

## Some new results of symmetric derivative on time scales

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### Abstract

*In this paper, we present some new results of symmetric derivative on time scales by using induction.*

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## 1 Introduction

Symmetric derivative (Schwarz derivative) is very useful in a large number of problems. Particularly, in the theory of trigonometric series, applications of such properties are well known [1]. Recently, in [5], the authors introduced the notation of symmetric derivative on time scales. The theory of time scales, which has received a lot of attention, was introduced by Hilger in his PHD thesis in [6] in order to unify continuous and discrete analysis.

The aim of this paper is to present some new results of symmetric derivative on time scales based on reference [5].

## 2 Notations and lemmas

### 2.1 Notations

A time scale  $\mathbb{T}$  is an arbitrary nonempty closed subset of the real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$ . The forward and backward jump operators  $\sigma, \rho : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{T}$  are defined by

$$\sigma(t) = \inf \{s \in \mathbb{T} : s > t\},$$

$$\rho(t) = \sup \{s \in \mathbb{T} : s < t\},$$

where the supremum of the empty set is defined to be the infimum of  $\mathbb{T}$ . A point  $t \in \mathbb{T}$  is said to be right-scattered if  $\sigma(t) > t$  and right-dense if  $\sigma(t) = t$ , and  $t \in \mathbb{T}$  with  $t > \inf \mathbb{T}$  is said to be left-scattered if  $\rho(t) < t$  and left-dense if  $\rho(t) = t$ . A point  $t \in \mathbb{T}$  is dense if it is right and left dense; isolated if it is right and left scattered. A function  $g : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be rd-continuous provided  $g$  is continuous at right-dense points and has finite left-sided limits at left-dense points in  $\mathbb{T}$ . The graininess function  $\mu$  for a time scale  $\mathbb{T}$  is defined by  $\mu(t) = \sigma(t) - t$ , and for every function  $f : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  the notation  $f^\sigma$  means the composition  $f \circ \sigma$ . We also need the set  $\mathbb{T}^\kappa$  and  $\mathbb{T}_\kappa$  which are derived from the time scale  $\mathbb{T}$  as follows: If  $\mathbb{T}$  has a left-scattered maximum  $m$ , then  $\mathbb{T}^\kappa = \mathbb{T} - \{m\}$ . Otherwise,  $\mathbb{T}^\kappa = \mathbb{T}$ . If  $\inf \mathbb{T}$  is finite and right-scattered, then  $\mathbb{T}_\kappa = \mathbb{T} - \{\inf \mathbb{T}\}$ . Otherwise,  $\mathbb{T}_\kappa = \mathbb{T}$ . We set  $\mathbb{T}_\kappa^\kappa = \mathbb{T}_\kappa \cap \mathbb{T}^\kappa$ . For more, the readers may refer to [2].

**Definition 2.1** [5, Definition 3.1] *We say that a function  $f : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is symmetric continuous at  $t \in \mathbb{T}$ . If for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a neighborhood  $U_t \subseteq \mathbb{T}$  of  $t$  such that for all  $s \in U_t$  for which  $2t - s \in U_t$  one has  $|f(s) - f(2t - s)| \leq \varepsilon$ .*

**Definition 2.2** [5, Definition 3.4] *Let  $f : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $t \in \mathbb{T}_\kappa^\kappa$ . The symmetric derivative at  $t \in \mathbb{T}$ , denoted by  $f^\diamond(t)$ , is the real number (provide it exists) with the property that, for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists a neighborhood  $U \subseteq \mathbb{T}$  of  $t$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned} & |f^\sigma(t) - f(s) + f(2t - s) - f^\rho(t) - f^\diamond(t)[\sigma(t) + 2t - 2s - \rho(t)]| \\ & \leq \varepsilon |\sigma(t) + 2t - 2s - \rho(t)| \end{aligned}$$

for all  $s \in U$  for which  $2t - s \in U$ .

### 2.2 Lemmas

**Lemma 2.3** [5, Theorem 3.5] *Let  $f : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $t \in \mathbb{T}_\kappa^\kappa$ . The following holds:*

(i) *Function  $f$  has at most one symmetric derivative at  $t$ .*

(ii) If  $f$  is symmetric differentiable at  $t$ , then  $f$  is symmetric continuous at  $t$ .

(iii) If  $f$  is continuous at  $t$  and  $t$  is not dense, then  $f$  is symmetric differentiable at  $t$  with  $f^\diamond(t) = \frac{f^\sigma(t) - f^\rho(t)}{\sigma(t) - \rho(t)}$ .

