# **Expressions Related to the Roots of Polynomials**

## Sums of squares:

• Quadratic:  $\alpha^2 + \beta^2 = (\alpha + \beta)^2 - 2\alpha\beta$ 

• Cubic:  $\alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2 = (\alpha + \beta + \gamma)^2 - 2(\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha)$ 

• Quartic:  $\alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2 + \delta^2 = (\alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta)^2 - 2(\alpha\beta + \beta)^2$ 

 $\alpha\beta + \alpha\gamma + \beta\gamma + \cdots$ 

## Sums of cubes:

• Quadratic:  $\alpha^3 + \beta^3 = (\alpha + \beta)^3 - 3\alpha\beta(\alpha + \beta)$ 

• Cubic:  $\alpha^3 + \beta^3 + \gamma^3 = (\alpha + \beta + \gamma)^3 - 3(\alpha + \beta + \gamma)(\alpha\beta + \beta)^3$ 

 $\beta \gamma + \gamma \alpha) + 3\alpha \beta \gamma$ 

### **Reciprocals:**

• Quadratic:  $\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} = \frac{\alpha + \beta}{\alpha \beta}$ 

• Cubic:  $\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} + \frac{1}{\gamma} = \frac{\alpha \beta + \beta \gamma + \gamma \alpha}{\alpha \beta \gamma}$ 

• Quartic:  $\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{1}{\beta} + \frac{1}{\gamma} + \frac{1}{\delta} = \frac{\Sigma \alpha \beta \gamma}{\alpha \beta \gamma \delta}$ 

#### **Products of Powers**

• Quadratic:  $\alpha^n + \beta^n = (\alpha\beta)^n$ 

• Cubic:  $(\alpha + \beta + \gamma)^n = (\alpha \beta \gamma)^n$ 

• Quartic:  $(\alpha + \beta + \gamma + \delta)^n = (\alpha\beta\gamma\delta)^n$ 

### **Example**

The three roots of a cubic equation are  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$ . Given that  $\alpha\beta\gamma=4$ ,

 $lphaeta+eta\gamma+\gammalpha=-5$  and  $lpha+eta+\gamma=3$  , find the value of

$$(\alpha+3)(\beta+3)(\gamma+3)$$