## SYMMETRIC BI-DERIVATIONS OF SUBTRACTION ALGEBRAS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we introduce the notion of symmetric bi-derivations on subtraction algebra and investigated some related properties. We prove that a map  $D: X \times X \to X$  is a symmetric bi-derivation on X if and only if D is a symmetric map and it satisfies D(x - y, z) = D(x, z) - y for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

# 1. Introduction

B. M. Schein [4] considered systems of the form  $(\Phi; \circ, \backslash)$ , where  $\Phi$  is a set of functions closed under the composition " $\circ$ " of functions (and hence  $(\Phi; \circ)$  is a function semigroup) and the set theoretic subtraction " $\backslash$ " (and hence  $(\Phi; \backslash)$  is a subtraction algebra in the sense of [1]. He proved that every subtraction semigroup is isomorphic to a difference semigroup of invertible functions. B. Zelinka [6] discussed a problem proposed by B. M. Schein concerning the structure of multiplication in a subtraction semigroup. He solved the problem for subtraction algebras of a special type, called the atomic subtraction algebras. In this paper, we introduced the notion of symmetric bi-derivations on subtraction algebra and investigated some related properties. We prove that a map  $D: X \times X \to X$  is a symmetric bi-derivation on X if and only if D is a symmetric map and it satisfies D(x - y, z) = D(x, z) - y for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

#### 2. Preliminaries

We first recall some basic concepts which are used to present the paper. By a *subtraction algebra* we mean an algebra (X; -) with a single binary operation "-" that satisfies the following identities: for any  $x, y, z \in X$ ,

 $(S1) \ x - (y - x) = x;$ 

(S2) x - (x - y) = y - (y - x);

(S3) (x - y) - z = (x - z) - y.

The last identity permits us to omit parentheses in expressions of the form (x-y)-z. The subtraction determines an order relation on X:  $a \leq b \Leftrightarrow a - b = 0$ , where 0 = a - a is an element that does not depend on the choice of  $a \in X$ . The ordered set  $(X; \leq)$  is a semi-Boolean algebra in the sense of [1], that is, it is a meet semilattice

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with zero 0 in which every interval [0, a] is a Boolean algebra with respect to the induced order. Here  $a \wedge b = a - (a - b)$ ; the complement of an element  $b \in [0, a]$  is a - b; and if  $b, c \in [0, a]$ , then

$$\begin{array}{lll} b \lor c &=& (b' \land c')' = a - ((a-b) \land (a-c)) \\ &=& a - ((a-b) - ((a-b) - (a-c))). \end{array}$$

In a subtraction algebra, the following are true for every  $x, y, z \in X$  (see [4]):

(p1) (x - y) - y = x - y. (p2) x - 0 = x and 0 - x = 0. (p3) (x - y) - x = 0. (p4)  $x - (x - y) \le y$ . (p5) (x - y) - (y - x) = x - y. (p6) x - (x - (x - y)) = x - y. (p7)  $(x - y) - (z - y) \le x - z$ . (p8)  $x \le y$  if and only if x = y - w for some  $w \in X$ . (p9)  $x \le y$  implies  $x - z \le y - z$  and  $z - y \le z - x$  for all  $z \in X$ . (p10)  $x, y \le z$  implies  $x - y = x \land (z - y)$ . (p11)  $(x \land y) - (x \land z) \le x \land (y - z)$ . (p12) (x - y) - z = (x - z) - (y - z).

A mapping d from a subtraction algebra X to a subtraction algebra Y is called a *morphism* if f(x - y) = f(x) - f(y) for all  $x, y \in X$ . A self map d of a subtraction algebra X which is a morphism is called an *endomorphism*.

LEMMA 2.1. Let X be a subtraction algebra. Then the following properties hold: (1)  $x \wedge y = y \wedge x$ , for every  $x, y \in X$ . (2)  $x - y \leq x$  for all  $x, y \in X$ .

LEMMA 2.2. Every subtraction algebra X satisfies the following property

$$(x-y) - (x-z) \le z - y$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

DEFINITION 2.3. Let X be a subtraction algebra and Y a non-empty set of X. Then Y is called a *subalgebra* if  $x - y \in Y$  whenever  $x, y \in Y$ .

DEFINITION 2.4. A nonempty subset I of a subtraction algebra X is called an *ideal* of X if it satisfies

 $(I1) \ 0 \in I,$ 

(I2) for any  $x, y \in X$ ,  $y \in I$  and  $x - y \in I$  implies  $x \in I$ .

