

Examples 3 in Polynomial Arithmetic

Copyright © 2018 by Seong Ryeol Kim. All rights reserved

[Click this to start.](#)

Examples 3 in Polynomial Arithmetic

0. Assuming that $x + \frac{1}{x} = 4$, find the values of P and Q as follows.

0.0. $P = x - \frac{1}{x}$

0.1. $Q = x^3 - \frac{1}{x^3}$

1. Assuming that $x^3 - \frac{1}{x^3} = 8\sqrt{5}$ where $x > 0$, find the values of P and Q as follows.

1.0. $P = x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3}$

1.1. $Q = x + \frac{1}{x}$

Suggestions or Solutions
To the Problem in the Example 0

Assuming that $x + \frac{1}{x} = 4$, find the values of P and Q as follows.

0.0. $P = x - \frac{1}{x}$

0.1. $Q = x^3 - \frac{1}{x^3}$

To begin with, letting $a = x$, and $b = \frac{1}{x}$, we get $a + b = 4$, and $ab = x \cdot \frac{1}{x} = 1$.

So next, we can get $a + b = 4 \Rightarrow (a + b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2 = a^2 + 2 \cdot 1 + b^2 = 4^2 = 16$

$$\Rightarrow a^2 + b^2 = 16 - 2 = 14 \Rightarrow a^2 + b^2 = 14.$$

0.0. $P = a - b \Rightarrow P^2 = (a - b)^2 = a^2 - 2ab + b^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2 \cdot 1 = 14 - 2 = 12 \Rightarrow P^2 = 12.$

Thus, we get $P = \pm\sqrt{12} = \pm 2\sqrt{3}$.

0.1. Let's begin with setting again, $a = x$, and $b = \frac{1}{x}$.

Then first, in the problem 0.0, we have $P = \pm 2\sqrt{3}$, and $P = a - b$.

So we can set $a - b = \pm 2\sqrt{3}$. Thus, we can get

$$(a - b)^3 = (a - b)(a - b)(a - b) = (a^2 - ab - ab + b^2)(a - b) = (a^2 - 2ab + b^2)(a - b)$$

$$= a^3 - a^2b - 2a^2b + 2ab^2 + ab^2 - b^3 = a^3 - 3a^2b + 3ab^2 - b^3$$

$$= a^3 - 3ab(a - b) - b^3 = (\pm 2\sqrt{3})^3 = \pm 2^3 3\sqrt{3} = \pm 8 \cdot 3\sqrt{3} = \pm 24\sqrt{3}.$$

And we can put it this way, too: $(\pm 2\sqrt{3})^3 = (\pm\sqrt{12})^3 = \pm 12\sqrt{12} = \pm 12 \cdot 2\sqrt{3} = \pm 24\sqrt{3}$.

So we now have $a^3 - 3ab(a - b) - b^3 = \pm 24\sqrt{3}$.

Also, we can have $ab = 1$, too, because $a = x$, and $b = \frac{1}{x}$. So?

So we get $a^3 - 3ab(a - b) - b^3 = a^3 - 3 \cdot 1 \cdot (\pm 2\sqrt{3}) - b^3 = a^3 - (\pm 6\sqrt{3}) - b^3 = \pm 24\sqrt{3}$.

And we know $Q = a^3 - b^3$.

Thus, we get

$$a^3 - (\pm 6\sqrt{3}) - b^3 = a^3 - b^3 - (\pm 6\sqrt{3}) = Q - (\pm 6\sqrt{3}) = (\pm 24\sqrt{3})$$

$$\Rightarrow Q = (\pm 6\sqrt{3}) + (\pm 24\sqrt{3}) = \pm 30\sqrt{3}.$$

And if knowing polynomial factorizations, we can do it the way below, too.

$$Q = a^3 - b^3 = (a - b)(a^2 + ab + b^2) = P(a^2 + 2ab + b^2 - ab), \text{ since } P = a - b.$$

So we get $Q = P\{(a + b)^2 - 1\} = P(16 - 1) = 15P$, because we have $a + b = 4$, since we have $x + \frac{1}{x} = 4$, and we have set $a = x$, and $b = \frac{1}{x}$.

