

Descartes Rule of Signs:

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

be a polynomial with real coefficients and $a_0 \neq 0$.

1. The number of **positive real zeros** of f is either equal to the number of variations in sign of $f(x)$ or less than that number by an even integer.
2. The number of **negative real zeros** of f is either equal to the number of variations in sign of $f(-x)$ or less than that number by an even integer.

ex1: $f(x) = x^3 - 3x + 2$ & $f(-x) = -x^3 + 3x + 2$

The number of sign changes of $f(x)$ is 2. Therefore there will be 2 or 0 positive zeros.

The number of sign changes of $f(-x)$ is 1. Therefore there will be 1 negative zero.

Looking at the graph of $f(x)$ we can verify the statements above.

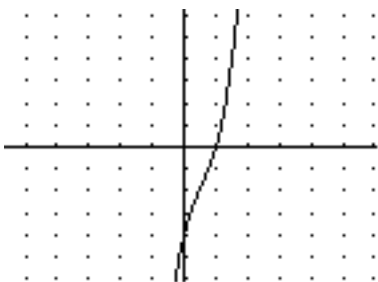


ex2: $f(x) = 3x^3 - 5x^2 + 6x - 4$ & $f(-x) = -3x^3 - 5x^2 - 6x - 4$

The number of sign changes of $f(x)$ is 3. Therefore there will be 3 or 1 positive zeros

The number of sign changes of $f(-x)$ is 0. Therefore there will be no negative zeros

Looking at the graph of $f(x)$ we can verify the statements above.



Upper and Lower Bound Rules:

Let $f(x)$ be a polynomial with real coefficients and a positive leading coefficient.

Suppose $f(x)$ is divided by $(x - c)$, using synthetic division.

1. If each number in the bottom row have the **same sign** (zero can count as positive or negative) then c is an **upper bound** for the real zeros of f . In other words, no values greater than c will be a zero.
2. If each number in the bottom row have **alternating signs** (zero can count as positive or negative) then c is a **lower bound** for the real zeros of f . In other words, no values less than c will be a zero.

ex: $f(x) = 2x^4 + 3x^3 - 2x^2 + 5x + 8$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 1 & 2 & 3 & -2 & 5 & 8 \\ & & 2 & 5 & 3 & 8 \\ \hline & 2 & 5 & 3 & 8 & 16 \end{array}$$

Therefore 1 is an upper bound

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} -4 & 2 & 3 & -2 & 5 & 8 \\ & & -8 & 20 & -72 & 268 \\ \hline & 2 & -5 & 18 & -67 & 276 \end{array}$$

Therefore -4 is a lower bound

Find the Zeros for: $f(x) = 3x^3 + 9x^2 - 12x - 36$

Candidates for Rational Zeros:

$$\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4, \pm 6, \pm 9, \pm 12, \pm 18, \pm 36, \pm \frac{1}{3}, \pm \frac{2}{3}, \pm \frac{4}{3}$$

However, this is not the best approach.

We can factor out the 3 first

$3(x^3 + 3x^2 - 4x - 12)$. This gives a better choice of candidates $f(x) = 3 g(x)$

$\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \pm 4, \pm 6, \pm 12$ (No Fractions)

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 3 & 1 & 3 & -4 & -12 \\ & & 3 & 18 & 42 \\ \hline & 1 & 6 & 14 & 30 \end{array} \quad g(3) = 30$$

Don't check candidates higher than 3

All signs are the same

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & 1 & 3 & -4 & -12 \\ & & 1 & 4 & 0 \\ \hline & 1 & 4 & 0 & -12 \end{array} \quad g(1) = -12$$

There must be a zero between 1 and 3 by the IVT (Intermediate Value Theorem)

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 2 & 1 & 3 & -4 & -12 \\ & & 2 & 10 & 12 \\ \hline & 1 & 5 & 6 & 0 \end{array} \quad g(2) = 0$$

$$f(x) = 3(x^3 + 3x^2 - 4x - 12) = 3(x - 2)(x^2 + 5x + 6) = 3(x - 2)(x + 3)(x + 2)$$

All the zeros are: 2, -3, -2

Factor: $f(x) = 2x^4 - 7x^3 - x^2 + 15x - 9$

Candidates for Rational Zeros:

$$\pm 1, \pm 3, \pm 9, \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm \frac{3}{2}, \pm \frac{9}{2}$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} -1 & 2 & -7 & -1 & 15 & -9 \\ & & -2 & 9 & -8 & -7 \\ \hline & 2 & -9 & 8 & 7 & -16 \end{array} \quad f(-1) = -16$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 3 & 2 & -7 & -1 & 15 & -9 \\ & & 6 & -3 & -12 & 9 \\ \hline & 2 & -1 & -4 & 3 & 0 \end{array} \quad f(3) = 0 \quad 3 \text{ is a zero}$$

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

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & 2 & -1 & -4 & 3 \\ & & 2 & 1 & -3 \\ \hline & 2 & 1 & -3 & 0 \end{array} \quad g(1) = 0 \quad 1 \text{ is a zero}$$

At this point, we have: $(x - 3)(x - 1)(2x^2 + x - 3) = (x - 3)(x - 1)(2x + 3)(x - 1)$

All Zeros of $f(x)$ are $3, -\frac{3}{2}$, and 1 with multiplicity 2

$$f(x) = \boxed{(x - 1)^2(x - 3)(2x + 3)}$$

Exer. 1-3: Use Descartes' Rule of Signs to determine the possible number of positive and negative zeros

1. $f(x) = 3x^4 - x^3 + 6x^2 - x + 5$

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

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

Exer. 4-6: Show if the following functions have k as what type of bound.

4. $f(x) = x^4 - 4x^3 + 15$, $k = 3$

5. $f(x) = 2x^3 - 3x^2 - 12x + 8$, $k = -3$

6. $f(x) = 2x^4 - 8x + 3$, $k = 3$

7. $f(x) = 6x^3 + 5x^2 - 21x + 10$ Factor and find Zeros

8. Find the inverse of $y = 7x - 5$

9. Using Linear Regression, Predict y when $x = 53$
accurate to 5-decimal places.

x	1	3	4	8	12
y	6	8	14	15	19

10. $f(x) = 3x^2 - 12x + 1$ Write in Vertex Form. Give the Vertex. Find the Max or Min value of the function

11. $(2x^3 - 5x^2 + 4x - 6) \div (x + 3) =$

12. $(5x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x + 1) \div (x^2 - 2x - 1) =$

13. $f(x) = 3x^4 - 5x^3 + 2x + 24$ Use the Rational Zeros Test to List all Rational Candidates for Zeros.

14. $f(x) = x^4 - 4x^3 - 15x^2 + 58x - 40$ Factor and Find the Zeros.

15. $f(x) = 2x^2 - 5x - 4$ Find the Zeros.