

### 3.2 Remainder Theorem

Day 2 ①

If  $f(x)$  is divided by  $x-k$ , then the remainder is equal to  $f(k)$ .

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

Use Remainder Theorem to find  $f(-3)$ .

$$\begin{array}{r} -x^4 + 3x^2 - 4x - 5 \\ \hline x - -3 \\ x + 3 \end{array} \rightarrow -3 \begin{array}{r} -1 \quad 0 \quad 3 \quad -4 \quad -5 \\ \quad 3 \quad -9 \quad 18 \quad -42 \\ \hline -1 \quad 3 \quad -6 \quad 14 \quad \boxed{-47} \end{array}$$

**$f(-3) = -47$**

Remainder

Check:  $f(-3) = -(-3)^4 + 3(-3)^2 - 4(-3) - 5 = -47$

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A zero of a polynomial function  $f(x)$  is a number  $k$  such that  $f(k) = 0$ .

Zero =  $x$ -intercept = root

Ex:  $f(x) = x^2 - 5x + 6$

Set  $f(x) = 0 = x^2 - 5x + 6$

$0 = (x-3)(x-2)$

$$\begin{array}{r} x-3=0 \\ +3 \quad +3 \\ \hline \boxed{x=3} \end{array}$$

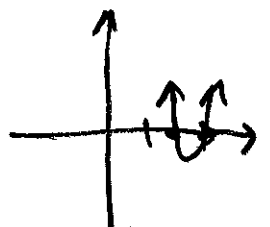
$$\begin{array}{r} x-2=0 \\ +2 \quad +2 \\ \hline \boxed{x=2} \end{array}$$

Use Quad. Form.

Factor

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \quad -5 \\ (-3)(-2) \end{array}$$

$\leftarrow$   $x$ -intercepts zeros



**Ex 3** Deciding whether a Number is  
a Zero (x-intercept)

Decide whether a Number  $k$  is a zero of  $f(x)$

(a)  $f(x) = x^3 - 4x^2 + 9x - 6$ ;  $k = 1$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & 1 & -4 & 9 & -6 \\ & & 1 & -3 & 6 \\ \hline & 1 & -3 & 6 & 0 \end{array} \leftarrow \text{Remainder}$$

$f(1) = 0 \rightarrow$  1 is an x-intercept / zero

(b)  $f(x) = x^4 + x^2 - 3x + 1$ ;  $k = -1$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} -1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & -3 & 1 \\ & & -1 & 1 & -2 & 5 \\ \hline & 1 & -1 & 2 & -5 & 6 \end{array} \leftarrow \text{Remainder}$$

$f(-1) = 6$ ;  $-1$  is NOT  
an x-intercept / zero