



## A GENERALIZATION OF THE LANDEN CONNECTION FORMULA AND GENERALIZED POLY-BERNOULLI NUMBERS

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### Abstract

We introduce a generalization of multiple polylogarithms and give their Landen-type connection formulas. Also, we define generalized poly-Bernoulli numbers by using these polylogarithms and prove some relations.

### 1. Introduction

For an index  $\mathbf{k} = (k_1, \dots, k_r) \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}^r$ , we set  $d(\mathbf{k}) := r$  and  $|\mathbf{k}| = k := k_1 + \dots + k_r$ . They are called the *depth* and the *weight* of  $\mathbf{k}$ , respectively. For any index  $\mathbf{k} = (k_1, \dots, k_r)$ , define *multiple polylogarithms*  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(z)$  as

$$\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(z) := \sum_{0 < m_1 < \dots < m_r} \frac{z^{m_r}}{m_1^{k_1} \dots m_r^{k_r}} \in \mathbb{Q}[[z]]$$

(for more general settings, see, e.g., [3] and [16]). When  $\mathbf{k} = (k)$  ( $k > 0$ ), the function  $\text{Li}_k(z)$  is the classical polylogarithm.

For indices  $\mathbf{k}$  and  $\mathbf{k}'$ , the notation  $\mathbf{k}' \preceq \mathbf{k}$  means that  $\mathbf{k}'$  is obtained from  $\mathbf{k}$  by combining some consecutive entries, e.g.,  $(3, 5) \preceq (1, 2, 1, 3, 1)$ . Okuda and Ueno [14] proved the following beautiful relation called the Landen connection formula:

**Theorem 1** ([14, Prop. 9]). *For any index  $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}^r$ , we have that*

$$\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}\left(\frac{z}{z-1}\right) = (-1)^{d(\mathbf{k})} \sum_{\mathbf{k}' \preceq \mathbf{k}} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}'}(z). \quad (1)$$

Let  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^*(z)$  be the non-strict multiple polylogarithm defined by

$$\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^*(z) := \sum_{0 < m_1 \leq \dots \leq m_r} \frac{z^{m_r}}{m_1^{k_1} \dots m_r^{k_r}}.$$

We note that  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^*(z) = \sum_{\mathbf{k}' \preceq \mathbf{k}} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}'}(z)$ . If an index  $\mathbf{k} = (k_1, \dots, k_r)$  satisfies  $k_r \geq 2$ , then the values  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(1)$  and  $\overline{\text{Li}}_{\mathbf{k}}^*(1)$  converge. These limit values, denoted by  $\zeta(\mathbf{k})$  and  $\zeta^*(\mathbf{k})$ , are called *multiple zeta values* and *multiple zeta star values*, respectively.

For an index  $\mathbf{k} = (k_1, \dots, k_r)$  with  $k_r \geq 2$ , Yamamoto [15] introduced the following interpolated multiple zeta values:

$$\zeta^t(\mathbf{k}) := \sum_{\mathbf{k}' \preceq \mathbf{k}} t^{d(\mathbf{k})-d(\mathbf{k}')} \zeta(\mathbf{k}') \in \mathbb{R}[t].$$

This polynomial interpolates multiple zeta values and multiple zeta star values because  $\zeta^0(\mathbf{k}) = \zeta(\mathbf{k})$  and  $\zeta^1(\mathbf{k}) = \zeta^*(\mathbf{k})$ . Yamamoto studied the function  $\zeta^t(\mathbf{k})$  in connection with the so-called “two-one formula” [13], and proved a sum formula and a cyclic sum formula for  $\zeta^t(\mathbf{k})$ .

