

Some new results on the coefficients of cyclotomic and of inverse cyclotomic polynomials

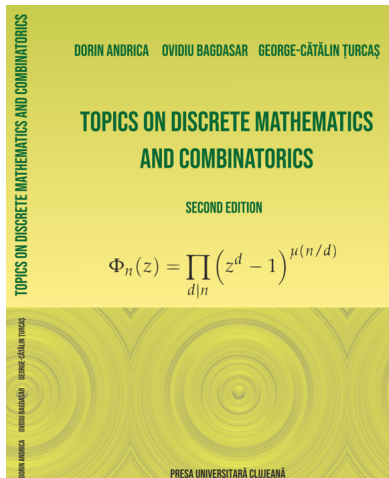
Dorin Andrica

SSMI 2025 Research Seminar
Transilvania University, Romania
July 10, 2025



**Transilvania
University
of Brasov**

Key source of information



8	Cyclotomic Polynomials	217
8.1	Arithmetic functions	218
8.2	The Möbius μ function	223
8.3	Ramanujan sums	227
8.4	Cyclotomic polynomials: definition and basic properties	231
8.5	The coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials, Suzuki's Theorem	234
8.6	The integral formula for the coefficients of Φ_n	244
8.6.1	The integral formula	245
8.6.2	Some applications of the integral formula	247
8.7	The inverse cyclotomic polynomial	250
8.7.1	The coefficients of Ψ_n	251
8.7.2	The integral formula for the coefficients of Ψ_n	256
8.7.3	Some applications of the integral formula	259
8.8	Upper bounds for the coefficients	261
8.8.1	Upper bounds for the coefficients of Φ_n	262
8.8.2	Upper bounds for the coefficients of Ψ_n	263
8.8.3	Numerical simulations	263
8.9	Some special classes of cyclotomic and inverse cyclotomic polynomials	267
8.9.1	Coefficients of binary cyclotomic polynomials	269
8.9.2	Coefficients of ternary polynomials Φ_n	270
8.9.3	Coefficients of binary inverse cyclotomic polynomials	274
8.9.4	Coefficients of ternary inverse cyclotomic polynomials	274
8.9.5	Numerical simulations	277

Overview

- ❶ Cyclotomic polynomials
 - ▶ Integral formula
 - ▶ Recursive formula
- ❷ Inverse cyclotomic polynomials
 - ▶ Integral formula
 - ▶ Recursive formula
- ❸ Binary and ternary polynomials

Joint work with *Ovidiu Bagdasar* (University of Derby, UK)

Presentation mainly based on the following resources

Andrica, D., and Bagdasar, O., *On cyclotomic polynomial coefficients*, Malays. J. Math. Sci., in: Proceedings of "Groups, Group Rings, and Related Topics - 2017" (GGRRT 2017), 19–22 Nov 2017, Khorfakan, UAE **14**(3) (2020), 389–402.

Andrica, D., and Bagdasar, O., *Some remarks on a general family of complex polynomials*, Appl. Anal. Discr. Math. **13** (2019), no. 1, 605–618.

Andrica, D., and Bagdasar, O., *Some remarks on the coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials*.

In: J. Guàrdia, N. Minculete, D. Savin, M. Vela, A. Zekhnini (eds.), *New Frontiers in Number Theory and Applications*, Trends in Mathematics, Birkhäuser, Cham, 29–49, 2024.

Andrica, D., Bagdasar, O., Țurcaș, G.-C., *Topics on Discrete Mathematics and Combinatorics*, Cluj University Press, 2nd Edition, 2024.

Andrica, D., Bagdasar, O., and Țurcaș, G.-C., *An integral formula for the coefficients of the inverse cyclotomic polynomial*, An. Șt. Univ. Ovidius Constanța Ser. Mat. **33**(1) (2025), 33–48.

The Cauchy integral formula (1)

The Cauchy integral formula is a key result in complex analysis and it is also an important tool in analytic combinatorics.

A function $h : G \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is called *meromorphic at z_0* if $h(z)$ can be written as a quotient of two analytic functions f, g in a neighbourhood \mathcal{U} of z_0 :

$$\forall z \in \mathcal{U} \setminus \{z_0\} : h(z) = \frac{f(z)}{g(z)}.$$

In this case, for all $z \neq z_0$ in a disk centered at z_0 , we also have

$$h(z) = \sum_{n \geq -m} c_n (z - z_0)^n$$

If m is the largest number for which $c_{-m} \neq 0$ in this series expansion, then z_0 is called a *pole of order m* .

The coefficient c_{-1} of $(z - z_0)^{-1}$ in this series expansion is called *the residue of h at the point z_0* , also denoted as $\text{Res}(h, z_0)$.

The Cauchy integral formula: (2) Residue Theorem

The important Residue theorem due to Cauchy relates global properties of a meromorphic function, its integral along closed curves, to purely local characteristics at designated points, the residues at poles.

