

有限幕級數的遞迴關係

與史特林數

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前言：

欲解決 $\sum_{k=1}^n k^m = ?$ 有各種不同的方法，

$\sum_{k=1}^n k$ 於初中階段，可利用等差公式。一般而

言，於高中階段欲解決 $\sum_{k=1}^n k^m$ 須從 $(k+1)^{m+1}$

之展式著手，對 $m = 1, 2, 3$ 可藉由面積的觀點，而有圖解法；在離散數學的領域中，亦有人利用「生成函數」提出解決的方法等等。（請參閱〔1-4〕）。

本篇則是以遞迴的觀點，配合差分方程的技巧，也許可以把問題簡化一些。

首先，我們定義一些基本的符號，如下：

1. 降幕： $x^{(n)} = x \cdot (x-1) \cdots (x-n+1)$

升幕： $x^{(n)} = x \cdot (x+1) \cdots (x+n-1)$

2. $\Delta = E - 1$ ，即 $\Delta a_n = (E - 1) a_n$

$$= E a_n - a_n = a_{n+1} - a_n$$

3. $\Delta(n+j)^{(k)} = (n+j+1)^{(k)} - (n+j)^{(k)}$

$$= k(n+j)(n+j-1) \cdots (n+j-k+2)$$

$$= k(n+j)^{(k-1)}$$

$$\text{即 } \frac{1}{\Delta}(n+j)^{(k-1)} = \frac{1}{k} \cdot (n+j)^{(k)}$$

更甚者， $\Delta^i(n+j)^{(k)} = k^{(i)}(n+j)^{(k-i)}$

$$\text{且 } \frac{1}{\Delta^i}(n+j)^{(k-1)} = \frac{1}{k^{(i)}}(n+j)^{(k+i-1)}$$

例 1 : $\sum_{k=1}^n k = ?$

解：令 $\sum_{k=1}^n k = a_n$

$$a_{n+1} = a_n + (n+1)$$

$$a_{n+1} - a_n = \Delta a_n = (n+1)$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\Delta}(n+1) = \frac{1}{\Delta}(n+1)^{(1)}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{2}(n+1)^{(2)} + c$$

$$\therefore a_1 = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2 \cdot 1 + c = 1 \Rightarrow c = 0$$

$$\therefore a_n = \frac{1}{2}n(n+1)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k = \frac{1}{2}n(n+1)$$

例 2 : $\sum_{k=1}^n k^2 = ?$

解：令 $\sum_{k=1}^n k^2 = a_n$

$$a_{n+1} = a_n + (n+1)^2$$

$$a_{n+1} - a_n = \Delta a_n = (n+1)^2$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\Delta}(n+1)^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{\Delta}[(n+1)^{(2)} + (n+1)^{(1)}]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{3}(n+1)^{(3)} + \frac{1}{2}(n+1)^{(2)} + c \\
&= \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} + c \\
a_1 &= \frac{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3}{6} + c \\
&= 1 + c \\
&= 1 \\
\therefore c &= 0 \\
\sum_{k=1}^n k^2 &= \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}
\end{aligned}$$

接下來，我們想要解出 $\sum_{k=1}^n k^m = ?$

首先求得 $\sum_{k=1}^n k^{(m)} = ?$ 當 $m \geq 1$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\text{令 } \sum_{k=1}^n k^{(m)} = a_n \\
a_{n+1} &= a_n + (n+1)^{(m)} \\
a_{n+1} - a_n &= \Delta a_n \\
&= (n+1)^{(m)} \\
a_n &= \frac{1}{\Delta} (n+1)^{(m)} \\
&= \frac{1}{m+1} (n+1)^{(m+1)} + c
\end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore a_1 = 1^{(m)} = \begin{cases} 1 & m=1 \\ 0 & m \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore c = 1^{(m)} - \frac{1}{m+1} 2^{(m+1)} = 0$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k^{(m)} = \frac{1}{m+1} (n+1)^{(m+1)} \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

第二類史特林數 (The second kind of Stirling number)

$$\begin{aligned}
S(m+1, n) &= S(m, n-1) + nS(m, n) \dots \dots \dots (2) \\
S(m, i) &= 0, \quad \forall i \leq 0 \text{ 且 } i \geq m+1 \\
S(m, 1) &= S(m, m) = 1 \\
S(m, m-1) &= \binom{m}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

