

On a Certain Family of Sidi Polynomials

Wolfdieter Lang ¹

Abstract

A family of a *Sidi* polynomials system $\{PS_N(n, x)\}$, for integer N , and their coefficient number triangles $\{TS_N(n, m)\}$, are studied. For all N the row sums of the triangles are $n!$. The exponential generating functions of the triangles are shown to involve derivatives of the *Lambert W*-function.

1 Introduction

A special family of *Sidi*'s one variable polynomial systems [3] which originally depended on three integers, is here reduced to only one integer N and studied in detail.

This family of polynomial systems is denoted by $\{PS_N(n, x)\}_{n \geq 0}$. The corresponding number triangles TS_N and their exponential generating functions (*e.g.f.*) ETS_N are computed. For $N = 0$ these *e.g.f.* involve the derivative of *Lambert's W*-function. For non-vanishing N the derivative of the N -fold convolution of $W(-x)/(-x) = \exp(-W(-x))$ enters.

The *Jabotinsky* type *Sheffer* polynomials $(1, -W(-x))$ are essential for evaluating the case of non-vanishing N . They are identified with special *Abel* polynomials.

A salient feature of this N -family of *Sidi* polynomials is the N independent row sum $n!$ for row n of each triangle TS_N .

The interest in this work started with the $N = 0$ triangle OEIS [1] [A075513](#) after a question by Harlan J. Brothers for a proof of the row sums.

2 Sidi N-polynomials and number triangles

The general *Sidi* polynomials [3], Theorem 4.2., p. 862, are for integers k, n, m , with $k \geq 0$ and $m \geq 0$

$$D_{k,n,m}(z) = \sum_{j=0}^k (-1)^j \binom{k}{j} (n+j)^m z^{n+j-1}. \quad (1)$$

They can also be computed as given in [3], eq. (4.11), p. 862.

$$D_{k,n,m}(z) = \left(\frac{d}{dz} z \right)^m (z^{n-1} (1-z)^k). \quad (2)$$

This can be rewritten, using the *Euler* derivative $E_z := z \frac{d}{dz}$ as

$$D_{k,n,m}(z) = \frac{1}{z} E_z^m (z^n (1-z)^k). \quad (3)$$

This shows immediately eq. (1) using the binomial sum for $(1-z)^k$ and the eigen-equation $E_z^m z^j = j^m z^j$.

¹ wolfdieter.lang@partner.kit.edu, <http://www.itp.kit.edu/~wl>

Here we consider the special N -family of polynomials $\{PS_N(n, x)\}$ with integer N , namely

$$PS_N(n, x) := \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{n-k} \binom{n}{k} (k + N + 1)^n x^k = \frac{(-1)^n}{x^N} D_{n, N+1, n}(x). \quad (4)$$

From eq. (3) this can be written as

$$PS_N(n, x) = \frac{1}{x^{N+1}} E_x^n(x^{N+1}(x-1)^n). \quad (5)$$

A simple computation shows that the instance $N = 0$ can also be obtained by

$$PS_0(n, x) = \frac{1}{(n+1)x} E_x^{n+1}(x-1)^{n+1}. \quad (6)$$

The number triangles TS_N of the coefficients of PS_N are

$$TS_N(n, k) = (-1)^{n-k} \binom{n}{k} (k + N + 1)^n, \text{ for } n \geq 0, \text{ and } k = 0, 1, \dots, n. \quad (7)$$

For $n < k$ one sets $TS_N(n, k) = 0$,

The *e.g.f.s* of the columns of these triangles, *i.e.*, $E_N(k, x) := \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} TS_N(n, k) x^n$ (one can start with $n = 0$), are

Proposition 1:

$$E_N(k, x) = e^{-(k+N+1)x} \frac{((k+N+1)x)^k}{k!} \text{ for } k \geq 0. \quad (8)$$