There are some studies on a polylogarithm version of the interpolated multiple zeta values. Li and Qin [10] introduced interpolated multiple polylogarithms as

$$\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(t, z) := \sum_{\mathbf{k}' \preceq \mathbf{k}} t^{\text{dep}(\mathbf{k})-\text{dep}(\mathbf{k}')} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}'}(z) \tag{2}$$

and gave a formula relating to the so-called “Ohno-Zagier relation” [12]. When  $k_r \geq 2$ , it clearly follows that  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(t, 1) = \zeta^t(\mathbf{k})$ . Ohno and Wayama [11] investigated the interpolated Arakawa-Kaneko zeta functions and considered another type of interpolated multiple polylogarithm as follows:

$$\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^t(z) := \sum_{\mathbf{k} \preceq \mathbf{k}'} t^{\text{dep}(\mathbf{k}')-\text{dep}(\mathbf{k})} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}'}(z). \tag{3}$$

This function interpolates  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^0(z) = \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(z)$  and  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^1(z) = \sum_{\mathbf{k} \preceq \mathbf{k}'} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}'}(z)$ . The latter value  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^1(z)$  appears in the Landen connection formula (1).

For an index  $\mathbf{k} = (k_1, \dots, k_r) \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}^r$ , two kinds of poly-Bernoulli numbers  $C_n^{(\mathbf{k})}$  and  $B_n^{(\mathbf{k})}$  ( $n \geq 0$ ) are defined as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(1 - e^{-t})}{e^t - 1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n^{(\mathbf{k})} \frac{t^n}{n!} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(1 - e^{-t})}{1 - e^{-t}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(\mathbf{k})} \frac{t^n}{n!}$$

(see, e.g., [9]). We remark that, in general, these numbers can be defined even if  $k_i$ 's are non-positive. When  $r = 1$ , the numbers  $C_n^{(k)}$  and  $B_n^{(k)}$  are introduced by Arakawa-Kaneko [1] and Kaneko [6]. Since  $\text{Li}_1(z) = -\log(1-z)$ , we have  $C_n^{(1)} = B_n$  and  $B_n^{(1)} = (-1)^n B_n$  for  $n \geq 0$ . Here  $B_n$  ( $n \geq 0$ ) are ordinary Bernoulli numbers defined by

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

In the present paper, we introduce generalized multiple polylogarithms including both Equations (2) and (3) and give a generalization of the Landen connection

formula (1). Moreover, we define the corresponding poly-Bernoulli numbers, which are generalizations of the ordinary poly-Bernoulli numbers  $C_n^{(\mathbf{k})}$  and  $B_n^{(\mathbf{k})}$ , and prove some identities.

**2. Generalized Multiple Polylogarithms**

For a matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in GL_2(\mathbb{R})$ , let us consider  $z = \frac{ae^t + b}{ce^t + d}$  which is a linear fractional transformation of  $e^t$ . We remark that  $z = \frac{ae^t + b}{ce^t + d}$  can be written *formally* as

$$t = \log \frac{-b + dz}{a - cz} = \int_{\frac{a+b}{c+d}}^z \left( \frac{c}{a - cu} - \frac{d}{b - du} \right) du. \tag{4}$$

In particular, when  $a = 1$  and  $b = -1$ , we have

$$t = \log \frac{1 + dz}{1 - cz} = \int_0^z \left( \frac{c}{1 - cu} + \frac{d}{1 + du} \right) du. \tag{5}$$

For an integer  $s \geq 1$ , set  $g_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ c_0 & d_0 \end{pmatrix} \in GL_2(\mathbb{R})$  and  $g_i = \begin{pmatrix} a_i & b_i \\ c_i & d_i \end{pmatrix} \in GL_2(\mathbb{R})$  ( $1 \leq i \leq s$ ). The symbol  $\mathbf{g}$  stands for a sequence  $\mathbf{g} = (g_0, g_1, \dots, g_s)$ . Let  $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_s)$  and  $\boldsymbol{\gamma} = (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_s) \in \mathbb{R}^s$ .