Theorem (Cauchy's residue theorem)

Let $h(z)$ be a meromorphic function in the region Ω and let Γ be a simple loop in Ω along which the function is analytic. Then

$$\frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} h(z) \, dz = \sum_s \operatorname{Res}(h(z), z = s),$$

where the sum is extended to all poles of s of $h(z)$ enclosed by Γ .

The Cauchy integral formula (3)

Theorem (Cauchy's integral formula)

Let $f(z) = \sum_{j \geq 0} c_j z^j$ be analytic in a disk centered at 0, and let Γ be a curve in the interior of this disk, which winds around exactly once (in positive orientation), then we have

$$c_j = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} \frac{f(z)}{z^{j+1}} dz.$$

Theorem (Cauchy's multi-variable integral formula)

Let $F(z_1, \dots, z_k) = \frac{U(z_1, \dots, z_k)}{V(z_1, \dots, z_k)} = \sum_{j_1, \dots, j_k \in \mathbb{Z}} c_{j_1, \dots, j_k} z_1^{j_1} \cdots z_k^{j_k}$, be a rational function. If $V \neq 0$ at the origin of \mathbb{R}^k , then the coefficients

$$c_{j_1, \dots, j_k} = \frac{1}{(2\pi i)^k} \int_T \frac{F(z_1, \dots, z_k)}{z_1 \cdots z_k} z_1^{-j_1} \cdots z_k^{-j_k} dz_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge dz_k,$$

with T a product of small circles around the coordinate axes of \mathbb{R}^k .

The cyclotomic polynomial

The n -th cyclotomic polynomial Φ_n is defined by

$$\Phi_n(z) = \prod_{\substack{1 \leq k \leq n-1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}} (z - \zeta_n^k) = \sum_{j=0}^{\varphi(n)} c_j^{(n)} z^j, \quad (1)$$

- $\zeta_n = \cos \frac{2\pi}{n} + i \sin \frac{2\pi}{n}$ the first primitive n th root of the unity.
- degree of Φ_n : $\varphi(n)$, where φ denotes Euler's totient function.

First six cyclotomic polynomials:

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_1(z) &= z - 1, \quad \Phi_2(z) = z + 1, \quad \Phi_3(z) = z^2 + z + 1, \\ \Phi_4(z) &= z^2 + 1, \quad \Phi_5(z) = z^4 + z^3 + z^2 + z + 1, \quad \Phi_6(z) = z^2 - z + 1. \end{aligned}$$

It is well-known that every cyclotomic polynomial

- has integer coefficients
- is irreducible over \mathbb{Z} ([31, Theorem 1, p.195])
- Φ_n is palindromic and monic

Applications of cyclotomic polynomials

- Solution of the problem of which regular n -gons are constructible with straightedge and compass (Gauss–Wantzel theorem).
- Elementary proofs of the existence of infinitely many prime numbers equal to 1 or -1 modulo n (special case of P.A.P).
- Witt's proof of Wedderburn's little theorem that every finite domain is a field.
- The “cyclotomic criterion” in the study of primitive divisors of Lucas and Lehmer sequences.
- Lattice-based cryptography.

Coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials

- Polynomials up to $n < 105$ only have 0, 1 and -1 as coefficients.

Coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials

- Polynomials up to $n < 105$ only have 0, 1 and -1 as coefficients.
- Mignotti 1883:
 - ▶ -2 first appears as the coefficient of z^7 of Φ_{105}
 - ▶ 2 first appears as a coefficient in Φ_{165} .
 - ▶ $\Phi_n(z)$ only has coefficients 0 and ± 1 , if $n = pq$ with $p \neq q$ primes.
 - ▶ All coefficients of $\Phi_n(z)$ do not exceed 2 in absolute value for $n < 385$.

Coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials

- Polynomials up to $n < 105$ only have 0, 1 and -1 as coefficients.
- Mignotti 1883:
 - ▶ -2 first appears as the coefficient of z^7 of Φ_{105}
 - ▶ 2 first appears as a coefficient in Φ_{165} .
 - ▶ $\Phi_n(z)$ only has coefficients 0 and ± 1 , if $n = pq$ with $p \neq q$ primes.
 - ▶ All coefficients of $\Phi_n(z)$ do not exceed 2 in absolute value for $n < 385$.
- Bang 1895: For $n = pqr$ with $p < q < r$ odd primes, no coefficient of Φ_n is larger than $p - 1$.
- Schur 1931: The coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials can be arbitrarily large in absolute value.

Coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials

- Polynomials up to $n < 105$ only have 0, 1 and -1 as coefficients.
- Mignotti 1883:
 - ▶ -2 first appears as the coefficient of z^7 of Φ_{105}
 - ▶ 2 first appears as a coefficient in Φ_{165} .
 - ▶ $\Phi_n(z)$ only has coefficients 0 and ± 1 , if $n = pq$ with $p \neq q$ primes.
 - ▶ All coefficients of $\Phi_n(z)$ do not exceed 2 in absolute value for $n < 385$.
- Bang 1895: For $n = pqr$ with $p < q < r$ odd primes, no coefficient of Φ_n is larger than $p - 1$.
- Schur 1931: The coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials can be arbitrarily large in absolute value.

