

On the Janjic's Definition of Stirling Numbers

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Abstract: We exhibit that the definitions of Janjic for the Stirling numbers are consequences of the formulas of Hoppe and Quaintance-Gould.

Key words: Stirling numbers · Hoppe's formula · Generalized chain rule of differentiation

INTRODUCTION

Janjic [1] employs the relations:

$$\frac{d^n}{dx^n} f(u) = \sum_{k=0}^n S_n^{[k]} u^k \frac{d^k}{du^k} f(u), \quad u = e^x, \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{d^n}{dx^n} f(v) = \frac{1}{x^n} \sum_{k=0}^n S_n^{(k)} \frac{d^k}{du^k} f(v), \quad v = \ln x, \quad (2)$$

where $f(t)$ is an arbitrary function, to define the Stirling numbers $S_n^{(k)}$ and $S_n^{[k]}$ [2].

In Sec. 2 we show that (1) and (2) are consequences of the formulas of Hoppe [3, 4] and Quaintance-Gould [2], respectively.

Janjic's Relations: In the Hoppe's expression:

$$\frac{d^n}{dx^n} f(u) = \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(-1)^k}{k!} \frac{d^k}{du^k} f(u) \sum_{j=0}^k (-1)^j \binom{k}{j} u^{k-j} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} u^j, \quad (3)$$

we apply $u = e^x$, thus $\frac{d^n}{dx^n} u^j = j^n u^j$, then (1) is immediate

by the Euler's result [2]:

$$S_n^{[k]} = \frac{(-1)^k}{k!} \sum_{j=0}^k (-1)^j \binom{k}{j} j^n \quad (4)$$

We know the property [2]:

$$n! \binom{y}{n} = \sum_{k=0}^n S_n^{(k)} y^k, \quad (5)$$

where we can use $y = \frac{d}{dv}$ to deduce:

$$n! \binom{\frac{d}{dv}}{n} = \sum_{k=0}^n S_n^{(k)} \frac{d^k}{dv^k}, \quad (6)$$

besides, we have the relation [2]:

$$\frac{d^n}{dx^n} f(v) = \frac{n!}{x^n} \binom{\frac{d}{dv}}{n} f(v), \quad v = \ln x, \quad (7)$$

therefore (6) and (7) imply (2).

The expressions (1) and (2) are the formulas (8.13) and (12.34) in [2], respectively.

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