## POWERSUM FORMULA FOR DIFFERENTIAL RESOLVENTS

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Received 5 October 2002

We will prove that we can specialize the indeterminate  $\alpha$  in a linear differential  $\alpha$ -resolvent of a univariate polynomial over a differential field of characteristic zero to an integer q to obtain a q-resolvent. We use this idea to obtain a formula, known as the *powersum formula*, for the terms of the  $\alpha$ -resolvent. Finally, we use the powersum formula to rediscover Cockle's differential resolvent of a cubic trinomial.

2000 Mathematics Subject Classification: 12H05, 13N15.

**1. Introduction.** It was proved in [4, Theorem 37, page 67] that for any integer q, a polynomial  $P(t) \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{N} (-1)^{N-k} e_{N-k} t^k$  of a single variable t whose coefficients  $\{e_{N-k}\}_{k=0}^{N}$  lie in an ordinary differential ring  $\mathbb{R}$  with derivation D possesses an ordinary linear differential  $\alpha$ -resolvent and an ordinary linear differential q-resolvent, where  $\alpha$  is a constant, transcendental over  $\mathbb{R}$ . With no loss of generality, we assume that P is monic and has no zero roots. Then the coefficient  $e_{N-k}$  is the (N-k)th elementary symmetric function of the roots of P. We assume that  $P(t) = \prod_{k=1}^{n} (t - z_k)^{\pi_k}$  has  $n \leq N$  distinct roots and  $\pi_k$  is the multiplicity of the root  $z_k$  in P. It was proved in [2] that for each root  $z_k$ , there exists a nonzero solution  $y_k$  of the logarithmic differential equation  $Dy_k/y_k = \alpha \cdot (Dz_k/z_k)$ . Obviously, such solutions are unique only up to a constant multiple. We define the notation  $z_k^{\alpha}$  to represent any such solution  $y_k$ . Hence, we will call  $y_k$  an  $\alpha$ -power of  $z_k$ . From now on, we will drop the subscript k on  $z_k$  and  $y_k$ . It will be understood that a different z implies a different y.

In this paper, we present the powersum formula as a new method for computing resolvents, although it remains a conjecture whether the powersum formula always yields a (nonzero) resolvent rather than an identically zero equation. It was proved in [5, Theorem 4.1, page 726] that if all the distinct roots of a polynomial are differentially independent over constants, then the powersum formula yields a resolvent. It was shown in [6, Section 11, pages 344-345], how the solution of the Riccati nonlinear differential equation is related to the resolvent of a quadratic polynomial.

**2. Notation.** Let  $\mathbb{N}$  denote the set of positive integers. Let  $\mathbb{N}_0$  denote the set of nonnegative integers. Let  $\mathbb{Z}^{\#}$  denote the set of nonzero integers. The following notation has been slightly modified from Kolchin's notation in [2] and Macdonald's notation in [3]. Let  $\mathbb{Z}\{e\}$  denote the differential ring generated by the integers  $\mathbb{Z}$  and the *N* coefficients  $e \equiv \{e_k\}_{k=1}^N$  of *t* in *P*. Let  $\mathbb{Q}\langle e \rangle$  denote the differential field generated by the rational numbers  $\mathbb{Q}$  and *e*. For each  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\mathbb{Z}\{e\}_m$  denote the ordinary (nondifferential) ring generated by  $\mathbb{Z}$ , e, and the first m derivatives of e. (A differential ring must contain infinitely many derivatives of any of its elements.) Let  $\mathbb{Q}\langle e \rangle_m(z) = \mathbb{Q}\langle e \rangle_m[z]$  denote the field generated by  $\mathbb{Q}$ , e, the first m derivatives of e, and the single root z. From this point on, we will write  $\mathbb{Q}\langle e \rangle_m[z]$  instead of  $\mathbb{Q}\langle e \rangle_m(z)$  for this field to emphasize the fact that elements in this field are polynomial in the root z. If  $\mathbb{R}$  represents any of the rings or fields mentioned so far, then let  $\mathbb{R}[t, \alpha]$  denote the polynomial ring in the indeterminates t and  $\alpha$  over  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Let  $\theta \equiv (n!) \cdot (\prod_{k=1}^{n} \pi_k) \cdot (\prod_{k=1}^{n} z_k) \cdot (\prod_{i < j} (z_i - z_j)^2)$ . By our conditions on P,  $\theta \neq 0$ . It is also easy to show that  $\theta \in \mathbb{Z}[e]$ . For each  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , it was proved in [4, Theorem 32, page 60] that there exists a polynomial  $G_m(t, \alpha)$  in t and  $\alpha$  satisfying the following definition.