Proof:

$$E_N(k, x) = (-1)^k g(k, -z) \Big|_{z=(k+N+1)x}, \text{ with } g(k, x) := \sum_{n=k}^{\infty} \binom{n}{k} x^n / n! = e^x x^k / k!.$$

This follows from the fact that the *e.g.f.* of the k th column (with leading zeros) of the *Pascal* triangle, OEIS [1] [A007318](#), can be obtained from the ordinary generating function $G_k(x) = x^k / (1-x)^k$ by an inverse *Laplace* transformation, namely $\mathcal{L}^{[-1]}(G_k(1/p)/p) = \mathcal{L}^{[-1]}(1/(p-1)^{k+1}) = e^t t^k / k!$. This also shows that the *Pascal* triangle, the *Riordan* triangle of the *Bell* type $(1/(1-x), x/(1-x))$ is also the *Sheffer* triangle (sometimes called exponential *Riordan* triangle) of the *Appell* type $(exp(x), x)$.

□

Proposition 2: The *e.g.f.* $ETS_N(x, z)$ of the row polynomials $\{PS_N(n, x)\}$, *i.e.*, the *e.g.f.* of triangle TS_N , is

$$\begin{aligned} ETS_N(x, z) &:= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_N(n, x) \frac{z^n}{n!} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} x^k E_N(k, x) \\ &= e^{-(N+1)z} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} ((k+N+1)xz e^{-z})^k / k!. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Proof: This follows from $P_N(n, x) = \sum_{k=0}^n TS_N(n, k) x^k$, an interchange of the summation variables n and k , and the definition of $E_N(k, x)$ with the result eq. (8). □

Because the instance $N = 0$ will turn out to be special we treat this case first. See [A075513](#), but there the triangle has offset 1. (A-numbers will be given henceforth without the OEIS reference.)

Proposition 3:

$$ETS_0(x, z) = e^{-z} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (k+1)^k \frac{y^k}{k!} \Big|_{y=x z e^{-z}} = e^{-z} \frac{d}{dy} (-W(-y)) \Big|_{y=x z e^{-z}} = \frac{e^{-(z+W(-x z e^{-z}))}}{1+W(-x z e^{-z})}, \quad (10)$$

where $W(y)$ is the principal branch of the *Lambert W-function*, (see, e.g., [8], [5]) defined by the identity $W(y) \exp(W(y)) = y$, with derivative $\frac{d}{dy} W(y) = \exp(-W(y))/(1+W(y))$.

The proof uses the following e.g.f. of $\{k^{k-1}\}_{k \geq 1} = \text{A000169}$.

Lemma 1:

$$-W(-y) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k^{k-1} \frac{y^k}{k!}. \quad (11)$$

Proof:

The *Lagrange inverse* of $g(x) = x e^{-x}$ is $g^{[-1]}(y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n y^n / n!$ with

$g_n = (d^{n-1}/dt^{n-1})(1/\exp(-t))^n \Big|_{t=0} = n^{n-1}$. See [A000169](#), and *Stanley* [4]. But this compositional inverse of $g(x)$ is $-W(-y)$ because, from the definition of W , $W(-y) \exp(W(-y)) = -y$, or $(-W(-y)) \exp(-(-W(-y))) = y$.

For a proof that $-W(-y)$ is the compositional inverse of $x \exp(-x)$ one can alternatively use the rule for the derivative of the compositional inverse $-W(-y)$ of $x e^{-x}$ and compare this with the known derivative of $-W(-y)$ (see above). \square

Proof of eq. (10) :

The first step is eq. (9) for $N = 0$. From *Lemma 1* follows the second step, after a change of the summation variable $k \rightarrow k+1$, $\frac{d}{dy} (-W(-y)) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (k+1)^k \frac{y^k}{k!}$. The third step uses the above given result for $\frac{d}{dy} W(y)$ for $y \rightarrow -y$. \square

The result of eq. (9) for non-vanishing integer N is, after evaluation of the sum:

Theorem:

