

AN ALGEBRAIC DERIVATIVE ASSOCIATED TO THE OPERATOR D^δ

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Abstract. In this paper we get an algebraic derivative relative to the convolution

$$(f * g)(t) = \int_0^t f(t - \psi)g(\psi)d\psi$$

associated to the operator D^δ , which is used, together with the corresponding operational calculus, to solve an integral-differential equation. Moreover we show a certain convolution property for the solution of that equation.

1. Introduction. W. Kierat and K. Skórnik [2], using the Mikusiński operational calculus, have solved the differential equation

$$t \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + (c - t) \frac{dx}{dt} - ax = 0 \quad (c, a \in \mathbb{C})$$

which for $c = 1$ reduces to the Laguerre differential equation and one of its solutions is

$$x_a(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{-a}{k} (-1)^k \frac{t^k}{\Gamma(k+1)}$$

satisfying the convolutional property

$$\frac{d}{dt}(x_a * x_b)(t) = x_{a+b}(t)$$

where $*$ represents the Mikusiński convolution.

We define the algebraic derivative

$$\mathcal{D}f(t) = \frac{-I^{\delta-1}}{\delta} t f(t), \quad \text{for the convolution} \quad (f * g)(t) = \int_0^t f(t - \psi)g(\psi)d\psi$$

where $I^\alpha f(t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^t (t - \tau)^{\alpha-1} f(\tau) d\tau$ represents the Riemann-Liouville fractional integral operator.

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The convolution $*$ is defined on the set

$$C_\delta = \left\{ f(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k t^{k\delta-1} \text{ uniformly convergent on compact subsets of } [0, \infty) \right\}$$

introduced by Alamo and Rodríguez in [1].

Using a similar technique as in [2] and the appropriate operational calculus for $*$ we can get a solution of the following integral-differential equation

$$-\mathcal{D}(D^\delta)^2 x + (1 + \mathcal{D})D^\delta x - ax = 0 \quad (a \in \mathbb{C}) \quad (\delta > 1)$$

which we denote by $x_a(t)$, satisfying

$$D^\delta[x_a * x_b](t) = x_{a+b}(t).$$

2. An operational calculus for D^δ . The algebraic derivative \mathcal{D} . Let $\delta > 1$ be a fixed real number (when $\delta = 1$, it reduces to Kierat and Skórnik's case). As Alamo and Rodríguez [1] did, we define the set of positive real variable functions with complex values

$$C_\delta = \left\{ f(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k t^{k\delta-1} \text{ uniformly convergent on compact subsets of } [0, \infty) \right\}.$$

They proved that $(C_\delta, +, \cdot_{\mathbb{C}})$ is a vector space.

Unlike these authors, we will consider in C_δ the Mikusiński convolution given by $(f * g)(t) = \int_0^t f(t-\psi)g(\psi)d\psi$.

From the definition of $*$ we get immediately the following propositions.

- PROPOSITION 1. 1. $t^{k\delta-1} * t^{m\delta-1} = B(k\delta, m\delta)t^{(k+m)\delta-1}$.
 2. $(f * g)(t) = \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} a_j b_{k-j} B[j\delta, (k-j)\delta] \right\} t^{k\delta-1}$.

Here $B(u, v) = \int_0^1 (1-t)^{u-1} t^{v-1} dt$ represents the beta function, $f(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k t^{k\delta-1}$ and $g(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k t^{k\delta-1}$.

This proposition shows us that $*$ is a closed operation on C_δ , so we can conclude that $(C_\delta, +, *)$ is a subring of $(C, +, *)$. Here C represents the set of continuous complex functions of a positive real variable. Mikusiński [3] and Yosida [5] showed that the convolution $*$ has no zero divisors and there is no unit element on the set C , thus we can state the next proposition.

PROPOSITION 2. $(C_\delta, +, *)$ is a commutative non-unitary ring without zero divisors.

REMARK. It can be proved in a direct way that $(C_\delta, +, *)$ is a ring.

Therefore, C_δ can be extended to its field of fractions $M_\delta = C_\delta \times (C_\delta - \{0\}) / \sim$, where the equivalence relation \sim is defined, as usual, by $(f_1, g_1) \sim (f_2, g_2) \Leftrightarrow f_1 * g_2 = g_1 * f_2$; actually M_δ is a subfield of the Mikusiński field. The elements of M_δ will be called operators, and from now on we denote by $\frac{f}{g}$ the equivalence class of the pair (f, g) .

