

FOURIER SERIES OF HIGHER-ORDER EULER FUNCTIONS AND THEIR APPLICATIONS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we give some identities for the higher-order Euler functions arising from the Fourier series of them. In addition, we investigate some formulae related to Bernoulli functions which are derived from our identities.

1. Introduction

As is well known, the Euler polynomials are defined by the generating function

$$(1.1) \quad \frac{2}{e^t + 1} e^{xt} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_n(x) \frac{t^n}{n!}, \quad (\text{see [1-20]}).$$

When $x = 0$, $E_n = E_n(0)$ are called Euler numbers. For any real x , we define

$$(1.2) \quad \langle x \rangle = x - [x] \in [0, 1).$$

Note that $\langle x \rangle$ is the fractional part of x . Then $E_m(\langle x \rangle)$ are functions defined on $(-\infty, \infty)$ and periodic with period 1, which are called Euler functions. For $m \in \mathbb{N}$, the Fourier series of $E_m(\langle x \rangle)$ is given by

$$(1.3) \quad E_m(\langle x \rangle) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} a_n^{(m)} e^{(2n+1)\pi i x}, \quad (a_n^{(m)} \in \mathbb{C}), \quad (\text{see [9, 10, 13]})$$

where

$$(1.4) \quad a_n^{(m)} = \int_0^1 E_m(x) e^{-(2n+1)\pi i x} dx, \quad (i = \sqrt{-1}).$$

From (1.4), we note that

$$(1.5) \quad a_n^{(m)} = \frac{m}{(2n+1)\pi i} a_n^{(m-1)} = \frac{m(m-1)}{((2n+1)\pi i)^2} a_n^{(m-2)} = \dots = \frac{m! a_n^{(1)}}{((2n+1)\pi i)^{m-1}}.$$

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Thus, by (1.5), we get

$$(1.6) \quad a_n^{(m)} = 2 \frac{m!}{((2n+1)\pi i)^{m+1}}, \quad (m \in \mathbb{N}), \quad (\text{see [9, 10]}).$$

So, from (1.3) and (1.6), we have

$$(1.7) \quad E_m(\langle x \rangle) = 2m! \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{(2n+1)\pi i x}}{((2n+1)\pi i)^{m+1}}, \quad (\text{see [9, 10]}).$$

By (1.7), we get

$$(1.8) \quad E_m = 2m! \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{((2n+1)\pi i)^{m+1}}, \quad (m \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}).$$

Thus, from (1.8), we have

$$(1.9) \quad E_{2m+1} = (-1)^{m+1} 2 \cdot \frac{(2m+1)!}{\pi^{2m+2}} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n+1)^{2m+2}}, \quad (\text{see [9, 10, 13]}).$$

By (1.9), we get

$$(1.10) \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n+1)^{2m+2}} = (-1)^{m+1} \frac{E_{2m+1}}{4(2m+1)!} \pi^{2m+2}, \quad (\text{see [9, 10]}).$$

For $r \in \mathbb{N}$, the higher-order Euler polynomials are defined by the generating function

$$(1.11) \quad \left(\frac{2}{e^t + 1} \right)^r e^{xt} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} E_n^{(r)}(x) \frac{t^n}{n!}, \quad (\text{see [9, 10, 13, 14, 17, 19]}).$$

When $x = 0$, $E_n^{(r)} = E_n^{(r)}(0)$ are called the higher-order Euler numbers (see [17, 19]). For any real number x , $E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle)$ are functions defined on $(-\infty, \infty)$ and periodic with period 1, which are called Euler functions of order r . In this paper, we give some new identities of the higher-order Euler functions which are derived from the Fourier series of $E_n^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle)$. In addition, we investigate some formulae related to Bernoulli functions.

2. Fourier series of higher-order Euler functions

From (1.11), we note that

$$(2.1) \quad E_m^{(r)}(x+1) + E_m^{(r)}(x) = 2E_m^{(r-1)}(x), \quad (m \geq 0).$$

Indeed

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} E_m^{(r)}(x+1) \frac{t^m}{m!} &= \left(\frac{2}{e^t + 1} \right)^r e^{(x+1)t} = \left(\frac{2}{e^t + 1} \right)^r (e^t + 1 - 1) e^{xt} \\
 (2.2) \qquad \qquad \qquad &= 2 \left(\frac{2}{e^t + 1} \right)^{r-1} e^{xt} - \left(\frac{2}{e^t + 1} \right)^r e^{xt} \\
 &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left(2E_m^{(r-1)}(x) - E_m^{(r)}(x) \right) \frac{t^m}{m!}.
 \end{aligned}$$

For $x = 0$ in (2.1), we have

$$(2.3) \qquad E_m^{(r)}(1) = 2E_m^{(r-1)}(0) - E_m^{(r)}(0), \quad (m \geq 0).$$

