

The Zeros of a Polynomial Function

5.2 The Real Zeros of a Polynomial Function

- $f(x) = 4x^3 - 3x^2 - 8x + 4; \quad c = 2$
 $f(2) = 4(2)^3 - 3(2)^2 - 8(2) + 4 = 32 - 12 - 16 + 4 = 8 \neq 0$
 Thus, 2 is not a zero of f . $x - 2$ is not a factor of f .
- $f(x) = -4x^3 + 5x^2 + 8; \quad c = -3$
 $f(-3) = -4(-3)^3 + 5(-3)^2 + 8 = 108 + 45 + 8 = 161 \neq 0$
 Thus, -3 is not a zero of f . $x + 3$ is not a factor of f .
- $f(x) = 3x^4 - 6x^3 - 5x + 10; \quad c = 2$
 $f(2) = 3(2)^4 - 6(2)^3 - 5(2) + 10 = 48 - 48 - 10 + 10 = 0$
 Thus, 2 is a zero of f . $x - 2$ is a factor of f .
- $f(x) = 4x^4 - 15x^2 - 4; \quad c = 2$
 $f(2) = 4(2)^4 - 15(2)^2 - 4 = 64 - 60 - 4 = 0$
 Thus, 2 is a zero of f . $x - 2$ is a factor of f .
 Factoring: $f(x) = (4x^2 + 1)(x^2 - 4) = (4x^2 + 1)(x + 2)(x - 2)$
- $f(x) = 3x^6 + 82x^3 + 27; \quad c = -3$
 $f(-3) = 3(-3)^6 + 82(-3)^3 + 27 = 2187 - 2214 + 27 = 0$
 Thus, -3 is a zero of f . $x + 3$ is a factor of f . Use synthetic division to find the factors.

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|----|-----|----|---|-----|
| -3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 82 | 0 | 0 | 27 |
| | | -9 | 27 | -81 | -3 | 9 | -27 |
| | 3 | -9 | 27 | 1 | -3 | 9 | 0 |

 The factored form is: $f(x) = (x + 3)(3x^5 - 9x^4 + 27x^3 + x^2 - 3x + 9)$.
- $f(x) = 2x^6 - 18x^4 + x^2 - 9; \quad c = -3$
 $f(-3) = 2(-3)^6 - 18(-3)^4 + (-3)^2 - 9 = 1458 - 1458 + 9 - 9 = 0$
 Thus, -3 is a zero of f . $x + 3$ is a factor of f .
 Factoring:
 $f(x) = 2x^4(x^2 - 9) + (x^2 - 9) = (x^2 - 9)(2x^4 + 1) = (x + 3)(x - 3)(2x^4 + 1)$

7. $f(x) = 4x^6 - 64x^4 + x^2 - 15; \quad c = -4$

Use synthetic division to determine whether -4 is a zero.

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrrrrr} -4 & 4 & 0 & -64 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -15 \\ & & -16 & 64 & 0 & 0 & -4 & 16 \\ \hline & 4 & -16 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -4 & 1 \end{array}$$

Thus, -4 is not a zero of f . $x + 4$ is not a factor of f .

8. $f(x) = x^6 - 16x^4 + x^2 - 16; \quad c = -4$

$$f(-4) = (-4)^6 - 16(-4)^4 + (-4)^2 - 16 = 4096 - 4096 + 16 - 16 = 0$$

Thus, -4 is a zero of f . $x + 4$ is a factor of f .

Factoring:

$$f(x) = x^4(x^2 - 16) + (x^2 - 16) = (x^2 - 16)(x^4 + 1) = (x + 4)(x - 4)(x^4 + 1)$$

9. $f(x) = 2x^4 - x^3 + 2x - 1; \quad c = \frac{1}{2}$

$$f\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 2\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 + 2\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) - 1 = \frac{1}{8} - \frac{1}{8} + 1 - 1 = 0$$

Thus, $\frac{1}{2}$ is a zero of f . $x - \frac{1}{2}$ is a factor of f .

Factoring:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= 2x^4 - x^3 + 2x - 1 = 2x^3 \cdot x - \frac{1}{2} + 2 \cdot x - \frac{1}{2} = \left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)(2x^3 + 2) \\ &= 2 \cdot x - \frac{1}{2} (x^3 + 1) = 2 \cdot x - \frac{1}{2} (x + 1)(x^2 - x + 1) \end{aligned}$$

10. $f(x) = 3x^4 + x^3 - 3x + 1; \quad c = -\frac{1}{3}$

$$f\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right) = 3\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)^4 + \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)^3 - 3\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right) + 1 = \frac{1}{27} - \frac{1}{27} + 1 + 1 = 2 \neq 0$$

Thus, $-\frac{1}{3}$ is not a zero of f . $x + \frac{1}{3}$ is not a factor of f .

11. $f(x) = -4x^7 + x^3 - x^2 + 2$

The maximum number of zeros is the degree of the polynomial which is 7.

Examining $f(x) = -4x^7 + x^3 - x^2 + 2$, there are 3 variations in sign; thus, there are 3 or 1 positive real zeros.

Examining $f(-x) = -4(-x)^7 + (-x)^3 - (-x)^2 + 2 = 4x^7 - x^3 - x^2 + 2$, there are 2 variations in sign; thus, there are 2 or 0 negative real zeros.

12. $f(x) = 5x^4 + 2x^2 - 6x - 5$

The maximum number of zeros is the degree of the polynomial which is 4.

Examining $f(x) = 5x^4 + 2x^2 - 6x - 5$, there is 1 variation in sign; thus, there is 1 positive real zero.

Examining $f(-x) = 5(-x)^4 + 2(-x)^2 - 6(-x) - 5 = 5x^4 + 2x^2 + 6x - 5$, there is 1 variation in sign; thus, there is 1 negative real zero.

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13. $f(x) = 2x^6 - 3x^2 - x + 1$

The maximum number of zeros is the degree of the polynomial which is 6.

Examining $f(x) = 2x^6 - 3x^2 - x + 1$, there are 2 variations in sign; thus, there are 2 or 0 positive real zeros.

Examining $f(-x) = 2(-x)^6 - 3(-x)^2 - (-x) + 1 = 2x^6 - 3x^2 + x + 1$, there are 2 variations in sign; thus, there are 2 or 0 negative real zeros.

14. $f(x) = -3x^5 + 4x^4 + 2$

The maximum number of zeros is the degree of the polynomial which is 5.

Examining $f(x) = -3x^5 + 4x^4 + 2$, there is 1 variation in sign; thus, there is 1 positive real zero.

Examining $f(-x) = -3(-x)^5 + 4(-x)^4 + 2 = 3x^5 + 4x^4 + 2$, there is no variation in sign; thus, there are no negative real zeros.

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

The maximum number of zeros is the degree of the polynomial which is 3.

Examining $f(x) = 3x^3 - 2x^2 + x + 2$, there are 2 variations in sign; thus, there are 2 or 0 positive real zeros.

Examining $f(-x) = 3(-x)^3 - 2(-x)^2 + (-x) + 2 = -3x^3 - 2x^2 - x + 2$, there is 1 variation in sign; thus, there is 1 negative real zero.

16. $f(x) = -x^3 - x^2 + x + 1$

The maximum number of zeros is the degree of the polynomial which is 3.

Examining $f(x) = -x^3 - x^2 + x + 1$, there is 1 variation in sign; thus, there is 1 positive real zero.

Examining $f(-x) = -(-x)^3 - (-x)^2 + (-x) + 1 = x^3 - x^2 - x + 1$, there are 2 variations in sign; thus, there are 2 or 0 negative real zeros.

17. $f(x) = -x^4 + x^2 - 1$

The maximum number of zeros is the degree of the polynomial which is 4.

Examining $f(x) = -x^4 + x^2 - 1$, there are 2 variations in sign; thus, there are 2 or 0 positive real zeros.

Examining $f(-x) = -(-x)^4 + (-x)^2 - 1 = -x^4 + x^2 - 1$, there are 2 variations in sign; thus, there are 2 or 0 negative real zeros.

18. $f(x) = x^4 + 5x^3 - 2$

The maximum number of zeros is the degree of the polynomial which is 4.

Examining $f(x) = x^4 + 5x^3 - 2$, there is 1 variation in sign; thus, there is 1 positive real zero.

Examining $f(-x) = (-x)^4 + 5(-x)^3 - 2 = x^4 - 5x^3 - 2$, there is 1 variation in sign; thus, there is 1 negative real zero.

19. $f(x) = x^5 + x^4 + x^2 + x + 1$

The maximum number of zeros is the degree of the polynomial which is 5.

Examining $f(x) = x^5 + x^4 + x^2 + x + 1$, there are no variations in sign; thus, there are 0 positive real zeros.

Examining $f(-x) = (-x)^5 + (-x)^4 + (-x)^2 + (-x) + 1 = -x^5 + x^4 + x^2 - x + 1$, there are 3 variations in sign; thus, there are 3 or 1 negative real zeros.

20. $f(x) = x^5 - x^4 + x^3 - x^2 + x - 1$

The maximum number of zeros is the degree of the polynomial which is 5.

Examining $f(x) = x^5 - x^4 + x^3 - x^2 + x - 1$, there are 5 variations in sign; thus, there are 5 or 3 or 1 positive real zeros.

Examining $f(-x) = (-x)^5 - (-x)^4 + (-x)^3 - (-x)^2 + (-x) - 1 = -x^5 - x^4 - x^3 - x^2 - x - 1$, there is no variation in sign; thus, there is no negative real zero.

21. $f(x) = x^6 - 1$

The maximum number of zeros is the degree of the polynomial which is 6.

Examining $f(x) = x^6 - 1$, there is 1 variation in sign; thus, there is 1 positive real zero.

Examining $f(-x) = (-x)^6 - 1 = x^6 - 1$, there is 1 variation in sign; thus, there is 1 negative real zero.

22. $f(x) = x^6 + 1$

The maximum number of zeros is the degree of the polynomial which is 6.

Examining $f(x) = x^6 + 1$, there is no variation in sign; thus, there is no positive real zero.

Examining $f(-x) = (-x)^6 + 1 = x^6 + 1$, there is no variation in sign; thus, there is no negative real zero.

