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# Some identities on Bernoulli and Euler polynomials arising from the orthogonality of Laguerre polynomials

Taekyun Kim<sup>1\*</sup>, Seog-Hoon Rim<sup>2</sup>, DV Dolgy<sup>3</sup> and Sang-Hun Lee<sup>4</sup>

\*Correspondence: tkkim@kw.ac.kr  
<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics, Kwangwoon University, Seoul, 139-701, Republic of Korea  
Full list of author information is available at the end of the article

## Abstract

In this paper, we derive some interesting identities on Bernoulli and Euler polynomials by using the orthogonal property of Laguerre polynomials.

## 1 Introduction

The generalized Laguerre polynomials are defined by

$$\frac{\exp\left(-\frac{xt}{1-t}\right)}{(1-t)^{\alpha+1}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} L_n^\alpha(x)t^n \quad (\alpha \in \mathbb{Q} \text{ with } \alpha > -1). \quad (1.1)$$

From (1.1), we note that

$$L_n^\alpha(x) = \sum_{r=0}^n \frac{(-1)^r \binom{n+\alpha}{n-r} x^r}{r!} \quad (\text{see [1-3]}). \quad (1.2)$$

By (1.2), we see that  $L_n^\alpha(x)$  is a polynomial with degree  $n$ . It is well known that Rodrigues' formula for  $L_n^\alpha(x)$  is given by

$$L_n^\alpha(x) = \frac{x^{-\alpha} e^x}{n!} \left( \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (e^{-x} x^{n+\alpha}) \right) \quad (\text{see [1-3]}). \quad (1.3)$$

From (1.3) and a part of integration, we note that

$$\int_0^\infty x^\alpha e^{-x} L_m^\alpha(x) L_n^\alpha(x) dx = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n + 1)}{n!} \delta_{m,n}, \quad (1.4)$$

where  $\delta_{m,n}$  is a Kronecker symbol. As is well known, Bernoulli polynomials are defined by the generating function to be

$$\frac{t}{e^t - 1} e^{xt} = e^{B(x)t} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n(x) \frac{t^n}{n!} \quad (\text{see [1-29]}), \quad (1.5)$$

with the usual convention about replacing  $B^n(x)$  by  $B_n(x)$ .

In the special case,  $x = 0$ ,  $B_n(0) = B_n$  are called the  $n$ th Bernoulli numbers. By (1.5), we get

$$B_n(x) = \sum_{l=0}^n \binom{n}{l} B_{n-l} x^l \quad (\text{see [1-29]}). \tag{1.6}$$

The Euler numbers are defined by

$$E_0 = 1, \quad (E + 1)^n + E_n = 2\delta_{0,n} \quad (\text{see [27, 28]}), \tag{1.7}$$

with the usual convention about replacing  $E^n$  by  $E_n$ .

In the viewpoint of (1.6), the Euler polynomials are also defined by

$$E_n(x) = (E + x)^n = \sum_{l=0}^n \binom{n}{l} E_{n-l} x^l \quad (\text{see [11-24]}). \tag{1.8}$$

From (1.7) and (1.8), we note that the generating function of the Euler polynomial is given by

$$\frac{2}{e^t + 1} e^{xt} = e^{E(x)t} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_n(x) \frac{t^n}{n!} \quad (\text{see [15-29]}). \tag{1.9}$$

By (1.5) and (1.9), we get

$$\frac{2}{e^t + 1} e^{xt} = \frac{1}{t} \left( 2 - 2 \frac{2}{e^t + 1} \right) \left( \frac{te^{xt}}{e^t - 1} \right) = -2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{l=0}^n \frac{E_{l+1}}{l+1} \binom{n}{l} B_{n-l}(x) \right) \frac{t^n}{n!}. \tag{1.10}$$

Thus, by (1.10), we see that

$$E_n(x) = -2 \sum_{l=0}^n \binom{n}{l} \frac{E_{l+1}}{l+1} B_{n-l}(x). \tag{1.11}$$