Theorem (Suzuki 1987 [48])

Every integer number can be a coefficient of a cyclotomic polynomial of a certain degree.

The history of these early results can be found in [35]. More details are given in [27], [28], [32], and to the monograph [17].

Algebraic form of $\Phi_n(z)$

Writing the polynomial $\Phi_n(z)$ in algebraic form, we obtain:

$$\Phi_n(z) = \sum_{j=0}^{\varphi(n)} c_j^{(n)} z^j,$$

where $c_j^{(n)}$, $j = 0, 1, \dots, \varphi(n)$, are the coefficients of $\Phi_n(z)$.

In order to get a unitary formula for $c_j^{(n)}$, we introduce the function

$$\Lambda_n(t) = \prod_{\substack{1 \leq k \leq n-1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}} \sin \left(t - \frac{k\pi}{n} \right). \quad (2)$$

For $n = 1, 2$ one obtains the following expressions:

$$\Lambda_1(t) = \sin(t - \pi) = -\sin t,$$

$$\Lambda_2(t) = \sin \left(t - \frac{\pi}{2} \right) = -\cos t.$$

The function $\Lambda_n(t)$

$$\Lambda_n(t) = \prod_{\substack{1 \leq k \leq n-1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}} \sin \left(t - \frac{k\pi}{n} \right). \quad (3)$$

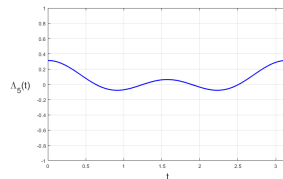
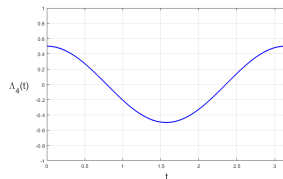
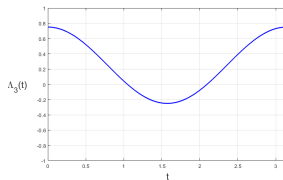
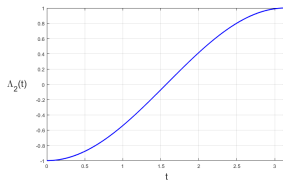


Figure: $\Lambda_n(t)$ ($0 \leq t \leq \pi$) for (a) $n = 2$; (b) $n = 3$; (c) $n = 4$; (d) $n = 5$.

Integral formula for the coefficients of $\Phi_n(z)$

To prove the main result we use the following identity.

Lemma

Let $n \geq 3$ be a positive integer. The following formula holds:

$$\sum_{\substack{1 \leq k \leq n-1 \\ \gcd(k,n)=1}} k = \frac{n}{2} \varphi(n). \quad (4)$$

Theorem (Andrica & Bagdasar, MJMS 2020, Theorem 2.1)

The coefficients $c_j^{(n)}$ are given by the following integral formula:

$$c_j^{(n)} = \frac{2\varphi(n)}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \Lambda_n(t) \cdot \cos(\varphi(n) - 2j)t \, dt, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, \varphi(n). \quad (5)$$

Reciprocity of coefficients of $\Phi_n(z)$

The coefficients of the cyclotomic polynomial are known to be reciprocal. Here we give an elegant proof based on the integral formula (5).

Theorem (Andrica & Bagdasar, MJMS 2020, Theorem 2.2)

The cyclotomic polynomial $\Phi_n(z)$ is reciprocal, that is its coefficients satisfy the following symmetry relations

$$c_j^{(n)} = c_{\varphi(n)-j}^{(n)}, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, \varphi(n).$$

Proof. Using formula (5), for every $j = 0, 1, \dots, \varphi(n)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} c_{\varphi(n)-j}^{(n)} &= \frac{2^{\varphi(n)}}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \Lambda_n(t) \cdot \cos(\varphi(n) - 2(\varphi(n) - j)) t \, dt \\ &= \frac{2^{\varphi(n)}}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \Lambda_n(t) \cdot \cos(2j - \varphi(n)) t \, dt \\ &= \frac{2^{\varphi(n)}}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \Lambda_n(t) \cdot \cos(\varphi(n) - 2j) t \, dt = c_j^{(n)}. \end{aligned}$$

Direct/Alternate sum of coefficients. Mid-term of $\Phi_n(z)$

Theorem (Andrica & Bagdasar, MJMS 2020, Theorem 3.1)

Let $n \geq 3$. Expression $\Phi_n(1)$ has the following integral formula:

$$\Phi_n(1) = \sum_{j=0}^{\varphi(n)} c_j^{(n)} = \frac{2^{\varphi(n)}}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \Lambda_n(t) \cdot \frac{\sin(\varphi(n) + 1)t}{\sin t} dt. \quad (6)$$

