

Master & Day 03 Polynomial Functions & Behavior

1-4: For each of the functions and their given graphs below, state the indicated information.

1. $f(x) = 2x^3 + 5x^2 - 18x - 15$

Degree:

3

Even or odd degree:

ODD

of zeros:

3

of x-intercepts:

3

of turns:

2

Leading coefficient:

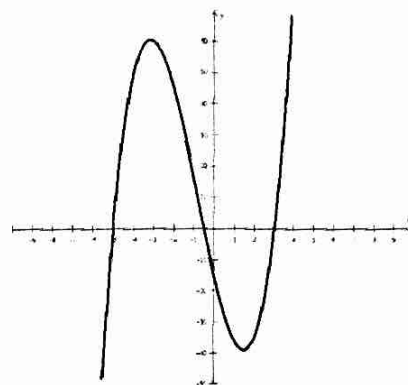
2

Ends same or opposite:

OPP

Behavior as $x \rightarrow -\infty$: $f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$

Behavior as $x \rightarrow \infty$: $f(x) \rightarrow +\infty$



2. $f(x) = x^4 - 2x^3 - 13x^2 + 14x + 24$

Degree:

4

Even or odd degree:

EVEN

of zeros:

4

of x-intercepts:

4

of turns:

3

Leading coefficient:

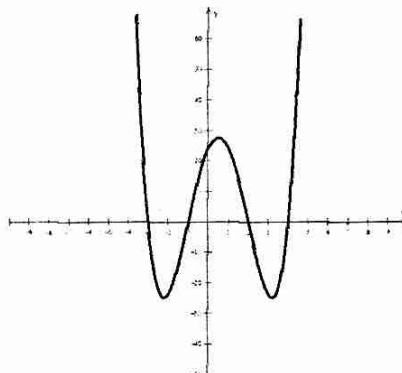
1

Ends same or opposite:

SAME

Behavior as $x \rightarrow -\infty$: $f(x) \rightarrow +\infty$

Behavior as $x \rightarrow \infty$: $f(x) \rightarrow +\infty$



3. $f(x) = -2x^5 - 5x^4 + 24x^3 + 41x^2 - 34x - 24$

Degree:

5

Even or odd degree:

ODD

of zeros:

5

of x-intercepts:

5

of turns:

4

Leading coefficient:

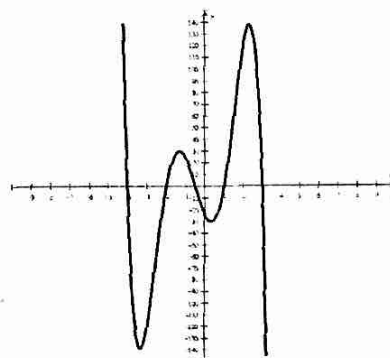
-2

Ends same or opposite:

OPP

Behavior as $x \rightarrow -\infty$: $f(x) \rightarrow +\infty$

Behavior as $x \rightarrow \infty$: $f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$



4. $f(x) = -0.5x^6 + 1.5x^5 + 20.5x^4 - 43.5x^3 - 176x^2 + 198x + 360$

Degree:

6

Even or odd degree:

EVEN

of zeros:

6

of x-intercepts:

6

of turns:

5

Leading coefficient:

-0.5

Ends same or opposite:

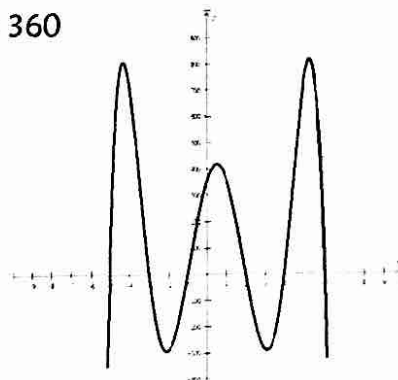
SAME

Behavior as $x \rightarrow -\infty$:

$f(x) \rightarrow \infty$

Behavior as $x \rightarrow \infty$:

$f(x) \rightarrow \infty$



From what we have seen in the previous examples, we can conclude the following:

5. The number of zeros is EQUAL to the degree of the function
6. The maximum number of x-intercepts is EQUAL to the degree of the function
7. The maximum number of turns is 1 LESS than the degree
8. The ends of the function go in the SAME direction for even functions and OPPOSITE directions for odd functions
9. The SIGN of the leading coefficient tells us if the right-end of the function will go UP or DOWN
10. A function with ODD degree will always have an ODD number of real zeros.
11. A function with EVEN degree will always have an even number of real zeros, or have no real zeros at all.
12. IMAGINARY/COMPLEX zeros will ALWAYS occur in conjugate pairs. ($3 + 4i$ and $3 - 4i$, for example)

13-14: Use what you learned to fill the indicated blanks for the polynomial functions below, 1st term!

13. $f(x) = x^8 + x^7 + 6x^6 - 5x^4 + 3x - 2$

▪ Degree:

8

▪ Even or odd degree:

EVEN

▪ # of zeros:

8

▪ max # of turns:

7

▪ max # of x-int.:

8

▪ Leading coefficient:

1

▪ Ends same or opposite:

SAME

▪ Behavior as $x \rightarrow -\infty$:

$f(x) \rightarrow +\infty$

▪ Behavior as $x \rightarrow \infty$:

$f(x) \rightarrow +\infty$

▪ Possible number of imaginary zeros: 0, 2, 4, 6, 8

▪ Minimum number of real zeros: 0, 2, 4, 6, 8

14. $f(x) = 3 - 2x^4 + 7x^2 - 3.5x + 2.5x^3 - 0.25x^7 + 5x^5$

▪ Degree:

7

▪ Even or odd degree:

ODD

▪ # of zeros:

7

▪ max # of turns:

6

▪ max # of x-int.:

7

▪ Leading coefficient:

-0.25

▪ Ends same or opposite:

OPP.

▪ Behavior as $x \rightarrow -\infty$:

$f(x) \rightarrow +\infty$

▪ Behavior as $x \rightarrow \infty$:

$f(x) \rightarrow -\infty$

▪ Possible number of imaginary zeros: 0, 2, 4, 6

▪ Minimum number of real zeros: 1