PGF operations for the Zipkin model

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1 Observation

Consider one time step. Define:

- N_i : true abundance of stage i individuals
- Y_i : observed abundance of stage i individuals
- P_i : detection probability of stage i individuals
- D: total number of stages

1.1 Multivariate evidence

Let $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_D)$ be a vector of observations at one time step, then:

$$F_{\mathbf{N},\mathbf{Y}=\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{s}) = \frac{1}{\prod_{d} y_{d}!} \left[\frac{\partial^{y_{1}+\ldots+y_{D}}}{\partial t_{1}^{y_{1}}\ldots\partial t_{D}^{y_{D}}} F_{\mathbf{N},\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{s},\mathbf{t}) \right]_{\mathbf{t}=\mathbf{0}}$$

Proof.

$$\begin{split} &\frac{1}{\prod_{d}y_{d}!}\left[\frac{\partial^{y_{1}+\ldots+y_{D}}}{\partial t_{1}^{y_{1}}\ldots\partial t_{D}^{y_{D}}}F_{\mathbf{N},\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{s},\mathbf{t})\right]_{\mathbf{t}=\mathbf{0}} \\ &=\frac{1}{\prod_{d}y_{d}!}\left[\frac{\partial^{y_{1}+\ldots+y_{D}}}{\partial t_{1}^{y_{1}}\ldots\partial t_{D}^{y_{D}}}\sum_{\mathbf{n},\mathbf{y}'}\prod_{d}s_{d}^{n_{d}}t_{d}^{y_{d}}p(\mathbf{n},\mathbf{y}')\right]_{\mathbf{t}=\mathbf{0}} \\ &=\frac{1}{\prod_{d}y_{d}!}\sum_{\mathbf{n}}\prod_{d}s_{d}^{n_{d}}\sum_{\mathbf{y}'}p(\mathbf{n},\mathbf{y}')\left[\frac{\partial^{y_{1}+\ldots+y_{D}}}{\partial t_{1}^{y_{1}}\ldots\partial t_{D}^{y_{D}}}\prod_{d}t_{d}^{y_{d}}\right]_{\mathbf{t}=\mathbf{0}} \\ &=\frac{1}{\prod_{d}y_{d}!}\sum_{\mathbf{n}}\prod_{d}s_{d}^{n_{d}}p(\mathbf{n},\mathbf{y})\prod_{d}y_{d}! \\ &=F_{\mathbf{N},\mathbf{Y}=\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{s}) \end{split}$$

1.2 Thin then observe multiple variables

Let $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_D)$ be a vector of observations at one time step, then:

$$F_{\mathbf{N},\mathbf{Y}=\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{s}) = \frac{1}{\prod_d y_d!} \prod_d (s_d p_d)^{y_d} \left[\frac{\partial^{y_1 + \dots + y_D}}{\partial u_1^{y_1} \dots \partial u_D^{y_D}} F_{\mathbf{N}}(\mathbf{u}) \right]_{u_i = s_i(1 - p_i)}$$

Proof.

$$\begin{split} F_{\mathbf{N},\mathbf{Y}=\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{s}) &= \frac{1}{\prod_{d} y_{d}!} \left[\frac{\partial^{y_{1}+\ldots+y_{D}}}{\partial t_{1}^{y_{1}}\ldots\partial t_{D}^{y_{D}}} F_{\mathbf{N},\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{s},\mathbf{t}) \right]_{\mathbf{t}=\mathbf{0}} \\ &= \frac{1}{\prod_{d} y_{d}!} \left[\frac{\partial^{y_{1}+\ldots+y_{D}}}{\partial t_{1}^{y_{1}}\ldots\partial t_{D}^{y_{D}}} F_{\mathbf{N}}(s_{1}(1+p_{1}t_{1}-p_{1}),\ldots,s_{D}(1+p_{D}t_{D}-p_{D})) \right]_{\mathbf{t}=\mathbf{0}} \\ &= \frac{1}{\prod_{d} y_{d}!} \left[\left[\prod_{d} (s_{d}p_{d})^{y_{d}} \frac{\partial^{y_{1}+\ldots+y_{D}}}{\partial u_{1}^{y_{1}}\ldots\partial u_{D}^{y_{D}}} F_{\mathbf{N}}(\mathbf{u}) \right]_{u_{i}=s_{i}(1+p_{i}t_{i}-p_{i})} \right]_{\mathbf{t}=\mathbf{0}} \\ &= \frac{1}{\prod_{d} y_{d}!} \prod_{d} (s_{d}p_{d})^{y_{d}} \left[\frac{\partial^{y_{1}+\ldots+y_{D}}}{\partial u_{1}^{y_{1}}\ldots\partial u_{D}^{y_{D}}} F_{\mathbf{N}}(\mathbf{u}) \right]_{u_{i}=s_{i}(1-p_{i})} \end{split}$$