By (1.7) and (1.8), we easily get

$$\frac{t}{e^t - 1} e^{xt} = \frac{t}{2} \left( \frac{2e^{xt}}{e^t + 1} \right) + \left( \frac{t}{e^t - 1} \right) \left( \frac{2e^x t}{e^t + 1} \right). \tag{1.12}$$

Thus, by (1.12), we see that

$$B_n(x) = \sum_{k=0, k \neq 1}^n \binom{n}{k} B_k E_{n-k}(x). \tag{1.13}$$

Throughout this paper, we assume that  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Q}$  with  $\alpha > -1$ . Let  $\mathbb{P}_n = \{p(x) \in \mathbb{Q}[x] \mid \deg p(x) \leq n\}$  be the inner product space with the inner product

$$\langle p(x), q(x) \rangle = \int_0^{\infty} x^{\alpha} e^{-x} p(x) q(x) dx,$$

where  $p(x), q(x) \in \mathbb{P}_n$ . From (1.4), we note that  $\{L_0^\alpha(x), L_1^\alpha(x), \dots, L_n^\alpha(x)\}$  is an orthogonal basis for  $\mathbb{P}_n$ .

In this paper, we give some interesting identities on Bernoulli and Euler polynomials which can be derived by an orthogonal basis  $\{L_0^\alpha(x), L_1^\alpha(x), \dots, L_n^\alpha(x)\}$  for  $\mathbb{P}_n$ .

## 2 Some identities on Bernoulli and Euler polynomials

Let  $p(x) \in \mathbb{P}_n$ . Then  $p(x)$  can be generated by  $\{L_0^\alpha(x), L_1^\alpha(x), \dots, L_n^\alpha(x)\}$  in  $\mathbb{P}_n$  to be

$$p(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n C_k L_k^\alpha(x), \tag{2.1}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \langle p(x), L_k^\alpha(x) \rangle &= C_k \langle L_k^\alpha(x), L_k^\alpha(x) \rangle \\ &= C_k \int_0^\infty x^\alpha e^{-x} L_k^\alpha(x) L_k^\alpha(x) dx \\ &= C_k \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)}{k!}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

From (2.2), we note that

$$\begin{aligned} C_k &= \frac{k!}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)} \langle p(x), L_k^\alpha(x) \rangle \\ &= \frac{k!}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)} \frac{1}{k!} \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{d^k}{dx^k} x^{k+\alpha} e^{-x} \right) p(x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)} \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{d^k}{dx^k} x^{k+\alpha} e^{-x} \right) p(x) dx. \end{aligned} \tag{2.3}$$

Let us take  $p(x) = \sum_{m=0, m \neq 1}^n \binom{n}{m} B_m E_n - m(x) \in \mathbb{P}_n$ . Then, from (2.3), we have

$$\begin{aligned} C_k &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)} \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{d^k}{dx^k} x^{k+\alpha} e^{-x} \right) \sum_{m=0, m \neq 1}^n \binom{n}{m} B_m E_{n-m}(x) dx \\ &= \frac{(-1)^k}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)} \sum_{m=0, m \neq 1}^{n-k} \sum_{l=k}^{n-m} \binom{n}{m} \binom{n-m}{l} B_m E_{n-m-l} \frac{l!}{(l-k)!} \int_0^\infty x^{l+\alpha} e^{-x} dx \\ &= \frac{(-1)^k}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)} \sum_{m=0, m \neq 1}^{n-k} \sum_{l=k}^{n-m} \binom{n}{m} \binom{n-m}{l} B_m E_{n-m-l} \frac{l!}{(l-k)!} \Gamma(l + \alpha + 1) \\ &= (-1)^k \sum_{m=0, m \neq 1}^{n-k} \sum_{l=k}^{n-m} \binom{n}{m} \binom{n-m}{l} B_m E_{n-m-l} \frac{l!}{(l-k)!} \frac{(l + \alpha)(l + \alpha - 1) \cdots \alpha}{(\alpha + k)(\alpha + k - 1) \cdots \alpha} \\ &= (-1)^k n! \sum_{m=0, m \neq 1}^{n-k} \sum_{l=k}^{n-m} \frac{B_m}{m!} \frac{E_{n-m-l}}{(n-m-l)!} \binom{l + \alpha}{l-k}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

