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**Differential formulas for simplicial Bernstein  
polynomials**

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# Differential formulas for simplicial Bernstein polynomials

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## Abstract

In a previous report, we developed formulas for basic operations on simplicial Bernstein polynomials. Here we extend that work with formulas for partial and directional derivatives of such polynomials.

Symbol	Description	Section
$t, x, y, z$	<i>real numbers</i>	
$F$	<i>real valued functions</i>	
$i, j, k, p, q, r, s$	<i>natural numbers</i>	
$\kappa, \lambda, \mu, \nu, \rho, \sigma$	<i>multi-indices</i>	[2] 2.1
$\mathbb{I}, \mathbb{I}_d, \mathbb{I}_d^m$	<i>sets of multi-indices</i>	[2] 2.1
$g, h$	<i>degrees</i>	[2] 2.1
$\alpha, \beta, \gamma$	<i>multi-degrees</i>	[2] 2.1
$\mathbb{M}_m, \mathbb{M}_{m,\delta}$	<i>sets of irregular matrices</i>	[2] 2.1
$\Lambda, \Omega$	<i>hyper-indices</i>	[2] 2.1
$\mathbb{H}, \mathbb{H}_d, \mathbb{H}_d^m, \mathbb{H}_d^{\alpha,\kappa}$	<i>sets of hyper-indices</i>	[2] 2.1
$\Lambda!, \kappa!$	<i>(multi-),hyper-factorial</i>	[2] 2.1
$d, e$	<i>dimensions</i>	[2] 2.2
$\delta, \varepsilon$	<i>multi-dimensions</i>	[2] 2.2
$\mathbb{A}^n, \mathbb{A}^\delta$	<i>(multi-)affine spaces</i>	[2] 2.2
$u, v, w$	<i>points of affine spaces</i>	[2] 2.2
$U, V$	<i>points of multi-affine spaces</i>	[2] 2.2
$\xi$	<i>vector of an affine vector space</i>	2.2
$\Xi$	<i>vector of a multi-affine vector space</i>	2.3
$B$	<i>univariate and tensorial Bernstein polynomials</i>	[2] 2.5
$\mathcal{B}$	<i>simplicial and simplicial Bernstein polynomials</i>	[2] 2.5

Table 1: Summary of notation

## 1 Introduction

In a previous report [2], we developed formulas for basic operations on simplicial Bernstein polynomials. Here we extend that work with formulas for partial and directional derivatives of such polynomials.

## 2 Notation and Basic concepts

### 2.1 Functions

If  $\mathbb{X}$  is a set and  $\mathcal{E}$  is an expression that involves some free variable  $x$ , we write

$$(x : \mathbb{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{E})$$

for the function with domain  $\mathbb{X}$  that maps each  $x$  in  $\mathbb{X}$  to the corresponding value of  $\mathcal{E}$ .

### 2.2 Canonical affine vector space

We define  $\mathbb{V}^d$ , the *canonical affine vector space of dimension  $d \in \mathbb{N}$* , as the set

$$\mathbb{V}^d = \{\xi \in \mathbb{R}^{d+1} \mid \sum_{i=0}^d u_i = 0\}. \quad (2.1)$$

together with the *vector sum* and *scalar multiplication* operations as defined in  $\mathbb{R}^{d+1}$ .

Note that  $\mathbb{V}^d$  is the natural tangent space of the *canonical affine space*  $\mathbb{A}^d$  defined in the previous report [2]. Therefore, the difference  $u - v$  for any  $u, v \in \mathbb{A}^d$  is a vector  $\xi \in \mathbb{V}^d$ , and, conversely, the sum of a vector  $\xi \in \mathbb{V}^d$  with a point  $u \in \mathbb{A}^d$  is a point  $u + \xi = \xi + u$  of  $\mathbb{A}^d$ . For more details on tangent spaces, the reader should refer to [1]

### 2.3 Canonical multi-affine vector space

For any multi-index  $\delta \in \mathbb{I}_m$ , we define  $\mathbb{V}^\delta$ , the *multi-affine vector space of dimension  $\delta$* , as the Cartesian product

$$\mathbb{V}^{\delta_0} \times \dots \times \mathbb{V}^{\delta_m} \quad (2.2)$$

Each element of  $\mathbb{V}^\delta$  is an element of  $\mathbb{M}_{m,\delta}$ , that is an irregular matrix with  $m+1$  rows, where the row  $i$  has  $\delta_i$  elements for each  $i$ . Indeed,  $\mathbb{V}^\delta$  is a linear subspace of  $\mathbb{M}_{m,\delta}$ , consisting of those matrices for which the sum of each row is zero.

