



Some recurrence relations of poly-Cauchy numbers



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Abstract

Poly-Cauchy numbers $c_n^{(k)}$ ($n \geq 0, k \geq 1$) have explicit expressions in terms of the Stirling numbers of the first kind. When the index is negative, there exists a different expression. However, the sequence $\{c_n^{(-k)}\}_{n \geq 0}$ seem quite irregular for a fixed integer $k \geq 2$. In this paper we establish a certain kind of recurrence relations among the sequence $\{c_n^{(-k)}\}_{n \geq 0}$, analyzing the structure of poly-Cauchy numbers. We also study those of poly-Cauchy numbers of the second kind, poly-Euler numbers, and poly-Euler numbers of the second kind. Some different proofs are given. As applications, some leaping relations are shown.

Keywords: Poly-Cauchy numbers, poly-Euler numbers, recurrence, leaping relations, Vandermonde's determinant.

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1. Introduction

The poly-Cauchy numbers (of the first kind) are defined by ([9])

$$c_n^{(k)} = n! \underbrace{\int_0^1 \cdots \int_0^1}_{k} \binom{x_1 \cdots x_k}{n} dx_1 \cdots dx_k, \quad (n \geq 0, k \geq 1).$$

Their generating function is given by ([9, Theorem 2])

$$\text{Lif}_k(\log(1+x)) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n^{(k)} \frac{x^n}{n!},$$

where

$$\text{Lif}_k(z) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^m}{m!(m+1)^k}$$

is the polylogarithm factorial (or polyfactorial) function. When $k = 1$, $c_n = c_n^{(1)}$ are the original Cauchy

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numbers, whose generating function is given by ([3, 12])

$$\frac{x}{\log(1+x)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n \frac{x^n}{n!}.$$

In 2018 Sasaki [14] showed several recurrence relations concerning the poly-Bernoulli numbers with negative indices. Poly-Bernoulli numbers $B_n^{(k)}$ ([7]) are defined by

$$\frac{\text{Li}_k(1 - e^{-x})}{1 - e^{-x}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(k)} \frac{x^n}{n!},$$

where

$$\text{Li}_k(z) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{z^m}{m^k}$$

is the polylogarithm function. When $k = 1$, $B_n = B_n^{(1)}$ are the classical Bernoulli numbers with $B_1^{(1)} = 1/2$, whose generating function is given by

$$\frac{x}{1 - e^{-x}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n \frac{x^n}{n!}.$$

Poly-Bernoulli numbers $B_n^{(k)}$ have explicit forms in terms of the Stirling numbers of the second kind ([7]):

$$B_n^{(k)} = \sum_{m=0}^n \left\{ \begin{matrix} n \\ m \end{matrix} \right\} \frac{(-1)^{n-m} m!}{(m+1)^k}.$$

If the index is negative, another form is given by ([2, Theorem 2])

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

Many relations and identities for Bernoulli numbers have been known and several ones for poly-Bernoulli numbers have been discovered. Sasaki has found some new relations for poly-Bernoulli numbers together with Ohno. The main result is stated as

$$\sum_{0 \leq i \leq j \leq m} (-1)^i \begin{bmatrix} m+2 \\ i+1 \end{bmatrix} B_{n+j}^{(-k)} = 0. \tag{1.1}$$

By using the falling factorial, we determine the coefficients $s_i^{(n)}$ by

$$(x-2)_n = s_n^{(n)} x^n + s_{n-1}^{(n)} x^{n-1} + \dots + s_1^{(n)} x + s_0^{(n)}.$$

Each coefficient $s_{n-l}^{(n)}$ ($j = 0, 1, \dots, n$) can be written in terms of the (unsigned) Stirling numbers of the first kind as

$$s_{n-l}^{(n)} = \sum_{j=0}^l (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n+2 \\ n+2-j \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then, (1.1) is equivalent to the following convenient form.

Lemma 1.1. For $n \geq k$ and $m \geq k$,

$$\sum_{j=0}^m s_j^{(m)} B_{n-m+j}^{(-k)} = 0.$$

For example, by $(x - 2)_2 = x^2 - 5x + 6$, we have

$$B_n^{(-2)} = 5B_{n-1}^{(-2)} - 6B_{n-2}^{(-2)}.$$

By $(x - 2)_3 = x^3 - 9x^2 + 26x - 24$, we have

$$B_n^{(-3)} = 9B_{n-1}^{(-3)} - 26B_{n-2}^{(-3)} + 24B_{n-3}^{(-3)}.$$

In fact, $B_n^{(-2)} = 2 \cdot 3^n - 2^n$ ([15, A027649]) and $B_n^{(-3)} = 2^n - 2 \cdot 3^{n+1} + 6 \cdot 4^n$ ([15, A027650]).

Poly-Cauchy numbers (of the first kind) have an explicit form in terms of the (unsigned) Stirling numbers of the first kind ([9, Theorem 1]):

$$c_n^{(k)} = \sum_{m=0}^n \begin{bmatrix} n \\ m \end{bmatrix} \frac{(-1)^{n-m}}{(m+1)^k}, \quad (n \geq 0, k \geq 1).$$

The definition may restrict the index k as nonnegative values, but the above expression is possible for negative k too. If the index is negative, another form is given by ([5, Theorem 8 Remark])

$$c_n^{(-k)} = \sum_{j=0}^k (-1)^{n+j} j! \left(\begin{bmatrix} n \\ j \end{bmatrix} - n \begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ j \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{Bmatrix} k+1 \\ j+1 \end{Bmatrix}, \quad (n \geq 0, k \geq 0). \tag{1.2}$$

It is easy to see that

$$c_n^{(-1)} = (-1)^n (n-2)! \quad (n \geq 2).$$

In [6], some congruence relations of poly-Cauchy numbers $c_n^{(-k)}$ are investigated by k being fixed for all sufficiently large n . However, more precise regularity of the following sequences ([15, A222627, A222636, A222748, A223023]) has not been found:

$$\begin{aligned} \{c_n^{(-2)}\}_{n \geq 0} &= 1, 4, 5, -3, 4, -8, 20, -52, 72, 936, -17568, 238752, -3113280, \dots, \\ \{c_n^{(-3)}\}_{n \geq 0} &= 1, 8, 19, -1, -10, 48, -234, 1302, -8328, 60672, -497688, \dots, \\ \{c_n^{(-4)}\}_{n \geq 0} &= 1, 16, 65, 45, -116, 340, -1240, 5480, -28464, 169248, \dots, \\ \{c_n^{(-5)}\}_{n \geq 0} &= 1, 32, 211, 359, -538, 984, -1866, 1110, 32640, -449760, \dots \end{aligned}$$

In this paper we establish a certain kind of recurrence relations among the sequence $\{c_n^{(-k)}\}_{n \geq 0}$, analyzing the structure of poly-Cauchy numbers. We also study those of poly-Cauchy numbers of the second kind, poly-Euler numbers and poly-Euler numbers of the second kind. Some different proofs are given. As applications, some leaping relations are shown.