23. $f(x) = 3x^4 - 3x^3 + x^2 - x + 1$

p must be a factor of 1: $p = \pm 1$

q must be a factor of 3: $q = \pm 1, \pm 3$

The possible rational zeros are: $\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm \frac{1}{3}$

24. $f(x) = x^5 - x^4 + 2x^2 + 3$

p must be a factor of 3: $p = \pm 1, \pm 3$

q must be a factor of 1: $q = \pm 1$

The possible rational zeros are: $\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 3$

25. $f(x) = x^5 - 6x^2 + 9x - 3$

p must be a factor of -3 : $p = \pm 1, \pm 3$

q must be a factor of 1: $q = \pm 1$

The possible rational zeros are: $\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 3$

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26. $f(x) = 2x^5 - x^4 - x^2 + 1$

p must be a factor of 1: $p = \pm 1$

q must be a factor of 2: $q = \pm 1, \pm 2$

The possible rational zeros are: $\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm \frac{1}{2}$

27. $f(x) = -4x^3 - x^2 + x + 2$

p must be a factor of 2: $p = \pm 1, \pm 2$

q must be a factor of -4 : $q = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4$

The possible rational zeros are: $\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{4}$

28. $f(x) = 6x^4 - x^2 + 2$

p must be a factor of 2: $p = \pm 1, \pm 2$

q must be a factor of 6: $q = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$

The possible rational zeros are: $\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{3}, \pm \frac{2}{3}, \pm \frac{1}{6}$

29. $f(x) = 6x^4 - x^2 + 9$

p must be a factor of 9: $p = \pm 1, \pm 3, \pm 9$

q must be a factor of 6: $q = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$

The possible rational zeros are: $\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{3}, \pm \frac{1}{6}, \pm 3, \pm \frac{3}{2}, \pm 9, \pm \frac{9}{2}$

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

p must be a factor of 6: $p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$

q must be a factor of -4 : $q = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4$

The possible rational zeros are: $\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{4}, \pm 3, \pm \frac{3}{2}, \pm \frac{3}{4}, \pm 6$

31. $f(x) = 2x^5 - x^3 + 2x^2 + 12$

p must be a factor of 12: $p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4, \pm 6, \pm 12$

q must be a factor of 2: $q = \pm 1, \pm 2$

The possible rational zeros are: $\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm 3, \pm \frac{3}{2}, \pm 6, \pm 12$

32. $f(x) = 6x^4 - x^2 + 9$

p must be a factor of 9: $p = \pm 1, \pm 3, \pm 9$

q must be a factor of 6: $q = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$

The possible rational zeros are: $\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 3, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{3}, \pm \frac{1}{6}, \pm \frac{3}{2}, \pm 9, \pm \frac{9}{2}$

33. $f(x) = 6x^4 + 2x^3 - x^2 + 20$

p must be a factor of 20: $p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 5, \pm 10, \pm 20$

q must be a factor of 6: $q = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$

The possible rational zeros are:

$$\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{3}, \pm \frac{2}{3}, \pm \frac{1}{6}, \pm 4, \pm \frac{4}{3}, \pm 5, \pm \frac{5}{2}, \pm \frac{5}{3}, \pm \frac{5}{6}, \pm 10, \pm \frac{10}{3}, \pm 20, \pm \frac{20}{3}$$

34. $f(x) = -6x^3 - x^2 + x + 10$

p must be a factor of 10: $p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 5, \pm 10$

q must be a factor of -6: $q = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$

The possible rational zeros are:

$$\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 3, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{3}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{3}, \pm \frac{1}{6}, \pm 2, \pm \frac{2}{3}, \pm 5, \pm \frac{5}{2}, \pm \frac{5}{3}, \pm \frac{5}{6}, \pm 10, \pm \frac{10}{3}$$

35. $f(x) = x^3 + 2x^2 - 5x - 6$

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 3 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there is 1 positive real zero.

Also because $f(-x) = (-x)^3 + 2(-x)^2 - 5(-x) - 6 = -x^3 + 2x^2 + 5x - 6$, there are 2 or 0 negative real zeros.

Step 3: Possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6; \quad q = \pm 1; \quad \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -3 & 1 & 2 & -5 & -6 \\ & & -3 & 3 & 6 \\ \hline & 1 & -1 & -2 & 0 \end{array}$$

Since the remainder is 0, $x - (-3) = x + 3$ is a factor. The other factor is the quotient: $x^2 - x - 2$.

$$\text{Thus, } f(x) = (x + 3)(x^2 - x - 2) = (x + 3)(x + 1)(x - 2).$$

The zeros are -3, -1, and 2.

36. $f(x) = x^3 + 8x^2 + 11x - 20$

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 3 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there is 1 positive real zero.

Also because $f(-x) = (-x)^3 + 8(-x)^2 + 11(-x) - 20 = -x^3 + 8x^2 - 11x - 20$, there are 2 or 0 negative real zeros.

Step 3: Possible rational zeros: $p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 5, \pm 10, \pm 20$; $q = \pm 1$;

$$\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 5, \pm 10, \pm 20$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -5 & 1 & 8 & 11 & -20 \\ & & -5 & -15 & 20 \\ \hline & 1 & 3 & -4 & 0 \end{array}$$

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Since the remainder is 0, $x - (-5) = x + 5$ is a factor. The other factor is the quotient: $x^2 + 3x - 4$.

Thus, $f(x) = (x + 5)(x^2 + 3x - 4) = (x + 5)(x + 4)(x - 1)$.

The zeros are -5 , -4 , and 1 .

37. $f(x) = 2x^3 - x^2 + 2x - 1$; $f(-x) = 2(-x)^3 - (-x)^2 + 2(-x) - 1 = -2x^3 - x^2 - 2x - 1$

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 3 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there are 3 or 1 positive real zeros; thus, there are no negative real zeros.

Step 3: Possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1 \quad q = \pm 1, \pm 2; \quad \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm \frac{1}{2}$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -1 & 2 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ & & -2 & 3 & -5 \\ \hline & 2 & -3 & 5 & \{-6\} \end{array}$$

$x + 1$ is **not** a factor

So we try $x - 1$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & 2 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ & & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ \hline & 2 & 1 & 3 & \{2\} \end{array}$$

$x - 1$ is **not** a factor

Let's try $x - \frac{1}{2}$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} \frac{1}{2} & 2 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ & & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ \hline & 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 \end{array}$$

$x - \frac{1}{2}$ is a factor the quotient is $2x^2 + 2$

Thus, $f(x) = 2x^3 - x^2 + 2x - 1 = \left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)(2x^2 + 2)$.

Since $2x^2 + 2 = 0$ has no real solutions, $x = \frac{1}{2}$ is the only real zero.

38. $f(x) = 2x^3 + x^2 + 2x + 1$

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 3 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there are no positive real zeros.

$f(-x) = 2(-x)^3 + (-x)^2 + 2(-x) + 1 = -2x^3 + x^2 - 2x + 1$; thus, there 3 or 1 negative real zeros.

Step 3: Possible rational zeros: $p = \pm 1$ $q = \pm 1, \pm 2$;

$$\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm \frac{1}{2}$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ & & -2 & 1 & -3 \\ \hline & 2 & -1 & 3 & \{-2\} \end{array}$$

$x + 1$ is **not** a factor

$$\begin{array}{r}
 -\frac{1}{2} \overline{) 2 \quad 1 \quad 2 \quad 1} \\
 \underline{-1 \quad 0 \quad -1} \\
 2 \quad 0 \quad 2 \quad 0
 \end{array}
 \quad x + \frac{1}{2} \text{ is a factor}$$

The other factor is the quotient: $2x^2 + 2$.

Thus, $f(x) = 2x^3 + x^2 + 2x + 1 = (x + \frac{1}{2})(x^2 + 2)$. The only real zero is $-\frac{1}{2}$.

39. $f(x) = x^4 + x^2 - 2$

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 4 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, this is one positive real zero.

$$f(-x) = (-x)^4 + (-x)^2 - 2 = x^4 + x^2 - 2; \text{ thus, there is 1 negative real zero.}$$

Step 3: Possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 2; \quad q = \pm 1; \quad \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r}
 -1 \overline{) 1 \quad 0 \quad 1 \quad 0 \quad 2} \\
 \underline{-1 \quad 1 \quad -2 \quad 2} \\
 1 \quad -1 \quad 2 \quad -2 \quad 0
 \end{array}$$

Since the remainder is 0, $x - (-1) = x + 1$ is a factor. The other factor is the quotient: $x^3 - x^2 + 2x - 2$.

Thus, $f(x) = (x + 1)(x^3 - x^2 + 2x - 2)$. We can factor $x^3 - x^2 + 2x - 2$

by grouping terms $x^3 - x^2 + 2x - 2 = x^2(x - 1) + 2(x - 1) = (x - 1)(x^2 + 2)$

Thus, $f(x) = (x + 1)(x - 1)(x^2 + 2)$. Since $x^2 + 2 = 0$ has no real solutions, we have two real zeros for f , namely -1 and 1 .

40. $f(x) = x^4 - 3x^2 - 4$

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 4 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there is 1 positive real zero.

$$f(-x) = (-x)^4 - 3(-x)^2 - 4 = x^4 - 3x^2 - 4; \text{ thus, there is one negative real zero.}$$

Step 3: Possible rational zeros: $p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4; \quad q = \pm 1$

$$\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4$$

We can factor f as follows:

$$f(x) = x^4 - 3x^2 - 4 = (x^2 - 4)(x^2 + 1) = (x + 2)(x - 2)(x^2 + 1).$$

Thus, we have two real zeros, -2 and 2 .

41. $f(x) = 4x^4 + 7x^2 - 2$

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 4 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there is 1 positive real zero.

$$f(-x) = 4(-x)^4 + 7(-x)^2 - 2 = 4x^4 + 7x^2 - 2; \text{ thus, there is one negative real zero.}$$

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Step 3: Possible rational zeros: $p = \pm 1, \pm 2$; $q = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4$

$$\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{4}, \pm 2$$

We can factor f as follows:

$$f(x) = 4x^4 + 7x^2 - 2 = (4x^2 - 1)(x^2 + 2) = (2x + 1)(2x - 1)(x^2 + 2).$$

Thus, we have two real zeros, $-\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$.

42. $f(x) = 4x^4 + 15x^2 - 4$

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 4 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there is 1 positive real zero.

$f(-x) = 4(-x)^4 + 15(-x)^2 - 4 = 4x^4 + 15x^2 - 4$; thus, there is one negative real zero.

Step 3: Possible rational zeros: $p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4$; $q = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4$

$$\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{4}, \pm 2, \pm 4$$

We can factor f as follows:

$$f(x) = 4x^4 + 15x^2 - 4 = (4x^2 - 1)(x^2 + 4) = (2x + 1)(2x - 1)(x^2 + 4).$$

Thus, we have two real zeros, $-\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{1}{2}$.

43. $f(x) = x^4 + x^3 - 3x^2 - x + 2$

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 4 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there are 2 or 0 positive real zeros.

$f(-x) = (-x)^4 + (-x)^3 - 3(-x)^2 - (-x) + 2 = x^4 - x^3 - 3x^2 + x + 2$; thus, there are 2 or 0 negative real zeros.

Step 3: Possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 2; \quad q = \pm 1; \quad \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} -2 & 1 & 1 & -3 & -1 & 2 \\ & & -2 & 2 & 2 & -2 \\ \hline & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{r|rrrr} -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ & & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ \hline & 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 \end{array}$$

Since the remainder is 0, $x + 2$ and $x + 1$ are factors. The other factor is the quotient: $x^2 - 2x + 1$.

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

The zeros are -2 , -1 , and 1 (multiplicity 2).

44. $f(x) = x^4 - x^3 - 6x^2 + 4x + 8$

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 4 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there are 2 or 0 positive real zeros.

$f(-x) = (-x)^4 - (-x)^3 - 6(-x)^2 + 4(-x) + 8 = x^4 + x^3 - 6x^2 - 4x + 8$; thus, there are 2 or 0 negative real zeros.

Step 3: Possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 8 \quad q = \pm 1; \quad \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 8$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} -2 & 1 & -1 & -6 & 4 & 8 \\ & & -2 & 6 & 0 & -8 \\ \hline & 1 & -3 & 0 & 4 & 0 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{r|rrrr} -1 & 1 & -3 & 0 & 4 \\ & & -1 & 4 & -4 \\ \hline & 1 & -4 & 4 & 0 \end{array}$$

Since the remainder is 0, $x + 2$ and $x + 1$ are factors. The other factor is the quotient: $x^2 - 4x + 4$.

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

The zeros are -2 , -1 , and 2 (multiplicity 2).

45. $f(x) = 4x^5 - 8x^4 - x + 2$

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 5 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there are 2 or 0 positive real zeros.

$$f(-x) = 4(-x)^5 - 8(-x)^4 - (-x) + 2 = -4x^5 - 8x^4 + x + 2;$$

thus, there is 1 negative real zero.

