

Sums of Products of Hypergeometric Bernoulli Polynomials

Hieu D. Nguyen
Rowan University
Glassboro, NJ

MAA-NJ Section - Spring Meeting
Middlesex County College, NJ
April 10, 2010

Bernoulli Polynomials

Generating function:

$$\frac{te^{xt}}{e^t - 1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n(x) \frac{t^n}{n!}$$

$$B_0(x) = 1, \quad B_1(x) = x - \frac{1}{2},$$

$$B_2(x) = x^2 - x + \frac{1}{6}, \quad B_3(x) = x^3 - \frac{3}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x, \dots$$

Bernoulli numbers:

$$B_n = B_n(0)$$

$$B_0 = 1, B_1 = -\frac{1}{2}, B_2 = \frac{1}{6}, B_3 = 0, \dots$$

$$B_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} B_k \cdot x^{n-k}$$

Some Properties of Bernoulli Numbers and Polynomials

$$1. \quad \sum_{n=1}^N n^p = \frac{B_{p+1}(N+1) - B_{p+1}(0)}{p+1} \quad (\text{Sums of Powers})$$

$$2. \quad \zeta(2n) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k^{2n}} = \frac{(-1)^{n-1} (2\pi)^{2n}}{2(2n)!} B_{2n} \quad (\text{Riemann zeta})$$

$$3. \quad B_n(1-x) = (-1)^n B_n(x) \quad (\text{Functional identity})$$

$$4. \quad \frac{d}{dx} [B_{n+1}(x)] = (n+1)B_n(x) \quad (\text{Appell identity})$$

$$5. \quad \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{B_k(x)}{k!(n+1-k)!} = \frac{x^n}{n!} \quad (\text{Recursive relation})$$

Sums of Products

Theorem: (Nörlund, 1920) For $n \geq 2$

$$\sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} B_i(x) B_{n-i}(y) = -(n-1)B_n(x+y) + n(x+y-1)B_{n-1}(x+y)$$

Corollary: (Euler, 1755) For $n \geq 2$

$$\sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} B_i B_{n-i} = -(n-1)B_n - nB_{n-1}$$

Higher-Order Sums of Products

Theorem: (Dilcher, 1996) Suppose $x = x_1 + \dots + x_p$. Then for $n \geq p$

$$\sum_{\substack{i_1 \geq 0, i_2 \geq 0, \dots, i_p \geq 0 \\ i_1 + i_2 + \dots + i_p = n}} \frac{n!}{i_1! \cdots i_p!} B_{i_1}(x_1) \cdots B_{i_p}(x_p) =$$

$$(-1)^{p-1} p \binom{n}{p} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{(-1)^k}{n-k} \left(\sum_{m=0}^k \binom{p-1-k+m}{m} s(p, p-k+m) x^m \right) B_{n-k}(x)$$

where $s(p, m)$ are Stirling numbers of the first kind defined by

$$x(x-1)(x-2) \cdots (x-p+1) = \sum_{m=0}^p s(p, m) x^m$$

Proof:

$$\frac{te^{x_1 t}}{e^t - 1} \cdot \frac{te^{x_2 t}}{e^t - 1} \cdots \frac{te^{x_p t}}{e^t - 1} = \frac{t^p e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^p} \quad (x = x_1 + \dots + x_p)$$

LHS:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{te^{x_1 t}}{e^t - 1} \cdot \frac{te^{x_2 t}}{e^t - 1} \cdots \frac{te^{x_p t}}{e^t - 1} &= \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n(x_1) \frac{t^n}{n!} \right) \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n(x_2) \frac{t^n}{n!} \right) \cdots \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n(x_p) \frac{t^n}{n!} \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{\substack{i_1 \geq 0, i_2 \geq 0, \dots, i_p \geq 0 \\ i_1 + i_2 + \dots + i_p = n}} \frac{n!}{i_1! \cdots i_p!} B_{i_1}(x_1) \cdots B_{i_p}(x_p) \right) \frac{t^n}{n!} \end{aligned}$$

RHS:

$$\frac{t^p e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^p} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(p)}(x) \frac{t^n}{n!} \quad (\text{Generalized BP of order } p)$$

Lemma:

$$\sum_{\substack{i_1 \geq 0, i_2 \geq 0, \dots, i_p \geq 0 \\ i_1 + i_2 + \dots + i_p = n}} \frac{n!}{i_1! \cdots i_p!} B_{i_1}(x_1) \cdots B_{i_p}(x_p) = B_n^{(p)}(x)$$