Theorem (Andrica & Bagdasar, MJMS 2020, Theorem 3.2)

Let $n \geq 3$. Terms $\Phi_n(-1)$ have the following integral formula:

$$\Phi_n(-1) = \sum_{j=0}^{\varphi(n)} c_j^{(n)} (-1)^j = \frac{2^{\varphi(n)}}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \Lambda_n(t) \cdot \frac{\cos(\varphi(n) + 1)t}{\cos t} dt. \quad (7)$$

Mid-terms integral formula

$$m_n := c_{\frac{\varphi(n)}{2}}^{(n)} = \frac{2^{\varphi(n)}}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \Lambda_n(t) dt. \quad (8)$$

The inverse cyclotomic polynomials

For every $n \in \mathbb{N}$, the inverse cyclotomic polynomials $\Psi_n(z)$ are defined by

$$\Psi_n(z) = \prod_{\substack{1 \leq j \leq n \\ (j,n) > 1}} (z - \zeta_n^j) = \frac{z^n - 1}{\Phi_n(z)} = \sum_{k=0}^{n-\varphi(n)} d_k^{(n)} z^k \quad (9)$$

- ❶ $\Psi_n(z)$ has degree $n - \varphi(n)$, with integer coefficients.
- ❷ If n is a prime, then $\Psi_n(z) = z - 1$.
- ❸ Ψ_n is antipalindromic and monic.

The first inverse cyclotomic polynomials (n composite) are given by

$$\Psi_1(z) = 1, \Psi_4(z) = z^2 - 1, \Psi_6(z) = z^4 + z^3 - z - 1, \Psi_8(z) = z^4 - 1, \\ \Psi_9(z) = z^3 - 1, \Psi_{10}(z) = z^6 + z^5 - z - 1, \Psi_{12}(z) = z^8 + z^6 - z^2 - 1$$

Function $\Gamma_n(t)$

In order to get a unitary formula for $d_j^{(n)}$, we introduce the function

$$\Gamma_n(t) = \prod_{\substack{1 \leq k \leq n \\ \gcd(k, n) > 1}} \sin \left(t - \frac{k\pi}{n} \right). \quad (10)$$

The first non-trivial values are $n = 4$ and $n = 6$ where we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma_4(t) &= \sin \left(t - \frac{2\pi}{4} \right) \sin \left(t - \frac{4\pi}{4} \right) \\ &= \sin \left(t - \frac{\pi}{2} \right) \sin (t - \pi) = \sin t \cdot \cos t = \frac{1}{2} \sin 2t. \\ \Gamma_6(t) &= \sin \left(t - \frac{2\pi}{6} \right) \sin \left(t - \frac{3\pi}{6} \right) \sin \left(t - \frac{4\pi}{6} \right) \sin \left(t - \frac{6\pi}{6} \right) \\ &= \sin \left(t - \frac{\pi}{3} \right) \sin \left(t - \frac{\pi}{2} \right) \sin \left(t - \frac{2\pi}{3} \right) \sin (t - \pi) \\ &= \frac{1}{8} (\sin 2t + \sin 4t). \end{aligned}$$

Integral formula for the coefficients of $\Psi_n(z)$

To prove the coefficient formula we use the identity

$$\sum_{\substack{1 \leq k \leq n \\ \gcd(k, n) > 1}} k = \frac{n}{2} (n + 1 - \varphi(n)), \quad n \geq 3. \quad (11)$$

Theorem

The coefficients $d_j^{(n)}$, $j = 0, 1, \dots, n - \varphi(n)$, of the inverse cyclotomic polynomial $\Psi_n(z)$ are given by the following integral formula:

$$d_j^{(n)} = (-1)^{n+1} \frac{2^{n-\varphi(n)}}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \Gamma_n(t) \cdot \sin(n - \varphi(n) - 2j)t \, dt. \quad (12)$$

Antireciprocity of coefficients of $\Psi_n(z)$

The coefficients of the inverse cyclotomic polynomial are antisymmetric.

Theorem (Ψ_n is antipalindromic)

The inverse cyclotomic polynomial $\Psi_n(z)$ is antipalindromic, that is its coefficients satisfy the following antisymmetry relation

$$d_j^{(n)} = -d_{n-\varphi(n)-j}^{(n)}, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, n - \varphi(n). \quad (13)$$

Proof. Using formula (12), for every $j = 0, 1, \dots, \varphi(n)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} d_{n-\varphi(n)-j}^{(n)} &= (-1)^{n+1} \frac{2^{n-\varphi(n)}}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \Gamma_n(t) \sin(n - \varphi(n) - 2(n - \varphi(n) - j)) t \, dt \\ &= (-1)^{n+1} \frac{2^{n-\varphi(n)}}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \Gamma_n(t) \sin(2j + \varphi(n) - n) t \, dt \\ &= -(-1)^{n+1} \frac{2^{n-\varphi(n)}}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \Gamma_n(t) \sin(n - \varphi(n) - 2j) t \, dt \\ &= -d_j^{(n)}. \end{aligned}$$

Explicit formulas of coefficients of Φ_n and Ψ_n

Theorem (Cyclotomic polynomials, Endo 1974 [26])

The following formula holds

$$c_m^{(n)} = \sum_{i_1+2i_2+\dots+mi_m=m} (-1)^{i_1+\dots+i_m} \binom{\mu(n)}{i_1} \binom{\mu(n/2)}{i_2} \dots \binom{\mu(n/m)}{i_m}, \quad (14)$$

where (i_1, \dots, i_m) runs over all the non-negative integral solutions of the equation $i_1 + 2i_2 + \dots + mi_m = m$, for m a positive integer.

