

**Definition 1.** Let  $D$  be a set and let  $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . We say that  $x \in D$  is a *zero* of  $f$  if  $f(x) = 0$ .

**Definition 2.** let  $f$  be a polynomial. To *completely factor*  $f$  means to factor  $f$  into a product of linear factors. There will be  $\deg(f)$  such factors.

**Definition 3.** Let  $f$  be a polynomial and let  $a$  be a number. The *multiplicity* of  $a$  as a zero of  $f$  is the largest  $n$  such that  $(x - a)^n$  divides  $f$ .

**Problem 1.** Consider the polynomial  $f(x) = (x - 1)(x + 7)^2(x - 2)^3(3x - 2)(x + 8)$ . Find the multiplicity the following numbers.

Number	1	2	7	-7	3/2	2/3
Multiplicity						

**Problem 2.** Let  $f(x) = 7x^2 - x^3$ . Completely factor  $f$ . Find the multiplicity of each of the zeros of  $f$ .

**Problem 3.** Let  $f(x) = x^2 - 6x + 9$ . Completely factor  $f$ . Find the multiplicity of each of the zeros of  $f$ .

**Problem 4.** Let  $f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 + 4x - 8$ . Completely factor  $f$ . Find the multiplicity of each of the zeros of  $f$ .

**Problem 5.** Let  $f(x) = x^3 - x^2 - 4x + 4$ . Use the technique we called “Factor by Grouping” to completely factor  $f$ . Find the multiplicity of each of the zeros of  $f$ .

**Problem 6.** Let  $f(x) = x^3 - 5x^2 + 7x - 3$ . Note that  $f(1) = 0$ , so  $f(x) = (x - 1)q(x)$  for some quadratic polynomial  $q(x)$ . Use synthetic division to factor out  $x - 1$  and find  $q(x)$ . Factor  $q(x)$ . Find the multiplicity of each of the zeros of  $f$ .

**Problem 7.** Let  $f(x) = x^3 - 2x^2 + 4x - 8$ . Factor  $f$  into linear factors. Find the multiplicity of each of the zeros of  $f$ .

**Problem 8.** Let  $f(x) = 3x^2 - 17x + 10$ . Suppose that  $f(x)$  factors as  $f(x) = (3x + p)(x + q)$ . Find  $p$  and  $q$ .