Thus, by (2.3), we get

$$(2.4) \qquad E_m^{(r)}(0) = E_m^{(r)}(1) \Leftrightarrow E_m^{(r)}(0) = E_m^{(r-1)}(0).$$

Assume that $m \geq 1$ and $r \geq 1$. Then $E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle)$ is piecewise C^∞ . In addition, $E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle)$ is continuous for those (r, m) with $E_m^{(r)}(0) = E_m^{(r-1)}(0)$, and discontinuous with jump discontinuities at integers for those (r, m) with $E_m^{(r)}(0) \neq E_m^{(r-1)}(0)$. The Fourier series of $E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle)$ is

$$(2.5) \qquad \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} C_n^{(r,m)} e^{2\pi i n x},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_n^{(r,m)} &= \int_0^1 E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle) e^{-2\pi i n x} dx = \int_0^1 E_m^{(r)}(x) e^{-2\pi i n x} dx \\
 (2.6) \qquad \qquad \qquad &= \frac{1}{m+1} \left[E_{m+1}^{(r)}(x) e^{-2\pi i n x} \right]_0^1 + \frac{2\pi i n}{m+1} \int_0^1 E_{m+1}^{(r)}(x) e^{-2\pi i n x} dx \\
 &= \frac{1}{m+1} \left[E_{m+1}^{(r)}(1) - E_{m+1}^{(r)}(0) \right] + \frac{2\pi i n}{m+1} C_n^{(r,m+1)} \\
 &= \frac{2}{m+1} \left(E_{m+1}^{(r-1)}(0) - E_{m+1}^{(r)}(0) \right) + \frac{2\pi i n}{m+1} C_n^{(r,m+1)}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Replacing m by $m-1$ in (2.6), we have

$$(2.7) \qquad \frac{2\pi i n}{m} C_n^{(r,m)} = C_n^{(r,m-1)} + \frac{2}{m} \left(E_m^{(r)}(0) - E_m^{(r-1)}(0) \right).$$

Case 1. Let $n \neq 0$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_n^{(r,m)} &= \frac{m}{2\pi i n} C_n^{(r,m-1)} + \frac{1}{\pi i n} \left(E_m^{(r)}(0) - E_m^{(r-1)}(0) \right) \\
 &= \frac{m}{2\pi i n} \left(\frac{m-1}{2\pi i n} C_n^{(r,m-2)} + \frac{1}{\pi i n} \left(E_{m-1}^{(r)}(0) - E_{m-1}^{(r-1)}(0) \right) \right) \\
 (2.8) \qquad \qquad \qquad &+ \frac{1}{\pi i n} \left(E_m^{(r)}(0) - E_m^{(r-1)}(0) \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{m(m-1)}{(2\pi in)^2} C_n^{(r,m-2)} + \frac{m}{2} \frac{1}{(\pi in)^2} \left(E_{m-1}^{(r)}(0) - E_{m-1}^{(r-1)}(0) \right) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{\pi in} \left(E_m^{(r)}(0) - E_m^{(r-1)}(0) \right) \\
&= \frac{m(m-1)}{(2\pi in)^2} \left(\frac{m-2}{2\pi in} C_n^{(r,m-3)} + \frac{1}{\pi in} \left(E_{m-2}^{(r)}(0) - E_{m-2}^{(r-1)}(0) \right) \right) \\
&\quad + \frac{m}{2} \frac{1}{(\pi in)^2} \left(E_{m-1}^{(r)}(0) - E_{m-1}^{(r-1)}(0) \right) + \frac{1}{\pi in} \left(E_m^{(r)}(0) - E_m^{(r-1)}(0) \right) \\
&= \frac{m(m-1)(m-2)}{(2\pi in)^3} C_n^{(r,m-3)} \\
&\quad + \frac{m(m-1)}{2^2} \frac{1}{(\pi in)^3} \left(E_{m-2}^{(r)}(0) - E_{m-2}^{(r-1)}(0) \right) \\
&\quad + \frac{m}{2} \frac{1}{(\pi in)^2} \left(E_{m-1}^{(r)}(0) - E_{m-1}^{(r-1)}(0) \right) + \frac{1}{\pi in} \left(E_m^{(r)}(0) - E_m^{(r-1)}(0) \right) \\
&= \dots \\
&= \frac{m!}{(2\pi in)^{m-1}} C_n^{(r,1)} + \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} \frac{(m)_{k-1}}{2^{k-1}} \frac{1}{(\pi in)^k} \left(E_{m-k+1}^{(r)}(0) - E_{m-k+1}^{(r-1)}(0) \right),
\end{aligned}$$

where $(x)_n = x(x-1)\cdots(x-n+1)$ for $n \geq 1$, and $(x)_0 = 1$. Here we note that

