

Practice Problems for Finding Unknown Coefficients.

#1) $f(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$

Critical Points: $x=2, x=-1, f(0) = 1, f'(0) = 6.$

i) find d

ii) find derivatives

$$f(0) = a(0)^3 + b(0)^2 + c(0) + d \quad f'(x) = 3ax^2 + 2bx + c \quad f''(x) = 6ax + 2b$$

$$1 = 0 + 0 + 0 + d$$

$$\boxed{d = 1}$$

iii) use $f'(0) = 6$

iv) set $f'(2) = 0$

v) set $f'(-1) = 0$

$$f'(0) = 3a(0)^2 + 2b(0) + c$$

$$6 = 0 + 0 + c$$

$$\boxed{c = 6}$$

$$0 = 3a(2)^2 + 2b(2) + c$$

$$0 = 12a + 4b + 6$$

$$0 = 3a(-1)^2 + 2b(-1) + c$$

$$0 = 3a - 2b + 6$$

vi) elimination

vii) find a

viii) find b

$$\therefore a = -1, b = \frac{3}{2}, c = 6, d = 1$$

$$0 = 12a + 4b + 6$$

$$0 = 6a - 4b + 12$$

$$0 = 18a + 18$$

$$-18 = 18a$$

$$\boxed{-1 = a}$$

$$0 = 3(-1) - 2b + 6$$

$$-3 = -2b$$

$$\boxed{b = \frac{3}{2}}$$

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

#2) $f(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3 + bx^2 + c$

Critical Point: $(3, 2)$

i) find derivatives

ii) set $f'(3) = 0$

iii) sub in $(3, 2)$ and b to find c

$$f'(x) = x^2 + 2bx$$

$$0 = (3)^2 + 2b(3)$$

$$= 9 + 6b$$

$$f''(x) = 2x + 2b$$

$$\boxed{b = -\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$2 = \frac{1}{3}(3)^3 + (-\frac{3}{2})(3)^2 + c$$

$$2 = 9 - 13.5 + c$$

$$\boxed{c = 6.5}$$

$$\therefore b = -\frac{3}{2}, c = 6.5$$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3 - \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 6.5$$

#3) $f'(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ max: $x=3$ $f'(3) = 8$
 min: $x=-5$

i) find d. derivative

ii) use max = 3

iii) use min $x=-5$

$$f''(x) = 2ax + b$$

$$0 = a(3)^2 + b(3) + c$$

$$0 = 9a + 3b + c$$

$$0 = a(-5)^2 + b(-5) + c$$

$$0 = 25a - 5b + c$$

$$8 = 2a(3) + b$$

$$8 = 6a + b$$

iv) combine ii) and iii)

v) elimination

vi) find a

$$-9a - 3b = -25a + 5b$$

$$16a - 8b = 0$$

$$0 = 16a - 8b + 0$$

$$0 = 48a + 8b + 64$$

$$\underline{64a + 64}$$

$$0 = 64a + 64$$

$$\boxed{a = -1}$$

$$\therefore a = -1, b = -2, c = 15$$

vii) find b

viii) $0 = 9(-1) + 3(-2) + c$

$$0 = -9 - 6 + c$$

$$f'(x) = -x^2 - 2x + 15$$

$$16(-1) - 8b = 0$$

$$\boxed{b = -2}$$

$$\boxed{c = 15}$$

#4) $P(x) = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + 1$ P.O.I: $x=2$ $f(2) = 2$
 min: $x=-2$

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i) use $f(2) = 2$

ii) find the derivatives

iii) min: $x=-2$

$$2 = a(2)^3 + b(2)^2 + c(2) + 1$$

$$2 = a + b + c + 1$$

$$1 = a + b + c$$

$$f'(x) = 3ax^2 + 2bx + c$$

$$f''(x) = 6ax + 2b$$

$$0 = 3a(-2)^2 + 2b(-2) + c$$

$$0 = 12a - 4b + c$$

iv) sub in the P.O.I

v) combine i) and iii)

vi) elimination

vii) find a

$$0 = 6a(2) + 2b$$

$$0 = 12a + 2b$$

$$12a - 4b = a + b - 1$$

$$11a - 5b = -1$$

$$-2 = 22a - 10b$$

$$0 = 60a + 10b$$

$$\underline{-2 = 82a}$$

$$\frac{-2}{82} = a$$

$$\frac{-2}{82} = a$$

$$\boxed{a = -\frac{1}{41}}$$

viii) find b

ix) find c

$$0 = 12\left(-\frac{1}{41}\right) + 2b$$

$$\frac{12}{41} \times \frac{1}{2} = b$$

$$\boxed{b = \frac{6}{41}}$$

$$1 = \left(-\frac{1}{41}\right) + \left(\frac{6}{41}\right) + c$$

$$\frac{41}{41} + \frac{1}{41} - \frac{6}{41} = c$$

$$\boxed{c = \frac{36}{41}}$$

$$\therefore a = -\frac{1}{41}, b = \frac{6}{41}, c = \frac{36}{41}$$

$$f(x) = -\frac{1}{41}x^3 + \frac{6}{41}x^2 + \frac{36}{41}x + 1$$