



# A Note on the Dunkl-Appell Orthogonal Polynomials

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## Abstract

This paper deals with the problem of finding all orthogonal polynomial sets which are also  $T_\mu$ -Appell where  $T_\mu, \mu \in \mathbb{C}$  is the Dunkl operator. The resulting polynomials reduce to Generalized Hermite polynomials  $\{\mathcal{H}_n(\mu)\}_{n \geq 0}$ .

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## 1. Introduction and Preliminary Results

Let  $L$  be a lowering operator, that is, a linear operator that decreases in one unit the degree of a polynomial and such that  $L(1) = 0$ . Among such lowering operators, we mention the derivative operator  $D$ , the difference operator  $D_w$ , the Hahn operator  $H_q$  and the Dunkl operator  $T_\mu$ . Let  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  be a sequence of monic polynomials with  $\deg P_n = n, n \geq 0$ . The sequence  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  is called  $L$ -Appell when  $P_n = \frac{L(P_{n+1})}{\alpha_n}, n \geq 0$ , with  $\alpha_n$  is the normalization coefficient.

A most specific problem is to find the sequences of monic orthogonal polynomials which belong to the  $L$ -Appell class. Such characterization takes into account the fact that polynomial set which are obtainable from one another by a linear change of variable are assumed equivalent. For the derivative operator  $D$ , it is well known (see [3]) that the Hermite polynomials are the only solution to the last problem. This characterization of the Hermite polynomials was first given by Angelesco [3], and later by other authors (see [2] and [13] for additional references).

For the difference operator  $D_w$ , the only solution is the Charlier family (see [6]).

For the Hahn operator  $H_q$ , the only solution is the Al-Salam and Carlitz sequence [10].

Lastly, for the Dunkl operator  $T_\mu$ , the problem was solved by Y. Ben Cheikh and M. Gaied in the positive define case (for  $\mu > -\frac{1}{2}$ ) [5] and by L. Kheriji and A. Gherissi in the symmetric case (e.i.  $P_n(-x) = (-1)^n P_n(x), n \geq 0$ ) [9]. The obtained solution is the generalized Hermite polynomials set. In this paper, using duality, we solve the problem in the general case with  $\mu \in \mathbb{C}$ .

This first section contains preliminary results and notations to be used in the sequel. In the second section, using a technique based on duality, we determine all the sequences of monic orthogonal polynomials which belong to the  $T_\mu$ -Appell class without the constraint the sequences are symmetric. There's a unique solution, up to affine transformations, it is the set of generalized Hermite orthogonal polynomials. This result generalizes Corollary 2.3. in [9].

We begin by reviewing some preliminary results needed for the sequel. The vector space of polynomials with coefficients in  $\mathbb{C}$  (the field of complex numbers) is denoted by  $\mathbb{P}$  and by  $\mathbb{P}'$  its dual space, whose elements are called forms. The set of all nonnegative integers will be denoted by  $\mathbb{N}$ . The action of  $u \in \mathbb{P}'$  on  $f \in \mathbb{P}$  is denoted by  $\langle u, f \rangle$ . In particular, we denote by  $(u)_n := \langle u, x^n \rangle, n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the moments of  $u$ . For any form  $u$ , any  $a \in \mathbb{C} - \{0\}$  and any polynomial  $h$  let  $Du = u', hu$ , and  $h_a u$  be respectively the forms defined by:  $\langle u', f \rangle := -\langle u, f' \rangle$ ,  $\langle hu, f \rangle := \langle u, hf \rangle$ , and  $\langle h_a u, f \rangle := \langle u, h_a f \rangle = \langle u, f(ax) \rangle, f \in \mathbb{P}$ .

Then, it is straightforward to prove that for  $f \in \mathbb{P}$  and  $u \in \mathbb{P}'$ , we have

$$(fu)' = f'u + fu' . \quad (1.1)$$

We will only consider sequences of polynomials  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  such that  $\deg P_n \leq n, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . If the set  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  spans  $\mathbb{P}$ , which occurs when  $\deg P_n = n, n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then it will be called a polynomial sequence (PS). Along the text, we will only deal with PS whose elements are monic, that is, monic polynomial sequences (MPS). It is always possible to associate to  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  a unique sequence  $\{u_n\}_{n \geq 0}, u_n \in \mathbb{P}'$ , called its dual sequence, such that  $\langle u_n, P_m \rangle = \delta_{n,m}, n, m \geq 0$ , where  $\delta_{n,m}$  is the Kronecker's symbol [11].

