

# BERNOULLI NUMBERS & BERNOULLI FUNCTIONS

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## Derivation of the Euler-Maclaurin Formula:

Ref. ARFKEN, Mathematical Methods for Physicists p. 278 ff; Whittaker & Watson, Analysis, p. 125 ff

We begin by introducing the Bernoulli numbers  $B_n$  via the generating function

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

*Taylor Series Expansion:  
Defines  $B_n/n!$*  (1)

We can obtain the Bernoulli numbers by noting from the rhs of (1) that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n \frac{x^n}{n!} = B_0 + B_1 x + B_2 \frac{1}{2!} x^2 + \dots \Rightarrow B_0 = \left. \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n \frac{x^n}{n!} \right|_{x=0} \quad (2)$$

But  $\left. \frac{x}{e^x - 1} \right|_{x=0} = \frac{0}{0} \rightarrow$  L'Hopital's Rule to  $\left. \frac{1}{e^x} \right|_{x=0} = 1$  (3)

$$\therefore \boxed{B_0 = 1} \quad (4)$$

Similarly:  $B_1 = \left. \frac{d}{dx} \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n \frac{x^n}{n!} \right) \right|_{x=0} = \left. \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{x}{e^x - 1} \right) \right|_{x=0} = \frac{(e^x - 1) \cdot 1 - x e^x}{(e^x - 1)^2} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$  (5)

Again by L'Hopital's rule  $B_1 \rightarrow \left. \frac{e^x - x e^x - e^x}{2(e^x - 1)} \right|_{x=0} \rightarrow \frac{0}{0}$  (6)

Still Again by L'Hopital :

$$\boxed{B_1 \rightarrow \frac{-x e^x - e^x}{2 e^x} = -\frac{1}{2}} \quad (7)$$

As can be seen, the repeated derivatives will lead to the formula [note that the  $n!$  factors cancel]

$$\boxed{B_n = \left. \frac{d^n}{dx^n} \left( \frac{x}{e^x - 1} \right) \right|_{x=0}} \quad (8)$$

To avoid the repeated derivatives we can cross multiply through in Eq. (1) to get:

$$1 = \frac{(e^x - 1)}{x} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n \frac{x^n}{n!} = \left(1 + x + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{1}{3!}x^3 + \dots\right) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

*Then since the constant term*

$$\therefore 1 = \left(1 + \frac{1}{2!}x + \frac{1}{3!}x^2 + \dots + \frac{1}{k!}x^{k-1}\right) \left(B_0 + B_1x + B_2\frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots\right)$$

*cancel, all other terms  $\sim x$  so we can divide via  $x$  all terms*

Constant term:  $1 = B_0$  ✓

$x^1$ :  $0 = \frac{1}{2!}B_0 + B_1$  }  $\Rightarrow B_1 = -\frac{1}{2}$  ✓ (11)

$x^2$ :  $0 = \frac{1}{2!}B_2 + \frac{1}{2!}B_1 + \frac{1}{3!}B_0 = \frac{1}{2}B_2 + \frac{1}{2}B_1 + \frac{1}{6}B_0$

$\therefore B_2 + B_1 + \frac{1}{3}B_0 = 0 \Rightarrow B_2 = -B_1 - \frac{1}{3}B_0 = +\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{6}$  ✓ (12)

$x^3$ :  $0 = \frac{1}{3!}B_3 + \frac{1}{2!}\frac{1}{2!}B_2 + \frac{1}{3!}B_1 + \frac{1}{4!}B_0$

$\therefore B_3 = -\frac{6}{4}B_2 - B_1 - \frac{6}{24}B_0 = -\frac{3}{2}\cdot\frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{4} = 0$  ✓ (13)

5! = 120  
4! = 24  
3! = 6

$x^4$ :  $0 = \frac{1}{4!}B_4 + \frac{1}{2!}\frac{1}{3!}B_3 + \frac{1}{3!}\frac{1}{2!}B_2 + \frac{1}{4!}B_1 + \frac{1}{5!}B_0$

$B_4 = -24\left(\frac{1}{12}B_3 + \frac{1}{12}B_2 + \frac{1}{24}B_1 + \frac{1}{120}B_0\right) = -24\cdot 0 - 2B_2 - B_1 - \frac{1}{5}B_0$

