

■ I_n ($n \in \mathbb{N}$) を $I_n = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^n x dx$ により定義するとき,

$$I_n = \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(\frac{n+1}{2})}{n \Gamma(\frac{n}{2})}$$

と表されることを示せ.

(解) 部分積分法により

$$\begin{aligned} I_{n+2} &= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^{n+1} x [-\cos x]' dx \\ &= [\sin^{n+1} x (-\cos x)]_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} - \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} (n+1) \sin^n x \cos x (-\cos x) dx \\ &= (n+1) \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^n x \cos^2 x dx = (n+1) I_n - (n+1) I_{n+2} \end{aligned}$$

となるので,

$$I_{n+2} = \frac{n+1}{n+2} I_n, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}$$

が得られる. また,

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin x dx = [-\cos x]_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} = 1, \\ I_2 &= \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^2 x dx = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \frac{1 - \cos 2x}{2} dx = \left[\frac{x}{2} - \frac{\sin 2x}{4} \right]_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} = \frac{\pi}{4} \end{aligned}$$

である. $\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) = \sqrt{\pi}$, $\Gamma(1) = 1$ であり, すべての $z > 0$ に対して $\Gamma(z+1) = z\Gamma(z)$ が成り立つので, n が奇数のとき

$$\begin{aligned} I_n &= \frac{n-1}{n} I_{n-2} = \cdots = \frac{n-1}{n} \cdot \frac{n-3}{n-2} \cdots \frac{4}{5} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot 1 \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{n} \cdot \frac{(\frac{n+1}{2}-1) \cdot (\frac{n+1}{2}-2) \cdots 2 \cdot 1}{(\frac{n}{2}-1) \cdot (\frac{n}{2}-2) \cdots \frac{1}{2} \cdot \sqrt{\pi}} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(\frac{n+1}{2})}{n \Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \end{aligned}$$

となり, n が偶数のとき

$$\begin{aligned} I_n &= \frac{n-1}{n} I_{n-2} = \cdots = \frac{n-1}{n} \cdot \frac{n-3}{n-2} \cdots \frac{5}{6} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{\pi}{4} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{n} \cdot \frac{(\frac{n+1}{2}-1) \cdot (\frac{n+1}{2}-2) \cdots \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \sqrt{\pi}}{(\frac{n}{2}-1) \cdot (\frac{n}{2}-2) \cdots 1} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(\frac{n+1}{2})}{n \Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \end{aligned}$$

となる. ■