The MPS  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  is orthogonal with respect to  $u \in \mathbb{P}'$  when the following conditions hold:  $\langle u, P_n P_m \rangle = r_n \delta_{n,m}, n, m \geq 0, r_n \neq 0, n \geq$

0 [7]. In this case, we say that  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  is a monic orthogonal polynomial sequence (MOPS) and the form  $u$  is said to be regular. Necessarily,  $u = \lambda u_0, \lambda \neq 0$ . Furthermore, we have

$$u_n = \left( \langle u_0, P_n^2 \rangle \right)^{-1} P_n u_0, n \geq 0, \tag{1.2}$$

and the MOPS  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  fulfils the second order recurrence relation

$$\begin{aligned} P_0(x) &= 1, \quad P_1(x) = x - \beta_0 \\ P_{n+2}(x) &= (x - \beta_{n+1})P_{n+1}(x) - \gamma_{n+1}P_n(x), \quad \gamma_{n+1} \neq 0, \quad n \geq 0. \end{aligned} \tag{1.3}$$

A form  $u$  is said symmetric if and only if  $\langle u, P_{2n+1} \rangle = 0, n \geq 0$ , or, equivalently, in (1.3)  $\beta_n = 0, n \geq 0$ . Furthermore, the orthogonality is kept by shifting. In fact, let

$$\{\tilde{P}_n := a^{-n} (h_a P_n)\}_{n \geq 0}, \quad a \neq 0, \tag{1.4}$$

then the recurrence elements  $\tilde{\beta}_n, \tilde{\gamma}_{n+1}, n \geq 0$ , of the sequence  $\{\tilde{P}_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  are

$$\tilde{\beta}_n = \frac{\beta_n}{a}, \quad \tilde{\gamma}_{n+1} = \frac{\gamma_{n+1}}{a^2}, \quad n \geq 0. \tag{1.5}$$

Let us introduce the Dunkl operator

$$T_\mu(f) = f' + 2\mu H_{-1}f, \quad (H_{-1}f)(x) = \frac{f(x) - f(-x)}{2x}, \quad f \in \mathbb{P}, \mu \in \mathbb{C}.$$

This operator was introduced and studied for the first time by Dunkl [8]. Note that  $T_0$  is reduced to the derivative operator  $D$ . The transposed  ${}^t T_\mu$  of  $T_\mu$  is  ${}^t T_\mu = -D - H_{-1} = -T_\mu$ , leaving out a light abuse of notation without consequence. Thus we have

$$\langle T_\mu u, f \rangle = -\langle u, T_\mu f \rangle, \quad u \in \mathbb{P}', \quad f \in \mathbb{P}, \quad \mu \in \mathbb{C}.$$

In particular, this yields  $\langle T_\mu u, x^n \rangle = -\mu_n \langle u, x^{n-1} \rangle, n \geq 0$ , where  $\langle u, x^{-1} \rangle = 0$  and

$$\mu_n = n + \mu(1 - (-1)^n), \quad n \geq 0. \tag{1.6}$$

It is easy to see that

$$T_\mu(fu) = fT_\mu u + f'u + 2\mu(H_{-1}f)(h_{-1}u), \quad f \in \mathbb{P}, \quad u \in \mathbb{P}', \tag{1.7}$$

$$h_a \circ T_\mu = aT_\mu \circ h_a \quad \text{in } \mathbb{P}', \quad a \in \mathbb{C} - \{0\}. \tag{1.8}$$

Now, consider a MPS  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  and let

$$P_n^{[1]}(x, \mu) = \frac{1}{\mu_{n+1}} (T_\mu P_{n+1})(x), \quad \mu \neq -n - \frac{1}{2}, \quad n \geq 0. \tag{1.9}$$

**Lemma 1.1.** [12] Denoting by  $\{u_n^{[1]}(\mu)\}_{n \geq 0}$  the dual sequence of  $\{P_n^{[1]}(\cdot, \mu)\}_{n \geq 0}$ , we have

$$T_\mu(u_n^{[1]}(\mu)) = -\mu_{n+1}u_{n+1}, n \geq 0. \tag{1.10}$$

**Definition 1.2.** The sequence  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  is called Dunkl-Appell or  $T_\mu$ -Appell if  $P_n^{[1]}(\cdot, \mu) = P_n, n \geq 0$ .

