

$$1. \ a^2x^2 - 4abx^2 + 4b^2x^2 + 2a^2 - 8ab + 8b^2$$

$$= x^2(a^2 - 4ab + 4b^2) + 2(a^2 - 4ab + 4b^2) = (a^2 - 4ab + 4b^2)(x^2 + 2) = (\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{2}\mathbf{b})^2(x^2 + 2)$$

$$2. \ -a^3 + \frac{4}{3}a^2 - \frac{4}{9}a$$

$$= -a\left(a^2 - \frac{4}{3}a + \frac{4}{9}\right) = \mathbf{-a} \left(\mathbf{a} - \frac{\mathbf{2}}{3}\right)^2$$

$$3. \ x^3 - 3x^2 + 3x - 1 - ax^2 + a$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (x - 1)^3 - a(x^2 - 1) = (x - 1)^3 - a(x - 1)(x + 1) = (x - 1)[(x - 1)^2 - a(x + 1)] = \\ &= (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{1})(\mathbf{x}^2 - \mathbf{2}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{1} - \mathbf{ax} - \mathbf{a}) \end{aligned}$$

$$4. \ x^4 - a^2x^2 - 4x^2 + 4a^2$$

$$= x^2(x^2 - 4) - a^2(x^2 - 4) = (x^2 - 4)(x^2 - a^2) = (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{2})(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{2})(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a})(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{a})$$

$$5. \ xy^4 - 2xy^2 + x$$

$$= x(y^4 - 2y^2 + 1) = x(y^2 - 1)^2 = \mathbf{x}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{1})^2(\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{1})^2$$

$$6. \ x(a - 2)^2 - x(3a - 2)^2$$

$$= x[(a - 2)^2 - (3a - 2)^2] = x(a - 2 + 3a - 2)(a - 2 - 3a + 2) = -2ax(4a - 4) = \mathbf{-8ax(a - 1)}$$

$$7. \ a^5 - 3a^4 + 3a^3 - a^2$$

$$= a^2(a^3 - 3a^2 + 3a - 1) = \mathbf{a^2(a - 1)^3}$$