For an index  $\mathbf{k} = (k_1, \dots, k_r) \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}^r$ , we use the arrow notation  $\mathbf{k}_\uparrow := (k_1, \dots, k_r + 1)$  and  $\mathbf{k}_\rightarrow := (k_1, \dots, k_r, 1)$ . Then we define generalized multiple polylogarithms  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z) \in \mathbb{R}[[z]]$  inductively as

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}_\uparrow}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z) &= \int_0^z \sum_{i=1}^s \beta_i \left( \frac{c_i}{a_i - c_i u} - \frac{d_i}{b_i - d_i u} \right) \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); u) du, \\ \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}_\rightarrow}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z) &= \int_0^z \sum_{i=1}^s \gamma_i \left( \frac{c_i}{a_i - c_i u} - \frac{d_i}{b_i - d_i u} \right) \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); u) du \end{aligned}$$

with an initial condition

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Li}_{(1)}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z) &= \int_0^z \left( \frac{c_0}{1 - c_0 u} + \frac{d_0}{1 + d_0 u} \right) du \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^\infty \frac{c_0^n - (-d_0)^n}{n} z^n. \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

Here we give some examples of  $g = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$  and  $G_g(t) := \frac{c}{a-ct} - \frac{d}{b-dt}$  in Table 1.

$g$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -w \end{pmatrix} (w \neq 1)$
$G_g(t)$	$\frac{1}{t}$	$\frac{1}{1-t}$	$\frac{2}{1-t^2}$	$\frac{1}{1-t} - \frac{w}{1-wt}$

Table 1: Examples of  $G_g(t)$

If  $\mathbf{g} = (g_0, g_1, g_2)$  with  $g_0 = g_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $g_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (1, 0)$  and  $\boldsymbol{\gamma} = (0, 1)$ , then the function  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z)$  is expressed by the well-known iterated integral representation of the multiple polylogarithm  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(z)$ . By definition, the function  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z)$  has no constant term, i.e.,  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z) \in z\mathbb{R}[[z]]$  for any index  $\mathbf{k}$ . Also it follows that  $\text{Li}_{(1)}\left(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); \frac{e^t - 1}{c_0 e^t + d_0}\right) = t$  because of Equation (4).

For an index  $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}^s$ , Hoffman’s dual index  $\mathbf{k}^\vee$  of  $\mathbf{k}$  is defined inductively by the identities  $(\mathbf{k}_\uparrow)^\vee = (\mathbf{k}^\vee)_\rightarrow$  and  $(\mathbf{k}_\rightarrow)^\vee = (\mathbf{k}^\vee)_\uparrow$  with  $(1)^\vee = (1)$ . This index  $\mathbf{k}^\vee$  appears in Hoffman’s duality formula for finite multiple zeta values (see [4]). Interchanging  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$  corresponds to taking Hoffman’s dual index  $\mathbf{k}^\vee$ , i.e., the following identity holds:

$$\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z) = \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}^\vee}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\gamma}, \boldsymbol{\beta}); z).$$

The following is a kind of sum formula for  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z)$ .

**Proposition 1.** For an integer  $k \geq 1$  and an indeterminate  $\mu$ , we have

$$\sum_{|\mathbf{k}|=k} \mu^{d(\mathbf{k})-1} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z) = \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mu\boldsymbol{\gamma}, \boldsymbol{\delta}); z). \tag{7}$$

Here  $\boldsymbol{\delta} \in \mathbb{R}^s$  is an arbitrary vector and  $\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mu\boldsymbol{\gamma} := (\beta_i + \mu\gamma_i)_{1 \leq i \leq s}$ .

*Proof.* We prove Identity (7) by induction on  $k$ . When  $k = 1$ , Identity (7) is trivial because  $\text{Li}_{(1)}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z)$  defined by Identity (6) does not depend on  $(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma})$ .

We assume that Identity (7) holds for some  $k \geq 1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dz} \sum_{|\mathbf{k}|=k+1} \mu^{d(\mathbf{k})-1} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z) \\ &= \frac{d}{dz} \left( \sum_{|\mathbf{k}|=k} \mu^{d(\mathbf{k})-1} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}_\uparrow}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z) + \sum_{|\mathbf{k}|=k} \mu^{d(\mathbf{k})} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}_\rightarrow}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z) \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^s \beta_i \left( \frac{c_i}{a_i - c_i z} - \frac{d_i}{b_i - d_i z} \right) \sum_{|\mathbf{k}|=k} \mu^{d(\mathbf{k})-1} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \sum_{i=1}^s \mu \gamma_i \left( \frac{c_i}{a_i - c_i z} - \frac{d_i}{b_i - d_i z} \right) \sum_{|\mathbf{k}|=k} \mu^{d(\mathbf{k})-1} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z) \\
 & = \sum_{i=1}^s (\beta_i + \mu \gamma_i) \left( \frac{c_i}{a_i - c_i z} - \frac{d_i}{b_i - d_i z} \right) \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mu \boldsymbol{\gamma}, \boldsymbol{\delta}); z).
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by inductive assumption, we have

