

$x^2 - 4x + 1 = 0$ のとき, $x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3}$, $x^5 + \frac{1}{x^5}$ の値を求めよ.

【答】 $x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} = 52$, $x^5 + \frac{1}{x^5} = 724$

【解答】

$x^2 - 4x + 1 = 0$ は, $x = 0$ を解にもたないから, 両辺を x で割って

$$x - 4 + \frac{1}{x} = 0$$

$$\therefore x + \frac{1}{x} = 4 \quad \dots\dots \textcircled{1}$$

①より

$$x^2 + \frac{1}{x^2} = \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^2 - 2 \cdot x \cdot \frac{1}{x} = 4^2 - 2 \cdot 1 = 14 \quad \dots\dots \textcircled{2}$$

①, ②より

$$\begin{aligned} x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} &= \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{x^2}\right) - \left(x \cdot \frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{x} \cdot x^2\right) \\ &= \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{x^2}\right) - \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) \\ &= 4 \cdot 14 - 4 \\ &= \mathbf{52} \quad \dots\dots \textcircled{3} \end{aligned} \quad \dots\dots (\text{答})$$

また, ①, ②, ③より

$$\begin{aligned} x^5 + \frac{1}{x^5} &= \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{x^2}\right) \left(x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3}\right) - \left(x^2 \cdot \frac{1}{x^3} + \frac{1}{x^2} \cdot x^3\right) \\ &= \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{x^2}\right) \left(x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3}\right) - \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) \\ &= 14 \cdot 52 - 4 \\ &= \mathbf{724} \quad \dots\dots (\text{答}) \end{aligned}$$

- $x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3}$ については, 3 次の等式 (数学 II)

$$x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} = \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) \left(x^2 - x \cdot \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{x^2}\right)$$

$$x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} = \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)^3 - 3x \cdot \frac{1}{x} \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right)$$

を利用することもできる.

- $a_n = x^n + \frac{1}{x^n}$ とおくと

$$\begin{aligned} a_{n+2} &= x^{n+2} + \frac{1}{x^{n+2}} \\ &= \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) \left(x^{n+1} + \frac{1}{x^{n+1}}\right) - \left(x \cdot \frac{1}{x^{n+1}} + \frac{1}{x} \cdot x^{n+1}\right) \\ &= \left(x + \frac{1}{x}\right) \left(x^{n+1} + \frac{1}{x^{n+1}}\right) - \left(x^n + \frac{1}{x^n}\right) \\ &= 4a_{n+1} - a_n \end{aligned}$$

が成り立つ。これを用いると, $a_1 = 4$, $a_2 = 14$ により

$$a_3 = 4 \cdot 14 - 4 = 52$$

$$a_4 = 4 \cdot 52 - 14 = 194$$

$$a_5 = 4 \cdot 194 - 52 = 724$$

を得る.