For $N \in \mathbb{Z} \setminus \{0\}$:

$$ETS_N(x, z) = e^{-(N+1)z} \frac{1}{N} \left[\frac{d}{dy} \left(\frac{W(-y)}{(-y)} \right)^N \right] \Big|_{y=x z e^{-z}} = e^{-(N+1)z} \left[\frac{e^{(N+1)(-W(-y))}}{1 - (-W(-y))} \right] \Big|_{y=x z e^{-z}}. \quad (12)$$

For the proof we need the following *Proposition* for the exponential (sometimes called binomial) convolution of $W(-y)/(-y) = e^{-W(-y)}$ (this identity follows from the definition of $W(x)$ with $x \rightarrow -y$).

Proposition 4:

a) The e.g.f. of $(k+1)^{k-1} = \text{A000272}$ $(k+1)$, for $k \geq 0$, is $W(-y)/(-y)$, i.e.,

$$e^{-W(-y)} = \frac{W(-y)}{(-y)} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (k+1)^{k-1} \frac{y^k}{k!}. \quad (13)$$

b) The special *Sheffer triangle* (or infinite matrix with upper diagonal part vanishing) of the *Jabotinsky* type $(1, -W(-x))$ has row polynomials

$$JW(n, x) := \sum_{m=0}^n J(n, m) x^m \text{ with e.g.f. } EJW(x, z) = e^{-xW(-z)}. \quad (14)$$

c) The a -family of *Abel polynomial systems* $A(a; n, x) := x(x - an)^{n-1}$, for $n \geq 0$ and $a \in \mathbb{Z}$, [[2], [6], [9]] are *Sheffer polynomials* of the *Jabotinsky* type $(1, f^{[-1]}(a; y))$, with the compositional inverse $f^{[-1]}(a; y)$ of $f(a; x) = x e^{ax}$. Hence the $JW(n, x)$ polynomial is identified as the member $A(-1; n, x)$ of this *Abel* family.

d) The *e.g.f.* of $(W(-y)/(-y))^N = \exp(-NW(-y))$ is defined by $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_N(n) y^n/n!$, and $c_N(n)$ is a polynomial in N of degree n (with $0^0 := 1$), but later used only for integer $N \neq 0$, *i.e.*,

$$c_N(n) = \sum_{m=0}^n a(n, m) N^m, \text{ for } n \geq 0, \quad (15)$$

where the number triangle $\{a(n, m)\}$ is the *Jabotinsky* triangle $\{J(n, m)\}$, given by the unsigned triangle [|A137452|](#). Hence

$$c_N(n) = JW(n, N). \quad (16)$$

e) The triangle entries $a(n, m) = J(n, m)$ are

$$a(0, 0) = 1; a(n, 0) = 0, \text{ and } a(n, m) = \binom{n-1}{m-1} n^{n-m}, \text{ for } n \geq 1 \text{ and } m = 1, 2, \dots, n. \quad (17)$$

f) The explicit form of $c(N, n)$ is

$$c(N, 0) = 1, \text{ and } c(N, n) = N(n+N)^{n-1}, \text{ for } n \geq 1. \quad (18)$$

This shows that $c(N, n) = \text{A232006}(n+N, N)$ for $N \geq 1$, and $n \geq 0$.

g) *Faà di Bruno's* formula [7] for $c_N(n)$:

$c_N(0) = 1$, and for $n \geq 1$, with partitions of n of m parts, written as $n = \sum_{j=1}^n j e_j$ and $m = \sum_{j=1}^n e_j$. (e_j is the non-negative exponent of part j , however, j^0 means that part j is absent) one obtains:

$$c_N(n) = \left. \frac{d^n}{dy^n} e^{N(-W(y))} \right|_{y=0} = n! \sum_{m=1}^n N^m \sum_{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n} \prod_{j=1}^n \left(\frac{j^{j-1}}{j!} \right)^{e_j} \frac{1}{e_j!}. \quad (19)$$

