

Problem 5: Let  $\omega = e^{4\pi i/7}$ . Evaluate

$$(2 + \omega)(2 + \omega^2)(2 + \omega^3)(2 + \omega^4)(2 + \omega^5)(2 + \omega^6).$$

(Source: AoPS Precalculus)

We can write  $\omega$  as  $\omega = e^{4\pi i/7} = e^{2\pi i k/7}$  where  $k = 2$ . Since  $\omega^7 = 1$  and  $\gcd(k, 7) = 1$ , we know that  $\omega$  is a primitive seventh root of unity.

By the fundamental theorem of algebra, we have

$$z^7 - 1 = (z - 1)(z - \omega)(z - \omega^2)(z - \omega^3)(z - \omega^4)(z - \omega^5)(z - \omega^6)$$

Substituting  $z = -2$  gives us an expression like the one in the problem statement.

$$\begin{aligned} (-2)^7 - 1 &= (-2 - 1)(-2 - \omega)(-2 - \omega^2)(-2 - \omega^3)(-2 - \omega^4)(-2 - \omega^5)(-2 - \omega^6) \\ (-2)^7 - 1 &= (-1)^7(2 + 1)(2 + \omega)(2 + \omega^2)(2 + \omega^3)(2 + \omega^4)(2 + \omega^5)(2 + \omega^6) \\ (-2)^7 - 1 &= -3(2 + \omega)(2 + \omega^2)(2 + \omega^3)(2 + \omega^4)(2 + \omega^5)(2 + \omega^6) \\ -128 - 1 &= -3(2 + \omega)(2 + \omega^2)(2 + \omega^3)(2 + \omega^4)(2 + \omega^5)(2 + \omega^6) \\ -129 &= -3(2 + \omega)(2 + \omega^2)(2 + \omega^3)(2 + \omega^4)(2 + \omega^5)(2 + \omega^6) \\ 43 &= (2 + \omega)(2 + \omega^2)(2 + \omega^3)(2 + \omega^4)(2 + \omega^5)(2 + \omega^6) \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\boxed{(2 + \omega)(2 + \omega^2)(2 + \omega^3)(2 + \omega^4)(2 + \omega^5)(2 + \omega^6) = 43}$ .