$$\text{Thus, we get } Q = 15P = 15(\pm 2\sqrt{3}) = \pm 30\sqrt{3}.$$

Also, we can do it this way, too:

$$P^3 = (a - b)^3 = a^3 - b^3 - 3ab(a - b) = Q - 3 \cdot 1 \cdot P = Q - 3P.$$

$$\text{So we get } Q = P^3 + 3P = P(P^2 + 3) = \pm\sqrt{12}\{(\pm\sqrt{12})^2 + 3\} = \pm 2\sqrt{3}(12 + 3) = \pm 30\sqrt{3}.$$

In short:

Assuning first, $a = x$, and $b = \frac{1}{x}$, we get $a + b = 4$, and $ab = x \cdot \frac{1}{x} = 1$.

So we get $(a + b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2 = a^2 + 2 + b^2 = 4^2 = 16 \Rightarrow a^2 + b^2 = 14$.

$$\mathbf{0.0.} \quad P = x - \frac{1}{x}$$

$$P^2 = (a - b)^2 = a^2 - 2ab + b^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2 = 14 - 2 = 12 \Rightarrow P = \pm\sqrt{12} = \pm 2\sqrt{3}.$$

$$\mathbf{0.1.} \quad Q = x^3 - \frac{1}{x^3}$$

We have $a - b = \pm 2\sqrt{3}$, which is the value of P above, and $ab = 1$.

So we can get $(a - b)^3 = a^3 - 3ab(a - b) - b^3 = (\pm 2\sqrt{3})^3 = \pm 24\sqrt{3}$.

Thus, we get $Q - 3ab(a - b) = Q - 3 \cdot 1 \cdot (\pm 2\sqrt{3}) = Q - (\pm 6\sqrt{3}) = \pm 24\sqrt{3}$.

Therefore, we get $Q = (\pm 6\sqrt{3}) + (\pm 24\sqrt{3}) = \pm 30\sqrt{3}$.

Suggestions or Solutions
To the Problem 0 in the Example 1

Assuming that $x^3 - \frac{1}{x^3} = 8\sqrt{5}$ where $x > 0$, find the values of $P = x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3}$.

Setting first $a = x$, and $b = \frac{1}{x}$, we can get $ab = 1$, and $a^3 - b^3 = 8\sqrt{5}$.

So next, we can get

$$\begin{aligned} P = a^3 + b^3 &\Rightarrow P^2 = (a^3 + b^3)^2 = (a^3)^2 + 2a^3b^3 + (b^3)^2 = (a^3)^2 - 2a^3b^3 + (b^3)^2 + 4a^3b^3 \\ &= (a^3 - b^3)^2 + 4a^3b^3 = (8\sqrt{5})^2 + 4 = 8^2 \cdot 5 + 4 = 4(2 \cdot 8 \cdot 5 + 1) = 4 \cdot 81 = 18^2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we get $P = 18$, because $P > 0$, since $x > 0$.

If not quite sure of the idea behind the processes above, follow the steps below.

Setting first again $a = x$, and $b = \frac{1}{x}$, we can get $ab = 1$, and $a^3 - b^3 = 8\sqrt{5}$.

So next, we can get

$$P = a^3 + b^3 \Rightarrow P^2 = (a^3 + b^3)^2 = (a^3 + b^3)(a^3 + b^3) = (a^3)^2 + 2a^3b^3 + (b^3)^2.$$

Thus, we get $P^2 = (a^3 + b^3)^2 = (a^3)^2 + 2a^3b^3 + (b^3)^2$.

And we can put it this way, too:

$$P^2 = (a^3)^2 + 2a^3b^3 - 2a^3b^3 + 2a^3b^3 + (b^3)^2 = (a^3)^2 - 2a^3b^3 + (b^3)^2 + 4a^3b^3.$$

Thus, we get $P^2 = (a^3)^2 - 2a^3b^3 + (b^3)^2 + 4a^3b^3$.

And we can have this, too: $(a^3 - b^3)^2 = (a^3 - b^3)(a^3 - b^3) = (a^3)^2 - 2a^3b^3 + (b^3)^2$.

So we can get $P^2 = (a^3 - b^3)^2 + 4a^3b^3$.

