ORIGINAL PAPER

BI-PERIODIC BALANCING NUMBERS

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Abstract. In this paper, we introduce a new generalization of the balancing numbers which we call bi-periodic balancing numbers as

$$b_{n} = \begin{cases} 6cb_{n-1} - b_{n-2}, & if n is even \\ 6db_{n-1} - b_{n-2}, & if n is odd \end{cases}, n \ge 2$$

with initial conditions $b_0 = 0$, $b_1 = 1$. We find the generating function for this sequence and produce a Binet's formula.

Keywords: Balancing numbers, k –balancing numbers, Bi-periodic balancing numbers, Binet formula, Generating function, Cassini identity, Catalan identity

1. INTRODUCTION

There are many studies on integer sequences such as Fibonacci, Lucas, Jacobsthal and their applications [1-4]. Another well-known sequence is balancing numbers which satisfies the recurrence relation

$$b_n = 6b_{n-1} - b_{n-2}, n \ge 2$$

with initial conditions $b_0 = 0$, $b_1 = 1$. Balancing numbers was firstly mentioned by Behera and Panda in [5]. Moreover, many researchers worked on balancing numbers and its applications [6-8].

In many studies, authors worked on the generalizations of integer sequences in different ways. Among these studies, the most interesting generalization is bi-periodic Fibonacci sequence which was produced by Edson and Yayenie [9]. The bi-periodic Fibonacci sequence was defined as

$$q_{n} = \begin{cases} aq_{n-1} - q_{n-2}, & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ bq_{n-1} - q_{n-2}, & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}, n \ge 2$$

with initial conditions $q_0 = 0, q_1 = 1$. Then, the generating function for the bi-periodic Fibonacci sequence was obtained as

$$F(x) = \frac{x(1 + ax - x^2)}{1 - (ab + 2)x^2 + x^4}.$$

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as

$$q_m = \left(\frac{a^{1-\xi(m)}}{(ab)^{\left\lfloor\frac{m}{2}\right\rfloor}}\right) \left(\frac{\alpha^m - \beta^m}{\alpha - \beta}\right)$$

where $\lfloor a \rfloor$ is the floor function of *a* and $\xi(m) = m - 2 \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor$ is the parity function and α and β are the roots of quadratic equation

$$x^2 - abx - ab = 0.$$

In view of this generalization, Yayenie [10] made some studies on bi-periodic fibonacci sequence and Bilgici [11] defined the bi-periodic Lucas sequence and obtained some identities using the Binet formula of the bi-periodic Lucas sequence. Also, Tasci and Kizilirmak worked on the periods of bi-periodic Fibonacci and bi-periodic Lucas numbers in [12]. Lastly, Uygun and Owusu defined the bi-periodic Jacobsthal sequence with the similar way [13].

2. MAIN RESULTS

Definition 2.1. For any two non-zero real numbers c and d, the bi-periodic balancing numbers $\{b_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is defined recursively by

$$b_0 = 0, b_1 = 1, b_n = \begin{cases} 6cb_{n-1} - b_{n-2}, & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ 6db_{n-1} - b_{n-2}, & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}, n \ge 2.$$

When c = d = 1, we have the classic balancing numbers. If we set = d = k, for any positive number, we get the *k*-balancing numbers. The first five elements of the biperiodic balancing numbers are

$$b_0 = 0, b_1 = 1, b_2 = 6c, b_3 = 36cd - 1, b_4 = 216c^2d - 12c$$
.

