an x such that $a^{2m}x = a^m$. Let q denote an arbitrary primary divisor of (a^{2m}) of index m. Then also $a^m \equiv 0$ (q) as follows at once from the assumption that q is of index m. Hence (a^m) and (a^{2m}) have precisely the same primary ideal divisors of index m; thus, by hypothesis, it follows that $(a^m) = (a^{2m})$. That is, there exists an x such that $a^{2m}x = a^m$, and a^m is regular. Thus \Re is m-regular.

We conclude with the following theorem:

THEOREM 7. A necessary and sufficient condition that a commutative ring \Re , with unit element, be m-regular is that all direct indecomposable ideals be primary of index m.*

It is known[†] that in an arbitrary ring with unit element every ideal is the intersection of its direct indecomposable ideal divisors. If these are all primary of index m, the preceding theorem shows that \Re is m-regular.

Suppose \Re is *m*-regular, and let \sharp be a direct indecomposable ideal in \Re . Then \Re/\sharp is irreducible and is also *m*-regular. Thus, by Theorem 2, \Re/\sharp is a special primary ring and \sharp is therefore a primary ideal in \Re . Theorem 6 then states that \sharp is of index *m*, and the proof is completed.

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A FORMULA FOR THE COEFFICIENTS OF THE CYCLOTOMIC POLYNOMIAL[‡]

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Despite the widespread use of the roots of unity in the solution of many mathematical questions, the problem of characterizing the irreducible equation

$$F_n(x) = x^r + a_1 x^{r-1} + \cdots + a_r = 0$$

whose roots are the primitive *n*th roots of unity has received little attention. It is well known that $r = \phi(n)$, that $F_n(1) = p$ for $n = p^{\alpha}$ (where *p* is a prime) and $F_n(1) = 1$ otherwise. For *n* a power of a prime a_i is 1 or 0. In 1883 Migotti§ proved that for *n* a product of two primes a_i is ± 1 or 0. In 1895 Bang|| showed that for *n* a product of

^{*} Cf. S, Theorem 10.

[†] See S, §4.

[‡] Presented to the Society, February 26, 1938.

[§] Sitzungsberichte der Akademie der Wissenschaften, Vienna, (2), vol. 87 (1883), pp. 7–14.

^{||} Nyt Tidsskrift for Mathematik, (B), vol. 6 (1895), pp. 6–12.

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three primes the absolute value of any coefficient is less than the smallest of the primes.

I. Schur* in 1931 proved that there exist cyclotomic polynomials with coefficients arbitrarily large in absolute value. Bungers† in 1934 proved the same theorem, under the assumption that there exist infinitely many prime pairs, for n a product of three primes. In 1936 E. Lehmer‡ modified Bungers' proof so as to eliminate his unproved assumption of the existence of infinitely many prime pairs.

Although these results are extremely interesting, the only information they yield of the nature of the coefficients for an arbitrary n is that there is no bound on them independent of n. The purpose of this note is to derive a formula for the coefficients of any cyclotomic polynomial. The formula thus obtained may be of some use in numerical work. Its value in problems of a theoretical nature appears to be more limited.

Before we proceed to the actual derivation of the formula, let us first establish four lemmas.

LEMMA 1. Consider a fixed number, say m, of indeterminates x_i . Let \sum mean the usual \sum -function and \sum' the sum as if the exponents were distinct. If

$$a_1 = a_2 = \cdots = a_u, \ a_{u+1} = a_{u+2} = \cdots = a_{u+v}, \cdots,$$

 $a_{k-w+1} = a_{k-w+2} = \cdots = a_k,$

then

$$\sum x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2} \cdots x_k^{a_k} = \frac{1}{u!} \frac{1}{v!} \cdots \frac{1}{w!} (-1)^k \sum_{i=1}^{k!} g_i : S$$

where g_i is an element of the symmetric group on k letters, written in cyclic form (not omitting cycles containing but one letter), and where

$$(a_1^{(1)}, a_2^{(1)}, \cdots, a_r^{(1)})(a_1^{(2)}, a_2^{(2)}, \cdots, a_s^{(2)}) \cdots (a_1^{(j)}, a_2^{(j)}, \cdots, a_t^{(j)}):S$$

= $(-1)^{i}S_{a_1^{(1)}+a_2^{(1)}+\cdots+a_r^{(1)}}S_{a_1^{(2)}+a_2^{(2)}+\cdots+a_s^{(2)}} \cdots S_{a_1^{(j)}+a_2^{(j)}+\cdots+a_t^{(j)}};S$

wherein $S_i = \sum x^i$ and $a_j^{(i)}$ is some a_k .