$= -2\cdot\frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{5} = -\frac{10}{30} + \frac{15}{30} - \frac{6}{30} = -\frac{1}{30}$  ✓ (14)

After note that the odd  $B_n$  for  $n \geq 3$  are all zero, but this isn't obvious at the moment:

$$B_{2n+1} = 0 \quad n \geq 1$$
 (15)

# BERNOULLI FUNCTIONS & REVIEW OF GENERATING FUNCTIONS

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## Bernoulli Functions:

We can introduce the Bernoulli function by writing

Generating function for  $B_n(s)$

$$\frac{x}{e^x - 1} (e^{xs}) \equiv \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n(s) \frac{x^n}{n!} \quad *$$
(16)

Clearly the Bernoulli function and the Bernoulli numbers are related by

$$B_n(0) = B_n \quad ; \quad B_0(s) \equiv 1 \quad \leftarrow \text{follows from (10)} \quad (17)$$

The Bernoulli function  $B_n(s)$  have the following 2 important properties. First, differentiation (16) w.r.t.  $s$  we have

$$\frac{d}{ds} \left( \frac{x e^{xs}}{e^x - 1} \right) = \frac{x^2 e^{xs}}{e^x - 1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B'_n(s) \frac{x^n}{n!} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Cancel a factor of } x: \\ \end{array} \right\} (18)$$

$$\therefore \frac{x e^{xs}}{e^x - 1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B'_n(s) \frac{x^{n-1}}{n!} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{look at the term } x^{n-1}: \text{ Its coeff is } \\ \frac{B'_n(s)}{n!} \end{array} \right\} (19a)$$

$$\hookrightarrow = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n(s) \frac{x^n}{n!} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{look at the term } x^{n-1}: \text{ Its coeff is } \\ \frac{B_{n-1}(s)}{(n-1)!} \end{array} \right\} (19b)$$

\* original expansion

From (19a,b) we then have

$$\frac{B'_n(s)}{n!} = \frac{B_{n-1}(s)}{(n-1)!} \quad \Rightarrow \quad B'_n(s) = n B_{n-1}(s) \quad (20)$$

Consider next ~~when~~  $s=1 \Rightarrow \frac{x e^x}{e^x - 1} = \frac{x}{1 - e^{-x}} = \frac{-(-x)}{1 - e^{-x}} = \frac{(-x)}{e^{-x} - 1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n \frac{(-x)^n}{n!} \quad (17)$  (21)

$$\therefore s=1 \Rightarrow \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n(1) \frac{x^n}{n!} = \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n B_n \frac{x^n}{n!} \quad \Rightarrow \quad B_n(1) = (-1)^n B_n = (-1)^n B_n(0) \quad (22)$$

# THE EULER-MACLAURIN FORMULA:

Derivation of the E-M Formula:

Start with  $\int_0^1 dx f(x) = \int_0^1 dx B_0(x) f(x)$  (25)

Note: By inspection  $B_0(x) = 1 \quad \forall x$  [See (17)] (26)

Here the argument of  $B_n$  is  $x$ :

Then  $B_1'(x) = 1 \cdot B_0(x) = 1$  [using (20)] (30)

$\therefore \int_0^1 dx f(x) = \int_0^1 dx B_1'(x) f(x) = [B_1(x) f(x)]_0^1 - \int_0^1 dx B_1(x) f'(x)$  (31)

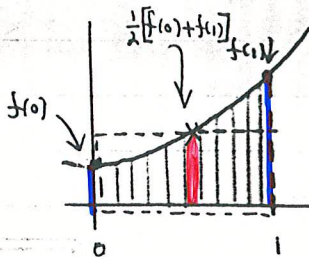
$= f(1) \underbrace{B_1(1)}_{1/2} - f(0) \underbrace{B_1(0)}_{-1/2} = \frac{1}{2} [f(1) + f(0)]$  (32)

(22)  $\Rightarrow$

$B_1(1) = (-1) B_1(0) = -B_1 = +1/2$

$\therefore \int_0^1 dx f(x) = \frac{1}{2} [f(1) + f(0)] - \int_0^1 dx B_1(x) f'(x)$  (33)

This formula makes obvious sense from the point of view of basic calculus: It represents the most naive approximation to the calculation of an integral, as shown by the following figure:



The shaded area is then approximated by the area of the rectangle which is

Area = base  $\times$  height =  $1 \cdot \frac{1}{2} [f(0) + f(1)]$  (34)

If  $f(x) = a$  then this would be the exact expression for the area, which is consistent with (33), since then  $f'(x) = 0$ .