2. Poly-Cauchy numbers with negative indices

Now, we are ready to present our main theorem, which can explain how the sequences $\{c_n^{(-k)}\}_{n \geq 0}$ are generated, though they do not seem to have any clear regularity.

Theorem 2.1. For $n \geq k + 2$,

$$c_n^{(-k)} + \sum_{l=1}^k \left(\sum_{l+1 \leq i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_l \leq k+1} (n - i_1) \cdots (n - i_l) \right) c_{n-l}^{(-k)} = 0.$$

Remark 2.2. When $k = 1, 2, 3$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} c_n^{(-1)} + (n-2)c_{n-1}^{(-1)} &= 0 \quad (n \geq 3), \\ c_n^{(-2)} + (n-2+n-3)c_{n-1}^{(-2)} + (n-3)^2c_{n-2}^{(-2)} &= 0 \quad (n \geq 4), \end{aligned}$$

$$c_n^{(-3)} + (n - 2 + n - 3 + n - 4)c_{n-1}^{(-3)} + ((n - 3)^2 + (n - 3)(n - 4) + (n - 4)^2)c_{n-2}^{(-3)} + (n - 4)^2c_{n-3}^{(-3)} = 0 \quad (n \geq 5),$$

respectively.

Proof of Theorem 2.1. For a fixed integer $k \geq 1$, assume that the numbers $c_n^{(-k)}$ satisfy the recurrence relation

$$c_n^{(-k)} + a_{1,n}c_{n-1}^{(-k)} + a_{2,n}c_{n-2}^{(-k)} + \dots + a_{k,n}c_{n-k}^{(-k)} = 0. \tag{2.1}$$

By the recurrence relation

$$\begin{bmatrix} n+1 \\ k \end{bmatrix} = n \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{bmatrix} n \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = 0 \quad (n \geq 1), \tag{2.2}$$

the form (1.2) can be also written as

$$c_n^{(-k)} = \sum_{j=0}^k (-1)^{n+j+1} j! \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ j \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ j-1 \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{Bmatrix} k+1 \\ j+1 \end{Bmatrix} \quad (n \geq 0, k \geq 0).$$

Here, one determines [1, Table 2.2] that

$$\begin{bmatrix} -n' \\ k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } n' \geq 0, k = -n', \\ 0, & \text{if } n' \geq 0, k \geq -n' + 1. \end{cases}$$

Since the relation (2.1) does not depend on the values $\begin{Bmatrix} k+1 \\ j+1 \end{Bmatrix}$, we have the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} a_{1,n} - \begin{bmatrix} n-3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} a_{2,n} + \dots + (-1)^{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} a_{k,n} = 0, \\ & - \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) + \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) a_{1,n} \\ & - \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} n-3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) a_{2,n} + \dots + (-1)^{k+1} \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) a_{k,n} = 0, \\ & - \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right) + \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right) a_{1,n} \\ & - \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} n-3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right) a_{2,n} + \dots + (-1)^{k+1} \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right) a_{k,n} = 0, \\ & \vdots \\ & - \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ k \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix} \right) + \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ k \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix} \right) a_{1,n} \\ & - \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-3 \\ k \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} n-3 \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix} \right) a_{2,n} + \dots + (-1)^{k+1} \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ k \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix} \right) a_{k,n} = 0, \end{aligned}$$

which is equivalent to the system

$$\begin{aligned} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} a_{1,n} - \begin{bmatrix} n-3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} a_{2,n} + \dots + (-1)^{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} a_{k,n} = 0, \\ & - \begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} a_{1,n} - \begin{bmatrix} n-3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} a_{2,n} + \dots + (-1)^{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} a_{k,n} = 0, \\ & - \begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} a_{1,n} - \begin{bmatrix} n-3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} a_{2,n} + \dots + (-1)^{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} a_{k,n} = 0, \\ & \vdots \end{aligned}$$

$$-\binom{n-1}{k} + \binom{n-2}{k} a_{1,n} - \binom{n-3}{k} a_{2,n} + \dots + (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} a_{k,n} = 0.$$

By Cramer, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_{1,n} &= \frac{\begin{vmatrix} \binom{n-1}{1} & -\binom{n-3}{1} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{1} \\ \binom{n-1}{2} & -\binom{n-3}{2} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \binom{n-1}{k} & -\binom{n-3}{k} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} \binom{n-2}{1} & -\binom{n-3}{1} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{1} \\ \binom{n-2}{2} & -\binom{n-3}{2} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \binom{n-2}{k} & -\binom{n-3}{k} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \end{vmatrix}}, \\
 a_{2,n} &= \frac{\begin{vmatrix} \binom{n-2}{1} & \binom{n-1}{1} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{1} \\ \binom{n-2}{2} & \binom{n-1}{2} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \binom{n-2}{k} & \binom{n-1}{k} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} \binom{n-2}{1} & -\binom{n-3}{1} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{1} \\ \binom{n-2}{2} & -\binom{n-3}{2} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \binom{n-2}{k} & -\binom{n-3}{k} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \end{vmatrix}}, \\
 &\vdots \\
 a_{k,n} &= \frac{\begin{vmatrix} \binom{n-2}{1} & -\binom{n-3}{1} & \dots & \binom{n-1}{1} \\ \binom{n-2}{2} & -\binom{n-3}{2} & \dots & \binom{n-1}{2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \binom{n-2}{k} & -\binom{n-3}{k} & \dots & \binom{n-1}{k} \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} \binom{n-2}{1} & -\binom{n-3}{1} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{1} \\ \binom{n-2}{2} & -\binom{n-3}{2} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \binom{n-2}{k} & -\binom{n-3}{k} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \end{vmatrix}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

First, we show that the denominator

$$\begin{vmatrix} \binom{n-2}{1} & -\binom{n-3}{1} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{1} \\ \binom{n-2}{2} & -\binom{n-3}{2} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \binom{n-2}{k} & -\binom{n-3}{k} & \dots & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \end{vmatrix} = ((n-k-2)!)^k. \tag{2.3}$$

By doing the operation: the 1st column+(n-3)×the 2nd column, the 2nd column+(n-4)×the 3rd

column, ..., the $(k - 1)$ th column + $(n - k - 1) \times$ the k th column, using the recurrence relation (2.2), the left-hand side of (2.3) is equal to

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & \cdots & 0 & (-1)^{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^k \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-3 \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^k \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ k \end{bmatrix} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n-3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^k \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^k \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-3 \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-4 \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^k \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix} \end{vmatrix}.$$

