

# 3.4 Graphs of Polynomials

(3.3 was skipped)

polynomial:  $a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_2 x^2 + a_1 x + a_0 = 0$

Ex  $4x^6 - x^3 + 11x^2 - 14 = 0$

\* no fractional or decimal powers.

\* "degree" = highest degree of all terms in the polynomial.

\* decreasing power (please)

\* generally polynomials have a roller coaster appearance:

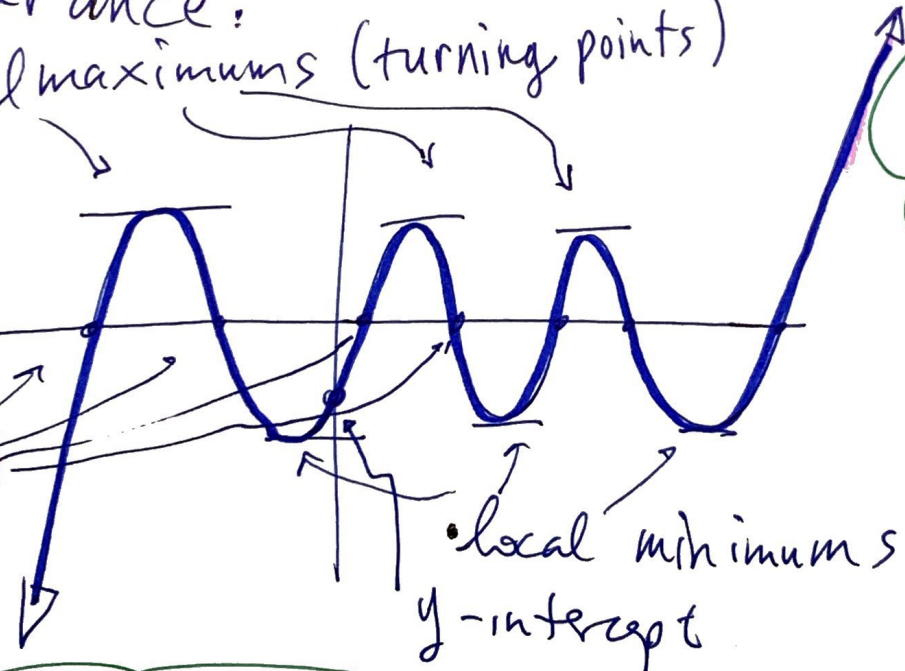
• local maximums (turning points)

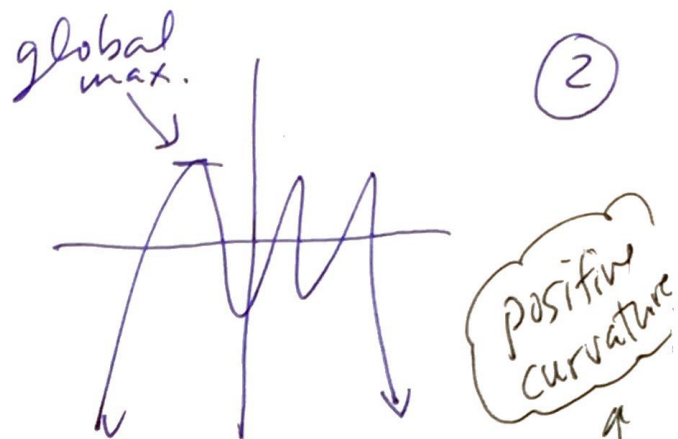
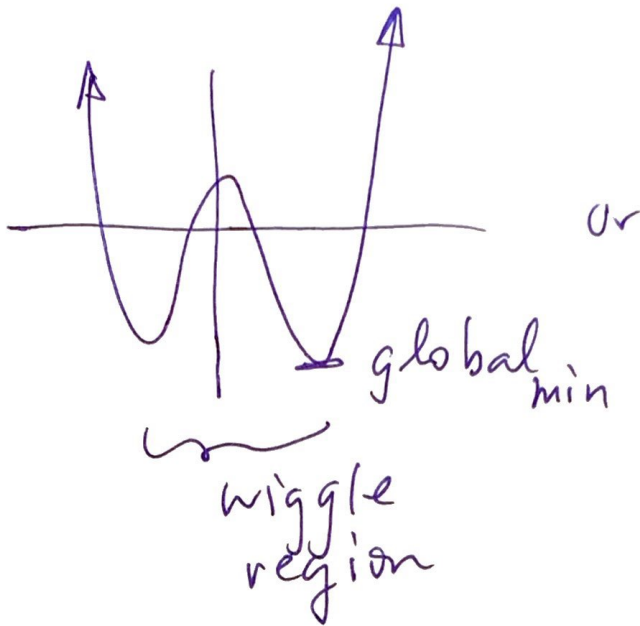
• "far away behavior"