The operations of sum, multiplication and product by a scalar can be defined on M_δ through

$$\bullet \frac{f_1}{g_1} + \frac{f_2}{g_2} = \frac{f_1 * g_2 + g_1 * f_2}{g_1 * g_2}$$

- $\frac{f_1}{g_1} \cdot \frac{f_2}{g_2} = \frac{f_1 * f_2}{g_1 * g_2}$
- $\alpha \frac{f}{g} = \frac{\alpha f}{g}$

Alamo and Rodríguez [1] showed that the operator D^δ is an endomorphism on C_δ and proved that for all $f(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k t^{k\delta-1}$ in C_δ

$$\begin{aligned} D^\delta I^\delta f(t) &= f(t), \\ I^\delta D^\delta f(t) &= f(t) - a_1 t^{\delta-1} = f(t) - [t^{1-\delta} f(t)]_{t=0} t^{\delta-1}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

$$(I^\delta)^m (D^\delta)^m f(t) = f(t) - \sum_{j=1}^m a_j t^{j\delta-1}. \quad (2.2)$$

These identities will be useful for our development.

The next proposition allows us to identify the operator I^δ and its positive integer powers with certain functions in C_δ .

PROPOSITION 3. *Let $f(t) \in C_\delta$ and $k \in \mathbb{N}$, then we have*

1. $\frac{t^{\delta-1}}{\Gamma(\delta)} * f(t) = I^\delta f(t)$.
2. $\frac{t^{k\delta-1}}{\Gamma(k\delta)} * f(t) = (I^\delta)^k f(t) = I^{k\delta} f(t)$.

PROOF. The first asertion is a consequence of the definition of the convolution $*$, and using induction method we can get the second one.

Following Mikusiński [3], we denote by $l_\delta = \frac{t^{\delta-1}}{\Gamma(\delta)} \equiv I^\delta$. So when we write $l_\delta f(t)$ we will understand $I^\delta f(t)$.

Now we remark that we can consider $C_\delta \subset M_\delta$ since C_δ is isomorphic to a subring of M_δ through the map $f \rightsquigarrow \frac{l_\delta f}{l_\delta}$. In a similar way the field \mathbb{C} of complex numbers can be embedded into M_δ by associating with every $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ the so called numerical operator $[\alpha] = \frac{\alpha t^{\delta-1}}{t^{\delta-1}}$. The following basic properties of these numerical operators are immediate.

- PROPOSITION 4. 1. $[\alpha] + [\beta] = [\alpha + \beta]$.
 2. $[\alpha] \cdot [\beta] = [\alpha\beta]$.

From now on we denote the numerical operators $[\alpha]$ by α when it leads to no confusion.

PROPOSITION 5. *Let $v_\delta \in M_\delta$ be the algebraic inverse of l_δ . For any function $f(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k t^{k\delta-1}$,*

$$v_\delta f(t) = D^\delta f(t) + \Gamma(\delta) a_1 \quad (2.3)$$

$$v_\delta^m f(t) = (D^\delta)^m f(t) + \sum_{j=1}^m a_j \Gamma(j\delta) v_\delta^{m-j} \quad (2.4)$$

PROOF. To see (2.3), having the identity (2.1) we act on both sides by the operator v_δ and take into account that $a_1 t^{\delta-1}$ is identified with $\frac{l_\delta a_1 t^{\delta-1}}{l_\delta} \in M_\delta$, so $v_\delta a_1 t^{\delta-1} = \frac{a_1 t^{\delta-1}}{l_\delta} = [\Gamma(\delta) a_1] = \Gamma(\delta) a_1$. For (2.4) it is analogous, acting on both sides of (2.2) by v_δ^m .

The next step is to define an operator over C_δ which will be an algebraic derivative.

DEFINITION 1. Let $f \in C_\delta$. We define the operator \mathcal{D} as follows:

$$\mathcal{D}f(t) = -\frac{I^{\delta-1}}{\delta}tf(t).$$

We need to know how \mathcal{D} acts on any member of C_δ .

PROPOSITION 6. $\mathcal{D}f(t) \in C_\delta$ for all $f(t) \in C_\delta$.