When  $\mu = 0$ , we meet the Appell polynomials.

## 2. The Main Result

Let us recall some results to be used in the sequel. We begin by giving some properties of the Generalized Hermite polynomials  $\{\mathcal{H}_n(\alpha)\}_{n \geq 0}$  (see [1, 4] and [7]). They satisfy the recurrence relation (1.3) with

$$\beta_n = 0, \quad \gamma_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}(n+1 + \alpha(1 + (-1)^n)), \quad 2\alpha \neq -2n - 1, \quad n \geq 0. \tag{2.1}$$

The sequence  $\{\mathcal{H}_n(\alpha)\}_{n \geq 0}$  is orthogonal with respect to  $\mathcal{H}(\alpha)$ , this last form has the following integral representation [7], p. 157

$$\langle \mathcal{H}(\alpha), f \rangle = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha + \frac{1}{2})} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |x|^{2\alpha} e^{-x^2} f(x) dx, \quad \Re(\alpha) > -\frac{1}{2}, \quad f \in \mathbb{P}. \tag{2.2}$$

This family reduces to the ordinary Hermite polynomial set when  $\alpha = 0$ .

**Proposition 2.1.** Let  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  be a MPS and let  $\{u_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  be the corresponding dual sequence. The following statements are equivalent

- (a) The sequence  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  is  $T_\mu$ -Appell.
- (b) The sequence  $\{u_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  verifies

$$T_\mu u_n = -\mu_{n+1}u_{n+1}, \quad n \geq 0. \tag{2.3}$$

*Proof.* (a)  $\implies$  (b). Let  $\{u_n^{[1]}(\mu)\}_{n \geq 0}$  be the dual sequence of  $\{P_n^{[1]}(\cdot, \mu)\}_{n \geq 0}$ . Then, Definition 1.2 results  $u_n^{[1]}(\mu) = u_n$  because  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  has a unique dual sequence. Therefore, using (1.10), we obtain (2.3).

(b)  $\implies$  (a). From (1.10) and (2.3), we have the following

$$\begin{cases} T_\mu u_n = -\mu_{n+1} u_{n+1}, n \geq 0, \\ T_\mu (u_n^{[1]}(\mu)) = -\mu_{n+1} u_{n+1}, n \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

Then, we obtain  $T_\mu u_n = T_\mu (u_n^{[1]}(\mu)), n \geq 0$ . So,  $u_n = u_n^{[1]}(\mu)$  because  $T_\mu$  is injective in  $\mathbb{P}'$ . Moreover, we have  $\langle u_n, P_m \rangle = \langle u_n^{[1]}(\mu), P_m^{[1]}(\cdot, \mu) \rangle = \delta_{n,m}, n, m \geq 0$ , which gives

$$\langle u_n, P_m - P_m^{[1]}(\cdot, \mu) \rangle = 0, \quad n, m \geq 0.$$

Since  $\{u_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  is a set of linearly independent vectors, we deduce that  $P_m = P_m^{[1]}(\cdot, \mu), m \geq 0$ . Hence, the sequence  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  is  $T_\mu$ -Appell.  $\square$

Now, we state our main result:

**Theorem 2.2.** *The orthogonal polynomial sets which are also  $T_\mu$ -Appell, up to affine transformations, is the set of the Generalized Hermite polynomials  $\{\mathcal{H}_n(\mu)\}_{n \geq 0}$  ( $\mu \neq 0, 2\mu \neq -2n - 1, n \geq 0$ ).*

*Proof.* Suppose that the sequence  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  is both orthogonal and  $T_\mu$ -Appell.

$$u_n = (\langle u_0, P_n^2 \rangle)^{-1} P_n u_0, n \geq 0, \tag{2.4}$$

From (1.2), (1.10) and (2.3) (according to assumptions)

$$(\langle u_0, P_n^2 \rangle)^{-1} T_\mu (P_n u_0) = -\mu_{n+1} (\langle u_0, P_{n+1}^2 \rangle)^{-1} P_{n+1} u_0, \quad n \geq 0 \tag{2.5}$$

Then, by (1.3), the last equation becomes

$$T_\mu (P_n u_0) = -\frac{\mu_{n+1}}{\gamma_{n+1}} P_{n+1} u_0, \quad n \geq 0. \tag{2.6}$$