Continuing as before we use (20) to write

(20)  $\Rightarrow$

$$B_2'(x) = 2B_1(x) \Rightarrow B_1(x) = \frac{1}{2} B_2'(x) \quad (35)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \int_0^1 dx f(x) &= \frac{1}{2} [f(0) + f(1)] - \int_0^1 dx \frac{1}{2} B_2'(x) f(x) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [f(0) + f(1)] - \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{B_2(x) f(x)} \Big|_0^1 + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 dx B_2(x) f''(x) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} [B_2(1) f'(1) - B_2(0) f'(0)] \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

We can invoke the general results:

$$\begin{aligned} B_{2n}(1) &= (-1)^{2n} B_{2n}(0) = B_{2n} \\ B_{2n+1}(1) &= -B_{2n+1}(0) = 0 \quad \text{for } n > 1 \\ B_{2n}(0) &= B_{2n} \\ B_{2n+1}(0) &= B_{2n+1} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

$$\therefore B_2(1) = B_2 = \frac{1}{6} = B_2(0) \Rightarrow -\frac{1}{2} [\dots] = -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{6} [f'(1) - f'(0)] \quad (38)$$

$$\therefore \int_0^1 dx f(x) = \frac{1}{2} [f(0) + f(1)] - \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{6} [f'(1) - f'(0)] + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 dx B_2(x) f''(x) \quad (39)$$

If we find a situation in which the higher derivatives are small (because as in our case each successive derivative introduces a factor of  $\Delta'$ ) then we can stop with the first derivative term

$$\int_0^1 dx f(x) = \frac{1}{2} [f(0) + f(1)] - \frac{1}{12} [f'(1) - f'(0)] + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 dx B_2(x) f''(x) \quad (40)$$

We can proceed to write down the general expression as in (5.168a) of ARFKEN

$$\int_0^1 dx f(x) = \frac{1}{2} [f(1) + f(0)] - \sum_{p=1}^{\frac{1}{2}p} \frac{1}{(2p)!} B_{2p} [f^{(2p-1)}(1) - f^{(2p-1)}(0)] + \frac{1}{(2q)!} \int_0^1 dx f^{(2q)}(x) B_{2q}(x) \quad (41)$$

# DEFINITE INTEGRALS WITH ARBITRARY LIMITS:

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## Change of the limits of integration

Thus far the results in (40) and (41) hold specifically for the range of integration  $[0, 1]$ . This is obvious if we recall that we have used the specific values of the Bernoulli polynomials for these values,  $B_n(1)$  and  $B_n(0)$ . However, we now wish to extend the limits of integration first of all from  $[0, 1]$  and ultimately between any two limits. To do this let us for illustrative purposes consider (40) neglecting the remainder:

$$\therefore \int_0^1 dx f(x) \cong \frac{1}{2} [f(x=1) + f(x=0)] - \frac{1}{12} [f'(x=1) - f'(x=0)] + \dots \quad (42)$$

Let the indefinite integral  $\int f(x) dx \equiv F(x)$ . Then (42) reads as

$$F(x=1) - F(x=0) \cong \frac{1}{2} [f(x=1) + f(x=0)] - \frac{1}{12} [f'(x=1) - f'(x=0)] + \dots \quad (43)$$

Define  $y = x+1$ ; Then (43)  $\Rightarrow$ :

$$\begin{aligned} F(y=2) - F(y=1) &\cong \frac{1}{2} [f(y=2) + f(y=1)] - \frac{1}{12} [f'(y=2) - f'(y=1)] \\ &\equiv \int_1^2 dy f(y) \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

Since  $y$  and  $x$  are now dummy variables of integration we see that by shifting in this way we can write

$$\int_1^2 dx f(x) \cong \frac{1}{2} [f(2) + f(1)] - \frac{1}{12} [f'(y=2) - f'(y=1)] + \dots \quad (45)$$

We can continue this process, and doing so let us write down the first few terms in the series

