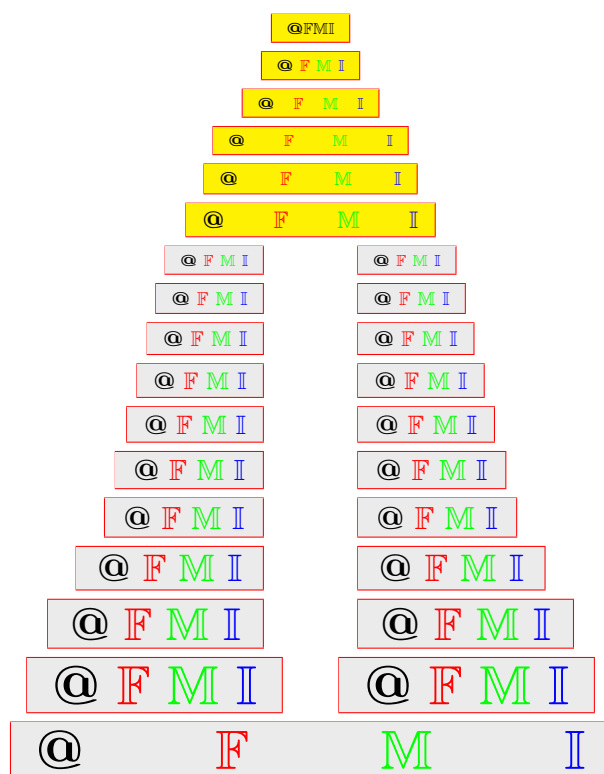


## Soft differentiation in vector soft topology

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**ABSTRACT.** In the present paper a notion of soft differentiation in vector soft topologies has been introduced and some basic properties of soft differentiable functions have been studied.

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**Keywords:** Soft set, Soft element, Soft topological spaces, Vector soft topology, Soft tangent, Soft differentiation

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

The theory of differential calculus in linear topological spaces has important applications to general differential geometry, general dynamics and general continuous group theory. The first definition of derivative of a function whose arguments and values lie in linear topological spaces was proposed by Michal and Paxon (1936) [12]. After that various definitions were proposed by several authors [10, 4, 5, 6] etc. The notion of differentiation was extended in fuzzy topological vector spaces by Ferraro and Foster [2]. Molodtsov [13] initiated a novel concept of soft set theory and then this concept is discussed and studied its applications by various authors [7, 8, 17]. In recent years, some soft separation axioms in soft topological spaces are introduced and studied [11, 3]. In 2015, the notion of vector soft topology is introduced and separation properties of vector soft topology are studied [1]. As a continuation of [1], in this paper we attempt to introduce the concept of soft differential in vector soft topologies using soft continuous function and one of the soft separation axioms that is soft  $T_1$ . Here, we shall consider the soft topology of the range space of a soft differentiable function is soft  $T_1$  and contains a balanced soft neighbourhood base at the soft point corresponding to the null vector.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

**Definition 2.1** ([13]). Let  $X$  be a universal set,  $A$  be a set of parameters,  $P(X)$  denote the power set of  $X$  and  $B \subseteq A$ . A pair  $(F, B)$  is called a soft set over  $X$ , where  $F$  is a mapping given by  $F : B \rightarrow P(X)$ .

In [9] the soft sets are redefined as follows: Let  $B$  be the set of parameters and  $B \subseteq A$ . Then for each soft set  $(F, B)$  over  $X$  a soft set  $(H, A)$  is constructed over

$$X, \text{ where } \forall \alpha \in A, H(\alpha) = \begin{cases} F(\alpha) & \text{if } \alpha \in B \\ \phi & \text{if } \alpha \in A \setminus B. \end{cases}$$

Thus the soft sets  $(F, B)$  and  $(H, A)$  are equivalent to each other and the usual set operations of the soft sets  $(F_i, B_i), i \in \Delta$  is the same as those of the soft sets  $(H_i, A), i \in \Delta$ . For this reason, in this paper, we have considered our soft sets over the same parameter set  $A$ .

Set theoretic operations are considered as in [7, 8, 13] considering the same parameter set  $A$ .