**DEFINITION 2.1.** Define  $G_m(t, \alpha)$  to be the polynomial in t and  $\alpha$  such that  $G_m(z, \alpha) = D^m \gamma / (\alpha \cdot \gamma)$  for each root z of P and  $\theta^m \cdot G_m(t, \alpha) \in \mathbb{Z}\{e\}_m[t, \alpha]$ .

A *specialization*  $\phi$  is a ring homomorphism  $\phi : \mathbb{R} \to \hat{\mathbb{R}}$  from a ring  $\mathbb{R}$  into an integral domain  $\hat{\mathbb{R}}$ . For any polynomial  $P(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{N} (-1)^{N-k} e_{N-k} \cdot t^k \in \mathbb{R}[t]$ ,  $\phi(P)$  is defined to be the polynomial  $(\phi P)(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{N} (-1)^{N-k} \phi(e_{N-k}) \cdot t^k \in \mathbb{R}[t]$ . A *differential specialization*  $\phi$  is a specialization  $\phi : \mathbb{R} \to \hat{\mathbb{R}}$  from a differential ring  $\mathbb{R}$  with derivation D into a differential integral domain  $\hat{\mathbb{R}}$  with derivation  $\hat{D}$  such that  $\phi D = \hat{D}\phi$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**3.** Specializing  $\alpha$ . Let  $q \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $\phi_q : \mathbb{Q}\langle e \rangle [z, \alpha] \to \mathbb{Q}\langle e \rangle [z]$  be the ring specialization such that  $\phi_q$  is the identity on  $\mathbb{Q}\langle e \rangle [z]$  and  $\phi_q(\alpha) = q$ . We may compute  $Dz^q/(q \cdot z^q)$ . Since  $\phi_q$  is not defined to act on y, we are not able to specialize y to  $z^q$  in Theorem 3.1. However,  $\phi_q$  is defined to act on  $D^m y/(\alpha \cdot y)$  since  $D^m y/(\alpha \cdot y) = G_m(z, \alpha) \in \theta^{-m} \cdot \mathbb{Z}\{e\}_m[z, \alpha]$ . Theorem 3.1 asserts that  $G_m(z, q) = D^m z^q/(q \cdot z^q)$ . Theorem 3.2 asserts that  $\phi_q(D^m y/(\alpha \cdot y)) = D^m z^q/(q \cdot z^q)$ .

**THEOREM 3.1.** Assume all the same definitions and notations as in the introduction. Then the mth derivative of  $z^q$  can be expressed as a product of  $q \cdot z^q$  and an element in  $\mathbb{Q}\langle e \rangle_m[z]$ . More specifically,  $G_m(z,q) = D^m z^q / (q \cdot z^q)$ , where  $G_m(z,q) \in \mathbb{Q}\langle e \rangle_m[z]$ and  $G_m(t,\alpha)$  was given in Definition 2.1.

**PROOF.** For brevity, write  $G_m = G_m(z, \alpha)$  for the particular root z. We emphasize that  $G_m$  is  $G_m(t, \alpha)$  with t specialized to the particular root z. We find that  $\theta \cdot (Dz^q/(q \cdot z^q)) = \theta \cdot (Dz/z) = \theta \cdot G_1 \in \mathbb{Z}\{e\}_1[z]$ . Therefore,

$$Dz^{q} = q \cdot z^{q} \cdot G_{1} \Longrightarrow D^{2} z^{q} = q \cdot (q \cdot z^{q-1} Dz \cdot G_{1} + z^{q} \cdot DG_{1})$$
$$= q \cdot z^{q} \left( q \cdot \left(\frac{Dz}{z}\right) \cdot G_{1} + DG_{1} \right) = q \cdot z^{q} (q \cdot G_{1}^{2} + DG_{1})$$
$$= q \cdot z^{q} \cdot \phi_{q} (\alpha \cdot G_{1}^{2} + DG_{1}) = q \cdot z^{q} \cdot \phi_{q} (G_{2}).$$
(3.1)

