

Chapter 5.2 Notes
Properties of Rational Functions

1. Analyze the polynomial function $f(x) = x^2(x-8)$.

a. Determine the end behavior of the graph of the function.

$$y = x^2(x-8)$$

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

$$\uparrow$$

$$y = \boxed{x^3}$$

The end behavior is the x to the largest degree.

b. Find the x and y-intercepts of the graph of the function.

$$y = x^2(x-8)$$

$$0 = x(x-8)$$

$$\swarrow \quad \searrow$$

$$x^2 = 0 \quad x-8 = 0$$

$$\quad \quad \quad +8 \quad +8$$

$$\quad \quad \quad \hline \quad \quad \quad x = 8$$

for x-intercepts:
make $y = 0$ and
solve for x .

$$y = x^2(x-8)$$

$$y = 0^2(0-8)$$

$$y = 0$$

for y-intercepts:
replace x with 0
and solve for y .

$$y\text{-intercepts} = \boxed{0}$$

$$x\text{-intercepts} = \boxed{0, 8}$$

c. Determine the zeros of the function and their multiplicity. Use this information to determine whether the graph crosses or touches the x-axis at each x-intercept.

* The zeros are the same as the x-intercepts.

$$x = 0$$

$$x = 8$$

The zeros of f are

$$\boxed{0, 8}$$

The multiplicity is equal to the exponent that goes with the zero.

$$x^2 = 0 \text{ is } 2$$

$$x-8 \text{ is } 1$$

- If the multiplicity is even, then the graph touches the x-axis at that point + then turns.
- If the multiplicity is odd, then the graph crosses the x-axis at that point.

* The lesser zero of the function is of the multiplicity $\boxed{2}$, so the graph of f **touches** the x -axis at $x = \boxed{0}$.

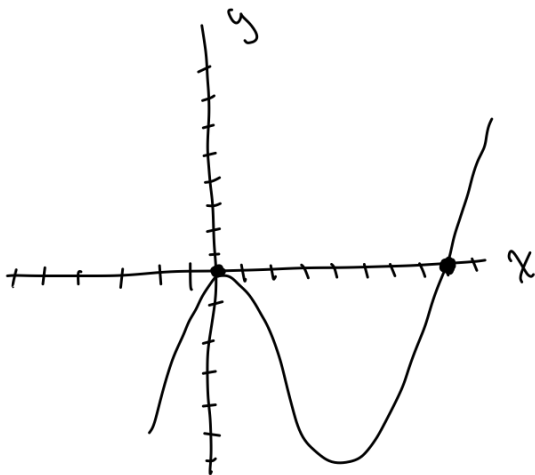
* The greater zero of the function is of multiplicity $\boxed{1}$, so the graph of f **crosses** the x -axis at $x = \boxed{8}$.

d. Determine the maximum number of turning points on the graph of the function.

• To determine the maximum number of turning points, find the highest degree of the function + subtract 1.

$$x^3 \rightarrow 3 - 1 = \boxed{2}$$

e. Use the above information to draw a complete graph of the function. Choose the correct graph.



• Looking for graph where touches x -axis on 0 & crosses at 8.

• Also since the end behavior was $\propto (\pm) x^3$, the right side of the graph will point upwards.

2. Analyze the polynomial function $f(x) = (x + 6)(x - 4)^2$.

a. Determine the end behavior of the graph of the function.

option #1

$$y = (x+6)(x-4)^2$$

$$(x-4)(x-4)$$

$$x^2 - 4x - 4x + 16$$

$$(x+6)(x^2 - 8x + 16)$$

$$x^3 - 8x^2 + 16x + 16x^2 - 48x + 96$$

$$x^3 + 8x^2 - 32x + 96$$

option #2

- or -

$$(x+6)(x-4)^2$$

$$(x+6)(x-4)(x-4)$$

$$\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$$

$$x \cdot x \cdot x$$

$$x^3$$

• you basically are counting your x's

$y = x^3$

b. Find the x and y-intercepts of the graph of the function.