Proof

a) The first equation follows from the definition of $W(x = -y)$. The second one follows from *Lemma 1* after a shift in the summation index.

b) This is a known result for the *e.g.f.* of general *Sheffer* $(g(x), f(x))$ polynomials with $g(0) = 1$ and $f(0) = 0$ (see, *e.g.*, the *Sheffer* part in the W. L. link ‘*Sheffer a- and z-sequence*’ in [A006232](#), with details and references). Here $g(x) = 1$ and $f(x) = -W(-x)$.

c) That the *Abel* polynomials are *Sheffer* polynomials of the *Jabotinsky* type is proved in *Roman* [2] (in a notation where f is the present $f^{[-1]}$). Here we give a proof using the known recurrence relation for *Jabotinsky* polynomials J , (also given in [2], Corollary 3.7.2., p. 50) namely

$$J(n, x) = x \left[\frac{1}{\frac{d}{dt}(f^{[-1]}(t))} \right] \Big|_{t=d/dx} J(n-1, x), \text{ for } n \geq 1, \text{ and } J(0, x) = 1. \quad (20)$$

Hence

$$A(-1; n, x) = x \left[\frac{e^t}{1-t} \right] \Big|_{t=d/dx} A(-1; n-1, x), \text{ for } n \geq 1, \text{ and } A(-1; 0, x) = 1 \quad (21)$$

will be proved.

This uses the expansion ($n^{\underline{k}}$ is a falling factorial)

$$\frac{e^t}{1-t} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a(n) \frac{t^n}{n!}, \text{ with } a(n) = \sum_{k=0}^n n^{\underline{k}} = n! \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{1}{k!}, \quad (22)$$

The proof of the $a(n)$ is done by expanding the *l.h.s.* and picking coefficients of $t^n/n!$, for $n \geq 0$ (using induction over n).

The recurrence relation is $a(n+1) = (n+1)a(n) + 1$, for $n \geq 0$, and $a(0) = 1$. For $\{a(n)\}_{n=0}$ see [A000522](#).

In addition one needs higher derivatives of $A(-1; n-1, x)$.

Lemma 2

$$\left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^k A(-1; n-1, x) = (n-1)^{\underline{k}}(x+k)(x+n-1)^{n-(k+2)}, \text{ for } k \geq 0 \text{ and } n \geq 1. \quad (23)$$

Proof of the Lemma

By induction over k for fixed n . The case $k = 0$ is satisfied because $(n-1)^{\underline{0}} := 1$. The induction step for $\left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^{k+1} A(-1; n-1, x)$ uses $(n-1)^{\underline{k}}(n-(k+1)) = (n-1)^{\underline{k+1}}$. \square

Continuing with the proof of part **c**) we start with the binomial expansion $A(-1; n, x) = x((x+n-1) + 1)^{n-1} = x \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{j} (x+n-1)^j$, and eqs. (21) and (22). After division by x ($x \neq 0$) one wants to prove, for fixed $n \geq 1$,

$$\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{j} (x+n-1)^j \stackrel{!}{=} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{a(k)}{k!} \frac{d^k}{dx^k} A(-1; n-1, x), \quad (24)$$

where the k -sum is cut off at the degree of $A(-1; n-1, x)$. Applying *Lemma 2* leads to the *r.h.s.* (*RHS*)

$$RHS = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{a(k)}{k!} (n-1)^{\underline{k}}(x+k)(x+n-1)^{n-(k+2)}. \quad (25)$$

In order to compare powers of $x+n-1$ on both sides of eq. (24), one rewrites $x+k = (x+n-1) + (k-(n-1))$ for each term, except for $k = n-1$. This last term needs no rewriting, it is $a(n-1)$. The first term, $k = 0$, leads to a rewritten first part $a(0)(x+n-1)^{n-1}$, and an addition to the rewritten first part of term $k+1$, *i.e.*, $a(0)(-(n-1))(x+n-1)^{n-2}$. This $k = 0$ term is the only one consisting of only one rewritten part.