$$\frac{d}{dz} \sum_{|\mathbf{k}|=k+1} \mu^{d(\mathbf{k})-1} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z) = \frac{d}{dz} \text{Li}_{k+1}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta} + \mu \boldsymbol{\gamma}, \boldsymbol{\delta}); z).$$

Because every multiple polylogarithm has no constant term, Identity (7) also holds for  $k + 1$ . □

For  $\mathbf{g} = (g_0, g_1, \dots, g_s)$ , we define

$$\tilde{g}_i = \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{a}_i & \tilde{b}_i \\ \tilde{c}_i & \tilde{d}_i \end{pmatrix} := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ c_0 - d_0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} g_i = \begin{pmatrix} a_i & b_i \\ (c_0 - d_0)a_i - c_i & (c_0 - d_0)b_i - d_i \end{pmatrix}$$

for  $0 \leq i \leq s$  and set  $\tilde{\mathbf{g}} = (\tilde{g}_0, \tilde{g}_1, \dots, \tilde{g}_s)$ . We remark that each  $\tilde{g}_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq s$ ) depends on  $g_0$  and

$$\tilde{g}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ c_0 - d_0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ c_0 & d_0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -d_0 & -c_0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Also we can see that this operation is an involution, i.e.,  $(\tilde{\tilde{\mathbf{g}}}) = \mathbf{g}$ . Then we obtain the following theorem which is a generalization of the Landen connection formula (1).

**Theorem 2.** For any index  $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}^r$ , we have

$$\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}} \left( \mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); \frac{z}{(c_0 - d_0)z - 1} \right) = \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\tilde{\mathbf{g}}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z). \tag{8}$$

*Proof.* We will prove the following: if  $u = \frac{v}{(c_0 - d_0)v - 1}$ , then

$$\left( \frac{c_i}{a_i - c_i u} - \frac{d_i}{b_i - d_i u} \right) du = \left( \frac{\tilde{c}_i}{\tilde{a}_i - \tilde{c}_i v} - \frac{\tilde{d}_i}{\tilde{b}_i - \tilde{d}_i v} \right) dv \quad (1 \leq i \leq s).$$

Then, by considering the transformation of variables, we obtain Equation (8).

When  $u = \frac{v}{(c_0 - d_0)v - 1}$ , we have  $du = \frac{-1}{((c_0 - d_0)v - 1)^2} dv$  and

$$\frac{c_i}{a_i - c_i u} du = \frac{c_i}{a_i - c_i \frac{v}{(c_0 - d_0)v - 1}} \cdot \frac{-1}{((c_0 - d_0)v - 1)^2} dv$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{c_i}{(a_i(c_0 - d_0) - c_i)v - a_i} \cdot \frac{-1}{(c_0 - d_0)v - 1} dv \\
 &= \left( \frac{a_i(c_0 - d_0) - c_i}{a_i - (a_i(c_0 - d_0) - c_i)v} - \frac{c_0 - d_0}{1 - (c_0 - d_0)v} \right) dv.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left( \frac{c_i}{a_i - c_i u} - \frac{d_i}{b_i - d_i u} \right) du &= \left( \frac{a_i(c_0 - d_0) - c_i}{a_i - (a_i(c_0 - d_0) - c_i)v} - \frac{b_i(c_0 - d_0) - d_i}{b_i - (b_i(c_0 - d_0) - d_i)v} \right) dv \\
 &= \left( \frac{\tilde{c}_i}{\tilde{a}_i - \tilde{c}_i v} - \frac{\tilde{d}_i}{\tilde{b}_i - \tilde{d}_i v} \right) dv.
 \end{aligned}$$

