

On Some New Class of Arithmetic Convolutions Involving Arbitrary Sets of Integers

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Abstract. In this paper we define a new type of arithmetic convolution called the S_B – product and denote it by $*_{S_B}$. Let $R_{S_B} = \langle C^N, +, *_{S_B} \rangle$ be the set of all complex valued arithmetic functions with ordinary addition and with a S_B – product considered as multiplication. We give conditions on $*_{S_B}$ which are necessary and sufficient for R_{S_B} to be commutative, and associative. We also investigate some other algebraic properties of R_{S_B} such as the existence of identity, of zero divisors. We determine all invertible elements of R_{S_B} and we establish the conditions under which R_{S_B} is a local ring. We then give a definition for completely multiplicative B -product and study some of its properties. We then study some important relations between S_B – product, B – product and unitary convolution. We conclude our discussion by considering an example of S_B -product and investigate whether the corresponding S_B – product is commutative, associative, has an identity etc.

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1. Introduction

In a previous paper [2], the B – product is defined as follows. For every natural number n , let B_n be the set of some pairs of divisors of n . For arithmetical functions f and g , their B -product is given by

$$(f *_B g)(n) = \sum_{(u,v) \in B_n} f(u)g(v), \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

This B -product generalizes simultaneously the A -product of Narkiewicz [12] and the lcm product and it has a non-void intersection with the Ψ - product of Lehmer [10]. The τ - product of Scheid [13] is also a particular case of B -product. There are several classes of arithmetic convolutions which can be found in Apostol [1], Cohen [7], Davison [8], McCarthy [11], Sivaramakrishnan [14], Vaidyanathaswamy [18], Subbarao [15] and more recently in the papers of Haukkanen [9], Tóth [16], [17] and Bhattacharjee [2]-[6]. In this paper, we define a new type of arithmetic convolution and we call it the S_B -product and denote it by $*_{S_B}$. We study in detail about the S_B -product in Section 2 of this paper. We then define completely multiplicative B -product and study its properties in Section 3. In Section 4 we recall some identities mentioned in Tóth [16] and also study some important relations between S_B -product, B -product and unitary

convolution. We conclude our discussion in Section 5 by considering an example of S_B -product and investigate whether the corresponding S_B -product is commutative, associative, has an identity, has an inverse etc.

2. S_B - product and its properties

Let \mathbf{N} denote the set of natural numbers and let S be an arbitrary subset of \mathbf{N} . For every natural number n we say that the pair of divisors (u, v) to be S_B divisors of n if $(u, v) \in B_n$ where B_n is a set of some pairs of divisors of n and $\gcd(u, v) \in S$.

For arithmetical functions f and g , their S_B -product $f *_S g$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned} (f *_S g)(n) &= \sum_{\substack{(u, v) \in B_n, \\ \gcd(u, v) \in S}} f(u) g(v), & \text{for } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \\ &= \sum_{(u, v) \in B_n} \rho_S(\langle u, v \rangle) f(u) g(v), \end{aligned}$$

where ρ_S stands for the characteristic function of S and $\langle u, v \rangle$ stands for $\gcd(u, v)$.

If $S = \mathbf{N}$ where \mathbf{N} is the set of all natural numbers and

$$B_n = \{ (u, v) : uv = n, \gcd(u, v) \in S \},$$

then S_B -product is the Dirichlet's convolution. Let S be an arbitrary subset of \mathbf{N} and

$$B_n = \{ (u, v) : uv = n \text{ and } \gcd(u, v) \in S \},$$

then S_B -product is the S -convolution of Tóth [16]. If B'_n are sets of pairs of divisors of n defining the B -product, let us consider the following set B'_n of pairs of divisor of n :

$$B'_n = \{ (u, v) : (u, v) \in B_n, \gcd(u, v) \in S \}.$$

Then the S_B -product is the B -product defined by the sets B'_n . If $S = \{1\}$ and

$$B_n = \{ (u, v) : uv = n, \gcd(u, v) \in S \},$$

then S_B -product is the unitary convolution. For $K(u, v) = \rho_S \langle u, v \rangle$, where $K(u, v)$ is a function of two variables u and v and range of $K \subseteq S \subseteq \mathbf{N}$, S_B -product is a special type of K_B -product of Bhattacharjee [4].

Let $R_{S_B} = \langle \mathbf{C}^{\mathbf{N}}, +, *_S \rangle$ be the set of all complex valued arithmetic functions with the ordinary addition and with a S_B -product considered as multiplication.