PROOF. It is not difficult to show that if $f(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k t^{k\delta-1}$, then

$$-\frac{I^{\delta-1}}{\delta}tf(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k t^{(k+1)\delta-1}$$

where $b_k = -a_k \frac{k\Gamma(k\delta)}{\Gamma((k+1)\delta)}$. An equivalent and more manageable expression is

$$-\frac{I^{\delta-1}}{\delta}tf(t) = (-t^{\delta-1}) * \left[\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k t^{k\delta-1} \right]$$

where $c_k = \frac{ka_k}{\Gamma(\delta)}$.

Now we establish a proposition which shows that \mathcal{D} is an algebraic derivative on C_δ .

PROPOSITION 7. For any functions f and g in C_δ , we have:

1. $\mathcal{D}[f(t) + g(t)] = \mathcal{D}f(t) + \mathcal{D}g(t)$.
2. $\mathcal{D}(f * g)(t) = ([\mathcal{D}f] * g)(t) + (f * [\mathcal{D}g])(t)$.

PROOF. 1. It immediately follows by taking into account that $-\frac{I^{\delta-1}}{\delta}t$ is a linear operator.

2. Let $f(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k t^{k\delta-1}$ and $g(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k t^{k\delta-1}$, then we have:

$$\mathcal{D}(f * g)(t) = \mathcal{D} \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} a_j b_{k-j} B[j\delta, (k-j)\delta] \right\} t^{k\delta-1}.$$

If we denote $c_k = \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} a_j b_{k-j} B[j\delta, (k-j)\delta]$, by using the result obtained in the proof of proposition 6 and the second identity of proposition 1, we can get

$$\mathcal{D}(f * g)(t) = (-t^{\delta-1}) * \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \frac{k}{\Gamma(\delta)} c_k t^{k\delta-1}.$$

In a similar way, it can be proved that

$$([\mathcal{D}f] * g)(t) = (-t^{\delta-1}) * \left[\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{k-2} \frac{j}{\Gamma(\delta)} a_j b_{k-j} B[j\delta, (k-j)\delta] \right\} t^{k\delta-1} \right]$$

and

$$(f * [\mathcal{D}g])(t) = (-t^{\delta-1}) * \left[\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{k-2} \frac{(k-j)}{\Gamma(\delta)} a_j b_{k-j} B[j\delta, (k-j)\delta] \right\} t^{k\delta-1} \right]$$

and using the last three identities the proof is concluded.

Now we can extend the definition of \mathcal{D} to the field M_δ , as usual, by:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D} \frac{f}{g} &= \frac{[\mathcal{D}f] * g - f * [\mathcal{D}g]}{g * g} & (f \in C_\delta, g \in (C_\delta - \{0\})), \\ \mathcal{D} \frac{p}{q} &= \frac{[\mathcal{D}p] \cdot q - p \cdot [\mathcal{D}q]}{q^2} & (p \in M_\delta, q \in (M_\delta - \{0\})). \end{aligned}$$

The next proposition shows the behavior of the algebraic derivative over some particular members of M_δ and will be used to solve an integral-differential equation.

PROPOSITION 8. Let $1 = \frac{t^{\delta-1}}{t^{\delta-1}}$ the unit of M_δ , $0 = \frac{0}{t^{\delta-1}}$, $v_\delta = \frac{1}{l_\delta}$ the algebraic inverse of l_δ in M_δ and $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then:

1. $\mathcal{D}1 = 0$.
2. $\mathcal{D}\alpha = 0$ (α being a numerical operator).
3. $\mathcal{D}(\alpha p) = \alpha \mathcal{D}p$ (for any $p \in M_\delta$).
4. $\mathcal{D}l_\delta^n = -nl_\delta^{n+1}$.
5. $\mathcal{D}v_\delta^n = nv_\delta^{n-1}$.
6. $\mathcal{D}(1 - \alpha l_\delta)^n = n\alpha l_\delta^2(1 - \alpha l_\delta)^{n-1}$.
7. $\mathcal{D}(v_\delta - \alpha)^n = n(v_\delta - \alpha)^{n-1}$.

