

On an Identity of Sun for Bernoulli Polynomials

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Abstract: We employ the Taylor's series to show an identity of Sun involving Bernoulli polynomials, which implies the Carlitz's identity for Bernoulli numbers.

Key words: Sun's formula • Bernoulli polynomials • Carlitz's identity

INTRODUCTION

Sun [1, 2] obtained the following identity involving Bernoulli polynomials [3-7]:

$$A(x) \equiv (-1)^l \sum_{r=0}^l \binom{l}{r} x^{l-r} B_{k+r}(z) = (-1)^k \sum_{j=0}^k \binom{k}{j} x^{k-j} B_{l+j}(y), \quad x + y + z = 1; \quad kl \geq 0, \quad (1)$$

which for $x = 1, y = z = 0$ implies the Carlitz's identity [1, 2, 8-13]:

$$(-1)^l \sum_{r=0}^l \binom{l}{r} B_{k+r} = (-1)^k \sum_{j=0}^k \binom{k}{j} B_{l+j}. \quad (2)$$

Here we give a simple proof of (1), in fact, into $A(x)$ we use $z = 1 - (x + y)$ and the relations [3-7, 14]:

$$B_{k+r}(1 - (x + y)) = (-1)^{k+r} B_{k+r}(x + y) = (-1)^{k+r} \sum_{q=0}^{k+r} \binom{k+r}{q} x^{k+r-q} B_q(y), \quad (3)$$

to obtain:

$$A(x) = (-1)^{k+l} \sum_{r=0}^l \binom{l}{r} (-1)^r \sum_{q=0}^{k+r} \binom{k+r}{q} x^{k+l-q} B_q(y), \quad (4)$$

where we can apply Taylor's series about $x = 0$ because are immediate the derivatives of (4):

$$A^{(t)}(0) = (-1)^k t! \sum_{m=0}^t (-1)^m \binom{k+l-m}{k+l-t} \binom{l}{l-m} B_{k+l-m}(y), \quad (5)$$

therefore:

$$A(x) = \sum_{t=0}^{k+l} \frac{1}{t!} A^{(t)}(0) x^t = (-1)^k \sum_{t=0}^{k+l} \left[\sum_{m=0}^t (-1)^m \binom{k+l-m}{k+l-t} \binom{l}{l-m} \right] B_{k+l-t}(y) x^t. \quad (6)$$

Finally, the expression (3.49) of Gould [15] allows show that:

$$\sum_{m=0}^t (-1)^m \binom{k+l-m}{k+l-t} \binom{l}{m} = \binom{k}{t}, \tag{7}$$

whose application into (6) implies the Sun’s identity (1), q.e.d.

Pan-Sun [14] obtained the interesting relation:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(-1)^m}{m} \sum_{k=0}^m \binom{m}{k} B_{m-k}(x) B_{n-1+k}(y) - \frac{B_m(z)}{m} B_{n-1}(y) &= \\ &= \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \sum_{r=0}^n \binom{n}{r} B_{n-r}(x) B_{m-1+r}(z) - \frac{B_n(y)}{n} B_{m-1}(z), \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

$x + y + z = 1, m, n \geq 1$

which for $x = 1, y = z = 0$ implies the following Woodcock’s identity involving Bernoulli numbers [16]:

$$\frac{(-1)^m}{m} \sum_{q=0}^{m-1} \binom{m}{q} (-1)^q B_q B_{m+n-q-1} = \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \binom{n}{j} (-1)^j B_j B_{m+n-j-1}, \tag{9}$$

where we can employ $n = 1$ to deduce the known Euler’s result:

$$\frac{1}{m} \sum_{r=1}^m \binom{m}{r} B_r B_{m-r} + B_{m-1} = -B_m, \quad m \geq 1. \tag{10}$$

For $m, n \geq 2$ the expression (9) adopts the form:

$$\frac{(-1)^m}{m} \sum_{q=0}^{m-1} \binom{m}{q} B_q B_{m+n-q-1} = \frac{(-1)^n}{n} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \binom{n}{j} B_j B_{m+n-j-1}, \tag{11}$$

that for example, for $n = 2$, gives the property:

$$\frac{(-1)^m}{m} \sum_{q=0}^{m-1} \binom{m}{q} B_q B_{m-q+1} = \frac{1}{2} (B_{m+1} - B_m). \tag{12}$$

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