



# Research on Fractional Cauchy's Mean Value Theorem

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**ABSTRACT:** Based on Jumarie's modified Riemann-Liouville (R-L) fractional derivative, this article studies the fractional Cauchy's mean value theorem. On the other hand, we also prove the fractional L'Hospital's rule by using fractional Cauchy's mean value theorem. The fractional analytic function and the fractional Rolle's theorem play important roles in this paper. In fact, these results we obtained are generalizations of those in traditional calculus.

**KEYWORDS:** Jumarie Modified R-L Fractional Derivative, Fractional Cauchy's Mean Value Theorem, Fractional L'Hospital's Rule, Fractional Analytic Function, Fractional Rolle's Theorem.

Received 07 August, 2022; Revised 20 August, 2022; Accepted 22 August, 2022 © The author(s) 2022.  
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## I. INTRODUCTION

In applied mathematics and mathematical analysis, a fractional derivative is a derivative of any arbitrary order, whether it is a real number or a complex number. The concept of fractional operators has been introduced almost simultaneously with the development of the classical calculus. The first known reference can be found in the letter of Leibniz and L'Hospital in 1695, which raised the question of the meaning of the semi-derivative. This problem has thus attracted the interest of a lot of famous mathematicians, including Euler, Liouville, Laplace, Riemann, Riesz, Grünwald, Letnikov, Weyland many others. Since the 19th century, the theory of fractional calculus has developed rapidly, mainly as a foundation for a number of applied disciplines, including fractional differential equations and fractional dynamics. The applications of fractional calculus are very wide nowadays. Almost all modern engineering and science has been affected by the tools and techniques of fractional calculus. For example, it can find wide and fruitful applications in economics, viscoelasticity, statistical physics, quantum mechanics, robotics, control theory, electrical and mechanical engineering, bioengineering, and so on [1-12]. The applications of fractional calculus to fractional differential equations can refer to [13-15].

However, different from the traditional calculus, the rule of fractional derivative is not unique, many scholars have given the definitions of fractional derivatives. The common definitions are Riemann-Liouville (R-L) fractional derivatives, Caputo fractional derivatives, Grünwald-Letnikov (G-L) fractional derivatives, and Jumarie type of R-L fractional derivatives to avoid non-zero fractional derivative of constant function [16-19].

In this paper, we prove the fractional Cauchy's mean value theorem based on Jumarie type of R-L fractional derivative. Moreover, we also use the fractional Cauchy's mean value theorem to prove the fractional L'Hospital's rule. On the other hand, the fractional Rolle's theorem and the concept of fractional analytic function play important roles in this study. In fact, the fractional Cauchy's mean value theorem is the generalization of Cauchy's mean value theorem in classical calculus.

## II. DEFINITIONS AND PROPERTIES

First, the fractional calculus used in this paper and some properties are introduced below.

**Definition 2.1** ([20]): Suppose that  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ , and  $x_0$  is a real number. The Jumarie's modified R-L  $\alpha$ -fractional derivative is defined by

$$({}_{x_0}D_x^\alpha)[f(x)] = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\alpha)} \frac{d}{dx} \int_{x_0}^x \frac{f(t)-f(x_0)}{(x-t)^\alpha} dt. \quad (1)$$

where  $\Gamma(\cdot)$  is the gamma function.

**Proposition 2.2** ([21]): If  $\alpha, \beta, x_0, C$  are real numbers and  $\beta \geq \alpha > 0$ , then

$$({}_{x_0}D_x^\alpha)[(x-x_0)^\beta] = \frac{\Gamma(\beta+1)}{\Gamma(\beta-\alpha+1)}(x-x_0)^{\beta-\alpha}, \quad (2)$$

