

## NOTE ON INTERPOLATION FOR A FUNCTION OF SEVERAL VARIABLES

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The simplest interpolation formula for a function of  $\omega$  variables  $x, y, \dots, z$  is the multiple Gregory-Newton formula, which approximates the function by a polynomial in  $p, q, \dots, r$  of total degree  $n$ , namely,

$$(1) \quad f(x + ph_1, y + qh_2, \dots, z + rh_\omega) = \sum_{i+j+\dots+k=0}^n \binom{p}{i} \binom{q}{j} \dots \binom{r}{k} \Delta_{x^i y^j \dots z^k}^{i+j+\dots+k} f(x, y, \dots, z),$$

where  $x, y, \dots, z$  denote the independent variables,  $h_m$  denotes the tabular intervals,

$$\binom{p}{i} \text{ denotes } \frac{p(p-1)\dots(p-i+1)}{i!}, \text{ with } \binom{p}{0} = 1,$$

and  $\Delta_{x^i y^j \dots z^k}^{i+j+\dots+k} f(x, y, \dots, z)$  denotes the mixed partial advancing difference of  $f(x, y, \dots, z)$ , of order  $i$  with respect to  $x$ ,  $j$  with respect to  $y$ , and so on. The summation is for all sets of values of  $i, j, \dots, k$  such that  $i+j+\dots+k$  goes from 0 to  $n$ . Using the notation  $f_{s,t,\dots,u}$  to denote  $f(x+sh_1, y+th_2, \dots, z+uh_\omega)$ , it is apparent that the multiple Gregory-Newton formula involves all values  $f_{s,t,\dots,u}$  such that  $s+t+\dots+u=0, 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Thus for the case of 2 dimensions the arguments are the  $(n+1)(n+2)/2$  points forming a right triangle, vertex at  $(x, y)$ , and for 3 dimensions the arguments are the  $(n+1)(n+2)(n+3)/6$  points forming a solid tetrahedron, vertex at  $(x, y, z)$ .

The purpose of the present note is to show that when (1) is expressed in the simpler form

$$(2) \quad f(x + ph_1, y + qh_2, \dots, z + rh_\omega) = \sum_{s+t+\dots+u=0}^n C_{s,t,\dots,u} f_{s,t,\dots,u},$$

then we have

$$(3) \quad C_{s,t,\dots,u} = \binom{n-p-q-\dots-r}{n-s-t-\dots-u} \binom{p}{s} \binom{q}{t} \dots \binom{r}{u}.$$

Thus (1) can be employed without the labor of finding all the mixed

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