PROOF. We first note that $u!v! \cdots w! \sum x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2} \cdots x_r^{a_r} = \sum' x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2} \cdots x_r^{a_r}$. The proof is by induction on k. $\sum' x_1^{a_1} = (-1)[(a_1):S]$

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^{*} His proof is given in a paper by E. Lehmer, this Bulletin, vol. 42 (1936), p. 389. I have drawn upon this paper for all the references contained in the present article.

[†] Göttingen Dissertation, 1934.

[‡] E. Lehmer, op. cit., pp. 389-392.

 $=(-1)[-S_{a_1}]=S_{a_1}$. Hence the theorem is true for k=1. We assume it true for $k \leq n$. We have

$$\sum' x_{n+1}^{a_{n+1}} \sum' x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2} \cdots x_n^{a_n} = \sum' x_1^{a_1 + a_{n+1}} x_2^{a_2} \cdots x_n^{a_n} + \sum' x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2 + a_{n+1}} \cdots x_n^{a_n} + \cdots + \sum' x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2} \cdots x_n^{a_n + a_{n+1}} + \sum' x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2} \cdots x_n^{a_n + a_{n+1}}, \sum' x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2} \cdots x_{n+1}^{a_{n+1}} = \sum' x_{n+1}^{a_{n+1}} \sum' x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2} \cdots x_n^{a_n} - \sum' x_1^{a_1 + a_{n+1}} x_2^{a_2} \cdots x_n^{a_n} - \cdots - \sum' x_1^{a_1 + a_{n+1}} x_2^{a_2} \cdots x_n^{a_n + a_{n+1}} = - \left\{ (-1)^n \sum_{i=1}^{n^1} [(a_{n+1})g_i] : S + (-1)^n \sum_{i=1}^n h_i^{(1)} : S + \cdots + (-1)^n \sum_{i=1}^{n^1} h_i^{(n)} : S \right\},$$

where $h_i^{(j)}$ is obtained from the element g_i by replacing a_j by a_j , a_{n+1} . Hence

$$\sum' x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2} \cdots x_{n+1}^{a_{n+1}} = (-1)^{n+1} \sum_{i=1}^{(n+1)!} g_i: S.$$

LEMMA 2. In the symmetric group on n letters, n > 1, the number of elements with an even number of cycles equals the number of elements with an odd number of cycles (provided cycles with but one letter are not omitted).

PROOF. In Lemma 1, let $x_1 = 1$ and $x_j = 0$, $(j = 2, 3, \dots, n)$. Then $S_i = 1$ for all i, and

$$x_1x_2\cdots x_n=\frac{1}{n!}(-1)^n\sum_{i=1}^{n!}g_i:S=\frac{1}{n!}(-1)^n(J-K)$$

where J is the number of elements in the symmetric group on n letters with an even number of cycles, K the number with an odd number of cycles. Since $x_1x_2 \cdots x_n = 0$, J = K.

LEMMA 3. If n is square free and the product of k primes, then the coefficient a_1 in $F_n(x)$ is $(-1)^{k+1}$.

PROOF. The proof is by induction on k. The theorem is obviously

true for k=1. We assume it to be true for k=t. Let *m* be the product of *t* different primes. Then $F_m(x) = x^r + (-1)^{t+1}x^{r-1} + \cdots + 1$. Let *p* be a prime not dividing *m* and ϵ , ϵ^2 , \cdots , ϵ^{p-1} the primitive *p*th roots of unity. Then

$$F_{mp}(x) = [x^r + (-1)^{t+1} \epsilon x^{r-1} + \cdots + \epsilon^r] [x^r + (-1)^{t+1} \epsilon^2 x^{r-1} + \cdots + \epsilon^{2r}] \cdots [x^r + (-1)^{t+1} \epsilon^{p-1} x^{r-1} + \cdots + \epsilon^{(p-1)r}].$$

Expanding, we have

$$F_{mp}(x) = x^{r(p-1)} + (-1)^{t+1} (\epsilon + \epsilon^2 + \cdots + \epsilon^{p-1}) x^{r(p-1)-1} + \cdots + 1.$$

Since $\epsilon + \epsilon^2 + \cdots + \epsilon^{p-1} = -1$, the induction is established.

LEMMA 4. Let x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r be the primitive nth roots of unity, where n is square free. Let $(i, n) = p_1 p_2 \cdots p_t = s$. Then $S_i = S_1$ if s = 1 and $(-1)^t \phi(s) S_1$ otherwise.

