

Chapter 9 Section 2

MA1032 Data, Functions & Graphs

Sidney Butler

Michigan Technological University

December 5, 2006

Polynomials

- $y = 4x^2 + 2$

- $y = 7t^6 - 8t + 7.2$

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

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

Standard Form

$$f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + a_{n-2} x^{n-2} + \cdots + a_2 x^2 + a_1 x + a_0$$

Example

- $f(x) = \pi x^3 - \sqrt{2}x + e$

- $g(x) = x^{1.5} + x^2$

Terminology

$$f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + a_{n-2} x^{n-2} + \cdots + a_2 x^2 + a_1 x + a_0$$

- Degree
- Term
- Coefficient
- Constant term
- Leading term

Example

$$p(x) = 3x^4 - x + 2x^5 - x^3 + 100$$

Numerical Observation

$$f(x) = x^4 + 5x^2 + 6x + 20 \text{ and } g(x) = x^4$$

Evaluate:

$$f(2)$$

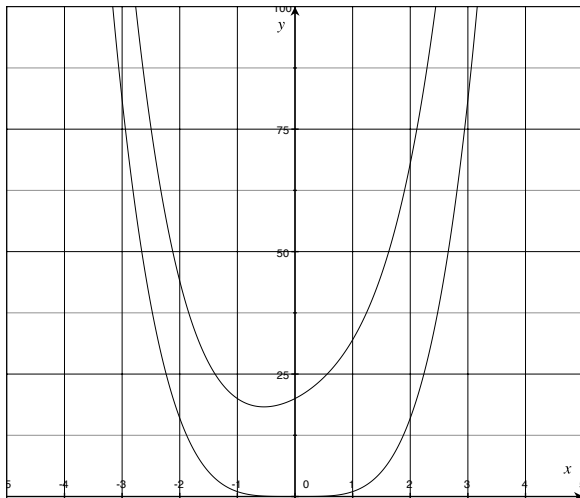
$$g(2)$$

$$f(10)$$

$$g(10)$$

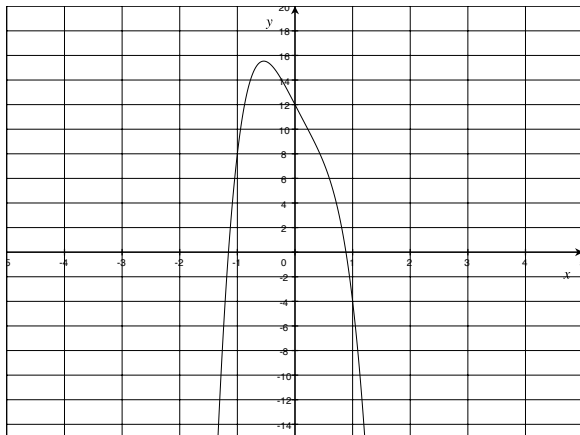
Graphical Observation

$$f(x) = x^4 + 5x^2 + 6x + 20 \text{ and } g(x) = x^4$$



Zeros (or Roots)

$$y = -10x^4 + 3x^3 - 9x + 12$$



Summary

- Polynomial terminology
- Long-run behavior
- Zeros