

I_n ($n \in \mathbb{N}$) を

$$I_n = \int_0^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin^n x \, dx$$

により定めるとき, I_n を n を用いて表せ. また, I_n をガンマ関数 $\Gamma(z)$ を用いて表せ.

(解) $\Gamma(z+1) = z\Gamma(z)$ ($z > 0$) より,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Gamma(\frac{n+1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} &= \frac{\frac{n-1}{2} \cdot \Gamma(\frac{n-1}{2})}{\frac{n-2}{2} \cdot \Gamma(\frac{n-2}{2})} = \frac{n-1}{n-2} \cdot \frac{\frac{n-3}{2} \cdot \Gamma(\frac{n-3}{2})}{\frac{n-4}{2} \cdot \Gamma(\frac{n-4}{2})} = \frac{n-1}{n-2} \cdot \frac{n-3}{n-4} \cdot \frac{\frac{n-5}{2} \cdot \Gamma(\frac{n-5}{2})}{\frac{n-6}{2} \cdot \Gamma(\frac{n-6}{2})} = \dots \\ &= \frac{n-1}{n-2} \cdot \frac{n-3}{n-4} \cdot \frac{n-5}{n-6} \dots \begin{cases} \frac{4}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{1} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\frac{2}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})} & (n \text{ が奇数のとき}) \\ \frac{5}{4} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})}{\Gamma(\frac{2}{2})} & (n \text{ が偶数のとき}) \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

が成り立つ. I_1 および I_2 はそれぞれ

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

である. また, 各 $n \in \mathbb{N}$ に対して, 部分積分法により

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

となるので, I_n は漸化式

$$I_1 = 1, \quad I_2 = \frac{\pi}{4}, \quad I_{n+2} = \frac{n+1}{n+2} \cdot I_n \quad (n \in \mathbb{N})$$

をみたく. $\Gamma(1/2) = \sqrt{\pi}$, $\Gamma(1) = 1$ より, n が奇数のとき

$$\begin{aligned} I_n &= \frac{n-1}{n} I_{n-2} = \frac{n-1}{n} \cdot \frac{n-3}{n-2} \cdot I_{n-4} = \dots \\ &= \frac{n-1}{n} \cdot \frac{n-3}{n-2} \dots \frac{4}{5} \cdot \frac{2}{3} \cdot I_1 = \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{n-1}{n-2} \cdot \frac{n-3}{n-4} \dots \frac{4}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{1} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(\frac{n+1}{2})}{n \Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \end{aligned}$$

であり, n が偶数のとき

$$\begin{aligned} I_n &= \frac{n-1}{n} I_{n-2} = \frac{n-1}{n} \cdot \frac{n-3}{n-2} \cdot I_{n-4} = \dots \\ &= \frac{n-1}{n} \cdot \frac{n-3}{n-2} \dots \frac{5}{6} \cdot \frac{3}{4} \cdot I_2 = \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{n-1}{n-2} \cdot \frac{n-3}{n-4} \dots \frac{5}{4} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \cdot \sqrt{\pi} = \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma(\frac{n+1}{2})}{n \Gamma(\frac{n}{2})} \end{aligned}$$

である. ■