PROOF. Let i = qs where (q, n) = 1. Then

 $x_1^i + x_2^i + \cdots + x_r^i = x_1^{qs} + x_2^{qs} + \cdots + x_r^{qs} = x_{j_1}^s + x_{j_2}^s + \cdots + x_{j_r}^s$

But x_j^s is a primitive (n/s)th root of unity. Moreover, every (n/s)th root of unity appears in the above expression the same number of times, namely

$$\frac{\phi(n)}{\phi(n/s)}=\phi(s).$$

Hence, by Lemma 3, if k is the number of primes contained in n,

$$S_i = (-1)^{k-t+1}\phi(s) = (-1)^t\phi(s)S_1.$$

We are now in a position to investigate the main problem. We need only consider n which are square free; for let m be the largest square free number dividing n. Then $F_n(x) = F_m(x^{n/m})$.

In considering square free n, we restrict ourselves first to the case where n is the product of an odd number of primes. Then, by Lemma 3, $S_1 = -1$. From Lemma 1,

(1)
$$(-1)^{i}a_{i} = \sum x_{1}x_{2}\cdots x_{i} = \frac{1}{i!}(-1)^{i}\sum_{k=1}^{i!}g_{k}:S.$$

Suppose $g_k = c_1^{(r_1)} \cdots c_{\nu}^{(r_{\nu})}$, where $c_{\mu}^{(r_{\mu})}$, $(\mu = 1, \cdots, \nu)$, is a cycle on r_{μ} letters, $r_1 + r_2 + \cdots + r_{\nu} = i$. Then $g_k : S = \prod_{\mu} (c_{\mu}^{(r_{\mu})} : S) = \prod_{\mu} (-S_{r_{\mu}})$ since all exponents in (1) are 1. If r_{μ} is prime to $n, -S_{r_{\mu}} = -S_1 = 1$;

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and if for all g_k , all r_{μ} were prime to n, we would have the relation

(2)
$$\sum_{k=1}^{i} g_k : S = i! = G_i.$$

To obtain the actual value of $\sum g_k$: *S*, we take G_i as an "approximation" and determine corrections to be added due to certain r_{μ} not prime to *n*. A correction is first determined for cycles "associated with the length p, $p \mid n$." A cycle $c^{(r)}$ is associated with the length p if $p \mid r$, and the correction is obtained by using the "better" value $c^{(r)}: S = -(p-1)$ instead of 1, while cycles not associated with the length p are left as 1. This is done for all $p \mid n$ and $p \leq i$. (The better value is the correct value only if (r, n) = p.) Then a correction is determined for cycles associated with the length pq, $pq \mid n$, $pq \leq i$, and so on.

The first approximation (2) yields $a_i = [G_i]/i!$. In correcting for cycles associated with the length p, $p \mid n$, consider first those substitutions having a cycle of length p. They are of the form $c^{(p)}g$, where g is an element of the symmetric group on (i-p) letters. Since, by Lemma 4, $S_p = (p-1)$, we have $c^{(p)}g: S = -(p-1)(g:S)$ (with the minus sign taken because of the reduction in the number of cycles operating on S). A cycle of length p may be chosen in i!/[p(i-p)!] ways. If we assume that the cycles of g operating on S are evaluated for $S_i = S_1$, and if we note that we have previously evaluated, in (2), this expression as -(-1)(g:S), the value of a_i becomes

(3)
$$a_{i} = \frac{1}{i!} \left[G_{i} - p \; \frac{i!}{p(i-p)!} G_{i-p} \right].$$

However, if a substitution has r cycles of length p, we have counted it $C_{r,1}=r$ times.

Consider now those substitutions having a cycle of length 2p. They are i!/[2p(i-2p)!] in number and have been previously evaluated, in (2), as -(-1)(g;S) instead of the better value -(p-1)(g;S) (g now is an element of the symmetric group on (i-2p) letters). Those substitutions having 2 cycles of length p are

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{i!}{p(i-p)!} \frac{(i-p)!}{p(i-2p)!} = \frac{i!}{2p^2(i-2p)!}$$

in number. They have been previously evaluated, in (3), as

$$(-1)(-1)(g:S) + (2p)(-1)(g:S) = (1-2p)(g:S)$$

instead of $(p^2-2p+1)(g:S)$. If we again assume that the cycles of g

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operating on S are evaluated for $S_i = S_i$, the value of a_i becomes

$$a_{i} = \frac{1}{i!} \left[G_{i} - p \frac{i!}{p(i-p)!} G_{i-p} - p \frac{i!}{2p(i-2p)!} G_{i-2p} + p^{2} \frac{i!}{2p^{2}(i-2p)!} G_{i-2p} \right].$$

However, if a substitution has r cycles of length 2p, we have counted it $C_{r,1}$ times; and if a substitution has r cycles of length p, we have counted it $C_{r,2}$ times.