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^4 f(x) dx &= \int_0^1 f(x) dx + \int_1^2 f(x) dx + \int_2^3 f(x) dx + \int_3^4 f(x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [f(1) + f(0)] - \frac{1}{12} [f'(1) - f'(0)] + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 dx B_2(x) f''(x) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} [f(1) + f(2)] - \frac{1}{12} [f'(2) - f'(1)] + \frac{1}{2} \int_1^2 dx B_2(x) f''(x) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} [f(2) + f(3)] - \frac{1}{12} [f'(3) - f'(2)] + \frac{1}{2} \int_2^3 dx B_2(x) f''(x) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} [f(3) + f(4)] - \frac{1}{12} [f'(4) - f'(3)] + \frac{1}{2} \int_3^4 dx B_2(x) f''(x) \\ &\Rightarrow \int_0^4 f(x) dx = \left[ \frac{1}{2} f(0) + f(1) + f(2) + f(3) + \frac{1}{2} f(4) \right] - \frac{1}{12} [f'(4) - f'(0)] + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^4 dx B_2(x) f''(x) \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

For our purposes, where we intend to stop at 1<sup>st</sup> derivatives, we can generalize (47) to

$$\int_0^n dx f(x) = \frac{1}{2} [f(0) + f(n)] + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} f(j) - \frac{1}{12} [f'(n) - f'(0)] + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^n 4x B_2(x) f''(x) \quad (48)$$

If we keep expanding the remainder term then we can write

$$\int_0^n dx f(x) = \frac{1}{2} [f(0) + f(n)] + \sum_{p=1}^{n-1} f(p) - \sum_{p=1}^q \frac{1}{(2p)!} B_{2p} [f^{(2p-1)}(n) - f^{(2p-1)}(0)] + \frac{1}{(2q)!} \int_0^n f^{(2q)}(x) B_{2q}(x) dx \leftarrow \text{Remainder} \equiv R_q = R_q$$

We are now interested in the expression for  $\int_1^\infty f(x) dx$ . So we can obtain this result by subtracting the expression in (41) from (48): [R = remainder]

$$\int_1^n dx f(x) = \left[ \int_0^n - \int_0^1 \right] dx f(x) = \frac{1}{2} [f(0) + f(n)] + \sum_{p=1}^{n-1} f(p) - \sum_{p=1}^q \frac{1}{(2p)!} B_{2p} [f^{(2p-1)}(n) - f^{(2p-1)}(0)] + R$$

$$- \frac{1}{2} [f(1) + f(0)] + \sum_{p=1}^q \frac{1}{(2p)!} B_{2p} [f^{(2p-1)}(1) - f^{(2p-1)}(0)] + R$$

OK! But these are not really the same

$$\therefore \int_1^n dx f(x) \approx \frac{1}{2} [f(n) - f(1)] + \sum_{p=1}^{n-1} f(p) - \sum_{p=1}^q \frac{1}{(2p)!} B_{2p} [f^{(2p-1)}(n) - f^{(2p-1)}(1)] \quad (50)$$

See also 463.33 (135)

$$\sum_{p=1}^{n-1} f(p) - \int_1^n dx f(x) \approx \frac{1}{2} [f(n) - f(1)] + \sum_{p=1}^q \frac{1}{(2p)!} B_{2p} [f^{(2p-1)}(n) - f^{(2p-1)}(1)] + \Delta R_q$$

(R<sub>q</sub> - R'<sub>q</sub>)

If we retain only the first derivative contribution, then (52) ⇒

$$\sum_{p=1}^{n-1} f(p) - \int_1^n dx f(x) \approx \frac{1}{2} [f(1) - f(n)] + \frac{1}{12} [f'(n) - f'(1)] \quad (53)$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$\sum_{p=1}^{\infty} f(p) - \int_1^{\infty} dx f(x) \approx \frac{1}{2} [f(1) - f(\infty)] + \frac{1}{12} [f'(\infty) - f'(1)] \quad (54)$$

EULER-MACLAUREN FORMULA

# THE EULER-MASCHERONI CONSTANT $\gamma$ :

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RFS - 463.33

We previously encountered  $\gamma$  when we discussed on pp. 112, 113 the following representation for  $\Gamma(z)$ :

