

(5.) (12 points) Suppose p is a cubic polynomial function. Recall that this means that

$$p(x) = a_3x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_1x + a_0,$$

for some constants a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3 , with $a_3 \neq 0$.

(a) If $p(0) = 1$, then what is the value of a_0 ?

$$a_0 = p(0) = 1$$

(b) If $p'(0) = 1$, then what is the value of a_1 ?

$$a_1 = p'(0) = 1$$

(c) If $p''(0) = 1$, then what is the value of a_2 ?

$$\begin{aligned} p''(0) &= 2a_2, \\ \text{so } 2a_2 &= 1, \text{ and } a_2 = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

(d) If $p'''(0) = 1$, then what is the value of a_3 ?

$$\begin{aligned} p'''(0) &= 6a_3 \\ \text{so } 6a_3 &= 1, \text{ and } a_3 = \frac{1}{6} \end{aligned}$$

(e) Find the formula for a cubic polynomial function q that satisfies:

$$q(0) = 2, \quad q'(0) = -1, \quad q''(0) = 5, \quad q'''(0) = 4.$$

[Note: You may use the information that you found in parts (a)-(d) to help you.]

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