We proceed now to the general case, namely that of substitutions having k_1 cycles of length p, k_2 cycles of length 2p, \cdots , k_s cycles of length sp. Let $\sum jk_j = k$ and $\sum k_j = t$. (We assume that we have already considered all substitutions with (k-1)p or less letters involved in cycles associated with the length p.) Each combination of (t-j), $(j \ge 1)$, of the cycles of such a substitution has already introduced the correction $(-1)^{t-j}p^{t-j}$. Hence this substitution has been previously evaluated as

$$\left[(-1)^{t} \sum_{j} (-1)^{j} C_{t,t-j} p^{t-j} \right] (g:S).$$

There are $(h/k!)i!/[p^t(i-kp)!]$ such substitutions, where h is the number of elements in the symmetric group on k letters having k_1 cycles of length 1, k_2 cycles of length 2, \cdots , k_s cycles of length s. If we let k_1, k_2, \cdots, k_s assume all values compatible with $\sum jk_j = k$, we have

$$a_{i} = \frac{1}{i!} \left[G_{i} - \frac{i!}{(i-p)!} G_{i-p} + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{i!}{(i-2p)!} G_{i-2p} + \cdots + \left(\frac{h'-h''}{k!}\right) \frac{i!}{(i-kp)!} G_{i-kp} \right],$$

where h' is the number of elements in the symmetric group on k letters having an even number of cycles and h'' the number having an odd number of cycles. However, by Lemma 2, h'=h''; moreover, from its definition, $G_u=u!$. Hence the correction, due to cycles associated with the length p, which must be added to the first approximation of a_i is -1. If we apply this process to cycles associated with each of the t primes less than i dividing n, the value of a_i becomes $a_i=1-t$.

The situation for cycles of length pq, pq|n, $pq \leq i$, is slightly different. We have previously evaluated them as (-p-q+1)(g:S). Since

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their correct value by Lemma 4 is [-(p-1)(q-1)(-1)](g:S), the adjustment must be made as pq(g:S). An analysis similar to the case for a single prime shows that to the value of a_i previously computed must be added the following correction for cycles associated with the length pq:

$$\frac{1}{i!} \left[\frac{i!}{(i-pq)!} G_{i-pq} + \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \frac{i!}{(i-2pq)!} G_{i-2pq} + \cdots + \left(\frac{h'+h''}{k!} \right) \frac{i!}{(i-kpq)!} G_{i-kpq} + \cdots \right].$$

As before, h' is the number of elements in the symmetric group on k letters having an even number of cycles, and h'' the number having an odd number of cycles. Hence h'+h''=k!. Thus each multiple of $pq \leq i$ adds 1 to a_i .

The proper adjustment for a cycle of length $p_1p_2 \cdots p_i$, such that $p_1p_2 \cdots p_i | n, p_1p_2 \cdots p_i \leq i$, is $(-1)^t p_1 p_2 \cdots p_i (g:S)$. This may be established quite easily by induction on t. The theorem was seen to be true for t=1. We assume it to be true for $t \leq k$. Then a cycle of length $p_1p_2 \cdots p_{k+1}$, $p_1p_2 \cdots p_{k+1} | n, p_1p_2 \cdots p_{k+1} \leq i$, at that stage in the process when all cycles associated with a length which is a product of less than k+1 primes dividing n have been evaluated, has introduced the following number into a_i :

(4)
$$(-1)^{k}\left[\sum_{k=1}^{k+1}p_{1}p_{2}\cdots p_{k}-\sum_{k=1}^{k+1}p_{1}p_{2}\cdots p_{k-1}+\cdots+(-1)^{k}\right](g:S).$$

However, by Lemma 4, the correct evaluation is

(5)
$$(-1)^{k+1}\phi(p_1p_2\cdots p_{k+1})(g:S).$$

But the difference between (5) and (4) is

$$(-1)^{k+1}p_1p_2\cdots p_{k+1}(g:S),$$

which then is the correction that must be made.

If t is odd, the analysis of the case for a single prime shows that each divisor $p_1p_2 \cdots p_i$ of n less than or equal to i subtracts 1 from a_i . If t is even, the argument for two primes shows that each multiple of each such factor less than or equal to i adds 1 to a_i .

