

Basic Concepts.

In factorization, we express a polynomial as the product of two polynomials.

e.g.,  $x^2 + 5x + 6 = (x+3)(x+2)$

So we have expressed the polynomial  $x^2 + 5x + 6$  as the product of  $(x+3)$  and  $(x+2)$

So  $(x+3)$  and  $(x+2)$  are the factors of  $x^2 + 5x + 6$ .

Thus, the process of writing an algebraic expression as the product of two or more algebraic expressions, are called factorization.

Each expression occurring in the product is called a factor of the given expression.

There are various methods of factorization in various cases.

Case 1.

When each term of the given expression contains a common monomial factor.

eg,  $6a^2 + 5ab - a$   
 $= a(6a + 5b - 1)$

Case 2.

When a polynomial is a common multiplier of each term of the given expression.

eg,  $2a(a+b) + 2b(a+b)$   
 $= (a+b)(2a+2b)$

Case 3. When the given expression is the difference of two squares.

In this case, one has to use the identity

$$A^2 - B^2 = (A+B)(A-B)$$

eg,  $9x^2 - 16y^2$   
 $= (3x)^2 - (4y)^2$   
 $= (3x+4y)(3x-4y)$

Case 4. When the given expression is a perfect square

$$\begin{aligned} \text{eg, } & 4x^2 + 12xy + 9y^2 \\ &= (2x)^2 + 2 \cdot (2x) \cdot (3y) + (3y)^2 \\ &= (2x + 3y)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Case 5. When the given expression is a perfect cube

In this case, one can use the identity

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i) } (A + B)^3 &= A^3 + B^3 + 3A^2B + 3AB^2 \\ \text{(ii) } (A - B)^3 &= A^3 - B^3 + 3AB^2 - 3A^2B \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{eg, } & 8x^3 + 27y^3 + 36x^2y + 54xy^2 \\ &= (2x)^3 + (3y)^3 + 3 \cdot 4x^2 \cdot 3y + 3 \cdot 2x \cdot 9y^2 \\ &= (2x + 3y)^3 \end{aligned}$$

# Factorization of Quadratic Trinomials

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Case 1. When the expression is of the form  $x^2 + px + q$

In this case, one can factorise  $q$  in such a way that the sum (or difference) of factors is  $p$ . then break into sum (or difference) then by making the grouping, factorise

eg,  $x^2 + 5x + 6 = 0$

Factor of 6 are 1, 2, 3, 6

Now choose 2, 3  $\because 2+3=5$   
( $6 \div 2 = 3$ )

$$\begin{aligned} \text{or, now } x^2 + 2x + 3x + 6 \\ = x(x+2) + 3(x+2) \\ = (x+2)(x+3) \end{aligned}$$

Case 2. When the expression is of the form  $ax^2 + bx + c$ .

$axc = ac =$  (Factorise such that the sum (or difference) of factors is  $b$ .)

then break 'b' and by grouping, factorise.

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eg, Factorise  $2x^2 + x - 3$  Pg-5

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$$2x-3 = -6 = +3x-2$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } 2x^2 + 3x - 2x - 3 \\ = x(2x+3) - 1(2x+3) \\ = (2x+3)(x-1) \end{aligned}$$

### Some more cases of Factorization

Case 1.

When the given expression is expressible as the sum of two cubes.

eg,  $64x^3 + 125y^3$

In such cases, one has to use the following identity.

$$A^3 \pm B^3 = (A \pm B)(A^2 \mp AB + B^2)$$

So write  $64x^3 + 125y^3$  as

$$(4x)^3 + (5y)^3$$

$$= (4x + 5y)(4x^2 + 20xy + 25y^2)$$

$$= (4x + 5y)(16x^2 + 20xy + 25y^2)$$

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Cont. - Pg-6

Example of difference of two cubes

Pg-6

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$$\begin{aligned} & 27x^3 - 125y^3 \\ &= (3x)^3 - (5y)^3 \\ &= (3x - 5y)(9x^2 + 25y^2 + 15xy) \end{aligned}$$

Case II When the given expression is of the form of

$$a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc$$

Its identity is

$$a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc = (a+b+c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca)$$

Example -

Factorise

$$\begin{aligned} & 8x^3 + 27y^3 + 64z^3 - 72xyz \\ &= (2x)^3 + (3y)^3 + (4z)^3 - 3 \times 2x \times 3y \times 4z \\ &= (2x + 3y + 4z)(4x^2 + 9y^2 + 16z^2 - 6xy - 12yz - 8xz) \end{aligned}$$

Case III - When the given expression is of the form  $a^3 + b^3 + c^3$  Under the given condition that  $a+b+c=0$

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Cont-Pg-7

In this case, the identity is  $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = 3abc$  subject to the condition that  $a+b+c=0$

Example -

Factorise,

$$(x-y)^3 + (y-z)^3 + (z-x)^3$$

$$\text{let } A = x-y$$

$$B = y-z$$

$$C = z-x$$

$$\Rightarrow A+B+C = x-y + y-z + z-x = 0$$

Since  $A+B+C=0 \Rightarrow$

$$A^3 + B^3 + C^3 = 3ABC$$

Replacing the value of  $A, B, C$ , we get,

$$(x-y)^3 + (y-z)^3 + (z-x)^3 = 3(x-y)(y-z)(z-x)$$

So, till now, we have discussed almost the maximum cases of factorization, now, I am writing a consolidated list of formulae.

# List of Formulae

Pg-8

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$$1. (a+b)^2 = a^2 + b^2 + 2ab$$

$$2. (a-b)^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab$$

$$3. (a+b)^3 = a^3 + b^3 + 3ab(a+b)$$

OR

$$a^3 + b^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2$$

$$4. (a-b)^3 = a^3 - b^3 - 3ab(a-b)$$

OR

$$a^3 - b^3 - 3a^2b - 3ab^2$$

$$5. (a+b+c)^2 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2(ab+bc+ca)$$

$$6. a^2 - b^2 = (a-b)(a+b)$$

$$7. a^3 - b^3 = (a-b)(a^2 + b^2 + ab)$$

$$8. a^3 + b^3 = (a+b)(a^2 + b^2 - ab)$$

$$9. a^4 - b^4 = (a+b)(a-b)(a^2 + b^2)$$

$$10. a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc = (a+b+c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca)$$

OR

$$(a+b+c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca)$$

$$11. \text{If } a+b+c=0 \text{ then } a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = 3abc$$

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