Repeating the similar steps, the left-hand side of (2.3) is equal to

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)^2 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n-4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^{k-1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^{k-1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-4 \\ k-2 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-5 \\ k-2 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^{k-1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ k-2 \end{bmatrix} \end{vmatrix} \\ & = \cdots = \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)^{k-2} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 0 & - \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \end{vmatrix} = \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)^k = ((n-k-2)!)^k. \end{aligned}$$

Now, we can write the numerators of $a_{j,n}$ ($j = 1, 2, \dots, k$) as

$$f_j(n, k) := \begin{vmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^{j-1} \begin{bmatrix} n-j \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-j-2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^{j-1} \begin{bmatrix} n-j \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-j-2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-1 \\ k \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ k \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^{j-1} \begin{bmatrix} n-j \\ k \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-j-2 \\ k \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ k \end{bmatrix} \end{vmatrix},$$

where there exists a gap without $\begin{bmatrix} n-j-1 \\ \ell \end{bmatrix}$ ($1 \leq \ell \leq k$). In this sense, we can put the denominator (2.3) as $f_0(n, k)$. We shall show that $f_j(n, k)$ has the recursion formula

$$f_j(n, k) = (n - k - 2)!((n - j - 1)f_{j-1}(n - 1, k - 1) + f_j(n - 1, k - 1)) \quad (n \geq k + 2), \tag{2.4}$$

with $f_0(n, k) = ((n - k - 2)!)^k$ and $f_k(n, k) = ((n - k - 1)!)^k$ ($k \geq 0$). We do the following operations:

1. the 1st column + $(n - 2) \times$ the 2nd column, the 2nd column + $(n - 3) \times$ the 3rd column, ..., the $(j - 1)$ th column + $(n - j) \times$ the j th column;
2. the determinant is divided into two parts by applying the recurrence relation (2.2) on the $(j - 1)$ th column;
3. for the first determinant the j th column + $(n - j - 2) \times$ the $(j + 1)$ th column, the $(j + 1)$ th column + $(n - j - 3) \times$ $(j + 2)$ th column, ..., the $(k - 1)$ th column + $(n - k - 1) \times$ the k th column, for the second determinant the $(j + 1)$ th column + $(n - j - 3) \times$ $(j + 2)$ th column, ..., the $(k - 1)$ th column + $(n - k - 1) \times$ the k th column.

Therefore, we have

$$f_j(n, k) = \begin{vmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-j \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^{j-1} \begin{bmatrix} n-j \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-j-2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^k \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-j \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^{j-1} \begin{bmatrix} n-j \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-j-2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^k \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-2 \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-j \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^{j-1} \begin{bmatrix} n-j \\ k \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-j-2 \\ k \end{bmatrix} & \cdots & (-1)^k \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ k \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^{k+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k-1 \\ k \end{bmatrix} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (n-j-1) \\
 &\times \left| \begin{array}{cccccccc} \binom{n-2}{0} & \dots & (-1)^j \binom{n-j}{0} & (-1)^{j-1} \binom{n-j-1}{1} & (-1)^j \binom{n-j-2}{2} & \dots & (-1)^k \binom{n-k}{k} & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \\ \binom{n-2}{1} & \dots & (-1)^j \binom{n-j}{1} & (-1)^{j-1} \binom{n-j-1}{2} & (-1)^j \binom{n-j-2}{3} & \dots & (-1)^k \binom{n-k}{k} & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ \binom{n-2}{k-1} & \dots & (-1)^j \binom{n-j}{k-1} & (-1)^{j-1} \binom{n-j-1}{k} & (-1)^j \binom{n-j-2}{k} & \dots & (-1)^k \binom{n-k}{k} & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \end{array} \right| \\
 &+ \left| \begin{array}{cccccccc} \binom{n-2}{0} & \dots & (-1)^j \binom{n-j}{0} & (-1)^{j-1} \binom{n-j-1}{1} & (-1)^j \binom{n-j-2}{2} & \dots & (-1)^k \binom{n-k}{k} & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \\ \binom{n-2}{1} & \dots & (-1)^j \binom{n-j}{1} & (-1)^{j-1} \binom{n-j-1}{2} & (-1)^j \binom{n-j-2}{3} & \dots & (-1)^k \binom{n-k}{k} & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ \binom{n-2}{k-1} & \dots & (-1)^j \binom{n-j}{k-1} & (-1)^{j-1} \binom{n-j-1}{k} & (-1)^j \binom{n-j-2}{k} & \dots & (-1)^k \binom{n-k}{k} & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \end{array} \right| \\
 &= (n-j-1) \\
 &\times \left| \begin{array}{cccccccc} \binom{n-2}{0} & \dots & (-1)^j \binom{n-j}{0} & (-1)^{j-1} \binom{n-j-2}{1} & (-1)^j \binom{n-j-3}{2} & \dots & (-1)^k \binom{n-k-1}{k} & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \\ \binom{n-2}{1} & \dots & (-1)^j \binom{n-j}{1} & (-1)^{j-1} \binom{n-j-2}{2} & (-1)^j \binom{n-j-3}{3} & \dots & (-1)^k \binom{n-k-1}{k} & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ \binom{n-2}{k-1} & \dots & (-1)^j \binom{n-j}{k-1} & (-1)^{j-1} \binom{n-j-2}{k} & (-1)^j \binom{n-j-3}{k} & \dots & (-1)^k \binom{n-k-1}{k} & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \end{array} \right| \\
 &+ \left| \begin{array}{cccccccc} \binom{n-2}{0} & \dots & (-1)^j \binom{n-j}{0} & (-1)^{j-1} \binom{n-j-1}{1} & (-1)^j \binom{n-j-3}{2} & \dots & (-1)^k \binom{n-k-1}{k} & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \\ \binom{n-2}{1} & \dots & (-1)^j \binom{n-j}{1} & (-1)^{j-1} \binom{n-j-1}{2} & (-1)^j \binom{n-j-3}{3} & \dots & (-1)^k \binom{n-k-1}{k} & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ \binom{n-2}{k-1} & \dots & (-1)^j \binom{n-j}{k-1} & (-1)^{j-1} \binom{n-j-1}{k} & (-1)^j \binom{n-j-3}{k} & \dots & (-1)^k \binom{n-k-1}{k} & (-1)^{k+1} \binom{n-k-1}{k} \end{array} \right| \\
 &= (n-k-2)!(n-j-1)f_{j-1}(n-1, k-1) + (n-k-2)!f_j(n-1, k-1),
 \end{aligned}$$

which is (2.4).