1.3 Invariance of the functional form

Suppose $F_{\mathbf{N}}(\mathbf{u}) = f(\mathbf{u})e^{\mathbf{a}^T\mathbf{u}+a_0}$, where $f(\mathbf{u})$ is a polynomial of n variables of degree d. Then, after observing evidence, the PGF maintains the same form $F_{\mathbf{N},\mathbf{Y}=\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{s}) = g(\mathbf{s})e^{\mathbf{b}^T\mathbf{s}+b_0}$, where $g(\mathbf{s})$ is a polynomial of n variables of degree $d+y_1+\ldots+y_D$.

Proof.

$$F_{\mathbf{N},\mathbf{Y}=\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{s}) = \frac{1}{\prod_{d} y_{d}!} \prod_{d} (s_{d}p_{d})^{y_{d}} \left[\frac{\partial^{y_{1}+\cdots+y_{D}}}{\partial u_{1}^{y_{1}} \dots \partial u_{D}^{y_{D}}} F_{\mathbf{N}}(\mathbf{u}) \right]_{u_{i}=s_{i}(1-p_{i})}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\prod_{d} y_{d}!} \prod_{d} (s_{d}p_{d})^{y_{d}} \left[\frac{\partial^{y_{1}+\cdots+y_{D}}}{\partial u_{1}^{y_{1}} \dots \partial u_{D}^{y_{D}}} f(\mathbf{u}) e^{\mathbf{a}^{T}\mathbf{u}+a_{0}} \right]_{u_{i}=s_{i}(1-p_{i})}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\prod_{d} y_{d}!} \prod_{d} (s_{d}p_{d})^{y_{d}} \left[e^{\mathbf{a}^{T}\mathbf{u}+a_{0}} \sum_{l_{1}=0}^{y_{1}} \dots \sum_{l_{D}=0}^{y_{D}} \prod_{d} \binom{y_{d}}{l_{d}} a_{d}^{y_{d}-l_{d}} \right]$$

$$= \frac{\partial^{l_{1}+\cdots+l_{D}}}{\partial u_{1}^{l_{1}} \dots \partial u_{D}^{l_{D}}} f(\mathbf{u}) \Big|_{u_{i}=s_{i}(1-p_{i})}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\prod_{d} y_{d}!} \prod_{d} (s_{d}p_{d})^{y_{d}} e^{a_{1}s_{1}(1-p_{1})+\dots+a_{D}s_{D}(1-p_{D})+a_{0}}$$

$$\sum_{1} \prod_{d} \frac{y_{d}!}{l_{d}!(y_{d}-l_{d})!} a_{d}^{y_{d}-l_{d}} \left[\frac{\partial^{l_{1}+\cdots+l_{D}}}{\partial u_{1}^{l_{1}} \dots \partial u_{D}^{l_{D}}} f(\mathbf{u}) \right]_{u_{i}=s_{i}(1-p_{i})}$$

$$= e^{\mathbf{b}^{T}\mathbf{s}+b_{0}} \sum_{1} \prod_{d} \frac{(a_{d}p_{d})^{y_{d}}}{l_{d}!(y_{d}-l_{d})!} a_{d}^{l_{d}}^{l_{d}} s_{d}^{y_{d}} \left[\frac{\partial^{l_{1}+\cdots+l_{D}}}{\partial u_{1}^{l_{1}} \dots \partial u_{D}^{l_{D}}} f(\mathbf{u}) \right]_{u_{i}=s_{i}(1-p_{i})}$$

where $\mathbf{b} = [a_d(1 - p_d)]_{d=1}^D$ and $b_0 = a_0$.