Recursive Formula for Generalized BP

RHS Again:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{t^p e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^p} &= \frac{t^p e^{xt} [e^t - (e^t - 1)]}{(e^t - 1)^p} \\
 &= t^p e^{xt} \left[\frac{e^t}{(e^t - 1)^p} - \frac{1}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}} \right] \\
 &= \frac{t}{1-p} \left[t^{p-1} e^{xt} \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}} \right) \right] - t \frac{t^{p-1} e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}} \\
 &= \frac{t}{1-p} \left[\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{t^{p-1} e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}} \right) - \frac{d}{dt} (t^{p-1} e^{xt}) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}} \right) \right] - t \frac{t^{p-1} e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}} \\
 &= -\frac{t}{p-1} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{t^{p-1} e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}} \right) + \frac{t^{p-1} e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}} + \frac{xt}{p-1} \frac{t^{p-1} e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}} - t \frac{t^{p-1} e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}} \\
 &= -\frac{t}{p-1} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{t^{p-1} e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}} \right) + \frac{t^{p-1} e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}} + t \left(\frac{x}{p-1} - 1 \right) \frac{t^{p-1} e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{t^p e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^p} = -\frac{t}{p-1} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{t^{p-1} e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}} \right) + \frac{t^{p-1} e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}} + t \left(\frac{x}{p-1} - 1 \right) \frac{t^{p-1} e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^{p-1}}$$

Substitute and equate series coefficients:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(p)}(x) \frac{x^n}{n!} \\ &= -\frac{t}{p-1} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(p-1)}(x) \frac{t^n}{n!} \right) + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(p-1)}(x) \frac{t^n}{n!} + \left(\frac{x}{p-1} - 1 \right) t \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(p-1)}(x) \frac{t^n}{n!} \\ &= B_0^{(p-1)}(x) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\left(1 - \frac{n}{p-1} \right) B_n^{(p-1)}(x) + n \left(\frac{x}{p-1} - 1 \right) B_{n-1}^{(p-1)}(x) \right] \frac{t^n}{n!} \end{aligned}$$

Lemma: For $n \geq 1, p > 1$

$$B_n^{(p)}(x) = \left(1 - \frac{n}{p-1} \right) B_n^{(p-1)}(x) + n \left(\frac{x}{p-1} - 1 \right) B_{n-1}^{(p-1)}(x)$$

Reduction to Classical Bernoulli Polynomials

Lemma: For $n \geq p$

$$B_n^{(p)}(x) = (-1)^{p-1} p \binom{n}{p} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} (-1)^k \binom{p-1}{k} B_k^{(p)}(x) \frac{B_{n-k}(x)}{n-k} \quad (n \geq p)$$

Lemma: For $k < p$

$$B_k^{(p)}(x) = \binom{p-1}{k}^{-1} \sum_{m=0}^k \binom{p-1-k+m}{m} s(p, p-k+m) x^m$$

Proof: Substitute $n = p - 1$ into recursive relation:

$$B_n^{(p)}(x) = \left(1 - \frac{n}{p-1}\right) B_n^{(p-1)}(x) + n \left(\frac{x}{p-1} - 1\right) B_{n-1}^{(p-1)}(x)$$

$$B_{p-1}^{(p)}(x) = x - p + 1 \quad B_{p-2}^{(p-1)}(x) = (x-1)(x-2)\cdots(x-p+1)$$

Integrate using Appell identity:

$$\begin{aligned} B_k^{(p)}(x) &= \frac{k!}{(p-1)!} \frac{d^{p-1-k}}{dx^{p-1-k}} [(x-1)(x-2)\cdots(x-p+1)] \quad (k < p) \\ &= \frac{k!}{(p-1)!} \frac{d^{p-1-k}}{dx^{p-1-k}} \left[\sum_{m=1}^p s(p, m) x^{m-1} \right] \\ &= \binom{p-1}{k}^{-1} \sum_{m=0}^k \binom{p-1-k+m}{m} s(p, p-k+m) x^m \end{aligned}$$

Thus for $n \geq p$ we obtain Dilcher's result:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{\substack{i_1 \geq 0, i_2 \geq 0, \dots, i_p \geq 0 \\ i_1 + i_2 + \dots + i_p = n}} \frac{n!}{i_1! \cdots i_p!} B_{i_1}(x_1) \cdots B_{i_p}(x_p) &= B_n^{(p)}(x) = \\ (-1)^{p-1} p \binom{n}{p} \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{(-1)^k}{n-k} \left(\sum_{m=0}^k \binom{p-1-k+m}{m} s(p, p-k+m) x^m \right) &B_{n-k}(x) \end{aligned}$$

Hypergeometric Bernoulli Polynomials

	Classical	Hypergeometric
Bernoulli polynomials:	$\frac{te^{xt}}{e^t - 1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n(x) \frac{t^n}{n!}$	$\frac{(t^N / N!)e^{xt}}{e^t - \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \frac{t^n}{n!}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_{N,n}(x) \frac{t^n}{n!}$
Bernoulli numbers:	$B_n = B_n(0)$ $B_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} B_k \cdot x^{n-k}$	$B_{N,n} = B_{N,n}(0)$ $B_{N,n}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} B_{N,k} \cdot x^{n-k}$
Generalized BP:	$\frac{t^p e^{xt}}{(e^t - 1)^p} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(p)}(x) \frac{x^n}{n!}$	$\frac{(t^N / N!)^p e^{xt}}{\left(e^t - \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \frac{t^n}{n!}\right)^p} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_{N,n}^{(p)}(x) \frac{x^n}{n!}$