• zeros of the polynomial (aka roots)

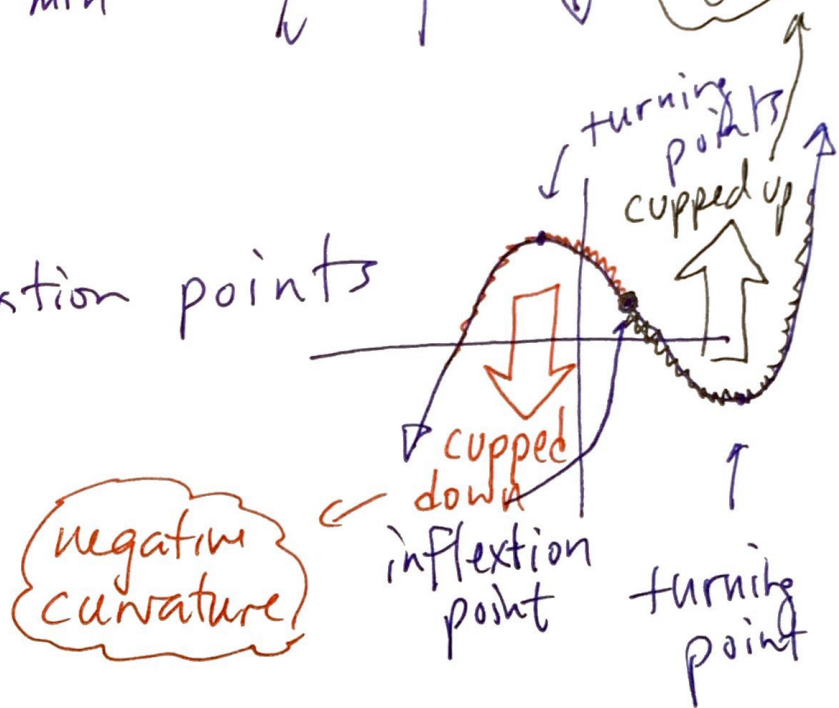
• local minimums (turning points)  
y-intercept

• "far away behavior"