For a natural number k we define the function e_k as follows:

$$e_k(n) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n \neq k \\ 1, & \text{if } n = k. \end{cases}$$

Thus $e_k(n) = \delta_{k,n}$ (the Kronecker delta).

The system $R_{S_B} = \langle \mathbf{C}^{\mathbf{N}}, +, *_S \rangle$ is a ring like structure which is neither commutative nor associative in general. We now discuss some properties of the S_B -product.

Theorem 2.1. R_{S_B} is commutative if and only if for every n ,

$$(u, v) \in B_n \Leftrightarrow (v, u) \in B_n .$$

Proof. Follows from the definition of S_B -product. \square

Theorem 2.2. R_{S_B} is associative if and only if for fixed n, d_1, d_2, d_3 the following equality holds.

$$\sum_{\substack{r \\ (r, d_1) \in B_n \\ (d_2, d_3) \in B_r}} \rho_S (< r, d_1 >) \rho_S (< d_2, d_3 >) = \sum_{\substack{w \\ (d_2, w) \in B_n \\ (d_3, d_1) \in B_w}} \rho_S (< d_2, w >) \rho_S (< d_3, d_1 >) .$$

Proof. \Leftarrow For every arithmetic functions f, g, h we have

$$[(f *_{S_B} g) *_{S_B} h](n) = \sum_{x, t, u \in \mathbf{N}} f(t)g(u)h(x) \sum_{\substack{r \\ (r, x) \in B_n, (t, u) \in B_r}} \rho_S (< r, x >) \rho_S (< t, u >) .$$

On the other hand

$$[f *_{S_B} (g *_{S_B} h)](n) = \sum_{x, t, u \in \mathbf{N}} f(t)g(u)h(x) \sum_{\substack{w \\ (t, w) \in B_n, (u, x) \in B_w}} \rho_S (< t, w >) \rho_S (< u, x >) .$$

By the assumption in both expressions the inner sums are equal. Therefore the S_B - product is associative.

\Rightarrow Conversely suppose that the S_B -product is associative and fix $n, d_1, d_2, d_3 \in \mathbf{N}$. From the first part of the proof we get

$$[(e_{d_2} *_{S_B} e_{d_3}) *_{S_B} e_{d_1}](n) = \sum_{\substack{r \\ (r, d_1) \in B_n, (d_2, d_3) \in B_r}} \rho_S (< r, d_1 >) \rho_S (< d_2, d_3 >) .$$

Similarly

$$[e_{d_2} *_{S_B} (e_{d_3} *_{S_B} e_{d_1})](n) = \sum_{\substack{w \\ (d_2, w) \in B_n, (d_3, d_1) \in B_w}} \rho_S (< d_2, w >) \rho_S (< d_3, d_1 >) .$$

Therefore the sums obtained are equal and the result follows. \square

Theorem 2.3. A function e is a right identity in the system R_{S_B} if and only if for every k and n we have

$$\sum_{(k, v) \in B_n} \rho_S (< k, v >) e(v) = e_k(n) .$$

Proof. \Rightarrow For every k and n we have

$$e_k(n) = (e_k *_S e)(n) = \sum_{\substack{u, v \\ (u, v) \in B_n}} \rho_S(< u, v >) e_k(u) e(v) = \sum_{\substack{v \\ (k, v) \in B_n}} \rho_S(< k, v >) e(v)$$

\Leftarrow Conversely suppose for every f and n we have

$$\begin{aligned} (f *_S e)(n) &= \sum_{(u, v) \in B_n} \rho_S(< u, v >) f(u) e(v) \\ &= \sum_u f(u) \sum_{(u, v) \in B_n} \rho_S(< u, v >) e(v) \\ &= \sum_u f(u) e_u(n), \\ &= f(n). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

A similar condition characterizes left identities. Hence we get

Theorem 2.4. *A function e is an identity in the system R_{S_B} if and only if for every k and n we have*

$$\sum_{\substack{v \\ (k, v) \in B_n}} e(v) \rho_S(< k, v >) = e_k(n) = \sum_{\substack{u \\ (u, k) \in B_n}} e(u) \rho_S(< u, k >).$$

Corollary 2.5. *If the system R_{S_B} has an identity e , then for every n there exist u and v such that $(u, n) \in B_n$, $(n, v) \in B_n$, $\gcd(u, n) \in S$ and $\gcd(n, v) \in S$.*

Hence $B_1 = \{(1, 1)\}$, $\rho_S(< 1, 1 >) = 1$ and $e(1) = 1/\rho_S(< 1, 1 >) = 1$.