So,  $D^m z^q = q \cdot z^q \cdot \phi_q(G_m)$  is true for m = 1. Now assume that it is true for  $m \ge 2$ . Then  $D^{m+1}z^q = q \cdot (q \cdot z^{q-1}(Dz) \cdot \phi_q(G_m) + z^q \cdot D(\phi_q(G_m)))$ . But  $\phi_q$  specializes  $\alpha$ , whose derivative is 0, to an integer whose derivative is 0. Thus,  $D(\phi_q(G_m)) = \phi_q(D(G_m))$ .

Hence,

$$D^{m+1}z^{q} = q \cdot (q \cdot z^{q-1} \cdot (Dz) \cdot \phi_{q}(G_{m}) + z^{q} \cdot \phi_{q}(D(G_{m})))$$

$$= q \cdot z^{q} \cdot \left(q \cdot \frac{Dz}{z} \cdot \phi_{q}(G_{m}) + \phi_{q}(D(G_{m}))\right)$$

$$= q \cdot z^{q} \cdot (\phi_{q}(\alpha) \cdot G_{1} \cdot \phi_{q}(G_{m}) + \phi_{q}(D(G_{m})))$$

$$= q \cdot z^{q} \cdot \phi_{q}(\alpha \cdot G_{1} \cdot G_{m} + D(G_{m}))$$

$$= q \cdot z^{q} \cdot \phi_{q}(G_{m+1}).$$
(3.2)

Therefore,  $D^{m+1}z^q = q \cdot z^q \cdot G_{m+1}(z,q)$  since  $\phi_q$  affects only  $\alpha$ . By the principle of mathematical induction, this equation is true for all positive integers m.

Just because  $Dy/(\alpha \cdot y) = Dz/z = Dz^q/(q \cdot z^q)$  implies that  $Dy/(\alpha \cdot y)$  is independent of  $\alpha$ , it does not follow that  $D^m y/(\alpha \cdot y)$  is independent of  $\alpha$  for  $m \ge 2$ . We can see this by observing that  $D^m y/(\alpha \cdot y) \neq D^m z/z \neq D^m z^q/(q \cdot z^q) \neq D^m y/(\alpha \cdot y)$  for  $m \ge 2$ .

**THEOREM 3.2.** Assume all the same definitions and notations as in Theorem 3.1 and Section 2. Then, for each  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ , the specialization under  $\phi_q$  of  $D^m y/(\alpha \cdot y)$  is  $D^m z^q/(q \cdot z^q)$ . That is,  $\phi_q(D^m y/(\alpha \cdot y)) = D^m z^q/(q \cdot z^q)$ .

**PROOF.** By Definition 2.1,  $D^m y/(\alpha \cdot y) = G_m(z, \alpha)$ . By Theorem 3.1,  $D^m z^q/(q \cdot z^q) = G_m(z,q)$ . Putting these results together yields

$$\phi_q\left(\frac{D^m \mathcal{Y}}{\alpha \cdot \mathcal{Y}}\right) = \phi_q(G_m(z,\alpha)) = G_m(z,q) = \frac{D^m z^q}{q \cdot z^q}.$$
(3.3)

**4.** Powersum satisfaction theorem and formula. An  $\alpha$ -resolvent of a polynomial  $P(t) \equiv \sum_{i=0}^{N} (-1)^{n-i} e_{N-i} t^i \in \mathbb{F}[t]$  over a differential field  $\mathbb{F}$  with derivation D is a linear ordinary differential equation  $\sum_{m=0}^{o} B_m(\alpha) \cdot D^m \gamma = 0$  of finite order o such that each of the *coefficient functions*  $B_m(\alpha)$  lies in the field  $\mathbb{Q}\langle e \rangle(\alpha)$  (or preferably in the ring  $\mathbb{Z}\{e\}[\alpha]$ ) such that not all  $B_m(\alpha)$  are identically zero, and which is satisfied by the  $\alpha$ -power of every root z of P. In other words, the coefficient functions of the resolvent are independent of the choice of root and are not all zero. By [4, Theorem 37, page 67], resolvents for any polynomial are guaranteed to exist. We state this assertion in Theorem 4.1.