The quadratic equation for the bi-periodic balancing numbers is defined as

$$x^2 - 36cdx + 36cd = 0$$

with the roots

$$\alpha = 18cd + 6\sqrt{9c^2d^2 - cd} \text{ and } \beta = 18cd - 6\sqrt{9c^2d^2 - cd}.$$
 (2.1)

Lemma 2.2. The bi-periodic balancing numbers $\{b_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ satisfies the following properties:

$$b_{2n} = (36cd - 2)b_{2n-2} - b_{2n-4}$$

 $b_{2n+1} = (36cd - 2)b_{2n-1} - b_{2n-3}$. *Proof.* Using the recurrence relation for the bi-periodic balancing numbers we can obtain

$$b_{2n} = 6cb_{2n-1} - b_{2n-2}$$

= $6c(6db_{2n-2} - b_{2n-3}) - b_{2n-2}$
= $(36cd - 1)b_{2n-2} - 6cb_{2n-3}$
= $(36cd - 1)b_{2n-2} - (b_{2n-2} + b_{2n-4})$
= $(36cd - 2)b_{2n-2} - b_{2n-4}$

$$\begin{split} b_{2n+1} &= 6db_{2n} - b_{2n-1} \\ &= 6d(6cb_{2n-1} - b_{2n-2}) - b_{2n-1} \\ &= (36cd - 1)b_{2n-1} - 6db_{2n-2} \\ &= (36cd - 1)b_{2n-2} - (b_{2n-1} + b_{2n-3}) \\ &= (36cd - 2)b_{2n-1} - b_{2n-3}. \end{split}$$

Lemma 2.3. The roots α and β defined in (2.1) satisfies the following properties:

$$(\alpha - 1)(\beta - 1) = 1$$

$$\alpha\beta = 36cd \qquad \alpha + \beta = 36cd$$

$$\alpha - 1 = \frac{\alpha^2}{36cd} \qquad 6\beta - 1 = \frac{\beta^2}{36cd}$$

$$(\alpha - 1)\beta = \alpha \qquad (\beta - 1)\alpha = \beta$$

Proof. By using the definitions of α and β defined in (2.1), the properties can easily be proved.

Theorem 2.4. The generating function for the bi-periodic balancing numbers $\{b_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is

$$B(x) = \frac{x(1+6cx+x^2)}{1-(36cd-2)x^2+x^4}.$$

Proof. The formal power series representation of the generating function for $\{b_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is

$$B(x) = b_0 + b_1 x + b_2 x^2 + \dots + b_r x^r + \dots = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} b_m x^m.$$

By multiplying this series by 6dx and x^2 respectively, we can get the following series;

$$6dxB(x) = 6db_0x + 6db_1x^2 + 6db_2x^3 + \dots + 6db_rx^{r+1} + \dots = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} 6db_{m-1}x^m$$

and

$$x^{2}B(x) = b_{0}x^{2} + b_{1}x^{3} + b_{2}x^{4} + \dots + b_{r}x^{r+2} + \dots = \sum_{m=2}^{\infty} b_{m-2}x^{m}$$

Therefore, we can write

$$(1 - 6dx + x^2)B(x) = b_0 + b_1x - 6db_0x + \sum_{m=2}^{\infty} (b_m - 6db_{m-1} + b_{m-2})x^m.$$
(2.2)

Since $b_{2m+1} = 6db_{2m} - b_{2m-1}$ and $b_0 = 0, b_1 = 1$ equation (2.2) reduces to

$$(1 - 6dx + x^2)B(x) = x + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (b_{2m} - 6db_{2m-1} + b_{2m-2})x^{2m}.$$

Since $b_{2m} = 6cb_{2m-1} - b_{2m-2}$, we get

$$(1 - 6dx + x^{2})B(x) = x + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} 6(c - d)b_{2m-1}x^{2m}$$
$$= x + 6(c - d)x \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} b_{2m-1}x^{2m-1}.$$

Now we define b(x) as

$$b(x) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} b_{2m-1} t^{2m-1}.$$

