

## 9.1: Add/Subtract Polynomials

### Goals:

#### \*Identify polynomials

- Classify polynomials as **monomials**, **binomials** or **trinomials** based on the number of terms in each.

#### \*Identify degree of monomials and polynomials

#### \*Write polynomial expressions in descending order

#### \*Add and subtract polynomials by combining like terms

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**Monomial** – a number, variable, or product of a number and variables with whole number exponents. \*\*One Term\*\*

**Degree of a monomial** – The sum of the exponents of the variables

**Ex:** Monomial? Yes or no? Why? Why not? If yes, what is the degree?

a. 17

Yes, a number  
Degree = 0

b.  $\frac{x^3}{2}$

Yes, product.  
Degree = 3

c.  $\frac{5}{x}$

No,  $x$  has a neg. exp. (-1)

d.  $4x^2y^5z$

Yes  
Degree = 8

e.  $5 + x$

No, sum

f.  $4^a$

No, exp. is not a whole #

g.  $x^{-1}$

No, exp. not a whole #

h.  $\frac{1}{2}ab^2$

Yes  
Degree = 3

**Polynomial** – A monomial, or sum of monomials. Each monomial is a term.

**Binomial** – A two-term polynomial

**Trinomial** – A three-term polynomial

**Degree of a polynomial** – The degree of the highest monomial

**Ex:** Classify each polynomial as a monomial, binomial, trinomial or polynomial, then find the degree of each.

1.  $15x - x^3 + 3$

Trinomial, Deg = 3

2.  $5xy^2$

Monomial, Deg = 3

3.  $6a^2c + 5ac^5$

Binomial, Deg = 6

4.  $5x^3 - 4xy^2 - 2x + 6$

Polynomial, Deg = 3

5.  $7b^3c + 4bc^4$

Binomial, Deg = 5

6.  $6n^4 + 3n + 7x^8 - 4n^3$

Polynomial, Deg = 8

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**\*\*Write Polynomials in Descending Order\*\***

Polynomials should be written so the first alphabetical variable's exponents decrease from left to right.

**Example:**  $-5x + x^2 + 3 + 2x^3$  is a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree polynomial, if written in descending order it would look like:

$$2x^3 + x^2 - 5x + 3$$

**Rewrite the following polynomials in descending order, based on the variable that comes first alphabetically.**

1.  $15x - x^3 + 3$

$$-x^3 + 15x + 3$$

2.  $-xy + x^4y^2$

$$x^4y^2 - xy$$

3.  $-3ac^4 + a^2c^2 - a^3c$

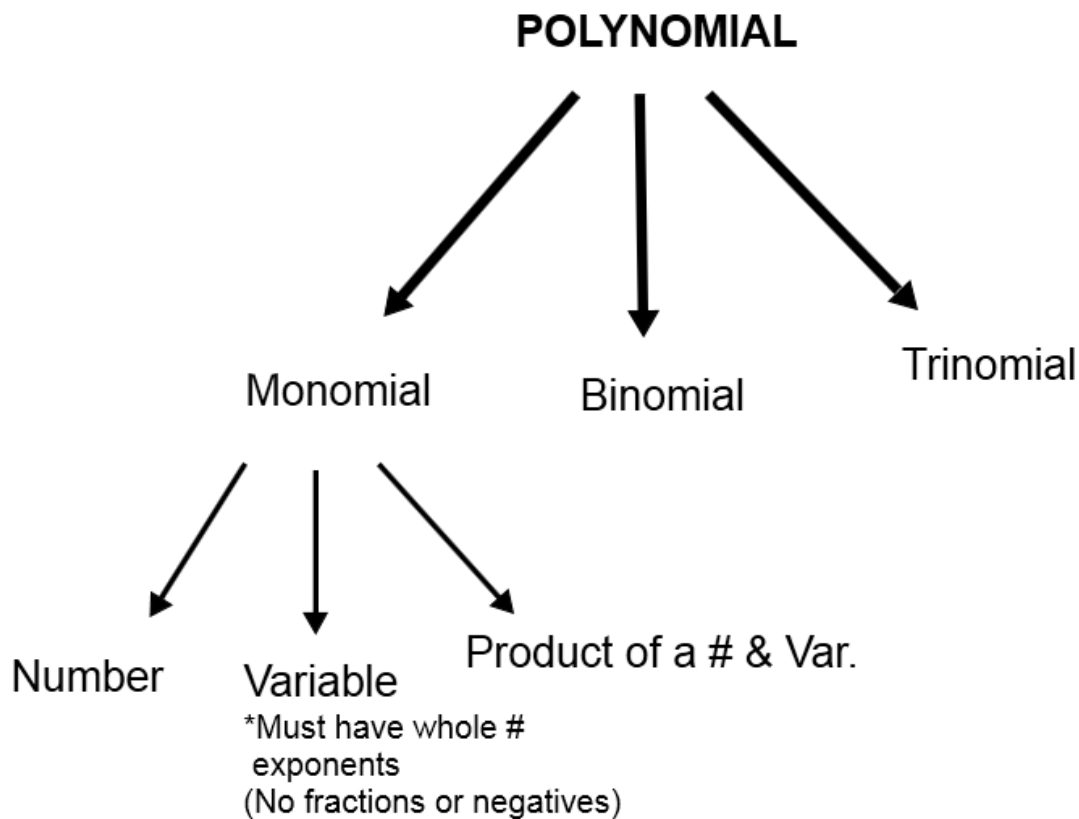
$$-a^3c + a^2c^2 - 3ac^4$$

4.  $3b^3 - 4b^4 + b^2$

$$-4b^4 + 3b^3 + b^2$$

5.  $7x^2y + 4xy^3 - 3x^3y^2$

$$-3x^3y^2 + 7x^2y + 4xy^3$$



**Adding Polynomials** – Same as adding like terms

**Ex:**  $(2x^3 - 5x^2 + x) + (2x^2 + x^3 - 1)$

$$3x^3 - 3x^2 + x - 1$$

**Ex:**  $(3x^2 + x - 6) + (x^2 + 4x + 10)$

$$4x^2 + 5x + 4$$

**Ex:**  $(-2x^2 + 3x - x^3) + (3x^2 + x^3 - 12)$

$$x^2 + 3x - 12$$

**Ex:**  $(4x^3 + 2x^2 - 4) + (x^3 - 3x^2 + x)$

$$5x^3 - x^2 + x - 4$$

**Subtracting Polynomials** – Add a negative to everything being subtracted!

**Ex:**  $(4n^2 + 5) - (-2n^2 + 2n - 4)$

$$6n^2 - 2n + 9$$

**Ex:**  $(4x^2 - 3x + 5) - (3x^2 - x - 8)$

$$x^2 - 2x + 13$$

**Ex:**  $(2c^2 - 8) - (3c^2 - 4c + 1)$

$$-c^2 + 4c - 9$$

**Ex:**  $(5y^2 + 2y - 4) - (-y^2 + 4y - 3)$

$$6y^2 - 2y - 1$$

**\*CHALLENGE\***

$$(4x^3y + 3x^2y^2 - 5xy^3 + 6x - 2y) + (7y - 4x + 6x^2y^2 - x^3y + 2xy^3)$$

$$3x^3y + 9x^2y^2 - 3xy^3 + 2x + 5y$$