

## 巧用牛顿恒等式及推论解题

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**牛顿恒等式** 对于数列  $\{a_n\}$ ,  $a_n = Ax_1^n + Bx_2^n$ , 若  $x_1, x_2$  是方程  $x^2 + px + q = 0$  的两根, 则

$$a_n = -pa_{n-1} - qa_{n-2}.$$

**证明** 由条件得  $x_1^2 = -px_1 - q, x_2^2 = -px_2 - q$ ,

故  $-pa_{n-1} - qa_{n-2}$

$$= -p(Ax_1^{n-1} + Bx_2^{n-1}) - q(Ax_1^{n-2} + Bx_2^{n-2})$$

$$= Ax_1^{n-2}(-px_1 - q) + Bx_2^{n-2}(-px_2 - q)$$

$$= Ax_1^{n-2} \cdot x_1^2 + Bx_2^{n-2} \cdot x_2^2 = Ax_1^n + Bx_2^n,$$

即  $a_n = -pa_{n-1} - qa_{n-2}$ .

**推论1** 若数列  $\{a_n\}$  的通项  $a_n = \alpha\alpha^n + b\beta^n$  ( $\alpha \neq \beta$ ), 则  $n > 2$  时有  $a_n = (\alpha + \beta)a_{n-1} - \alpha\beta a_{n-2}$ .

**证明** 设  $\alpha + \beta = p, \alpha\beta = q$ , 则  $\alpha, \beta$  为方程  $x^2 - px + q = 0$  的两根,

$$\alpha^2 - p\alpha + q = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\beta^2 - p\beta + q = 0 \quad (2)$$

由(1)有  $\alpha\alpha^{n-2}(\alpha^2 - p\alpha + q) = \alpha(\alpha^n - p\alpha^{n-1} + q\alpha^{n-2}) = 0$ ,

同理  $\beta(\beta^n - p\beta^{n-1} + q\beta^{n-2}) = 0$ ,

两式相加得  $a_n - pa_{n-1} + qa_{n-2} = 0$ ,

即  $a_n = (\alpha + \beta)a_{n-1} - \alpha\beta a_{n-2}$  ( $n \geq 3$ ).

用同样的推理方法, 可得

**推论2** 若数列  $\{a_n\}$  的通项  $a_n = \alpha\alpha^n + b\beta^n + c\gamma^n$  ( $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  互不相等), 则当  $n \geq 3$  时, 有

$$a_n = (\alpha + \beta + \gamma)a_{n-1} - (\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha)a_{n-2} + \alpha\beta\gamma a_{n-3}.$$

下面举例说明牛顿恒等式及推论的应用.

## 一、判断整除性

**例1** 试证:  $11^{n+2} + 12^{2n+1}$  ( $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ) 能被 133 整除.

**证明** 设  $a_n = 11^{n+2} + 12^{2n+1}$

$$= 121 \times 11^n + 12 \times 144^n,$$

$\therefore 11, 144$  是方程  $x^2 - 155x + 1584 = 0$  的两根,

$$\therefore a_n = 155 \times a_{n-1} - 1584 \times a_{n-2} (n \geq 2),$$

又  $a_0 = 133, a_1 = 3059 = 133 \times 23$  均能被 133 整除,

由逆推式知:  $a_n = 11^{n+2} + 12^{2n+1}$  能被 133 整除.

**例2** 求证:  $(7 + 4\sqrt{3})^n$  的小数部分是以至少  $n$  个 9 开头的.

**证明** 设  $a_n = (7 + 4\sqrt{3})^n + (7 - 4\sqrt{3})^n$ ,

$\therefore 7 + 4\sqrt{3}, 7 - 4\sqrt{3}$  是方程  $x^2 - 14x + 1 = 0$  的两根,

$$\therefore a_n = 14a_{n-1} - a_{n-2} (n \geq 3).$$

又  $a_1 = 14, a_2 = 194$ , 由逆推式知

对任何  $n \in N, a_n$  为正整数

$$\therefore 0 < 7 - 4\sqrt{3} < 7 - 1.73 \times 4 < 0.1,$$

$$\therefore 0 < (7 - 4\sqrt{3})^n < 0.1^n,$$

从而  $(7 + 4\sqrt{3})^n = a_n - (7 - 4\sqrt{3})^n < a_n - 0.1^n$ ,

故  $(7 + 4\sqrt{3})^n$  的小数部分是以至少  $n$  个 9 开头的.