Corollary 2.6. *The function e_1 is the identity of the system R_{S_B} if and only if for every $k (> 1)$ and n we have:*

$$(k, 1) \in B_n \text{ and } \rho_S(< k, 1 >) = 1 \Leftrightarrow k = n \text{ and } \rho_S(< k, 1 >) = \rho_S(< 1, k >)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (1, k) \in B_n \text{ and } \rho_S(< 1, k >) = 1.$$

Theorem 2.7 (i). *If R_{S_B} is commutative, associative, has a unique identity e and $f \in R_{S_B}$ satisfies*

$$\sum_{(u, n) \in B_n} \rho_S(< u, n >) f(u) \neq 0, \text{ for every } n, \quad (1)$$

then f has a right inverse. Such an inverse g can be defined inductively by the formulas:

$$g(1) = [f(1) \rho_S(< 1, 1 >)]^{-1}, \quad (2)$$

$$g(n) = [e(n) - \sum_{\substack{v < n \\ (u, v) \in B_n}} g(v) \sum_u f(u) \rho_S (< u, v >)] [(\sum_u f(u)) \rho_S (< u, n >)]^{-1}, \text{ for } n > 1.$$

(ii) Moreover if $f \in R_{S_B}$ has a right inverse, then (1) holds.

Proof. (i) From (1) for $n=1$ and Corollary 2.5 it follows that $\rho_S (< 1, 1 >) f(1) \neq 0$. Therefore the formulas (2) define a function g . The verification of the formula

$$(f *_{S_B} g)(n) = e(n), \text{ for every } n,$$

is straightforward.

(ii) Let g be a right inverse of f i.e let $f *_{S_B} g = e$. From the associativity of the

system R_{S_B} it follows that

$$f *_{S_B} (g *_{S_B} e_n) = (f *_{S_B} g) *_{S_B} e_n = e *_{S_B} e_n = e_n, \text{ for every } n.$$

Evidently for $v < n$, we have

$$(g *_{S_B} e_n)(v) = 0.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} 1 = e_n(n) &= \sum_{(u, v) \in B_n} f(u) (g *_{S_B} e_n)(v) \rho_S (< u, v >) \\ &= (g *_{S_B} e_n)(n) \sum_{(u, n) \in B_n} f(u) \rho_S (< u, n >), \end{aligned}$$

consequently (1) holds. □

Similar results can be proved for left inverses. Hence we get the following theorem.

Theorem 2.8 (i). *If R_{S_B} is commutative, associative, has a unique identity e and $f \in R_{S_B}$ satisfies*

$$\sum_{\substack{u \\ (u, n) \in B_n}} \rho_S (< u, n >) f(u) \neq 0 \neq \sum_{\substack{v \\ (n, v) \in B_n}} \rho_S (< n, v >) f(v), \text{ for every } n, \quad (3)$$

then f is invertible and its left inverse g is given by the formulas (2), and the right inverses by similar ones.

(ii) Moreover if $f \in R_{S_B}$ is invertible, then (3) holds.

Corollary 2.9. *If R_{S_B} has an identity and $f \in R_{S_B}$ satisfies $f(n) > 0$, for every n , then f is invertible.*

Proof. From Corollary 2.5 it follows that, for every n , the set B_n is non-empty. Consequently the condition (3) is satisfied. \square

Theorem 2.10. *If the system R_{S_B} is associative and has an identity e , then the following conditions are equivalent:*

(i) *For every n , $((t, n) \in B_n, \gcd(t, n) \in S$ if and only if $t = 1, \rho_S(< t, n >) = \rho_S(< 1, n >) = 1)$*

and

$((n, t) \in B_n, \gcd(n, t) \in S$ if and only if $t=1, \rho_S(< n, t >) = \rho_S(< n, 1 >) = 1).$

(ii) *Every $f \in R_{S_B}$ satisfying $f(1) \neq 0$ is invertible.*

If moreover the system R_{S_B} is commutative, then the above conditions are equivalent to.

(iii) *R_{S_B} is a local ring.*

Proof. (i) \Rightarrow (ii) From the assumption we conclude that

$$\sum_{(u, n) \in B_n} \rho_S(< u, n >) f(u) = \rho_S(< 1, n >) f(1) = f(1) \neq 0$$

and

$$\sum_{(n, v) \in B_n} \rho_S(< n, v >) f(v) = \rho_S(< n, 1 >) f(1) = f(1) \neq 0.$$

Therefore from Theorem 2.8 it follows that f is invertible.

