

Generalizations of Poly-Bernoulli Numbers and Polynomials

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Abstract: The concepts of poly-Bernoulli numbers $B_n^{(k)}$, poly-Bernoulli polynomials $B_n^k(t)$ and the generalized poly-Bernoulli numbers $B_n^{(k)}(a, b)$ are generalized to $B_n^{(k)}(t, a, b, c)$ which is called the generalized poly-Bernoulli polynomials depending on real parameters a, b, c . Some properties of these polynomials and some relationships between B_n^k , $B_n^{(k)}(t)$, $B_n^{(k)}(a, b)$ and $B_n^{(k)}(t, a, b, c)$ are established.

Key Words: Poly-Bernoulli polynomial, Euler number, Euler polynomial.

AMS(2000): 11B68, 11B73

§1. Introduction

In this paper we shall develop a number of generalizations of the poly-Bernoulli numbers and polynomials, and obtain some results about these generalizations. They are fundamental objects in the theory of special functions.

Euler numbers are denoted with B_k and are the coefficients of Taylor expansion of the function $\frac{t}{e^t - 1}$ as following:

$$\frac{t}{e^t - 1} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} B_k \frac{t^k}{k!}.$$

The Euler polynomials $E_n(x)$ are expressed in the following series

$$\frac{2e^{xt}}{e^t + 1} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} E_k(x) \frac{t^k}{k!}.$$

for more details, see [1]-[4].

In [10], Q.M.Luo, F.Oi and L.Debnath defined the generalization of Euler polynomials $E_k(x, a, b, c)$ which are expressed in the following series:

$$\frac{2c^{xt}}{b^t + a^t} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} E_k(x, a, b, c) \frac{t^k}{k!}.$$

where $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}^+$. They proved that

¹Received April 12, 2010. Accepted May 28, 2010.

I) for $a = 1$ and $b = c = e$

$$E_k(x+1) = \sum_{j=0}^k \binom{k}{j} E_j(x) \quad (1)$$

and

$$E_k(x+1) + E_k(x) = 2x^k. \quad (2)$$

II) for $a = 1$ and $b = c$,

$$E_k(x+1, 1, b, b) + E_k(x, 1, b, b) = 2x^k (\ln b)^k. \quad (3)$$

In [5], Kaneko introduced and studied poly-Bernoulli numbers which generalize the classical Bernoulli numbers. Poly-Bernoulli numbers $B_n^{(k)}$ with $k \in \mathcal{Z}$ and $n \in \mathcal{N}$ appear in the following power series:

$$\frac{Li_k(1 - e^{-x})}{1 - e^{-x}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(k)} \frac{t^n}{n!}, \quad (*)$$

where $k \in \mathcal{Z}$ and

$$Li_k(z) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{z^m}{m^k}, \quad |z| < 1.$$

So for $k \leq 1$,

$$Li_1(z) = -\ln(1-z), Li_0(z) = \frac{z}{1-z}, Li_{-1} = \frac{z}{(1-z)^2}, \dots$$

Moreover when $k \geq 1$, the left hand side of (*) can be written in the form of "iterated integrals"

$$\begin{aligned} e^t \frac{1}{e^t - 1} &= \int_0^t \frac{1}{e^t - 1} \int_0^t \dots \frac{1}{e^t - 1} \int_0^t \frac{t}{e^t - 1} dt dt \dots dt \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(k)} \frac{t^n}{n!}. \end{aligned}$$

In the special case, one can see $B_n^{(1)} = B_n$.

Definition 1.1 These poly-Bernoulli polynomials $B_n^{(k)}(t)$ are appeared in the expansion of $\frac{Li_k(1 - e^{-x})}{1 - e^{-x}} e^{xt}$ as follows:

$$\frac{Li_k(1 - e^{-x})}{1 - e^{-x}} e^{xt} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{B_n^{(k)}(t)}{n!} x^n \quad (4)$$

for more details, see [6] – [11].

