

Derangement polynomials with a complex variable

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Received: 13 June 2020

Revised: 20 October 2020

Accepted: 2 November 2020

Abstract: In this paper, we define new polynomials with a complex variable related to the derangement polynomials and we give some properties of those polynomials. We use umbral calculus to establish a new congruence concerning the derangement polynomials with a complex variable.

Keywords: Derangement polynomials, Complex variable, Congruence, Umbral calculus.

2010 Mathematics Subject Classification: 11B83, 11A07, 30C10.

1 Introduction

Polynomials with a complex variable have attracted researchers' great interest, as the application of those polynomials appear in various fields of mathematics. The polynomials with a complex variable have been studied by various researchers for example, see [3, 6].

Derangement polynomials are defined by

$$\mathcal{D}_n(x) = n! \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{(x-1)^k}{k!}.$$

It is clear that $\mathcal{D}_n(0)$ is the n -th derangement number, denoted by \mathcal{D}_n counting the number of permutation of the set $[n]$ without a fixed point. The exponential generating function for the derangement polynomials is

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}_n(x) \frac{t^n}{n!} = \frac{e^{-t}}{1-t} e^{xt}. \quad (1)$$

For more information about these numbers and polynomials one can see [7–9].

If we replace x by z or \bar{z} in (1), where

$$z = x + iy, \bar{z} = x - iy, i^2 = -1,$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}_n(z) \frac{t^n}{n!} &= \frac{e^{-t}}{1-t} e^{(x+iy)t} = \frac{e^{-t}}{1-t} e^{xt} (\cos(yt) + i \sin(yt)) \\ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}_n(\bar{z}) \frac{t^n}{n!} &= \frac{e^{-t}}{1-t} e^{(x-iy)t} = \frac{e^{-t}}{1-t} e^{xt} (\cos(yt) - i \sin(yt)). \end{aligned}$$

If we add or subtract the identities presented above, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [\mathcal{D}_n(z) + \mathcal{D}_n(\bar{z})] \frac{t^n}{n!} &= \frac{2e^{-t}}{1-t} e^{xt} \cos(yt) \\ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [\mathcal{D}_n(z) - \mathcal{D}_n(\bar{z})] \frac{t^n}{n!} &= \frac{2ie^{-t}}{1-t} e^{xt} \sin(yt). \end{aligned}$$

Let $\mathcal{D}_{n,1}(z) = \mathcal{D}_n(z) + \mathcal{D}_n(\bar{z})$, and $\mathcal{D}_{n,2}(z) = \mathcal{D}_n(z) - \mathcal{D}_n(\bar{z})$, then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}_{n,1}(z) \frac{t^n}{n!} &= \frac{2e^{-t}}{1-t} e^{xt} \cos(yt), \\ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}_{n,2}(z) \frac{t^n}{n!} &= \frac{2ie^{-t}}{1-t} e^{xt} \sin(yt) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}_n(z) \frac{t^n}{n!} &= \frac{e^{(-1+iy)t}}{1-t} e^{xt}, \\ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}_n(\bar{z}) \frac{t^n}{n!} &= \frac{e^{(-1-iy)t}}{1-t} e^{xt}. \end{aligned}$$

That is now

$$\cos(yt) = \frac{e^{iyt} + e^{-iyt}}{2}, \quad \sin(yt) = \frac{e^{iyt} - e^{-iyt}}{2i},$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}_{n,1}(z) \frac{t^n}{n!} &= \frac{e^{-t}}{1-t} e^{xt} (e^{iyt} + e^{-iyt}) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}_n(x) \frac{t^n}{n!} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{[(iyt)^n + (-iyt)^n]}{n!} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{D}_n(x) \frac{t^n}{n!} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (iy)^n (1 + (-1)^n) \frac{t^n}{n!} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \mathcal{D}_k(x) (iy)^{n-k} (1 + (-1)^{n-k}) t^n. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{D}_{n,1}(z) &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \mathcal{D}_k(x) (iy)^{n-k} \left(1 + (-1)^{n-k}\right), \\ \mathcal{D}_{n,2}(z) &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \mathcal{D}_k(x) (iy)^{n-k} \left(1 - (-1)^{n-k}\right).\end{aligned}$$

