

Product of sines

$$\prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \sin\left(\frac{\pi k}{n}\right) = \frac{n}{2^{n-1}}$$

Proof: Recall that

$$z^n - 1 = \prod_{k=1}^n (z - \zeta^k) \quad (1)$$

where $\zeta = \cos(2\pi/n) + i \sin(2\pi/n)$. Differentiating both sides of Equation (1), we obtain

$$nz^{n-1} = \sum_{j=1}^n \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq j}}^n (z - \zeta^k) \quad (2)$$

Setting $z = 1$ in Equation (2), we obtain

$$n = \sum_{j=1}^n \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq j}}^n (1 - \zeta^k) \quad (3)$$

Now note that in Equation (3), every term except the last term contains $(1 - \zeta^n)$, which is zero. Hence,

$$n = \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} (1 - \zeta^k) \quad (4)$$

Further,

$$1 - \zeta^k = 1 - \cos\left(\frac{2\pi k}{n}\right) - i \sin\left(\frac{2\pi k}{n}\right) = 2 \sin^2\left(\frac{\pi k}{n}\right) - 2i \sin\left(\frac{\pi k}{n}\right) \cos\left(\frac{\pi k}{n}\right) \quad (5)$$

$$= -2i \sin\left(\frac{\pi k}{n}\right) \left(\cos\left(\frac{\pi k}{n}\right) + i \sin\left(\frac{\pi k}{n}\right) \right) = -2i \sin\left(\frac{\pi k}{n}\right) \exp\left(\frac{i\pi k}{n}\right) \quad (6)$$

Therefore, from above and Equation (4), we obtain

$$n = \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} (1 - \zeta^k) = (-2i)^{n-1} \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \sin\left(\frac{\pi k}{n}\right) \prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \exp\left(\frac{i\pi k}{n}\right) \quad (7)$$

$$= 2^{n-1} \exp\left(-\frac{i\pi(n-1)}{2}\right) \left(\prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \sin\left(\frac{\pi k}{n}\right) \right) \exp\left(\frac{i\pi(n-1)}{2}\right) \quad (8)$$

Hence, we obtain

$$\prod_{k=1}^{n-1} \sin\left(\frac{\pi k}{n}\right) = \frac{n}{2^{n-1}}$$