

Hint for exercise 3 on the homework.

$$\begin{aligned}
(a_k) &= a_1, a_2, \dots \\
\text{and } a_k &= b_k + c_k i, \quad b_k, c_k \in \mathbb{Q} \\
&= \sqrt{b_k^2 + c_k^2} e^{i \left( \arctan \left( \frac{b_k}{c_k} \right) \right)} \\
\text{Let } r_k &= \sqrt{b_k^2 + c_k^2} \text{ and } \psi_k = \arctan \left( \frac{b_k}{c_k} \right) \\
\text{Then } a_k &= r_k e^{\psi_k i} \\
a_k^n &= (r_k e^{\psi_k i})^n \\
&= r_k^n e^{ni\psi_k}
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $x^n - 1, r_k^n = 1$  and  $e^{ni\psi_k} = 0 \pm 2c\pi$ , where  $c \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we know that  $r_k^n = 1$  and further,  $r_k = 1$ . We also know that  $0 \leq \psi_k \leq 2\pi$ . The first two solutions, then, are given by

$$\begin{aligned}
n\psi_k &= 2\pi & n\psi_k &= 0 \\
\psi_k &= \frac{2\pi}{n} & \psi_k &= 0
\end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, the set of all solutions is the set of linear combinations of these two solutions, modulo  $2\pi$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\psi_0 &= 0 \\
\psi_1 &= \frac{2\pi}{n} \\
\psi_2 &= 2 \left( \frac{2\pi}{n} \right) \\
&\vdots \\
\psi_n &= n \left( \frac{2\pi}{n} \right) = 2\pi \equiv 0
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\forall k \in \mathbb{Z} : 0 \leq k < n$ , the complex number  $e^{\frac{2ki\pi}{n}}$  is a solution for  $x^k - 1 = 0$ .