The derangement polynomials with a complex variable can be defined by

$$\mathcal{D}_n(z) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \mathcal{D}_k(x) (iy)^{n-k},$$

and we can write $\mathcal{D}_n(z)$ as follows

$$\mathcal{D}_n(z) = i^n \sum_{s=0}^n (-1)^s \binom{n}{2s} \mathcal{D}_{2s}(x) y^{n-2s} - i^{n+1} \sum_{s=0}^n (-1)^s \binom{n}{2s+1} \mathcal{D}_{2s+1}(x) y^{n-2s-1}.$$

The first few polynomials are:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{D}_0(z) &= 1, \\ \mathcal{D}_1(z) &= x + iy, \\ \mathcal{D}_2(z) &= x^2 - y^2 + 1 + 2xyi, \\ \mathcal{D}_3(z) &= x^3 + 3x - 3xy^2 + 2 + i(-y^3 + 3x^2y + 3y).\end{aligned}$$

In particular, for $y = 0$ or $x = y = 0$, we have

$$\mathcal{D}_n(z) = \mathcal{D}_n(x), \quad \mathcal{D}_n(0) = \mathcal{D}_n.$$

2 Some properties of the derangement polynomials with a complex variable

In this section, we give some properties of the $\mathcal{D}_n(z)$, $\mathcal{D}_{n,1}(z)$, $\mathcal{D}_{n,2}(z)$.

Lemma 2.1. *For any non-negative integer n , we have*

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{D}_n(z) &= \sum_{k=0}^n (n)_k \left[\sum_{s=0}^k \frac{(x-1)^s}{s!} \right] (iy)^{n-k}, \\ \mathcal{D}_{n,1}(z) &= \sum_{k=0}^n (n)_k \left[\sum_{s=0}^k \frac{(x-1)^s}{s!} \right] (iy)^{n-k} \left(1 + (-1)^{n-k}\right), \\ \mathcal{D}_{n,2}(z) &= \sum_{k=0}^n (n)_k \left[\sum_{s=0}^k \frac{(x-1)^s}{s!} \right] (iy)^{n-k} \left(1 - (-1)^{n-k}\right),\end{aligned}$$

where $(n)_k$ is the falling factorial defined by

$$(n)_k = n(n-1)\cdots(n-k+1) \text{ if } k \geq 1 \text{ and } (n)_0 = 1.$$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{D}_n(z) &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \mathcal{D}_k(x) (iy)^{n-k} \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} k! \left[\sum_{s=0}^k \frac{(x-1)^s}{s!} \right] (iy)^{n-k} \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^n (n)_k \left[\sum_{s=0}^k \frac{(x-1)^s}{s!} \right] (iy)^{n-k}. \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

Proposition 2.2. For any non-negative integer n there holds

$$\mathcal{D}_{n+1}(z) = (n+1) \mathcal{D}_n(z) + (z-1)^{n+1}, \quad (2)$$

$$\mathcal{D}_{n+2}(z) = (n+1) [\mathcal{D}_{n+1}(z) + \mathcal{D}_n(z)] + (z-1)^{n+1} + (z-1)^{n+2}, \quad (3)$$

$$\mathcal{D}_n(\bar{z}) = \overline{\mathcal{D}_n(z)},$$

$$\mathcal{D}_{n+1,1}(z) = (n+1) \mathcal{D}_{n,1}(z) + (z-1)^n + (\bar{z}-1)^n,$$

$$\mathcal{D}_{n+1,2}(z) = (n+1) \mathcal{D}_{n,2}(z) + (z-1)^n - (\bar{z}-1)^n,$$

where $\overline{\mathcal{D}_n(z)}$ is the complex conjugate of $\mathcal{D}_n(z)$