**THEOREM 4.1.** Let  $P(t) \equiv \sum_{i=0}^{N} (-1)^{n-i} e_{N-i} t^i \in \mathbb{F}[t]$  be a polynomial of degree N in t over a d-field  $\mathbb{F}$  with n distinct roots  $\{z_i\}_{i=1}^{n}$ . Then there exists an oth order differential resolvent  $\sum_{m=0}^{o} B_m(\alpha) \cdot D^m \gamma = 0$  with  $B_m(\alpha) \in \mathbb{Z}\{e\}_n[\alpha], B_0(0) = 0$ , and  $\deg_{\alpha} B_m(\alpha) \le o(o-1)/2 - m + 1$  for some  $o \in [n]$ . Furthermore, o may be chosen to equal the number of  $\{y_j\}_{j=1}^{n}$  linearly independent over constants, and all solutions of this resolvent are linear combinations over constants of these o  $y_i$ 's.

Theorem 4.1 gives us an upper bound on the degree in  $\alpha$  in an  $\alpha$ -resolvent of *P*. Theorem 4.2 allows us to specialize the indeterminate  $\alpha$  to an integer *q* (or any number) to obtain a *q*-resolvent.

**THEOREM 4.2** (powersum satisfaction theorem). Let  $P \in \mathbb{F}[t]$  be a monic polynomial with n distinct roots  $z = \{z_i\}_{i=1}^n$ , none of which is zero and not all of which are constants. Let  $q \in \mathbb{Z}$ . If  $R_{\alpha} \equiv \sum_{m=0}^{o} B_m(\alpha) \cdot D^m y$  is an  $\alpha$ -resolvent for P of arbitrary order o, where  $B_m(\alpha) = \sum_{i\geq 0} b_{i,m} \alpha^i \in \mathbb{Z}\{e\}[\alpha]$ , with  $b_{i,m} \in \mathbb{Z}\{e\}$ , then  $R_{\alpha}$  specializes to the q-resolvent  $R_q \equiv \sum_{m=0}^{o} B_m(q) \cdot D^m y$  for  $q \in \mathbb{Z}^{\#}$  under  $\phi_q(\alpha) = q$  and  $\phi_q(u) = u$  for each  $u \in \mathbb{Z}\{e\}$ . Furthermore, the qth powersum  $p_q$  satisfies  $\sum_{m=0}^{o} B_m(q) \cdot D^m p_q = 0$  for each  $q \in \mathbb{Z}^{\#}$ .

**PROOF.** By Definition 2.1 of  $G_m(t, \alpha)$ , we have

$$\sum_{m=0}^{o} B_m(\alpha) \cdot D^m \gamma = 0 \iff \sum_{m=0}^{o} B_m(\alpha) \cdot \frac{D^m \gamma}{\alpha \cdot \gamma} = 0$$

$$\iff \sum_{m=0}^{o} B_m(\alpha) \cdot G_m(z, \alpha) = 0.$$
(4.1)

Now for each  $q \in \mathbb{Z}^{\#}$ , specialize this equation under  $\phi_q$  to get  $\sum_{m=0}^{o} B_m(q) \cdot G_m(z,q) = 0$  by Theorem 3.2, since  $\phi_q|_{\mathbb{F}} = I$ . For any of the roots of P, we have  $G_m(z,q) = D^m z^q / (q \cdot z^q)$  by Theorem 3.1. Thus,

$$\sum_{m=0}^{o} B_m(q) \cdot \frac{D^m z^q}{q \cdot z^q} = 0 \iff \sum_{m=0}^{o} B_m(q) \cdot D^m z^q = 0$$
(4.2)

for each  $q \in \mathbb{Z}^{\#}$ . Therefore, an  $\alpha$ -resolvent specializes to a q-resolvent for each  $q \in \mathbb{Z}^{\#}$  under  $\phi_q$ . Now sum over the *N* roots of *P* including their multiplicities to get  $\sum_{m=0}^{o} B_m(q) \cdot D^m p_q = 0$  for each  $q \in \mathbb{Z}^{\#}$ .