□

### 3. Examples

#### 3.1. The Classical Case

Throughout this subsection we assume that  $s = 2$  and

$$\mathbf{g} = (g_0, g_1, g_2) \text{ with } g_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, g_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } g_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (9)$$

The function  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, ((\beta_1, \beta_2), (\gamma_1, \gamma_2)); z)$  is a generalization of both  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(t, z)$  and  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^t(z)$  defined by Equations (2) and (3). In fact, we have

$$\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, ((1, 0), (t, 1)); z) = \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(t, z) \text{ and } \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, ((1, t), (0, 1)); z) = \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^t(z).$$

We give some examples of the correspondence of  $g$  and  $G_g(t)$  in Table 2.

$g_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	$g_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$g_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$
$G_{g_0}(t) = \frac{1}{1-t}$	$G_{g_1}(t) = \frac{1}{t}$	$G_{g_2}(t) = \frac{1}{1-t}$
$\tilde{g}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\tilde{g}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\tilde{g}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$
$G_{\tilde{g}_0}(t) = -\frac{1}{1-t}$	$G_{\tilde{g}_1}(t) = \frac{1}{1-t} + \frac{1}{t}$	$G_{\tilde{g}_2}(t) = -\frac{1}{1-t}$

Table 2: Examples of  $G_{g_i}(t)$  and  $G_{\tilde{g}_i}(t)$

Under the assumption (9), Theorem 2 can be written in the following form.

**Theorem 3.** Assume  $\mathbf{g}$  satisfies the condition (9). Then

$$\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}} \left( \mathbf{g}, ((\beta_1, \beta_2), (\gamma_1, \gamma_2)); \frac{z}{z-1} \right) = -\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}} \left( \mathbf{g}, ((\beta_1, \beta_1 - \beta_2), (\gamma_1, \gamma_1 - \gamma_2)); z \right). \tag{10}$$

*Proof.* By Theorem 2, we have

$$\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}} \left( \mathbf{g}, ((\beta_1, \beta_2), (\gamma_1, \gamma_2)); \frac{z}{z-1} \right) = \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}} (\tilde{\mathbf{g}}, ((\beta_1, \beta_2), (\gamma_1, \gamma_2)); z). \tag{11}$$

The differential form  $\beta_1 \frac{1}{t} dt + \beta_2 \frac{1}{1-t} dt$  is transformed as

$$\left( \beta_1 \left( \frac{1}{t} + \frac{1}{1-t} \right) + \beta_2 \left( -\frac{1}{1-t} \right) \right) dt = \left( \beta_1 \frac{1}{t} + (\beta_1 - \beta_2) \frac{1}{1-t} \right) dt$$

under the transformation  $t \mapsto \frac{t}{t-1}$ . Hence we have

$$\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}} (\tilde{\mathbf{g}}, ((\beta_1, \beta_2), (\gamma_1, \gamma_2)); z) = -\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}} (\mathbf{g}, ((\beta_1, \beta_1 - \beta_2), (\gamma_1, \gamma_1 - \gamma_2)); z)$$

and this completes the proof. □

**Example 1.** By applying  $(\beta_1, \beta_2) = (1, t)$  and  $(\gamma_1, \gamma_2) = (0, 1)$  in Equation (10), we obtain that

$$\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^t \left( \frac{z}{z-1} \right) = (-1)^{d(\mathbf{k})} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^{1-t}(z),$$

where  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^t(z)$  is the function defined by Equation (3). When  $t = 0$ , this equation gives the original Landen connection formula (1).