Unless otherwise stated,  $X$  will be assumed to be an initial universal set,  $A$  will be taken to be a set of parameters and  $S(X, A)$  denote the set of all soft sets over  $X$ .

**Definition 2.2** ([15]). A soft point  $E_\alpha^x$  (soft element [15]) is a soft set  $(E, A)$  such that  $E(\alpha)$  is a singleton, say,  $\{x\}$  and  $E(\beta) = \phi, \forall \beta \in A \setminus \{\alpha\}$ .  $E_\alpha^x$  is said to be in  $(F, A)$ , denoted by  $E_\alpha^x \tilde{\in} (F, A)$ , if  $x \in F(\alpha)$ .  $\mathfrak{S}$  denotes the set of all soft points of  $X$ .

**Definition 2.3** ([15]). Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two non-empty sets and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a mapping. Then for  $(F, A) \in S(X, A)$  and  $(G, A) \in S(Y, A)$

- (i)  $f[(F, A)] = (f(F), A)$ , where  $[f(F)](\alpha) = f[F(\alpha)], \forall \alpha \in A$ ,
- (ii)  $f^{-1}[(G, A)] = (f^{-1}(G), A)$ , where  $[f^{-1}(G)](\alpha) = f^{-1}[G(\alpha)], \forall \alpha \in A$ .

**Definition 2.4** ([16]). Let  $\tau$  be a collection of soft sets over  $X$ . Then  $\tau$  is said to be a soft topology on  $X$ , if

- (i)  $(\tilde{\Phi}, A), (\tilde{X}, A) \in \tau$ , where  $\tilde{\Phi}(\alpha) = \phi$  and  $\tilde{X}(\alpha) = X, \forall \alpha \in A$ ,
- (ii) the intersection of any two soft sets in  $\tau$  belongs to  $\tau$ ,
- (iii) the union of any number of soft sets in  $\tau$  belongs to  $\tau$ .

The triplet  $(X, A, \tau)$  is called a soft topological space over  $X$ .

**Definition 2.5** ([15]). A soft topology  $\tau$  on  $X$  is said to be an enriched soft topology, if the condition (i) of Definition 2.4 is replaced by (i)':

- (i)'  $(F, A) \in \tau$ , for all pseudo constant soft set  $(F, A)$  (i.e.  $F(\alpha) = X$  or  $\phi, \forall \alpha \in A$ ). The triplet  $(X, A, \tau)$  is called an enriched soft topological space.

**Proposition 2.6** ([1]). Let for each  $\alpha \in A, \tau^\alpha$  is a crisp topology on  $X$ . Then  $\tau^* = \{(G, A) \in S(X, A) : G(\alpha) \in \tau^\alpha, \forall \alpha \in A\}$  is an enriched soft topology on  $X$ .

**Definition 2.7** ([15]). Let  $(X, A, \tau)$  be a soft topological space.  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \tau$  is said to be an open base of  $\tau$ , if each  $(F, A) \in \tau$  can be expressed as the union of some members of  $\mathcal{B}$ .

**Definition 2.8** ([14]).  $f : (X, A, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, A, \nu)$  is said to be soft continuous, if for any  $(G, A) \in \nu$ , there is  $(F, A) \in \tau$  such that  $f(F, A) \subseteq (G, A)$ .

**Proposition 2.9** ([14]).  $f : (X, A, \tau) \rightarrow (Y, A, \nu)$  is soft continuous if and only if  $\forall x \in X, \alpha \in A$  and  $\forall (V, A) \in \nu$  such that  $E_\alpha^{f(x)} \tilde{\in} (V, A)$ ,  $\exists (U, A) \in \tau$  such that  $E_\alpha^x \tilde{\in} (U, A)$  and  $f[(U, A)] \tilde{\subseteq} (V, A)$ .

**Definition 2.10** ([14]). The soft topology on  $X_1 \times X_2$  induced by the open base  $\mathcal{F} = \{(F, A) \tilde{\times} (G, A) : (F, A) \in \tau_1, (G, A) \in \tau_2\}$  is said to be the product soft topology of  $\tau_1$  and  $\tau_2$ . It is denoted by  $\tau_1 \tilde{\times} \tau_2$  and  $(X_1 \times X_2, A, \tau_1 \tilde{\times} \tau_2)$  is said to be the soft topological product of the soft topological spaces  $(X_1, A, \tau_1)$  and  $(X_2, A, \tau_2)$ .