The powersum satisfaction theorem states that for any monic polynomial *P*, the coefficients  $b_{i,m}$  of  $\alpha$  in any  $\alpha$ -resolvent  $R_{\alpha} \equiv \sum_{(i,m)\in S} b_{i,m} \cdot \alpha^i D^m \gamma$  of *P* satisfy an infinite system of homogeneous equations

$$[q^{i}D^{m}p_{q}]_{q\times(i,m)} \leq q < \infty \ (i,m) \in S} \cdot [b_{i,m}]_{(i,m) \in S} = [0_{q}]_{1 \le q < \infty}.$$

$$(4.3)$$

Here, *S* denotes the set of pairs (i, m) consisting of a power of  $\alpha$ , denoted by *i*, and an order of a derivative, denoted by *m*, such that  $b_{i,m} \neq 0$ . Let |S| denote the size of *S*. We will be interested in proving that the rank

$$\operatorname{rk}\left[q^{i}D^{m}p_{q}\right]_{q\times(i,m)}\underset{1\leq q<\infty}{\underset{(i,m)\in S}{}}$$

$$(4.4)$$

of the matrix  $[q^i D^m p_q]_{q \times (i,m)} _{1 \le q < \infty} (i,m) \in S}$  equals |S| - 1 under certain circumstances. Under those circumstances, one can solve this system of equations to get a nonzero solution for  $b_{i,m}$ . The solution is given by  $b_{i,m} = F_{i,m} \equiv (-1)^{\operatorname{sgn}(i,m)} \cdot |q^{i'} D^{m'} p_q|_{(i',m') \neq (i,m)q \in \Gamma}$ , where  $\operatorname{sgn}(i,m)$  indicates the ordering of the term  $b_{i,m}$  in the resolvent, and we take  $\Gamma$  to be the smallest possible set of positive integers that will guarantee a nonzero solution. In numerous examples, it has been found that  $\Gamma \equiv \{k \in \mathbb{N} \ni 1 \le k \le |S| - 1\}$ . We call this the *powersum formula* for a resolvent of *P*. We use the notation  $F_{i,m}$  to denote the terms of the resolvent obtained by this method to suggest the word *formula*. We will denote the resolvent obtained by this formula by  $\Re_{\alpha}$ . So,  $\Re_{\alpha} = \{F_{i,m}\}$ . If  $\operatorname{rk}[q^i D^m p_q]_{q \times (i,m)} \underset{1 \le q < \infty}{\underset{(i,m) \in S}{\longrightarrow}} = |S|$ , then the only solution would be  $b_{i,m} = 0$  for all  $(i,m) \in S$ , contradicting the hypothesis that  $R_{\alpha}$  is nonzero. Unfortunately, for a given polynomial P, one does not know a priori what the set S of nonzero  $b_{i,m}$  is or how large it is. Nevertheless, we may summarize the results obtained so far in a corollary to the powersum satisfaction theorem.

**COROLLARY 4.3** (the powersum formula). Let  $R_{\alpha} \equiv \sum_{(i,m)\in S} b_{i,m} \cdot \alpha^i D^m y$  be an  $\alpha$ resolvent of P, where  $S \subset \mathbb{N}_0 \times \mathbb{N}_0$  is a finite set. If there exists a set of |S| - 1 integers  $\Gamma \subset \mathbb{N}$  such that not all the  $F_{i,m}$  given by the powersum formula  $F_{i,m} \equiv (-1)^{\operatorname{sgn}(i,m)} \cdot |q^i D^m' p_q|_{(i',m')\neq(i,m)} q \in \Gamma}$  are zero, then the linear ordinary differential equation (ODE),  $\Re_{\alpha} \equiv \sum_{(i,m)\in S} F_{i,m} \cdot \alpha^i D^m y$ , is an integral  $\alpha$ -resolvent of P. If no such set of integers  $\Gamma$ exists, then the powersum formula yields all zeroes for  $F_{i,m}$ .