For an ideal I of a subtraction algebra X, it is clear that  $x \leq y$  and  $y \in I$  imply  $x \in I$  for any  $x, y \in X$ .

DEFINITION 2.5. Let X be a subtraction algebra. A mapping  $D(.,.): X \times X \to X$  is called *symmetric* if D(x,y) = D(y,x) holds for all  $x, y \in X$ .

DEFINITION 2.6. Let X be a subtraction algebra and  $x \in X$ . A mapping d(x) = D(x, x) is called a *trace* of D(., .), where  $D(., .) : X \times X \to X$  is a symmetric mapping.

DEFINITION 2.7. Let X be a subtraction algebra. By a *derivation* of X, a self-map f of X satisfying the identity  $f(x - y) = (f(x) - y) \land (x - f(y))$  for all  $x, y \in X$  is meant.

# 3. Symmetric bi-derivations of subtraction algebras

In what follows, let X denote a subtraction algebra unless otherwise specified.

DEFINITION 3.1. Let X be a subtraction algebra and  $D : X \times X \to X$  be a symmetric mapping. We call D a symmetric bi-derivation on X if it satisfies the following condition

$$D(x-y,z) = (D(x,z)-y) \land (x-D(y,z))$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

EXAMPLE 3.2. Let  $X = \{0, a, b\}$  be a subtraction algebra with the following Cayley table

$$\begin{array}{c|ccccc} - & 0 & a & b \\ \hline 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a & a & 0 & a \\ b & b & b & 0 \end{array}$$

Define a map  $D: X \times X \to X$  by

$$D(x,y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } (x,y) = (0,0), (0,a), (a,0), (0,b), (b,0) \\ a & \text{if } (x,y) = (a,a), (a,b), (b,a) \\ b & \text{if } (x,y) = (b,b) \end{cases}$$

Then it is easily checked that D is a symmetric bi-derivation of subtraction algebra X.

PROPOSITION 3.3. Let D be a symmetric bi-derivation of subtraction algebra X and d the trace of symmetric bi-derivation D on X. Then the following identities hold: (1) D(0,0) = 0.

(1) D(0, x) = D(x, 0) = 0 for all  $x \in X$ . (3)  $d(x) \le x$  for all  $x \in X$ .

*Proof.* (1) Since D(0,0) = D(0-0,0), we have

$$D(0,0) = D(0-0,0) = (D(0,0)-0) \land (0-D(0,0))$$
  
= D(0,0) \land 0 = D(0,0) - (D(0,0)-0)  
= D(0,0) - D(0,0) = 0.

(2) For all  $x \in X$ , we get

$$D(0,x) = D(0-0,x) = (D(0,x)-0) \land (0-D(0,x))$$
  
=  $D(0,x) \land 0 = D(0,x) - (D(0,x)-0)$   
=  $D(0,x) - D(0,x) = 0.$ 

(3) Since d(x) = D(x, x), we obtain

$$d(x) = D(x, x) = D(x - 0, x) = (D(x, x) - 0) \land (x - D(0, x))$$
  
=  $D(x, x) \land x = D(x, x) - (D(x, x) - x)$   
=  $x - (x - D(x, x))$  (by (S2))  
 $\leq x$  (by Lemma 2.1 (2))

K. H. Kim

PROPOSITION 3.4. Let X be a subtraction algebra and d the trace of symmetric bi-derivation D on X. Then d(0) = 0.

*Proof.* Let  $x \in X$ . Then we have

$$d(0) = D(0,0) = D(0-x,0) = (D(0,0)-x) \land (0-D(x,0))$$
  
= (0-x) \lands 0 - 0 = (0 \lands 0) = 0.

This completes the proof.

PROPOSITION 3.5. Let X be a subtraction algebra and d a trace of symmetric bi-derivation D on X. Then the following identities hold.

(1)  $D(x,y) = D(x,y) \land x$  for every  $x, y \in X$ . (2)  $d(x) = d(x) \land x$  for every  $x, y \in X$ .

 $(2) \ u(x) = u(x) \land x \text{ for every } x, y \in \mathbf{A}.$ 

*Proof.* (1) Let  $x, y \in X$ . Then we have

$$D(x, y) = D(x - 0, y)$$
  
=  $(D(x, y) - 0) \land (x - D(0, y))$   
=  $D(x, y) \land (x - 0) = D(x, y) \land x$ .