**Proposition 2.11** ([14]). The projection mappings  $\pi_i : (X_1 \times X_2, A, \tau_1 \tilde{\times} \tau_2) \rightarrow (X_i, A, \tau_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  are soft continuous and soft open. Further for any soft topological space  $(Y, A, \nu)$ ,  $f : (Y, A, \nu) \rightarrow (X_1 \times X_2, A, \tau_1 \tilde{\times} \tau_2)$  is soft continuous if and only if  $\pi_i \circ f : (Y, A, \nu) \rightarrow (X_i, A, \tau_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$  are soft continuous.

**Definition 2.12** ([15]).  $(X, A, \tau)$  is said to be soft  $T_1$ , if for  $E_\alpha^x, E_\beta^y \in \mathfrak{S}$  with  $E_\alpha^x \neq E_\beta^y$ ,  $\exists (F, A), (G, A) \in \tau$  such that  $E_\alpha^x \tilde{\in} (F, A)$ ,  $E_\beta^y \not\tilde{\in} (F, A)$  and  $E_\beta^y \tilde{\in} (G, A)$ ,  $E_\alpha^x \not\tilde{\in} (G, A)$ .

Throughout the rest of the paper we use the notation  $V$  for the vector space  $(V, +, \cdot)$  over the scalar field  $K$ , where  $K$  is the field of real or complex numbers,  $A$  is the parameter set. Also, we use the notation  $xy$  instead of  $x \cdot y$ .

**Definition 2.13** ([1]). For  $(F, A), (G, A) \in S(V, A)$ ,  $k \in K$ ,  $x \in V$ ,  $(H, A) \in S(K, A)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} (F, A) + (G, A) &= (F + G, A), \\ k(F, A) &= (kF, A), \\ x + (F, A) &= (x + F, A) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(H, A) \cdot (F, A) = (H \cdot F, A)$$

are defined parameterwise as in [1].

**Definition 2.14** ([1]). Let  $\nu^\alpha$  be the usual topology on  $K$ ,  $\forall \alpha \in A$ . Then the soft topology  $\nu$  defined as in Proposition 2.5 is called the soft usual topology on  $K$ .

**Definition 2.15.** [1] Let  $V$  be a vector space over the scalar field  $K$  endowed with the soft usual topology  $\nu$ ,  $A$  be the parameter set and  $\tau$  be a soft topology on  $V$ . Then  $\tau$  is said to be a vector soft topology on  $V$ , if the mappings:

- (i)  $f : (V \times V, A, \tau \tilde{\times} \tau) \rightarrow (V, A, \tau)$ , defined by  $f(x, y) = x + y$  and
- (ii)  $g : (K \times V, A, \nu \tilde{\times} \tau) \rightarrow (V, A, \tau)$ , defined by  $g(k, x) = kx$

are soft continuous,  $\forall x, y \in V$  and  $\forall k \in K$ .

**Definition 2.16** ([1]). Let  $(V, A, \tau)$  be a vector soft topology. A balanced soft set  $(F, A)$  (i.e.  $k(F, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F, A)$  for all  $k \in K$  with  $|k| \leq 1$ ) is said to be a balanced neighbourhood of a soft point  $E_\alpha^x$  if there exists  $(G, A) \in \tau$  such that  $E_\alpha^x \tilde{\in} (G, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F, A)$ .

**Proposition 2.17** ([1]). Let  $(V, A, \tau)$  be a soft topological space over  $V$  and the field  $K$  is equipped with the soft usual topology  $\nu$ . Then  $\tau$  is a vector soft topology if and only if

- (1)  $\forall x, y \in V, \forall \alpha \in A$  and  $\forall (W, A) \in \tau$  with  $E_\alpha^{x+y} \tilde{\in} (W, A)$ ,  $\exists (F, A), (G, A) \in \tau$  such that  $E_\alpha^x \tilde{\in} (F, A)$ ,  $E_\alpha^y \tilde{\in} (G, A)$  and  $(F + G, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (W, A)$ ,
- (2)  $\forall x \in V, \forall k \in K, \forall \alpha \in A$  and  $\forall (W, A) \in \tau$  with  $E_\alpha^{kx} \tilde{\in} (W, A)$ ,  $\exists (G, A) \in \nu, (F, A) \in \tau$  such that  $E_\alpha^x \tilde{\in} (F, A)$ ,  $E_\alpha^k \tilde{\in} (G, A)$  and  $(G \cdot F, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (W, A)$ .