By applying the same way as above, we get

$$(1 - (36cd - 2)x^{2} + x^{4})b(x)$$

$$= \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} b_{2m-1}x^{2m-1} - (36cd - 2)\sum_{m=2}^{\infty} b_{2m-3}x^{2m-1} + \sum_{m=3}^{\infty} b_{2m-5}x^{2m-1}$$

$$= b_{1}x + b_{3}x^{3} - (36cd - 2)b_{1}x^{3}$$

$$+ \sum_{m=3}^{\infty} (b_{2m-1} - (36cd - 2)b_{2m-3} + b_{2m-5})x^{2m-1}.$$

Lemma (2.2) implies that $b_{2m-1} - (36cd - 2)b_{2m-3} + b_{2m-5} = 0$, so replacing this in the above expansion gives

$$(1 - (36cd - 2)x^2 + x^4)b(x) = x + x^3 + 0.$$

Therefore we hold

$$b(x) = \frac{x + x^3}{(1 - (36cd - 2)x^2 + x^4)}.$$

Substituting b(x) in B(x) we obtain

$$(1 - 6dx + x^2)B(x) = x + 6(c - d)x \left(\frac{x + x^3}{(1 - (36cd - 2)x^2 + x^4)}\right)$$

Simplifying this, we have the generating function for the bi-periodic balancing numbers as

$$B(x) = \frac{x(1 + 6cx + x^2)}{1 - (36cd - 2)x^2 + x^4}$$

Theorem 2.3. We can express the terms of the bi-periodic balancing numbers $\{b_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ by using the Binet formula:

$$b_m = \frac{(6c)^{1-\xi(m)}}{(36cd)^{\left\lfloor\frac{m}{2}\right\rfloor}} \left(\frac{\alpha^m - \beta^m}{\alpha - \beta}\right)$$

where $\lfloor c \rfloor$ is the floor function of c and $\xi(m) = m - 2 \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor$ is the parity function.

Proof. We know that the generating function for the bi-periodic balancing numbers $\{b_n\}_{n=0}^{\infty}$ is given by

$$B(x) = \frac{x(1 + 6cx + x^2)}{1 - (36cd - 2)x^2 + x^4}.$$

Using the partial fraction decomposition, B(x) can be written as

$$B(x) = \frac{1}{\alpha - \beta} \left[\frac{6c(\alpha - 1) + \alpha x}{x^2 - (\alpha - 1)} - \frac{6c(\beta - 1) + \beta x}{x^2 - (\beta - 1)} \right]$$

Since the Maclaurin series expansion of the function

$$\frac{A - Bz}{z^2 - C}$$

is expressed as

$$\frac{A - Bz}{z^2 - C} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} BC^{-n-1} z^{2n+1} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} AC^{-n-1} z^{2n}$$

the generating function B(x) can be written as

$$B(x) = \frac{1}{\alpha - \beta} \left[\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{\beta(\alpha - 1)^{m+1} - \alpha(\beta - 1)^{m+1}}{(\alpha - 1)^{m+1}(\beta - 1)^{m+1}} x^{2m+1} \right] \\ + \frac{6c}{\alpha - \beta} \left[\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\beta - 1)(\alpha - 1)^{m+1} - (\alpha - 1)(\beta - 1)^{m+1}}{(\alpha - 1)^{m+1}(\beta - 1)^{m+1}} x^{2m} \right].$$

By using the properties in Lemma 2.3, we get

$$B(x) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{36cd}\right)^{m+1} \left(\frac{\beta \alpha^{2m+2} - \alpha \beta^{2m+2}}{\alpha - \beta}\right) x^{2m+1} + \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} 6c \left(\frac{1}{36cd}\right)^{m+1} \left(\frac{(\beta - 1)\alpha^{2m+2} - (\alpha - 1)\beta^{2m+2}}{\alpha - \beta}\right) x^{2m} = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{36cd}\right)^m \left(\frac{\alpha^{2m+1} - \beta^{2m+1}}{\alpha - \beta}\right) x^{2m+1} + \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} 6c \left(\frac{1}{36cd}\right)^m \left(\frac{\alpha^{2m} - \beta^{2m}}{\alpha - \beta}\right) x^{2m}.$$

By the help of the parity function $\xi(m)$, the above expansion is simplified as

$$B(x) = \frac{(6c)^{1-\xi(m)}}{(36cd)^{\left[\frac{m}{2}\right]}} \left(\frac{\alpha^m - \beta^m}{\alpha - \beta}\right) x^m.$$

