

**1. Difference of Like Powers.** Let  $n$  be a positive integer and define  $\omega := e^{2\pi i/n}$ . Prove that for all numbers  $a$  and  $b$  we have

$$a^n - b^n = (a - b)(a - \omega b)(a - \omega^2 b) \cdots (a - \omega^{n-1} b).$$

**2. Roots of Numbers Other Than 1.**

- (a) Compute the fourth roots of  $-1$ .
- (b) Use part (a) to factor  $x^4 + 1$  over the **real numbers**.

**3. Cyclotomic Polynomials.** We say that  $\zeta \in \mathbb{C}$  is a **primitive**  $n$ th root of 1 if (1)  $\zeta^n = 1$  and (2)  $\zeta^m \neq 1$  for  $m < n$ . The  $n$ th cyclotomic polynomial is defined by

$$\Phi_n(x) := \prod_{\zeta} (x - \zeta)$$

where  $\zeta$  runs over the primitive  $n$ th roots of 1.

- (a) Find all the primitive 8th roots of 1.
- (b) Use part (a) to compute  $\Phi_8(x)$ .
- (c) Use part (b) to completely factor  $x^8 - 1$  over the integers.

**4. Trisecting an Angle.**

- (a) Use de Moivre's Theorem to express  $\cos(3\theta)$  as a polynomial in  $\cos(\theta)$ .
- (b) Solve the polynomial equation from part (a) to express  $\cos(\theta)$  in terms of  $\cos(3\theta)$ .
- (c) Use part (b) to find the exact value of  $\cos(\pi/9)$ .

**5. Rational Root Test.** Let  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$  be a polynomial with integer coefficients, say  $f(x) = c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2 + \cdots + c_nx^n$  with  $c_n \neq 0$ .

- (a) If  $f(a/b) = 0$  for some integers  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$  with no common factor, prove that  $a$  divides  $c_0$  and  $b$  divides  $c_n$ . [Hint: Multiply both sides of  $f(a/b) = 0$  by  $b^n$ .]
- (b) Use part (a) to prove that the polynomial  $f(x) = x^3 - 3x - 1$  has **no rational root**.