

70

Sum/Difference of Cubes

Sum of Two Cubes

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

Example

$$\begin{aligned} 8x^3 + 27 &= (2x)^3 + 3^3 \\ &= (2x + 3)(4x^2 - 6x + 9) \end{aligned}$$

Difference of Two Cubes

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

Example

$$\begin{aligned} 64x^3 - 1 &= (4x)^3 - 1^3 \\ &= (4x - 1)(16x^2 + 4x + 1) \end{aligned}$$

What are the perfect squares?

1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49...

What are the perfect cubes?

1, 8, 27, 64, 125, 216...