Therefore, by (2.1) and (2.4), we obtain the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.1** For  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{m=0, m \neq 1}^n \binom{n}{m} B_m E_{n-m}(x) \\ &= n! \sum_{k=0}^{n-k} (-1)^k \left( \sum_{m=0, m \neq 1}^n \sum_{l=k}^{n-m} \frac{B_m}{m!} \frac{E_{n-m-l}}{(n-m-l)!} \binom{l+\alpha}{l-k} \right) L_k^\alpha(x). \end{aligned}$$

From (1.13), we can derive the following corollary.

**Corollary 2.2** For  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , we have

$$B_n(x) = n! \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \left( \sum_{m=0, m \neq 1}^{n-k} \sum_{l=k}^{n-m} \frac{B_m}{m!} \frac{E_{n-m-l}}{(n-m-l)!} \binom{l+\alpha}{l-k} \right) L_k^\alpha(x).$$

Let us take  $p(x) = \sum_{l=0}^n \binom{n}{l} \frac{E_{l+1}}{l+1} B_{n-l}(x)$ . By the same method, we get

$$\begin{aligned} C_k &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha+k+1)} \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{d^k}{dx^k} x^{k+\alpha} e^{-x} \right) \sum_{l=0}^n \binom{n}{l} \frac{E_{l+1}}{l+1} B_{n-l}(x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha+k+1)} \sum_{l=0}^{n-k} \sum_{m=0}^{n-l} \binom{n}{l} \binom{n-l}{m} \frac{E_{l+1}}{l+1} B_{n-l-m} \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{d^k}{dx^k} x^{k+\alpha} e^{-x} \right) x^m dx \\ &= \frac{(-1)^k}{\Gamma(\alpha+k+1)} \sum_{l=0}^{n-k} \sum_{m=k}^{n-l} \binom{n}{l} \binom{n-l}{m} \frac{E_{l+1}}{l+1} B_{n-l-m} \frac{m!}{(m-k)!} \Gamma(m+\alpha+1) \\ &= (-1)^k \sum_{l=0}^{n-k} \sum_{m=k}^{n-l} \binom{n}{l} \binom{n-l}{m} \frac{m!}{(m-k)!} \frac{E_{l+1}}{(l+1)} B_{n-l-m} \frac{(\alpha+m)(\alpha+m-1) \cdots \alpha}{(\alpha+k)(\alpha+k-1) \cdots \alpha} \\ &= (-1)^k n! \sum_{l=0}^{n-k} \sum_{m=k}^{n-l} \binom{\alpha+m}{m-k} \frac{E_{l+1}}{(l+1)!} \frac{B_{n-l-m}}{(n-l-m)!}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.5}$$

Therefore, by (1.11), (2.1), and (2.5), we obtain the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.3** For  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , we have

$$-\frac{E_n(x)}{2} = n! \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \left( \sum_{l=0}^{n-k} \sum_{m=k}^{n-l} \binom{\alpha+m}{m-k} \frac{E_{m+1}}{(m+1)!} \frac{B_{n-m-l}}{(n-m-l)!} \right) L_k^\alpha(x).$$

For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $n \geq 2$  and  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  with  $n-m \geq 0$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} B_{n-m}(x) B_m(x) &= \sum_r \left\{ \binom{n-m}{2r} m + \binom{m}{2r} (n-m) \right\} \frac{B_{2r} B_{n-2r}(x)}{n-2r} \\ &+ (-1)^{m+1} \frac{(n-m)! m!}{n!} B_n \in \mathbb{P}_n \quad (\text{see [8]}). \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

