 3)$$

Thus, $f(x)$ is factorised as $(x + 5)(2x + 1)(x - 3)$

(iii) Here, $f(x) = 3x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x - 2$

$$\text{So, } 3x + 2 = 0 \Rightarrow x = -2/3$$

Thus, remainder = $f(-2/3)$

$$= 3(-2/3)^3 + 2(-2/3)^2 - 3(-2/3) - 2$$

$$= -8/9 + 8/9 + 2 - 2$$

$$= 0$$

Therefore, $(3x + 2)$ is a factor of $f(x)$.

Now, performing division of polynomial $f(x)$ by $(3x + 2)$ we get

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^2 - 1 \\
 3x + 2 \overline{) 3x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x - 2} \\
 \underline{3x^3 + 2x^2} \\
 -3x - 2 \\
 \underline{-3x - 2} \\
 0
 \end{array}$$

Thus, $3x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x - 2 = (3x + 2)(x^2 - 1) = (3x + 2)(x - 1)(x + 1)$

1. Using the Remainder Theorem, factorise each of the following completely.

(i) $3x^3 + 2x^2 - 19x + 6$

(ii) $2x^3 + x^2 - 13x + 6$

(iii) $3x^3 + 2x^2 - 23x - 30$

(iv) $4x^3 + 7x^2 - 36x - 63$

(v) $x^3 + x^2 - 4x - 4$

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Solution:

- (i) Let $f(x) = 3x^3 + 2x^2 - 19x + 6$
For $x = 2$, the value of $f(x)$ will be
 $= 3(2)^3 + 2(2)^2 - 19(2) + 6$
 $= 24 + 8 - 38 + 6 = 0$
As $f(2) = 0$, so $(x - 2)$ is a factor of $f(x)$.
Now, performing long division we have

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x^2 + 8x - 3 \\ x - 2 \overline{) 3x^3 + 2x^2 - 19x + 6} \\ \underline{3x^3 - 6x^2} \\ 8x^2 - 19x + 6 \\ \underline{8x^2 - 16x} \\ -3x + 6 \\ \underline{-3x + 6} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

Thus, $f(x) = (x - 2)(3x^2 + 8x - 3)$
 $= (x - 2)(3x^2 + 9x - x - 3)$
 $= (x - 2)[3x(x + 3) - 1(x + 3)]$
 $= (x - 2)(x + 3)(3x - 1)$

- (ii) Let $f(x) = 2x^3 + x^2 - 13x + 6$
For $x = 2$, the value of $f(x)$ will be
 $f(2) = 2(2)^3 + (2)^2 - 13(2) + 6 = 16 + 4 - 26 + 6 = 0$
As $f(2) = 0$, so $(x - 2)$ is a factor of $f(x)$.
Now, performing long division we have

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 + 5x - 3 \\ x - 2 \overline{) 2x^3 + x^2 - 13x + 6} \\ \underline{2x^3 - 4x^2} \\ 5x^2 - 13x + 6 \\ \underline{5x^2 - 10x} \\ -3x + 6 \\ \underline{-3x + 6} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

Thus, $f(x) = (x - 2)(2x^2 + 5x - 3)$
 $= (x - 2)[2x^2 + 6x - x - 3]$
 $= (x - 2)[2x(x + 3) - 1(x + 3)]$

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$$\begin{aligned} &= (x - 2) [2x(x + 3) - 1(x + 3)] \\ &= (x - 2) (2x - 1) (x + 3) \end{aligned}$$

- (iii) Let $f(x) = 3x^3 + 2x^2 - 23x - 30$
For $x = -2$, the value of $f(x)$ will be
 $f(-2) = 3(-2)^3 + 2(-2)^2 - 23(-2) - 30$
 $= -24 + 8 + 46 - 30 = -54 + 54 = 0$
As $f(-2) = 0$, so $(x + 2)$ is a factor of $f(x)$.
Now, performing long division we have

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x^2 - 4x - 15 \\ x + 2 \overline{) 3x^3 + 2x^2 - 23x - 30} \\ \underline{3x^3 + 6x^2} \\ -4x^2 - 23x - 30 \\ \underline{-4x^2 - 8x} \\ -15x - 30 \\ \underline{-15x - 30} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

Thus, $f(x) = (x + 2) (3x^2 - 4x - 15)$
 $= (x + 2) (3x^2 - 9x + 5x - 15)$
 $= (x + 2) [3x(x - 3) + 5(x - 3)]$
 $= (x + 2) (3x + 5) (x - 3)$

- (iv) Let $f(x) = 4x^3 + 7x^2 - 36x - 63$
For $x = 3$, the value of $f(x)$ will be
 $f(3) = 4(3)^3 + 7(3)^2 - 36(3) - 63$
 $= 108 + 63 - 108 - 63 = 0$
As $f(3) = 0$, $(x - 3)$ is a factor of $f(x)$.
Now, performing long division we have

$$\begin{array}{r} 4x^2 + 19x + 21 \\ x - 3 \overline{) 4x^3 + 7x^2 - 36x - 63} \\ \underline{4x^3 - 12x^2} \\ 19x^2 - 36x - 63 \\ \underline{19x^2 - 57x} \\ 21x - 63 \\ \underline{21x - 63} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\text{Thus, } f(x) &= (x + 3)(4x^2 - 5x - 21) \\ &= (x + 3)(4x^2 - 12x + 7x - 21) \\ &= (x + 3)[4x(x - 3) + 7(x - 3)] \\ &= (x + 3)(4x + 7)(x - 3)\end{aligned}$$