(iv) If  $t$  is dense, then  $f$  is symmetric differentiable at  $t$  if and only if the limit  $\lim_{s \rightarrow t} \frac{f(2t-s) - f(s)}{2t-2s}$  exists as a finite number. In this case  $f^\diamond(t) = \lim_{s \rightarrow t} \frac{f(2t-s) - f(s)}{2t-2s} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(t+h) - f(t-h)}{2h}$ .

**Lemma 2.4** [5, Theorem 3.11] Let  $f, g : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be two symmetric differentiable functions at  $t \in \mathbb{T}_\kappa$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ . The following holds:

(i) Function  $f + g$  is symmetric differentiable at  $t$  with  $(f + g)^\diamond(t) = f^\diamond(t) + g^\diamond(t)$ .

(ii) Function  $\lambda f$  is symmetric differentiable at  $t$  with  $(\lambda f)^\diamond(t) = \lambda f^\diamond(t)$ .

(iii) If  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous at  $t$ , then Functions  $fg$  is symmetric differentiable at  $t$  with  $(fg)^\diamond(t) = f^\diamond(t)g^\sigma(t) + f^\rho(t)g^\diamond(t)$ .

(iv) If  $f$  is continuous at  $t$  and  $f^\sigma(t)f^\rho(t) \neq 0$ , then  $\frac{1}{f}$  is symmetric differentiable at  $t$  with  $\left(\frac{1}{f}\right)^\diamond(t) = \frac{-f^\diamond(t)}{f^\sigma(t)f^\rho(t)}$ .

(v) If  $f$  and  $g$  are continuous at  $t$  and  $g^\sigma(t)g^\rho(t) \neq 0$ , then  $\frac{f}{g}$  is symmetric differentiable at  $t$  with  $\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)^\diamond(t) = \frac{f^\diamond(t)g^\rho(t) - f^\rho(t)g^\diamond(t)}{g^\sigma(t)g^\rho(t)}$ .

### 3 Main results

**Theorem 3.1** Let  $\alpha$  be a constant and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

(i) For  $f$  defined by  $f(t) = (t - \alpha)^n$ , we have

$$f^\diamond(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (\sigma(t) - \alpha)^k (\rho(t) - \alpha)^{n-1-k}. \quad (3.1)$$

(ii) For  $g$  defined by  $g(t) = \frac{1}{(t - \alpha)^n}$ , we have

$$g^\diamond(t) = - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{1}{(\sigma(t) - \alpha)^{n-k} (\rho(t) - \alpha)^{k+1}} \quad (3.2)$$

provided  $(\rho(t) - \alpha)(\sigma(t) - \alpha) \neq 0$ .

**Proof.** We will prove (3.1) by induction. If  $n = 1$ , then  $f(t) = t - \alpha$  and  $f^\diamond(t) = 1$  holds. If  $n = 2$ , then  $f(t) = (t - \alpha)^2$  and  $f^\diamond(t) = (\sigma(t) - \alpha) + (\rho(t) - \alpha)$  holds.

Now, we assume that (3.1) holds for  $f(t) = (t - \alpha)^n$ . Using Lemma 2.2, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
[(t - \alpha)^{n+1}]^\diamond &= [(t - \alpha)(t - \alpha)^n]^\diamond \\
&= (t - \alpha)^\diamond (\sigma(t) - \alpha)^n + (\rho(t) - \alpha) [(t - \alpha)^n]^\diamond \\
&= (\sigma(t) - \alpha)^n + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (\sigma(t) - \alpha)^k (\rho(t) - \alpha)^{n-k} \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^n (\sigma(t) - \alpha)^k (\rho(t) - \alpha)^{n-k}.
\end{aligned}$$

To (3.2), using Lemma 2.2 and (i) of Theorem 3.1, it can easily obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
g^\diamond(t) &= \left(\frac{1}{f}\right)^\diamond(t) = \frac{-f^\diamond(t)}{f^\sigma(t)f^\rho(t)} \\
&= -\frac{\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (\sigma(t) - \alpha)^k (\rho(t) - \alpha)^{n-1-k}}{(\sigma(t) - \alpha)^n (\rho(t) - \alpha)^n} \\
&= -\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{1}{(\sigma(t) - \alpha)^{n-k} (\rho(t) - \alpha)^{k+1}}.
\end{aligned}$$