Proof. For (2), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{D}_{n+1}(z) &= \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} (n+1)_k \left[\sum_{s=0}^k \frac{(x-1)^s}{s!} \right] (iy)^{n+1-k} \\
&= (n+1) \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} (n)_{k-1} \left[\sum_{s=0}^k \frac{(x-1)^s}{s!} \right] (iy)^{n+1-k} + (iy)^{n+1} \\
&= (n+1) \left[\sum_{k=0}^n (n)_k \left[\sum_{s=0}^k \frac{(x-1)^s}{s!} + \frac{(x-1)^{k+1}}{(k+1)!} \right] (iy)^{n-k} \right] + (iy)^{n+1},
\end{aligned}$$

then

$$\mathcal{D}_{n+1}(z) = (n+1) \mathcal{D}_n(z) + (n+1) \left[\sum_{k=0}^n (n)_k \frac{(x-1)^{k+1}}{(k+1)!} (iy)^{n-k} \right] + (iy)^{n+1}.$$

On the other hand, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(n+1) \sum_{k=0}^n (n)_k \frac{(x-1)^{k+1}}{(k+1)!} (iy)^{n-k} + (iy)^{n+1} &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n+1}{k+1} (x-1)^{k+1} (iy)^{n-k} + (iy)^{n+1} \\
&= \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \binom{n+1}{k} (x-1)^k (iy)^{n+1-k} + (iy)^{n+1} \\
&= [(x-1+iy)^{n+1} - (iy)^{n+1}] + (iy)^{n+1} \\
&= (x-1+iy)^{n+1}.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\mathcal{D}_{n+1}(z) = (n+1)\mathcal{D}_n(z) + (x-1+iy)^{n+1},$$

or equivalently

$$\mathcal{D}_{n+1}(z) = (n+1)\mathcal{D}_n(z) + (z-1)^{n+1}.$$

For (3), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}_{n+2}(z) &= (n+2)\mathcal{D}_{n+1}(z) + (z-1)^{n+2} \\ &= (n+1)\mathcal{D}_{n+1}(z) + \mathcal{D}_{n+1}(z) + (z-1)^{n+2} \\ &= (n+1)[\mathcal{D}_{n+1}(z) + \mathcal{D}_n(z)] + (z-1)^{n+1} + (z-1)^{n+2}. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

The first few $\mathcal{D}_n(z)$ polynomials can be written as follows:

$$\mathcal{D}_0(z) = 1, \mathcal{D}_1(z) = z, \mathcal{D}_2(z) = z^2 + 1, \mathcal{D}_3(z) = z^3 + 3z + 2.$$

Note that $\mathcal{D}_n(z)$ is a polynomial with integer coefficients.

Proposition 2.3. *Let z_0 and $z = z_0 + h$ be two points. The function $\mathcal{D}_n(z)$ is holomorphic on \mathbb{C} and for any non-negative integer n , we have*

$$\mathcal{D}'_n(z) = n\mathcal{D}_{n-1}(z), \quad (4)$$

$$\mathcal{D}_n(z) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \mathcal{D}_{n-k}(z_0) (z - z_0)^k. \quad (5)$$

If $z_0 = 0$, we obtain

$$\mathcal{D}_n(z) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \mathcal{D}_{n-k} z^k, \quad (6)$$

where $\mathcal{D}'_n(z)$ is the derivative of $\mathcal{D}_n(z)$

Proof. For (4), we proceed by induction on n . Indeed, for $n = 1$, $\mathcal{D}_1(z) = z$, we have

$$\mathcal{D}'_1(z) = 1 = \mathcal{D}_0(z).$$

For $n = 2$, $\mathcal{D}_2(z) = z^2 + 1$, we have

$$\mathcal{D}'_2(z) = 2z = 2\mathcal{D}_1(z).$$

Assume for any integer $n \geq 1$, $\mathcal{D}'_n(z) = n\mathcal{D}_{n-1}(z)$. Using the relationship (2), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}'_{n+1}(z) &= [(n+1)\mathcal{D}_n(z) + (z-1)^{n+1}]' \\ &= (n+1)\mathcal{D}'_n(z) + (n+1)(z-1)^n \\ &= (n+1)n\mathcal{D}_{n-1}(z) + (n+1)(z-1)^n \\ &= (n+1)\mathcal{D}_n(z). \end{aligned}$$