(ii) \Rightarrow (i) Since e_1 is invertible, from (3) with $f=e_1$ we get $(1, n), (n, 1) \in B_n$,

$$\rho_S(< 1, n >) = \rho_S(< n, 1 >) = 1.$$

For $t > 1, (e_1 - e_t)(1) = e_1(1) - e_t(1) = 1,$ hence $e_1 - e_t$ is invertible.

Moreover

$$\sum_{\substack{u \\ (u, n) \in B_n}} (e_1 - e_t)(u) \rho_S(< u, n >) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } (t, n) \in B_n \text{ and } \gcd(t, n) \in S \\ 1, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Therefore by Theorem 2.8 (ii) it follows that $(t, n) \notin B_n$ or $\gcd(t, n) \notin S$. Analogously we get $(n, t) \notin B_n$ or $\gcd(n, t) \notin S$.

(ii) \Rightarrow (iii) The set I of elements $f \in R_{S_B}$ satisfying $f(1)=0$ is an ideal of R_{S_B} . It is the unique maximal ideal since every $f \notin I$ is invertible. Hence R_{S_B} is a local ring.

(iii) \Rightarrow (ii) Suppose that $f(1) \neq 0$. Since $g = f(1)e - f$ satisfies $g(1)=0$, the element g is not invertible. In a local ring the sum of invertible and not invertible elements is invertible. Consequently the element $f=f(1)e + (f - f(1).e)$ is invertible. \square

Theorem 2.11. *If for every $n, \{(u, v): uv=n\} \subset B_n \subset \{(u, v) : uv | n\}$ and $\gcd(u, v) \in S$ for every $(u, v) \in B_n$ i.e. $\rho_S(\langle u, v \rangle)=1$, for every $(u, v) \in B_n$, then in R_{S_B} there are no zero divisors.*

Proof. Let $f, g \in R_{S_B}, f \neq 0, g \neq 0$. Then there exist u, v such that $f(u) \neq 0$, and $f(k) = 0$, for $k < u$, $g(v) \neq 0$ and $g(l)=0$, for $l < v$. Then for $n = uv$ we get ,

$$\begin{aligned} (f *_B g)(n) &= \sum_{\substack{k, l \\ kl=n}} \rho_S(\langle k, l \rangle) f(k)g(l) + \sum_{\substack{k, l \\ kl|n, kl < n \\ (k, l) \in B_n}} \rho_S(\langle k, l \rangle) f(k)g(l) \\ &= f(u) g(v) \neq 0, \end{aligned}$$

since only the summand corresponding to $k = u, l = v$ is different from zero. Therefore $f *_B g \neq 0$. \square

Theorem 2.12. *If there exist u, v such that $(u, v) \notin B_n$, for every n , then $e_u *_B e_v = 0$*

Proof. We have

$$(e_u *_B e_v)(n) = \sum_{(k, l) \in B_n} \rho_S(\langle k, l \rangle) e_u(k) e_v(l) = 0,$$

since $(u, v) \notin B_n$. \square

Theorem 2.13. *If for a fixed $u \neq 1$ and every n divisible by u we have $(u, n) \in B_n$ and $\rho_S(\langle u, n \rangle) = 1$, then e_u is a left zero divisor in the system R_{S_B} .*

Proof. We are looking for a function $f \neq 0$ satisfying $e_u *_B f = 0$. For every n , we have,

$$(e_u *_B f)(n) = \sum_{\substack{v \\ (u, v) \in B_n}} f(v) \rho_S(\langle u, v \rangle) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } u \nmid n \\ f(n) + \sum_{\substack{v < n \\ (u, v) \in B_n}} f(v) \rho_S(\langle u, v \rangle), & \text{if } u | n. \end{cases}$$

We define f inductively:

Let $f(n) = 1$ if $u \nmid n$ and $f(n) = -[\sum_{\substack{v < n \\ (u, v) \in B_n}} f(v) \rho_S(\langle u, v \rangle)]$, if $u | n$. Then we get

$$e_u *_B f = 0.$$

\square

3. Completely Multiplicative B -product

We say that a B -product is completely multiplicative if for every pair (m, n) of natural numbers we have

$$B_{mn} = \{(r_1 r_2, s_1 s_2) : (r_1, s_1) \in B_m, (r_2, s_2) \in B_n\}.$$

This definition can also be formulated as follows. For every pair (m, n) of natural numbers we have

$$(r_1 r_2, s_1 s_2) \in B_{mn} \text{ if and only if } (r_1, s_1) \in B_m, (r_2, s_2) \in B_n \quad (4)$$

[Note: r_1, s_1 are divisors of m and r_2, s_2 are divisors of n respectively.]