Step 3: Possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 2; \quad q = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4; \quad \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{4}$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrrr} 2 & 4 & -8 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 \\ & & 8 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -2 \\ \hline & 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \end{array}$$

Since the remainder is 0, $x - 2$ is a factor. The other factor is the quotient: $4x^4 - 1$.

Factoring,

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

The zeros are $\frac{-\sqrt{2}}{2}$, $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$, and 2 or $-0.71, -0.71$, and 2 .

46. $f(x) = 4x^5 + 12x^4 - x - 3$

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 5 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there is 1 positive real zeros.

$$f(-x) = 4(-x)^5 + 12(-x)^4 - (-x) - 3 = -4x^5 + 12x^4 + x - 3;$$

thus, there are 2 or 0 negative real zero.

Step 3: Possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 3 \quad q = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4; \quad \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 3, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{3}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{4}, \pm \frac{3}{4}$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrrr} -3 & 4 & 12 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -3 \\ & & -12 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ \hline & 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \end{array}$$

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Since the remainder is 0, $x + 3$ is a factor. The other factor is the quotient:
 $4x^4 - 1$.

Factoring,

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= (x + 3)(4x^4 - 1) = (x + 3)(2x^2 - 1)(2x^2 + 1) \\ &= (x + 3)(\sqrt{2}x - 1)(\sqrt{2}x + 1)(2x^2 + 1) \end{aligned}$$

The zeros are $-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$, $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$, and -3 or -0.71 , -0.71 , and -3 .

47. $x^4 - x^3 + 2x^2 - 4x - 8 = 0$

The solutions of the equation are the zeros of $f(x) = x^4 - x^3 + 2x^2 - 4x - 8$.

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 4 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there are 3 or 1 positive real zeros.

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

thus, there is 1 negative real zero.

Step 3: Possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 8 \quad q = \pm 1; \quad \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 8$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrrr} -1 & 1 & -1 & 2 & -4 & -8 \\ & & -1 & 2 & -4 & 8 \\ \hline & 1 & -2 & 4 & -8 & 0 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{r|rrrr} 2 & 1 & -2 & 4 & -8 \\ & & 2 & 0 & 8 \\ \hline & 1 & 0 & 4 & 0 \end{array}$$

Since the remainder is 0, $x + 1$ and $x - 2$ are factors. The other factor is the quotient: $x^2 + 4$.

The zeros are -1 and 2 . ($x^2 + 4 = 0$ has no real solutions.)

48. $2x^3 + 3x^2 + 2x + 3 = 0$

Solve by factoring:

$$x^2(2x + 3) + (2x + 3) = 0$$

$$(2x + 3)(x^2 + 1) = 0$$

$$x = -\frac{3}{2}$$

The zero is $-\frac{3}{2}$. ($x^2 + 1 = 0$ has no real solutions.)

49. $3x^3 + 4x^2 - 7x + 2 = 0$

The solutions of the equation are the zeros of $f(x) = 3x^3 + 4x^2 - 7x + 2$.

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 3 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there are 2 or 0 positive real zeros.

$$f(-x) = 3(-x)^3 + 4(-x)^2 - 7(-x) + 2 = -3x^3 + 4x^2 + 7x + 2;$$

thus, there is 1 negative real zero.

Step 3: Possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 2; \quad q = \pm 1, \pm 3 \quad \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm \frac{1}{3}, \pm \frac{2}{3}$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} \frac{2}{3} & 3 & 4 & -7 & 2 \\ & & 2 & 4 & -2 \\ \hline & 3 & 6 & -3 & 0 \end{array}$$

Since the remainder is 0, $x - \frac{2}{3}$ is a factor. The other factor is the quotient:

$$3x^2 + 6x - 3.$$

$$f(x) = \left(x - \frac{2}{3}\right)(3x^2 + 6x - 3) = 3\left(x - \frac{2}{3}\right)(x^2 + 2x - 1)$$

Using the quadratic formula to solve $x^2 + 2x - 1 = 0$:

$$x = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4 - 4(1)(-1)}}{2(1)} = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{8}}{2} = \frac{-2 \pm 2\sqrt{2}}{2} = -1 \pm \sqrt{2}$$

The zeros are $\frac{2}{3}$, $-1 + \sqrt{2}$, and $-1 - \sqrt{2}$ or 0.67, 0.41, and -2.41.

50. $2x^3 - 3x^2 - 3x - 5 = 0$

The solutions of the equation are the zeros of $f(x) = 2x^3 - 3x^2 - 3x - 5$.

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 3 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there is 1 positive real zero.

$$f(-x) = 2(-x)^3 - 3(-x)^2 - 3(-x) - 5 = -2x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x - 5;$$

thus, there are 2 or 0 negative real zeros.

Step 3: Possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 5; \quad q = \pm 1, \pm 2; \quad \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 5, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{5}{2}$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} \frac{5}{2} & 2 & -3 & -3 & -5 \\ & & 5 & 5 & 5 \\ \hline & 2 & 2 & 2 & 0 \end{array}$$

Since the remainder is 0, $x - \frac{5}{2}$ is a factor. The other factor is the quotient:

$$2x^2 + 2x + 2.$$

$$f(x) = \left(x - \frac{5}{2}\right)(2x^2 + 2x + 2) = 2\left(x - \frac{5}{2}\right)(x^2 + x + 1)$$

$$x^2 + x + 1 = 0 \text{ has no real zeros.}$$

The zero is $\frac{5}{2}$.

51. $3x^3 - x^2 - 15x + 5 = 0$

Solving by factoring:

$$x^2(3x - 1) - 5(3x - 1) = 0 \quad (3x - 1)(x^2 - 5) = 0 \quad (3x - 1)(x - \sqrt{5})(x + \sqrt{5}) = 0$$

The solutions of the equation are $\frac{1}{3}$, $\sqrt{5}$, and $-\sqrt{5}$ or 0.33, 2.24, and -2.24.

52. $2x^3 - 11x^2 + 10x + 8 = 0$

The solutions of the equation are the zeros of $f(x) = 2x^3 - 11x^2 + 10x + 8$.

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 3 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there are 2 or 0 positive real zeros.

$$f(-x) = 2(-x)^3 - 11(-x)^2 + 10(-x) + 8 = -2x^3 - 11x^2 - 10x + 8;$$

thus, there is 1 negative real zero.

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Step 3: Possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 8 \quad q = \pm 1, \pm 2; \quad \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 8 \pm \frac{1}{2}$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 4 & 2 & -11 & 10 & 8 \\ & & 8 & -12 & -8 \\ \hline & 2 & -3 & -2 & 0 \end{array}$$

Since the remainder is 0, $x - 4$ is a factor. The other factor is the quotient: $2x^2 - 3x - 2 = (2x + 1)(x - 2)$. The zeros are $-\frac{1}{2}$, 2, and 4.

53. $x^4 + 4x^3 + 2x^2 - x + 6 = 0$

The solutions of the equation are the zeros of $f(x) = x^4 + 4x^3 + 2x^2 - x + 6$.

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 4 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there are 2 or 0 positive real zeros.

$$f(-x) = (-x)^4 + 4(-x)^3 + 2(-x)^2 - (-x) + 6 = x^4 - 4x^3 + 2x^2 + x + 6;$$

thus, there are 2 or 0 negative real zeros.

Step 3: Possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6; \quad q = \pm 1; \quad \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} -3 & 1 & 4 & 2 & -1 & 6 \\ & & -3 & -3 & 3 & -6 \\ \hline & 1 & 1 & -1 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{r|rrrr} -2 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 2 \\ & & -2 & 2 & -2 \\ \hline & 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \end{array}$$

Since the remainder is 0, $x + 3$ and $x + 2$ are factors. The other factor is the quotient: $x^2 - x + 1$.

The zeros are -3 and -2 . ($x^2 - x + 1 = 0$ has no real solutions.)

54. $x^4 - 2x^3 + 10x^2 - 18x + 9 = 0$

The solutions of the equation are the zeros of $f(x) = x^4 - 2x^3 + 10x^2 - 18x + 9$.

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 4 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there are 4 or 2 or 0 positive real zeros.

$$f(-x) = (-x)^4 - 2(-x)^3 + 10(-x)^2 - 18(-x) + 9$$

$$= x^4 + 2x^3 + 10x^2 + 18x + 9$$

thus, there are no negative real zeros.

Step 3: Possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 3, \pm 9; \quad q = \pm 1; \quad \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 3, \pm 9$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 1 & 1 & -2 & 10 & -18 & 9 \\ & & 1 & -1 & 9 & -9 \\ \hline & 1 & -1 & 9 & -9 & 0 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & 1 & -1 & 9 & -9 \\ & & 1 & 0 & 9 \\ \hline & 1 & 0 & 9 & 0 \end{array}$$

Since the remainder is 0, $x - 1$ and $x - 1$ are factors. The other factor is the quotient: $x^2 + 9$.

The zeros are 1 (multiplicity 2). ($x^2 + 9 = 0$ has no real solutions.)

55. $x^3 - \frac{2}{3}x^2 + \frac{8}{3}x + 1 = 0$

The solutions of the equation are the zeros of $f(x) = x^3 - \frac{2}{3}x^2 + \frac{8}{3}x + 1$.

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 3 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there are 2 or 0 positive real zeros.

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

thus, there is 1 negative real zero.

Step 3: Use the equivalent equation $3x^3 - 2x^2 + 8x + 3 = 0$ to find the possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 3; \quad q = \pm 1, \pm 3; \quad \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 3, \pm \frac{1}{3}$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -\frac{1}{3} & 1 & -\frac{2}{3} & \frac{8}{3} & 1 \\ & & -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & -1 \\ \hline & 1 & -1 & 3 & 0 \end{array}$$

Since the remainder is 0, $x + \frac{1}{3}$ is a factor. The other factor is the quotient:

$$x^2 - x + 3.$$

The real zero is $-\frac{1}{3}$. ($x^2 - x + 3 = 0$ has no real solutions.)

56. $x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 3x - 2 = 0$

The solutions of the equation are the zeros of $f(x) = x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 3x - 2$.

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 3 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there is 1 positive real zero.

$$f(-x) = (-x)^3 + \frac{3}{2}(-x)^2 + 3(-x) - 2 = -x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2 - 3x - 2;$$

thus, there are 2 or no negative real zeros.

Step 3: Use the equivalent equation $2x^3 + 3x^2 + 6x - 4 = 0$ to find the possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4; \quad q = \pm 1, \pm 2; \quad \frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm 2, \pm 4$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & 2 & 3 & 6 & -4 \\ & & 2 & 5 & 11 \\ \hline & 2 & 5 & 11 & \{7\} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r|rrrr} -1 & 2 & 3 & 6 & -4 \\ & & -2 & -1 & -5 \\ \hline & 2 & 1 & 5 & \{-9\} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r|rrrr} \frac{1}{2} & 2 & 3 & 6 & -4 \\ & & 1 & 2 & 4 \\ \hline & 2 & 4 & 8 & 0 \end{array}$$

Thus, $x - \frac{1}{2}$ is a factor. The other factor is the quotient: $2x^2 + 4x + 8$.

$$2x^3 + 3x^2 + 6x - 4 = x - \frac{1}{2} (2x^2 + 4x + 8) = 2x - \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + 2x + 4)$$

So we have

$$\text{Since } f(x) = x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 3x - 2 = \frac{1}{2}(2x^3 + 3x^2 + 6x - 4) \text{ we conclude that}$$

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$$f(x) = x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 3x - 2 = \frac{1}{2}(2x^3 + 3x^2 + 6x - 4) = \frac{1}{2} 2x - \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + 2x + 4) = x - \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + 2x + 4)$$

and since $x^2 + 2x + 4 = 0$ has no real solutions, the only real zero for f is $\frac{1}{2}$.

