

3.3 Conjugate Zeros Theorem

Day 4 (1)

If $z = a + bi$ is a zero of $f(x)$,
then $\bar{z} = a - bi$ is also a zero of $f(x)$.

↑
Symbol for conjugate

Ex 5 Find a polynomial function $f(x)$ of least degree having only real coefficients and zeros of 3 and $2+i$

There must also be a zero $2-i$

$$f(x) = (x-3)[x-(2+i)][x-(2-i)]$$

$$f(x) = (x-3)(x-2-i)(x-2+i)$$

$$\begin{array}{r} (x-2-i)(x-2+i) = x^2 - 2x + i x \\ \quad \quad \quad - 2x \quad \quad \quad + 4 - 2i \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad - i x \quad \quad \quad + 2i - i^2 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$= x^2 - 4x + 4 - i^2$$

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

$$= x^2 - 4x + 4 + 1$$

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

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

$$f(x) = x^3 - 7x^2 + 17x - 15$$

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