As in section 2.2,  $\mathbb{V}^\delta$  is the natural tangent space of the *canonical multi-affine space*  $\mathbb{A}^\delta$  [2, sec. 2.2]. Therefore, the difference  $U - V$  for any  $U, V \in \mathbb{A}^\delta$  is a vector  $\Xi \in \mathbb{V}^\delta$ , and, conversely, the sum of a vector  $\Xi \in \mathbb{V}^\delta$  with a point  $U \in \mathbb{A}^\delta$  is a point  $U + \Xi = \Xi + U$  of  $\mathbb{A}^\delta$ .

## 2.4 Derivatives

If  $F$  is a function from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  (or to any vector space), we will denote by  $\partial^r F$  the  $r$ -th derivative of  $F$ .

For any  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ , the derivative  $\partial F$  of a function  $F$  from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{A}^d$  is a function from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{V}^d$ . Similarly, for any  $\delta \in \mathbb{I}_d$  the derivative  $\partial F$  of a function  $F$  from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{A}^\delta$  is a function from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{V}^\delta$ .

## 2.5 Partial derivatives

If  $F$  is a function from  $\mathbb{R}^d$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  (or to any vector space), we will denote by  $\partial_i^r F$  its  $r$ -th partial derivative with respect to coordinate  $i$  of the argument. Moreover, for any multi-index  $\kappa \in \mathbb{I}_{d-1}$  [2] we define the *mixed derivative of  $F$  of order  $\kappa$*  as

$$\partial^\kappa F = \partial_0^{\kappa_0} \partial_1^{\kappa_1} \cdots \partial_{d-1}^{\kappa_{d-1}} F$$

## 2.6 Gradient

The *gradient* of a function  $F$  from  $\mathbb{A}^d$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  is the function  $\partial F$  from  $\mathbb{A}^d$  to  $\mathbb{V}^d$  defined by

$$(\partial F)_i = \partial_i F$$

for all  $i$ . Similarly, the gradient of a function  $F$  from  $\mathbb{A}^\delta$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  is the function  $\partial F$  from  $\mathbb{A}^\delta$  to  $\mathbb{V}^\delta$  defined by

$$(\partial F)_{i,j} = \partial_{ij} F.$$

## 2.7 Leibnitz formula

In this report, we will need Leibnitz's formula for the derivative of the product of functions. This formula can be written in a compact form with the use of multi-indices. Let  $F_0(t), \dots, F_d(t)$  be  $d+1$  functions from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then

$$\partial^r \left( \prod_{i=0}^d F_i \right) = \sum_{\kappa \in \mathbb{I}_d^r} \frac{r!}{\kappa!} \prod_{i=0}^d (\partial^{\kappa_i} F_i) \quad (2.3)$$

# 3 Derivatives of Bernstein polynomials

## 3.1 Derivatives of univariate polynomials

For any  $g, i \in \mathbb{N}$ , with  $i \leq g$ , let  $B_i^g$  denote the univariate Bernstein polynomial of degree  $g$  and index  $i$  [2, sec. 2.5]. The  $r$ -th derivative of  $B_i^g$  is

$$\partial^r B_i^g(z) = \partial^r \left( \frac{g!}{i!(g-i)!} z^i (1-z)^{g-i} \right) \quad (3.1)$$

Using the Leibnitz formula (2.3), we get

$$\partial^r B_i^g(z) = \frac{g!}{i!(g-i)!} \sum_{j=0}^r \binom{r}{j} (\partial^j z^i) (\partial^{r-j}(1-z)^{g-i})$$

