

2022 Problem Of The Day

1. (21 Mar) Simplify the algebraic fraction $\frac{a^4 - a^2b^2}{(a - b)^2} \div \frac{a(a + b)}{b^2} \times \frac{b}{a}$.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{a^4 - a^2b^2}{(a - b)^2} \div \frac{a(a + b)}{b^2} \times \frac{b}{a} &= \frac{\cancel{a^2}(a+b)\cancel{(a-b)}}{(a - b)^{\cancel{2}}} \times \frac{b^2}{\cancel{a}(a+b)} \times \frac{b}{\cancel{a}} \\ &= \frac{b^4}{a - b}\end{aligned}$$