For (5), we have $\mathcal{D}'_n(z) = n\mathcal{D}_{n-1}(z)$, then $\mathcal{D}_n^{(2)}(z) = n(n-1)\mathcal{D}_{n-2}(z)$, and by induction the k -th derivative of $\mathcal{D}_n(z)$ is

$$\mathcal{D}_n^{(k)}(z) = (n)_k \mathcal{D}_{n-k}(z),$$

which gives

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}_n^{(k)}(z)}{k!} = \binom{n}{k} \mathcal{D}_{n-k}(z).$$

Then the Taylor's series for $\mathcal{D}_n(z)$ is to be

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{D}_n(z) &= \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{\mathcal{D}_n^{(k)}(z_0)}{k!} (z - z_0)^k \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \mathcal{D}_{n-k}(z_0) (z - z_0)^k.\end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof. □

3 Congruence on the derangement polynomials with a complex variable

In this section, we use the properties of the classical umbral calculus to drive new congruences involving the derangement polynomials with a complex variable. The derangement polynomials with a complex variable are defined by

$$\mathcal{D}_n(z) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \mathcal{D}_{n-k} z^k.$$

Let \mathbf{D} be the derangement umbra defined by $\mathbf{D}^n = \mathcal{D}_n$, then we can define the generalized derangement umbra \mathbf{D}_z as follows

$$\mathbf{D}_z^n = \mathcal{D}_n(z) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \mathcal{D}_{n-k} z^k = (\mathbf{D} + z)^n.$$

For more information on the umbral calculus see [1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 11]. In the remainder of this section, for any polynomials f and g , with integer coefficients we denote by $f(z) \equiv g(z)$ to mean $f(z) \equiv g(z) \pmod{p\mathbb{Z}_p[z]}$ and for any numbers a and b by $a \equiv b$ we mean $a \equiv b \pmod{p}$.

Lemma 3.1. *Let f be a polynomial in $\mathbb{Z}[z]$ and s be a non-negative integer, then for any prime $p \geq 3$, there holds*

$$(\mathbf{D}_z^{p^s} + 1) f(\mathbf{D}_z) \equiv z^{p^s} f(\mathbf{D}_z).$$

Proof. It suffices to take $f(z) = z^n$. We proceed by induction on s . For $s = 1$ we have

$$\begin{aligned}(\mathbf{D}_z^p + 1) \mathbf{D}_z^n &= \mathbf{D}_z^{p+n} + \mathbf{D}_z^n \\ &= (\mathbf{D} + z)^p (\mathbf{D} + z)^n + \mathbf{D}_z^n \\ &\equiv (\mathbf{D}^p + z^p) (\mathbf{D} + z)^n + \mathbf{D}_z^n \\ &= \mathbf{D}_z^n + z^p \mathbf{D}_z^n + \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \mathbf{D}^{n-k+p} z^k,\end{aligned}$$

and by the known congruence $\mathcal{D}_{n+p} \equiv -\mathcal{D}_n$, or equivalently $\mathbf{D}^{n+p} \equiv -\mathbf{D}^n$, see [12]. So we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
(\mathbf{D}_z^p + 1) \mathbf{D}_z^n &\equiv \mathbf{D}_z^n + z^p \mathbf{D}_z^n - \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \mathbf{D}_z^{n-k} z^k \\
&= \mathbf{D}_z^n + z^p \mathbf{D}_z^n - (\mathbf{D} + z)^n \\
&= z^p \mathbf{D}_z^n.
\end{aligned}$$