57. $2x^4 - 19x^3 + 57x^2 - 64x + 20 = 0$

The solutions of the equation are the zeros of $f(x) = 2x^4 - 19x^3 + 57x^2 - 64x + 20$.

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 4 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there are 4, 2 or 0 positive real zeros.

$$f(-x) = 2(-x)^4 - 19(-x)^3 + 57(-x)^2 - 64(-x) + 20$$

$$= 2x^4 + 19x^3 + 57x^2 + 64x + 20 \quad ;$$

thus, there are no negative real zeros.

Step 3: To find the possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 5, \pm 10, \pm 20, \quad q = \pm 1, \pm 2$$

$$\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 5, \pm \frac{5}{2}, \pm 10, \pm 20$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 1 & 2 & -19 & 57 & -64 & 20 \\ & & 2 & -17 & 40 & -24 \\ \hline & 2 & -17 & 40 & -24 & \{-4\} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r|rrrrr} \frac{1}{2} & 2 & -19 & 57 & -64 & 20 \\ & & 1 & -9 & 24 & -20 \\ \hline & 2 & -18 & 48 & -40 & 0 \end{array}$$

Thus, $x - \frac{1}{2}$ is a factor.

So :

$$f(x) = 2x^4 - 19x^3 + 57x^2 - 64x + 20 = x - \frac{1}{2} (2x^3 - 18x^2 + 48x - 40)$$

$$= 2x - \frac{1}{2} (x^3 - 9x^2 + 24x - 20)$$

Now try $x = 2$ as a solution to the equation $x^3 - 9x^2 + 24x - 20 = 0$.

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 2 & 1 & -9 & 24 & -20 \\ & & 2 & -14 & 20 \\ \hline & 1 & -7 & 10 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{Thus, } x^3 - 9x^2 + 24x - 20 = (x - 2)(x^2 - 7x + 10) = (x - 2)(x - 2)(x - 5)$$

So we have

$$f(x) = 2x^4 - 19x^3 + 57x^2 - 64x + 20 = 2x - \frac{1}{2} (x - 2)^2 (x - 5)$$

Therefore, f has real zeros $\frac{1}{2}, 2, 5$, and 2 is a zero of multiplicity 2.

58. $2x^4 + x^3 - 24x^2 + 20x + 16 = 0$

The solutions of the equation are the zeros of $f(x) = 2x^4 + x^3 - 24x^2 + 20x + 16$.

Step 1: $f(x)$ has at most 4 real zeros.

Step 2: By Descartes Rule of Signs, there are 2 or 0 positive real zeros.

$$f(-x) = 2(-x)^4 + (-x)^3 - 24(-x)^2 + 20(-x) + 16 = 2x^4 - x^3 - 24x^2 - 20x + 16;$$

thus, there are 2 or 0 negative real zeros.

Step 3: To find the possible rational zeros:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 8, \pm 16; \quad q = \pm 1, \pm 2;$$

$$\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm 2, \pm 4, \pm 8, \pm 16$$

Step 4: Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrrr} 2 & 2 & 1 & -24 & 20 & 16 \\ & & 4 & 10 & -28 & -16 \\ \hline & 2 & 5 & -14 & -8 & 0 \end{array}$$

Thus, $x - 2$ is a factor.

So :

$$f(x) = 2x^4 + x^3 - 24x^2 + 20x + 16 = (x - 2)(2x^3 + 5x^2 - 14x - 8).$$

Now try $x = -4$ as a solution to the equation $2x^3 + 5x^2 - 14x - 8 = 0$.

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -4 & 2 & 5 & -14 & -8 \\ & & -8 & 12 & 8 \\ \hline & 2 & -3 & -2 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{Thus, } 2x^3 + 5x^2 - 14x - 8 = (x + 4)(2x^2 - 3x - 2) = (x + 4)(2x + 1)(x - 2)$$

So we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= 2x^4 + x^3 - 24x^2 + 20x + 16 = (x - 2)(x + 4)(2x + 1)(x - 2) \\ &= (x - 2)^2(x + 4)(2x + 1) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, f has real zeros $-\frac{1}{2}, -4, 2$, and 2 is a zero of multiplicity 2.

59. $f(x) = x^3 + 2x^2 + 5x - 6 = (x + 3)(x + 1)(x - 2)$.

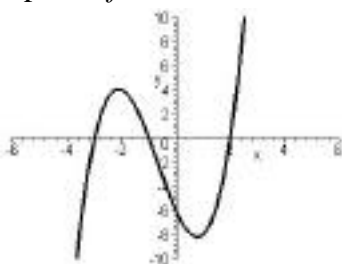
x-intercepts: $-3, -1, 2$; y-intercept: -6 ;

crosses x axis at $x = -3, -1, 2$

| | $x < -3$ | $-3 < x < -1$ | $-1 < x < 2$ | $x > 2$ |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|--------------|---------|
| f | - | + | - | + |
| Above or below x-axis | below | above | below | above |

Graph of f is above the x-axis for $(-3, -1) \cup (2, \infty)$

Graph of f is below the x-axis for $(-\infty, -3) \cup (-1, 2)$



Section 5.2 The Real Zeros of a Polynomial Function

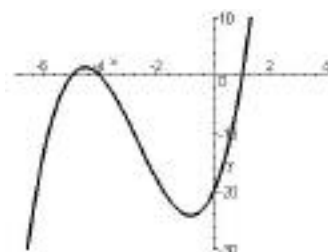
60. $f(x) = x^3 + 8x^2 + 11x - 20 = (x + 5)(x + 4)(x - 1)$.

x-intercepts: $-5, -4, 1$; y-intercept: -20 ; crosses x axis at $x = -5, -4, 1$

| | $x < -5$ | $-5 < x < -4$ | $-4 < x < 1$ | $x > 1$ |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|--------------|---------|
| f | - | + | - | + |
| Above or below x-axis | below | above | below | above |

Graph of f is above the x-axis for $(-5, -4)$ $(1, \infty)$

Graph of f is below the x-axis for $(-\infty, -5)$ $(-4, 1)$



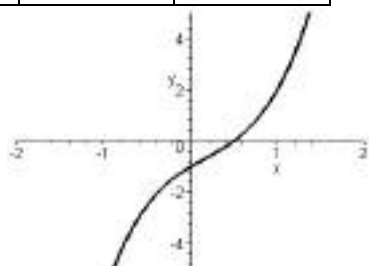
61. $f(x) = 2x^3 - x^2 + 2x - 1 = x - \frac{1}{2} (2x^2 + 2)$.

x-intercepts: $\frac{1}{2}$; y-intercept: -1 ; crosses x axis at $x = \frac{1}{2}$

| | $x < \frac{1}{2}$ | $x > \frac{1}{2}$ |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| f | - | + |
| Above or below x-axis | below | above |

Graph of f is above the x-axis for $x > \frac{1}{2}$,

Graph of f is below the x-axis for $x < \frac{1}{2}$.



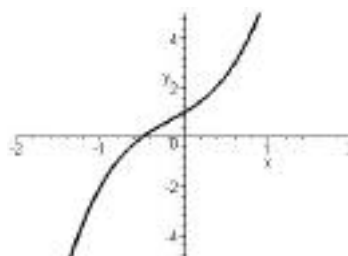
62. $f(x) = 2x^3 + x^2 + 2x + 1 = x + \frac{1}{2} (x^2 + 2)$.

x-intercepts: $-\frac{1}{2}$; y-intercept: 1 ; crosses x axis at $x = -\frac{1}{2}$

| | $x < -\frac{1}{2}$ | $x > -\frac{1}{2}$ |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| f | - | + |
| Above or below x-axis | below | above |

Graph of f is above the x-axis for $x > -\frac{1}{2}$,

Graph of f is below the x-axis for $x < -\frac{1}{2}$.



63. $f(x) = x^4 + x^2 - 2 = (x+1)(x-1)(x^2+2)$.

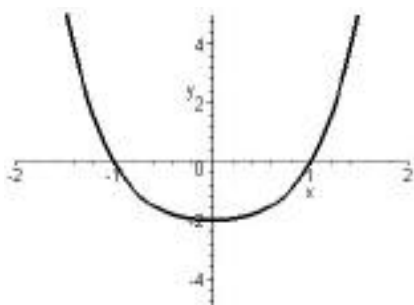
x-intercepts: -1, 1; y-intercept: -2;

| | $x < -1$ | $-1 < x < 1$ | $x > 1$ |
|-----------------------|----------|--------------|---------|
| f | + | - | + |
| Above or below x-axis | above | below | above |

crosses x axis at $x = -1, 1$

Graph of f is above the x-axis
for $(-\infty, -1) \cup (1, \infty)$

Graph of f is below the x-axis
for $(-1, 1)$



64. $f(x) = x^4 - 3x^2 - 4 = (x+2)(x-2)(x^2+1)$.

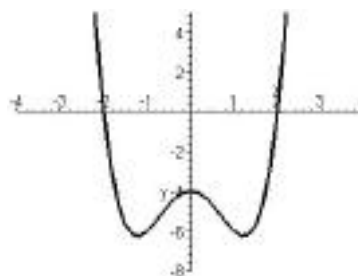
x-intercepts: -2, 2; y-intercept: -4;

| | $x < -2$ | $-2 < x < 2$ | $x > 2$ |
|-----------------------|----------|--------------|---------|
| f | + | - | + |
| Above or below x-axis | above | below | above |

crosses x axis at $x = -2, 2$

Graph of f is above the x-axis for $(-\infty, -2) \cup (2, \infty)$

Graph of f is below the x-axis for $(-2, 2)$



65. $f(x) = 4x^4 + 7x^2 - 2 = (2x+1)(2x-1)(x^2+2)$.

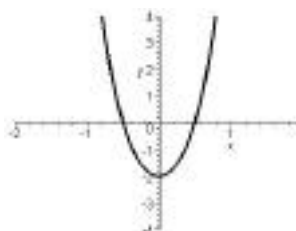
x-intercepts: $-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$; y-intercept: -2;

| | $x < -\frac{1}{2}$ | $-\frac{1}{2} < x < \frac{1}{2}$ | $x > \frac{1}{2}$ |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| f | + | - | + |
| Above or below x-axis | above | below | above |

crosses x axis at $x = -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$

Graph of f is above the x-axis for $(-\infty, -\frac{1}{2}) \cup (\frac{1}{2}, \infty)$

Graph of f is below the x-axis for $(-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$



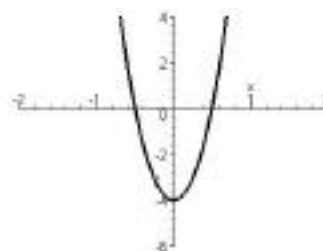
Section 5.2 The Real Zeros of a Polynomial Function

66. $f(x) = 4x^4 + 15x^2 - 4 = (2x+1)(2x-1)(x^2+4)$.

x-intercepts: $-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$; y-intercept: -4;

crosses x axis at $x = -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$

| | $x < -\frac{1}{2}$ | $-\frac{1}{2} < x < \frac{1}{2}$ | $x > \frac{1}{2}$ |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| f | + | - | + |
| Above or below x-axis | above | below | above |



Graph of f is above the x-axis for $x < -\frac{1}{2}$ and $x > \frac{1}{2}$,

Graph of f is below the x-axis for $-\frac{1}{2} < x < \frac{1}{2}$

67. $f(x) = x^4 + x^3 - 3x^2 - x + 2 = (x+2)(x+1)(x-1)^2$.