PROOF. (1) and (2) follow by a simple calculation. (3) is a direct consequence of (2). In (4) we will use induction. Since in our case

$$\mathcal{D}l_\delta = \mathcal{D}\frac{t^{\delta-1}}{\Gamma(\delta)} = -\frac{t^{2\delta-1}}{\Gamma(2\delta)} = -l_\delta^2,$$

if we suppose that (4) is true for $n = k$, then

$$\mathcal{D}l_\delta^{k+1} = \mathcal{D}(l_\delta \cdot l_\delta^k) = [\mathcal{D}l_\delta] \cdot l_\delta^k + l_\delta \cdot [\mathcal{D}l_\delta^k] = -(k+1)l_\delta^{k+2}.$$

For (5) we consider the fact that $v_\delta = \frac{1}{l_\delta}$, so it is not difficult to see that $\mathcal{D}v_\delta = 1$ using (1) and (4), afterwards we can use induction again. Finally, to get (6) and (7),

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{D}(1 - \alpha l_\delta)^n &= \mathcal{D}\left[\sum_{k=1}^n \binom{n}{k} (-\alpha l_\delta)^{n-k}\right] = -\sum_{k=1}^n \binom{n}{k} (-\alpha)^{n-k} (n-k) l_\delta^{n-k+1} \\ &= -\sum_{k=1}^n n \binom{n-1}{k} (-\alpha) l_\delta^2 (-\alpha l_\delta)^{n-k-1} = n\alpha l_\delta^2 (1 - \alpha l_\delta)^{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

however $(v_\delta - \alpha)^n = \frac{(1 - \alpha l_\delta)^n}{l_\delta^n}$, using (6), (4) and the definition of \mathcal{D} on M_δ the proof can be concluded.

REMARK. The last proposition holds for $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ since $p^{-n} = \frac{1}{p^n}$ for any $p \in M_\delta$.

The second identity of the last proposition tell us that the algebraic derivative of the numerical operators is zero, but furthermore we can establish the inverse result.

PROPOSITION 9. Given $p \in M_\delta$, if $\mathcal{D}p = 0$ then p is a numerical operator.

PROOF. Let $p = \frac{f}{g}$ and $\mathcal{D}p = 0$. Since

$$\mathcal{D}p = \frac{([\mathcal{D}f] * g)(t) - (f * [\mathcal{D}g])(t)}{(g * g)(t)}$$

it follows that:

$$([\mathcal{D}f] * g)(t) - (f * [\mathcal{D}g])(t) = 0. \quad (2.5)$$

If we denote $f(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_k t^{k\delta-1}$ and $g(t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} b_k t^{k\delta-1}$, then we have

$$([\mathcal{D}f] * g)(t) = (-t^{\delta-1}) * \left[\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \frac{j}{\Gamma(\delta)} a_j b_{k-j} B(j\delta, (k-j)\delta) \right\} t^{k\delta-1} \right]$$

and

$$(f * [\mathcal{D}g])(t) = (-t^{\delta-1}) * \left[\sum_{k=2}^{\infty} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \frac{(k-j)}{\Gamma(\delta)} a_j b_{k-j} B(j\delta, (k-j)\delta) \right\} t^{k\delta-1} \right]$$

so, (2.5) implies that

$$\sum_{j=1}^{k-1} (2j-k) a_j b_{k-j} B[j\delta, (k-j)\delta] = 0 \quad (\forall k \geq 2). \quad (2.6)$$

Now let us suppose $b_1 \neq 0$. If we take in (2.6) $k = 3$ and $k = 4$ we can get respectively

$$a_1 b_2 = a_2 b_1 \quad \text{and} \quad a_1 b_3 = a_3 b_1;$$

next it is easy to prove that $a_m b_n = a_n b_m$ when $a_1 b_n = a_n b_1$ and $a_1 b_m = a_m b_1$.

Finally, in order to get that $a_1 b_k = a_k b_1$ for any $k \geq 2$ we take into account the following identities

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} (2j-k) a_j b_{k-j} B[j\delta, (k-j)\delta] \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{r-1} (2j-2r) (a_j b_{2r-j} - a_{2r-j} b_j) B[j\delta, (2r-j)\delta] \quad (k=2r), \\ & \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} (2j-k) a_j b_{k-j} B[j\delta, (k-j)\delta] \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^r [2j-(2r+1)] (a_j b_{2r+1-j} - a_{2r+1-j} b_j) B[j\delta, (2r+1-j)\delta] \quad (k=2r+1). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore if $b_1 \neq 0$ we can establish that $a_k = \frac{a_1}{b_1} b_k$ for any $k \geq 1$, in other words

$$\frac{f}{g} = \frac{\alpha g}{g} = \frac{\alpha t^{\delta-1}}{t^{\delta-1}} = [\alpha] \quad \left(\alpha = \frac{a_1}{b_1} \right).$$

To conclude the proof we remark that, however $b_1 = 0$ and $a_1 \neq 0$ allow us to prove that $b_k = 0$ for any k in opposition to the fact that $g(t) \in C_\delta - \{0\}$, $b_1 = 0$ implies $a_1 = 0$ so we can start with $b_2 \neq 0$ and so on.