Proposition 1.1 (Kaneko theorem [6]) The Poly-Bernoulli numbers of non-negative index k , satisfy the following

$$B_n^{(k)} = (-1)^n \sum_{m=1}^{n+1} \frac{(-1)^{m-1} (m-1)! \left\{ \begin{matrix} n \\ m-1 \end{matrix} \right\}}{m^k}, \quad (5)$$

and for negative index $-k$, we have

$$B_n^{(-k)} = \sum_{j=0}^{\min(n,k)} (j!)^2 \left\{ \begin{matrix} n+1 \\ j+1 \end{matrix} \right\} \left\{ \begin{matrix} k+1 \\ j+1 \end{matrix} \right\}, \quad (6)$$

where

$$\left\{ \begin{matrix} n \\ m \end{matrix} \right\} = \frac{(-1)^m}{m!} \sum_{l=0}^m (-1)^l \binom{m}{l} l^n \quad m, n \geq 0 \quad (7)$$

Definition 1.2 Let $a, b > 0$ and $a \neq b$. The generalized poly-Bernoulli numbers $B_n^{(k)}(a, b)$, the generalized poly-Bernoulli polynomials $B_n^{(k)}(t, a, b)$ and the polynomial $B_n^{(k)}(t, a, b, c)$ are appeared in the following series respectively.

$$\frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{b^t - a^{-t}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{B_n^{(k)}(a, b)}{n!} t^n \quad |t| < \frac{2\pi}{|\ln a + \ln b|}, \quad (8)$$

$$\frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{b^t - a^{-t}} e^{xt} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{B_n^{(k)}(x, a, b)}{n!} t^n \quad |t| < \frac{2\pi}{|\ln a + \ln b|}, \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{b^t - a^{-t}} c^{xt} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{B_n^{(k)}(x, a, b, c)}{n!} t^n \quad |t| < \frac{2\pi}{|\ln a + \ln b|}, \quad (10)$$

§2. Main Theorems

We present some recurrence formulae for generalized poly-Bernoulli polynomials.

Theorem 2.1 Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $n \geq 0$. For every positive real numbers a, b and c such that $a \neq b$ and $b > a$, we have

$$B_n^{(k)}(a, b) = B_n^{(k)} \left(\frac{-\ln b}{\ln a + \ln b} \right) (\ln a + \ln b)^n, \quad (11)$$

$$B_j^{(k)}(a, b) = \sum_{i=1}^j (-1)^{j-i} (\ln a + \ln b)^i (\ln b)^{j-i} \binom{j}{i} B_j^{(k)}, \quad (12)$$

$$B_n^{(k)}(x; a, b, c) = \sum_{l=0}^n \binom{n}{l} (\ln c)^{n-l} B_l^{(k)}(a, b) x^{n-l}, \quad (13)$$

$$B_n^{(k)}(x+1; a, b, c) = B_n^{(k)}(x; ac, \frac{b}{c}, c), \quad (14)$$

$$B_n^{(k)}(t) = B_n^{(k)}(e^{t+1}, e^{-t}), \quad (15)$$

$$B_n^{(k)}(x, a, b, c) = (\ln a + \ln b)^n B_n^{(k)} \left(\frac{-\ln b + x \ln c}{\ln a + \ln b} \right). \quad (16)$$

Proof Applying Definition 1.2, we prove formulae (11)-(16) as follows.

(1) For formula (11), we note that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{b^t - a^{-t}} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{B_n^{(k)}(a, b)}{n!} t^n = \frac{1}{b^t} \left(\frac{Li_k(1 - e^{-t \ln ab})}{1 - e^{-t \ln ab}} \right) \\ &= e^{-t \ln b} \left(\frac{Li_k(1 - e^{-t \ln ab})}{1 - e^{-t \ln ab}} \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(k)} \left(\frac{-\ln b}{\ln a + \ln b} \right) (\ln a + \ln b)^n \frac{t^n}{n!} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$B_n^{(k)}(a, b) = B_n^{(k)} \left(\frac{-\ln b}{\ln a + \ln b} \right) (\ln a + \ln b)^n.$$

(2) For formula (12), notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{b^t - a^{-t}} &= \frac{1}{b^t} \left(\frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{1 - e^{-t \ln ab}} \right) \\ &= \left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\ln b)^k}{k!} (-1)^k t^k \right) \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(k)} \frac{(\ln a + \ln b)^n}{n!} t^n \right) \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{i=0}^j (-1)^{j-i} B_i^{(k)} \frac{(\ln a + \ln b)^i}{i!(j-i)!} (\ln b)^{j-i} \right) t^j. \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$B_j^{(k)}(a, b) = \sum_{i=0}^j (-1)^{j-i} (\ln a + \ln b)^i (\ln b)^{j-i} \binom{j}{i} B_i^{(k)}.$$