Therefore, for all $m \ge 0$, we get

$$b_m = \frac{(6c)^{1-\xi(m)}}{(36cd)^{\left[\frac{m}{2}\right]}} \left(\frac{\alpha^m - \beta^m}{\alpha - \beta}\right)$$

Theorem 2.4. (Catalan's Identity) For any two nonnegative integer *n* and *r*, with $r \le n$, we have

$$c^{\xi(n-r)}d^{1-\xi(n-r)}b_{n-r}b_{n+r} - c^{\xi(n)}d^{1-\xi(n)}b_n^2 = -c^{\xi(r)}d^{1-\xi(r)}b_r^2.$$

Proof. Using the Binet formula, we obtain

$$\begin{split} c^{\xi(n-r)}d^{1-\xi(n-r)}b_{n-r}b_{n+r} \\ &= c^{\xi(n-r)}d^{1-\xi(n-r)}\left(\frac{(6c)^{1-\xi(n-r)}}{(36cd)^{\left[\frac{n-r}{2}\right]}}\right)\left(\frac{(6c)^{1-\xi(n+r)}}{(36cd)^{\left[\frac{n+r}{2}\right]}}\right)\frac{\alpha^{n-r}-\beta^{n-r}}{\alpha-\beta}\frac{\alpha^{n+r}-\beta^{n+r}}{\alpha-\beta} \\ &= \left(\frac{(6c)^{2-\xi(n-r)}d^{1-\xi(n-r)}}{(36cd)^{n-\xi(n-r)}}\right)\frac{\alpha^{n-r}-\beta^{n-r}}{\alpha-\beta}\frac{\alpha^{n+r}-\beta^{n+r}}{\alpha-\beta} \\ &= \left(\frac{c}{(36cd)^{n-1}}\right)\left[\frac{\alpha^{2n}-(\alpha\beta)^{n-r}(\alpha^{2r}+\beta^{2r})+\beta^{2n}}{(\alpha-\beta)^2}\right] \end{split}$$

and

$$c^{\xi(n)} d^{1-\xi(n)} b_n^{\ 2} = c^{\xi(n)} d^{1-\xi(n)} \left(\frac{(6c)^{2-2\xi(n)}}{(36cd)^{2\left|\frac{n}{2}\right|}} \right) \left[\frac{\alpha^{2n} - 2(\alpha\beta)^n + \beta^{2n}}{(\alpha - \beta)^2} \right]$$
$$= \left(\frac{c}{(36cd)^{2\left|\frac{n}{2}\right| + \xi(n) - 1}} \right) \left[\frac{\alpha^{2n} - 2(\alpha\beta)^n + \beta^{2n}}{(\alpha - \beta)^2} \right]$$

$$= \left(\frac{c}{(36cd)^{n-1}}\right) \left[\frac{\alpha^{2n} - 2(\alpha\beta)^n + \beta^{2n}}{(\alpha - \beta)^2}\right]$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{split} c^{\xi(n-r)}d^{1-\xi(n-r)}b_{n-r}b_{n+r} &- c^{\xi(n)}d^{1-\xi(n)}b_n^{-2} \\ &= \left(\frac{c}{(36cd)^{n-1}}\right) \left[\frac{2(\alpha\beta)^n - (\alpha\beta)^{n-r}(\alpha^{2r} + \beta^{2r})}{(\alpha - \beta)^2}\right] \\ &= \left(\frac{-c}{(36cd)^{n-1}}\right)(\alpha\beta)^{n-r}\left[\frac{\alpha^{2r} - 2\alpha^r\beta^r + \beta^{2r}}{(\alpha - \beta)^2}\right] \\ &= \left(\frac{-c}{(36cd)^{n-1}}\right)(36cd)^{n-r}\left(\frac{\alpha^r - \beta^r}{\alpha - \beta}\right)^2 \\ &= \left(\frac{-c}{(36cd)^{r-1}}\right)\frac{(36cd)^{2\left|\frac{r}{2}\right|}}{(6c)^{2-2\xi(r)}}b_r^2 \\ &= -c(6c)^{2\xi(r)-2}(36cd)^{1-\xi(r)}b_r^2 \\ &= -c^{\xi(r)}d^{1-\xi(r)}b_r^2. \end{split}$$