**Definition 2.18** ([1]). A collection  $\mathcal{B}$  of soft neighbourhoods of  $E_\alpha^x$  is said to be a soft neighbourhood base of  $E_\alpha^x$ , if for any soft neighbourhood  $(F, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^x$ ,  $\exists (H, A) \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $(H, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F, A)$ .

**Proposition 2.19** ([1]). Let  $(V, A, \tau)$  be an enriched vector soft topology. Then  $\exists$  a balanced soft neighbourhood base of the soft point  $E_\alpha^\theta$  in  $(V, A, \tau)$ .

**Proposition 2.20.** Let  $(V_1, A, \tau_1)$  and  $(V_2, A, \tau_2)$  be two vector soft topologies. Then their product  $(V_1 \times V_2, A, \tau_1 \tilde{\times} \tau_2)$  is also a vector soft topology.

*Proof.* (i) Let  $\alpha \in A$ ,  $E_\alpha^{(x_1+y_1, x_2+y_2)} \tilde{\subseteq} (V_1, A) \tilde{\times} (V_2, A)$  and let  $(F, A)$  be any soft neighbourhood of  $E_\alpha^{(x_1+y_1, x_2+y_2)}$ . Then  $(F, A) \tilde{\supseteq} (F_1, A) \tilde{\times} (F_2, A)$ , where  $(F_1, A), (F_2, A)$  are soft neighbourhoods of  $E_\alpha^{(x_1+y_1)}$  and  $E_\alpha^{(x_2+y_2)}$ . Thus by Proposition 2.17, there exist soft neighbourhoods  $(G_i, A)$  and  $(H_i, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^{x_i}$  and  $E_\alpha^{y_i}$ , respectively such that  $(G_i, A) + (H_i, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F_i, A)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . So,  $(G_1, A) \tilde{\times} (G_2, A)$  and  $(H_1, A) \tilde{\times} (H_2, A)$  are soft neighbourhoods of  $E_\alpha^{(x_1, x_2)}$  and  $E_\alpha^{(y_1, y_2)}$ , respectively in  $(V_1 \times V_2, A, \tau_1 \tilde{\times} \tau_2)$ . Again,

$$\begin{aligned} & [(G_1, A) + (H_1, A)] \tilde{\times} [(G_2, A) + (H_2, A)] \\ &= [(G_1, A) \tilde{\times} (G_2, A)] + [(H_1, A) \tilde{\times} (H_2, A)] \\ &\tilde{\subseteq} (F_1, A) \tilde{\times} (F_2, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F, A). \end{aligned}$$

Clearly  $\alpha \in A$ ,  $x_1, y_1 \in V_1$ ,  $x_2, y_2 \in V_2$  are arbitrary. Hence this is true for all  $\alpha \in A$ ,  $\forall x_1, y_1 \in V_1, \forall x_2, y_2 \in V_2$ .

(ii) Let  $\alpha \in A$ ,  $k \in K$ ,  $(x_1, x_2) \in V_1 \times V_2$ ,  $E_\alpha^{(kx_1, kx_2)} \tilde{\subseteq} (V_1, A) \tilde{\times} (V_2, A)$  and let  $(F, A)$  be any soft neighbourhood of  $E_\alpha^{(kx_1, kx_2)}$ . Then  $(F, A) \tilde{\supseteq} (F_1, A) \tilde{\times} (F_2, A)$ , where  $(F_i, A)$  is a soft neighbourhood of  $E_\alpha^{kx_i}$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . Thus by Proposition 2.17, there exist soft neighbourhoods  $(G_1, A)$  and  $(H_1, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^k$  and  $E_\alpha^{x_1}$ , respectively such that  $(G_1 \cdot H_1, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F_1, A)$ . Similarly, there exist soft neighbourhoods  $(G_2, A)$  and  $(H_2, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^k$  and of  $E_\alpha^{x_2}$  such that  $(G_2 \cdot H_2, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F_2, A)$ . Set  $(G, A) = (G_1, A) \tilde{\cap} (G_2, A)$ . Then  $(G \cdot H_1, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F_1, A)$  and  $(G \cdot H_2, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F_2, A)$ . Thus