(2) Let  $x \in X$ . Then we obtain

$$d(x) = D(x, x) = D(x - 0, x) = (D(x, x) - 0) \land (x - D(0, x)) = D(x, x) \land x = d(x) \land x.$$

PROPOSITION 3.6. Let X be a subtraction algebra and d a trace of symmetric bi-derivation D on X. Then the following identities hold.

(1) D(d(x) - x, x) = 0 for every  $x \in X$ . (2) d(x - d(x)) = 0 for every  $x \in X$ .

*Proof.* (1) Let  $x \in X$ . Then we have

$$(D(d(x) - x, x) = D(d(x), x) - x) \land (d(x) - D(x, x))$$
  
=  $(D(d(x), x) - x) \land 0$   
=  $(D(d(x), x) - x) - (D(d(x), x) - x) = 0$ 

(2) Let  $x \in X$ . Then we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} d(x - d(x)) &= D(x - d(x), x - d(x)) \\ &= (D(x, x - d(x)) - d(x)) \land (x - D(d(x), x - d(x))) \\ &= ((D(x - d(x), x) - d(x)) - d(x)) \land (x - D(x - d(x), d(x))) \\ &= ((D(x, x) - d(x) \land (x - D(d(x), x)) - d(x)) \land (x - D(x - d(x), d(x))) \\ &= 0 \land (x - D(x - d(x), d(x))) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

PROPOSITION 3.7. Let X be a subtraction algebra and D a symmetric bi-derivation on X. Then  $D(x, y) \leq x$  and  $D(x, y) \leq y$  for all  $x, y \in X$ .

*Proof.* For all  $x \in X$ , we have  $D(x, y) = D(x-0, y) = (D(x, y)-0) \land (x-D(0, y)) = D(x, y) \land x = D(x, y) - (D(x, y) - x) = x - (x - D(x, y)) \le x$ . Hence  $D(x, y) \le x$ . Similarly, we have  $D(x, y) \le y$ . □

COROLLARY 3.8. Let X be a subtraction algebra and D a symmetric bi-derivation on X. Then  $D(x, y) - y \le x - D(x, y)$  for every  $x, y \in X$ .

*Proof.* For all  $x, y \in X$ , we have  $D(x, y) - y \leq x - y$  and  $x - y \leq x - D(x, y)$  from (p9) and Proposition 3.7. Hence we obtain  $D(x, y) - y \leq x - D(x, y)$ . This completes the proof.

THEOREM 3.9. Let X be a subtraction algebra and  $D: X \times X \to X$  be a symmetric map defined by D(x - y, z) = D(x, z) - y for every  $x, y \in X$ . Then D is a symmetric bi-derivation on X.

*Proof.* For any  $y \in X$ , we have D(0, y) = D(0 - D(0, y), y) = D(0, y) - D(0, y) = 0. Hence it follows that

$$D(x,y) - x = D(x - x, y) = D(0, y) = 0$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ . Since  $D(x, z) \leq x$  and  $D(y, z) \leq y$ , we have

$$D(x,z) - y \le x - y \le x - D(y,z)$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . Hence  $D(x - y, z) = (D(x, z) - y) \land (x - D(y, z)) = D(x, z) - y$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ , which implies that D is a symmetric bi-derivation on X.  $\Box$ 

THEOREM 3.10. Let X be a subtraction algebra and  $D : X \times X \to X$  be a symmetric bi-derivation on X. Then D satisfies D(x - y, z) = D(x, z) - y for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

*Proof.* Let D be a symmetric bi-derivation and  $x, y, z \in X$ . Since  $D(x, z) \leq x$  and  $D(y, z) \leq y$  by Proposition 3.7, we have

$$D(x,z) - y \le x - y \le x - D(y,z)$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ . Hence  $D(x - y, z) = (D(x, z) - y) \land (x - D(y, z)) = D(x, z) - y$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

As a consequence of Proposition 3.9 and 3.10, we get the following theorem.

THEOREM 3.11. Let X be a subtraction algebra. A map  $D: X \times X \to X$  is a symmetric bi-derivation on X if and only if D is a symmetric map and it satisfies D(x - y, z) = D(x, z) - y for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

PROPOSITION 3.12. Let X be a subtraction algebra and d be a trace of symmetric bi-derivation D on X. Then d(x - y) = d(x) - y for all  $x, y \in X$ .

*Proof.* Let d be a trace of symmetric bi-derivation D on X. From (p1), we have

$$d(x - y) = D(x - y, x - y) = D(x, x - y) - y$$
  
=  $D(x - y, x) - y = (D(x, x) - y) - y$   
=  $(d(x) - y) - y = d(x) - y$ 

for all  $x, y \in X$ .

