private void fromString(String str) {

StringTokenizer strTok = new StringTokenizer(str, "+");

String nextStr = null;

Term nextTerm = null;

this.terms.clear();

while (strTok.hasMoreElements()){

nextStr = (String) strTok.nextElement();

nextTerm = TermImp.fromString(nextStr);

// private method to store a new term into a polynomial

this.addTerm(nextTerm);

}

}