$$(G \cdot (H_1 \times H_2), A) \tilde{\subseteq} (G \cdot H_1, A) \tilde{\times} (G \cdot H_2, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F_1, A) \tilde{\times} (F_2, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F, A).$$

Since  $\alpha \in A$ ,  $k \in K$ ,  $x_1, y_1 \in V_1$  are arbitrary, this is true for all  $\alpha \in A$ ,  $k \in K$  and  $\forall x_1, y_1 \in V_1$ . So, by Proposition 2.17,  $(V_1 \times V_2, A, \tau_1 \tilde{\times} \tau_2)$  is a vector soft topology.  $\square$

**Definition 2.21** ([6]). A real valued function of a real variable  $t$  defined on some neighbourhood of 0 is said to be  $o(t)$ , if  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{o(t)}{t} = 0$ .

### 3. SOFT TANGENT

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $(V_i, A, \tau_i), i = 1, 2$  be vector soft topologies and  $\theta \in V_1, \theta' \in V_2$  are null vectors. A function  $\phi : (V_1, A, \tau_1) \rightarrow (V_2, A, \tau_2)$  with  $\phi(\theta) = \theta'$  is said to be a soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ , if for any soft neighbourhood  $(G, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$  in  $(V_2, A, \tau_2)$ , there exists a soft neighbourhood  $(F, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^\theta$  in  $(V_1, A, \tau_1)$  such that  $\phi(t(F, A)) \tilde{\subseteq} o(t)(G, A)$ , for some function  $o(t)$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** Let  $E_\alpha^\theta$  be a soft point in a vector soft topology  $(V, A, \tau)$  and  $(F, A)$  be any soft set containing  $E_\alpha^\theta$ . If there is a point  $a \in V$  such that  $E_\alpha^{ka} \not\tilde{\subseteq} (F, A)$ , for all non-zero scalar  $k \in K$ , then  $(F, A)$  is not a soft neighbourhood of  $E_\alpha^\theta$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $(F, A)$  be a soft open neighbourhood of  $E_\alpha^\theta$ . Consider the function  $g : (k, a) \rightarrow ka$  and let  $E_\alpha^a$  be any soft point. For  $k = 0$ , the point  $E_\alpha^{ka} \tilde{\in} (F, A)$ . Since  $g$  is soft continuous, there exist soft neighbourhood  $(G, A)$  and  $(H, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^0$  and  $E_\alpha^a$ , respectively such that  $(G, A) \cdot (H, A) = (G \cdot H, A) \subseteq (F, A)$ . Now  $G(\alpha) = (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$ , for some  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Then,  $E_\alpha^{\delta a} \tilde{\in} (F, A)$ , for some  $\delta (\neq 0) \in (-\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$ . Thus the result holds.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.3.** *In a vector soft topology  $(V_1, A, \tau_1)$ , where  $\tau_1$  is enriched, if  $(F, A)$  is a soft neighbourhood of  $E_\alpha^\theta$ , then there is a soft neighbourhood  $(G, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^\theta$  such that  $k(G, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F, A)$ , for each  $k \in K, |k| \leq 1$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $(F, A)$  be a soft neighbourhood of  $E_\alpha^\theta$ . Since the scalar product is soft continuous, there exists an  $\varepsilon > 0$  and a soft neighbourhood  $(H, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^\theta$  such that for  $\xi \in K, |\xi| < \varepsilon, \xi H(\alpha) \subseteq F(\alpha)$ . Let  $(J, A)$  be the soft set with  $J(\alpha) = H(\alpha)$  and  $J(\beta) = \phi, \beta (\neq \alpha) \in A$ . Then  $\xi(J, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F, A)$ . By hypothesis,  $|k| \leq 1$ . Thus  $|k\xi| < \varepsilon$  and  $k\xi(J, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F, A)$ . Set  $\xi(J, A) = (G, A)$ . So the result follows.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.4.** *If the function  $\phi : (V_1, A, \tau_1) \rightarrow (V_2, A, \tau_2)$  is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ , where  $\tau_1, \tau_2$  are enriched, then  $\phi$  is soft continuous at  $E_\alpha^\theta$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 3.3, for every soft neighbourhood  $(F, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$ , there exists a soft neighbourhood  $(F', A)$  of  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$  such that  $o(t)(F', A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F, A)$ , for  $|o(t)| \leq 1$ . By Definition 3.1, for each  $(F', A)$  there exists a soft neighbourhood  $(G, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^\theta$  in  $(V_1, A, \tau_1)$  such that  $\phi(t(G, A)) \tilde{\subseteq} o(t)(F', A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F, A)$ . Since  $t(G, A)$  is also a soft neighbourhood of  $E_\alpha^\theta$ ,  $\phi$  is soft continuous at  $E_\alpha^\theta$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 3.5.** *If the functions  $\phi, \psi : (V_1, A, \tau_1) \rightarrow (V_2, A, \tau_2)$  are soft tangents to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ , then  $\phi + \psi$  is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ .*