Next, we have $ab = 1$, since $a = x$, and $b = \frac{1}{x}$. And we have this, too: $a^3 - b^3 = 8\sqrt{5}$.

So we get $P^2 = (a^3 - b^3)^2 + 4a^3b^3 = (8\sqrt{5})^2 + 4 = 8^2 \cdot 5 + 4 = 4(2 \cdot 8 \cdot 5 + 1) = 4 \cdot 81 = 18^2$.

Thus, we get $P = 18$, because $P > 0$, because $P = x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3}$, and $x > 0$.

So in short:

Setting first $a = x$, and $b = \frac{1}{x}$, we can get $ab = 1$, and $a^3 - b^3 = 8\sqrt{5}$.

So next, we can get

$$\begin{aligned} P = a^3 + b^3 &\Rightarrow P^2 = (a^3 + b^3)^2 = (a^3)^2 + 2a^3b^3 + (b^3)^2 = (a^3)^2 - 2a^3b^3 + (b^3)^2 + 4a^3b^3 \\ &= (a^3 - b^3)^2 + 4a^3b^3 = (8\sqrt{5})^2 + 4 = 8^2 \cdot 5 + 4 = 4(2 \cdot 8 \cdot 5 + 1) = 4 \cdot 81 = 18^2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we get $P = 18$, because $P > 0$, since $x > 0$.

Suggestions or Solutions
To the Problem 1 in the Example 1

Assuming that $x^3 - \frac{1}{x^3} = 8\sqrt{5}$ where $x > 0$, find the values of $Q = x + \frac{1}{x}$.

Setting first $a = x$, and $b = \frac{1}{x}$, we can get $ab = 1$.

And next, we can have $(a + b)^3 = a^3 + b^3 + 3ab(a + b)$.

So we get $Q^3 = P + 3Q$, since $P = a^3 + b^3$, and $ab = 1$. And we have $P = 18$.

Thus, we get $Q^3 - 3Q - P = Q^3 - 3Q - 18 = 0$.

And we can get $Q = 3 \Rightarrow 3^3 - 3 \cdot 3 - 18 = 27 - 9 - 18 = 0$.

So we can set $Q^3 - 3Q - 18 = (Q - 3)(uQ^2 - vQ - w)$, where u , v , and w are constant.

That is to say that $(Q - 3)$ can divide $(Q^3 - 3Q - 18)$.

So doing the synthetic division, we can get this:

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr}
 3 & 1 & 0 & -3 & -18 \\
 & & 3 & 9 & 18 \\
 \hline
 & 1 & 3 & 6 & 0
 \end{array}$$

So we get $(Q - 3)(Q^2 + 3Q + 6) = 0$.

$\therefore Q = 3$, because $Q^2 + 3Q + 6 \neq 0$, because $Q > 0$, because $Q = x + \frac{1}{x}$, and $x > 0$.

And a sum of numbers positive is positive and cannot be 0.

If not quite sure of the idea behind the processes above, follow the steps below.

Setting first again $a = x$, and $b = \frac{1}{x}$, we can get $ab = 1$.

And next, we can have $(a + b)^3 = (a + b)(a + b)^2 = (a + b)(a^2 + 2ab + b^2)$

$$= a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3 = a^3 + 3ab(a + b) + b^3 = a^3 + b^3 + 3ab(a + b).$$

So we get $(a + b)^3 = a^3 + b^3 + 3ab(a + b)$. And we have $P = a^3 + b^3$, and $ab = 1$.

Also, we got $P = 18$ in the example 1.0 above. So we get $Q^3 = P + 3Q$.

Thus, we get $Q^3 - 3Q - P = Q^3 - 3Q - 18 = 0$.

And knowing polynomial factorizations, we can try factorizing this: $Q^3 - 3Q - 18$ to solve the equation, $Q^3 - 3Q - 18 = 0$. How?

Assuming c is constant, and $(Q - c)$ divides $(Q^3 - 3Q - 18)$, we can set

$$Q^3 - 3Q - 18 = (Q - c)(uQ^2 + vQ + w), \text{ where } u, v, \text{ and } w \text{ are constant.}$$

Then, $Q^3 - 3Q - 18$ can be said to be factorized to $(Q - c)(uQ^2 + vQ + w)$.

