

Factorisation by Factor Theorem and Remainder Theorem

Important Concepts

1. The method of finding the remainder without actually performing the process of division is called Remainder Theorem.
2. Remainder Theorem states that if $p(x)$ is any polynomial of degree > 1 , and a is any number then if $p(x)$ is divided by $(x - a)$ then the remainder is $p(a)$.
3. When a polynomial $p(x)$ is divided by $(x+a)$, the remainder is the same as $p(-a)$.
4. If a polynomial $p(x)$ over R is divided by $ax + b$ ($a \neq 0$ and $a, b \in R$) then the remainder is $p\left(-\frac{b}{a}\right)$.
5. Factor Theorem states that if $p(x)$ is a polynomial of degrees > 0 then it follows from the remainder theorem that
 - a. $p(x) = (x - a) q(x) + p(a)$ Where $q(x)$ is a polynomial of degree $n - 1$.
 - b. If $p(a) = 0$ then $p(x) = (x - a) q(x)$.
 - c. Thus, if $p(a) = 0$, then $(x - a)$ is a factor of $p(x)$.
6. $ax + b$ ($a \neq 0$, $a, b \in R$) is a factor of the polynomial $p(x)$ over R if and only if $p\left(-\frac{b}{a}\right) = 0$.
7. $(x-a)(x-b)$ is a factor of the polynomial $p(x)$, iff $p(a)=0$ and $p(b)=0$.