

## ON KRONECKER POLYNOMIALS

AHMED AYACHE, OTHMAN ECHI AND MONGI NAIMI

**ABSTRACT.** Monic polynomials with integer coefficients having all their roots in the unit disc have been studied by Kronecker; they are called *Kronecker polynomials*. Let  $n \geq 1$  be an integer. By a *strong Kronecker polynomial*, we mean a monic polynomial  $P(X) \in \mathbf{Z}[X]$  of degree  $n - 1$  and such that  $P(X)$  divides  $P(X^t)$  for each  $t \in \{1, \dots, n - 1\}$ . We say that  $P(X)$  is an *absolutely Kronecker polynomial* if  $P(X)$  divides  $P(X^t)$  for each positive integer  $t$ . We describe a canonical form of strong (respectively absolute) Kronecker polynomials. We, also, prove that if  $n$  is composite, then each strong Kronecker polynomial with degree  $n - 1$  is absolutely Kronecker. If  $n$  is prime, then we prove that each strong Kronecker polynomial  $P(X) \neq 1 + X + X^2 + \dots + X^{n-1}$  is absolutely Kronecker.

**0. Introduction.** In 1857, Kronecker [4] was interested in monic polynomials (i.e., with highest coefficient 1) with integer coefficients having all their roots in the unit disc (Kronecker polynomials). Kronecker proved that the non-zero roots of such polynomials are on the boundary of the unit disc (the unit circle); he also proved that there are finitely many such polynomials of degree a given positive integer  $n$ .

In 2001, Pantelis Damianou [3] described a canonical form of these polynomials and called them *Kronecker polynomials*. He proved that these polynomials have the form  $P(X) = X^k Q(X)$ , where  $Q(X)$  is a finite product of cyclotomic polynomials.

In 2000, Doru Caragea and Viviana Ene proposed the following “Millennial polynomial problem” [1]: Let  $S$  be the set of monic, irreducible polynomials with degree 2000 and integer coefficients. Find all  $P \in S$  such that  $P(a)$  divides  $P(a^2)$  for every natural number  $a$ .

---

2010 AMS *Mathematics subject classification*. Primary 11A41, 11A51, 11C08, 12D05.

*Keywords and phrases*. Euler totient function, cyclotomic polynomial, prime number, reciprocal polynomial, zeros on the unit circle.

The second author is the corresponding author.

Received by the editors on June 17, 2008, and in revised form on October 3, 2008.

DOI:10.1216/RMJ-2011-41-3-707 Copyright ©2011 Rocky Mountain Mathematics Consortium