**Definition 3.2** For a function  $f : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , we shall talk about the second derivative  $f^{\diamond\diamond}(t)$  provided  $f^\diamond(t)$  is symmetric differentiable on  $\mathbb{T}^{\kappa^2} = (\mathbb{T}^\kappa)^\kappa$  with derivative  $f^{\diamond\diamond}(t) = (f^\diamond(t))^\diamond$ . Similarly, we define higher order symmetric derivatives  $f^{\diamond^n} : \mathbb{T}^{\kappa^n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Finally, for  $t \in \mathbb{T}$ , we denote  $\sigma^2(t) = \sigma(\sigma(t))$ ,  $\rho^2(t) = \rho(\rho(t))$ ,  $\sigma^n(t)$  and  $\rho^n(t)$  are defined accordingly.

**Theorem 3.3** Let  $f, g : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be two functions whose  $n$  symmetric derivative exists at  $t \in \mathbb{T}^\kappa$ . Let  $S_k^{(n)}$  and  $C_k^{(n)}$  be the set consisting of all possible string of length  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , containing exactly  $k$  times  $\rho$  and  $n - k$  times  $\diamond$ , and  $k$  times  $\diamond$  and  $n - k$  times  $\sigma$  each other. If  $f^\wedge$  and  $g^\vee$  exist for all  $\wedge \in S_k^{(n)}$ ,  $\vee \in C_k^{(n)}$ , then

$$(fg)^{\diamond^n} = \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{\substack{\wedge \in S_k^{(n)} \\ \vee \in C_k^{(n)}}} (f^\wedge g^\vee). \quad (3.3)$$

**Proof.** We will prove (3.3) by mathematical induction. First, if  $n = 1$ , then (3.3) holds.

Next, we assume that (3.3) is true for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
(fg)^{\diamond(n+1)} &= \left( \sum_{k=0}^n \sum_{\substack{\wedge \in S_k^{(n)} \\ \vee \in C_k^{(n)}}} (f^{\wedge} g^{\vee}) \right)^{\diamond} = \sum_{k=0}^n \left( \sum_{\substack{\wedge \in S_k^{(n)} \\ \vee \in C_k^{(n)}}} (f^{\wedge} g^{\vee\sigma} + f^{\wedge\rho} g^{\vee\diamond}) \right) \\
&= \sum_{k=1}^{n+1} \sum_{\substack{\wedge \in S_{k-1}^{(n)} \\ \vee \in C_{k-1}^{(n)}}} (f^{\wedge\diamond} g^{\vee\sigma}) + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \sum_{\substack{\wedge \in S_k^{(n)} \\ \vee \in C_k^{(n)}}} (f^{\wedge\rho} g^{\vee\diamond}) \\
&= \sum_{\substack{\wedge \in S_n^{(n)} \\ \vee \in C_n^{(n)}}} (f^{\wedge\diamond} g^{\vee\sigma}) + \sum_{k=1}^n \left( \sum_{\substack{\wedge \in S_{k-1}^{(n)} \\ \vee \in C_{k-1}^{(n)}}} (f^{\wedge\diamond} g^{\vee\sigma}) + \sum_{\substack{\wedge \in S_k^{(n)} \\ \vee \in C_k^{(n)}}} (f^{\wedge\rho} g^{\vee\diamond}) \right) + \sum_{\substack{\wedge \in S_0^{(n)} \\ \vee \in C_0^{(n)}}} (f^{\wedge\rho} g^{\vee\diamond}) \\
&= \sum_{\substack{\wedge \in S_{n+1}^{(n+1)} \\ \vee \in C_{n+1}^{(n+1)}}} (f^{\wedge} g^{\vee}) + \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{\substack{\wedge \in S_k^{(n+1)} \\ \vee \in C_k^{(n+1)}}} (f^{\wedge} g^{\vee}) + \sum_{\substack{\wedge \in S_0^{(n+1)} \\ \vee \in C_0^{(n+1)}}} (f^{\wedge} g^{\vee}) \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^{n+1} \sum_{\substack{\wedge \in S_k^{(n+1)} \\ \vee \in C_k^{(n+1)}}} (f^{\wedge} g^{\vee}).
\end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

So that (3.3) holds for  $n+1$ , by the principle of induction. Then (3.3) holds for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Theorem 3.4** *Let  $f : [a, b]_{\mathbb{T}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous function. If  $f^{\diamond\diamond}(t) = 0$  and  $t \in [a, b]_{\mathbb{T}_\kappa}$  is dense, then  $f(t)$  is a linear function.*

**Proof.** For any given positive number  $\varepsilon$ , we set

$$\varphi(t) = f(t) - \left[ f(a) + \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}(t - a) \right] + \varepsilon(t - a)(t - b). \tag{3.5}$$

It is easily known that  $\varphi(t)$  is continuous in  $[a, b]$  and  $\varphi(a) = \varphi(b) = 0$ . Since  $t$  is dense, we have  $\sigma(t) = t = \rho(t)$ . Easy computation yields  $\varphi^{\diamond\diamond}(t) = 2\varepsilon$ .

