

Target 2F: Solving Polynomials Algebraically and Graphically Using Technology

Example

1)  $x^2 - 2x = -2x + 16$   
 $-16 + 2x \quad +2x - 16$

Think  $x^2 + 0x - 16$

$x^2 - 16 = 0$   
 factor

Now we can solve

Factored form

$(x-4)(x+4) = 0$

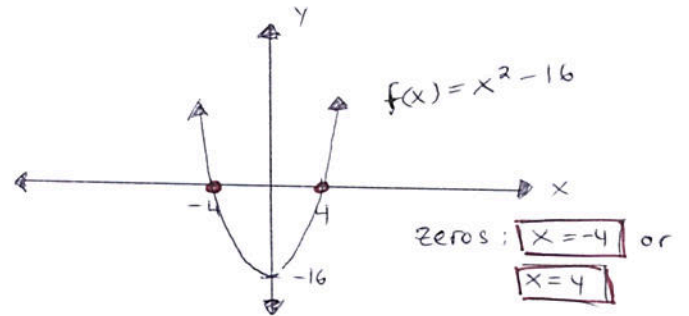
Factors of -16 that add up to zero?  
 $-4 \cdot 4$   
 $-4 + 4 = 0$  ✓

$x-4=0$  or  $x+4=0$   
 $+4 \quad +4$       $-4 \quad -4$   
 $\boxed{x=4}$  or  $\boxed{x=-4}$

Notes

- To solve algebraically, set the polynomial equal to zero.

Now, to solve graphically use Nspires



2)  $2x^3 - 5x^2 = 3x$   
 $-3x \quad -3x$

$2x^3 - 5x^2 - 3x = 0$

Now, solve

$x(2x^2 - 5x - 3) = 0$

Factored form

factor using Lize method

Multiply L.C. with constant term:  $-2 \cdot 3 = -6$   
 $-6$   
 $-6 \cdot 1$   
 $-6 + 1 = -5$  ✓

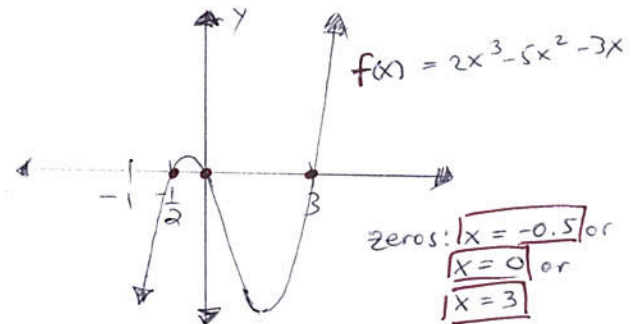
$x(x - \frac{6}{2})(x + \frac{1}{2}) = 0$

$x(x-3)(2x+1) = 0$

Don't forget to ÷ by L.C. when you finish

$\boxed{x=0}$  or  $x-3=0$  or  $2x+1=0$   
 $+3 \quad +3$       $-1 \quad -1$   
 $\boxed{x=3}$       $\boxed{x=-\frac{1}{2}}$

Now, Graphically:



3)  $x^3 + 13x = 10x^2$   
 $-10x^2 \quad -10x^2$

$x^3 - 10x^2 + 13x = 0$   
 factor

Factored form

$x(x^2 - 10x + 13) = 0$

$\boxed{x=0}$  or  $x^2 - 10x + 13 = 0$

Not factorable... so use quadratic formula

$a=1, b=-10, c=13$

$x = \frac{-(-10) \pm \sqrt{(-10)^2 - 4(1)(13)}}{2(1)}$

$\sqrt{48}$   
 $\sqrt{16 \cdot 3}$   
 $4\sqrt{3}$

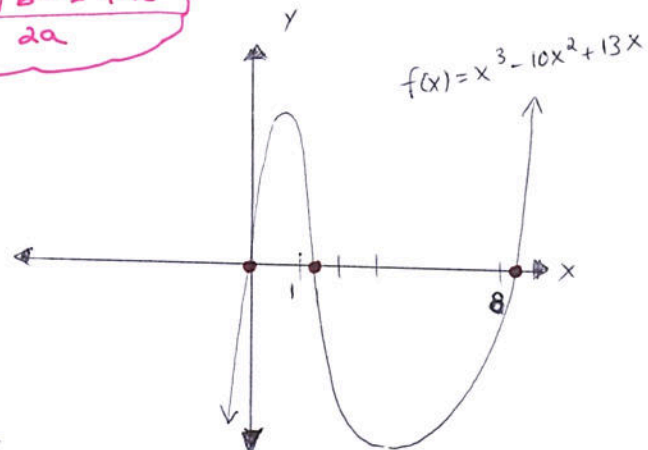
$= \frac{10 \pm \sqrt{100 - 52}}{2}$

$= \frac{10 \pm \sqrt{48}}{2}$

$= \frac{10 \pm 4\sqrt{3}}{2} = \frac{10}{2} \pm \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{2} = 5 \pm 2\sqrt{3}$

$\approx 8.5$   
 $\boxed{x = 5 + 2\sqrt{3}}$  or  $\boxed{x = 5 - 2\sqrt{3}}$   
 $\approx 1.5$

Now, Graphically:



Zeros:  $x=0$   
 $x \approx 1.5$   
 $x \approx 8.5$  } Approximately to nearest tenth

You try it!

Answers:

4)  $x^2 - 2x = -7x + 24$

$x = -8$  or  $x = 3$

5)  $x^3 = 8x - 2x^2$

$x = -4$  or  $x = 0$  or  $x = 2$

6)  $x^3 + 6x = 6x^2$

$x = 0$  or  $x = 3 + \sqrt{3}$  or  $x = 3 - \sqrt{3}$

7)  $3x^4 + 12x^2 = 6x^3$  (Challenge)

$x = 0$  or  $x = 1 + i\sqrt{3}$  or  $x = 1 - i\sqrt{3}$   
repeated zero      complex solutions