Theorem (Inverse cyclotomic polynomials)

For every $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$, $n \geq 1$, the following formula holds

$$d_m^{(n)} = \sum_{i_1+2i_2+\dots+mi_m=m} (-1)^{i_1+\dots+i_m+1} \binom{-\mu(n)}{i_1} \binom{-\mu(n/2)}{i_2} \dots \binom{-\mu(n/m)}{i_m} \quad (15)$$

Recursive formulas

The following recursive formulae for the coefficients of Φ_n and Ψ_n are proved in [10], [11, Section 8.5], and [9], respectively

Theorem (Cyclotomic polynomials)

The following relation holds for every $k = 2, \dots, \varphi(n)$:

$$c_k^{(n)} = -\frac{1}{k} \left[\rho(n, k) + \rho(n, k-1)c_1^{(n)} + \dots + \rho(n, 1)c_{k-1}^{(n)} \right]. \quad (16)$$

Theorem (Inverse cyclotomic polynomials)

The following relation holds for every $k = 2, \dots, n - \varphi(n)$:

$$d_k^{(n)} = \frac{1}{k} \left[-\rho(n, k) + \rho(n, k-1)d_1^{(n)} + \dots + \rho(n, 1)d_{k-1}^{(n)} \right]. \quad (17)$$

Here $\rho(n, j)$ denote the Ramanujan sums.

Ramanujan Sums

The **Möbius function** μ is defined by

$$\mu(n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1, \\ (-1)^k & \text{if } n = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_k, \\ 0 & \text{if } n = p^2 m, \end{cases}$$

where p is prime and p_1, \dots, p_k are distinct prime numbers.

For positive integers n and j , the **Ramanujan sum** is defined as

$$\rho(n, j) = \sum_{\gcd(a, n)=1} e^{2\pi i \frac{a}{n} j},$$

where the sum is over all integers a with $1 \leq a \leq n$ and $\gcd(a, n) = 1$.

The following formula due to Hölder

$$\rho(n, j) = \frac{\mu\left(\frac{n}{\gcd(n, j)}\right) \varphi(n)}{\varphi\left(\frac{n}{\gcd(n, j)}\right)}$$

often appears under the name of **Von Sterneck's function**.

Consequences

The previous formulas can be simplified as

Corollary (Cyclotomic polynomials)

The coefficients of Φ_n satisfy the following relation:

$$c_k^{(n)} = -\frac{\varphi(n)}{k} \left[\frac{\mu\left(\frac{n}{\gcd(n,k)}\right)}{\varphi\left(\frac{n}{\gcd(n,k)}\right)} + \frac{\mu\left(\frac{n}{\gcd(n,k-1)}\right)}{\varphi\left(\frac{n}{\gcd(n,k-1)}\right)} c_1^{(n)} + \dots + \frac{\mu\left(\frac{n}{\gcd(n,1)}\right)}{\varphi\left(\frac{n}{\gcd(n,1)}\right)} c_{k-1}^{(n)} \right]. \quad (18)$$

Corollary (Inverse cyclotomic polynomials)

The coefficients of Ψ_n satisfy the following relation:

$$d_k^{(n)} = \frac{\varphi(n)}{k} \left[-\frac{\mu\left(\frac{n}{\gcd(n,k)}\right)}{\varphi\left(\frac{n}{\gcd(n,k)}\right)} + \frac{\mu\left(\frac{n}{\gcd(n,k-1)}\right)}{\varphi\left(\frac{n}{\gcd(n,k-1)}\right)} d_1^{(n)} + \dots + \frac{\mu\left(\frac{n}{\gcd(n,1)}\right)}{\varphi\left(\frac{n}{\gcd(n,1)}\right)} d_{k-1}^{(n)} \right] \quad (19)$$

Results for binary polynomials Φ_n and Ψ_n

Suppose $n = pq$, where $p < q$ are distinct primes. In this case, the polynomials Φ_n are said to be **binary** and has the following expression

$$\Phi_{pq}(z) = \frac{(z^{pq} - 1)(z - 1)}{(z^p - 1)(z^q - 1)}.$$

Let u be the unique integer such that $0 < u < p$ and $uq \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$. The number of positive coefficients of $\Phi_{pq}(z)$ is $\frac{(p-u)(uq+1)}{p}$ [24].