Next, we will prove  $\varphi(t) \leq 0$ . If  $\varphi(t) > 0$ , then exist a local maximum in  $x_0 \in (a, b)$  such that

$$\frac{\varphi(x_0 + h) - 2\varphi(x_0) + \varphi(x_0 - h)}{h^2} \leq 0.$$

Using Lemma 2.1, we have  $\varphi^{\diamond\diamond}(x_0) \leq 0$ . It is a contradiction. On the other hand, Taking

$$\psi(t) = - \left\{ f(t) - \left[ f(a) + \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}(t - a) \right] \right\} + \varepsilon(t - a)(t - b). \quad (3.6)$$

Similarly method yield  $\psi(t) \leq 0$ . Hence, we obtain

$$\left| f(t) - \left[ f(a) + \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}(t - a) \right] \right| \leq \varepsilon |(t - a)(t - b)|. \quad (3.7)$$

By virtue of random of  $\varepsilon$ , the proof is completed.

## 4 Example

**Definition 4.1** Factorial function  $t^{(k)}$  and binomial coefficient  $\binom{\alpha}{\beta}$  by

$$t^{(k)} = \frac{\Gamma(t + 1)}{\Gamma(t - k + 1)} \quad (4.1)$$

and

$$\binom{\alpha}{\beta} = \frac{\alpha^{(\beta)}}{\Gamma(\beta + 1)}. \quad (4.2)$$

**Example 4.2** Assume  $\alpha, k \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\diamond$  is symmetric differentiation with respect to  $t$  on time scale  $\mathbb{T} = \mathbb{Z}$ . Show that

$$(i) \quad ((t + \alpha)^{(k)})^\diamond = \left( k + \frac{k(1 - k)}{2(t + \alpha)} \right) (t + \alpha)^{(k-1)}.$$

$$(ii) \quad (\alpha^t)^\diamond = \left( \frac{\alpha^2 - 1}{2\alpha} \right) \alpha^t.$$

$$(iii) \quad \left( \frac{t}{\alpha} \right)^\diamond = \left( 1 + \frac{1 - \alpha}{2t} \right) \left( \frac{t}{\alpha - 1} \right).$$

**Proof.** Since  $\mathbb{T} = \mathbb{Z}$ , then we have  $\sigma(t) = t + 1, \rho(t) = t - 1$ . Using Lemma 2.1, it can easily obtain

$$\begin{aligned} ((t + \alpha)^{(k)})^\diamond &= \frac{(t + 1 + \alpha)^{(k)} - (t - 1 + \alpha)^{(k)}}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Gamma(t + \alpha)}{\Gamma(t - k + \alpha)} \\ &= \left(k + \frac{k(1 - k)}{2(t + \alpha)}\right) \frac{\Gamma(t + \alpha + 1)}{\Gamma(t - k + \alpha + 2)} = \left(k + \frac{k(1 - k)}{2(t + \alpha)}\right) (t + \alpha)^{(k-1)}, \\ (\alpha^t)^\diamond &= \frac{\alpha^{t+1} - \alpha^{t-1}}{2} = \left(\frac{\alpha^2 - 1}{2\alpha}\right) \alpha^t, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\left(\frac{t}{\alpha}\right)^\diamond = \left(\frac{t^{(\alpha)}}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)}\right)^\diamond = \left(1 + \frac{1 - \alpha}{2t}\right) \frac{t^{(\alpha-1)}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} = \left(1 + \frac{1 - \alpha}{2t}\right) \left(\frac{t}{\alpha - 1}\right).$$

## 5 Open Problem

Let  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_m : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be some of these functions whose  $n$  symmetric derivative exists at  $t \in \mathbb{T}_\kappa^\kappa$ . Compute

$$(f_1 f_2 \cdots f_m)^{\diamond^n} \tag{5.1}$$

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