Note that the inner term of the summation is zero whenever  $j > i$  or  $r-j > g-i$ , since the  $j$ -th derivative of a degree  $i$  polynomial is zero. Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \partial^r B_i^g(z) &= \frac{g!}{i!(g-i)!} \sum_{j=r-g+i}^i \binom{r}{j} \frac{i!}{(i-j)!} z^{i-j} \frac{(g-i)!}{(g-i-r+j)!} (1-z)^{g-i-r+j} (-1)^{r-j} \\ &= \frac{g!}{(g-r)!} \sum_{j=r-g+i}^i \binom{r}{j} (-1)^{r-j} \binom{g-r}{i-j} z^{i-j} (1-z)^{g-i-r+j} \\ &= \sum_{j=r-g+i}^i \frac{g!}{(g-r)!} \binom{r}{j} (-1)^{r-j} B_{i-j}^{g-r}(z) \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

### 3.2 Partial derivatives of tensorial polynomials

For any  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ , and any  $\alpha, \kappa \in \mathbb{I}_{d-1}$ , with  $\kappa \leq \alpha$ , let  $B_\kappa^\alpha$  denote the  $d$ -dimensional tensorial Bernstein polynomial of multi-degree  $\alpha$  and multi-index  $\kappa$  [2, sec. 2.5] defined on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . The  $r$ -th partial derivative of  $B_\kappa^\alpha$  with respect to the  $i$ -th coordinate of the argument is

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_i^r B_\kappa^\alpha(x) &= \partial_i^r \left( \prod_{j=0}^{d-1} B_{\kappa_j}^{\alpha_j}(x_j) \right) \\ &= \partial_i^r \left( B_{\kappa_i}^{\alpha_i}(x_i) \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^{d-1} B_{\kappa_j}^{\alpha_j}(x_j) \right) \\ &= \left( \sum_{p=r-\alpha_i+\kappa_i}^{\kappa_i} \frac{\alpha_i!}{(\alpha_i-r)!} \binom{r}{p} (-1)^{r-p} B_{\kappa_i-p}^{\alpha_i-r}(x_i) \right) \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^d B_{\kappa_j}^{\alpha_j}(x_j) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, for any  $\lambda \in \mathbb{I}_d$  the mixed derivative of order  $\lambda$  is

$$\partial^\lambda B_\kappa^\alpha(x) = \sum_{\substack{\mu \in \mathbb{I}_d \\ \mu \geq \lambda - \alpha + \kappa \\ \mu \leq \kappa}} \frac{\alpha!}{(\alpha-\lambda)!} \binom{\lambda}{\mu} (-1)^{r-|\mu|} B_{\kappa-\mu}^{\alpha-\lambda}(x) \quad (3.3)$$

## 4 Directional derivatives

If  $F$  is a function from a given domain  $\mathbb{D}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  (or to any vector space), and  $\xi$  is a vector in the tangent space of  $\mathbb{D}$ , we denote by  $D_\xi^r F$  the  $r$ -th directional derivative of  $F$  in the

direction  $\xi$  is the function from  $\mathbb{D}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  defined by

$$D_\xi^r F(u) = (\partial^r (t : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow F(u + t\xi))(0)).$$

for any  $u \in \mathbb{D}$ . In the particular case that  $\mathbb{D} = \mathbb{A}^\delta$  and  $r = 1$ , the directional derivative can be obtained from the gradient by the formula

$$\begin{aligned} D_\xi f &= (u : \mathbb{A}^\delta \rightarrow (\partial(t : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow f(u + t\xi))(0))) \\ &= (u : \mathbb{A}^\delta \rightarrow \sum_{i,j} (\partial_{ij} f)(u) \xi_{ij}) \\ &= \sum_{i,j} \xi_{ij} (\partial f)_{ij} \end{aligned} \quad (4.1)$$