## 二、求数列的逆推式

**例3** (1981年全国高考附加题) 以  $AB$  为直径的半圆有一个内接正方形  $CDEF$ , 其边长为 1, 设  $AC = a, BC = b$ , 作数列  $u_1 = a - b, u_2 = a^2 - ab + b^2, u_3 = a^3 - a^2b + ab^2 - b^3, \dots, u_k = a^k - a^{k-1}b + a^{k-2}b^2 - \dots + (-1)^k b^k$ ,

求证:  $u_n = u_{n-1} + u_{n-2}$  ( $n \geq 3$ ).

**证明** 由已知得通项

$$u_n = a^n - a^{n-1}b + a^{n-2}b^2 - \dots + (-1)^n b^n$$

$$= [a^{n+1} - (-b)^{n+1}] \div (a + b)$$

$$= \frac{a}{a+b} a^n + \frac{b}{a+b} (-b)^n,$$

收稿日期: 1999.09.15

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由推论1得  $u_n = (a-b)u_{n-1} - (-ab)u_{n-2} \quad (n \geq 3)$ ,

而  $a-b=AC-BC=AC-AF=FC=1$ ,

$$ab=AC \times BC=CD^2=1$$

故  $u_n = u_{n-1} + u_{n-2} \quad (n \geq 3)$ .

### 三、求值、化简

例4 已知  $\sin x + \cos x = m$ , 求  $\sin^4 x + \cos^4 x$ .

解 设  $a_n = \sin^n x + \cos^n x \quad (n \in \mathbb{N})$ , 则

$$p = a_1 = \sin x + \cos x = m,$$

$$a_2 = \sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = 1,$$

$$\text{于是 } q = \sin x \cos x = \frac{1}{2}(a_1^2 - a_2)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}(m^2 - 1),$$

根据推论1,  $a_n = ma_{n-1} - qa_{n-2} \quad (n \geq 3)$ ,

$$\therefore a_3 = ma_2 - qa_1 = m - mq,$$

$$a_4 = ma_3 - qa_2 = -\frac{1}{2}m^4 + m^2 + \frac{1}{2},$$

$$\text{即 } \sin^4 x + \cos^4 x = -\frac{1}{2}m^4 + m^2 + \frac{1}{2}.$$

例5 设  $x+y=1, x^2+y^2=2$ , 求  $x^7+y^7$  的值  
(1979年日本高考题)

解 设  $a_n = x^n + y^n$ , 则  $p = a_1 = x+y=1, a_2 = x^2+y^2=2$ , 于是  $q = xy = \frac{1}{2}(a_1^2 - a_2) = -\frac{1}{2}$ , 由推论1

$$a_n = (x+y)a_{n-1} - xy a_{n-2} = a_{n-1} + \frac{1}{2}a_{n-2},$$

$$\therefore a_3 = a_2 + \frac{1}{2}a_1 = 2 + \frac{1}{2} \times 1 = \frac{5}{2},$$

$$\text{依次可得 } a_4 = \frac{7}{2}, a_5 = \frac{19}{4}, a_6 = \frac{26}{4},$$

$$a_7 = a_6 + \frac{1}{2}a_5 = \frac{26}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{19}{4} = \frac{71}{8},$$

$$\text{即 } x^7 + y^7 = \frac{71}{8}.$$

### 四、证明条件等式

例6 求证  $\sin^5(\alpha - 120^\circ) + \sin^5 \alpha + \sin^5(\alpha + 120^\circ) = -\frac{15}{16}\sin 3\alpha$ .