There remains to consider only the adjustments necessary for the simultaneous occurrence of cycles of length r_1, r_2, \dots, r_s , respectively, where $r_i | n$. The formula for the correction, which we shall establish by induction, is $(-1)^t r_1 r_2 \cdots r_s(g:S)$, where t is the number

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of primes (not necessarily distinct) appearing in the product $r_1r_2 \cdots r_s$. We have previously shown the formula to be true for t=1. We assume it to be true for $t \leq k$. Then the *s* cycles of length r_1, r_2, \cdots, r_s , respectively, at that point when cycles associated with lengths whose product contains less than (k+1) primes have all been evaluated, have introduced the following number into a_i :

(6)
$$(-1)^{k} \left[\sum_{k=1}^{k+1} p_{1}p_{2} \cdots p_{k} - \sum_{k=1}^{k+1} p_{1}p_{2} \cdots p_{k-1} + \cdots + (-1)^{k} \right] (g:S)$$

where the summations are taken as if p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{k+1} were distinct. However, by Lemma 4, the correct evaluation is

(7)
$$(-1)^{k+1}\phi(r_1)\phi(r_2)\cdots\phi(r_s)(g:S).$$

The difference between (7) and (6) is

$$(-1)^{k+1}r_1r_2\cdots r_s(g:S),$$

and the induction is complete.

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In applying the adjustment to all possible combinations of sets of cycles, where each set is associated with some r_i , we should note that the method of grouping the cycles used in analyzing the case for a single prime may still be used within each set. Hence the sum of any number, say t, of different divisors of n containing an odd number of primes plus the sum of any number of multiples of different divisors of n containing an even number of primes adds or subtracts 1 to a_i as t is even or odd. Note that $(-1)^t$ is the same whether t is defined as above or as in the previous paragraph. Also note that we must specify "different divisors," for if some $r_i = r_i$, our method of grouping would have accounted for the cycles at an earlier stage in the process.

If *n* is square free and the product of an even number of primes, the same general methods apply. However, certain differences arise due to the fact that $S_1=1$ instead of -1 as previously. A cycle of length p must be evaluated as (p-1)(g:S). After correcting for all cycles associated with the length p, $p \mid n$, we have

$$a_{i} = \frac{1}{i!} \left[G_{i} + \frac{i!}{(i-p)!} G_{i-p} + \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{i!}{(i-2p)!} G_{i-2p} + \cdots + \left(\frac{h'+h''}{k!}\right) \frac{i!}{(i-kp)!} G_{i-kp} + \cdots \right].$$

Since $S_1 = 1$, we have $G_0 = 1$, $G_1 = -1$, and $G_j = 0$ for j > 1. (G_u , we recall, is $\sum_{u=1}^{u} g_k$: S evaluated for $S_j = S_1$.) Hence any multiple of p equal

to *i* adds 1 to a_i , and any multiple of p equal to i-1 subtracts 1 from a_i . This is true of any product of an odd number of primes dividing *n*. A product of an even number of primes subtracts or adds 1 to a_i if it equals *i* or i-1, respectively. However multiples of such expressions have no effect. The extension to sums of divisors is immediate.

We have thus established the following theorem:

THEOREM. Let $F_n(x) = x^r + a_1 x^{r-1} + \cdots + a_r = 0$ be the irreducible equation of the primitive nth roots of unity.

A. Let m be the largest square free number dividing n and a'_i a coefficient of F_m . Then if i = kn/m, $a_i = a'_k$; if n/m does not divide i, $a_i = 0$.

B. Let n be square free and the product of an odd number of primes. Then

$$a_i = 1 + \sum \epsilon_d$$

where the following conditions hold:

(a) The summation is extended over all $d \leq i$.

(b) The number d is the sum of any number, say t, of different divisors of n containing an odd number of primes plus the sum of any number of multiples of different divisors of n containing an even number of primes.

(c) $\epsilon_d = (-1)^t$.

C. Let n be square free and the product of an even number of primes. Then

$$a_1 = -1;$$
 $a_i = \sum \epsilon_d - \sum \epsilon_{d'},$ $i > 1,$

where the following conditions hold:

(a) The summations are extended over all d=i and all d'=i-1, respectively.

(b) Both d and d' are the sum of any number of multiples of different divisors of n containing an odd number of primes plus the sum of any number, say t, of different divisors of n containing an even number of primes.

(c) $\epsilon_d = (-1)^t$.

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