Assume it is true for $s \geq 1$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{D}_z^n (\mathbf{D}_z^{p^{s+1}} + 1) &= \mathbf{D}_z^n ((\mathbf{D}_z^{p^s} + 1 - 1)^p + 1) \\
&\equiv \mathbf{D}_z^n ((\mathbf{D}_z^{p^s} + 1)^p + (-1)^p + 1) \\
&= \mathbf{D}_z^n (\mathbf{D}_z^{p^s} + 1)^p \\
&= [\mathbf{D}_z^n (\mathbf{D}_z^{p^s} + 1)] (\mathbf{D}_z^{p^s} + 1)^{p-1} \\
&\equiv z^{p^s} \mathbf{D}_z^n (\mathbf{D}_z^{p^s} + 1)^{p-1} \\
&= z^{p^s} [\mathbf{D}_z^n (\mathbf{D}_z^{p^s} + 1)] (\mathbf{D}_z^{p^s} + 1)^{p-2} \\
&\equiv z^{2p^s} \mathbf{D}_z^n (\mathbf{D}_z^{p^s} + 1)^{p-2} \\
&\vdots \\
&\equiv (z^{p^s})^p \mathbf{D}_z^n \\
&= z^{p^{s+1}} \mathbf{D}_z^n.
\end{aligned}$$

and the proof of the induction step is complete. □

The principal result given by the following Theorem.

Theorem 3.2. *For any integers $n, s \geq 1, m \geq 0$ and for any prime $p \geq 3$, there holds*

$$\mathcal{D}_{n+mp^s}(z) \equiv (z^{p^s} - 1)^m \mathcal{D}_n(z).$$

For $y = 0$ or $z = 0$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{D}_{n+mp^s}(x) &\equiv (x^{p^s} - 1)^m \mathcal{D}_n(x), \\
\mathcal{D}_{n+mp^s} &\equiv (-1)^m \mathcal{D}_n, \\
\mathcal{D}_{n+2p} &\equiv \mathcal{D}_n.
\end{aligned}$$

Proof. For $m = 1$ just take $f(z) = z^n$ in Lemma 3.1 and for $m > 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{D}_{n+mp^s}(z) &= \mathcal{D}_{n+(m-1)p^s+p^s}(z) \\
&\equiv (z^{p^s} - 1) \mathcal{D}_{n+(m-1)p^s}(z) \\
&= (z^{p^s} - 1) \mathcal{D}_{n+(m-2)p^s+p^s}(z) \\
&\equiv (z^{p^s} - 1)^2 \mathcal{D}_{n+(m-2)p^s}(z) \\
&= (z^{p^s} - 1)^2 \mathcal{D}_{n+(m-3)p^s+p^s}(z) \\
&\equiv (z^{p^s} - 1)^3 \mathcal{D}_n(z) \\
&\vdots \\
&\equiv (z^{p^s} - 1)^m \mathcal{D}_n(z).
\end{aligned}$$

Hence the proof is complete. □

Corollary 3.2.1. For any prime number $p \geq 3$ and any integers $s \geq 1, m_0, \dots, m_s \in \{0, \dots, p-1\}$, there holds

$$\mathcal{D}_{m_0+m_1p+\dots+m_s p^s}(z) \equiv (z^p - 1)^{m_1} (z^{p^2} - 1)^{m_2} \cdots (z^{p^s} - 1)^{m_s} \mathcal{D}_{m_0}(z).$$

In particular, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}_{m_1p+\dots+m_s p^s}(z) &\equiv -(z^p - 1)^{m_1} (z^{p^2} - 1)^{m_2} \cdots (z^{p^s} - 1)^{m_s}, \\ \mathcal{D}_{m_1p+\dots+m_s p^s}(k) &\equiv -(k - 1)^{m_1+m_2+\dots+m_s}. \end{aligned}$$

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