Theorem 2.5. (Cassini's Identity) For any nonnegative integer *n*, we have

$$c^{1-\xi(n)}d^{\xi(n)}b_{n-1}b_{n+1}-c^{\xi(n)}d^{1-\xi(n)}b_n{}^2=-c.$$

Proof. In Catalan's identity, if we take r = 1 we get Cassini's identity.

Theorem 2.6. For any two nonnegative integers *m* and *n* with $m \ge n$, we have

 $c^{\xi(mn+m)}d^{\xi(mn+n)}b_{m}b_{n+1} - c^{\xi(mn+n)}d^{\xi(mn+m)}b_{m+1}b_{n} = c^{\xi(m-n)}b_{m-n}.$

Proof. We first note that

$$\xi(m+1) + \xi(n) - 2\xi(mn+n) = \xi(m) + \xi(n+1) - 2\xi(mn+m) = 1 - \xi(m-n)$$

and

$$\xi(m-n) = \xi(mn+m) + \xi(mn+n).$$

By using the Binet formula and the above equalities, we get

$$c^{\xi(mn+m)}d^{\xi(mn+n)}b_{m}b_{n+1} = \left(\frac{c(cd)^{-n}}{6^{m+n-1}(cd)^{\frac{m-n-\xi(m-n)}{2}}}\right) \left[\frac{\alpha^{m+n+1} + \beta^{m+n+1} - (\alpha\beta)^{n}(\beta\alpha^{m-n} + \alpha\beta^{m-n})}{(\alpha - \beta)^{2}}\right]$$

and

 $c^{\xi(mn+n)}d^{\xi(mn+m)}b_{m+1}b_n$

$$= \left(\frac{c(cd)^{-n}}{6^{m+n-1}(cd)^{\frac{m-n-\xi(m-n)}{2}}}\right) \left[\frac{\alpha^{m+n+1} + \beta^{m+n+1} - (\alpha\beta)^n (\alpha^{m-n+1} + \beta^{m-n+1})}{(\alpha - \beta)^2}\right]$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{split} & c^{\xi(mn+m)}d^{\xi(mn+n)}b_{m}b_{n+1} - c^{\xi(mn+n)}d^{\xi(mn+m)}b_{m+1}b_{n} \\ & = \left(\frac{c(cd)^{-n}}{6^{m+n-1}(cd)^{\frac{m-n-\xi(m-n)}{2}}}\right) \left[\frac{-(\alpha\beta)^{n}(\beta\alpha^{m-n} + \alpha\beta^{m-n} - \alpha^{m-n+1} - \beta^{m-n+1})}{(\alpha - \beta)^{2}}\right] \\ & = -\left(\frac{c(cd)^{-n}}{6^{m+n-1}(cd)^{\left\lfloor\frac{m-n}{2}\right\rfloor}}\right) (36cd)^{n} \left[\frac{\beta\alpha^{m-n} + \alpha\beta^{m-n} - \alpha^{m-n+1} - \beta^{m-n+1}}{(\alpha - \beta)^{2}}\right] \\ & = -\left(\frac{c}{6^{m-n-1}(cd)^{\left\lfloor\frac{m-n}{2}\right\rfloor}}\right) \left[\frac{\alpha^{m-n}(\beta - \alpha) - \beta^{m-n}(\beta - \alpha)}{(\alpha - \beta)^{2}}\right] \\ & = \left(\frac{c}{6^{m-n-1}(cd)^{\left\lfloor\frac{m-n}{2}\right\rfloor}}\right) \left(\frac{\alpha^{m-n} - \beta^{m-n}}{\alpha - \beta}\right) \\ & = c^{\xi(m-n)}b_{m-n}. \end{split}$$