Theorem (Lam 1996 [34])

For $n = pq$, where $p < q$ are primes, write r, s for the unique positive integers such that $\varphi(n) = (p-1)(q-1) = pr + qs$. Then the coefficients of Φ_n are given by the following formulas

$$c_k^{(n)} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if and only if } k = ip + jq \text{ with } i \in [0, r], j \in [0, s]; \\ -1, & \text{if and only if } k = ip + jq - pq, i \in [r+q, q-1], j \in [s+1, p-1]; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

In this case $d_k^{(n)} = -1$ for all $1 \leq k \leq p-1$, and that $d_p^{(n)} = d_{p+1}^{(n)} = 0$.
The inverse cyclotomic polynomial has the following simple form

$$\Psi_n(z) = \frac{(z^p - 1)(z^q - 1)}{z - 1},$$

which is in turn equal to

$$\Psi_n(z) = z^{p+q-1} + \dots + z^q - z^{p-1} - \dots - z^2 - z - 1.$$

Hence, all the coefficients of these polynomials belong to the set $\{-1, 0, 1\}$, that is, the binary inverse cyclotomic polynomials are **flat**.

Results for ternary polynomials Φ_n and Ψ_n

Suppose $n = pqr$, where $p < q < r$ are primes.

The ternary polynomial Φ_n has the following form

$$\Phi_{pqr}(z) = \frac{(1 - z^{pqr})(1 - z^r)(1 - z^q)(1 - z^p)}{(1 - z^{qr})(1 - z^{pr})(1 - z^{pq})(1 - z)}.$$

Proposition (Coefficients of ternary cyclotomic polynomials)

- ❶ $c_k^{(n)} = 1$, for all $1 \leq k \leq p - 1$;
- ❷ $c_p^{(n)} = c_{p+1}^{(n)} = 0$.

Proposition (Results for Ramanujan triples)

For every $n = pqr$ where (p, q, r) is a Ramanujan triple, we have

- ❶ $c_k^{(n)} = 0$ for every $p < k < q$;
- ❷ $c_k^{(n)} = -1$ for every $q \leq k < r$;
- ❸ $c_r^{(n)} = -2$.

Definition

We call a triple of natural numbers (p, q, r) a **Ramanujan triple** if p, q, r are primes and $p < q < r < 2p$.

In his landmark 1919 paper [45], Ramanujan presented a novel proof of Bertrand's postulate, together with a generalization.

An important consequence is that for all $x \geq 11$ one has

$$\pi(x) - \pi\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) \geq 3,$$

where π represents the prime-counting function. By considering arbitrarily large values of x , there exist infinitely many distinct Ramanujan triples.

Definition

We call a triple of natural numbers (p, q, r) a **Ramanujan triple** if p, q, r are primes and $p < q < r < 2p$.

In his landmark 1919 paper [45], Ramanujan presented a novel proof of Bertrand's postulate, together with a generalization.

An important consequence is that for all $x \geq 11$ one has

$$\pi(x) - \pi\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) \geq 3,$$

where π represents the prime-counting function. By considering arbitrarily large values of x , there exist infinitely many distinct Ramanujan triples.

By Ramanujan's result, there is an infinite family of $n = pqr$ for which $c_r^{(n)} = -2$. While the first Ramanujan triple is $(7, 11, 13)$, where $n = 1001$, this polynomial has $c_{13}^{(1001)} = -2$ and $c_{199}^{(1001)} = -2$. but the polynomial has no coefficients of absolute value strictly greater than 2. However, for the Ramanujan triple $(17, 19, 29)$ and $n = 9367$ there are coefficients of larger absolute value such as $c_{3107}^{(9367)} = -4$.

Results for ternary polynomials Ψ_n

Suppose $n = pqr$, where $p < q < r$ are primes.

The ternary polynomial Ψ_n has the following form

$$\Psi_n(z) = \frac{(z^{pq} - 1)(z^{qr} - 1)(z^{rp} - 1)(z - 1)}{(z^p - 1)(z^q - 1)(z^r - 1)}.$$

Proposition (Coefficients of ternary inverse cyclotomic polynomials)

- ① $d_1^{(n)} = 1$ and $d_k^{(n)} = 0$, for all $2 \leq k \leq p - 1$;
- ② $d_p^{(n)} = -1$ and $d_{p+1}^{(n)} = 1$.

Proposition (Results for Ramanujan triples)

For every $n = pqr$ where (p, q, r) is a Ramanujan triple, we have

- ① $d_k^{(n)} = 0$ for all $p + 2 \leq k \leq q - 1$ and $d_q^{(n)} = -1$;
- ② $d_{q+1}^{(n)} = 1$ and $d_k^{(n)} = 0$ for all $q + 2 \leq k < r$;
- ③ $d_r^{(n)} = -1$.

We note that, combined with Ramanujan's result on the infinitude of such triples, these propositions give precise values for the first r terms in an infinite family of inverse cyclotomic polynomials.