证明 设  $a_n = \sin^n(\alpha - 120^\circ) + \sin^n \alpha + \sin^n(\alpha + 120^\circ)$ , 则  $a_0 = 3$ , 易知

$$p = a_1 = \sin(\alpha - 120^\circ) + \sin \alpha + \sin(\alpha + 120^\circ) = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$q = \sin(\alpha - 120^\circ)\sin \alpha + \sin \alpha \sin(\alpha + 120^\circ) +$$

$$\sin(\alpha + 120^\circ)\sin(\alpha - 120^\circ) = -\frac{3}{4} \quad (2)$$

$$s = \sin(\alpha - 120^\circ)\sin \alpha \sin(\alpha + 120^\circ) = -\frac{\sin 3\alpha}{4},$$

由(1)、(2)可得

$$a_2 = \sin^2(\alpha - 120^\circ) + \sin^2 \alpha + \sin^2(\alpha + 120^\circ)$$

$$= a_1^2 - 2 \cdot q = \frac{3}{2},$$

根据推论2  $qa_n = -qa_{n-2} + sa_{n-3} \quad (n \geq 3)$ ,

$$\therefore a_3 = -qa_1 + sa_0 = -\frac{3}{4}\sin 3\alpha,$$

$$a_5 = -qa^3 + sa_2 = \frac{3}{4}(-\frac{3}{4}\sin 3\alpha)$$

$$- \frac{1}{4}\sin 3\alpha \times \frac{3}{2} = -\frac{15}{16}\sin 3\alpha, \text{ 即}$$

$$\sin^5(\alpha - 120^\circ) + \sin^5 \alpha + \sin^5(\alpha + 120^\circ) = -\frac{15}{16}\sin 3\alpha.$$

例7 已知  $\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 0$ , 求证:

$$\frac{\alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2}{2} \cdot \frac{\alpha^5 + \beta^5 + \gamma^5}{5} = \frac{\alpha^7 + \beta^7 + \gamma^7}{7}.$$

(1957年上海市数学竞赛题)

证明 设  $a_n = \alpha^n + \beta^n + \gamma^n$ , 则  $a_0 = 3, p = a_1 = \alpha + \beta + \gamma = 0, q = \alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha, s = \alpha\beta\gamma$ ,

于是  $a_2 = \alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2$

$$= a_1^2 - 2(\alpha\beta + \beta\gamma + \gamma\alpha) = -2q,$$

根据推论2  $a_n = -qa_{n-2} + sa_{n-3} \quad (n \geq 3)$ ,

$$\therefore a_3 = -qa_1 + sa_0 = 3s, a_4 = -qa_2 + sa_1 = 2q^2,$$

$$a_5 = -qa_3 + sa_2 = -5qs,$$

$$a_7 = -qa_5 + sa_4 = 5q^2s + 2q^2s = 7q^2s,$$

$$\therefore \frac{a_2}{2} \times \frac{a_5}{5} = \frac{a_7}{7},$$

$$\text{故 } \frac{\alpha^2 + \beta^2 + \gamma^2}{2} \cdot \frac{\alpha^5 + \beta^5 + \gamma^5}{5} = \frac{\alpha^7 + \beta^7 + \gamma^7}{7}.$$

### 五、简化数学归纳法证明的第二步

例8 求证:  $(3+\sqrt{5})^n + (3-\sqrt{5})^n$  能被  $2^n$  整除.

证明 设  $a_n = (3+\sqrt{5})^n + (3-\sqrt{5})^n$ ,

$$1^\circ \because a_1 = 6, a_2 = 28, \therefore 2|a_1, 2^2|a_2,$$

$$2^\circ \text{ 假设 } 2^{k-1}|a_{k-1}, 2^k|a_k \quad (k \geq 2),$$

当  $n = k+1$  时, 根据推论1

$$a_{k+1} = (3+\sqrt{5}+3-\sqrt{5})a_k - (3+\sqrt{5}) \cdot$$

$$(3-\sqrt{5})a_{k-1} = 6a_k - 4a_{k-1} \quad (k \geq 2),$$

由假设易知,  $2^{k+1}|6a_k, 2^{k+1}|4a_{k-1}$ , 因此  $2^{k+1}|a_{k+1}$ ,

由  $1^\circ, 2^\circ$  知, 对一切  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$2^n | [(3+\sqrt{5})^n + (3-\sqrt{5})^n].$$