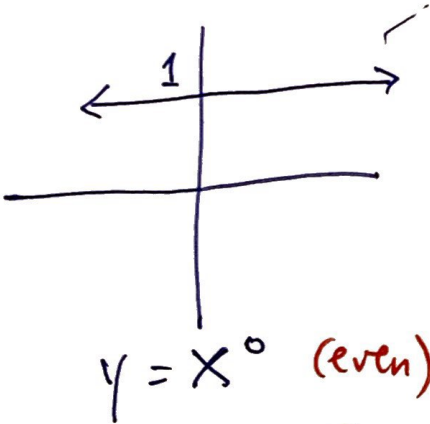


\* Calculus " inflexion points

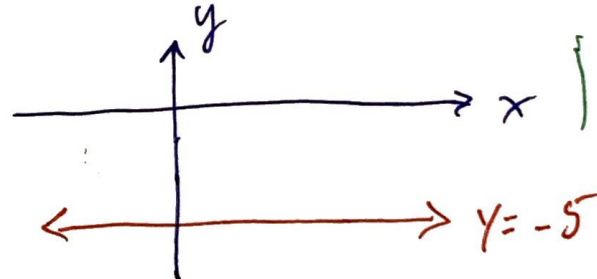


\* generalities

$n=0$

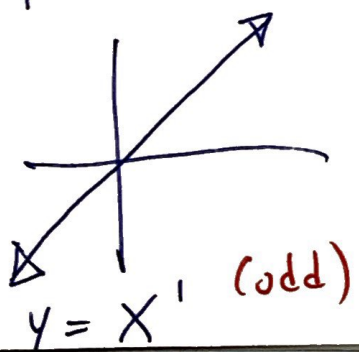


Constant

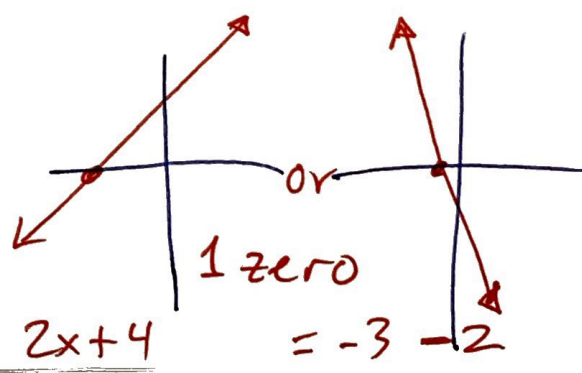


0 zeros

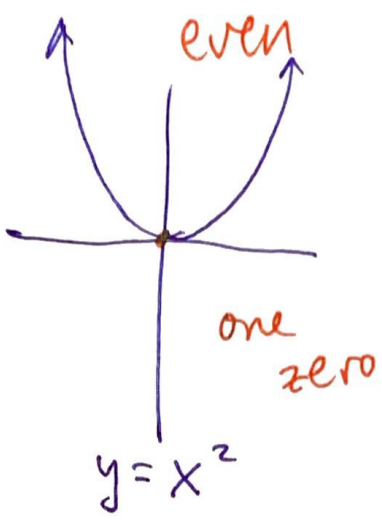
$n=1$



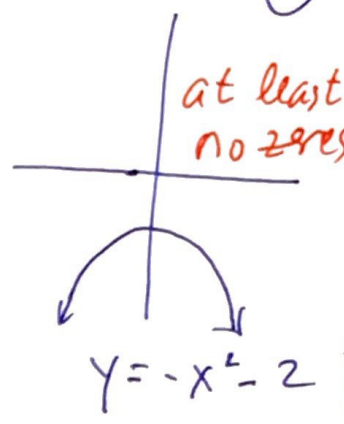
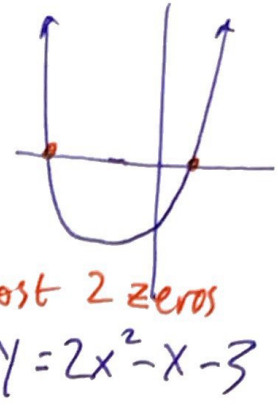
linear



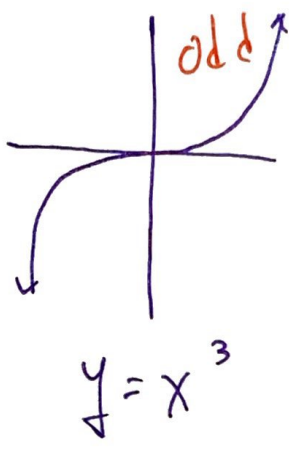
n=2



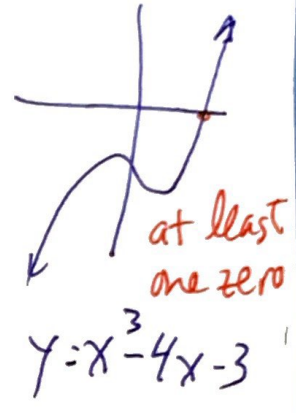
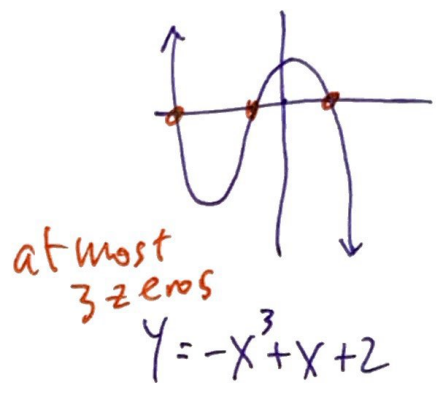
quadratic