(3) For formula (13), by calculation we know that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{b^t - a^{-t}} c^{xt} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(k)}(x, a, b, c) \frac{t^n}{n!} \\ &= \left(\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} B_l^{(k)}(a, b) \frac{t^l}{l!} \right) \left(\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\ln c)^i t^i}{i!} x^i \right) \\ &= \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i=0}^l \frac{(\ln c)^{l-i}}{i!(l-i)!} B_i^{(k)}(a, b) x^{l-i} t^l \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{l=0}^n \binom{n}{l} (\ln c)^{n-l} B_l^{(k)}(a, b) x^{n-l} \right) \frac{t^n}{n!}. \end{aligned}$$

(4) For formula (14), calculation shows that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{b^t - a^{-t}} c^{(x+1)t} &= \frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{b^t - a^{-t}} c^{xt} \cdot c^t \\ &= \frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{\left(\frac{b}{c}\right)^t - (ac)^{-t}} c^{xt} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(k)}(x; ac, \frac{b}{c}, c) \frac{t^n}{n!}. \end{aligned}$$

(5) For formula (15), because of

$$\frac{Li_k(1 - e^{-x})}{1 - e^{-x}} e^{xt} = \frac{Li_k(1 - e^{-x})}{e^{-xt} - e^{-x-xt}} = \frac{Li_k(1 - e^{-x})}{(e^{-t})^x - (e^{1+t})^{-x}},$$

so we get that

$$B_n^{(k)}(t) = B_n^{(k)}(e^{t+1}, e^{-t}).$$

(6) For formula (16), write

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(k)}(x, a, b, c) \frac{t^n}{n!} &= \frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{b^t - a^{-t}} c^{xt} = \frac{1}{b^t} \frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{(1 - (ab)^{-t})} c^{xt} \\ &= e^{t(-\ln b + x \ln c)} \left(\frac{Li_k(1 - e^{-t \ln ab})}{1 - e^{-t(\ln ab)}} \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\ln a + \ln b)^n B_n^{(k)} \left(\frac{-\ln b + x \ln c}{\ln a + \ln b} \right) \frac{t^n}{n!}. \end{aligned}$$

So

$$B_n^{(k)}(x, a, b, c) = (\ln a + \ln b)^n B_n^{(k)} \left(\frac{-\ln b + x \ln c}{\ln a + \ln b} \right).$$

□

Theorem 2.2 Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$, $n \geq 0$. For every positive real numbers a, b such that $a \neq b$ and $b > a > 0$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} B_n^{(k)}(x + y, a, b, c) &= \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \binom{n}{l} (\ln c)^{n-l} B_l^{(k)}(x; a, b, c) y^{n-l} \\ &= \sum_{l=0}^n \binom{n}{l} (\ln c)^{n-l} B_l^{(k)}(y, a, b, c) x^{n-l}. \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

Proof Calculation shows that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{b^t - a^{-t}} c^{(x+y)t} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(k)}(x + y; a, b, c) \frac{t^n}{n!} = \frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{b^t - a^{-t}} c^{xt} c^{yt} \\ &= \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(k)}(x; a, b, c) \frac{t^n}{n!} \right) \left(\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{y^i (\ln c)^i}{i!} t^i \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{l=0}^n \binom{n}{l} y^{n-l} (\ln c)^{n-l} B_l^{(k)}(x, a, b, c) \right) \frac{t^n}{n!}. \end{aligned}$$

So we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{b^t - a^{-t}} c^{(x+y)t} &= \frac{Li_k(1 - (ab)^{-t})}{b^t - a^{-t}} c^{yt} c^{xt} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{l=0}^n \binom{n}{l} x^{n-l} (\ln c)^{n-l} B_l^{(k)}(y, a, b, c) \right) \frac{t^n}{n!}. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