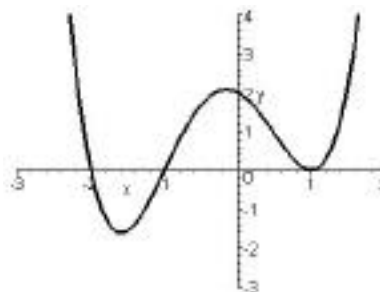
x-intercepts: -2, -1, 1; y-intercept: 2

crosses x axis at $x = -2, -1$; touches x axis at $x = 1$

| | $x < -2$ | $-2 < x < -1$ | $-1 < x < 1$ | $x > 1$ |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|--------------|---------|
| f | + | - | + | + |
| Above or below x-axis | above | below | above | above |

Graph of f is above the x-axis for $x < -2$, $-1 < x < 1$, and $x > 1$

Graph of f is below the x-axis for $-2 < x < -1$



68. $f(x) = x^4 - 3x^3 - 6x^2 + 4x + 8 = (x+2)(x+1)(x-2)^2$.

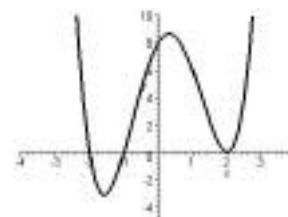
x-intercepts: -2, -1, 2; y-intercept: 8

crosses x axis at $x = -2, -1$; touches x axis at $x = 2$

| | $x < -2$ | $-2 < x < -1$ | $-1 < x < 2$ | $x > 2$ |
|-----------------------|----------|---------------|--------------|---------|
| f | + | - | + | + |
| Above or below x-axis | above | below | above | above |

Graph of f is above the x-axis for $x < -2$, $-1 < x < 2$, and $x > 2$

Graph of f is below the x-axis for $-2 < x < -1$



69. $f(x) = 4x^5 - 8x^4 - x + 2 = (x - 2)(\sqrt{2}x - 1)(\sqrt{2}x + 1)(2x^2 + 1)$

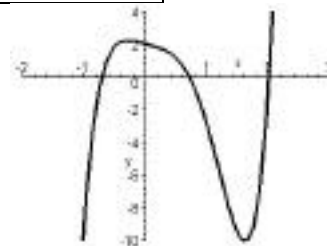
x-intercepts: $-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 2$; y-intercept: 2

crosses x axis at $x = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 2$

| | $x < -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ | $-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} < x < \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} < x < 2$ | $x > 2$ |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|------------------------------|---------|
| f | - | + | - | + |
| Above or below x-axis | below | above | below | above |

Graph of f is above the x-axis for $-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (2,)$

Graph of f is below the x-axis for $(-\infty, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}) (-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}) (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 2)$



70. $f(x) = 4x^5 + 12x^4 - x - 3 = (x + 3)(\sqrt{2}x - 1)(\sqrt{2}x + 1)(2x^2 + 1)$

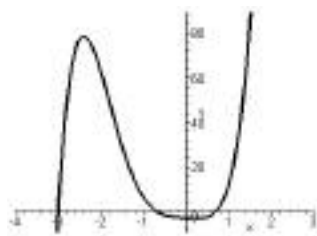
x-intercepts: $-3, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$; y-intercept: -3

crosses x axis at $x = -3, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

| | $x < -3$ | $-3 < x < -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ | $-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} < x < \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ | $x > \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$ |
|-----------------------|----------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| f | - | + | - | + |
| Above or below x-axis | below | above | below | above |

Graph of f is above the x-axis for $-3, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

Graph of f is below the x-axis for $(-\infty, -3) (-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$



Section 5.2 The Real Zeros of a Polynomial Function

71. $f(x) = x^4 - 3x^2 - 4$
 $a_3 = 0, a_2 = -3, a_1 = 0, a_0 = -4$

$$\text{Max}\{1, |-4| + |0| + |-3| + |0|\} = \text{Max}\{1, 4 + 0 + 3 + 0\} = \text{Max}\{1, 7\} = 7$$

$$1 + \text{Max}\{|-4|, |0|, |-3|, |0|\} = 1 + \text{Max}\{4, 0, 3, 0\} = 1 + 4 = 5$$

The smaller of the two numbers is 5. Thus, every zero of f lies between -5 and 5 .

72. $f(x) = x^4 - 5x^2 - 36$
 $a_3 = 0, a_2 = -5, a_1 = 0, a_0 = -36$

$$\text{Max}\{1, |-36| + |0| + |-5| + |0|\} = \text{Max}\{1, 36 + 0 + 5 + 0\} = \text{Max}\{1, 41\} = 41$$

$$1 + \text{Max}\{|-36|, |0|, |-5|, |0|\} = 1 + \text{Max}\{36, 0, 5, 0\} = 1 + 36 = 37$$

The smaller of the two numbers is 37. Thus, every zero of f lies between -37 and 37 .

73. $f(x) = x^4 + x^3 - x - 1$
 $a_3 = 1, a_2 = 0, a_1 = -1, a_0 = -1$

$$\text{Max}\{1, |-1| + |-1| + |0| + |1|\} = \text{Max}\{1, 1 + 1 + 0 + 1\} = \text{Max}\{1, 3\} = 3$$

$$1 + \text{Max}\{|-1|, |-1|, |0|, |1|\} = 1 + \text{Max}\{1, 1, 0, 1\} = 1 + 1 = 2$$

The smaller of the two numbers is 2. Thus, every zero of f lies between -2 and 2 .

74. $f(x) = x^4 + x^3 + x - 1$
 $a_3 = 1, a_2 = 0, a_1 = 1, a_0 = -1$

$$\text{Max}\{1, |-1| + |1| + |0| + |1|\} = \text{Max}\{1, 1 + 1 + 0 + 1\} = \text{Max}\{1, 3\} = 3$$

$$1 + \text{Max}\{|-1|, |1|, |0|, |1|\} = 1 + \text{Max}\{1, 1, 0, 1\} = 1 + 1 = 2$$

The smaller of the two numbers is 2. Thus, every zero of f lies between -2 and 2 .

75. $f(x) = 3x^4 + 3x^3 - x^2 - 12x - 12 = 3x^4 + x^3 - \frac{1}{3}x^2 - 4x - 4$

Note: The leading coefficient must be 1. $a_3 = 1, a_2 = -\frac{1}{3}, a_1 = -4, a_0 = -4$

$$\text{Max}\{1, |-4| + |-4| + \left|-\frac{1}{3}\right| + |1|\} = \text{Max}\{1, 4 + 4 + \frac{1}{3} + 1\} = \text{Max}\{1, \frac{28}{3}\} = \frac{28}{3}$$

$$1 + \text{Max}\{|-4|, |-4|, \left|-\frac{1}{3}\right|, |1|\} = 1 + \text{Max}\{4, 4, \frac{1}{3}, 1\} = 1 + 4 = 5$$

The smaller of the two numbers is 5. Thus, every zero of f lies between -5 and 5 .

$$76. f(x) = 3x^4 - 3x^3 - 5x^2 + 27x - 36 = 3x^4 + x^3 - \frac{5}{3}x^2 + 9x - 12$$

Note: The leading coefficient must be 1.

$$a_3 = 1, a_2 = -\frac{5}{3}, a_1 = 9, a_0 = -12$$

$$\text{Max } 1, |-12| + |9| + \left|-\frac{5}{3}\right| + |1| = \text{Max } 1, 12 + 9 + \frac{5}{3} + 1 = \text{Max } 1, \frac{71}{3} = \frac{71}{3}$$

$$1 + \text{Max } |-12|, |9|, \left|-\frac{5}{3}\right|, |1| = 1 + \text{Max } 12, 9, \frac{5}{3}, 1 = 1 + 12 = 13$$

The smaller of the two numbers is 13. Thus, every zero of f lies between -13 and 13 .

$$77. f(x) = 4x^5 - x^4 + 2x^3 - 2x^2 + x - 1 = 4x^5 - \frac{1}{4}x^4 + \frac{1}{2}x^3 - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{4}x - \frac{1}{4}$$

Note: The leading coefficient must be 1. $a_4 = -\frac{1}{4}, a_3 = \frac{1}{2}, a_2 = -\frac{1}{2}, a_1 = \frac{1}{4}, a_0 = -\frac{1}{4}$

$$\text{Max } 1, \left|-\frac{1}{4}\right| + \left|\frac{1}{4}\right| + \left|-\frac{1}{2}\right| + \left|\frac{1}{2}\right| + \left|-\frac{1}{4}\right| = \text{Max } 1, \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} = \text{Max } 1, \frac{7}{4} = \frac{7}{4}$$

$$1 + \text{Max } \left|-\frac{1}{4}\right|, \left|\frac{1}{4}\right|, \left|-\frac{1}{2}\right|, \left|\frac{1}{2}\right|, \left|-\frac{1}{4}\right| = 1 + \text{Max } \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{2}$$

The smaller of the two numbers is $\frac{3}{2}$. Thus, every zero of f lies between $-\frac{3}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{2}$.

$$78. f(x) = 4x^5 + x^4 + x^3 + x^2 - 2x - 2 = 4x^5 + \frac{1}{4}x^4 + \frac{1}{4}x^3 + \frac{1}{4}x^2 - \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{2}$$

Note: The leading coefficient must be 1. $a_4 = \frac{1}{4}, a_3 = \frac{1}{4}, a_2 = \frac{1}{4}, a_1 = -\frac{1}{2}, a_0 = -\frac{1}{2}$

$$\text{Max } 1, \left|-\frac{1}{2}\right| + \left|-\frac{1}{2}\right| + \left|\frac{1}{4}\right| + \left|\frac{1}{4}\right| + \left|\frac{1}{4}\right| = \text{Max } 1, \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = \text{Max } 1, \frac{7}{4} = \frac{7}{4}$$

$$1 + \text{Max } \left|-\frac{1}{2}\right|, \left|-\frac{1}{2}\right|, \left|\frac{1}{4}\right|, \left|\frac{1}{4}\right|, \left|\frac{1}{4}\right| = 1 + \text{Max } \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{2}$$

The smaller of the two numbers is $\frac{3}{2}$. Thus, every zero of f lies between $-\frac{3}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{2}$.

$$79. f(x) = 8x^4 - 2x^2 + 5x - 1; [0, 1]$$

$$f(0) = -1 < 0 \text{ and } f(1) = 10 > 0$$

Since one is positive and one is negative, there is a zero in the interval.

$$80. f(x) = x^4 + 8x^3 - x^2 + 2; [-1, 0]$$

$$f(-1) = -6 < 0 \text{ and } f(0) = 2 > 0$$

Since one is positive and one is negative, there is a zero in the interval.

Section 5.2 The Real Zeros of a Polynomial Function

81. $f(x) = 2x^3 + 6x^2 - 8x + 2$; $[-5, -4]$
 $f(-5) = -58 < 0$ and $f(-4) = 2 > 0$
 Since one is positive and one is negative, there is a zero in the interval.

82. $f(x) = 3x^3 - 10x + 9$; $[-3, -2]$
 $f(-3) = -42 < 0$ and $f(-2) = 5 > 0$
 Since one is positive and one is negative, there is a zero in the interval.

83. $f(x) = x^5 - x^4 + 7x^3 - 7x^2 - 18x + 18$; $[1.4, 1.5]$
 $f(1.4) = -0.1754 < 0$ and $f(1.5) = 1.4063 > 0$
 Since one is positive and one is negative, there is a zero in the interval.