The author believes that the resolvent  $\Re_{\alpha}$  given by the powersum formula will be a  $\mathbb{Q}\langle e \rangle$ -multiple, not just a  $\mathbb{Q}\langle e \rangle(\alpha)$ -multiple of  $R_{\alpha}$ , but this requires proof. For example, let  $\alpha^M \cdot D^H \gamma$  denote the highest power of  $\alpha$  on the highest derivative of  $\gamma$  in  $R_{\alpha}$ . Even though  $F_{M,L}/b_{M,L} \cdot R_{\alpha}$  and  $\Re_{\alpha}$  are both resolvents (provided that  $F_{M,L} \neq 0$ ) with the same coefficient function of  $\alpha^M \cdot D^H \gamma$ , one must eliminate the possibility that their other terms may differ due to the possibility that P has resolvents of lower order.

**5. Example.** We will now apply the powersum formula to compute a particular  $\alpha$ -resolvent of a particular trinomial. It has not yet been proved that this formula yields a nonzero differential equation for every polynomial. However, in every polynomial the author has tested, it has been possible to set up an  $\alpha$ -resolvent, itself a polynomial in the power  $\alpha$ , and choose the proper set of powersums such that the powersum formula yields a nonzero answer. If the powersum formula yields a nonzero answer, then it is guaranteed by Corollary 4.3 that the answer is a (nonzero) resolvent of the polynomial. By a very long and difficult proof in [4, Theorem 41, page 74] and [5, Theorem 4.1, page 726], it has been shown that in case the distinct roots of the polynomial are differentially independent over constants (i.e., they satisfy no polynomial differential equations over  $\mathbb{Q}$ ), then the powersum formula yields a nonzero resolvent.

The powersum formula has the advantage of giving a resolvent in an integral form. In the next example, this means the powersum formula gives a resolvent all of whose terms lie in the ring  $\mathbb{Z}[x, \alpha]$ .

**EXAMPLE 5.1** (Sir James Cockle's resolvent of a trinomial). Cockle [1] gave a formula for a linear differential  $\alpha$ -resolvent (although he did not call it that) for any trinomial of the form  $t^n + x \cdot t^p - 1$ , where  $Dx \equiv 1$ . Consider the particular trinomial  $P(t) \equiv t^3 + x \cdot t^2 - 1$ , where n = 3 and p = 2. Then, Cockle's resolvent specializes to  $27 \cdot D^3 y = 4 \cdot (x \cdot D + \alpha/2)(x \cdot D + 3/2 + \alpha/2)(x \cdot D - \alpha)y$ . This expands to  $27 \cdot D^3 y = (4 \cdot (x \cdot D)^3 + 6 \cdot (x \cdot D)^2 - 3 \cdot \alpha \cdot (1 + \alpha) \cdot (x \cdot D) - \alpha^2 \cdot (3 + \alpha))y$ . Replacing  $(x \cdot D)^3$  with  $x^3 \cdot D^3 + 3 \cdot x^2 \cdot D^2 + x \cdot D$  and  $(x \cdot D)^2$  with  $x^2 \cdot D^2 + x \cdot D$  yields  $(4x^3 - 27) \cdot D^3 y + 18 \cdot x^2 \cdot D^2 y + (10 - 3 \cdot \alpha^{-3} \cdot \alpha^2) \cdot x \cdot Dy - \alpha^2 \cdot (3 + \alpha) \cdot y = 0$ , which has the form  $f_1 \cdot D^3 y + f_2 \cdot D^2 y + (f_3 + f_4 \cdot \alpha + f_5 \cdot \alpha^2) \cdot Dy + (f_6 \cdot \alpha^2 + f_7 \cdot \alpha^3) \cdot y = 0$ . The powersum formula requires one to know a priori the various powers of  $\alpha$  appearing in a resolvent. Specialize  $\alpha$  to one of the six integers  $q \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ , then sum the resulting equation over each of the three