Line 3 uses the product rule for mixed partial derivatives [1]. Since the mixed partial derivative of a polynomial of n variables of degree d is also a polynomial of n variables of degree at most d, and the scalar $\prod_d \frac{(a_d p_d)^{y_d}}{l_d!(y_d - l_d)!a_d^{l_d}}$ can be combined with the coefficient of each monomial of the mixed partial derivative, the term inside the summation is a polynomial of n variables of degree at most $d + \sum_i y_i$. Furthermore, since the sum of polynomials is another polynomial of the same degree as its highest-degree term, the entire summation term must be a polynomial of n variables of degree $d + \sum_i y_i$.

2 Transition

Define:

- N_i : true abundance of stage *i* individuals at the previous time step
- Z_{ij} : number of stage i individuals that transition to stage j
- P_{ij} : transition probability from i to j
- $M_i = Z_{1i} + Z_{2i}$: abundance of stage *i* individuals at the current time step after the transition operation

2.1 PGF of a multinomial random variable

If $\mathbf{Z}|N \sim Multinomial(N, \mathbf{p})$, then $F_{\mathbf{Z}|N}(\mathbf{t}) = (\sum_k t_k p_k)^N$. *Proof.*

$$\begin{split} F_{\mathbf{Z}|N}(\mathbf{t}) &= E_{\mathbf{Z}|N}(\prod_k t_k^{Z_k}|N) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}} \prod_k t_k^{z_k} p(\mathbf{z}|n) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}} \prod_k t_k^{z_k} \frac{n!}{\prod_k z_k!} \prod_k p_k^{z_k} \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}} \frac{n!}{\prod_k z_k!} \prod_k (t_k p_k)^{z_k} \\ &= (\sum_k t_k p_k)^n, \text{ by the multinomial theorem} \end{split}$$

2.2 Joint PGF over $\{Z_{ij}\}$

If $\mathbf{Z}_1|N_1 \sim Multinomial(N_1, \mathbf{p}_1)$ and $\mathbf{Z}_2|N_2 \sim Multinomial(N_2, \mathbf{p}_2)$, then $F_{\mathbf{Z}_1,\mathbf{Z}_2}(\mathbf{t}_1,\mathbf{t}_2) = F_{\mathbf{N}_1,\mathbf{N}_2}(\sum_j t_{1j}p_{1j},\sum_j t_{2j}p_{2j})$.

Proof. First, find $F_{\mathbf{Z}_1,\mathbf{Z}_2|N_1,N_2}(\mathbf{t}_1,\mathbf{t}_2)$:

$$\begin{split} F_{\mathbf{Z}_{1},\mathbf{Z}_{2}|N_{1},N_{2}}(\mathbf{t}_{1},\mathbf{t}_{2}) &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}_{1},\mathbf{z}_{2}} \prod_{ij} t_{ij}^{z_{ij}} p(\mathbf{z}_{1},\mathbf{z}_{2}|n_{1},n_{2}) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}_{1},\mathbf{z}_{2}} \prod_{ij} t_{ij}^{z_{ij}} p(\mathbf{z}_{1}|n_{1}) p(\mathbf{z}_{2}|n_{2}) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}_{1}} \prod_{j} t_{1j}^{z_{1j}} p(\mathbf{z}_{1}|n_{1}) \sum_{\mathbf{z}_{2}} \prod_{j} t_{2j}^{z_{2j}} p(\mathbf{z}_{2}|n_{2}) \\ &= (\sum_{j} t_{1j} p_{1j})^{n_{1}} (\sum_{j} t_{2j} p_{2j})^{n_{2}} \end{split}$$