**Example 2.** For  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$ , set  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\beta)}(z) := \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, ((1, \beta), (1, 1 - \beta)); z)$ . By Theorem 3, we can get

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\beta)} \left( \frac{z}{z-1} \right) = -\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{k}^\vee}^{(\beta)}(z). \tag{12}$$

In particular, when  $\beta = 0$ , this equation gives

$$\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^* \left( \frac{z}{z-1} \right) = -\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}^\vee}^*(z).$$

### 3.2. A Case with One Parameter

Throughout this subsection we assume that  $s = 2$  and

$$\mathbf{g} = (g_0, g_1, g_2) \text{ with } g_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -w \end{pmatrix}, g_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } g_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -w \end{pmatrix},$$

$g_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -w \end{pmatrix}$	$g_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$	$g_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -w \end{pmatrix}$
$G_{g_0}(t) = \frac{1}{1-t} - \frac{w}{1-wt}$	$G_{g_1}(t) = \frac{1}{t}$	$G_{g_2}(t) = \frac{1}{1-t} - \frac{w}{1-wt}$
$\tilde{g}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ w & -1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\tilde{g}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1+w & -1 \end{pmatrix}$	$\tilde{g}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ w & -1 \end{pmatrix}$
$G_{\tilde{g}_0}(t) = -\frac{1}{1-t} + \frac{w}{1-wt}$	$G_{\tilde{g}_1}(t) = \frac{1+w}{1-(1+w)t} + \frac{1}{t}$	$G_{\tilde{g}_2}(t) = -\frac{1}{1-t} + \frac{w}{1-wt}$

Table 3: Examples of  $G_{g_i}(t)$  and  $G_{\tilde{g}_i}(t)$  with a parameter  $w$

where  $w$  is a real parameter with  $-1 \leq w < 1$ . The case  $w = 0$  is the one treated in the previous section.

We also give a correspondence between  $g$  and  $G_g(t)$  in Table 3.

If  $\beta = (1, 0)$  and  $\gamma = (0, 1)$ , then the function  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(g, (\beta, \gamma); z)$  coincides with the function  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^{(w)}(z)$  defined by the author [5] (in [5] the parameter  $c$  is used instead of  $w$  and the function is denoted by  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^c(z)$ ). The value  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^{(w)}(1)$  is the *multiple T-value with one parameter* defined by Chapoton [2].

When  $w = 0$ , we have  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^{(0)}(z) = \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(z)$  and when  $w = -1$ , we have  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^{(-1)}(z) = 2^{d(\mathbf{k})} \text{Ath}(\mathbf{k}, z)$ . Here  $\text{Ath}(\mathbf{k}, z)$  is a kind of multiple polylogarithm of level two defined by

$$\text{Ath}(\mathbf{k}, z) := \sum_{\substack{m_i \equiv 1(2) \\ m_i > 0}} \frac{z^{m_1 + \dots + m_r}}{m_1^{k_1} (m_1 + m_2)^{k_2} \dots (m_1 + \dots + m_r)^{k_r}}$$

(see [7, Eq. (5.1)]). By Theorem 2, we get the following Landen-type connection formula:

$$\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^{(w)}\left(\frac{z}{(w+1)z-1}\right) = (-1)^{d(\mathbf{k})} \tilde{\text{Li}}_{\mathbf{k}}^{(w)}(z).$$

Here

$$\tilde{\text{Li}}_{\mathbf{k}}^{(w)}(z) = \sum_{m_1 \geq 1, m_2 \geq 0, \dots, m_k \geq 0} \frac{R(1) \dots R(k)}{m_1(m_1 + m_2) \dots (m_1 + \dots + m_k)} z^{m_1 + \dots + m_k},$$

where

$$R(i) := \begin{cases} 1 - w^{m_i} & (i \in \{1, k_1 + 1, \dots, k_1 + \dots + k_{r-1} + 1\}), \\ (1 + w)^{m_i} & (\text{otherwise}). \end{cases}$$



#### 4. Generalized Poly-Bernoulli Numbers

Imatomi [8] introduced two kinds of multi-poly-Bernoulli-star numbers  $C_{n,\star}^{(\mathbf{k})}$  and  $B_{n,\star}^{(\mathbf{k})}$  ( $n \geq 0$ ) by the following generating series:

$$\frac{\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^*(1 - e^{-t})}{e^t - 1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_{n,\star}^{(\mathbf{k})} \frac{t^n}{n!}, \tag{13}$$

$$\frac{\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^*(1 - e^{-t})}{1 - e^{-t}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_{n,\star}^{(\mathbf{k})} \frac{t^n}{n!}. \tag{14}$$

The following is a duality formula for multi-poly-Bernoulli-star numbers.