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(z)} = z e^{\gamma z} \prod_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(1 + \frac{z}{n}\right) e^{-z/n} \quad (1)$$

$$\gamma = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left( \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{n} - \int_1^N \frac{1}{n} dn \right) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left( \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{n} - \ln N \right) = 0.57721566... \quad (2)$$

Here we show how to derive the result in (2) using the Euler-Maclaurin formula. Starting from (52) we have ( $p \rightarrow n, n \rightarrow N$ )

$$\sum_{n=1}^{N-1} f(n) - \int_1^N f(n) dn \approx \frac{1}{2} [f(N) - f(1)] + \sum_{h=1}^q \frac{1}{(2h)!} B_{2h} [f^{(2h-1)}(N) - f^{(2h-1)}(1)] + \dots \quad (3)$$

Add & Subtract  $f(N) \Rightarrow$

$$\sum_{n=1}^N f(n) - \int_1^N f(n) dn = \frac{1}{2} [f(N) + f(1)] + f(N) + \sum_{h=1}^q \dots \quad (4)$$

Hence

$$\sum_{n=1}^N f(n) - \int_1^N f(n) dn \approx \frac{1}{2} [f(N) + f(1)] + \sum_{h=1}^q \frac{1}{(2h)!} B_{2h} [f^{(2h-1)}(N) - f^{(2h-1)}(1)] + \dots \quad (5)$$

For our purposes:  $f(n) = 1/n \Rightarrow f^{(1)}(n) = -1/n^2 \quad f^{(2)}(n) = +2/n^3$   
 $f^{(3)}(n) = -2 \cdot 3/n^4 \quad f^{(4)}(n) = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4/n^5 \dots \quad f^{(m)}(n) = (-1)^m m! / n^{m+1} \quad (6)$

The sum in (5) then evaluates to

$$\sum = \frac{1}{2!} B_2 [f^{(1)}(N) - f^{(1)}(1)] + \frac{1}{4!} B_4 [f^{(3)}(N) - f^{(3)}(1)] + \frac{1}{6!} [f^{(5)}(N) - f^{(5)}(1)] + \dots \quad (7)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2!} B_2 \left[ -\frac{1}{N^2} + 1 \right] + \frac{1}{4!} B_4 \left[ -\frac{3!}{N^4} + 3! \right] + \frac{1}{6!} B_6 \left[ -\frac{5!}{N^6} + 5! \right] + \dots \quad (8)$$



( $\gamma$  - continued)

$\frac{\pi^2}{6} = 1.644934$   
Res-463.24

If we now take the limit  $N \rightarrow \infty$  we find (noting that  $f(\infty) = 0, f(1) = 1$ )

$$\gamma = \left\{ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(n) - \int_1^{\infty} f(x) dx \right\} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{n} \right) - \int_1^{\infty} \frac{dx}{x} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} B_2 + \frac{1}{4} B_4 + \frac{1}{6} B_6 + \dots$$

numerically;  $\gamma = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{6} \right) + \frac{1}{4} \left( -\frac{1}{30} \right) + \frac{1}{6} \left( \frac{1}{42} \right)$

$$= 0.5 + 0.0833 - 0.0083 + 0.0040 \approx 0.5790$$

This compares to the actual value  $\gamma = 0.577215\dots$

# SUMMING THE SERIES $\sum_{n=1}^N n^p$

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Side Comments: Summing the Series  $\sum_{n=1}^N n^p$ :

Let us define  $S_p(N) = \sum_{n=1}^N n^p$   $p = \text{integer}$  (1)

Such series can be summed by the following recursive method. Begin with  $p=0$

$$S_0(N) = \sum_{n=1}^N 1 = \underbrace{1+1+\dots}_{N \text{ terms}} = N \quad (2)$$

To evaluate  $S_1(N)$  consider

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^N [(n+1)^2 - n^2] &= [2^2 - 1^2] + [3^2 - 2^2] + [4^2 - 3^2] + \dots + [(N+1)^2 - (N-1)^2] + [(N+1)^2 - N^2] \\ &= -1 + (N+1)^2 = \cancel{N} + (N^2 + 2N + 1) = N^2 + 2N \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

The point in (3) is that the only terms which do not get cancelled are the very lowest and the very highest.  
Now the left side of (3) gives

$$\sum_{n=1}^N [n^2 + 2n + 1 - n^2] = \sum_{n=1}^N [2n + 1] = 2 \sum_{n=1}^N n + \sum_{n=1}^N 1 = 2S_1(N) + N \quad (4)$$

Hence combining (3) and (4) we have:  $2S_1(N) + N = N^2 + 2N$

$$\therefore S_1(N) = \sum_{n=1}^N n = \frac{1}{2} N(N+1) \quad (5)$$

Gradshteyn/Ryzhik bk p.1.