Let us take  $p(x) = B_{n-m}(x)B_m(x) \in \mathbb{P}_n$ . Then  $p(x)$  can be generated by an orthogonal basis  $\{L_0^\alpha(x), L_1^\alpha(x), \dots, L_n^\alpha(x)\}$  in  $\mathbb{P}_n$  to be

$$p(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n C_k L_k^\alpha(x). \tag{2.7}$$

From (2.3), (2.6), and (2.7), we note that

$$\begin{aligned} C_k &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)} \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{d^k}{dx^k} x^{k+\alpha} e^{-x} \right) p(x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)} \sum_{r=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \left\{ \binom{n-m}{2r} m + \binom{m}{2r} (n-m) \right\} \\ &\quad \times \frac{B_{2r}}{n-2r} \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{d^k}{dx^k} x^{k+\alpha} e^{-x} \right) B_{n-2r}(x) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)} \sum_{r=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \left\{ \binom{n-m}{2r} m + \binom{m}{2r} (n-m) \right\} \frac{B_{2r}}{n-2r} \\ &\quad \times \sum_{l=0}^{n-2r} \binom{n-2r}{l} B_{n-2r-l} \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{d^k}{dx^k} x^{k+\alpha} e^{-x} \right) x^l dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)} \sum_{r=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \sum_{l=0}^{n-2r} \left\{ \binom{n-m}{2r} m + \binom{m}{2r} (n-m) \right\} \binom{n-2r}{l} \\ &\quad \times \frac{B_{2r} B_{n-2r-l}}{n-2r} \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{d^k}{dx^k} x^{k+\alpha} e^{-x} \right) x^l dx \\ &= \frac{(-1)^k}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)} \sum_{r=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n-k}{2} \rfloor} \sum_{l=k}^{n-2r} \left\{ \binom{n-m}{2r} m + \binom{m}{2r} (n-m) \right\} \binom{n-2r}{l} \\ &\quad \times \frac{B_{2r} B_{n-2r-l} l!}{(n-2r)(l-k)!} \Gamma(\alpha + l + 1). \end{aligned} \tag{2.8}$$

It is easy to show that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + l + 1)}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)(l-k)!} &= \frac{(\alpha + l)(\alpha + l - 1) \cdots \alpha \Gamma(\alpha)}{(\alpha + k)(\alpha + k - 1) \cdots \alpha \Gamma(\alpha)(l-k)!} \\ &= \frac{(\alpha + l)(\alpha + l - 1) \cdots (\alpha + k + 1)}{(\alpha - k)!} = \binom{\alpha + l}{l - k}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.9}$$

By (2.8) and (2.9), we get

$$\begin{aligned} C_k &= (-1)^k \sum_{r=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n-k}{2} \rfloor} \sum_{l=k}^{n-2r} \left\{ \binom{n-m}{2r} m + \binom{m}{2r} (n-m) \right\} \\ &\quad \times \binom{n-2r}{l} \binom{\alpha + l}{l - k} \frac{l! B_{2r} B_{n-2r-l}}{(n-2r)}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.10}$$

Therefore, by (2.7) and (2.10), we obtain the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.4** For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $n \geq 2$  and  $m \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  with  $n - m \geq 0$ , we have

$$B_{n-m}(x)B_m(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \left\{ \sum_{r=0}^{\lfloor \frac{n-k}{2} \rfloor} \sum_{l=k}^{n-2r} \left( \binom{n-m}{2r} m + \binom{m}{2r} (n-m) \right) \right. \\ \left. \times \binom{n-2r}{l} \binom{\alpha+l}{l-k} \frac{l! B_{2r} B_{n-2r-l}}{(n-2r)} \right\} L_k^\alpha(x).$$