$y = (x+6)(x-4)^2$

• for x-intercepts: make $y = 0$ and solve for x .

$$0 = (x+6)(x-4)^2$$

$$x+6 = 0 \quad x-4 = 0$$

$$x = -6 \quad x = 4$$

• for y-intercepts: Replace x with 0 and solve for y .

$$y = (x+6)(x-4)^2$$

$$y = (0+6)(0-4)^2$$

$$y = 96$$

Type into calculator

y-intercepts = 96

x-intercepts = $-6, 4$

c. Determine the zeros of the function and their multiplicity. Use this information to determine whether the graph crosses or touches the x-axis at each x-intercept.

* The zeros are the same as the x-intercepts.

$x = -6 \quad x = 4$ The zeros of f are $-6, 4$

• The multiplicity is equal to the exponent that goes with the zero.

$(x+6)(x-4)^2$

-6 came from here + the exponent is 1 so...
 $x = -6$ has multiplicity of 1

4 came from here + the exponent is 2 so...
 $x = 4$ has multiplicity of 2

- If the multiplicity is even, then the graph touches the x-axis at that point + then turns.
- If the multiplicity is odd, then the graph crosses the x-axis at that point.

* The lesser zero of the function is of the multiplicity

The smaller x

$\boxed{1}$, so the graph of f **crosses** the x -axis at $x = \boxed{-6}$.

* The greater zero of the function is of multiplicity $\boxed{2}$,

The bigger x

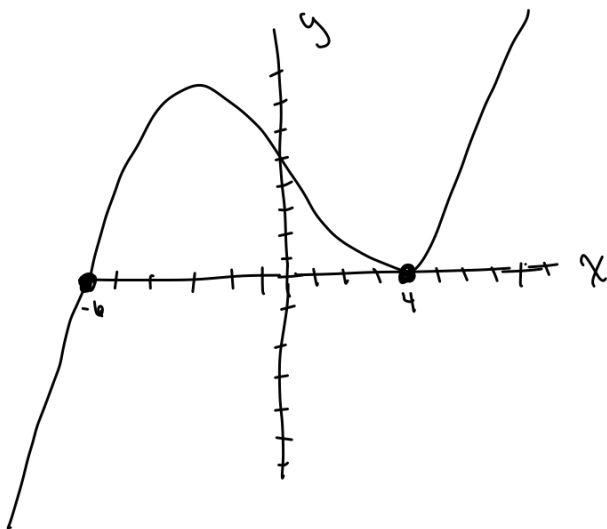
so the graph of f **touches** the x -axis at $x = \boxed{4}$.

d. Determine the maximum number of turning points on the graph of the function.

• To determine the maximum number of turning points, find the highest degree of the function + subtract 1.

• $x^3 \rightarrow 3 - 1 = \boxed{2}$

e. Use the above information to draw a complete graph of the function. Choose the correct graph.



• Looking for graph where crosses x -axis on -6 & touches on 4

• Also since the end behavior was $\approx (\pm) x^3$, the right side of the graph will point upwards.

3. Graph the polynomial function $f(x) = x(3-x)(7-x)$.

a. Determine the end behavior of the graph of the function.

$$y = x^3$$

b. Find the x and y-intercepts of the graph of the function.

y-intercepts = 0

x-intercepts = $0, 3, 7$

c. Determine the zeros of the function and their multiplicity. Use this information to determine whether the graph crosses or touches the x-axis at each x-intercept.

* The zero are the same as the x-intercepts.

0,3,7

- The multiplicity is equal to the exponent that goes with the zero.

$x=7$ is 1

If the multiplicity is even, then the graph touches the x -axis at that point + then turns.

- If the multiplicity is odd, then the graph crosses the x-axis at that point.

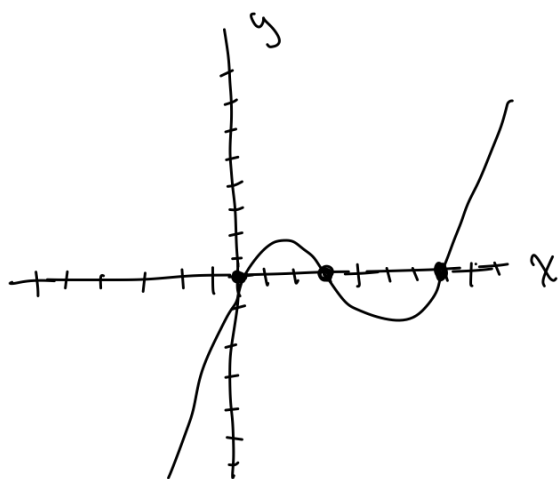
- * The smallest zero is a zero of multiplicity 1 , so the graph of f crosses the x -axis at $x = 0$.
- * The middle zero is a zero of multiplicity 1 , so the graph of f crosses the x -axis at $x = 3$.
- * The largest zero is a zero of multiplicity 1 , so the graph of f crosses the x -axis at $x = 7$.

d. Determine the maximum number of turning points on the graph of the function.