Now, by induction, we can show that

$$f_j(n, k) = ((n-k-2)!)^k \sum_{j+1 \leq i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_j \leq k+1} (n-i_1) \dots (n-i_j). \tag{2.5}$$

The result is valid for $j = 0$, and is clear for $k = 1, 2$. Assume that the result is valid up to $j - 1$. Then by (2.4)

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_j(n, k) &= (n-k-2)!(n-j-1)((n-k-2)!)^{k-1} \sum_{j \leq i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_{j-1} \leq k} (n-i_1-1) \dots (n-i_{j-1}-1) \\
 &+ (n-k-2)!f_j(n-1, k-1).
 \end{aligned}$$

Repeating the similar steps, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_j(n, k) &= ((n-k-2)!)^k (n-j-1) \sum_{j \leq i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_{j-1} \leq k} (n-i_1-1) \dots (n-i_{j-1}-1) \\
 &+ ((n-k-2)!)^k (n-j-2) \sum_{j \leq i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_{j-1} \leq k-1} (n-i_1-2) \dots (n-i_{j-1}-2) \\
 &+ ((n-k-2)!)^2 f_j(n-2, k-2) \\
 &= ((n-k-2)!)^k (n-j-1) \sum_{j \leq i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_{j-1} \leq k} (n-i_1-1) \dots (n-i_{j-1}-1) \\
 &+ ((n-k-2)!)^k (n-j-2) \sum_{j \leq i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_{j-1} \leq k-1} (n-i_1-2) \dots (n-i_{j-1}-2) \\
 &\vdots \\
 &+ ((n-k-2)!)^k (n-k) \sum_{j \leq i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_{j-1} \leq j+1} (n-i_1+j-k) \dots (n-i_{j-1}+j-k)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$+ ((n - k - 2)!)^{k-j} f_j(n - k + j, j),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 f_j(n - k + j, j) &= \begin{vmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n-k+j-1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-k+j-2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & \dots & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-k+1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^{j+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-k+j-1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-k+j-2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} & \dots & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-k+1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^{j+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-k+j-1 \\ j \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-k+j-2 \\ j \end{bmatrix} & \dots & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-k+1 \\ j \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^{j+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ j \end{bmatrix} \end{vmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{vmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n-k+j-2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-k+j-3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} & \dots & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^{j+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-k+j-2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-k+j-3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & \dots & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^{j+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-k+j-2 \\ j-1 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-k+j-3 \\ j-1 \end{bmatrix} & \dots & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ j-1 \end{bmatrix} & (-1)^{j+1} \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ j \end{bmatrix} \end{vmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n-k+j-2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & \dots & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-k+j-2 \\ j-1 \end{bmatrix} & \dots & (-1)^j \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ j-1 \end{bmatrix} \end{vmatrix} \\
 &\vdots \\
 &= \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)^{j-2} \begin{vmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n-k+1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-k+1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \end{vmatrix} \\
 &= \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)^{j-2} \begin{vmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} & - \begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \end{vmatrix} \\
 &= \left(\begin{bmatrix} n-k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)^j = ((n - k - 1)!)^j.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we obtain the formula (2.5). □

3. Poly-Cauchy numbers of the second kind

The poly-Cauchy numbers of the second kind are defined by ([9])

$$\hat{c}_n^{(k)} = n! \underbrace{\int_0^1 \dots \int_0^1}_{k} \binom{-x_1 \dots x_k}{n} dx_1 \dots dx_k.$$

Their generating function is given by ([9, Theorem 5])

$$\text{Lif}_k(-\log(1 + x)) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \hat{c}_n^{(k)} \frac{x^n}{n!}.$$

When $k = 1$, $\hat{c}_n = \hat{c}_n^{(1)}$ are the original Cauchy numbers of the second kind, whose generating function is given by

$$\frac{x}{(1 + x) \log(1 + x)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \hat{c}_n \frac{x^n}{n!}.$$

Poly-Cauchy numbers of the second kind have an explicit form in terms of the (unsigned) Stirling numbers of the first kind ([9, Theorem 4]):

$$\widehat{c}_n^{(k)} = (-1)^n \sum_{m=0}^n \begin{bmatrix} n \\ m \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{(m+1)^k}.$$

If the index is negative, poly-Cauchy numbers of the second kind have a different expression ([5, Theorem 8 Remark]):

$$\widehat{c}_n^{(-k)} = \sum_{j=0}^k (-1)^{n+j} \begin{bmatrix} n+1 \\ j+1 \end{bmatrix} \left\{ \begin{matrix} k+1 \\ j+1 \end{matrix} \right\}.$$

Similarly to Theorem 2.1, poly-Cauchy numbers of the second kind with negative indices have the following recurrence relations.

Theorem 3.1. For $n \geq k + 1$,

$$\widehat{c}_n^{(-k)} + \sum_{l=1}^{k+1} \left(\sum_{l-1 \leq i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_l \leq k} (n-i_1) \cdots (n-i_l) \right) \widehat{c}_{n-l}^{(-k)} = 0.$$

Remark 3.2. When $k = 0, 1, 2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{c}_n^{(0)} + n\widehat{c}_{n-1}^{(0)} &= 0 \quad (n \geq 1), \\ \widehat{c}_n^{(-1)} + (n+n-1)\widehat{c}_{n-1}^{(-1)} + (n-1)^2\widehat{c}_{n-2}^{(-1)} &= 0 \quad (n \geq 2), \\ \widehat{c}_n^{(-2)} + (n+n-1+n-2)\widehat{c}_{n-1}^{(-2)} \\ &+ ((n-1)^2 + (n-1)(n-2) + (n-2)^2)\widehat{c}_{n-2}^{(-2)} + (n-2)^3\widehat{c}_{n-2}^{(-2)} = 0 \quad (n \geq 3), \end{aligned}$$

respectively. Since

$$\widehat{c}_n^{(0)} = (-1)^n \sum_{k=0}^n \begin{bmatrix} n \\ k \end{bmatrix} = (-1)^n n!,$$

the first relation is clear.