Let us recall that an arithmetical function f is completely multiplicative if $f(n) \neq 0$ for at least one integer n and if $f(mn) = f(m)f(n)$ for every n . We now discuss some property of completely multiplicative B -product. More precisely the following theorem holds.

Theorem 3.1. *The B -product of completely multiplicative functions is a completely multiplicative function if the B -product is completely multiplicative.*

Proof. Let f, g be completely multiplicative functions and let (m, n) be a pair of natural numbers. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} (f *_B g)(mn) &= \sum_{(r, s) \in B_{mn}} f(r)g(s) \\ &= \sum_{(r_1 r_2, s_1 s_2) \in B_{mn}} f(r_1 r_2)g(s_1 s_2) \text{ [where } r = r_1 r_2, s = s_1 s_2 \text{ and } r_1 | m, s_1 | m, r_2 | n, s_2 | n \text{]} \\ &= \sum_{(r_1, s_1) \in B_m} \sum_{(r_2, s_2) \in B_n} f(r_1)g(s_1) f(r_2)g(s_2) \text{ [since } f, g \text{ and the } B\text{-product are completely multiplicative]} \\ &= \sum_{(r_1, s_1) \in B_m} f(r_1)g(s_1) \sum_{(r_2, s_2) \in B_n} f(r_2)g(s_2) = (f *_B g)(m) (f *_B g)(n). \end{aligned}$$

Hence follows the theorem. □

4. Identities

For an arbitrary $S \subseteq \mathbf{N}$, let μ_S be the Möbius function of S defined by

$$\sum_{d|n} \mu_S(d) = \rho_S(n), n \in \mathbf{N}, \quad (5)$$

see Cohen[7], Tóth [16]. Therefore, by Möbius inversion formula

$$\mu_S(n) = \sum_{d|n} \rho_S(d) \mu(n/d), n \in \mathbf{N}, \quad (6)$$

where $\mu = \mu_{\{1\}}$ is the ordinary Möbius function.

Theorem 4.1. *If $S \subseteq \mathbf{N}$ and f and g are completely multiplicative functions and also the B -product is completely multiplicative, then, for every $n \in \mathbf{N}$,*

$$(i) \quad (f *_{S_B} g)(n) = \sum_{(j, j) \in B_j} \mu_S(j) f(j) g(j) (f *_{B} g)(n/j),$$

where $*_{B}$ is the B -product of Bhattacharjee [2].

$$(ii) \quad (f *_{S_B} g)(n) = \sum_{\substack{a \in S \\ (a, a) \in B_a}} \rho_S(a) f(a) g(a) \sum_{(i, j) \in B_{n/a}, \gcd(i, j)=1} f(i) g(j) \\ = \sum \rho_S(a) f(a) g(a) (f \times g)(n/a),$$

if $B_{n/a}$ consists of all pairs of divisors of n/a and $\times \equiv *_{\{1\}}$ is the unitary convolution.

Proof. (i) Using identity (5) we have, for every $n \in \mathbf{N}$,

$$(f *_{S_B} g)(n) = \sum_{(u, v) \in B_n} \rho_S(\langle u, v \rangle) f(u) g(v) \\ = \sum_{(u, v) \in B_n} [\sum_{j|\gcd(u, v)} \mu_S(j)] f(u) g(v) \quad \gcd(u, v) \in S$$

Hence with $u=ja, v=jb$

$$(f *_{S_B} g)(n) = \sum_{(ja, jb) \in B_n} [\sum_{j|\gcd(ja, jb)} \mu_S(j)] f(ja) g(jb) \\ = \sum_{(ja, jb) \in B_n} \sum_{j|\gcd(ja, jb)} \mu_S(j) f(j) f(a) g(j) g(b) \quad [\text{since } f \text{ and } g \text{ are completely multiplicative}] \\ = \sum_{(j, j) \in B_j} \mu_S(j) f(j) g(j) \sum_{(a, b) \in B_{n/j}} f(a) g(b) \quad [\text{since the } B\text{-product is completely multiplicative}] \\ = \sum_{(j, j) \in B_j} \mu_S(j) f(j) g(j) (f *_{B} g)(n/j).$$