Find the joint PGF over $\mathbf{Z}_1, \mathbf{Z}_2, N_1, N_2$:

$$\begin{split} F_{N_1,N_2,\mathbf{Z}_1,\mathbf{Z}_2}(s_1,s_2,\mathbf{t}_1,\mathbf{t}_2) &= \sum_{n_1,n_2,\mathbf{z}_1,\mathbf{z}_2} \prod_i s_i^{n_i} \prod_j t_{ij}^{z_{ij}} p(n_1,n_2,\mathbf{z}_1,\mathbf{z}_2) \\ &= \sum_{n_1,n_2,\mathbf{z}_1,\mathbf{z}_2} \prod_i s_i^{n_i} \prod_j t_{ij}^{z_{ij}} p(\mathbf{z}_1,\mathbf{z}_2|n_1,n_2) p(n_1,n_2) \\ &= \sum_{n_1,n_2} \prod_i s_i^{n_i} p(n_1,n_2) \sum_{\mathbf{z}_1,\mathbf{z}_2} \prod_i t_{ij}^{z_{ij}} p(\mathbf{z}_1,\mathbf{z}_2|n_1,n_2) \\ &= \sum_{n_1,n_2} \prod_i s_i^{n_i} p(n_1,n_2) (\sum_j t_{1j} p_{1j})^{n_1} (\sum_j t_{2j} p_{2j})^{n_2} \\ &= \sum_{n_1,n_2} \prod_i (s_i \sum_j t_{ij} p_{ij})^{n_i} p(n_1,n_2) \\ &= F_{N_1,N_2}(s_1 \sum_j t_{1j} p_{1j},s_2 \sum_j t_{2j} p_{2j}) \end{split}$$

Finally, marginalize to obtain:

$$\begin{split} F_{\mathbf{Z}_1,\mathbf{Z}_2}(\mathbf{t}_1,\mathbf{t}_2) &= F_{N_1,N_2,\mathbf{Z}_1,\mathbf{Z}_2}(1,1,\mathbf{t}_1,\mathbf{t}_2) \\ &= F_{N_1,N_2}(\sum_j t_{1j}p_{1j},\sum_j t_{2j}p_{2j}) \end{split}$$

2.3 Joint PGF over M_1, M_2

If $m_1=z_{11}+z_{21}$ and $m_2=z_{12}+z_{22}$, then $F_{M_1,M_2}(u_1,u_2)=F_{N_1,N_2}(\sum_j u_jp_{1j},\sum_j u_jp_{2j})$

Proof. Since $m_j = z_{1j} + z_{2j}$:

$$F_{M_j|Z_{1j},Z_{2j}}(u_j) = \sum_{m_j} u_j^{m_j} p(m_j|z_{1j},z_{2j})$$
$$= u_j^{z_{1j}+z_{2j}}$$

Find the conditional PGF:

$$\begin{split} F_{M_1,M_2|\mathbf{Z}_1,\mathbf{Z}_2}(u_1,u_2) &= \sum_{m_1,m_2} \prod_j u_j^{m_j} p(m_1,m_2|\mathbf{z}_1,\mathbf{z}_2) \\ &= \sum_{m_1,m_2} \prod_j u_j^{m_j} p(m_1|z_{11},z21) p(m_2|z_{12},z_{22}) \\ &= \sum_{m_1} u_1^{m_1} p(m_1|z_{11},z21) \sum_{m_2} u_2^{m_2} p(m_2|z_{12},z_{22}) \\ &= \prod_j u_j^{z_{1j}+z_{2j}} \end{split}$$

Then the joint PGF:

$$\begin{split} F_{\mathbf{Z}_{1},\mathbf{Z}_{2},M_{1},M_{2}}(\mathbf{t}_{1},\mathbf{t}_{2},u_{1},u_{2}) &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}_{1},\mathbf{z}_{2},m_{1},m_{2}} \prod_{i} u_{i}^{m_{i}} \prod_{j} t_{ij}^{z_{ij}} p(\mathbf{z}_{1},\mathbf{z}_{2},m_{1},m_{2}) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}_{1},\mathbf{z}_{2},m_{1},m_{2}} \prod_{i} u_{i}^{m_{i}} \prod_{j} t_{ij}^{z_{ij}} p(m_{1},m_{2}|\mathbf{z}_{1},\mathbf{z}_{2}) p(\mathbf{z}_{1},\mathbf{z}_{2}) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}_{1},\mathbf{z}_{2}} \prod_{ij} t_{ij}^{z_{ij}} p(\mathbf{z}_{1},\mathbf{z}_{2}) \sum_{m_{1},m_{2}} \prod_{i} u_{i}^{m_{i}} p(m_{1},m_{2}|\mathbf{z}_{1},\mathbf{z}_{2}) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}_{1},\mathbf{z}_{2}} \prod_{ij} t_{ij}^{z_{ij}} p(\mathbf{z}_{1},\mathbf{z}_{2}) \prod_{j} u_{j}^{z_{1j}+z_{2j}} \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}_{1},\mathbf{z}_{2}} \prod_{ij} (u_{j}t_{ij})^{z_{ij}} p(\mathbf{z}_{1},\mathbf{z}_{2}) \\ &= F_{\mathbf{Z}_{1},\mathbf{Z}_{2}} (u_{1}t_{11},u_{2}t_{12},u_{1}t_{21},u_{2}t_{22}) \\ &= F_{N_{1},N_{2}} (u_{1}t_{11}p11 + u_{2}t_{12}p12,u_{1}t_{21}p21 + u_{2}t_{22}p_{22}) \end{split}$$

So the marginal PGF over M_1, M_2 is:

$$F_{M_1,M_2}(u_1,u_2) = F_{1,1,M_1,M_2}(\mathbf{t}_1,\mathbf{t}_2,u_1,u_2)$$

= $F_{N_1,N_2}(u_1p_{11} + u_2p_{12},u_1p_{21} + u_2p_{22})$

Therefore, $F_{\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{u}) = F_{\mathbf{N}}(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{u}).$

2.4 Composition of a multivariate polynomial and a linear transformation

If $f(\mathbf{u})$ is a polynomial of n variables of degree d and $g(\mathbf{s})$ is a linear transformation $g: \mathbb{R}^m \to \mathbb{R}^n$, then the composition $f \circ g(\mathbf{s})$ is a polynomial of m variables

of degree d.

Proof. Suppose $f(\mathbf{u}) = \sum_{k_1=0}^{d_1} \dots \sum_{k_n=0}^{d_n} c_{\mathbf{k}} u_1^{k_1} \dots u_n^{k_n}$, where $d = d_1 + \dots + d_n$. Furthermore, suppose $g(\mathbf{s}) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{s} + \mathbf{b}$, where $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, $\mathbf{s} \in \mathbb{R}^m$, and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Then the composition of f and g:

$$\begin{split} f \circ g(\mathbf{s}) &= f(g(\mathbf{s})) \\ &= \sum_{k_1=0}^{d_1} \dots \sum_{k_n=0}^{d_n} c_{\mathbf{k}} (A_{11}s_1 + \dots + A_{1m}s_m + b_1)^{k_1} \dots (A_{n1}s_1 + \dots + A_{nm}s_m + b_n)^{k_n} \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{k}} c_{\mathbf{k}} \sum_{l_1:\sum_j l_{1j}=k_1} \frac{k_1!}{l_{11}! \dots l_{1m}! l_{1m+1}!} (A_{11}s_1)^{l_{11}} \dots (A_{1m}s_m)^{l_{1m}} b_1^{l_{1m+1}} \dots \\ &\sum_{l_n:\sum_j l_{1j}=k_n} \frac{k_n!}{l_{n1}! \dots l_{nm}! l_{nm+1}!} (A_{n1}s_1)^{l_{n1}} \dots (A_{nm}s_m)^{l_{nm}} b_n^{l_{nm+1}} \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{k}} c_{\mathbf{k}} \sum_{l_1:\sum_j l_{1j}=k_1} \frac{k_1!}{l_{11}! \dots l_{1m}! l_{1m+1}!} A_{11}^{l_{11}} \dots A_{1m}^{l_{1m}} b_1^{l_{1m+1}} \dots \\ &\sum_{l_n:\sum_j l_{1j}=k_n} \frac{k_n!}{l_{n1}! \dots l_{nm}! l_{nm+1}!} A_{n1}^{l_{n1}} \dots A_{nm}^{l_{nm}} b_n^{l_{nm+1}} s_1^{\sum_i l_{i1}} \dots s_m^{\sum_i l_{im}} \end{split}$$