#### 4.1 Directional derivatives of tensorial polynomials

The  $r$ -th derivative of the tensorial Bernstein polynomial  $B_\kappa^\alpha$  in the direction  $z \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , is

$$D_z^r B_\kappa^\alpha(x) = \partial^r \left( t : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \prod_{i=0}^{d-1} B_{\kappa_i}^{\alpha_i}(x_i + tz_i) \right) (0) \quad (4.2)$$

for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ . Using the Leibnitz formula (2.3), we get

$$\begin{aligned} D_z^r B_\kappa^\alpha(x) &= \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{I}_{d-1}^r} \frac{r!}{\lambda!} \prod_{i=0}^{d-1} \partial^{\lambda_i} (t : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow B_{\kappa_i}^{\alpha_i}(x_i + tz_i)) (0) \\ &= \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{I}_{d-1}^r} \frac{r!}{\lambda!} \prod_{i=0}^{d-1} z_i^{\lambda_i} (\partial^{\lambda_i} B_{\kappa_i}^{\alpha_i})(x_i) \\ &= \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{I}_{d-1}^r} \frac{r!}{\lambda!} z^\lambda (\partial^\lambda B_\kappa^\alpha)(x) \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

#### 4.2 Directional derivatives of simplicial polynomials

For any  $\xi \in \mathbb{V}^d$ , the  $r$ -th derivative of the simplicial Bernstein polynomial  $\mathcal{B}_\kappa^g$  in the direction  $\xi$  is given by the formula

$$D_\xi^r \mathcal{B}_\kappa^g(u) = \partial^r \left( t : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \frac{g!}{\kappa!} (u + t\xi)^\kappa \right) (0) \quad (4.4)$$

for any  $u \in \mathbb{A}^d$ . Using the Leibnitz formula (2.3), we get

$$D_\xi^r \mathcal{B}_\kappa^g(u) = \frac{g!}{\kappa!} \sum_{\lambda \in \mathbb{I}_d^r} \frac{r!}{\lambda!} \prod_{i=0}^d \partial^{\lambda_i} (t : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (u_i + t\xi_i)^{\kappa_i}) (0) \quad (4.5)$$

Note that the inner term of the summation equals zero whenever  $\lambda_i > \kappa_i$  for any  $i$ , since the  $\lambda_i$ -th derivative of a  $\kappa_i$ -degree polynomial is zero. Using the chain rule we get

$$\begin{aligned}
D_\xi^r \mathcal{B}_\kappa^g(u) &= \frac{g!}{\kappa!} \sum_{\substack{\lambda \in \mathbb{I}_d^r \\ \lambda \leq \kappa}} \frac{r!}{\lambda!} \prod_{i=0}^d \frac{\kappa_i!}{(\kappa_i - \lambda_i)!} u_i^{\kappa_i - \lambda_i} \xi_i^{\lambda_i} \\
&= \frac{g!}{\kappa!} \sum_{\substack{\lambda \in \mathbb{I}_d^r \\ \lambda \leq \kappa}} \frac{r!}{\lambda!} \frac{\kappa!}{(\kappa - \lambda)!} u^{\kappa - \lambda} \xi^\lambda \\
&= \frac{g!}{(g - r)!} \sum_{\substack{\lambda \in \mathbb{I}_d^r \\ \lambda \leq \kappa}} \frac{r!}{\lambda!} \xi^\lambda \frac{(g - r)!}{(\kappa - \lambda)!} u^{\kappa - \lambda} \\
&= \frac{g!}{(g - r)!} \sum_{\substack{\lambda \in \mathbb{I}_d^r \\ \lambda \leq \kappa}} \frac{r!}{\lambda!} \xi^\lambda \mathcal{B}_{\kappa - \lambda}^{g - r}(u)
\end{aligned}$$

If we consider the defining formula of  $\mathcal{B}_\kappa^g$

$$\mathcal{B}_\kappa^g(u) = \frac{g!}{\kappa!} u^\kappa$$

to be valid over the whole  $\mathbb{R}^{d+1}$ , instead of just  $\mathbb{A}^d$ , we can write

$$D_\xi^r \mathcal{B}_\kappa^g(u) = \frac{g!}{(g - r)!} \sum_{\substack{\lambda \in \mathbb{I}_d^r \\ \lambda \leq \kappa}} \mathcal{B}_\lambda^r(\xi) \mathcal{B}_{\kappa - \lambda}^{g - r}(u) \quad (4.6)$$

