

$$Y = ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d$$

1. When the x-intercepts are given in the table:

1. identify "a"

$$\text{Cubic } a = \frac{\text{3rd difference}}{3!} = \frac{24}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = \frac{24}{6} = 4$$

2. write the factored form of the equation. *include "a"

3. re-write in standard form

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

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

$$x^2 + 4x + 3$$

$$4 \left(\begin{array}{c|c|c} x & x^3 & 4x^2 & 3x \\ \hline -2 & -2x^2 & -8x & -6 \end{array} \right)$$

$$4(x^3 + 2x^2 - 5x - 6) = 4x^3 + 8x^2 - 20x - 24$$

not linear
not quadratic
cubic

x	y			
-3	0			
-2	16	16	-32	
-1	0	-16	-8	24
0	-24	-24	16	24
1	-32	-8	40	24
2	0	32	64	24
3	96	96		

$$y = -2x^3 + bx^2 + cx + 3$$

$$(-1, 10) \quad 10 = -2(-1)^3 + b(-1)^2 + c(-1) + 3$$

$$10 = 2 + b - c + 3$$

$$10 = 5 + b - c \rightarrow 5 = b - c$$

2. when only the y-intercept (or not all x-intercepts) is in the table:

1. identify "a" $\frac{-12}{3!} = \frac{-12}{6} = -2$

2. identify "d" (0, 3)

3. choose 1 point for (x, y) and plug in

$$a, d, x, y \quad (-1, 10)$$

4. choose another point for (x, y) and

$$\text{plug in } a, d, x, y \quad (1, -2)$$

5. solve the system of equations

6. write your equation with a, b, c, d

$$y = -2x^3 + 1x^2 - 4x + 3$$

$$(1, -2) \quad -2 = -2(1)^3 + b(1)^2 + c(1) + 3$$

$$-2 = -2 + b + c + 3$$

$$-2 = 1 + b + c \rightarrow -3 = b + c$$

$$+5 = b - c$$

$$-3 = b + c$$

$$2 = 2b$$

$$1 = b$$

$$-3 = 1 + c$$

$$-4 = c$$

x	y			
-3	78			
-2	31	-47	26	-12
-1	10	-21	14	-12
0	3	-7	2	-12
1	-2	-5	-10	-12
2	-17	-15	-22	-12
3	-54	-37		

not linear
not quad.

cubic

$$ax^4 + bx^3 + cx^2 + dx + e$$

3. quartic: $a = \frac{\text{4th difference}}{4!}$

Situations:

A. all 4 zeros are in the table -

Use the factored form

B. only y-intercept in table -

Choose 3 points to write

3 equations, solve the system

x	y	1st diff	2nd diff	3rd diff	4th diff
-3	400				
-2	81	-325			
-1	6	-75	250		
0	1	-5	70	-180	
1	6	5	10	-60	120
2	81	75	70	60	120
3	400	325	250	180	120

↑ not linear
 ↑ not quad
 ↑ not cubic
 ↑ QUARTIC

$$a = \frac{120}{4!} = \frac{120}{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = \frac{120}{24} = 5$$

$$e = (0, 1)$$

$$y = 5x^4 + 1$$