(ii) Furthermore we have,

$$(f *_{S_B} g)(n) = \sum_{(u, v) \in B_n} \rho_S(\langle u, v \rangle) f(u) g(v)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{a \in S} \rho_S(a) \sum_{\substack{(u,v) \in B_n \\ \gcd(u,v)=a}} f(u)g(v) \\
&= \sum_a \rho_S(a) \sum_{\substack{(u,v) \in B_n \\ \gcd(u/a, v/a)=1}} f(u)g(v).
\end{aligned}$$

If $u=ai, v=aj$, we get

$$(f *_{S_B} g)(n) = \sum_{a \in S} \rho_S(a) \sum_{\substack{(a,a) \in B_a \\ (i,j) \in B_{n/a} \\ \gcd(i,j)=1}} f(a)f(i)g(a)g(j)$$

[since f, g and the B -product are completely multiplicative]

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{\substack{a \in S \\ (a,a) \in B_a}} \rho_S(a) f(a) g(a) \sum_{\substack{(i,j) \in B_{n/a} \\ \gcd(i,j)=1}} f(i) g(j) \\
&= \sum \rho_S(a) f(a) g(a) (f \times g)(n/a),
\end{aligned}$$

if $ij = n/a$ i.e if $B_{n/a}$ is the set of all pairs of divisors of n/a . Hence we have the theorem. \square

5. Example

We conclude our discussion by considering an example of S_B - product and investigate whether the corresponding S_B - product is commutative, associative, has an identity, has inverses as well as zero divisors.

Example 5.1. Let $B_n = \{(1,1), (1,n), (n,1)\}$, $S = \{1\}$.

Solution.

(i) Commutativity: Follows clearly from Theorem 2.1.

(ii) Associativity: For associativity we have,

$$\sum_{\substack{r \\ (r,d_1) \in B_n \\ (d_2,d_3) \in B_r}} \rho_S(<r, d_1 >) \rho_S(<d_2, d_3 >) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{for } d_1 = d_2 = d_3 = 1 \neq n \\ 1 & \text{for } n = 1 = d_1 = d_2 = d_3 \\ & \text{or } n \neq 1, d_i = n, d_j = d_k = 1, \{i, j, k\} = \{1, 2, 3\} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Since the result does not depend on the ordering of d_1, d_2, d_3 we obtain the associativity from Theorem 2.2.

(iii) Existence of identity: By Corollary 2.6, we have

$$\sum_{\substack{v \\ (k,v) \in B_n}} \rho_S(\langle k, v \rangle) e_1(v) = \rho_S(k, 1) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if and only if } k = n \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\ = e_k(n).$$

Hence e_1 is a right identity of R_{S_B} and similarly e_1 is a left identity of R_{S_B} . Therefore e_1 is the identity of R_{S_B} .

(iv) Existence of inverse: We have

$$\sum_{\substack{u \\ (u,n) \in B_n}} \rho_S(\langle u, n \rangle) f(u) = \begin{cases} f(1), & \text{if } n = 1 \\ f(1), & \text{if } n > 1. \end{cases}$$

Therefore from Theorem 2.7 (i) it follows that $f \in R_{S_B}$ is invertible if and only if $f(1) \neq 0$, for $n \geq 1$.

(v) Existence of zero divisors:

Here $f *_{S_B} g = 0$ if and only if $f = 0$ or $g = 0$ or $f(1) = g(1) = 0$

Proof. We have

$$(f *_{S_B} g)(1) = \rho_S(\langle 1, 1 \rangle) f(1) g(1) = f(1) g(1),$$

$$(f *_{S_B} g)(n) = \rho_S(\langle 1, 1 \rangle) f(1) g(1) + \rho_S(\langle 1, n \rangle) f(1) g(n) + \rho_S(\langle n, 1 \rangle) f(n) g(1) \quad \text{for } n > 1 \\ = f(1) g(1) + f(1) g(n) + f(n) g(1).$$

\Leftarrow Clear.

\Rightarrow Assume $f *_{S_B} g = 0$, $f \neq 0$, $g \neq 0$ and $f(1) \neq 0$ (say). Hence $g(1) = 0$, $g(n) = 0$ for $n > 1$, a contradiction. Thus $f \in R_{S_B}$ is a zero divisor if and only if $f(1) = 0$.

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