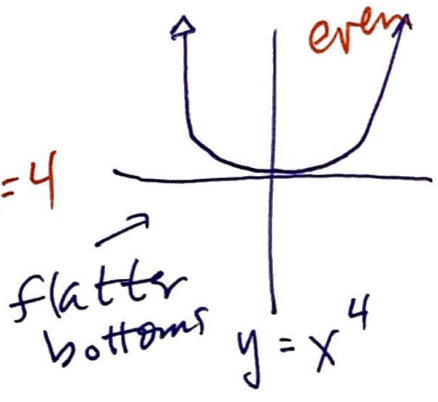
n=3



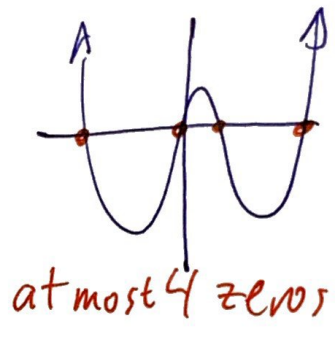
cubic



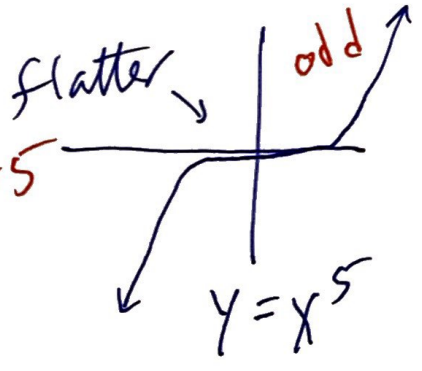
n=4



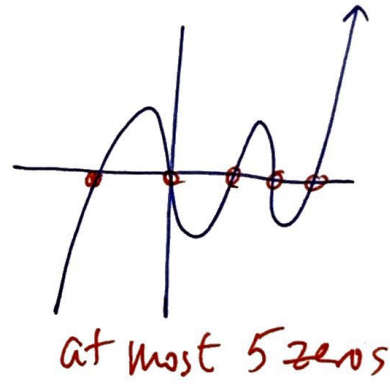
quartic



n=5



quintic



o  
o  
o



factored form

## Fundamental Thm of Algebra

(4)

all polynomials of degree  $n$ , that is

$$f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + a_{n-2} x^{n-2} + \dots + a_2 x^2 + a_1 x + a_0 x^0 = 0$$

can be factored into  $n$ -binomials

$$f(x) = a(x-r_1)(x-r_2)(x-r_3) \dots (x-r_{n-1})(x-r_n)$$

where  $r_i$  can be real, zero or complex  
or irrational conjugate

$3+2i, 3-2i$   
conjugate  
 $1+\sqrt{2}, 1-\sqrt{2}$

EX

$$f(x) = x^6 - 2x^4 - 3x^2$$

Q: What are the zeros  
(and y-int)

\* factor

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

complex conjugates irrational conjugates

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

$$f(x) = x^2(x+i)(x-i)(x+\sqrt{3})(x-\sqrt{3})$$

↑ multiplicity 2, the rest are multiplicity one

• Real zeros are  $\begin{cases} x=0 \text{ (multiplicity 2)} \\ x=\pm\sqrt{3} \end{cases}$   
[x-int]

• Complex zeros are  $x=\pm i$

• y-int: let  $x=0 \Rightarrow f(0) = 0^6 - 2 \cdot 0^4 - 3 \cdot 0^2 = \boxed{0}$