84. $f(x) = x^5 - 3x^4 - 2x^3 + 6x^2 + x + 2$; $[1.7, 1.8]$
 $f(1.7) = 0.35627 > 0$ and $f(1.8) = -1.021 < 0$
 Since one is positive and one is negative, there is a zero in the interval.

85. $8x^4 - 2x^2 + 5x - 1 = 0$; $0 < r < 1$

Consider the function $f(x) = 8x^4 - 2x^2 + 5x - 1$

Subdivide the interval $[0, 1]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

$[0, 0.1]$; $[0.1, 0.2]$; $[0.2, 0.3]$; $[0.3, 0.4]$; $[0.4, 0.5]$; $[0.5, 0.6]$; $[0.6, 0.7]$; $[0.7, 0.8]$; $[0.8, 0.9]$; $[0.9, 1]$

$$f(0) = -1; f(0.1) = -0.5192$$

$$f(0.1) = -0.5192; f(0.2) = -0.0672$$

$$f(0.2) = -0.0672; f(0.3) = 0.3848 \quad \text{so } f \text{ has a real zero on the interval } [0.2, 0.3].$$

Subdivide the interval $[0.2, 0.3]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

$[0.2, 0.21]$; $[0.21, 0.22]$; $[0.22, 0.23]$; $[0.23, 0.24]$; $[0.24, 0.25]$; $[0.25, 0.26]$; $[0.26, 0.27]$; $[0.27, 0.28]$; $[0.28, 0.29]$; $[0.29, 0.3]$

$$f(0.2) = -0.0672; f(0.21) = -0.02264$$

$$f(0.21) = -0.02264; f(0.22) = 0.0219$$

so f has a real zero on the interval $[0.21, 0.22]$, therefore $r = 0.21$, correct

to 2 decimal places.

86. $x^4 + 8x^3 - x^2 + 2 = 0$; $-1 < r < 0$

Consider the function $f(x) = x^4 + 8x^3 - x^2 + 2$

Subdivide the interval $[-1, 0]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

$[-1, -0.9]$; $[-0.9, -0.8]$; $[-0.8, -0.7]$; $[-0.7, -0.6]$; $[-0.6, -0.5]$; $[-0.5, -0.4]$; $[-0.4, -0.3]$; $[-0.3, -0.2]$; $[-0.2, -0.1]$; $[-0.1, 0]$

$$f(-1) = -6; f(-0.9) = -3.9859$$

$$f(-0.9) = -3.9859; f(-0.8) = -2.3264$$

$$f(-0.8) = -2.3264; f(-0.7) = -0.9939$$

$$f(-0.7) = -0.9939; f(-0.6) = 0.0416$$

so f has a real zero on the interval
 $[-0.7, -0.6]$.

Subdivide the interval $[-0.7, -0.6]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

$[-0.7, -0.69]$; $[-0.69, -0.68]$; $[-0.68, -0.67]$; $[-0.67, -0.66]$; $[-0.66, -0.65]$; $[-0.65, -0.64]$;
 $[-0.64, -0.63]$; $[-0.63, -0.62]$; $[-0.62, -0.61]$; $[-0.61, -0.6]$

$$f(-0.7) = -0.9939; f(-0.69) = -0.8775$$

$$f(-0.69) = -0.8775; f(-0.68) = -0.7640$$

$$f(-0.68) = -0.7640; f(-0.67) = -0.6535$$

$$f(-0.67) = -0.6535; f(-0.66) = -0.5458$$

$$f(-0.66) = -0.5458; f(-0.65) = -0.4410$$

$$f(-0.65) = -0.4410; f(-0.64) = -0.3390$$

$$f(-0.64) = -0.3390; f(-0.63) = -0.2397$$

$$f(-0.63) = -0.2397; f(-0.62) = -0.1433$$

$$f(-0.62) = -0.1433; f(-0.61) = -0.0495$$

$$f(-0.61) = -0.0495; f(-0.60) = 0.0416$$

so f has a real zero on the interval
 $[-0.61, -0.6]$, therefore $r = -0.61$,
correct to 2 decimal places.

$$87. \quad 2x^3 + 6x^2 - 8x + 2 = 0; \quad -5 \leq r \leq -4$$

Consider the function $f(x) = 2x^3 + 6x^2 - 8x + 2$

Subdivide the interval $[-5, -4]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

$[-5, -4.9]$; $[-4.9, -4.8]$; $[-4.8, -4.7]$; $[-4.7, -4.6]$; $[-4.6, -4.5]$; $[-4.5, -4.4]$; $[-4.4, -4.3]$;
 $[-4.3, -4.2]$; $[-4.2, -4.1]$; $[-4.1, -4]$

$$f(-5) = -58; f(-4.9) = -50.038$$

$$f(-4.9) = -50.038; f(-4.8) = -42.544$$

$$f(-4.8) = -42.544; f(-4.7) = -35.506$$

$$f(-4.7) = -35.506; f(-4.6) = -28.912$$

$$f(-4.6) = -28.912; f(-4.5) = -22.75$$

$$f(-4.5) = -22.75; f(-4.4) = -17$$

$$f(-4.4) = -17; f(-4.3) = -11.674$$

$$f(-4.3) = -11.674; f(-4.2) = -6.736$$

$$f(-4.2) = -6.736; f(-4.1) = -2.182$$

$$f(-4.1) = -2.182; f(-4) = 2$$

so f has a real zero on the interval $[-4.1, -4]$.

Subdivide the interval $[-4.1, -4]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

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$[-4.1, -4.09]$; $[-4.09, -4.08]$; $[-4.08, -4.07]$; $[-4.07, -4.06]$; $[-4.06, -4.05]$; $[-4.05, -4.04]$;
 $[-4.04, -4.03]$; $[-4.03, -4.02]$; $[-4.02, -4.01]$; $[-4.01, -4]$

$$\begin{aligned} f(-4.1) &= -2.182; f(-4.09) = -1.7473 \\ f(-4.09) &= -1.7473; f(-4.08) = -1.3162 \\ f(-4.08) &= -1.3162; f(-4.07) = -0.8889 \\ f(-4.07) &= -0.8889; f(-4.06) = -0.4652 \\ f(-4.06) &= -0.4652; f(-4.05) = -0.0452 \\ f(-4.05) &= -0.0452; f(-4.04) = 0.3711 \end{aligned}$$

so f has a real zero on the interval $[-4.05, -4.04]$, therefore $r = -4.05$, correct to 2 decimal places.

88. $3x^3 - 10x + 9 = 0$; $-3 \leq r \leq -2$

Consider the function $f(x) = 3x^3 - 10x + 9$

Subdivide the interval $[-3, -2]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

$[-3, -2.9]$; $[-2.9, -2.8]$; $[-2.8, -2.7]$; $[-2.7, -2.6]$; $[-2.6, -2.5]$; $[-2.5, -2.4]$; $[-2.4, -2.3]$;
 $[-2.3, -2.2]$; $[-2.2, -2.1]$; $[-2.1, -2]$

$$\begin{aligned} f(-3) &= -42; f(-2.9) = -35.167 \\ f(-2.9) &= -35.167; f(-2.8) = -28.856 \\ f(-2.8) &= -28.856; f(-2.7) = -23.049 \\ f(-2.7) &= -23.049; f(-2.6) = -17.728 \\ f(-2.6) &= -17.728; f(-2.5) = -12.875 \\ f(-2.5) &= -12.875; f(-2.4) = -8.472 \\ f(-2.4) &= -8.472; f(-2.3) = -4.501 \\ f(-2.3) &= -4.501; f(-2.2) = -0.944 \\ f(-2.2) &= -0.944; f(-2.1) = 2.217 \end{aligned}$$

so f has a real zero on the interval $[-2.2, -2.1]$.

Subdivide the interval $[-2.2, -2.1]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

$[-2.2, -2.19]$; $[-2.19, -2.18]$; $[-2.18, -2.17]$; $[-2.17, -2.16]$; $[-2.16, -2.15]$; $[-2.15, -2.14]$;
 $[-2.14, -2.13]$; $[-2.13, -2.12]$; $[-2.12, -2.11]$; $[-2.11, -2.1]$

$$\begin{aligned} f(-2.2) &= -0.944; f(-2.19) = -0.6104 \\ f(-2.19) &= -0.6104; f(-2.18) = -0.2807 \\ f(-2.18) &= -0.2807; f(-2.17) = 0.0451 \end{aligned}$$

so f has a real zero on the interval $[-2.18, -2.17]$, therefore $r = -2.18$, correct to 2 decimal places.

89. $f(x) = x^3 + x^2 + x - 4$

$$f(1) = -1; f(2) = 10$$

so f has a real zero on the interval $[1, 2]$,

Subdivide the interval $[1, 2]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

$[1, 1.1]; [1.1, 1.2]; [1.2, 1.3]; [1.3, 1.4]; [1.4, 1.5]; [1.5, 1.6]; [1.6, 1.7]; [1.7, 1.8];$
 $[1.8, 1.9]; [1.9, 2]$

$$f(1) = -1; f(1.1) = -0.359$$

$$f(1.1) = -0.359; f(1.2) = 0.368 \text{ so } f \text{ has a real zero on the interval } [1.1, 1.2].$$

Subdivide the interval $[1, 1.2]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

$[1, 1.11]; [1.11, 1.12]; [1.12, 1.13]; [1.13, 1.14]; [1.14, 1.15]; [1.15, 1.16]; [1.16, 1.17];$
 $[1.17, 1.18]; [1.18, 1.19]; [1.19, 1.2]$

$$f(1) = -1; f(1.11) = -0.2903$$

$$f(1.11) = -0.2903; f(1.12) = -0.2207$$

$$f(1.12) = -0.2207; f(1.13) = -0.1502$$

$$f(1.13) = -0.1502; f(1.14) = -0.0789$$

$$f(1.14) = -0.0789; f(1.15) = -0.0066$$

$$f(1.15) = -0.0066; f(1.16) = 0.0665$$

so f has a real zero on the interval $[1.15, 1.16]$, therefore $r = 1.15$, correct to 2 decimal places.

90. $f(x) = 2x^4 + x^2 - 1$

$$f(0) = -1; f(1) = 2 \text{ so } f \text{ has a real zero on the interval } [0, 1],$$

Subdivide the interval $[0, 1]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

$[0, 0.1]; [0.1, 0.2]; [0.2, 0.3]; [0.3, 0.4]; [0.4, 0.5]; [0.5, 0.6]; [0.6, 0.7]; [0.7, 0.8];$
 $[0.8, 0.9]; [0.9, 1]$

$$f(0) = -1; f(0.1) = -0.9898$$

$$f(0.1) = -0.9898; f(0.2) = -0.9568$$

$$f(0.2) = -0.9568; f(0.3) = -0.8938$$

$$f(0.3) = -0.8938; f(0.4) = -0.7888$$

$$f(0.4) = -0.7888; f(0.5) = -0.625$$

$$f(0.5) = -0.625; f(0.6) = -0.3808$$

$$f(0.6) = -0.3808; f(0.7) = -0.0298$$

$$f(0.7) = -0.0298; f(0.8) = 0.4592 \text{ so } f \text{ has a real zero on the interval } [0.7, 0.8].$$

Subdivide the interval $[0.7, 0.8]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

$[0.7, 0.71]; [0.71, 0.72]; [0.72, 0.73]; [0.73, 0.74]; [0.74, 0.75]; [0.75, 0.76]; [0.76, 0.77];$
 $[0.77, 0.78]; [0.78, 0.79]; [0.79, 0.8]$

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$f(0.7) = -0.298; f(0.71) = 0.123$ so f has a real zero on the interval $[0.7, 0.71]$, therefore $r = 0.70$, correct to 2 decimal places.