and

$$({}_{x_0}D_x^\alpha)[C] = 0. \quad (3)$$

**Definition 2.3**([22]): Let  $x, x_0$ , and  $a_k$  be real numbers for all  $k$ ,  $x_0 \in (a, b)$ ,  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ . If the function  $f_\alpha: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  can be expressed as an  $\alpha$ -fractional power series, i.e.,  $f_\alpha(x^\alpha) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_k}{\Gamma(k\alpha+1)}(x-x_0)^{k\alpha}$  on some open interval  $(x_0-r, x_0+r)$ , then  $f_\alpha(x^\alpha)$  is called  $\alpha$ -fractional analytic at  $x_0$ , where  $r$  is the radius of convergence about  $x_0$ . Moreover, if  $f_\alpha: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous on closed interval  $[a, b]$  and it is  $\alpha$ -fractional analytic at every point in open interval  $(a, b)$ , then  $f_\alpha$  is called an  $\alpha$ -fractional analytic function on  $[a, b]$ .

**Theorem 2.4**(fractional Rolle's theorem)([23]): Let  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$  and  $(-1)^\alpha = -1$ . If  $\varphi_\alpha(x^\alpha)$  is a  $\alpha$ -fractional analytic function on closed interval  $[a, b]$  with  $\varphi_\alpha(a^\alpha) = \varphi_\alpha(b^\alpha)$ , then there exists  $\xi \in (a, b)$  such that  $({}_\xi D_x^\alpha)[\varphi_\alpha(x^\alpha)](\xi^\alpha) = 0$ .

### III. MAIN RESULT AND APPLICATION

In the following, we prove the major result of this paper.

**Theorem 3.1**(fractional Cauchy's mean value theorem): Assume that  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ ,  $a < b$ , and  $f_\alpha(x^\alpha), g_\alpha(x^\alpha)$  are  $\alpha$ -fractional analytic functions on  $[a, b]$ . If  $({}_c D_x^\alpha)[g_\alpha(x^\alpha)](c) \neq 0$  for all  $c \in (a, b)$ , then there exists  $\xi \in (a, b)$  such that

$$\frac{f_\alpha(b^\alpha) - f_\alpha(a^\alpha)}{g_\alpha(b^\alpha) - g_\alpha(a^\alpha)} = \frac{({}_\xi D_x^\alpha)[f_\alpha(x^\alpha)](\xi^\alpha)}{({}_\xi D_x^\alpha)[g_\alpha(x^\alpha)](\xi^\alpha)}. \quad (4)$$

**Proof** Let

$$\varphi_\alpha(x^\alpha) = f_\alpha(x^\alpha) - \frac{f_\alpha(b^\alpha) - f_\alpha(a^\alpha)}{g_\alpha(b^\alpha) - g_\alpha(a^\alpha)} \cdot g_\alpha(x^\alpha). \quad (5)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_\alpha(a^\alpha) &= f_\alpha(a^\alpha) - \frac{f_\alpha(b^\alpha) - f_\alpha(a^\alpha)}{g_\alpha(b^\alpha) - g_\alpha(a^\alpha)} \cdot g_\alpha(a^\alpha) \\ &= \frac{g_\alpha(b^\alpha) \cdot f_\alpha(a^\alpha) - g_\alpha(a^\alpha) \cdot f_\alpha(b^\alpha)}{g_\alpha(b^\alpha) - g_\alpha(a^\alpha)}. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

And

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_\alpha(b^\alpha) &= f_\alpha(b^\alpha) - \frac{f_\alpha(b^\alpha) - f_\alpha(a^\alpha)}{g_\alpha(b^\alpha) - g_\alpha(a^\alpha)} \cdot g_\alpha(b^\alpha) \\ &= \frac{g_\alpha(b^\alpha) \cdot f_\alpha(a^\alpha) - g_\alpha(a^\alpha) \cdot f_\alpha(b^\alpha)}{g_\alpha(b^\alpha) - g_\alpha(a^\alpha)}. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Therefore,  $\varphi_\alpha(a^\alpha) = \varphi_\alpha(b^\alpha)$ . By fractional Rolle's theorem, there exists  $\xi \in (a, b)$  such that  $({}_\xi D_x^\alpha)[\varphi_\alpha(x^\alpha)](\xi^\alpha) = 0$ . Thus,

$$({}_\xi D_x^\alpha)[f_\alpha(x^\alpha)](\xi^\alpha) = \frac{f_\alpha(b^\alpha) - f_\alpha(a^\alpha)}{g_\alpha(b^\alpha) - g_\alpha(a^\alpha)} \cdot ({}_\xi D_x^\alpha)[g_\alpha(x^\alpha)](\xi^\alpha). \quad (8)$$