Sums of Products of Hypergeometric Bernoulli Polynomials

Lemma:

$$\sum_{\substack{i_1 \geq 0, i_2 \geq 0, \dots, i_p \geq 0 \\ i_1 + i_2 + \dots + i_p = n}} \frac{n!}{i_1! \cdots i_p!} B_{N, i_1}(x_1) \cdots B_{N, i_p}(x_p) = B_{N, n}^{(p)}(x)$$

Lemma:

$$B_{N, n}^{(p)}(x) = \underbrace{\left(1 - \frac{n}{N(p-1)}\right)}_{a_n(p)} B_{N, n}^{(p-1)}(x) + \frac{n}{N} \underbrace{\left(\frac{x}{p-1} - 1\right)}_{b_n(p)} B_{N, n-1}^{(p-1)}(x)$$

Iterate:

$$\begin{aligned} B_{N, n}^{(2)}(x) &= \left(1 - \frac{n}{N}\right) B_{N, n}(x) + \frac{n}{N} (x-1) B_{N, n-1}(x) \\ &= a_n(2) B_{N, n}(x) + b_n(2) B_{N, n-1}(x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
B_{N,n}^{(3)}(x) &= a_n(3)a_n(2)B_{N,n}(x) \\
&\quad + [a_n(3)b_n(2) + b_n(3)a_{n-1}(2)]B_{N,n-1}(x) \\
&\quad + b_n(3)b_{n-1}(2)B_{N,n-2}(x)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
B_{N,n}^{(4)}(x) &= a_n(3)a_n(2)a_n(1)B_n(x) \\
&\quad + [a_n(3)a_n(2)b_n(1) + a_n(3)b_n(2)a_{n-1}(1) + b_n(3)a_{n-1}(2)a_{n-1}(1)]B_{n-1}(x) \\
&\quad + [a_n(3)b_n(2)b_{n-1}(1) + b_n(3)a_{n-1}(2)b_{n-1}(1) + b_n(3)b_{n-1}(2)a_{n-2}(1)]B_{n-2}(x) \\
&\quad + b_n(3)b_{n-1}(2)b_{n-2}(1)B_{n-3}(x)
\end{aligned}$$

$$B_{N,n}^{(5)}(x) = ?$$

$$B_{N,n}^{(p)}(x) = ?$$

Main Theorem: Suppose $x = x_1 + \dots + x_p$. Then for $n \geq p$

$$\sum_{\substack{i_1 \geq 0, i_2 \geq 0, \dots, i_p \geq 0 \\ i_1 + i_2 + \dots + i_p = n}} \frac{n!}{i_1! \cdots i_p!} B_{N, i_1}(x_1) \cdots B_{N, i_p}(x_p) = \sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \left(\sum_{\sigma \in A_{p-1}(p-k-1)} c_{N, n}(\sigma) \right) B_{N, n-k}(x)$$

where

$$A_{p-1}(p-k-1) = \{(p-1)\text{-element subsets of } \{1, 2, \dots, p-k-1\}\},$$

$$c_{N, n}(\sigma) = \prod_{r=1}^k a_{N, n-f_\sigma(i_r)}(i_r) \prod_{s=1}^{p-k} b_{N, n-g_\sigma(j_s)}(j_s),$$

and

$$f_\sigma(i_r) = \#\{j_s : i_r < j_s\}$$

$$g_\sigma(j_s) = \#\{j_w : j_s < j_w\}$$

Sums of Products of Mixed Hypergeometric Bernoulli Polynomials

Lemma:

$$\sum_{m=0}^n \binom{n}{m} B_{1,m}(x) B_{2,n-m}(x) = -\frac{n}{2} B_{1,n-1}(x+y) + B_{2,n}(x+y)$$

Theorem: Suppose $x = x_1 + x_2$. Then for $M < N$

$$\sum_{p=0}^{N-M-1} \sum_{m=0}^{n-p} \frac{M! B_{M,m}(x/2) B_{N,n-p-m}(x/2)}{(p+M)! m! (n-p-m)!} = -\frac{M! B_{M,m-N+M}(x)}{N! (n-N+M)!} + \frac{B_{N,n}(x)}{n!}$$

References

- [1] K. Dilcher, *Sums of Products of Bernoulli Numbers*, J. Number Theory **60** (1996), 23-41.
- [2] A. Hassen and H. Nguyen, *Hypergeometric Bernoulli Polynomials and Appell Sequences*, Intern. J. Number Theory **4** (2008), No. 5, pp. 767-774.
- [3] K. Kamano, *Sums of products of hypergeometric Bernoulli numbers*, preprint (2010).