**Theorem 4** ([8, Theorem 3.2]). *For an index  $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}^r$  and an integer  $n \geq 0$ , we have that*

$$C_{n,\star}^{(\mathbf{k})} = (-1)^n B_{n,\star}^{(\mathbf{k}^\vee)}.$$

It can be easily checked that the left-hand sides of Equations (13) and (14) can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^*(1 - e^{-t})}{e^t - 1} &= \frac{d}{dt} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow}^*(1 - e^{-t}), \\ \frac{\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^*(1 - e^{-t})}{1 - e^{-t}} &= \frac{d}{dt} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}\rightarrow}^*(1 - e^{-t}). \end{aligned}$$

As an analogy, we define two types of Bernoulli numbers  $C_n^{(\mathbf{k},\mathbf{g},(\beta,\gamma))}$  and  $B_n^{(\mathbf{k},\mathbf{g},(\beta,\gamma))}$  as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow} \left( \mathbf{g}, (\beta, \gamma); \frac{e^t - 1}{c_0 e^t + d_0} \right) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n^{(\mathbf{k},\mathbf{g},(\beta,\gamma))} \frac{t^n}{n!}, \\ \frac{d}{dt} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}\rightarrow} \left( \mathbf{g}, (\beta, \gamma); \frac{e^t - 1}{c_0 e^t + d_0} \right) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(\mathbf{k},\mathbf{g},(\beta,\gamma))} \frac{t^n}{n!}. \end{aligned}$$

These numbers are generalizations of multi-poly-Bernoulli-star numbers defined by Equations (13) and (14). In fact, if  $\mathbf{g}$  satisfies the condition (9) and  $\beta = (1, 1)$  and  $\gamma = (0, 1)$ , then  $\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{g}, (\beta, \gamma); z) = \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}}^*(z)$  and we have  $C_n^{(\mathbf{k},\mathbf{g},(\beta,\gamma))} = C_{n,\star}^{(\mathbf{k})}$  and  $B_n^{(\mathbf{k},\mathbf{g},(\beta,\gamma))} = B_{n,\star}^{(\mathbf{k})}$ . By definition, it is clear that  $B_n^{(\mathbf{k},\mathbf{g},(\beta,\gamma))} = C_n^{(\mathbf{k}^\vee, \mathbf{g}, (\gamma, \beta))}$  and these values are essentially the same objects.

By straightforward calculation, an explicit expression of the generating function

of  $C_n^{(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{g}, (\beta, \gamma))}$  can be given as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}\uparrow} \left( \mathbf{g}, (\beta, \gamma); \frac{e^t - 1}{c_0 e^t + d_0} \right) &= \sum_{i=1}^s \beta_i \left( \frac{a_i d_0 + c_i}{(a_i c_0 - c_i) e^t + a_i d_0 + c_i} - \frac{b_i d_0 + d_i}{(b_i c_0 - d_i) e^t + b_i d_0 + d_i} \right) \\ &\times \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}} \left( \mathbf{g}, (\beta, \gamma); \frac{e^t - 1}{c_0 e^t + d_0} \right). \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

The generating function of  $B_n^{(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{g}, (\beta, \gamma))}$  is obtained by replacing  $\beta_i$  with  $\gamma_i$  in the right-hand side of the above equation.

By the sum formula (Proposition 1), we get the following proposition.