And hence,

$$\frac{f_\alpha(b^\alpha) - f_\alpha(a^\alpha)}{g_\alpha(b^\alpha) - g_\alpha(a^\alpha)} = \frac{({}_\xi D_x^\alpha)[f_\alpha(x^\alpha)](\xi^\alpha)}{({}_\xi D_x^\alpha)[g_\alpha(x^\alpha)](\xi^\alpha)}. \quad \text{Q.e.d.}$$

Next, we provide an application of fractional Cauchy's mean value theorem.

**Theorem 3.2**(fractional L'Hospital's rule): Assume that  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ ,  $p$  is a real number, and  $f_\alpha(x^\alpha), g_\alpha(x^\alpha)$  are  $\alpha$ -fractional analytic functions at  $p$ . If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} f_\alpha(x^\alpha) = 0$ ,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} g_\alpha(x^\alpha) = 0$ , and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} \frac{({}_p D_x^\alpha)[f_\alpha(x^\alpha)]}{({}_p D_x^\alpha)[g_\alpha(x^\alpha)]}$  exists.

Then  $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} \frac{f_\alpha(x^\alpha)}{g_\alpha(x^\alpha)}$  exists, and

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow p} \frac{f_\alpha(x^\alpha)}{g_\alpha(x^\alpha)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow p} \frac{({}_p D_x^\alpha)[f_\alpha(x^\alpha)]}{({}_p D_x^\alpha)[g_\alpha(x^\alpha)]}. \quad (9)$$

**Proof** We may assume that  $f_\alpha(p^\alpha) = g_\alpha(p^\alpha) = 0$ . Thus, by fractional Cauchy's mean value theorem, there exists

$\xi$  between  $p$  and  $x$  such that

$$\frac{f_\alpha(x^\alpha)}{g_\alpha(x^\alpha)} = \frac{f_\alpha(x^\alpha) - f_\alpha(p^\alpha)}{g_\alpha(x^\alpha) - g_\alpha(p^\alpha)} = \frac{({}_\xi D_x^\alpha)[f_\alpha(x^\alpha)](\xi^\alpha)}{({}_\xi D_x^\alpha)[g_\alpha(x^\alpha)](\xi^\alpha)}. \quad (10)$$

Therefore,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow p} \frac{f_\alpha(x^\alpha)}{g_\alpha(x^\alpha)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow p} \frac{f_\alpha(x^\alpha) - f_\alpha(p^\alpha)}{g_\alpha(x^\alpha) - g_\alpha(p^\alpha)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow p} \frac{({}_\xi D_x^\alpha)[f_\alpha(x^\alpha)](\xi^\alpha)}{({}_\xi D_x^\alpha)[g_\alpha(x^\alpha)](\xi^\alpha)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow p} \frac{({}_p D_x^\alpha)[f_\alpha(x^\alpha)]}{({}_p D_x^\alpha)[g_\alpha(x^\alpha)]}. \quad \text{Q.e.d.}$$

**Remark 3.3:** In Theorem 3.2, the real number  $c$  can be replaced by  $c^+, c^-, +\infty$ , or  $-\infty$ . And  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f_\alpha(x^\alpha)$  and

$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} g_\alpha(x^\alpha)$  may be  $+\infty$ , or  $-\infty$ .

#### IV. CONCLUSION

This paper mainly studies the fractional Cauchy's mean value theorem based on Jumarie type of R-L fractional derivative. In addition, we use the fractional Cauchy's mean value theorem to prove the fractional L'Hospital's rule. The fractional Rolle's theorem and the fractional analytic function play important roles in this article. In the future, we will continue to use fractional Cauchy's mean value theorem and fractional L'Hospital's rule to solve the problems in fractional calculus and applied mathematics.

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