One would be misled to think that for $n = pqr$, where (p, q, r) is a Ramanujan triple, the inverse cyclotomic polynomials are **flat**. However, this is **NOT** true.

Indeed, computations with Magma confirmed that

- for $n = 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 19$ we have $d_{53}^{(n)} = 2$;
- for the Ramanujan triple $(101, 103, 109)$ where $n = 1133927$ we obtain $d_{15651}^{(n)} = -16$.

Some computational remarks

Arnold and Monagan [1] presented three optimized algorithms for computing the coefficients of the n th cyclotomic polynomial:

- Polynomial divisions optimized with FFT.
- Quotient of sparse power series, improved by treating $\Phi_n(X)$ as a truncated power series.
- "Big prime algorithm" that generates terms sequentially to reduce memory cost.

They produced extensive data on $\Phi_n(X)$ for $n = pqr < 10^8$.

With the recurrence relations above, and their analogues for the cyclotomic polynomials, one can easily go into much higher range for special cases of ternary cyclotomic polynomials. For instance, when

$$n = (10^8 + 7) \cdot (10^8 + 37) \cdot (10^8 + 39) = 1000000830000197500010101$$

References I

- [1] Arnold, A. and Monagan, M., *Calculating cyclotomic polynomials*, Mathematics of Computation, **80**(276) (2011), 2359–2379.
- [2] Andreescu, T., Andrica, D. *Complex Numbers from A to ... Z*, 2nd ed. Birkhäuser, Boston (2014).
- [3] Andrica, D., *A combinatorial result concerning the product of two or more derivatives*, Bull. Cal. Math. Soc., **92**(4) (2000), 299–304.
- [4] Andrica, D., and Bagdasar, O., *A new formula for the coefficients of Gaussian polynomials*, An. Șt. Univ. Ovidius Constanța Ser. Mat. **27** (2019), no. 1, 25–35.
- [5] Andrica, D., and Bagdasar, O., *On some results concerning the polygonal polynomials*, Carpathian J. Math. **35** (2019), no. 1, 1–12.

References II

- [6] Andrica, D., and Bagdasar, O., *Some remarks on a general family of complex polynomials*, Appl. Anal. Discr. Math. **13** (2019), no. 1, 605–618.
- [7] Andrica, D., and Bagdasar, O., *Recurrent Sequences: Key Results, Applications and Problems*, Springer, 2020.
- [8] Andrica, D., and Bagdasar, O., *On cyclotomic polynomial coefficients*, Malays. J. Math. Sci., in: Proceedings of “Groups, Group Rings, and Related Topics - 2017” (GGRRT 2017), 19–22 Nov 2017, Khorfakan, UAE **14**(3) (2020), 389–402.
- [9] Andrica, D., and Bagdasar, O., *Remarks on the coefficients of the inverse cyclotomic polynomials*, Mathematics **11** (2023), no. 17.

References III

- [10] Andrica, D., and Bagdasar, O., *Some remarks on the coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials*. In: J. Guàrdia, N. Minculete, D. Savin, M. Vela, A. Zekhnini (eds.), *New Frontiers in Number Theory and Applications*, Trends in Mathematics, Birkhäuser, Cham, 29–49, 2024.
- [11] Andrica, D., Bagdasar, O., and Țurcaș, G.-C., *Topics on Discrete Mathematics and Combinatorics*, Cluj University Press, 2nd Edition, 2024.
- [12] Andrica, D., Bagdasar, O., and Țurcaș, G.-C., *An integral formula for the coefficients of the inverse cyclotomic polynomial*, *An. Șt. Univ. Ovidius Constanța Ser. Mat.* **33**(1) (2025), 33–48.
- [13] Andrica, D., Ionașcu, E.J., *Some unexpected connections between Analysis and Combinatorics*, in "Mathematics without boundaries. Topics in pure Mathematics", Th.M. Rassias and P. Pardalos, Eds., Springer, pp.1–20 (2014).

References IV

- [14] Andrica, D., Tomescu, I., *On an integer sequence related to a product of trigonometric functions, and its combinatorial relevance*, J.Integer Sequences, **5**(2002), Article 02.2.4.
- [15] Andrica, D., Văcărețu, D., *Representation theorems and almost unimodal sequences*, Studia Univ. Babeș-Bolyai, Mathematica, Volume **LI**, Number 4, 23–33 (2006).
- [16] Apostol, T. M., *Introduction to Analytic Number Theory*, Springer-Verlag, New York Heidelberg Berlin (1976).
- [17] Bachman, G. *On the Coefficients of Cyclotomic Polynomials*, Mem. Amer. Math. Soc., Vol. 106., no. 510(1993).
- [18] Bateman, P. T., Note on the coefficients of cyclotomic polynomial. *Bull. Amer. Math. Soc.* 55(12):1180–1181(1949).