Teorem 2.7. (Sums Involving Binomial Coefficients) For any nonnegative integer n, we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k} (-1)^{n-k} (36cd)^{\left\lfloor \frac{k}{2} \right\rfloor} (6c)^{\xi(k)} b_{k} = b_{2n}$$
$$\sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k} (-1)^{n-k} (36cd)^{\left\lfloor \frac{k+1}{2} \right\rfloor} (6c)^{\xi(k+1)-1} b_{k+1} = b_{2n+1}.$$

and

$$6c\frac{\alpha^k-\beta^k}{\alpha-\beta}=(36cd)^{\left\lfloor\frac{k}{2}\right\rfloor}(6c)^{\xi(k)}b_k.$$

Using this equality, we can get

$$\begin{split} \sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k} (-1)^{n-k} (36cd)^{\left\lfloor \frac{k}{2} \right\rfloor} (6c)^{\xi(k)} b_k \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k} (-1)^{n-k} 6c \left(\frac{\alpha^k - \beta^k}{\alpha - \beta} \right) \\ &= \frac{6c}{\alpha - \beta} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k} \alpha^k (-1)^{n-k} - \sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k} \beta^k (-1)^{n-k} \right] \\ &= \frac{6c}{\alpha - \beta} \left[(\alpha - 1)^n - (\beta - 1)^n \right] \\ &= \frac{6c}{\alpha - \beta} \left[\left(\frac{\alpha^2}{36cd} \right)^n - \left(\frac{\beta^2}{36cd} \right)^n \right] \\ &= \frac{6c}{(36cd)^n} \left(\frac{\alpha^{2n} - \beta^{2n}}{\alpha - \beta} \right) \\ &= b_{2n}. \end{split}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{split} \sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k} (-1)^{n-k} (36cd)^{\left\lfloor \frac{k+1}{2} \right\rfloor} (6c)^{\xi(k+1)-1} b_{k+1} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k} (-1)^{n-k} \left(\frac{\alpha^{k+1} - \beta^{k+1}}{\alpha - \beta} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha - \beta} \left[\alpha \sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k} \alpha^{k} (-1)^{n-k} - \beta \sum_{k=0}^{n} \binom{n}{k} \beta^{k} (-1)^{n-k} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha - \beta} \left[\alpha (\alpha - 1)^{n} - \beta (\beta - 1)^{n} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\alpha - \beta} \left[\alpha \left(\frac{\alpha^{2}}{36cd} \right)^{n} - \beta \left(\frac{\beta^{2}}{36cd} \right)^{n} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{(36cd)^{n}} \left(\frac{\alpha^{2n+1} - \beta^{2n+1}}{\alpha - \beta} \right) \\ &= b_{2n+1}. \end{split}$$

Teorem 2.8. The nonnegative terms of the bi-periodic balancing numbers are defined in terms of the positive terms as

$$b_{-n} = -b_n.$$

Proof. By using the Binet formula

$$b_{-n} = \frac{(6c)^{1-\xi(-n)}}{(36cd)^{\left[\frac{-n}{2}\right]}} \left(\frac{\alpha^{-n} - \beta^{-n}}{\alpha - \beta}\right)$$
$$= \frac{(6c)^{1-\xi(n)}}{(36cd)^{\left[\frac{-n}{2}\right]}} \left(\frac{1/\alpha^n - 1/\beta^n}{\alpha - \beta}\right)$$

$$= \frac{(6c)^{1-\xi(n)}}{(36cd)^{\left[\frac{-n}{2}\right]}} \frac{(\beta^n - \alpha^n)}{(36cd)^n(\alpha - \beta)}$$
$$= \frac{(6c)^{1-\xi(n)}}{(36cd)^{\left[\frac{n}{2}\right]}} \left(\frac{\beta^n - \alpha^n}{\alpha - \beta}\right)$$
$$= -b_n.$$

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