- To determine the maximum number of turning points, find the highest degree of the function + subtract 1.

$$x^3 \rightarrow 3 - 1 = 2$$

e. Use the above information to draw a complete graph of the function. Choose the correct graph.



- Looking for graph where crosses x -axis on $0, 3, + 7$.
- Also since the end behavior was $\approx (\pm) x^3$, the right side of the graph will point upwards.

4. Graph the polynomial function $f(x) = (x + 3)^2 (x - 4)^2$

a. Determine the end behavior of the graph of the function.

option #1

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

$$y = (x+3)(x+3)(x-4)(x-4)$$

$$y = (x^2 + 3x + 3x + 9)(x^2 - 4x - 4x + 16)$$

$$y = (x^2 + 6x + 9)(x^2 - 8x + 16)$$

$$y = x^4 - 8x^3 + 16x^2 + 6x^3 - 48x^2 + 96x + 9x^2 - 72x + 144$$

$$y = x^4 - 2x^3 - 23x^2 + 24x + 144$$

-OR-

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

$$(x+3)(x+3)(x-4)(x-4)$$

$$\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$$

$$(x) \cdot (x) \cdot (x) \cdot (x)$$

$$x^4$$

$$y = x^4$$

option #2

b. Find the x and y-intercepts of the graph of the function.

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

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

$$x+3=0$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -3 \quad -3 \\ \hline x = -3 \end{array}$$

$$x-4=0$$

$$\begin{array}{r} +4 \quad +4 \\ \hline x = 4 \end{array}$$

for x-intercepts:
make y = 0 and
solve for x.

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

$$y = (0+3)^2 (0-4)^2$$

$$y = 144$$

for y-intercepts:
replace x with 0
and solve for y.

$$y\text{-intercepts} = 144$$

$$x\text{-intercepts} = -3, 4$$

c. Determine the zeros of the function and their multiplicity. Use this information to determine whether the graph crosses or touches the x-axis at each x-intercept.

* The zeros are the same as the x-intercepts.

$$x = -3$$

$$x = 4$$

The zeros of f are

$$-3, 4$$

The multiplicity is equal to the exponent that goes with the zero.

$$x = -3 \text{ is } 2$$

$$x = 4 \text{ is } 2$$

If the multiplicity is even, then the graph touches the x-axis at that point + then turns.

If the multiplicity is odd, then the graph crosses the x-axis at that point.

* The lesser zero of the function is of the multiplicity $\boxed{2}$, so the graph of f touches the x -axis at $x = \boxed{-3}$.

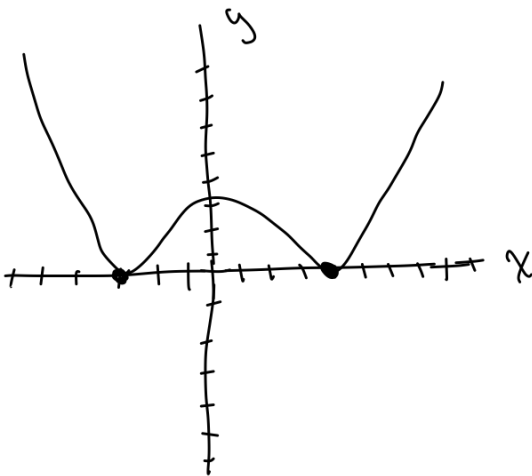
* The greater zero of the function is of multiplicity $\boxed{2}$, so the graph of f touches the x -axis at $x = \boxed{4}$.

d. Determine the maximum number of turning points on the graph of the function.

• To determine the maximum number of turning points, find the highest degree of the function + subtract 1.

$$\cdot x^4 \rightarrow 4 - 1 = \boxed{3}$$

e. Use the above information to draw a complete graph of the function. Choose the correct graph.



• Looking for graph where touches x -axis on $-3 + 4$.

• Also since the end behavior was a $(+)$ x^4 , so both sides of the graph will point upwards.