Then, we can say that $Q = c$ is a solution to the equation $Q^3 - 3Q - 18 = 0$.

$$\text{That's because } Q^3 - 3Q - 18 = 0 \Rightarrow (Q - c)(uQ^2 + vQ + w) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow Q - c = 0 \text{ or } uQ^2 + vQ + w = 0.$$

The value of c can be one of divisors of 18, since the equation is $Q^3 - 3Q - 18 = 0$.

So for instance, taking 3 as the value of c , we get $Q - c = 0 \Rightarrow Q - 3 = 0 \Rightarrow Q = 3$.

$$\text{Then, we get } Q = 3 \Rightarrow Q^3 - 3Q - 18 = 3^3 - 3 \cdot 3 - 18 = 27 - 9 - 18 = 0.$$

So we can set $Q^3 - 3Q - 18 = (Q - 3)(uQ^2 + vQ + w)$, where u, v , and w are constant.

That is to say that $(Q - 3)$ can divide $(Q^3 - 3Q - 18)$.

The idea has been covered in the section **Polynomial Arithmetic 5** in the book **Polynomial Factorizations**.

And we can easily find the quotient $(uQ^2 + vQ + w)$ using the synthetic division.

So doing the synthetic division, we can get

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 3 & 1 & 0 & -3 & -18 \\ & & 3 & 9 & 18 \\ \hline & 1 & 3 & 6 & 0 \end{array}$$

So we get $(Q - 3)(Q^2 + 3Q + 6) = 0$.

Then, we get $Q - 3 = 0$ or $Q^2 + 3Q + 6 = 0$.

And in this case, we get $Q = 3$ only, because we get $Q^2 + 3Q + 6 \neq 0$. Why?

That's because $Q > 0$, because $Q = x + \frac{1}{x}$, and $x > 0$, and thus, $Q^2 + 3Q + 6$ is a sum of values all positive. And a sum of numbers positive is positive and cannot be 0.

And we can show this: $Q^2 + 3Q + 6 \neq 0$ the way below, too.

$$Q^2 + 3Q + 6 = Q^2 + 3Q + \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 + 6 = \left(Q + \frac{3}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 + 6 = \left(Q + \frac{3}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{15}{4} \geq \frac{15}{4} \text{ for all } Q.$$

• Also, we can do this problem the way below, too.

Using $P = x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} = 18$, and $x^3 - \frac{1}{x^3} = 8\sqrt{5}$, we can find the value of x^3 , first.

$$x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} + x^3 - \frac{1}{x^3} = 18 + 8\sqrt{5} \Rightarrow 2x^3 = 18 + 8\sqrt{5} \Rightarrow x^3 = 9 + 4\sqrt{5} \Rightarrow x = \sqrt[3]{4\sqrt{5} + 9}.$$

So we get $Q = x + \frac{1}{x} = \sqrt[3]{4\sqrt{5} + 9} + \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{4\sqrt{5} + 9}}$, which is equal to 3.

In addition, we can actually find the value of x directly and use the value.

That is, we can solve the equation $x^3 - \frac{1}{x^3} = 8\sqrt{5}$ where $x > 0$, and use the solution.

To begin with, setting $t = x^3$ in the equation above, we get $t - \frac{1}{t} = 8\sqrt{5}$.

Thus, we get $t - \frac{1}{t} = 8\sqrt{5} \Rightarrow t^2 - 1 = 8\sqrt{5}t \Rightarrow t^2 - 8\sqrt{5}t - 1 = 0$.

And using the quadratic formula, we get

$$t = \frac{8\sqrt{5} \pm \sqrt{64 \cdot 5 + 4}}{2} = \frac{8\sqrt{5} \pm \sqrt{18^2}}{2} = \frac{8\sqrt{5} \pm 18}{2} = 4\sqrt{5} \pm 9.$$

And we have $x > 0$, and $t = x^3$. So we get $t > 0$. Thus, we get $t = 4\sqrt{5} + 9$.

And next, since $t = x^3$, we get $x = t^{\frac{1}{3}} = \sqrt[3]{t} = \sqrt[3]{4\sqrt{5} + 9}$.