**Proposition 2.** *For an integer  $k \geq 1$ , we have*

$$\sum_{|\mathbf{k}|=k} \mu^{d(\mathbf{k})-1} C_n^{(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{g}, (\beta, \gamma))} = B_n^{(k, \mathbf{g}, (\beta + \mu\gamma, \beta))} = C_n^{\{\{1\}^k, \mathbf{g}, (\beta, \beta + \mu\gamma)\}}, \tag{16}$$

$$\sum_{|\mathbf{k}|=k} \mu^{d(\mathbf{k})-1} B_n^{(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{g}, (\beta, \gamma))} = B_n^{(k, \mathbf{g}, (\beta + \mu\gamma, \gamma))} = C_n^{\{\{1\}^k, \mathbf{g}, (\gamma, \beta + \mu\gamma)\}}. \tag{17}$$

Here  $\{1\}^k$  stands for the index  $\overbrace{(1, \dots, 1)}^k$  for  $k \geq 1$ .

*Proof.* We prove only Identity (16), and Identity (17) can be proved similarly. By Proposition 1, we have

$$\sum_{|\mathbf{k}|=k} \mu^{d(\mathbf{k})-1} \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}} \left( \mathbf{g}, (\beta, \gamma); \frac{e^t - 1}{c_0 e^t + d_0} \right) = \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}} \left( \mathbf{g}, (\beta + \mu\gamma, \beta); \frac{e^t - 1}{c_0 e^t + d_0} \right). \tag{18}$$

By multiplying

$$\sum_{i=1}^s \beta_i \left( \frac{a_i d_0 + c_i}{(a_i c_0 - c_i) e^t + a_i d_0 + c_i} - \frac{b_i d_0 + d_i}{(b_i c_0 - d_i) e^t + b_i d_0 + d_i} \right)$$

both sides of Equation (18) and by considering the generating function (15) of  $C_n^{(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{g}, (\beta, \gamma))}$ , we have

$$\sum_{|\mathbf{k}|=k} \mu^{d(\mathbf{k})-1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n^{(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{g}, (\beta, \gamma))} \frac{t^n}{n!} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n^{(k, \mathbf{g}, (\beta + \mu\gamma, \beta))} \frac{t^n}{n!}. \tag{19}$$

By comparing the coefficients, we obtain the first equation of (16). The second equation is obtained immediately because of  $(k)^\vee = \{1\}^k$ .  $\square$

By using Theorem 2, we can get the following theorem.

**Theorem 5.** For any index  $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}^r$ , we have

$$C_n^{(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}))} = (-1)^{n-1} C_n^{(\mathbf{k}, \tilde{\mathbf{g}}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}))} \quad (n \geq 0).$$

*Proof.* Set  $u(z) := \frac{z}{(c_0 - d_0)z - 1}$  and  $z(t) := \frac{e^t - 1}{c_0 e^t + d_0}$ . Then we can easily show that  $u(z(t)) = z(-t)$ . By this identity and Theorem 2, we have

$$\text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}_\uparrow}(\mathbf{g}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z(t)) = \text{Li}_{\mathbf{k}_\uparrow}(\tilde{\mathbf{g}}, (\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\gamma}); z(-t)).$$

By differentiating both sides in  $t$  and comparing the coefficients, the desired identity is obtained.  $\square$

In the last of the paper, we give a formula which generalizes Theorem 4. Assume that  $\mathbf{g}$  satisfies the condition (9). Substituting  $z = 1 - e^t$  in Identity (12), we have

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{k}}^{(\beta)}(1 - e^{-t}) = -\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{k}^\vee}^{(\beta)}(1 - e^t).$$

By the relation  $(\mathbf{k}_\uparrow)^\vee = (\mathbf{k}^\vee)_\rightarrow$ , we have

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{k}_\uparrow}^{(\beta)}(1 - e^{-t}) = -\mathcal{L}_{(\mathbf{k}^\vee)_\rightarrow}^{(\beta)}(1 - e^t).$$

By differentiating both sides of this equation with respect to  $t$  and by comparing the coefficients, we obtain that

$$C_n^{(\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{g}, ((1, \beta), (1, 1 - \beta)))} = (-1)^n B_n^{(\mathbf{k}^\vee, \mathbf{g}, ((1, \beta), (1, 1 - \beta)))} \quad (n \geq 0).$$

This formula gives Theorem 4 when  $\beta = 0$ .

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