roots. Doing this for each  $q \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ , one gets a system of six linear equations in the undetermined coefficient functions  $\{f_k\}_{k=1}^7$  of the form  $20 \cdot f = 0$ , where 20 is the  $6 \times 7$  matrix defined by

$$\mathfrak{M} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} D^{3}p_{1} & D^{2}p_{1} & Dp_{1} & 1 \cdot Dp_{1} & 1^{2} \cdot Dp_{1} & 1^{2} \cdot p_{1} & 1^{3} \cdot p_{1} \\ D^{3}p_{2} & D^{2}p_{2} & Dp_{2} & 2 \cdot Dp_{2} & 2^{2} \cdot Dp_{2} & 2^{2} \cdot p_{2} & 2^{3} \cdot p_{2} \\ D^{3}p_{3} & D^{2}p_{3} & Dp_{3} & 3 \cdot Dp_{3} & 3^{2} \cdot Dp_{3} & 3^{2} \cdot p_{3} & 3^{3} \cdot p_{3} \\ D^{3}p_{4} & D^{2}p_{4} & Dp_{4} & 4 \cdot Dp_{4} & 4^{2} \cdot Dp_{4} & 4^{2} \cdot p_{4} & 4^{3} \cdot p_{4} \\ D^{3}p_{5} & D^{2}p_{5} & Dp_{5} & 5 \cdot Dp_{5} & 5^{2} \cdot Dp_{5} & 5^{2} \cdot p_{5} & 5^{3} \cdot p_{5} \\ D^{3}p_{6} & D^{2}p_{6} & Dp_{6} & 6 \cdot Dp_{6} & 6^{2} \cdot Dp_{6} & 6^{2} \cdot p_{6} & 6^{3} \cdot p_{6} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$(5.1)$$

 $\vec{f}$  is the 7×1 column vector defined by

$$\vec{f} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ f_3 \\ f_4 \\ f_5 \\ f_6 \\ f_7 \end{bmatrix},$$
(5.2)

and 0 is the  $6 \times 1$  column vector defined by

$$\vec{0} \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0\\0\\0\\0\\0\\0 \end{bmatrix}.$$
 (5.3)

The following program, written in Mathematica 4.0 for Students and run on a Dell Dimension XPS R400 computer using Windows 98 operating system, computes the seven terms  $\{f_k\}_{k=1}^7$  by setting each  $f_k$  to the appropriate cofactor of 20. This matrix is denoted by *T* in the program. The symbol s[k] stands for the *k*th powersum  $p_k$  of the roots of *P*. The output is denoted by *f*, which is defined as the transpose of  $\tilde{f}$ . The result is

$$\begin{bmatrix} -27 + 4x^3 & 18x^2 & 10x & -3x & -3x & -3 & -1 \end{bmatrix},$$
 (5.4)

which is the Cockle resolvent. The computation time is less than 5 seconds.
x=.; s[0]=3; s[1]=-x; s[2]=x<sup>2</sup>;
Table[s[k+3]=Expand[-x\*s[k+2]+s[k]],{k,0,3}];
T=Table[{D[s[k],{x,3}],D[s[k],{x,2}],D[s[k],x],
k\*D[s[k],x],k<sup>2</sup>\*D[s[k],x],k<sup>2</sup>\*s[k],k<sup>3</sup>\*s[k]},{k,1,6}];
M=Minors[t,6];
f=Table[Simplify[m[[1,k]]\*(-1)<sup>(7-k</sup>)/(466560\*x)],{k,1,7}].

To see the output in Mathematica for other variables, remove the semicolon after its formula. For the record, the first six powersums are (written in the form Mathematica gives)  $p_1 = -x$ ,  $p_2 = x^2$ ,  $p_3 = 3 - x^3$ ,  $p_4 = -4x + x^4$ ,  $p_5 = 5x^2 - x^5$ , and  $p_6 = 3 - 6x^3 + x^6$ . The cofactors of the matrix 20 had to be divided by  $466560 \cdot x = 2^7 \cdot 3^6 \cdot 5^1 \cdot x$  to get the resolvent in *Cohnian* form, that is, such that the only divisors in  $\mathbb{Z}[x, \alpha]$  among all the terms of the resolvent are  $\pm 1$ .

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