4. Poly-Euler numbers

For an integer k , poly-Euler numbers $E_n^{(k)}$ ($n \geq 0$) are defined by ([13])

$$\frac{\text{Li}_k(1 - e^{-4x})}{4x \cosh x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_n^{(k)} \frac{x^n}{n!}.$$

When $k = 1$, $E_n = E_n^{(1)}$ are the classical Euler numbers, defined by

$$\frac{1}{\cosh x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_n \frac{x^n}{n!}.$$

Poly-Euler numbers can be expressed in terms of poly-Bernoulli numbers ([13, Theorem 2.1]):

$$E_n^{(k)} = \frac{1}{2(n+1)} \sum_{m=0}^{n+1} \binom{n+1}{m} 4^m ((-1)^{n-m+1} - (-3)^{n-m+1}) B_m^{(k)}.$$

In the case of negative index, poly-Euler numbers have an explicit expression ([13, Theorem 6.1]):

$$(n + 1)E_n^{(-k)} = \frac{(-1)^k}{2} \sum_{l=0}^k (-1)^l l! \left\{ \begin{matrix} k \\ l \end{matrix} \right\} ((4l + 3)^{n+1} - (4l + 1)^{n+1}) \quad (k \geq 0).$$

Notice that $E_n^{(-k)}$ are not necessarily integers but $(n + 1)E_n^{(-k)}$ are all integers. For convenience, put $\tilde{E}_n^{(-k)} = (n + 1)E_n^{(-k)}$. By using the generalized falling factorial, determine the coefficients $\sigma_i^{(n)}$ by

$$(x - 5|2)_n = (x - 5)(x - 7) \cdots (x - 2n - 3) = \sigma_n^{(n)} x^n + \sigma_{n-1}^{(n)} x^{n-1} + \cdots + \sigma_1^{(n)} x + \sigma_0^{(n)}.$$

Then Euler numbers with negative indices satisfy the following recurrence formula.

Theorem 4.1. For $k = 0$,

$$\tilde{E}_n^{(0)} - 4\tilde{E}_{n-1}^{(0)} + 3\tilde{E}_{n-2}^{(0)} = 0 \quad (n \geq 2).$$

For $k \geq 1$,

$$\sum_{j=0}^{2k} \sigma_j^{(2k)} \tilde{E}_{n-2k+j}^{(-k)} = 0 \quad (n \geq 2k).$$

Remark 4.2. For $k = 1, 2, 3$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \{\tilde{E}_n^{(-1)}\}_{n \geq 0} &= 1, 12, 109, 888, 6841, 51012, 372709, 2687088, 19200241, 136354812, \dots, \\ \{\tilde{E}_n^{(-2)}\}_{n \geq 0} &= 1, 28, 493, 7192, 95161, 1189108, 14331493, 168625072, 1951326961, \dots, \\ \{\tilde{E}_n^{(-3)}\}_{n \geq 0} &= 1, 60, 1837, 42840, 865081, 16022100, 280592677, 4730230320, 77624198641, \dots, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{E}_n^{(-1)} - 12\tilde{E}_{n-1}^{(-1)} + 35\tilde{E}_{n-2}^{(-1)} &= 0, \\ \tilde{E}_n^{(-2)} - 32\tilde{E}_{n-1}^{(-2)} + 374\tilde{E}_{n-2}^{(-2)} - 1888\tilde{E}_{n-3}^{(-2)} + 3465\tilde{E}_{n-4}^{(-2)} &= 0, \\ \tilde{E}_n^{(-3)} - 60\tilde{E}_{n-1}^{(-3)} + 1465\tilde{E}_{n-2}^{(-3)} - 18600\tilde{E}_{n-3}^{(-3)} + 129259\tilde{E}_{n-4}^{(-3)} - 465180\tilde{E}_{n-5}^{(-3)} + 675675\tilde{E}_{n-6}^{(-3)} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

In fact, $\tilde{E}_n^{(0)} = (3^{n+1} - 1)/2$ (Cf. [15, A003462]). The sequence $\{\tilde{E}_n^{(-1)}\}_{n \geq 0}$ is the 6th binomial transform of $0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, \dots$ ([15, A081200]).

The proof of Theorem 4.1 depends on the following Lemma.

Lemma 4.3. Put

$$V_n := \begin{vmatrix} 1 & x_1 & \cdots & x_1^{n-1} \\ 1 & x_2 & \cdots & x_2^{n-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n & \cdots & x_n^{n-1} \end{vmatrix},$$

and let

$$V_{n,j} := \begin{vmatrix} 1 & x_1 & \cdots & x_1^{j-2} & x_1^n & x_1^j & \cdots & x_1^{n-1} \\ 1 & x_2 & \cdots & x_2^{j-2} & x_2^n & x_2^j & \cdots & x_2^{n-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n & \cdots & x_n^{j-2} & x_n^n & x_n^j & \cdots & x_n^{n-1} \end{vmatrix} \quad (j = 1, 2, \dots, n),$$

where the j th column $x_1^{j-1}, x_2^{j-1}, \dots, x_n^{j-1}$ of V_n is replaced by $x_1^n, x_2^n, \dots, x_n^n$. Then for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

$$V_{n,n-i+1} = (-1)^{i-1} \left(\sum_{1 \leq \ell_1 < \cdots < \ell_i \leq n} x_{\ell_1} \cdots x_{\ell_i} \right) V_n.$$

Proof. As is well-known, Vandermonde’s determinant is given by $V_n = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (x_j - x_i)$. After the j th column is moved to the n th column, we get $V_{n,j} = (-1)^{n-j} W_{n,j}$, where

$$W_{n,j} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & x_1 & \cdots & x_1^{j-2} & x_1^j & \cdots & x_1^{n-1} & x_1^n \\ 1 & x_2 & \cdots & x_2^{j-2} & x_2^j & \cdots & x_2^{n-1} & x_2^n \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n & \cdots & x_n^{j-2} & x_n^j & \cdots & x_n^{n-1} & x_n^n \end{vmatrix}.$$

Then, it is sufficient to prove that

$$W_{n,j} = \left(\sum_{1 \leq \ell_1 < \cdots < \ell_{n-j+1} \leq n} x_{\ell_1} \cdots x_{\ell_{n-j+1}} \right) V_n. \tag{4.1}$$

When $j = 1$, (4.1) is valid because

$$W_{n,1} = \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & x_1^2 & \cdots & x_1^n \\ x_2 & x_2^2 & \cdots & x_2^n \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ x_n & x_n^2 & \cdots & x_n^n \end{vmatrix} = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_n V_n.$$

Let $2 \leq j \leq n - 1$. By the column operations from the j th to the second, we have

$$\begin{aligned} W_{n,j} &= \begin{vmatrix} 1 & x_1 - x_n & \cdots & x_1^{j-3}(x_1 - x_n) & x_1^{j-2}(x_1^2 - x_n^2) & x_1^j(x_1 - x_n) & \cdots & x_1^{n-1}(x_1 - x_n) \\ 1 & x_2 - x_n & \cdots & x_2^{j-3}(x_2 - x_n) & x_2^{j-2}(x_2^2 - x_n^2) & x_2^j(x_2 - x_n) & \cdots & x_2^{n-1}(x_2 - x_n) \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & x_{n-1} - x_n & \cdots & x_{n-1}^{j-3}(x_{n-1} - x_n) & x_{n-1}^{j-2}(x_{n-1}^2 - x_n^2) & x_{n-1}^j(x_{n-1} - x_n) & \cdots & x_{n-1}^{n-1}(x_{n-1} - x_n) \\ 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= (-1)^{n+1} \prod_{\ell=1}^{n-1} (x_\ell - x_n) \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 1 & \cdots & x_1^{j-3} & x_1^{j-2}(x_1 + x_n) & x_1^j & \cdots & x_1^{n-1} \\ 1 & \cdots & x_2^{j-3} & x_2^{j-2}(x_2 + x_n) & x_2^j & \cdots & x_2^{n-1} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & \cdots & x_{n-1}^{j-3} & x_{n-1}^{j-2}(x_{n-1} + x_n) & x_{n-1}^j & \cdots & x_{n-1}^{n-1} \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \prod_{\ell=1}^{n-1} (x_n - x_\ell) \cdot (W_{n-1,j-1} + x_n W_{n-1,j}). \end{aligned}$$