$m \backslash n$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	1							
2	1	1						
3	1	3	1					
4	1	7	6	1				
5	1	15	25	10	1			
6	1	31	90	65	15	1		
7	1	63	301	350	140	21	1	
8	1	127	966	1701	1050	266	28	1

由(2)知

$$966 = 63 + 3 \times 301$$

$$\begin{aligned}
k &= k^{(1)} \\
k^2 &= k^{(1)} + k^{(2)} \\
k^3 &= k^{(1)} + 3k^{(2)} + k^{(3)} \\
k^4 &= k^{(1)} + 7k^{(2)} + 6k^{(3)} + k^{(4)} \\
k^5 &= k^{(1)} + 15k^{(2)} + 25k^{(3)} + 10k^{(4)} + k^{(5)} \\
k^6 &= k^{(1)} + 31k^{(2)} + 90k^{(3)} + 65k^{(4)} + 15k^{(5)} + k^{(6)} \\
&\vdots \\
&\vdots
\end{aligned}$$

由數學歸納法知

$$\begin{aligned}
k^m &= k^{(1)} + S(m, 2)k^{(2)} + S(m, 3)k^{(3)} \\
&\quad + \dots \dots + S(m, m)k^{(m)} \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^m S(m, i)k^{(i)} \dots \dots \dots (3)
\end{aligned}$$

由(3)知

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{k=1}^n k^m &= \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m S(m, i)k^{(i)} \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^m S(m, i) \sum_{k=1}^n k^{(i)} \\
\text{由(1)知} \quad &= \sum_{i=1}^m S(m, i) \left[\frac{1}{i+1} (n+1)^{(i+1)} \right] \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{S(m, i)}{i+1} (n+1)^{(i+1)}
\end{aligned}$$

所以由上知

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k^m = \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{S(m, i)}{i+1} (n+1)^{(i+1)}$$

為 n 之 $m+1$ 次多項式

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{令 } \sum_{k=1}^n k^m &= \sum_{j=1}^{m+1} b_j n^j \\
 \text{則 } b_{m+1} &= \frac{S(m, m)}{m+1} = \frac{1}{m+1} \\
 b_m &= \frac{S(m, m)}{m+1} [1+0+(-1)+\dots] \\
 &\quad + (1-m) + \frac{S(m, m-1)}{m} \\
 &= \frac{2-m}{2} + \frac{S(m, m-1)}{m} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

註：

式子(3)的證明如下：

$$\text{試證 } k^m = \sum_{i=1}^m S(m, i) k^{(i)}, \text{ 當 } m \geq 1$$

證：

$$\begin{aligned}
 1. \text{ 當 } m = 1 \text{ 時 } \quad \text{左} &= k^1 = S(1, 1) k^{(1)} \\
 &= \text{右, 故此式成立。}
 \end{aligned}$$

2. 假設 $m = n$ 時此式成立，

$$\text{即 } k^n = \sum_{i=1}^n S(n, i) k^{(i)}$$

3. 當 $m = n + 1$ 時

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{左} &= k^{n+1} = k^n \cdot k = (\sum_{i=1}^n S(n, i) k^{(i)}) \cdot k \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^n S(n, i) k^{(i)} \cdot [(k-i)+i] \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^n S(n, i) (k^{(i+1)} + i k^{(i)}) \\
 &= S(n, n) k^{(n+1)} + n S(n, n) k^{(n)} \\
 &\quad + \sum_{i=2}^{n-1} S(n, i) (k^{(i+1)} + i k^{(i)}) \\
 &\quad + S(n, 1) k^{(2)} + S(n, 1) k^{(1)} \\
 &= S(n, n) k^{(n+1)} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} [S(n, i) \\
 &\quad + (i+1) S(n, i+1)] k^{(i+1)} \\
 &\quad + S(n, 1) k^{(1)} \\
 &= S(n+1, n+1) k^{(n+1)} + \sum_{j=2}^n S(
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &n+1, j) k^{(j)} + S(n+1, 1) k^{(1)} \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} S(n+1, i) k^{(i)} \\
 &= \text{右, 故此式亦成立。}
 \end{aligned}$$

由數學歸納法原理知

$$k^m = \sum_{i=1}^m S(m, i) k^{(i)}, \text{ 當 } m \geq 1.$$

參考資料

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