PROPOSITION 3.13. Let X be a subtraction algebra and d a trace of D. Then  $d(x \wedge y) = d(x) - (x - y)$  for all  $x, y \in X$ .

K. H. Kim

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in X$ . From (p1), we have

$$d(x \wedge y) = D(x \wedge y, x \wedge y)$$
  
=  $D(x - (x - y), x - (x - y)) = D(x, x - (x - y)) - (x - y)$   
=  $D(x - (x - y), x) - (x - y)$   
=  $(D(x, x) - (x - y)) - (x - y)$   
=  $d(x) - (x - y).$ 

This completes the proof.

COROLLARY 3.14. Let X be a subtraction algebra and d a trace of D. Then  $d(0 \land x) = 0$  for every  $x \in X$ .

*Proof.* Since  $0 \le x$  for all  $x \in X$ , we have  $d(0 \land x) = d(0) - (0 - x) = 0 - 0 = 0$ . This completes the proof.

DEFINITION 3.15. Let X be a subtraction algebra and D a symmetric bi-derivation of X. For a fixed element  $a \in X$ , let us define a map  $d_a : X \to X$  such that  $d_a(x) = D(x, a)$  for every  $x \in X$ .

THEOREM 3.16. Let X be a subtraction algebra and D a symmetric bi-derivation of X. For each  $a \in X$ , the map  $d_a$  defined above is a derivation of X.

*Proof.* For a fixed element  $a \in X$ , let us define a map  $d_a : X \to X$  such that  $d_a(x) = D(x, a)$  for every  $x \in X$ . Now for every  $x, y \in X$ , we have

$$d_a(x-y) = D(x-y,a)$$
  
=  $(D(x,a) - y) \land (x - D(y,a))$   
=  $(d_a(x) - y) \land (x - d_a(y)).$ 

This completes the proof.

THEOREM 3.17. Let X be a subtraction algebra and D a symmetric bi-derivation of X. Then  $d_a$  is an isotone derivation of X.

*Proof.* Let  $x, y \in X$  be such that  $x \leq y$ . Then by (p8), we obtain x = y - w for some  $w \in X$ . Hence

$$d_a(x) = d_a(y - w) = D(y - w, a)$$
$$= D(y, a) - w \le D(y, a) = d_a(y)$$

by Lemma 2.1 (2) and Theorem 3.10.

PROPOSITION 3.18. Let X be a subtraction algebra and D a symmetric bi-derivation on X. If there exist  $a \in X$  such that a - D(x, z) = 0, for all  $x, z \in X$ , we have a = 0.

*Proof.* Let X be a subtraction algebra and D a symmetric bi-derivation on X. Assume that there exist  $a \in X$  such that a - D(x, z) = 0, for all  $x, z \in X$ . Since D is a symmetric bi-derivation, we get

$$0 = a - D(a - x, z) = a - ((D(a, z) - x) \land a - (D(x, z)))$$
  
= a - (D(a, z) - x \land 0) = a - 0 = a.

This completes the proof.

DEFINITION 3.19. Let X be a subtraction algebra and D a symmetric bi-derivation on X. If  $x \leq w$  implies  $D(x,y) \leq D(w,y)$ , D is called an *isotone symmetric biderivation* on X.

THEOREM 3.20. Let X be a subtraction algebra and D a symmetric bi-derivation on X. Then D is an isotone symmetric bi-derivation on X.

*Proof.* Let  $x, w \in X$  be such that  $x \leq w$ . Then x = w - v from (p8). Hence we have

$$D(x, y) = D(w - v, y) = (D(w, y) - v) \land (w - D(v, y))$$
  
=  $(D(w, y) - v) - ((D(w, y) - v) - (w - D(v, y)))$   
 $\leq D(w, y) - v$  (by Lemma 2.1(2))  
 $\leq D(w, y).$ 

PROPOSITION 3.21. Let D be a symmetric bi-derivation on X. Then the following identities hold.

(1)  $D(x \wedge y, z) \leq D(x, z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

(2)  $D(x \wedge y, z) \leq D(y, z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

*Proof.* (1) Since  $x \wedge y = x - (x - y) \leq x$  from (p4), by Proposition 3.20, we have  $D(x \wedge y, z) \leq D(x, z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

(2) Similarly,  $x \wedge y = x - (x - y) = y - (y - x) \le y$  from (p4), we have  $D(x \wedge y, z) \le D(y, z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

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