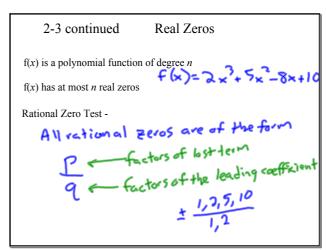
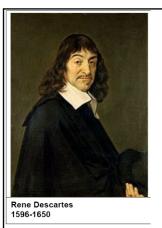
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Rene Descartes 1596-1650, La Haye, France

French philosopher, Descartes, combined algebra and geometry through his studies of mathematics to create analytical (Cartesian) geometry. He is also said to be the first to explain the universe in terms of math. Feeling as if the only certainty in life was mathematics, Descartes described it as the only concrete base for anything. His ideas continually impact mathematicians and philosophers around the alche.

Major Works:

- Works:
 Discourse on the Method of Rightly
 Conducting the Reason and Seeking
 Truth in the Sciences
 Meditations on First Philosophy
 Principles of Philosophy

Descartes' Rule of Signs -# of positive real zeros is equal to the # of sign changes of f(x) (or less than that by an even #)

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Ex 1 How many positive and negative zeros are possible? $f(x) = 3x^5 + 2x^4 - 5x^3 + x^2 - 1$ 5 total zeros 3 positive zeros (or 1) 2 negative zeros (00)

Ex 2 Find the real zeros of:

$$f(x) = 2x^{3} + 3x^{2} - 8x + 3 = (x - 1)(2x + 5x - 3)$$

$$2 - 8 - 3 - (x - 1)(2x - 1)(x + 3)$$

$$3 - 8 - 3 - (x - 1)(2x - 1)(x + 3)$$

$$4 - (x - 1)(2x - 1)(x + 3)$$

$$4 - (x - 1)(2x - 1)(x + 3)$$

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Homework p.128 #43-55, 65-71 odds

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