3. The use of \mathcal{D} to solve an integral-differential equation. As an application of the results obtained in the preceding section, we will solve the integral-differential equation

$$\begin{aligned} -\mathcal{D}(D^\delta)^2 x(t) + (1 + \mathcal{D})D^\delta x(t) - ax(t) &= 0 \quad (x(t) \in C_\delta) \quad (a \in \mathbb{C}) \\ [t^{1-\delta} x(t)]_{t=0} &= 0. \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

Making use of (2.1), (2.2), (2.3), (2.4) and proposition 8, the equation (3.1) becomes

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}x(t)}{x(t)} = \frac{a-1}{v_\delta} - \frac{a}{v_\delta-1} = \frac{l_\delta[l_\delta(1-a)-1]}{1-l_\delta}. \quad (3.2)$$

Several facts are immediately deduced from this expression.

PROPOSITION 10. 1. $x_a = l_\delta(1 - l_\delta)^{-a} \in M_\delta$ is a solution of (3.2).

2. $x_a(t) = \frac{t^{\delta-1}}{\Gamma(a)} {}_1\Psi_1 \left[\begin{matrix} (a, 1); \\ (\delta, \delta); \end{matrix} \right. \left. \begin{matrix} t^\delta \end{matrix} \right]$ is a solution of (3.1).

$$3. D^\delta \int_0^t \frac{(t-\tau)^{\delta-1}}{\Gamma(a)} {}_1\Psi_1 \left[\begin{matrix} (a, 1); \\ (\delta, \delta); \end{matrix} \right. \left. \begin{matrix} (t-\tau)^\delta \end{matrix} \right] \frac{\tau^{\delta-1}}{\Gamma(b)} {}_1\Psi_1 \left[\begin{matrix} (b, 1); \\ (\delta, \delta); \end{matrix} \right. \left. \begin{matrix} \tau^\delta \end{matrix} \right] d\tau \\ = \frac{t^{\delta-1}}{\Gamma(a+b)} {}_1\Psi_1 \left[\begin{matrix} (a+b, 1); \\ (\delta, \delta); \end{matrix} \right. \left. \begin{matrix} t^\delta \end{matrix} \right]$$

where ${}_1\Psi_1$ represents the Wright generalized hypergeometric functions (cf. [4]).

PROOF. 1. We have

$$\mathcal{D}(1 - l_\delta)^{-a} = \mathcal{D} \left[1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \binom{-a}{k} (-1)^k \frac{t^{k\delta-1}}{\Gamma(k\delta)} \right] \\ = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (-a) \binom{-a-1}{k-1} (-1)^{k-1} \frac{t^{(k+1)\delta-1}}{\Gamma[(k+1)\delta]} = (-a) l_\delta^2 (1 - l_\delta)^{-a-1}$$

thus

$$\frac{\mathcal{D}[l_\delta(1 - l_\delta)^{-a}]}{l_\delta(1 - l_\delta)^{-a}} = \frac{l_\delta[l_\delta(1 - a) - 1]}{1 - l_\delta}.$$

2. The solution $x_a = l_\delta(1 - l_\delta)^{-a}$ admits a representation of the form (cf. [3, p. 171])

$$x_a = l_\delta(1 - l_\delta)^{-a} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \binom{-a}{k} (-1)^k l_\delta^{k+1} = t^{\delta-1} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(a)_k}{\Gamma(k+1)} \frac{t^{k\delta}}{\Gamma[(k+1)\delta]} \\ = \frac{t^{\delta-1}}{\Gamma(a)} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{\Gamma(k+a)}{\Gamma(k\delta + \delta)} \frac{t^{k\delta}}{\Gamma(k+1)}$$

thus (cf. [4, p. 50]),

$$x_a(t) = \frac{t^{\delta-1}}{\Gamma(a)} {}_1\Psi_1 \left[\begin{matrix} (a, 1); \\ (\delta, \delta); \end{matrix} \right. \left. \begin{matrix} t^\delta \end{matrix} \right].$$

3. It is consequence of the preceding items.

REMARK. If $-a \in \mathbb{N}$ the series which appears in the proof of the last proposition becomes a polynomial of fractional degree.

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