For $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-2$ the (x independent) second part of the replacement leads to $(a(k)/k!)(n-1)^{\underline{k}}(k-(n-1))(x+n-1)^{n-k-2}$, which adds to the first part of the rewritten term for $k+1$ that will produce this power.

This means that each power $(x+n-1)^{n-k-2}$, for $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$ consist of two terms: the first one from the first part of the rewritten k term and the second one from the second part of the rewritten $k-1$ term. The single rewritten $k = 0$ term is $a(0)(x+n-1)^{n-1}$, and it coincides with the $j = n-1$ term of the *l.h.s.* (*LHS*) of eq. (24) because $a(0) = 1$. The last term $k = n-1$ receives the additional second part of the $k = n-2$ term, *i.e.*, $a(n-2)(n-1)(-1)$. This results in $a(n-1) - (n-1)a(n-2) = 1$ (by the recurrence), coinciding with the $j = 0$ term of the *LHS*.

Thus the coefficient of $(x+n-1)^{n-k-2}$, for $k = \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$, can be compared on both sides of eq. (24),

$$\binom{n-1}{n-k-2} = \frac{(n-1)^{\underline{k+1}}}{(k+1)!} \stackrel{!}{=} \frac{a(k+1)}{(k+1)!} (n-1)^{\underline{k+1}} - \frac{a(k)}{k!} (n-1)^{\underline{k}}(n-1-k). \quad (26)$$

This can be rewritten with the relation between $(n-1)^{\underline{k}}$ and $(n-1)^{\underline{k+1}}$ used above in the proof of *Lemma 2* as

$$RHS = \frac{(n-1)^{\underline{k}}}{(k+1)!} (n-k-1)(a(k+1) - (k+1)a(k)), \quad (27)$$

which equals the *LHS* because of the recurrence $a(k+1) - (k+1)a(k) = 1$, and again using the falling factorial relation. This ends the proof of part **c**).

d) The proof that $c_N(n) = JW(n, x)|_{x=N}$ is shown for the corresponding *e.g.f.s.* By definition the *e.g.f.* of $\{c_N(n)\}_{n \geq 0}$ is $\exp(-NW(-y))$. From **b**) the *e.g.f.* of the row polynomials $\{JW(n, x)\}_{n \geq 0}$ is $EJW(x, y) = \exp(-xW(-y))$ (expansion in y). For $x = N$ the claim follows.

e) This follows from $JW(n, x) = A(-1; x, n)$ from c), and the trivial computation of $x(x+n)^{n-1}$ by the binomial expansion, and a shift of the summation index, The case of the x^0 coefficient is separated, giving $a(0, 0) = 1$.

f) for $N \neq 0$ and $n \geq 1$, $N(n+N)^{n-1} = n^n (N/n) (1 + (N/n))^{n-1} = n^n \sum_{m=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{m} (N/n)^{m+1} = n^n \sum_{m=1}^n \binom{n-1}{m-1} (N/n)^m = \sum_{m=1}^n \binom{n-1}{m-1} n^{n-m} N^m = \sum_{m=1}^n a(n, m) N^m$, with $a(n, m)$ from part e), hence this equals $c(N, n)$, because the $m = 0$ term $a(n, 0) = 0$ for $n \geq 1$.

g) The *Faà di Bruno* formula is for $\frac{d^n}{dy^n} f(g(y))$, and here $f(x) = \exp(Nx)$ and $g(y) = -W(-y)$. Because for $c_N(n)$ the formula is evaluated at $y = 0$, one needs $\frac{d^m}{dx^m} f(x)|_{x=g(0)=0} = N^m$ and $\frac{d^j}{dy^j} g(y)|_{y=0} = j^{j-1}$ from eq. (11). The multinomials $n! / \prod_{j=1}^n j!^{e_j} e_j!$ appearing in this formula are called $M_3 = M_3(\vec{e}(n, m))$, with $\vec{e}(n, m) := \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$, and the given restrictions on the non-negative exponents of $\vec{e}(n, m)$ These multinomials are shown in [A036040](#) (see the *Abramowitz-Stegun* link there).