Check:  $S_1(4) = 1+2+3+4 = 10 \stackrel{?}{=} \frac{1}{2} \cdot 4 \cdot 5 = 10 \quad \checkmark$   
 $S_1(5) = 1+2+3+4+5 = 15 \stackrel{?}{=} \frac{1}{2} \cdot 5 \cdot 6 = 15 \quad \checkmark \quad (6)$

Consider next  $S_2(N)$ . To evaluate this we examine

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^N [(n+1)^3 - n^3] &= [2^3 - 1^3] + \dots + [(N+1)^3 - N^3] = -1 + (N+1)^3 = \cancel{N} + (N^3 + 3N^2 + 3N + 1) = N^3 + 3N^2 + 3N + 1 \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^N [n^3 + 3n^2 + 3n + 1 - n^3] = 3 \sum_{n=1}^N n^2 + 3 \sum_{n=1}^N n + \sum_{n=1}^N 1 = 3S_2(N) + 3 \cdot \frac{1}{2} N(N+1) + N \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

lowest      highest

Hence from (7) and (8)

$$3S_2(N) + \frac{3}{2}N(N+1) + N = N^3 + 3N^2 + 3N \Rightarrow 3S_2(N) = N^3 + 3N^2 + 3N - \frac{3}{2}N^2 - \frac{3}{2}N - N$$

$$= N^3 + \frac{3}{2}N^2 + \frac{1}{2}N = \frac{2N^3 + 3N^2 + N}{2} \quad (9)$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^N n^2 = S_2(N) = \frac{N(2N^2 + 3N + 1)}{6} = \frac{N(N+1)(2N+1)}{6} \quad \checkmark \quad 305(228) \quad (10)$$

Gradshteyn/Ryzhik p.1

Proceeding in this way we can express  $S_p(N)$  in terms of  $S_{p-1}(N)$  etc., which thus generates the desired recurrence relation.

Next we evaluate  $S_3(N) = \sum_{n=1}^N n^3$

Consider  $\sum_{n=1}^N [(n+1)^4 - n^4] = \dots = \frac{1^4 + (N+1)^4}{1} = \cancel{1} + (N^4 + 4N^3 + 6N^2 + 4N + \cancel{1}) = N^4 + 4N^3 + 6N^2 + 4N \quad (11)$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^N [(N^4 + 4n^3 + 6n^2 + 4n + 1) - N^4] = 4 \sum_{n=1}^N n^3 + 6S_2(N) + 4S_1(N) + N \quad (12)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore 4S_3(N) &= N^4 + 4N^3 + 6N^2 + 4N - 6S_2(N) - 4S_1(N) - N \\ &= N^4 + 4N^3 + 6N^2 + 4N - [2N^3 + 3N^2 + N] - 2[N^2 + N] \\ &= N^4 + N^3[4-2] + N^2[6-3-2] + N[3-1-2] = N^4 + 2N^3 + N^2 = N^2(N^2 + 2N + 1) \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

$$\therefore S_3(N) = \sum_{n=1}^N n^3 = \frac{1}{4} N^2 (N+1)^2 = \left[ \frac{N(N+1)}{2} \right]^2 \quad \checkmark \quad \text{Gradshteyn Ryzhik p.1} \quad (14)$$

Check:

$$S_3(4) = 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + 4^3 = 1 + 8 + 27 + 64 = 100 \stackrel{?}{=} \left[ \frac{4 \cdot 5}{2} \right]^2 = 100 \quad \checkmark \quad (14)$$

For more discussion of the evaluation of such sums see C. BENDER and S. ORSZAG's book on mathematical methods in physics entitled: ADVANCED MATHEMATICAL METHODS FOR SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS (McGraw-Hill, New York, 1978); see Chap. 2 and problem 2.1 p.53.