which is a polynomial of m variables. The degree of this polynomial is:

$$\sum_{i} \max(l_{i1}) + \ldots + \sum_{i} \max(l_{im}) = \sum_{j} \max(l_{1j}) + \ldots + \sum_{j} \max(l_{nj})$$
$$= d_1 + \ldots + d_n$$
$$= d$$

Therefore, $f \circ g(\mathbf{s})$ is a polynomial of m variables of degree d.

2.5 Invariance of the functional form

Suppose $F_{\mathbf{N}}(\mathbf{u}) = f(\mathbf{u})e^{\mathbf{a}^T\mathbf{u}+a_0}$, where $f(\mathbf{u})$ is a bivariate polynomial of degree d. Then, after the transition operation, the PGF still has the same form $F_{\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{s}) = g(\mathbf{s})e^{\mathbf{b}^T\mathbf{s}+b_0}$, where $g(\mathbf{s})$ is also a bivariate polynomial of degree d.

Proof.

$$F_{\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{s}) = F_{\mathbf{N}}(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{s})$$
$$= f(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{s})e^{\mathbf{a}^{T}(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{s}) + a_{0}}$$
$$= q(\mathbf{s})e^{(\mathbf{a}^{T}\mathbf{P})\mathbf{s} + a_{0}}$$

The first term, $g(\mathbf{s}) = f \circ h(\mathbf{s})$, is a composition of a bivariate polynomial of degree d and a linear transformation $h(\mathbf{s}) = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{s}$, which is another bivariate polynomial of degree d by section 2.4. The second term has the form $e^{\mathbf{b}^T\mathbf{s}+b_0}$, where $\mathbf{b}^T = \mathbf{a}^T\mathbf{P}$ and $b_0 = a_0$.

3 Reproduction

Univariate case.

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{dies} \\ 1 & \text{survives} \\ 2 & \text{survives with 1 offspring} \end{cases}$$

Let $P(X_i = x_i) = p_{x_i}$ and $R = \sum_{i=1}^{N} X_i$. The PGF of X_i is given by $F_{X_i}(v) = p_0 + p_1 v + p_2 v^2$, therefore:

$$F_R(v) = F_N(F_{X_i}(v)) = F_N(p_0 + p_1v + p_2v^2)$$

.

3.1 Invariance of the functional form

All PGFs will have the form $e^{f_1(s)}f_2(s)$, where $f_1(s)$ is a polynomial of degree at most 2^K and $f_2(s)$ is a polynomial of degree at most $2^K \sum_k y_k$.

3.1.1 Observation

Suppose $F_N(u) = e^{f_1(u)} f_2(u)$, where $f_i(u)$ is a polynomial of degree d_i . Then $F_{N,Y=y}(s) = e^{g_1(s)} g_2(s)$, where $g_1(s)$ is a polynomial of degree d_1 and $g_2(s)$ is a polynomial of degree $yd_1 + d_2$.

3.1.2 Reproduction

Suppose $F_N(u) = e^{f_1(u)} f_2(u)$, where $f_i(u)$ is a polynomial of degree d_i . Let R be the abundance after the reproduction operation. Then $F_R(s) = e^{g_1(s)} g_2(s)$, where $g_i(s)$ is a polynomial of degree $2d_i$.

3.1.3 Arrival

Suppose $F_R(u) = e^{f_1(u)} f_2(u)$, where $f_i(u)$ is a polynomial of degree d_i . Let N be the abundance after new arrival. Then $F_N(s) = e^{g_1(s)} g_2(s)$, where $g_i(s)$ is a polynomial of degree d_i .

References

[1] Michael Hardy. Combinatorics of partial derivatives. *Electron. J. Combin*, $13(1):13,\,2006$.