what are the zeros of

$$f(x) = 2x^3 - x^2 - 8x + 4$$

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

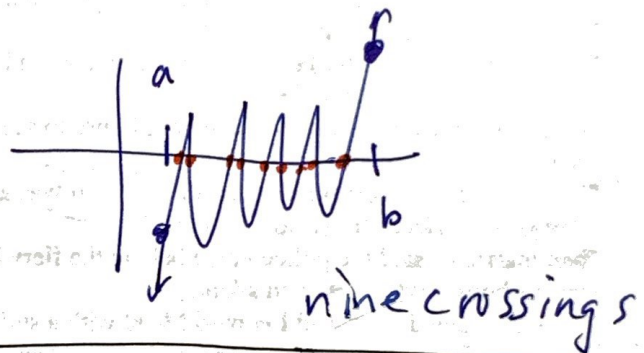
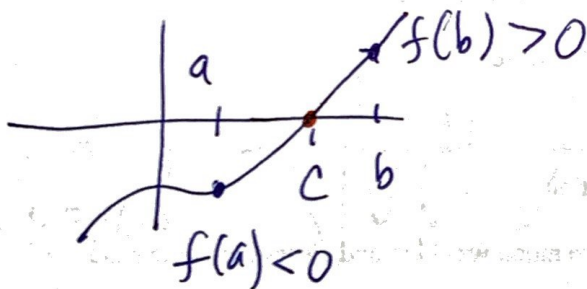
$$= (2x-1)[x^2-4]$$

$$f(x) = (2x-1)(x+2)(x-2)$$

$2x-1=0$	$x+2=0$	$x-2=0$
$x=1/2$	$x=-2$	$x=2$

### \* Intermediate Value Theorem

Let  $f(x)$  be a polynomial function. The I. V. T. states that if  $f(a)$  and  $f(b)$  have opposite signs then there is at least one value "c" between a and b such that  $f(c)=0$ .



**EX** Confirm there exists a zero between  $x=2$  &  $x=4$  for  $f(x) = x^3 - 9x$ .

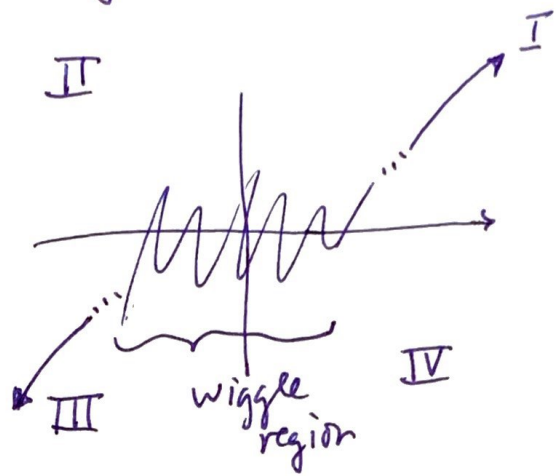
$$\bullet f(2) = 2^3 - 9 \cdot 2 = 8 - 18 = -10 \quad (-)$$

$$\bullet f(4) = 4^3 - 9 \cdot 4 = 64 - 36 = 28 \quad (+)$$

so, yes,  $\exists$  at least one  $x \in [2, 4]$  where  $f(x)=0$ .



Far away behavior : for large  $x (+)$  or large  $x (-)$



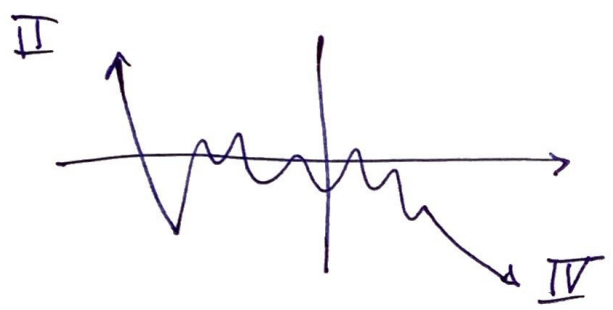
$$f(x) = a_n x^n + \dots + a_0$$

↑  
y-int.  
BTW

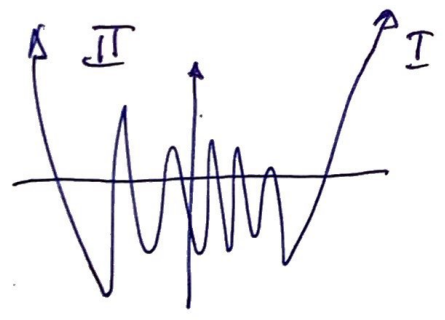
odd degree  
 $n=1,3,5,\dots$

$a_n > 0 (+)$   
starts in III ends in I

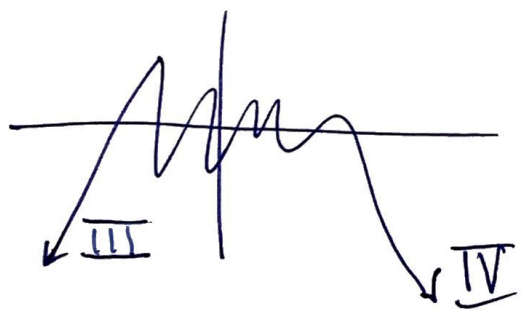
$a_n < 0 (-)$   
starts in II ends in IV