By induction on j about the relation (4.2), using (4.1) up to $j - 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} W_{n,j} &= \prod_{\ell=1}^{n-1} (x_n - x_\ell) \left(\sum_{1 \leq \ell_1 < \cdots < \ell_{n-j+1} \leq n-1} x_{\ell_1} \cdots x_{\ell_{n-j+1}} \right) V_{n-1} + x_n \prod_{\ell=1}^{n-1} (x_n - x_\ell) \cdot W_{n-1,j} \\ &= \left(\sum_{1 \leq \ell_1 < \cdots < \ell_{n-j+1} \leq n-1} x_{\ell_1} \cdots x_{\ell_{n-j+1}} \right) V_n + x_n \prod_{\ell=1}^{n-1} (x_n - x_\ell) \cdot W_{n-1,j}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.2}$$

On the other hand,

$$W_{n,n} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & x_1 & \cdots & x_1^{n-2} & x_1^n \\ 1 & x_2 & \cdots & x_2^{n-2} & x_2^n \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n & \cdots & x_n^{n-2} & x_n^n \end{vmatrix} = x_n V_n + \prod_{\ell=1}^{n-1} (x_n - x_\ell) \cdot W_{n-1,n-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (x_{n-1} + x_n)V_n + \prod_{\ell_1=1}^{n-1} (x_n - x_{\ell_1}) \prod_{\ell_2=1}^{n-2} (x_{n-1} - x_{\ell_2}) \cdot W_{n-2,n-2} \\
 &= (x_n + x_{n-1} + \dots + x_3)V_n \\
 &\quad + \prod_{\ell_1=1}^{n-1} (x_n - x_{\ell_1}) \prod_{\ell_2=1}^{n-2} (x_{n-1} - x_{\ell_2}) \cdots \prod_{\ell_{j-2}=1}^2 (x_3 - x_{\ell_{j-2}}) \cdot W_{2,2} \\
 &= (x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_{n-1} + x_n)V_n.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, (4.1) is also valid when $j = n$. Now, for $2 \leq j \leq n - 1$, from (4.2) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 W_{n,j} &= \left(\sum_{1 \leq \ell_1 < \dots < \ell_{n-j+1} \leq n-1} x_{\ell_1} \cdots x_{\ell_{n-j+1}} \right) V_n + x_n \left(\sum_{1 \leq \ell_1 < \dots < \ell_{n-j} \leq n-2} x_{\ell_1} \cdots x_{\ell_{n-j}} \right) V_n \\
 &\quad + x_n x_{n-1} \prod_{\ell_1=1}^{n-1} (x_n - x_{\ell_1}) \prod_{\ell_2=1}^{n-2} (x_{n-1} - x_{\ell_2}) \cdot W_{n-2,j} \\
 &= \left(\sum_{1 \leq \ell_1 < \dots < \ell_{n-j+1} \leq n-1} x_{\ell_1} \cdots x_{\ell_{n-j+1}} \right) V_n + x_n \left(\sum_{1 \leq \ell_1 < \dots < \ell_{n-j} \leq n-2} x_{\ell_1} \cdots x_{\ell_{n-j}} \right) V_n \\
 &\quad + x_n x_{n-1} \left(\sum_{1 \leq \ell_1 < \dots < \ell_{n-j-1} \leq n-3} x_{\ell_1} \cdots x_{\ell_{n-j-1}} \right) V_n + \dots + x_n x_{n-1} \cdots x_{j+2} \left(\sum_{1 \leq \ell_1 < \ell_2 \leq j} x_{\ell_1} x_{\ell_2} \right) V_n \\
 &\quad + x_n x_{n-1} \cdots x_{j+1} \prod_{\ell_1=1}^{n-1} (x_n - x_{\ell_1}) \prod_{\ell_2=1}^{n-2} (x_{n-1} - x_{\ell_2}) \cdots \prod_{\ell_{n-j}=1}^j (x_{j+1} - x_{\ell_{n-j}}) \cdot W_{j,j}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since the last term is equal to $x_n x_{n-1} \cdots x_{j+1} (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_j)$, we get

$$W_{n,j} = \left(\sum_{1 \leq \ell_1 < \dots < \ell_{n-j+1} \leq n} x_{\ell_1} \cdots x_{\ell_{n-j+1}} \right) V_n,$$

as desired. □

Proof of Theorem 4.1. When $k = 0$, by $\tilde{E}_n^{(0)} = (3^{n+1} - 1)/2$ ($n \geq 0$), the recurrence relation is clear. Let $k \geq 1$. Assume that for a fixed k , the numbers $\tilde{E}_n^{(-k)}$'s satisfy the recurrence relation

$$\tilde{E}_n^{(-k)} + \tau_{k,1} \tilde{E}_{n-1}^{(-k)} + \tau_{k,2} \tilde{E}_{n-2}^{(-k)} + \dots + \tau_{k,2k} \tilde{E}_{n-2k}^{(-k)} = 0. \tag{4.3}$$

Since k is fixed, this relation depends only on the part $((4l + 3)^{n+1} - (4l + 1)^{n+1})$ in the explicit expression. As $0 \leq l \leq k$ and $\binom{k}{0} = 0$ ($k \geq 1$), the relation (4.3) is equivalent to the system

$$(2l + 3)^{n+1} + (2l + 3)^n \tau_{k,1} + (2l + 3)^{n-1} \tau_{k,2} + \dots + (2l + 3)^{n-2k+1} \tau_{k,2k} = 0 \quad (1 \leq l \leq 2k)$$

or the system

$$\begin{aligned}
 5^{2k} + 5^{2k-1} \tau_{k,1} + 5^{2k-2} \tau_{k,2} + \dots + 5 \tau_{k,2k-1} + \tau_{k,2k} &= 0, \\
 7^{2k} + 7^{2k-1} \tau_{k,1} + 7^{2k-2} \tau_{k,2} + \dots + 7 \tau_{k,2k-1} + \tau_{k,2k} &= 0, \\
 &\vdots \\
 (4k + 3)^{2k} + (4k + 3)^{2k-1} \tau_{k,1} + (4k + 3)^{2k-2} \tau_{k,2} + \dots + (4k + 3) \tau_{k,2k-1} + \tau_{k,2k} &= 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the coefficients $\tau_{k,1}, \tau_{k,2}, \dots, \tau_{k,2k}$ are the solution of the matrix equation

