

1. A Note on Mikusiński's Operational Calculus

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§ 1. Introduction. In [ii], one of the present authors gave a simplified derivation of Mikusiński's operational calculus [i] without appealing to Titchmarsh's theorem concerning the vanishing of the convolution of two continuous functions defined on $[0, \infty)$.

The purpose of the present note is to give a further simplification of [ii] to the effect that we can derive the operational calculus directly from the ring C_H in [ii] without introducing the ring C_p in [ii]. For the sake of convenience for the reader, we shall begin with the definition of the ring C_H .

§ 2. The ring C_H . We denote by C the totality of complex-valued continuous functions defined on $[0, \infty)$. We denote such a function by $\{f(t)\}$ or simply by f , while $f(t)$ means the value at t of the function f . For $f, g \in C$ and $\alpha, \beta \in K$ (=the complex number field) we define

$$(1) \quad \alpha f + \beta g = \{\alpha f(t) + \beta g(t)\} \quad \text{and} \quad fg = \left\{ \int_0^t f(t-s)g(s)ds \right\}.$$

Then C is a commutative ring with respect to the above addition and multiplication over the coefficient field K .

We shall denote by h (l in [i]) the constant function $\{1\} \in C$ so that we have

$$(2) \quad h^n = \left\{ \frac{t^{n-1}}{(n-1)!} \right\} \quad (n=1, 2, \dots),$$

and

$$(3) \quad hf = \left\{ \int_0^t f(s)ds \right\} \quad \text{for } f \in C,$$

i.e. h behaves as an operation of integration. Then we have the following fairly trivial

Proposition 1. For $k \in H = \{k; k = h^n \ (n=1, 2, \dots)\}$ and $f \in C$, the equation $kf = 0$ implies that $f = 0$, where 0 denotes $\{0\} \in C$.

Therefore we can construct the commutative ring C_H of fractions:

$$(4) \quad C_H = \left\{ \frac{f}{k}; f \in C \text{ and } k \in H \right\}$$

where the equality is defined by

$$(5) \quad \frac{f}{k} = \frac{f'}{k'} \quad \text{if and only if } k'f = kf',$$

and the addition and multiplication are defined through

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