

Roots of polynomials 4E

1 a $x^3 - 7x^2 + 6x + 5 = 0$
 $a = 1, b = -7, c = 6$ and $d = 5$

Method 1:

$$\alpha + \beta + \gamma = -\frac{b}{a} = 7$$

$$\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha = \frac{c}{a} = 6$$

$$\alpha\beta\gamma = -\frac{d}{a} = -5$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Sum} &= (\alpha + 1) + (\beta + 1) + (\gamma + 1) \\ &= \alpha + \beta + \gamma + 3 \\ &= 10\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Pair sum} &= (\alpha + 1)(\beta + 1) + (\beta + 1)(\gamma + 1) \\ &\quad + (\gamma + 1)(\alpha + 1) \\ &= \alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha + 2(\alpha + \beta + \gamma) + 3 \\ &= 6 + 2(7) + 3 \\ &= 23\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Product} &= (\alpha + 1)(\beta + 1)(\gamma + 1) \\ &= \alpha\beta\gamma + (\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha) \\ &\quad + (\alpha + \beta + \gamma) + 1 \\ &= -5 + 6 + 7 + 1 \\ &= 9\end{aligned}$$

Hence the new equation is:

$$w^3 - 10w^2 + 23w - 9 = 0$$

Method 2:

Let $w = x + 1$, so $x = w - 1$

Substitute $x = w - 1$ into

$$x^3 - 7x^2 + 6x + 5 = 0$$

$$(w - 1)^3 - 7(w - 1)^2 + 6(w - 1) + 5 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}w^3 - 3w^2 + 3w - 1 - 7(w^2 - 2w + 1) \\ + 6w - 6 + 5 = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}w^3 - 3w^2 + 3w - 1 - 7w^2 + 14w - 7 \\ + 6w - 6 + 5 = 0\end{aligned}$$

Simplify to obtain:

$$w^3 - 10w^2 + 23w - 9 = 0$$

b Remember:

$$\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 7$$

$$\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha = 6$$

$$\alpha\beta\gamma = -5$$

Method 1:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Sum} &= 2\alpha + 2\beta + 2\gamma \\ &= 2(\alpha + \beta + \gamma) \\ &= 14\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Pair sum} &= (2\alpha)(2\beta) + (2\beta)(2\gamma) \\ &\quad + (2\gamma)(2\alpha) \\ &= 4(\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha) \\ &= 24\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Product} = (2\alpha)(2\beta)(2\gamma) = 8\alpha\beta\gamma = -40$$

Hence the new equation is:

$$w^3 - 14w^2 + 24w + 40 = 0$$

Method 2:

$$w = 2x, \text{ so } x = \frac{w}{2}$$

Substitute $x = \frac{w}{2}$ into

$$x^3 - 7x^2 + 6x + 5 = 0$$

$$\left(\frac{w}{2}\right)^3 - 7\left(\frac{w}{2}\right)^2 + 6\left(\frac{w}{2}\right) + 5 = 0$$

$$\frac{w^3}{8} - \frac{7}{4}w^2 + 3w + 5 = 0$$

Multiply by 8:

$$w^3 - 14w^2 + 24w + 40 = 0$$

2 a $3x^3 - 4x^2 - 5x + 1 = 0$

$a = 3, b = -4, c = -5$ and $d = 1$

$$\alpha + \beta + \gamma = -\frac{b}{a} = \frac{4}{3}$$

$$\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha = \frac{c}{a} = -\frac{5}{3}$$

$$\alpha\beta\gamma = -\frac{d}{a} = -\frac{1}{3}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Sum} &= (\alpha - 3) + (\beta - 3) + (\gamma - 3) \\ &= \alpha + \beta + \gamma - 9 \\ &= -\frac{23}{3}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Pair sum} &= (\alpha - 3)(\beta - 3) + (\beta - 3)(\gamma - 3) \\ &\quad + (\gamma - 3)(\alpha - 3) \\ &= \alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha \\ &\quad - 6(\alpha + \beta + \gamma) + 27 \\ &= -\frac{5}{3} - 6\left(\frac{4}{3}\right) + 27 \\ &= -\frac{5}{3} - \frac{24}{3} + \frac{81}{3} \\ &= \frac{52}{3}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Product} &= (\alpha - 3)(\beta - 3)(\gamma - 3) \\ &= \alpha\beta\gamma - 3(\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha) \\ &\quad + 9(\alpha + \beta + \gamma) - 27 \\ &= -\frac{1}{3} - 3\left(-\frac{5}{3}\right) + 9\left(\frac{4}{3}\right) - 27 \\ &= -\frac{1}{3} + 5 + 12 - 27 \\ &= -\frac{31}{3}\end{aligned}$$