The particular choice of  $n = 0$  in (2.6) yields

$$T_\mu u_0 = -(1 + 2\mu)\gamma_1^{-1} P_1 u_0. \tag{2.7}$$

In accordance with (1.7), we have

$$T_\mu (P_n u_0) = P_n T_\mu u_0 + P_n' u_0 + 2\mu (H_{-1} P_n) (h_{-1} u_0), \quad n \geq 0. \tag{2.8}$$

Then, using (2.7) and (2.8), (2.6) becomes

$$-\frac{\mu_1}{\gamma_1} P_n P_1 u_0 + P_n' u_0 + 2\mu (H_{-1} P_n) (h_{-1} u_0) = -\frac{\mu_{n+1}}{\gamma_{n+1}} P_{n+1} u_0, \quad n \geq 0. \tag{2.9}$$

For  $n = 1$ , equation (2.9) becomes

$$2\mu (h_{-1} u_0) = \left( \frac{\mu_1}{\gamma_1} P_1^2 - \frac{\mu_2}{\gamma_2} P_2 - 1 \right) u_0. \tag{2.10}$$

Thus,

$$-\frac{\mu_1}{\gamma_1} P_n P_1 u_0 + P_n' u_0 + (H_{-1} P_n) \left( \frac{\mu_1}{\gamma_1} P_1^2 - \frac{\mu_2}{\gamma_2} P_2 - 1 \right) u_0 = -\frac{\mu_{n+1}}{\gamma_{n+1}} P_{n+1} u_0, \quad n \geq 0. \tag{2.11}$$

By virtue of the regularity of  $u_0$ , we get

$$-\frac{\mu_1}{\gamma_1} P_n P_1 + P_n' + (H_{-1} P_n) \left( \frac{\mu_1}{\gamma_1} P_1^2 - \frac{\mu_2}{\gamma_2} P_2 - 1 \right) = -\frac{\mu_{n+1}}{\gamma_{n+1}} P_{n+1} \quad n \geq 0. \tag{2.12}$$

The comparison of the coefficients of  $x^{n+1}$  in the previous identity leads to

$$-\frac{\mu_1}{\gamma_1} + \frac{1 - (-1)^n}{2} \left( \frac{\mu_1}{\gamma_1} - \frac{\mu_2}{\gamma_2} \right) = -\frac{\mu_{n+1}}{\gamma_{n+1}}, \quad n \geq 0.$$

Therefore,

$$\gamma_{2n+1} = \frac{\gamma_1}{\mu_1} \mu_{2n+1}, \quad \gamma_{2n+2} = \frac{\gamma_2}{\mu_2} \mu_{2n+2}, \quad n \geq 0. \tag{2.13}$$

Now we treat the two cases  $\beta_0 = 0$  and  $\beta_0 \neq 0$  separately.

**Case I.** ( $\beta_0 = 0$ ).

In this case, from (1.3), we have  $P_1(x) = x$ . Then, by (2.7), we obtain

$$\langle T_\mu u_0, x^n \rangle = -(1 + 2\mu)\gamma_1^{-1} \langle u_0, x^{n+1} \rangle. \tag{2.14}$$

So, for  $n = 0$ , we get  $(u)_1 = 0$  and for  $n \geq 1$ ,  $-\mu_n(u)_{n-1} = -(1 + 2\mu)\gamma_1^{-1}(u)_{n+1}$ . Thus, we deduce  $\langle u_0, x^{2n+1} \rangle = 0, n \geq 0$ . Then, the form  $u_0$  is symmetric which is equivalent to  $\beta_n = 0, n \geq 0$ .

Therefore, we deduce  $(h_{-1}u_0) = u_0$  and the equation (2.10) becomes

$$2\mu u_0 = \left( \frac{\mu_1}{\gamma_1} P_1^2 - \frac{\mu_2}{\gamma_2} P_2 - 1 \right) u_0. \tag{2.15}$$

Thus, we deduce  $\frac{\mu_1}{\gamma_1} = \frac{\mu_2}{\gamma_2}$ . Then, (2.13) becomes

$$\gamma_{2n+1} = \frac{\gamma_1}{\mu_1} \mu_{2n+1}, \quad \gamma_{2n+2} = \frac{\gamma_1}{\mu_1} \mu_{2n+2}, \quad n \geq 0. \tag{2.16}$$

With the choice  $a = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma_1}{\mu_1}}$  in (1.4)-(1.5) and using the last equation where  $\{\mu_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  is given by (1.6) and the fact  $\beta_n = 0, n \geq 0$ , we get the following canonical case

$$\tilde{\beta}_n = 0, \quad \tilde{\gamma}_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}(n + 1 + \mu(1 + (-1)^n)), \quad 2\mu \neq -2n - 1, \quad n \geq 0. \tag{2.17}$$

Hence the MOPS  $\{\tilde{P}_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  corresponds to the Generalized Hermite polynomials of parameter  $\mu$  according to (2.1). Indeed  $\tilde{P}_n = \mathcal{H}_n(\mu), \mu \neq 0, \mu \neq -n - \frac{1}{2}, n \geq 0$ .