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5^{2k-1} & 5^{2k-2} & \dots & 5 & 1 \\ 7^{2k-1} & 7^{2k-2} & \dots & 7 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots \\ (4k+3)^{2k-1} & (4k+3)^{2k-2} & \dots & 4k+3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \tau_{k,1} \\ \tau_{k,2} \\ \vdots \\ \tau_{k,2k-1} \\ \tau_{k,2k} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -5^{2k} \\ -7^{2k} \\ \vdots \\ -(4k+1)^{2k} \\ -(4k+3)^{2k} \end{pmatrix}.$$

The determinant of the $2k$ dimensional Vandermonde matrix on the left-hand side is equal to

$$V := \prod_{1 \leq \ell_1 < \ell_2 \leq 2k} ((2\ell_1 + 3) - (2\ell_2 + 3)) = (-2)^{k(2k-1)} V_{2k},$$

which is the denominator part of $\tau_{k,j}$ by Cramer. By applying Lemma 4.3 with $n = 2m$ and $x_i = 2i + 3$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, 2k$), the numerator part of $\tau_{k,j}$ is given by

$$(-1)^j \left(\sum_{1 \leq \ell_1 < \dots < \ell_j \leq 2k} (2\ell_1 + 3) \cdots (2\ell_j + 3) \right) \cdot V.$$

Hence, we have

$$\tau_{k,j} = (-1)^j \sum_{1 \leq \ell_1 < \dots < \ell_j \leq 2k} (2\ell_1 + 3) \cdots (2\ell_j + 3) = \sigma_{2k-j}^{(2k)} \quad (j = 1, 2, \dots, 2k).$$

□

For an integer k , poly-Euler numbers of the second kind $\widehat{E}_n^{(k)}$ ($n \geq 0$) are defined by ([10, 11])

$$\frac{\text{Li}_k(1 - e^{-4x})}{4 \sinh x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \widehat{E}_n^{(k)} \frac{x^n}{n!}.$$

When $k = 1$, $\widehat{E}_n = \widehat{E}_n^{(1)}$ are the original Euler numbers of the second kind (or complimentary Euler numbers), defined by

$$\frac{x}{\sinh x} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \widehat{E}_n \frac{x^n}{n!}.$$

Poly-Euler numbers of the second kind can be expressed in terms of poly-Bernoulli numbers ([10, Theorem 3.1], [11, Lemma 3.1]):

$$\widehat{E}_n^{(k)} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m=0}^n \binom{n}{m} 4^m ((-1)^{n-m} - (-3)^{n-m}) B_m^{(k)}.$$

In the case of negative index, poly-Euler numbers of the second kind have an explicit expression ([10, Theorem 3.3], [11, Lemma 3.2]):

$$\widehat{E}_n^{(-k)} = \frac{(-1)^k}{2} \sum_{l=0}^k (-1)^l l! \left\{ \begin{matrix} k \\ l \end{matrix} \right\} ((4l+3)^n + (4l+1)^n) \quad (k \geq 0).$$

Notice that $E_n^{(-k)}$ are all integers. Euler numbers of the second kind with negative indices satisfy the same recurrence formula as those in Theorem 4.1.

Theorem 4.4. For $k = 0$,

$$\widehat{E}_n^{(0)} - 4\widehat{E}_{n-1}^{(-k)} + 3\widehat{E}_{n-2}^{(-k)} = 0 \quad (n \geq 2).$$

For $k \geq 1$,

$$\sum_{j=0}^{2k} \sigma_j^{(2k)} \widehat{E}_{n-2k+j}^{(-k)} = 0 \quad (n \geq 2k).$$

Remark 4.5. For $k = 0, 1, 2, 3$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \{\widehat{E}_n^{(0)}\}_{n \geq 0} &= 1, 2, 5, 14, 41, 122, 365, 1094, 3281, 9842, 29525, 88574, \dots, \\ \{\widehat{E}_n^{(-1)}\}_{n \geq 0} &= 1, 6, 37, 234, 1513, 9966, 66637, 450834, 3077713, 21153366, \dots, \\ \{\widehat{E}_n^{(-2)}\}_{n \geq 0} &= 1, 14, 165, 1826, 19689, 210134, 2236365, 23819306, 254327889, \dots, \\ \{\widehat{E}_n^{(-3)}\}_{n \geq 0} &= 1, 30, 613, 10770, 175465, 2741670, 41809933, 628464090, 9366724945, \dots \end{aligned}$$

In fact, $\widehat{E}_n^{(0)} = (3^n + 1)/2$ ([15, A007051]). The sequence $\{\widehat{E}_n^{(-1)}\}_{n \geq 0}$ is the 6th binomial transform of $1, 0, 1, 0, 1, \dots$ ([15, A081188]).

Proof of Theorem 4.4. The proof can be done as the same as that of Theorem 4.1. However, we shall prove the similar result by a different method, which is also applicable to that of Theorem 4.1. Since

$$x(x-1) \cdots (x-n+1) = \sum_{\ell=0}^n (-1)^{n-\ell} \begin{bmatrix} n \\ \ell \end{bmatrix} x^\ell,$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} (x-5|2)_n &= \sum_{\ell=0}^n (-2)^{n-\ell} \begin{bmatrix} n \\ \ell \end{bmatrix} (x-5)^\ell = \sum_{\ell=0}^n (-2)^{n-\ell} \begin{bmatrix} n \\ \ell \end{bmatrix} \sum_{j=0}^{\ell} \binom{\ell}{j} (-5)^{\ell-j} x^j \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^n \sum_{\ell=j}^n (-2)^{n-\ell} (-5)^{\ell-j} \binom{\ell}{j} \begin{bmatrix} n \\ \ell \end{bmatrix} x^j. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, for $j = 0, 1, \dots, n$, we have

$$\sigma_j^{(n)} = \sum_{\ell=j}^n (-2)^{n-\ell} (-5)^{\ell-j} \binom{\ell}{j} \begin{bmatrix} n \\ \ell \end{bmatrix}.$$

