

Proof. It is clear that $(A + B)^m = \sum_{k=0}^m c_k^m B^k A^{m-k}$ where the scalars c_k^m only depend on k and m . By some computing c_k^m for small numbers, we can guess that

$$c_k^m = \frac{\phi_m}{\phi_k \phi_{m-k}},$$

where ϕ_k 's are given by

$$\phi_k = \prod_{i=1}^k (1 + \dots + \omega^{i-1})$$

(Assume $\phi_0 = 1$)

Claim. When c_k^m 's are defined from the equation $(A + B)^m = \sum_{k=0}^m c_k^m B^k A^{m-k}$, for all m , we get $c_0^m = c_m^m = 1$ and for $k = 1, \dots, m-1$,

$$c_k^m = \frac{\phi_m}{\phi_k \phi_{m-k}}$$

Proof. First of all, we can easily compute that $c_0^m = c_m^m = 1$ for all m . So it is enough to compute for $k = 1, \dots, m-1$.

By computing $(A + B)^{m+1} = (A + B) \sum_{k=0}^m c_k^m B^k A^{m-k}$, we get

$$c_k^{m+1} = \omega^k c_k^m + c_{k-1}^m$$

for $k = 1, \dots, m$. Now use induction on m :

$m = 0, 1$: Obvious because we showed all the possible cases already (either $k = 0$ or m)

Assume the equation holds on $m = l$. Then for all $k = 1, \dots, l$,

$$\begin{aligned} c_k^{l+1} &= \omega^k c_k^l + c_{k-1}^l \\ &= \omega^k \frac{\phi_l}{\phi_k \phi_{l-k}} + \frac{\phi_l}{\phi_{k-1} \phi_{l-k+1}} \\ &= \frac{\phi_l}{\phi_k \phi_{l-k+1}} \left(\omega^k \frac{\phi_{l-k+1}}{\phi_{l-k}} + \frac{\phi_k}{\phi_{k-1}} \right) \\ &= \frac{\phi_l}{\phi_k \phi_{l-k+1}} \{ \omega^k (1 + \dots + \omega^{l-k}) + (1 + \dots + \omega^{k-1}) \} \\ &= \frac{\phi_l}{\phi_k \phi_{l-k+1}} (1 + \dots + \omega^l) = \frac{\phi_{l+1}}{\phi_k \phi_{l-k+1}} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by induction, claim holds for all m and $k = 0, 1, \dots, m$. \square

We know that $\omega^i - 1 \neq 0$ for $i = 1, \dots, n-1$. Thus $1 + \omega + \dots + \omega^{i-1} \neq 0$ for $i = 1, \dots, n-1$. It means that $\phi_i \neq 0$ for $i = 1, \dots, n-1$. But $\phi_n = 0$, since $(\omega - 1)(1 + \omega + \dots + \omega^{n-1}) = \omega^n - 1 = 0$ and $\omega \neq 1$. Therefore, for $k = 1, \dots, n-1$, by using claim,

$$c_k^n = \frac{\phi_n}{\phi_k \phi_{n-k}} = \frac{0}{\phi_k \phi_{n-k}} = 0$$

and $c_0^n = c_n^n = 1$. Consequently, we get

$$(A + B)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n c_k^n B^k A^{n-k} = A^n + B^n$$

\square