even degree  
 $n=0,2,4,\dots$



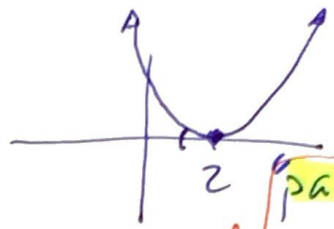
if  $a_n > 0 (+)$   
starts in II & leaves in I



if  $a_n < 0 (-)$   
starts in III & ends IV

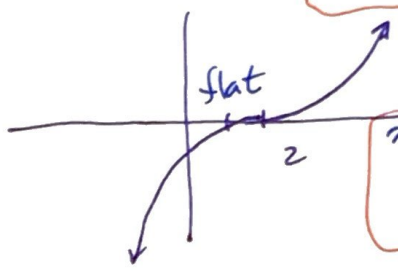
# Local crossing behavior

$$f(x) = (x-2)^2$$



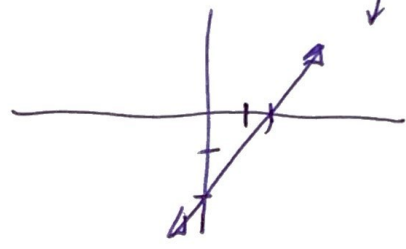
"parabolic"  
near  $x=2$   
"touch-n-go"

$$f(x) = (x-2)^3$$



"cubic" like  
near  $x=2$

$$f(x) = (x-2)^1$$



"line-like"  
near  $x=2$

EX

Discuss the crossing mechanisms for

$$f(x) = (x-2)(x-1)^2(x)^3$$

- $x=0$  multiplicity 3 "cubic-like" crossing
- $x=1$  multiplicity 2 "parabolic-like" crossing
- $x=2$  multiplicity 1 "line-like" crossing

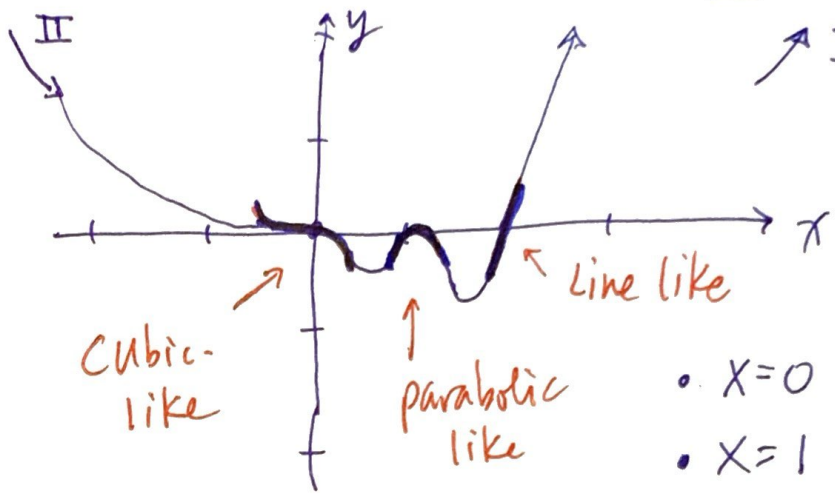
6<sup>th</sup> degree

ex

Cont sketch

$$f(x) = (x-2)(x-1)^2 x^3 = \frac{x^6 + \dots + 0}{\dots}$$

• end behavior



- $x=0$  cubic-like
- $x=1$  touch-n-go
- $x=2$  linear-like

Genform:

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

$$= x^3 [x^3 - 2x^2 + x - 2x^2 + 4x - 2]$$

$$f(x) = x^6 - 4x^5 + 5x^4 - 2x^3 \quad \text{Gen.}$$

ex

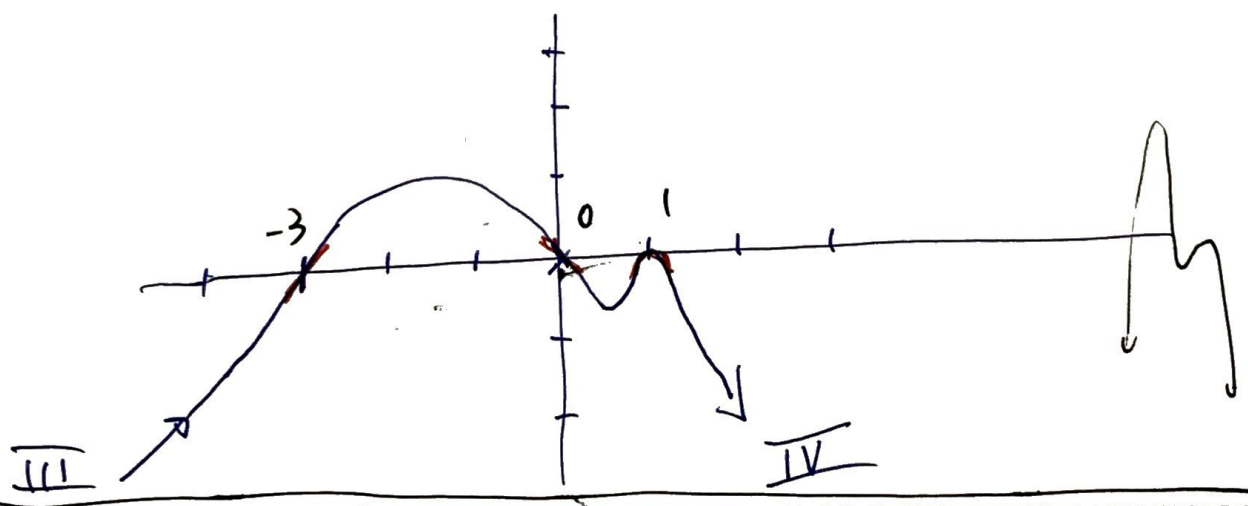
Sketch

$$m(x) = -2x(x-1)^2(x+3) = -2x^4 + \dots - x$$

- $x=0$  linear, mult is 1
- $x=1$  parabolic, mult is 2
- $x=-3$  linear, mult. is 1

• far away end behavior

III  $\rightarrow$  IV



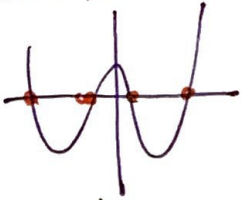


# C.S.I problem

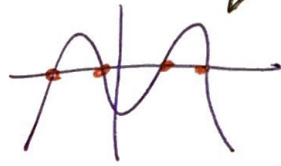
(9)

**EX** What is the eqn of a **degree 4** polynomial that has a **multiplicity 2 zero @  $x=4$**  and **multiplicity 1 zeros @  $x=1$  and  $x=-2$** . It also has a **y-intercept @ 3**.  $(0,3) \leftarrow$  pt.

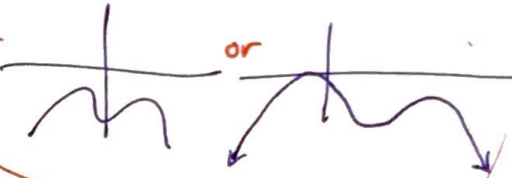
• zeros: we have 4 zeros



or



or



• Factored Form

$$f(x) = a(x-4)^2(x-1)(x+2) \leftarrow \text{Form}$$

$$f(0) = a(0-4)^2(0-1)(0+2) \leftarrow \text{Point}$$

$$3 = a \cdot 16 \cdot (-1) \cdot 2$$

$$3 = -32a$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$a = -\frac{3}{32}$$

Solve

$$\text{So } f(x) = -\frac{3}{32}(x-4)^2(x-1)(x+2) \leftarrow \text{Final}$$

3.4 is done