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.9) \quad C_n^{(r,1)} &= \int_0^1 E_1^{(r)}(x) e^{-2\pi inx} dx = \int_0^1 \left(x + E_1^{(r)} \right) e^{-2\pi inx} dx \\
&= \int_0^1 x e^{-2\pi inx} dx + E_1^{(r)} \int_0^1 e^{-2\pi inx} dx \\
&= -\frac{1}{2\pi in} [x e^{-2\pi inx}]_0^1 + \frac{1}{2\pi in} \int_0^1 e^{-2\pi inx} dx \\
&= -\frac{1}{2\pi in}.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, by (2.8) and (2.9), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.10) \quad C_n^{(r,n)} &= \frac{-m!}{(2\pi in)^m} + \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} \frac{2(m)_{k-1}}{(2\pi in)^k} \left(E_{m-k+1}^{(r)}(0) - E_{m-k+1}^{(r-1)}(0) \right) \\
&= \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{2(m)_{k-1}}{(2\pi in)^k} \left(E_{m-k+1}^{(r)}(0) - E_{m-k+1}^{(r-1)}(0) \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Here we used the fact that $E_n^{(r)}(0) = \sum_{l_1+\dots+l_r=n} \binom{n}{l_1, \dots, l_r} E_{l_1}(0) \cdots E_{l_r}(0)$.

Case 2. Let $n = 0$. Then, we note that

$$(2.11) \quad C_0^{(r,m)} = \int_0^1 E_m^{(r)}(x) dx = \frac{1}{m+1} \left[E_{m+1}^{(r)}(x) \right]_0^1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{m+1} \left(E_{m+1}^{(r)}(1) - E_{m+1}^{(r)}(0) \right) \\
&= \frac{2}{m+1} \left(E_{m+1}^{(r-1)}(0) - E_{m+1}^{(r)}(0) \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Assume first that $E_m^{(r)}(0) = E_m^{(r-1)}(0)$. Then $E_m^{(r)}(1) = E_m^{(r)}(0)$ and $m \geq 2$. Note that $E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle)$ is piecewise C^∞ and continuous. Hence the Fourier series of $E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle)$ converges uniformly to $E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle)$, and

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.12) \quad E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle) &= \frac{2}{m+1} \left(E_{m+1}^{(r-1)}(0) - E_{m+1}^{(r)}(0) \right) \\
&\quad + \sum_{\substack{n=-\infty \\ n \neq 0}}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{k=1}^m \frac{2(m)_{k-1}}{(2\pi in)^k} \left(E_{m-k+1}^{(r)}(0) - E_{m-k+1}^{(r-1)}(0) \right) \right) e^{2\pi inx}.
\end{aligned}$$

Before proceedings further, we recall the following facts about Bernoulli functions $B_n(\langle x \rangle)$:

$$(2.13) \quad B_m(\langle x \rangle) = -m! \sum_{\substack{n=-\infty \\ n \neq 0}}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2\pi inx}}{(2\pi in)^m}, \quad (m \geq 2), \quad (\text{see [1, 18]}),$$

and

$$(2.14) \quad - \sum_{\substack{n=-\infty \\ n \neq 0}}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2\pi inx}}{2\pi in} = \begin{cases} B_1(\langle x \rangle) & \text{for } x \notin \mathbb{Z} \\ 0 & \text{for } x \in \mathbb{Z}, \end{cases} \quad (\text{see [1, 18]}).$$

The series in (2.13) converges uniformly, but that in (2.3) converges only pointwise. We note that (2.12) can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.15) \quad E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle) &= \frac{2}{m+1} \left(E_{m+1}^{(r-1)}(0) - E_{m+1}^{(r)}(0) \right) \\
&\quad + \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{2(m)_{k-1}}{k!} \left(E_{m-k+1}^{(r-1)}(0) - E_{m-k+1}^{(r)}(0) \right) \cdot \left(-k! \sum_{\substack{n=-\infty \\ n \neq 0}}^{\infty} \frac{e^{2\pi inx}}{(2\pi in)^k} \right) \\
&= \frac{2}{m+1} \left(E_{m+1}^{(r-1)}(0) - E_{m+1}^{(r)}(0) \right) \\
&\quad + \sum_{k=2}^m \frac{2(m)_{k-1}}{k!} \left(E_{m-k+1}^{(r-1)}(0) - E_{m-k+1}^{(r)}(0) \right) B_k(\langle x \rangle) \\
&\quad + 2 \left(E_m^{(r-1)}(0) - E_m^{(r)}(0) \right) \times \begin{cases} B_1(\langle x \rangle) & \text{for } x \notin \mathbb{Z} \\ 0 & \text{for } x \in \mathbb{Z}. \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we obtain the following theorem.