### 4.3 Directional derivatives of simplicial polynomials

For any multi-dimension  $\delta \in \mathbb{I}_m$  and any  $\Xi \in \mathbb{V}^\delta$ , the  $r$ -th derivative of the simplicial Bernstein polynomial  $\mathcal{B}_\Lambda^\alpha$  in the direction  $\Xi$  is

$$D_\Xi^r \mathcal{B}_\Lambda^\alpha(U) = \partial^r \left( t : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \prod_{i=0}^m \mathcal{B}_{\Lambda_i}^{\alpha_i}(U_i + t \Xi_i) \right) (0) \quad (4.7)$$

for any  $U \in \mathbb{A}^\delta$ . Using the Leibnitz formula (2.3), we get

$$D_\Xi^r \mathcal{B}_\Lambda^\alpha(U) = \sum_{\kappa \in \mathbb{I}_m^r} \frac{r!}{\kappa!} \prod_{i=0}^m \partial^{\kappa_i} \left( t : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}_{\Lambda_i}^{\alpha_i}(U_i + t \Xi_i) \right)$$

As before, whenever  $\kappa_i > \alpha_i$  for any  $i$ , the inner term of the summation equals zero. Using the formula (4.6) we get

$$\begin{aligned} D_{\Xi}^r \mathcal{B}_{\Lambda}^{\alpha}(U) &= \sum_{\substack{\kappa \in \mathbb{I}_m^r \\ \kappa \leq \alpha}} \frac{r!}{\kappa!} \prod_{i=0}^m \frac{\alpha_i!}{(\alpha_i - \kappa_i)!} \sum_{\substack{\lambda \in \mathbb{I}_{\delta_i}^{\kappa_i} \\ \lambda \leq \Lambda_i}} \mathcal{B}_{\lambda}^{\kappa_i}(\Xi_i) \mathcal{B}_{\Lambda_i - \lambda}^{\alpha_i - \kappa_i}(U_i) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{\kappa \in \mathbb{I}_m^r \\ \kappa \leq \alpha}} \frac{r!}{\kappa!} \frac{\alpha!}{(\alpha - \kappa)!} \sum_{\substack{\Omega \in \mathbb{H}_{m,\delta}^{\kappa} \\ \Omega \leq \Lambda}} \prod_{i=0}^m \mathcal{B}_{\Omega_i}^{\kappa_i}(\Xi_i) \mathcal{B}_{\Lambda_i - \Omega_i}^{\alpha_i - \kappa_i}(U_i) \end{aligned}$$

As in section 4.2, if we consider the defining formula of  $\mathcal{B}_{\Lambda}^{\alpha}$

$$\mathcal{B}_{\Lambda}^{\alpha}(U) = \prod_{i=0}^m \frac{\alpha_i!}{\Lambda_i!} U_i^{\Lambda_i}$$

to be valid over the whole  $\mathbb{M}_{m,\delta}$ , instead of just  $\mathbb{A}^{\delta}$ , we can write

$$D_{\Xi}^r \mathcal{B}_{\Lambda}^{\alpha}(U) = \sum_{\substack{\kappa \in \mathbb{I}_m^r \\ \kappa \leq \alpha}} \frac{r!}{\kappa!} \frac{\alpha!}{(\alpha - \kappa)!} \sum_{\substack{\Omega \in \mathbb{H}_{m,\delta}^{\kappa} \\ \Omega \leq \Lambda}} \mathcal{B}_{\Omega}^{\kappa}(\Xi) \mathcal{B}_{\Lambda - \Omega}^{\alpha - \kappa}(U) \tag{4.8}$$

## References

- [1] C.T.J. Dodson and T. Poston. *Tensor Geometry*. Springer-Verlag, 2 edition, 1990.
- [2] L. Freitas and J. Stolfi. Conversion formulas for simploidal Bernstein polynomials. Technical Report IC-08-12, May 2008.