

## Section 8.4 : Partial Fraction Decomposition

### Rational Function :

The \_\_\_\_\_ of a polynomial is the highest exponent on  $x$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} x-4 \\ 2x+3 \end{array} \right\} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} 2x^2-5x-12 \\ x^2-x+3 \end{array} \right\}$$

$2x^2-5x-12$  is called a \_\_\_\_\_ quadratic polynomial since it can be factored (over the reals)

$$2x^2-5x-12 = \quad \quad \quad \text{the roots are } \underline{\hspace{2cm}}, \quad b^2-4ac \geq 0$$

$x^2-x+3$  is called a \_\_\_\_\_ quadratic polynomial since it **cannot** be factored (over the reals)

$$\text{the roots are } \underline{\hspace{2cm}}, \quad b^2-4ac < 0$$

Every polynomial of degree  $n > 0$  with real coefficients can be written as a product of \_\_\_\_\_ factors.

**Goal:** To integrate \_\_\_\_\_

- Write  $q(x)$  in this manner and then express the rational function as \_\_\_\_\_
- The simpler fractions should be \_\_\_\_\_.

**simpler fractions :**  $\frac{1}{x-4}$      $\frac{1}{(x-4)^2}$      $\frac{1}{x^2+4}$

**that can be integrated :**

$$\int \frac{1}{x-4} dx =$$

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$$\int \frac{1}{(x-4)^2} dx =$$

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$$\int \frac{1}{x^2+4} dx =$$

**Partial Fraction Decomposition:**

$$\frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$$

1. The degree of the denominator \_\_\_\_\_ be greater than the degree of the numerator  
If it is not, then \_\_\_\_\_ the denominator into the numerator.

2. Decompose the fraction in the following manner: (A, B, C, and D are constants)

i)  $q(x)$  can be written as a product of **only linear** polynomials

$$\frac{5x}{(x-4)(2x+3)}$$

ii)  $q(x)$  can be written as a product involving **powers of linear** polynomials

$$\frac{x^2 + 6x - 4}{(x-3)^3(x+5)}$$

iii)  $q(x)$  can be written as a product involving **irreducible quadratic** polynomials

$$\frac{16x-5}{(x^2+10x+2)(x-7)}$$

3. Use the method of \_\_\_\_\_ to find the constants A, B, C, and D

$$\int_3^4 \frac{4}{x^2 - 4} dx$$

$$\int \frac{x+8}{x(x+2)^2} dx$$

Focus only on the numerator:

This equation should be true for all  $x$ , so choose three different values of  $x$ :

Plug  $A$  in and work with this equation:

$$\int \frac{x+8}{x(x+2)^2} dx \text{ continued:}$$



$$\int_2^3 \frac{x^3 - x^2 - 1}{x^2 - x} dx$$



$$\int \frac{3-x}{x(x^2+1)} dx$$

Match up coefficients from the left and right hand sides