Theorem 2.3 Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and $n \geq 0$. For every positive real numbers a, b and c such that $a \neq b$ and $b > a > 0$, we have

$$B_n^{(k)}(x; a, b, c) = \sum_{l=0}^n \binom{n}{l} (\ln c)^{n-l} B_l^{(k)} \left(\frac{-\ln b}{\ln a + \ln b} \right) (\ln a + \ln b)^l x^{n-l}, \quad (18)$$

$$B_n^{(k)}(x; a, b, c) = \sum_{l=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^l (-1)^{l-j} \binom{n}{l} \binom{l}{j} (\ln c)^{n-l} (\ln b)^{l-j} (\ln a + \ln b)^j B_j^{(k)} x^{n-k}. \quad (19)$$

Proof Applying Theorems 2.1 and 2.2, we know that

$$B_n^{(k)}(x; a, b, c) = \sum_{l=0}^n \binom{n}{l} (\ln c)^{n-l} B_l^{(k)}(a, b) x^{n-l}$$

and

$$B_n^{(k)}(a, b) = B_n^{(k)} \left(\frac{-\ln b}{\ln a + \ln b} \right) (\ln a + \ln b)^n$$

Then the relation (18) follow if we combine these formulae. The proof for (19) is similar. \square

Now, we give some results about derivatives and integrals of the generalized poly-Bernoulli polynomials in the following theorem.

Theorem 2.4 Let $x \in \mathbb{R}$. If a, b and $c > 0$, $a \neq b$ and $b > a > 0$, For any non-negative integer l and real numbers α and β we have

$$\frac{\partial^l B_n^{(k)}(x, a, b, c)}{\partial x^l} = \frac{n!}{(n-l)!} (\ln c)^l B_{n-l}^{(k)}(x, a, b, c) \quad (20)$$

$$\int_{\alpha}^{\beta} B_n^{(k)}(x, a, b, c) dx = \frac{1}{(n+1) \ln c} [B_{n+1}^{(k)}(\beta, a, b, c) - B_{n+1}^{(k)}(\alpha, a, b, c)] \quad (21)$$

Proof Applying induction on n , these formulae (20) and (21) can be proved. \square

In [9], GI-Sang Cheon investigated the classical relationship between Bernoulli and Euler polynomials, in this paper we study the relationship between the generalized poly-Bernoulli and Euler polynomials.

Theorem 2.5 For $b > 0$ we have

$$B_n^{(k_1)}(x+y, 1, b, b) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} [B_n^{(k_1)}(y, 1, b, b) + B_n^{(k_1)}(y+1, 1, b, b)] E_{n-k}(x, 1, b, b).$$

Proof We know that

$$B_n^{(k_1)}(x+y, 1, b, b) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{n}{k} (\ln b)^{n-k} B_k^{(k_1)}(y; 1, b, b) x^{n-k}$$

and

$$E_k(x+y, 1, b, b) + E_k(x, 1, b, b) = 2x^k (\ln b)^k$$

So, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} B_n^{(k_1)}(x+y, 1, b, b) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (\ln b)^{n-k} B_k^{(k_1)}(y; 1, b, b) \\ &\quad \times \left[\frac{1}{(\ln b)^{n-k}} (E_{n-k}(x, 1, b, b) + E_{n-k}(x+1, 1, b, b)) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} B_k^{(k_1)}(y; 1, b, b) \\ &\quad \times \left[E_{n-k}(x, 1, b, b) + \sum_{j=0}^{n-k} \binom{n-k}{j} E_j(x, 1, b, b) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} B_k^{(k_1)}(y; 1, b, b) E_{n-k}(x, 1, b, b) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=0}^n \binom{n}{j} E_j(x; 1, b, b) \sum_{k=0}^{n-j} \binom{n-j}{k} B_k^{(k_1)}(y, 1, b, b) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} B_k^{(k_1)}(y; 1, b, b) E_{n-k}(x, 1, b, b) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=0}^n \binom{n}{j} B_{n-j}^{(k_1)}(y+1; 1, b, b) E_j(x, 1, b, b) \end{aligned}$$

So we have

$$B_n^{(k_1)}(x+y, 1, b, b) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} [B_n^{(k_1)}(y, 1, b, b) + B_n^{(k_1)}(y+1, 1, b, b)] E_{n-k}(x, 1, b, b).$$

□

Corollary 2.1 *In Theorem 2.5, if $k_1 = 1$ and $b = e$, then*

$$B_n(x) = \sum_{(k=0), (k \neq 1)}^n \binom{n}{k} B_k E_{n-k}(x).$$

For more details see [7].

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