Hence the new equation is:

$$w^3 + \frac{23}{3}w^2 + \frac{52}{3}w + \frac{31}{3} = 0$$

Multiply by 3:

$$3w^3 + 23w^2 + 52w + 31 = 0$$

b $w = \frac{x}{2}$, so $x = 2w$

Substitute $x = 2w$ into

$$3x^3 - 4x^2 - 5x + 1 = 0$$

$$3(2w)^3 - 4(2w)^2 - 5(2w) + 1 = 0$$

$$3(8w^3) - 4(4w^2) - 10w + 1 = 0$$

$$24w^3 - 16w^2 - 10w + 1 = 0$$

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

Let $w = 2x + 1$, so $x = \frac{w-1}{2}$

Substitute $x = \frac{w-1}{2}$ into $x^3 - 3x^2 + 4x - 7 = 0$

$$\left(\frac{w-1}{2}\right)^3 - 3\left(\frac{w-1}{2}\right)^2 + 4\left(\frac{w-1}{2}\right) - 7 = 0$$

Multiply through by $2^3 = 8$ to remove fractions:

$$(w-1)^3 - 6(w-1)^2 + 16(w-1) - 56 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}w^3 - 3w^2 + 3w - 1 - 6(w^2 - 2w + 1) \\ + 16w - 16 - 56 = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}w^3 - 3w^2 + 3w - 1 - 6w^2 + 12w - 6 \\ + 16w - 16 - 56 = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$w^3 - 9w^2 + 31w - 79 = 0$$

4 $x^3 + 4x^2 - 4x + 2 = 0$

Let $w = 2x - 1$, so $x = \frac{w+1}{2}$

Substitute $x = \frac{w+1}{2}$ into $x^3 + 4x^2 - 4x + 2 = 0$

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

Multiply through by $2^3 = 8$ to remove fractions:

$$(w+1)^3 + 8(w+1)^2 - 16(w+1) + 16 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}w^3 + 3w^2 + 3w + 1 + 8(w^2 + 2w + 1) \\ - 16w - 16 + 16 = 0\end{aligned}$$

$$w^3 + 3w^2 + 3w + 1 + 8w^2 + 16w + 8 - 16w = 0$$

$$w^3 + 11w^2 + 3w + 9 = 0$$

5 $3x^3 - x^2 + 2x - 5 = 0$

Let $w = 3x + 1$, so $x = \frac{w-1}{3}$

Substitute $x = \frac{w-1}{3}$ into $3x^3 - x^2 + 2x - 5 = 0$

$$3\left(\frac{w-1}{3}\right)^3 - \left(\frac{w-1}{3}\right)^2 + 2\left(\frac{w-1}{3}\right) - 5 = 0$$

Multiply through by $3^3 = 27$ to remove fractions:

$$3(w-1)^3 - 3(w-1)^2 + 18(w-1) - 135 = 0$$

$$3(w^3 - 3w^2 + 3w - 1) - 3(w^2 - 2w + 1) + 18w - 18 - 135 = 0$$

$$3w^3 - 9w^2 + 9w - 3 - 3w^2 + 6w - 3 + 18w - 18 - 135 = 0$$

$$3w^3 - 12w^2 + 33w - 159 = 0$$

So $w^3 - 4w^2 + 11w - 53 = 0$ as all terms are divisible by 3.

6 a $2x^4 + 4x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x - 1 = 0$

$w = 3x$, so $x = \frac{w}{3}$

Substitute $x = \frac{w}{3}$ into

$$2x^4 + 4x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x - 1 = 0$$

$$2\left(\frac{w}{3}\right)^4 + 4\left(\frac{w}{3}\right)^3 - 5\left(\frac{w}{3}\right)^2 + 2\left(\frac{w}{3}\right) - 1 = 0$$

$$\frac{2w^4}{81} + \frac{4w^3}{27} - \frac{5w^2}{9} + \frac{2w}{3} - 1 = 0$$

Multiply through by 81 to remove fractions:

$$2w^4 + 12w^3 - 45w^2 + 54w - 81 = 0$$

b $w = x - 1$, so $x = w + 1$

Substitute $x = w + 1$ into

$$2x^4 + 4x^3 - 5x^2 + 2x - 1 = 0$$

$$2(w+1)^4 + 4(w+1)^3 - 5(w+1)^2 + 2(w+1) - 1 = 0$$

$$2(w^4 + 4w^3 + 6w^2 + 4w + 1) + 4(w^3 + 3w^2 + 3w + 1) - 5(w^2 + 2w + 1) + 2w + 2 - 1 = 0$$

$$2w^4 + 8w^3 + 12w^2 + 8w + 2 + 4w^3 + 12w^2 + 12w + 4 - 5w^2 - 10w - 5 + 2w + 2 - 1 = 0$$

$$2w^4 + 12w^3 + 19w^2 + 12w + 2 = 0$$

7 a $x^4 + 2x^3 - 3x^2 + 4x + 5 = 0$

$w = 2x$, so $x = \frac{w}{2}$

Substitute $x = \frac{w}{2}$ into

$$x^4 + 2x^3 - 3x^2 + 4x + 5 = 0$$

$$\left(\frac{w}{2}\right)^4 + 2\left(\frac{w}{2}\right)^3 - 3\left(\frac{w}{2}\right)^2 + 4\left(\frac{w}{2}\right) + 5 = 0$$