- (v) Let $f(x) = x^3 + x^2 - 4x - 4$
For $x = -1$, the value of $f(x)$ will be
 $f(-1) = (-1)^3 + (-1)^2 - 4(-1) - 4$
 $= -1 + 1 + 4 - 4 = 0$
As, $f(-1) = 0$ so $(x + 1)$ is a factor of $f(x)$.
Now, performing long division we have

$$\begin{array}{r}x^2 - 4 \\ x + 1 \overline{) x^3 + x^2 - 4x - 4} \\ \underline{x^3 + x^2} \\ -4x - 4 \\ \underline{-4x - 4} \\ 0\end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Thus, } f(x) &= (x + 1)(x^2 - 4) \\ &= (x + 1)(x - 2)(x + 2)\end{aligned}$$

2. Using the Remainder Theorem, factorise the expression $3x^3 + 10x^2 + x - 6$. Hence, solve the equation $3x^3 + 10x^2 + x - 6 = 0$.

Solution:

- Let's take $f(x) = 3x^3 + 10x^2 + x - 6$
For $x = -1$, the value of $f(x)$ will be
 $f(-1) = 3(-1)^3 + 10(-1)^2 + (-1) - 6 = -3 + 10 - 1 - 6 = 0$
As, $f(-1) = 0$ so $(x + 1)$ is a factor of $f(x)$.
Now, performing long division we have

$$\begin{array}{r}3x^2 + 7x - 6 \\ x + 1 \overline{) 3x^3 + 10x^2 + x - 6} \\ \underline{3x^3 + 3x^2} \\ 7x^2 + x - 6 \\ \underline{7x^2 + 7x} \\ -6x - 6 \\ \underline{-6x - 6} \\ 0\end{array}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\text{Thus, } f(x) &= (x + 1)(3x^2 + 7x - 6) \\ &= (x + 1)(3x^2 + 9x - 2x - 6) \\ &= (x + 1)[3x(x + 3) - 2(x + 3)] \\ &= (x + 1)(x + 3)(3x - 2)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Now, } 3x^3 + 10x^2 + x - 6 &= 0 \\ (x + 1)(x + 3)(3x - 2) &= 0 \\ \text{Therefore,} \\ x &= -1, -3 \text{ or } 2/3\end{aligned}$$

3. Factorise the expression $f(x) = 2x^3 - 7x^2 - 3x + 18$. Hence, find all possible values of x for which $f(x) = 0$.

Solution:

$$\text{Let } f(x) = 2x^3 - 7x^2 - 3x + 18$$

For $x = 2$, the value of $f(x)$ will be

$$\begin{aligned}f(2) &= 2(2)^3 - 7(2)^2 - 3(2) + 18 \\ &= 16 - 28 - 6 + 18 = 0\end{aligned}$$

As $f(2) = 0$, $(x - 2)$ is a factor of $f(x)$.

Now, performing long division we have

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 - 3x - 9 \\ x - 2 \overline{) 2x^3 - 7x^2 - 3x + 18} \\ \underline{2x^3 - 4x^2} \\ -3x^2 - 3x + 18 \\ \underline{-3x^2 + 6x} \\ -9x + 18 \\ \underline{-9x + 18} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Thus, } f(x) &= (x - 2)(2x^2 - 3x - 9) \\ &= (x - 2)(2x^2 - 6x + 3x - 9) \\ &= (x - 2)[2x(x - 3) + 3(x - 3)] \\ &= (x - 2)(x - 3)(2x + 3)\end{aligned}$$

Now, for $f(x) = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}(x - 2)(x - 3)(2x + 3) &= 0 \\ \text{Hence } x &= 2, 3 \text{ or } -3/2\end{aligned}$$

4. Given that $x - 2$ and $x + 1$ are factors of $f(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 + ax + b$; calculate the values of a and b . Hence, find all the factors of $f(x)$.

Solution:

$$\text{Let } f(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 + ax + b$$

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As, $(x - 2)$ is a factor of $f(x)$, so $f(2) = 0$

$$(2)^3 + 3(2)^2 + a(2) + b = 0$$

$$8 + 12 + 2a + b = 0$$

$$2a + b + 20 = 0 \dots (1)$$

And as, $(x + 1)$ is a factor of $f(x)$, so $f(-1) = 0$

$$(-1)^3 + 3(-1)^2 + a(-1) + b = 0$$

$$-1 + 3 - a + b = 0$$

$$-a + b + 2 = 0 \dots (2)$$

Subtracting (2) from (1), we have

$$3a + 18 = 0$$

$$a = -6$$

On substituting the value of a in (ii), we have

$$b = a - 2 = -6 - 2 = -8$$

Thus, $f(x) = x^3 + 3x^2 - 6x - 8$

Now, for $x = -1$

$$f(-1) = (-1)^3 + 3(-1)^2 - 6(-1) - 8 = -1 + 3 + 6 - 8 = 0$$

Therefore, $(x + 1)$ is a factor of $f(x)$.

Now, performing long division we have

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 + 2x - 8 \\ x + 1 \overline{) x^3 + 3x^2 - 6x - 8} \\ \underline{x^3 + x^2} \\ 2x^2 - 6x - 8 \\ \underline{2x^2 + 2x} \\ -8x - 8 \\ \underline{-8x - 8} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hence, } f(x) &= (x + 1)(x^2 + 2x - 8) \\ &= (x + 1)(x^2 + 4x - 2x - 8) \\ &= (x + 1)[x(x + 4) - 2(x + 4)] \\ &= (x + 1)(x + 4)(x - 2) \end{aligned}$$