91. $f(x) = 2x^4 - 3x^3 - 4x^2 - 8$
 $f(2) = -16; f(3) = 37$ so f has a real zero on the interval $[2, 3]$,
 Subdivide the interval $[2, 3]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

$[2, 2.1]; [2.1, 2.2]; [2.2, 2.3]; [2.3, 2.4]; [2.4, 2.5]; [2.5, 2.6]; [2.6, 2.7]; [2.7, 2.8];$
 $[2.8, 2.9]; [2.9, 3]$

$f(2) = -16; f(2.1) = -14.5268$
 $f(2.1) = -14.5268; f(2.2) = -12.4528$
 $f(2.2) = -12.4528; f(2.3) = -9.6928$
 $f(2.3) = -9.6928; f(2.4) = -6.1568$
 $f(2.4) = -6.1568; f(2.5) = -1.75$
 $f(2.5) = -1.75; f(2.6) = 3.6272$ so f has a real zero on the interval $[2.5, 2.6]$.
 Subdivide the interval $[2.5, 2.6]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

$[2.5, 2.51]; [2.51, 2.52]; [2.52, 2.53]; [2.53, 2.54]; [2.54, 2.55]; [2.55, 2.56]; [2.56, 2.57];$
 $[2.57, 2.58]; [2.58, 2.59]; [2.59, 2.6]$

$f(2.5) = -1.75; f(2.51) = -1.2576$
 $f(2.51) = -1.2576; f(2.52) = -0.7555$
 $f(2.52) = -0.7555; f(2.53) = -0.2434$
 $f(2.53) = -0.2434; f(2.54) = 0.2787$ so f has a real zero on the interval $[2.53, 2.54]$, therefore $r = 2.53$, correct to 2 decimal places.

92. $f(x) = 3x^3 - 2x^2 - 20$

$f(2) = -4; f(3) = 43$ so f has a real zero on the interval $[2, 3]$,
 Subdivide the interval $[2, 3]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

$[2, 2.1]; [2.1, 2.2]; [2.2, 2.3]; [2.3, 2.4]; [2.4, 2.5]; [2.5, 2.6]; [2.6, 2.7]; [2.7, 2.8];$
 $[2.8, 2.9]; [2.9, 3]$

$f(2) = -4; f(2.1) = -1.037$
 $f(2.1) = -1.037; f(2.2) = 2.264$ so f has a real zero on the interval $[2.1, 2.2]$.
 Subdivide the interval $[2.1, 2.2]$ into 10 equal subintervals:

$[2.1, 2.11]; [2.11, 2.12]; [2.12, 2.13]; [2.13, 2.14]; [2.14, 2.15]; [2.15, 2.16]; [2.16, 2.17];$
 $[2.17, 2.18]; [2.18, 2.19]; [2.19, 2.2]$

$f(2.1) = -1.037; f(2.11) = -0.7224$
 $f(2.11) = -0.7224; f(2.12) = -0.4044$

$$f(2.12) = -0.4044; f(2.13) = -0.0830$$

$$f(2.13) = -0.0830; f(2.14) = 0.2418$$

so f has a real zero on the interval $[2.13, 2.14]$, therefore $r = 2.13$, correct to 2 decimal places.

93. $x - 2$ is a factor of $f(x) = x^3 - kx^2 + kx + 2$ only if the remainder that results when $f(x)$ is divided by $x - 2$ is 0. Dividing, we have:

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \overline{) 1 \quad -k \quad k \quad 2} \\ \underline{2 \quad -2k + 4 \quad -2k + 8} \\ 1 \quad -k + 2 \quad -k + 4 \quad -2k + 10 \end{array}$$

Since we want the remainder to equal 0, set the remainder equal to zero and solve:

$$-2k + 10 = 0 \quad -2k = -10 \quad k = 5$$

94. $x + 2$ is a factor of $f(x) = x^4 - kx^3 + kx^2 + 1$ only if the remainder that results when $f(x)$ is divided by $x + 2$ is 0. Dividing, we have:

$$\begin{array}{r} -2 \overline{) 1 \quad -k \quad k \quad 0 \quad 1} \\ \underline{-2 \quad 2k + 4 \quad -6k - 8 \quad 12k + 16} \\ 1 \quad -k - 2 \quad 3k + 4 \quad -6k - 8 \quad 12k + 17 \end{array}$$

Since we want the remainder to equal 0, set the remainder equal to zero and solve:

$$12k + 17 = 0 \quad 12k = -17 \quad k = -\frac{17}{12}$$

95. By the Remainder Theorem we know that the remainder from synthetic division by c is equal to $f(c)$. Thus the easiest way to find the remainder is to evaluate:

$$f(1) = 2(1)^{20} - 8(1)^{10} + 1 - 2 = 2 - 8 + 1 - 2 = -7$$

The remainder is -7 .

96. By the Remainder Theorem we know that the remainder from synthetic division by c is equal to $f(c)$. Thus the easiest way to find the remainder is to evaluate:

$$f(-1) = -3(-1)^{17} + (-1)^9 - (-1)^5 + 2(-1) = 3 - 1 + 1 - 2 = 1$$

The remainder is 1.

97. We want to prove that $x - c$ is a factor of $x^n - c^n$, for any positive integer n . By the Factor Theorem, $x - c$ will be a factor of $f(x)$ provided $f(c) = 0$. Here, $f(x) = x^n - c^n$, so that $f(c) = c^n - c^n = 0$. Therefore, $x - c$ is a factor of $x^n - c^n$.

98. We want to prove that $x + c$ is a factor of $x^n + c^n$, if $n - 1$ is an odd integer. By the Factor Theorem, $x + c$ will be a factor of $f(x)$ provided $f(-c) = 0$. Here, $f(x) = x^n + c^n$, so that $f(-c) = (-c)^n + c^n = -c^n + c^n = 0$ if $n - 1$ is an odd integer. Therefore, $x + c$ is a factor of $x^n + c^n$ if $n - 1$ is an odd integer.

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99. $x^3 - 8x^2 + 16x - 3 = 0$ has solution $x = 3$, so $x - 3$ is a factor of $f(x) = x^3 - 8x^2 + 16x - 3$.

Using synthetic division

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 3 & 1 & -8 & 16 & -3 \\ & & 3 & -15 & 3 \\ \hline & 1 & -5 & 1 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = x^3 - 8x^2 + 16x - 3 = (x - 3)(x^2 - 5x + 1).$$

Solving $x^2 - 5x + 1 = 0$

$$x = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{25 - 4}}{2} = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{21}}{2}$$

The sum of these two roots is $\frac{5 + \sqrt{21}}{2} + \frac{5 - \sqrt{21}}{2} = \frac{10}{2} = 5$.

100. $x^3 + 5x^2 + 5x - 2 = 0$ has solution $x = -2$, so $x + 2$ is a factor of $f(x) = x^3 + 5x^2 + 5x - 2$.

Using synthetic division

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -2 & 1 & 5 & 5 & -2 \\ & & -2 & -6 & 2 \\ \hline & 1 & 3 & -1 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = x^3 + 5x^2 + 5x - 2 = (x + 2)(x^2 + 3x - 1).$$

Solving $x^2 + 3x - 1 = 0$

$$x = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{9 + 4}}{2} = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{13}}{2}$$

The sum of these two roots is $\frac{-3 + \sqrt{13}}{2} + \frac{-3 - \sqrt{13}}{2} = \frac{-6}{2} = -3$.

101. $f(x) = 2x^3 + 3x^2 - 6x + 7$

By the Rational Zero Theorem, the only possible rational zeros are:

$$\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 7, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{7}{2}$$

Since $\frac{1}{3}$ is not in the list of possible rational zeros, it is not a zero of $f(x)$.

102. $f(x) = 4x^3 - 5x^2 - 3x + 1$

By the Rational Zero Theorem, the only possible rational zeros are:

$$\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{1}{4}$$

Since $\frac{1}{3}$ is not in the list of possible rational zeros, it is not a zero of $f(x)$.

103. $f(x) = 2x^6 - 5x^4 + x^3 - x + 1$

By the Rational Zero Theorem, the only possible rational zeros are:

$$\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm \frac{1}{2}$$

Since $\frac{3}{5}$ is not in the list of possible rational zeros, it is not a zero of $f(x)$.

104. $f(x) = x^7 + 6x^5 - x^4 + x + 2$

By the Rational Zero Theorem, the only possible rational zeros are:

$$\frac{p}{q} = \pm 1, \pm 2$$

Since $\frac{2}{3}$ is not in the list of possible rational zeros, it is not a zero of $f(x)$.

105. Let x be the length of a side of the original cube.

After removing the 1 inch slice, one dimension will be $x - 1$.

The volume of the new solid will be:

$$(x-1)x^2 = 294 \quad x^3 - x^2 = 294 \quad x^3 - x^2 - 294 = 0$$

By Descartes Rule of Signs, we know that there is one positive real solution.

The possible rational zeros are:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 6, \pm 7, \pm 14, \pm 21, \pm 42, \pm 49, \pm 98, \pm 147, \pm 294; \quad q = \pm 1$$

The rational zeros are the same as the values for p .

Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 7 & 1 & -1 & 0 & -294 \\ & & 7 & 42 & 294 \\ \hline & 1 & 6 & 42 & 0 \end{array}$$

7 is a zero, so the length of the original edge of the cube was 7 inches.

106. Let x be the length of a side of the original cube.

The volume is x^3 .

The dimensions are changed to $x + 6$, $x + 12$, and $x - 4$.

The volume of the new solid will be $(x + 6)(x + 12)(x - 4)$

Solve the volume equation:

$$(x + 6)(x + 12)(x - 4) = 2x^3$$

$$(x^2 + 18x + 72)(x - 4) = 2x^3 \quad x^3 + 14x^2 - 288 = 2x^3 \quad x^3 - 14x^2 + 288 = 0$$

By Descartes Rule of Signs, we know that there are 2 or 0 positive real solutions.

The possible rational zeros are:

$$p = \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4, \pm 6, \pm 8, \pm 9, \pm 12, \pm 16, \pm 18, \pm 24, \pm 36, \pm 48, \\ \pm 72, \pm 96, \pm 144, \pm 288; \quad q = \pm 1$$

The rational zeros are the same as the values for p .

Using synthetic division:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 6 & 1 & -14 & 0 & 288 \\ & & 6 & -48 & -288 \\ \hline & 1 & -8 & -48 & 0 \end{array}$$

6 is a zero; the other factor is $x^2 - 8x - 48 = (x - 12)(x + 4)$. The other zeros are 12 and -4 . The length of the original edge of the cube was 6 inches or 12 inches.

Section 5.2 The Real Zeros of a Polynomial Function

107. $f(x) = x^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + a_{n-2}x^{n-2} + \dots + a_1x + a_0$; where $a_{n-1}, a_{n-2}, \dots, a_1, a_0$ are integers

If r is a real zero of f , then r is either rational or irrational. We know that the rational roots of f must be of the form $\frac{p}{q}$ where p is a divisor of a_0 and q is a divisor of 1.

1. This means that $q = \pm 1$. So if r is rational, then $r = \frac{p}{q} = \pm p$. Therefore, r is an integer or r is irrational.