Theorem 2.1. Let $m \geq 2$, $r \geq 1$. Assume that $E_m^{(r)}(0) = E_m^{(r-1)}(0)$,

(a) $E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle)$ has the Fourier series expansion

$$E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle) = \frac{2}{m+1} \left(E_{m+1}^{(r-1)}(0) - E_{m+1}^{(r)}(0) \right) + \sum_{\substack{n=-\infty \\ n \neq 0}}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{k=1}^m \frac{2(m)_{k-1}}{(2\pi in)^k} \left(E_{m-k+1}^{(r)}(0) - E_{m-k+1}^{(r-1)}(0) \right) \right) e^{2\pi inx}$$

for all $x \in (-\infty, \infty)$, where the convergence is uniform.

$$(b) E_n^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle) = \frac{2}{m+1} \left(E_{m+1}^{(r-1)}(0) - E_{m+1}^{(r)}(0) \right) + \sum_{k=2}^m \frac{2(m)_{k-1}}{k!} \left(E_{m-k+1}^{(r-1)}(0) - E_{m-k+1}^{(r)}(0) \right) B_k(\langle x \rangle)$$

for all $x \in (-\infty, \infty)$, where $B_k(\langle x \rangle)$ is the Bernoulli function.

Assume next that $E_m^{(r)}(0) \neq E_m^{(r-1)}(0)$. Then we note that $E_m^{(r)}(1) \neq E_m^{(r)}(0)$, and hence $E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle)$ is piecewise C^∞ and discontinuous with jump discontinuities at integers. Thus the Fourier series of $E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle)$ converges pointwise to $E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle)$ for $x \notin \mathbb{Z}$, and converges to $\frac{1}{2} \left(E_m^{(r)}(0) + E_m^{(r)}(1) \right) = E_m^{(r-1)}(0)$ for $x \in \mathbb{Z}$. Thus, we obtain the following theorem.

Theorem 2.2. Let $m \geq 1$, $r \geq 1$. Assume that $E_m^{(r)}(1) \neq E_m^{(r-1)}(0)$.

$$(a) \frac{2}{m+1} \left(E_{m+1}^{(r-1)}(0) - E_{m+1}^{(r)}(0) \right) + \sum_{\substack{n=-\infty \\ n \neq 0}}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{k=1}^m \frac{2(m)_{k-1}}{(2\pi in)^k} \left(E_{m-k+1}^{(r)}(0) - E_{m-k+1}^{(r-1)}(0) \right) \right) e^{2\pi inx} = \begin{cases} E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle) & \text{for } x \notin \mathbb{Z} \\ E_m^{(r-1)}(0) & \text{for } x \in \mathbb{Z}. \end{cases}$$

Here the convergence is pointwise.

$$(b) \frac{2}{m+1} \left(E_{m+1}^{(r-1)}(0) - E_{m+1}^{(r)}(0) \right) + \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{2(m)_{k-1}}{k!} \left(E_{m-k+1}^{(r-1)}(0) - E_{m-k+1}^{(r)}(0) \right) B_k(\langle x \rangle) = E_m^{(r)}(\langle x \rangle) \quad \text{for } x \notin \mathbb{Z},$$

and

$$\frac{2}{m+1} \left(E_{m+1}^{(r-1)}(0) - E_{m+1}^{(r)}(0) \right) + \sum_{k=2}^m \frac{2(m)_{k-1}}{k!} \left(E_{m-k+1}^{(r-1)}(0) - E_{m-k+1}^{(r)}(0) \right) B_k(\langle x \rangle)$$

$$= E_n^{(r-1)}(0) \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Here $B_k(x)$ is the Bernoulli function.

Remark. Note that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-nx} (-1)^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{k!} x^k \right)^n (-1)^n \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \left(\sum_{a_1+a_2+\dots=n} \frac{n!}{a_1!a_2!\dots} \cdot \frac{(-1)^{a_1+2a_2+\dots}}{(1!)^{a_1}(2!)^{a_2}\dots} \right) x^{a_1+2a_2+\dots}. \end{aligned}$$

Let $P(i, j) : a_1 + 2a_2 + \dots = i, a_1 + a_2 + \dots = j$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}} &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{n=0}^m (-1)^n \sum_{P(m,n)} \frac{n!(-1)^m x^m}{a_1!a_2!\dots a_m!(1!)^{a_1}\dots (m!)^{a_m}} \right) \\ &= \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} (-1)^m \sum_{n=0}^m n!(-1)^n S_2(m, n) \frac{x^m}{m!}, \quad (\text{see [13, 9]}), \end{aligned}$$

where $S_2(m, n)$ is the stirling number of the second kind. By the definition of Euler number, we get

$$\frac{1}{1+e^{-x}} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2}{1+e^{-x}} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} (-1)^m E_m \frac{x^m}{m!}.$$

Thus, we see

$$E_m = 2 \sum_{n=0}^m (-1)^n n! S_2(m, n), \quad (\text{see [9, 13]}).$$

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