References V

- [19] Bateman, P. T., Pomerance, C., Vaughan, R. C., On the coefficients of cyclotomic polynomial. In: *Coll. Math. Soc. J. Bolyai.*, **34**, Budapest, 171–202(1981).
- [20] Beiter, M. The midterm coefficient of the cyclotomic polynomial $F_{pq}(x)$. *Amer. Math. Monthly.* 71(7):769–770(1964).
- [21] Beiter, M., Magnitude of the coefficients of the cyclotomic polynomials $\Phi_{pqr}(X)$. *Amer. Math. Monthly.* 75(4):370–372(1968).
- [22] Beiter, M., Magnitude of the coefficients of the cyclotomic polynomials $\Phi_{pqr}(X)$ II. *Duke Math. Jour.* 38(3):591–594(1971).
- [23] Bressoud, D. M., *Unimodality of gaussian polynomials*, Discrete mathematics, vol. 99, no. 1-3, pp. 17–24(1992).
- [24] Carlitz, L., The number of terms in the cyclotomic polynomial $F_{pq}(x)$. *Amer. Math. Monthly.* 73(9):979–981(1966).

References VI

- [25] Dresden, G., On the middle coefficient of a cyclotomic polynomial. *Amer. Math. Monthly.* 111(6):531–533(2004).
- [26] Endo, M., On the coefficients of the cyclotomic polynomials. *Comment. Math. Univ. St. Pauli.* 23:121–126(1974/75).
- [27] Erdős, P., On the coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials. *Bull. Amer. Math. Soc.* 52:179–184(1946).
- [28] Erdős, P., Vaughan, R. C., Bounds for r -th coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials. *J. London Math. Soc.* 8(2):393–400(1974).
- [29] Finch, S. R., *Signum equations and extremal coefficients*, people.fas.harvard.edu/~sfinch/
- [30] Grytczuk, A., Tropak, B., A numerical method for the determination of the cyclotomic polynomial coefficients. In: Pethő, A. et al. eds. *Computational Number Theory*. Berlin: de Gruyter, pp. 15–19(1991).

References VII

- [31] Ireland, K., Rosen, M., *A Classical Introduction to Modern Number Theory*. Graduate Texts in Mathematics, Springer(1990).
- [32] Ji, C. G., Li, W. P., Values of coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials. *Discrete Mathematics*. 308(23):5860–5863(2008).
- [33] Kirillov A. N., *Unimodality of generalized gaussian coefficients*, Arxiv preprint.
- [34] Lam, T. Y., Leung, K. H., On the Cyclotomic Polynomial $\Phi_{pq}(x)$. *Amer. Math. Monthly*. 103(7):562–564(1996).
- [35] Lehmer, E., On the magnitude of the coefficients of the cyclotomic polynomial. *Bull. Amer. Math. Soc.* 42(6):389–392(1936).
- [36] Lehmer, D. H., Some properties of the cyclotomic polynomial. *J. Math. Anal. Appl.* 42(1):105–117(1966).

References VIII

- [37] Maier, H., The coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials. In: *Analytic Number Theory* (Allerton Park IL, 1989), Progr. Math. 85, Birkhäuser Boston (Boston MA, 1990), pp. 349–366(1990).
- [38] Maier, H., Cyclotomic polynomials with large coefficients. *Acta Arith.* 64:227–235(1993).
- [39] Maier, H., The size of the coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials. In: *Analytic Number Theory* (Allerton Park IL, 1995), Progr. Math. 139, Birkhäuser Boston (Boston MA, 1996), pp. 633–639(1996).
- [40] Möller, H., Über die i -ten Koeffizienten der Kreisteilungspolynome. *Math. Ann.* 188:26–38(1970).
- [41] Möller, H., Über die Koeffizienten des n -ten Kreisteilungspolynome. *Math. Z.* 119:34–40(1971).

References IX

- [42] Montgomery, H. L., Vaughan, R. C., The order of the m -th coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials. *Glasgow Math. J.* 27:143–159(1985).
- [43] OEIS Foundation Inc. (2011). The On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences. <http://oeis.org>.
- [44] O'Hara, K. M., *Unimodality of gaussian coefficients: a constructive proof*, Journal of Combinatorial Theory, Series A, vol. 53, no. 1, pp.29–52(1990).
- [45] Ramanujan, S., *A proof of Bertrand's postulate*, J. Indian Math. Soc., **11** (1919), 181–182.
- [46] Sándor, J., Crstici, B., *Handbook of Number Theory II*. Dordrecht, Netherlands: Kluwer (2004).

References X

- [47] Sullivan, B.D., *On a Conjecture of Andrica and Tomescu*, J.Integer Sequence 16, Article 13.3.1(2013).
- [48] Suzuki, J., On coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials. *Proc. Japan Acad. Ser. A Math. Sci.* 63:279–280(1987).
- [49] Vaughan, R. C., Bounds for the coefficients of cyclotomic polynomials. *Michigan Math. J.* 21:289–295(1975).