108. Let $\frac{p}{q}$ be a root for the polynomial $f(x) = a_nx^n + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + a_{n-2}x^{n-2} + \dots + a_1x + a_0$ where $a_n, a_{n-1}, a_{n-2}, \dots, a_1, a_0$ are integers. Suppose also that p and q have no common factors other than 1 and -1 . Then

$$f\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = a_n \frac{p^n}{q^n} + a_{n-1} \frac{p^{n-1}}{q^{n-1}} + a_{n-2} \frac{p^{n-2}}{q^{n-2}} + \dots + a_1 \frac{p}{q} + a_0 = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{q^n} (a_n p^n + a_{n-1} p^{n-1} q + a_{n-2} p^{n-2} q^2 + \dots + a_1 p q^{n-1} + a_0 q^n) = 0$$

Because p is a factor of the first n terms of this equation, p must also be a factor of $a_0 q^n$. Since p is not a factor of q , p must be a factor of a_0 . Similarly, q must be a factor of a_n .

109. (a) $f(x) = 8x^4 - 2x^2 + 5x - 1$ $0 < r < 1$

At Step 0 we have the interval $[0, 1]$.

$$f(0) = -1; \quad f(1) = 10$$

Let m = the midpoint of the interval being considered.

$$\text{So } m_0 = 0.5$$

| n | m_{n-1} | $f(m_{n-1})$ | New interval |
|---|------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | 0.5 | $f(0.5) = 1.5 > 0$ | $[0, 0.5]$ |
| 2 | 0.25 | $f(0.25) = 0.15625 > 0$ | $[0, 0.25]$ |
| 3 | 0.125 | $f(0.125) = -0.4043 < 0$ | $[0.125, 0.25]$ |
| 4 | 0.1875 | $f(0.1875) = -0.1229 < 0$ | $[0.1875, 0.25]$ |
| 5 | 0.21875 | $f(0.21875) = 0.0164 > 0$ | $[0.1875, 0.21875]$ |
| 6 | 0.203125 | $f(0.203125) = -0.0533 < 0$ | $[0.203125, 0.21875]$ |
| 7 | 0.2109375 | $f(0.2109375) = -0.0185 < 0$ | $[0.2109375, 0.21875]$ |
| 8 | 0.21484375 | | |

Since the midpoint value at Step 8 agrees with the midpoint value at Step 7 to two decimal places, $r = 0.21$, correct to 2 decimal places.

(b) $f(x) = x^4 + 8x^3 - x^2 + 2; \quad -1 \leq r \leq 0$

At Step 0 we have the interval $[-1, 0]$.

$$f(-1) = -6; \quad f(0) = 2$$

Let m = the midpoint of the interval being considered.

$$\text{So } m_0 = -0.5$$

| n | m_{n-1} | $f(m_{n-1})$ | New interval |
|---|------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | - 0.5 | $f(-0.5) = 0.8125 > 0$ | $[-1, -0.5]$ |
| 2 | - 0.75 | $f(-0.75) = -1.6211 < 0$ | $[-0.75, -0.5]$ |
| 3 | -0.625 | $f(-0.625) = -0.1912 < 0$ | $[-0.625, -0.5]$ |
| 4 | -0.5625 | $f(-0.5625) = 0.3599 > 0$ | $[-0.625, -0.5625]$ |
| 5 | -0.59375 | $f(-0.59375) = 0.0972 > 0$ | $[-0.625, -0.59375]$ |
| 6 | -0.609375 | $f(-0.609375) = -0.04372 < 0$ | $[-0.609375, -0.59375]$ |
| 7 | -0.6015625 | | |

Since the midpoint value at Step 7 agrees with the midpoint value at Step 6 to two decimal places, $r = -0.60$, correct to 2 decimal places.

(c) $f(x) = 2x^3 + 6x^2 - 8x + 2; \quad -5 \leq r \leq -4$

At Step 0 we have the interval $[-5, -4]$.

$$f(-5) = -58; \quad f(-4) = 2$$

Let m = the midpoint of the interval being considered.

$$\text{So } m_0 = -4.5$$

| n | m_{n-1} | $f(m_{n-1})$ | New interval |
|---|-------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | - 4.5 | $f(-4.5) = -22.75 < 0$ | $[-4.5, -4]$ |
| 2 | - 4.25 | $f(-4.25) = -9.1562 < 0$ | $[-4.25, -4]$ |
| 3 | -4.125 | $f(-4.125) = -3.2852 < 0$ | $[-4.125, -4]$ |
| 4 | -4.0625 | $f(-4.0625) = -0.5708 < 0$ | $[-4.0625, -4]$ |
| 5 | -4.03125 | $f(-4.03125) = 0.7324 > 0$ | $[-4.0625, -4.03125]$ |
| 6 | -4.046875 | $f(-4.046875) = 0.0852 > 0$ | $[-4.0625, -4.046875]$ |
| 7 | -4.0546875 | $f(-4.0546875) = -0.2417 < 0$ | $[-4.0546875, -4.046875]$ |
| 8 | -4.05078125 | | |

Since the midpoint value at Step 8 agrees with the midpoint value at Step 7 to two decimal places, $r = -4.05$, correct to 2 decimal places.

(d) $f(x) = 3x^3 - 10x + 9; \quad -3 \leq r \leq -2$

At Step 0 we have the interval $[-3, -2]$.

$$f(-3) = -42; \quad f(-2) = 5$$

Let m = the midpoint of the interval being considered.

$$\text{So } m_0 = -2.5$$

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| n | m_{n-1} | $f(m_{n-1})$ | New interval |
|---|-------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | - 2.5 | $f(-2.5) = -12.875 < 0$ | $[-2.5, -2]$ |
| 2 | - 2.25 | $f(-2.25) = -2.6719 < 0$ | $[-2.25, -2]$ |
| 3 | -2.125 | $f(-2.125) = 1.4629 > 0$ | $[-2.25, -2.125]$ |
| 4 | -2.1875 | $f(-2.1875) = -0.5276 < 0$ | $[-2.1875, -2.125]$ |
| 5 | -2.15625 | $f(-2.15625) = 0.4866 > 0$ | $[-2.1875, -2.15625]$ |
| 6 | -2.171875 | $f(-2.171875) = -0.0157 < 0$ | $[-2.171875, -2.15625]$ |
| 7 | -2.1640625 | $f(-2.1640625) = 0.2366 > 0$ | $[-2.171875, -2.1640625]$ |
| 8 | -2.16796875 | | |

Since the midpoint value at Step 8 agrees with the midpoint value at Step 7 to two decimal places, $r = -2.16$, correct to 2 decimal places.

(e) $f(x) = x^3 + x^2 + x - 4$; $1 \leq r \leq 2$

At Step 0 we have the interval $[1, 2]$.

$$f(1) = -4; \quad f(2) = 10$$

Let m = the midpoint of the interval being considered.

So $m_0 = 1.5$

| n | m_{n-1} | $f(m_{n-1})$ | New interval |
|---|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | 1.5 | $f(1.5) = 3.125 > 0$ | $[1, 1.5]$ |
| 2 | 1.25 | $f(1.25) = 0.7656 > 0$ | $[1, 1.25]$ |
| 3 | 1.125 | $f(1.125) = -0.1855 < 0$ | $[1.125, 1.25]$ |
| 4 | 1.1875 | $f(1.1875) = 0.2722 > 0$ | $[1.125, 1.1875]$ |
| 5 | 1.15625 | $f(1.15625) = 0.0390 > 0$ | $[1.125, 1.15625]$ |
| 6 | 1.140625 | $f(1.140625) = -0.0744 < 0$ | $[1.140625, 1.15625]$ |
| 7 | 1.1484375 | | |

Since the midpoint value at Step 7 agrees with the midpoint value at Step 6 to two decimal places, $r = 1.14$, correct to 2 decimal places.

(f) $f(x) = 2x^4 + x^2 - 1$; $0 \leq r \leq 1$

At Step 0 we have the interval $[0, 1]$.

$$f(0) = -1; \quad f(1) = 2$$

Let m = the midpoint of the interval being considered.

So $m_0 = 0.5$

| n | m_{n-1} | $f(m_{n-1})$ | New interval |
|---|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | 0.5 | $f(0.5) = -0.625 < 0$ | [0.5, 1] |
| 2 | 0.75 | $f(0.75) = 0.1593 > 0$ | [0.5, 0.75] |
| 3 | 0.625 | $f(0.625) = -0.3042 < 0$ | [0.625, 0.75] |
| 4 | 0.6875 | $f(0.6875) = -0.0805 < 0$ | [0.6875, 0.75] |
| 5 | 0.71875 | $f(0.71875) = 0.0504 > 0$ | [0.6875, 0.71875] |
| 6 | 0.703125 | $f(0.703125) = -0.0168 < 0$ | [0.703125, 0.71875] |
| 7 | 0.7109375 | $f(0.7109375) = 0.0164 > 0$ | [0.703125, 0.7109375] |
| 8 | 0.70703125 | $f(0.70703125) = -0.0032 < 0$ | [0.70703125, 0.7109375] |
| 9 | 0.708984375 | | |

Since the midpoint value at Step 9 agrees with the midpoint value at Step 8 to two decimal places, $r = 0.70$, correct to 2 decimal places.

$$(g) \quad f(x) = 2x^4 - 3x^3 - 4x^2 - 8; \quad 2 \leq r \leq 3$$

At Step 0 we have the interval [2, 3].

$$f(2) = -16; \quad f(3) = 37$$

Let m = the midpoint of the interval being considered.

So $m_0 = 2.5$

| n | m_{n-1} | $f(m_{n-1})$ | New interval |
|---|------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | 2.5 | $f(2.5) = -1.75 < 0$ | [2.5, 3] |
| 2 | 2.75 | $f(2.75) = 13.7422 > 0$ | [2.5, 2.75] |
| 3 | 2.625 | $f(2.625) = 5.1352 > 0$ | [2.5, 2.625] |
| 4 | 2.5625 | $f(2.5625) = 1.4905 > 0$ | [2.5, 2.5625] |
| 5 | 2.53125 | $f(2.53125) = -0.1787 < 0$ | [2.53125, 2.5625] |
| 6 | 2.546875 | $f(2.546875) = 0.6435 > 0$ | [2.53125, 2.546875] |
| 7 | 2.5390625 | $f(2.5390625) = 0.2293 > 0$ | [2.53125, 2.5390625] |
| 8 | 2.53515625 | | |

Since the midpoint value at Step 8 agrees with the midpoint value at Step 7 to two decimal places, $r = 2.53$, correct to 2 decimal places.

$$(h) \quad f(x) = 3x^3 - 2x^2 - 20; \quad 2 \leq r \leq 3$$

At Step 0 we have the interval [2, 3].

$$f(2) = -4; \quad f(3) = 43$$

Let m = the midpoint of the interval being considered.

So $m_0 = 2.5$

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| n | m_{n-1} | $f(m_{n-1})$ | New interval |
|---|-----------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 2.5 | $f(2.5) = 14.375 > 0$ | [2,2.5] |
| 2 | 2.25 | $f(2.25) = 4.0469 > 0$ | [2,2.25] |
| 3 | 2.125 | $f(2.125) = -0.2441 < 0$ | [2.125,2.25] |
| 4 | 2.1875 | $f(2.1875) = 1.8323 > 0$ | [2.125,2.1875] |
| 5 | 2.15625 | $f(2.15625) = 0.7771 > 0$ | [2.125,2.15625] |
| 6 | 2.140625 | $f(2.140625) = 0.2622 > 0$ | [2.125, 2.140625] |
| 7 | 2.1328125 | $f(2.1328125) = 0.0080 > 0$ | [2.125, 2.1328125] |
| 8 | 2.1315625 | | |

Since the midpoint value at Step 8 agrees with the midpoint value at Step 7 to two decimal places, $r = 2.13$, correct to 2 decimal places.