**Case II.** ( $\beta_0 \neq 0$ ).

From the recurrence relation (1.3), we have

$$\begin{cases} P_1(x) = x - \beta_0, \\ P_2(x) = x^2 - (\beta_0 + \beta_1)x + \beta_0\beta_1 - \gamma_1, \\ P_3(x) = x^3 - (\beta_0 + \beta_1 + \beta_2)x + (\beta_2(\beta_0 + \beta_1) + \beta_0\beta_1 - \gamma_1 - \gamma_2)x - \beta_2(\beta_0\beta_1 - \gamma_1) + \gamma_2\beta_0 \end{cases} \tag{2.18}$$

Making  $n = 1$  in (2.12) and using (2.18), we get by equating the coefficients of  $x^2$  in the obtained equation

$$(\beta_0 + \beta_1) \frac{\mu_2}{\gamma_2} = (\beta_1 + \beta_2) \frac{\mu_1}{\gamma_1} \tag{2.19}$$

We have  $P_1(x) = P_1^{[1]}(x, \mu) = \mu_2^{-1} T_\mu P_2(x)$  because  $\{P_n\}_{n \geq 0}$  is  $T_\mu$ -Appell. Then, using (2.18), we get

$$x - \beta_0 = x - \frac{\mu_1}{2}(\beta_0 + \beta_1).$$

This, leads to

$$\beta_0 + \beta_1 = \frac{2\beta_0}{\mu_1}. \tag{2.20}$$

We have  $P_2(x) = P_2^{[1]}(x, \mu) = \mu_3^{-1} T_\mu P_3(x)$ . Then, using (2.18) and comparing coefficients of powers of  $x$  in both sides of the resulting equation, we find that

$$\beta_0 + \beta_1 = \frac{2(\beta_0 + \beta_1 + \beta_2)}{\mu_3}, \tag{2.21}$$

and

$$\beta_0\beta_1 - \gamma_1 = \frac{\mu_1}{\mu_3}(\beta_2(\beta_0 + \beta_1) + \beta_0\beta_1 - \gamma_1 - \gamma_2). \tag{2.22}$$

Using (2.20) and taking into account that  $\mu_1 = 1 + 2\mu$  and  $\mu_3 = 3 + 2\mu$ , we get from (2.21)

$$\beta_2 = \beta_0. \tag{2.23}$$

Based on (2.20), (2.23) and the fact  $\mu_2 = 2$ , (2.22) becomes

$$\frac{\gamma_1}{\mu_1} - \frac{\gamma_2}{\mu_2} = \frac{2\mu\beta_0^2}{\mu_1}. \tag{2.24}$$

But, from (2.20), (2.23), (2.19) and the fact  $\beta_0 \neq 0$ , we deduce  $\frac{\gamma_1}{\mu_1} = \frac{\gamma_2}{\mu_2}$ . Then, (2.24) gives  $\frac{2\mu\beta_0^2}{\mu_1} = 0$  which is a contradiction if  $\mu \neq 0$ .

This completes the proof of the Theorem 2.2. □

**Remark 2.3.** The Theorem 2.2 generalizes Corollary 2.3. in [9].

**Remark 2.4.** From (2.3), by induction we can easily prove

$$u_n = (-1)^n \left( \prod_{k=0}^n \mu_k \right)^{-1} T_\mu^n u_0, \quad n \geq 0.$$

Then, using (1.2), (2.2), (2.16) where  $\gamma_1 = \mu_1$ , (2.17) and the above equation, we can deduce the following Rodrigues formula for Generalized Hermite polynomials

$$\mathcal{H}_n(\mu) = (-1)^n |x|^{-2\mu} e^{x^2} T_\mu^n \left( |x|^{2\mu} e^{-x^2} \right), \quad n \geq 0.$$

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