$$\frac{w^4}{16} + \frac{2w^3}{8} - \frac{3w^2}{4} + 2w + 5 = 0$$

$$\frac{w^4}{16} + \frac{2w^3}{8} - \frac{3w^2}{4} + 2w + 5 = 0$$

Multiply through by 16 to remove fractions:

$$w^4 + 4w^3 - 12w^2 + 32w + 80 = 0$$

b $w = x - 2$, so $x = w + 2$

Substitute $x = w + 2$ into

$$x^4 + 2x^3 - 3x^2 + 4x + 5 = 0$$

$$(w+2)^4 + 2(w+2)^3 - 3(w+2)^2 + 4(w+2) + 5 = 0$$

$$w^4 + 8w^3 + 24w^2 + 32w + 16 + 2(w^3 + 6w^2 + 12w + 8) - 3(w^2 + 4w + 4) + 4w + 8 + 5 = 0$$

$$w^4 + 8w^3 + 24w^2 + 32w + 16 + 2w^3 + 12w^2 + 24w + 16 - 3w^2 - 12w - 12 + 4w + 8 + 5 = 0$$

$$w^4 + 10w^3 + 33w^2 + 48w + 33 = 0$$

8 a $3x^4 + 5x^3 - 4x^2 - 3x + 1 = 0$

$w = 3x$, so $x = \frac{w}{3}$

Substitute $x = \frac{w}{3}$ into

$$3x^4 + 5x^3 - 4x^2 - 3x + 1 = 0$$

$$3\left(\frac{w}{3}\right)^4 + 5\left(\frac{w}{3}\right)^3 - 4\left(\frac{w}{3}\right)^2 - 3\left(\frac{w}{3}\right) + 1 = 0$$

$$\frac{3w^4}{81} + \frac{5w^3}{27} - \frac{4w^2}{9} - w + 1 = 0$$

Multiply through by 81 to remove fractions:

$$3w^4 + 15w^3 - 36w^2 - 81w + 81 = 0$$

All terms are divisible by 3:

$$w^4 + 5w^3 - 12w^2 - 27w + 27 = 0$$

8 b $w = x + 1$, so $x = w - 1$

Substitute $x = w - 1$ into

$$3x^4 + 5x^3 - 4x^2 - 3x + 1 = 0$$

$$3(w-1)^4 + 5(w-1)^3 - 4(w-1)^2$$

$$-3(w-1) + 1 = 0$$

$$3(w^4 - 4w^3 + 6w^2 - 4w + 1)$$

$$+ 5(w^3 - 3w^2 + 3w - 1)$$

$$- 4(w^2 - 2w + 1) - 3w + 3 + 1 = 0$$

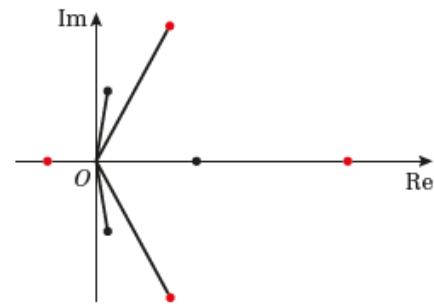
$$3w^4 - 12w^3 + 18w^2 - 12w + 3$$

$$+ 5w^3 - 15w^2 + 15w - 5$$

$$- 4w^2 + 8w - 4 - 3w + 3 + 1 = 0$$

$$3w^4 - 7w^3 - w^2 + 8w - 2 = 0$$

b



Challenge

a $2x^4 - 3x^3 + x^2 - 2x - 6 = 0$

$w = 2x + 1$, so $x = \frac{w-1}{2}$

Substitute $x = \frac{w-1}{2}$ into

$$2\left(\frac{w-1}{2}\right)^4 - 3\left(\frac{w-1}{2}\right)^3 + \left(\frac{w-1}{2}\right)^2$$

$$- 2\left(\frac{w-1}{2}\right) - 6 = 0$$

Multiply through by 8 to remove fractions:

$$(w-1)^4 - 3(w-1)^3 + 2(w-1)^2$$

$$- 8(w-1) - 48 = 0$$

$$w^4 - 4w^3 + 6w^2 - 4w + 1$$

$$- 3(w^3 - 3w^2 + 3w - 1)$$

$$+ 2(w^2 - 2w + 1) - 8w + 8 - 48 = 0$$

$$w^4 - 4w^3 + 6w^2 - 4w + 1$$

$$- 3w^3 + 9w^2 - 9w + 3$$

$$+ 2w^2 - 4w + 2 - 8w + 8 - 48 = 0$$

$$w^4 - 7w^3 + 17w^2 - 25w - 34 = 0$$