It is easy to show that

$$\frac{t^2 e^{t(x+y)}}{(e^t - 1)^2} = (x + y - 1) \frac{t^2 e^{t(x+y-1)}}{e^t - 1} - \frac{t^2}{dt} d \left( \frac{e^{t(x+y-1)}}{e^t - 1} \right). \quad (2.11)$$

From (2.11), we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} B_k(x) B_{n-k}(y) = (1-n) B_n(x+y) + (x+y-1) n B_{n-1}(x+y) \quad (\text{see [11]}). \quad (2.12)$$

Let  $x = y$ . Then by (2.12), we get

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} B_k(x) B_{n-k}(x) = (1-n) B_n(2x) + (2x-1) B_{n-1}(2x). \quad (2.13)$$

Let us take  $p(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} B_k(x) B_{n-k}(x) \in \mathbb{P}_n$ . Then  $p(x)$  can be generated by an orthogonal basis  $\{L_0^\alpha(x), L_1^\alpha(x), \dots, L_n^\alpha(x)\}$  in  $\mathbb{P}_n$  to be

$$p(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} B_k(x) B_{n-k}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n C_k L_k^\alpha(x). \quad (2.14)$$

From (2.3), (2.13), and (2.14), we can determine the coefficients  $C_k$ 's to be

$$C_k = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)} \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{d^k}{dx^k} x^{k+\alpha} e^{-x} \right) p(x) dx \\ = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)} \left\{ (1-n) \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{d^k}{dx^k} x^{k+\alpha} e^{-x} \right) B_n(2x) dx \right. \\ \left. + n \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{d^k}{dx^k} x^{k+\alpha} e^{-x} \right) (2x-1) B_{n-1}(2x) dx \right\}. \quad (2.15)$$

By simple calculation, we get

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)} \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{d^k}{dx^k} x^{k+\alpha} e^{-x} \right) (2x-1) B_{n-1}(2x) dx \\ = 2(-1)^k \sum_{l=k-1}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{l} 2^l B_{n-1-l} \binom{\alpha+l+1}{l-k+1} (l+1)! \\ + (-1)^{k+1} \sum_{l=k}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{l} 2^l B_{n-1-l} \binom{\alpha+l}{l-k} l! \quad (2.16)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1)} \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{d^k}{dx^k} x^{k+\alpha} e^{-x} \right) B_n(2x) dx \\ & = (-1)^k \sum_{l=k}^n \binom{n}{l} 2^l B_{n-l} l! \binom{l+\alpha}{l-k}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.17}$$

Therefore, by (2.13), (2.14), (2.15), (2.16), and (2.17), we obtain the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.5** For  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_+$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} B_k(x) B_{n-k}(x) \\ & = (1-n) \sum_{k=0}^n \left\{ (-1)^k \sum_{l=k}^n \binom{n}{l} 2^l B_{n-l} l! \binom{l+\alpha}{l-k} \right\} L_k^\alpha(x) \\ & \quad + n \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \left\{ \sum_{l=k-1}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{l} 2^{l+1} B_{n-1-l} (l+1)! \binom{\alpha+l+1}{l-k+1} \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \sum_{l=k}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{l} 2^l B_{n-1-l} l! \binom{\alpha+l}{l-k} \right\} L_k^\alpha(x). \end{aligned}$$

**Competing interests**

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

**Authors' contributions**

All authors contributed equally to the manuscript and typed, read, and approved the final manuscript.

**Author details**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics, Kwangwoon University, Seoul, 139-701, Republic of Korea. <sup>2</sup>Department of Mathematics Education, Kyungpook National University, Taegu, 702-701, Republic of Korea. <sup>3</sup>Hanrimwon, Kwangwoon University, Seoul, 139-701, Republic of Korea. <sup>4</sup>Division of General Education, Kwangwoon University, Seoul, 139-701, Republic of Korea.

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