This shows that $a(n, m)$ in eq. (15) for $c_N(n)$ equals the sum of M_3 -partition polynomials (ParPolM3) over the $p(n, m) = \text{A008284}(n, m)$ partitions of n with m parts: $\sum_{k=1}^{p(n, m)} \text{ParPolM3}(n, m, k, \{x_j = j^{j-1}\}_{j=1..n})$.

Example: $n = 3$, the partitions for $m = 1, 2, 3$ are $3^1, 1^1 2^1, 1^3$, respectively.

$c_N(3) = 3!(N^1 3^2/3! + N^2 (1^0/1!) (2^1/2!) + N^3 (1^0/1!)^3/3!) = 9N + 6N^2 + N^3$. Compare this with row $n = 3$ of [A137452](#): $[0, 9, 6, 1]$. \square

Proof of the Theorem

The step from the last equation of eq. (9) to the first equation of eq. (12), with $y = xz \exp(-z)$, is proved with the help of *Proposition 4*, part d) and the explicit form of $a(n, m)$ from part e).

The *e.g.f.* $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (k+N+1)^k y^k/k!$ is proved to be $(1/N) d/dy (1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_N(k) y^k/k!)$, where $c_N(0) = 1$ was used. This means, after comparing powers of y ,

$$(k+N+1)^k \stackrel{!}{=} \frac{1}{N} c_N(k+1), \text{ for } k \geq 0. \quad (28)$$

Because $a(k+1, 0) = 0$ the *r.h.s.* becomes, with eq. (15) and an index shift in m ,

$\sum_{m=0}^k a(k+1, m+1) N^m$. From eq. (17) this becomes $\sum_{m=0}^k \binom{k}{m} (k+1)^{k-m} N^m$, but this is the binomial expansion of $((k+1) + N)^k$,

For the proof of the second equation of the *Theorem*, eq. (12), one uses the replacement $(W(-y)/(-y))^N$ by $\exp(N(-W(-y)))$, and with $d/dy(-W(-y)) = \exp(-W(-y))/(1 - (-W(-y)))$, one obtains

$$\frac{1}{N} \frac{d}{dy} e^{N(-W(-y))} = e^{N(-W(-y))} \frac{e^{-W(-y)}}{1 - (-W(-y))} = \frac{e^{(N+1)(-W(-y))}}{1 - (-W(-y))}. \quad (29)$$

\square

We close with the result that for each integer N the row sum of the triangle TS_N is $n!$.

Proposition 5

$$\sum_{k=0}^n T_N(n, k) = PS_N(n, 1) = n!, \text{ for } N \in \mathbb{Z}. \quad (30)$$

Proof

We show that the *e.g.f.* of $\{PS(n, 1)\}_{n \geq 0}$, *i.e.*, $ETS_N(1, z)$ from eq. (10) and eq. (12) becomes $1/(1-z)$, the *e.g.f.* of $\{n!\}_{n \geq 0}$.

For $N = 0$ one obtains for eq. (10) from $-W(-y)|_{y=z \exp(-z)} = z$ (compositional inverse relation, see the proof of *Lemma 1*)

$$ETS_0(1, z) = e^{-z} \frac{e^z}{1-z} = \frac{1}{1-z}. \quad (31)$$

For integer $N \neq 0$ one uses in eq. (12) the previously mentioned compositionl inverse rule for $-W(-y)$ with $y = z \exp(-z)$

$$ETS_N(1, z) = e^{-(N+1)z} e^{Nz} \frac{e^z}{1-z} = \frac{1}{1-z}. \quad (32)$$

The dependence on $N \neq 0$ dropped out. □

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The latest version of the *Harlan J. Brothers* paper is called 'Pascal's Triangle: Infinite Paths to e ', tbp.

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