

Polynomial Functions

Definitions:

A **polynomial function** has the form $f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$, where a_k is a real number, and n is a positive integer.

The **degree** of a polynomial is the value of its greatest exponent. For example, the function $f(x) = x^2$ has a degree of 2, whereas $f(x) = 4x - x^3$ has a degree of 3.

Activity: Graphing / End Behaviour Lab

Practice: pg. 82 # 1 – 3, 11 – 14