

## Synthetic Division

Divide  $f(x) = 2x^3 + 9x^2 + 14x + 5$  by  $x - 3$ 

$$\begin{array}{r}
 2x^2 + 15x + 59 + \frac{182}{x-3} \\
 x-3 \overline{) 2x^3 + 9x^2 + 14x + 5} \\
 \underline{-2x^3 + 6x^2} \phantom{+ 14x + 5} \\
 15x^2 + 14x \phantom{+ 5} \\
 \underline{-15x^2 + 45x} \phantom{+ 5} \\
 59x + 5 \\
 \underline{-59x + 177} \\
 182
 \end{array}$$

Evaluate  $f(x) = 2x^3 + 9x^2 + 14x + 5$  when  $x = 3$ 

$$\begin{array}{r}
 3 \left| \begin{array}{cccc} 2 & 9 & 14 & 5 \\ \downarrow & 6 & 45 & 177 \\ \hline 2 & 15 & 59 & 182 \end{array} \right. \\
 \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ 2x^2 + 15x + 59 + \frac{182}{x-3} \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Divide using synthetic division:

$$(2x^2 - 7x + 10) \div (x - 5) \rightarrow \text{put a "5" on the outside}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 5 \left| \begin{array}{ccc} 2 & -7 & 10 \\ \downarrow & 10 & 15 \\ \hline 2 & 3 & 25 \end{array} \right. \\
 2x + 3 + \frac{25}{x-5}
 \end{array}$$

72

## Zero Product Property

if  $a \cdot b = 0$   
then  
 $a = 0$   
or  
 $b = 0$

$$0 = x^2 + 7x + 12$$

$$0 = (x + 3)(x + 4)$$

$$x + 3 = 0 \quad \text{OR} \quad x + 4 = 0$$

$$x = -3 \quad \quad \quad x = -4$$

$$0 = (x - 4)(2x + 5)(3x - 7)(x + 5)$$

$$x - 4 = 0 \quad 2x + 5 = 0 \quad 3x - 7 = 0 \quad x + 5 = 0$$

$$x = 4 \quad 2x = -5 \quad 3x = 7 \quad x = -5$$

$$x = -\frac{5}{2} \quad x = \frac{7}{3}$$

Factor Theorem:

If  $f(k) = 0$ , [if the remainder is 0]  
then  $x - k$  is a factor.

Ex. 1. Factor  $f(x) = 2x^3 - 11x^2 + 3x + 36$ given that  $x - 3$  is a factor

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 3 & 2 & -11 & 3 & 36 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ & & 6 & -15 & -36 \\ \hline & 2 & -5 & -12 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{2x^2 - 5x - 12}$$

$$2x^3 - 11x^2 + 3x + 36 = (x - 3)(2x^2 - 5x - 12)$$

Solutions:

$$\begin{array}{l} x - 3 = 0 \\ \boxed{x = 3} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} 2x + 3 = 0 \\ 2x = -3 \\ \boxed{x = -\frac{3}{2}} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} x - 4 = 0 \\ \boxed{x = 4} \end{array}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$(2x + 3)(x - 4)$$