Therefore, for $k \geq 1$ and $n \geq 2k$,

$$\begin{aligned} &\sum_{j=0}^{2k} \sigma_j^{(2k)} \widehat{E}_{n-2k+j}^{(-k)} \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^{2k} \sum_{\ell=j}^{2k} (-2)^{2k-\ell} (-5)^{\ell-j} \binom{\ell}{j} \begin{bmatrix} 2k \\ \ell \end{bmatrix} \frac{(-1)^k}{2} \sum_{r=0}^k (-1)^r r! \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ r \end{Bmatrix} ((4r+3)^{n-2k+j} + (4r+1)^{n-2k+j}). \end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\sum_{j=0}^{2k} \sum_{\ell=j}^{2k} (-2)^{2k-\ell} (-5)^{\ell-j} \binom{\ell}{j} \begin{bmatrix} 2k \\ \ell \end{bmatrix} \frac{(-1)^k}{2} \sum_{r=0}^k (-1)^r r! \begin{Bmatrix} k \\ r \end{Bmatrix} (4r+3)^{n-2k+j}$$

Lemma 5.1. For any integers r and i with $r \geq 2$, $0 \leq \rho \leq i < \rho + r$, and $n \geq 2$,

$$K_{r-1}(M-r) \cdot Z_{rn+i} - (K_{r-1}(M)K_r(M-r) + U(M)K_{r-1}(M-r)K_{r-2}(M+1)) \cdot Z_{rn-r+i} + (-1)^r \Omega(M)K_{r-1}(M) \cdot Z_{rn-2r+i} = 0.$$

We apply Lemma 5.1 as $T(n) = -(2n-5)$ and $U(n) = -(n-3)^2$. When $r = 2$ and $i = 0$, we get $M = 2n$, $\Omega(M) = (2n-4)^2(2n-5)^2$, $K_1(M) = -(4n-5)$, $K_1(M-r) = -(4n-9)$, and $K_2(M-r) = 12n^2 - 48n + 47$. Thus, we have

$$-(4n-9)c_n^{(-2)} + 2(4n-7)(4n^2-14n+11)c_{n-2}^{(-2)} - (2n-4)^2(2n-5)^2(4n-5)c_{n-4}^{(-2)}.$$

When $r = 2$ and $i = 1$, we get $M = 2n+1$, $\Omega(M) = (2n-3)^2(2n-4)^2$, $K_1(M) = -(4n-3)$, $K_1(M-r) = -(4n-7)$, and $K_2(M-r) = 12n^2 - 36n + 26$. Thus, we have

$$-(4n-7)c_{2n+1}^{(-2)} + 2(4n-5)(4n^2-10n+5)c_{2n-1}^{(-2)} - (2n-3)^2(2n-4)^2(4n-3)c_{2n-3}^{(-2)}.$$

Proposition 5.2. For $n \geq 3$,

$$(4n-9)c_{2n}^{(-2)} - 2(4n-7)(4n^2-14n+11)c_{2n-2}^{(-2)} + (2n-3)^2(2n-4)^2(4n-5)c_{2n-4}^{(-2)} = 0,$$

$$(4n-7)c_{2n+1}^{(-2)} - 2(4n-5)(4n^2-10n+5)c_{2n-1}^{(-2)} + (2n-3)^2(2n-4)^2(4n-3)c_{2n-3}^{(-2)} = 0.$$

For example,

$$3c_6^{(-2)} - 50c_4^{(-2)} + 28c_2^{(-2)} = 0,$$

$$5c_7^{(-2)} - 154c_5^{(-2)} + 324c_3^{(-2)} = 0,$$

$$7c_8^{(-2)} - 342c_6^{(-2)} + 1584c_4^{(-2)} = 0,$$

$$9c_9^{(-2)} - 638c_7^{(-2)} + 5200c_5^{(-2)} = 0.$$

It is similarly shown for the cases when $r \geq 3$, but the expressions become more complicated.

For the three-term recurrence relation of Bernoulli numbers $B_n^{(-2)} - 5B_{n-1}^{(-2)} + 6B_{n-2}^{(-2)}$, leaping recurrence relations are much simpler. When $r = 2$, we have $5B_n^{(-2)} - 65B_{n-2}^{(-2)} + 180B_{n-4}^{(-2)} = 0$ or

$$B_n^{(-2)} - 13B_{n-2}^{(-2)} + 36B_{n-4}^{(-2)} = 0.$$

In fact, we can get a more general case by using the following result ([8, Theorem 1]).

Lemma 5.3. If the sequence $\{Z_n\}_n$ satisfies the three-term relation $Z_n = a_1Z_{n-1} + a_2Z_{n-2}$, then for any positive integer r we have

$$Z_n = r \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} \frac{(r-i-1)!}{i!(r-2i)!} a_1^{r-2i} a_2^i \cdot Z_{n-r} - (-1)^r a_2^r \cdot Z_{n-2r} \quad (n \geq 2r).$$

By applying Lemma 5.3 as $a_1 = 5$ and $a_2 = -6$, we have the following.

Proposition 5.4.

$$B_n^{(-2)} = r \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor r/2 \rfloor} \frac{(r-i-1)!}{i!(r-2i)!} 5^{r-2i} (-6)^i \cdot B_{n-r}^{(-2)} - 6^r \cdot B_{n-2r}^{(-2)} \quad (n \geq 2r).$$

Concerning the sequence $\{c_n^{(-3)}\}$, a four-term recurrence relation

$$c_n^{(-3)} + 3(n-3)c_{n-1}^{(-3)} + (3n^2 - 21n + 37)c_{n-2}^{(-3)} + (n-4)^3c_{n-3}^{(-3)} \quad (n \geq 5)$$

holds. However, no general formula for leaping relation has been found. As for Bernoulli numbers $B_n^{(-3)}$, a four-term relation

$$B_n^{(-3)} - 9B_{n-1}^{(-3)} + 26B_{n-2}^{(-3)} - 24B_{n-3}^{(-3)} = 0$$

has only constant coefficients, by applying [8, Theorem 2], we have a leaping relation

$$B_n^{(-3)} = r \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor r/3 \rfloor} \sum_{i=0}^{(r-3j)/2} \frac{(r-i-2j-1)!}{i!j!(r-2i-3j)!} 9^{r-2i-3j} (-26)^i \cdot 24^j B_{n-r}^{(-3)} \\ - r \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor r/3 \rfloor} \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor (r-3j)/2 \rfloor} (-1)^{r+i+j} \frac{(r-i-2j-1)!}{i!j!(r-2i-3j)!} 9^i (-26)^{r-2i-3j} \cdot 24^{i+2j} \cdot B_{n-2r}^{(-3)} + 24^r B_{n-3r}^{(-3)} \quad (n > 3r).$$

6. Comments

Sasaki [14] announced more recurrence formulas of poly-Bernoulli numbers from the duality theorem $B_n^{(-k)} = B_k^{(-n)}$, and combinatorial interpretations about some relations. However, poly-Cauchy numbers and poly-Euler numbers do not satisfy the duality theorem. Any combinatorial interpretation of poly-Cauchy numbers has not been known yet, though a few are discovered about poly-Euler numbers [13].

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