



# Generalized higher order Stirling numbers

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## ABSTRACT

In this paper new explicit expressions for both kinds of Comtet numbers and some interesting special cases are derived. Moreover, we define and study the generalized multiparameter non-central Stirling numbers and generalized Comtet numbers via differential operators. Furthermore, recurrence relations and new explicit formulas for those numbers are obtained. Finally some interesting special cases, new combinatorial identities and a connection between these numbers and some interesting polynomials are deduced.

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## 1. Introduction

Let the falling factorial be defined by

$$(x)_n = x(x-1) \cdots (x-n+1), \quad (x)_0 = 1.$$

The generalized falling factorial  $(t; \bar{\alpha})_n$ , associated with the parameter  $\bar{\alpha} = (\alpha_0, \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{n-1})$  where  $\alpha_j, j = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ , is a sequence of real or complex numbers, is defined by

$$(t; \bar{\alpha})_n = \prod_{j=0}^{n-1} (t - \alpha_j).$$

Note that if  $\alpha_i = i\alpha, i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ , then  $(t; \bar{\alpha})_n$  reduces to  $(t|\alpha)_n = t(t-\alpha) \cdots (t-(n-1)\alpha)$ .

The multiparameter non-central Stirling numbers of the first and the second kind, respectively, were introduced by El-Desouky [1] with

$$(t)_n = \sum_{k=0}^n s(n, k; \bar{\alpha})(t; \bar{\alpha})_k \quad (1.1)$$

and

$$(t; \bar{\alpha})_n = \sum S(n, k; \bar{\alpha})(t)_k. \quad (1.2)$$

The numbers  $s(n, k; \bar{\alpha})$  and  $S(n, k; \bar{\alpha})$ , respectively, satisfy the recurrence relations

$$s(n+1, k; \bar{\alpha}) = s(n, k-1; \bar{\alpha}) + (\alpha_k - n)s(n, k; \bar{\alpha}) \quad (1.3)$$

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