*Proof.* For every soft neighbourhood  $(G, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$ , there exists a soft neighbourhood  $(G', A)$  of  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$  in  $(V_2, A, \tau_2)$  such that  $(G', A) + (G', A) \tilde{\subseteq} (G, A)$ . Then,  $o(t)(G', A) + o(t)(G', A) \tilde{\subseteq} o(t)(G, A)$ . Since  $\phi, \psi : (V_1, A, \tau_1) \rightarrow (V_2, A, \tau_2)$  is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ , for any soft neighbourhood  $(G', A)$  of  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$  in  $(V_2, A, \tau_2)$ , there exist soft neighbourhoods  $(F', A), (F'', A)$  of  $E_\alpha^\theta$  in  $(V_1, A, \tau_1)$  such that

$$\phi(t(F', A)) \tilde{\subseteq} o(t)(G', A) \text{ and } \psi(t(F'', A)) \tilde{\subseteq} o(t)(G', A).$$

Let  $(F, A) = ((F', A) \tilde{\cap} (F'', A))$ . Then  $\phi(t(F, A)) \tilde{\subseteq} o(t)(G', A)$  and  $\psi(t(F, A)) \tilde{\subseteq} o(t)(G', A)$ . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} (\phi + \psi)(t(F, A)) &= \phi(t(F, A)) + \psi(t(F, A)) \\ &\tilde{\subseteq} o(t)(G', A) + o(t)(G', A) \\ &\tilde{\subseteq} o(t)(G, A). \end{aligned}$$

$\square$

**Proposition 3.6.** *Let  $(V_1, A, \tau_1), (V_2, A, \tau_2)$  and  $(V_3, A, \tau_3)$  be three vector soft topologies. If  $\phi : (V_1, A, \tau_1) \rightarrow (V_2, A, \tau_2)$  is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$  and  $f : (V_2, A, \tau_2) \rightarrow (V_3, A, \tau_3)$  is linear soft continuous, then  $f \circ \phi$  is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ .*

*On the other hand, if  $f : (V_1, A, \tau_1) \rightarrow (V_2, A, \tau_2)$  is linear soft continuous and  $\phi : (V_2, A, \tau_2) \rightarrow (V_3, A, \tau_3)$  is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ , then  $\phi \circ f$  is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ .*

*Proof.* By the soft continuity of  $f$ , for every soft neighbourhood  $(F, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^{\theta''}$  in  $(V_3, A, \tau_3)$ , there exists a soft neighbourhood  $(G, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$  in  $(V_2, A, \tau_2)$  such that

$f(G, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (F, A)$ . Since  $\phi$  is a soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ , for every such  $(G, A)$ , there is a soft neighbourhood  $(H, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^\theta$  such that  $\phi(t(H, A)) \tilde{\subseteq} o(t)(G, A)$ . Then

$$f(\phi(t(H, A))) \tilde{\subseteq} f(o(t)(G, A)) = o(t)f(G, A) \tilde{\subseteq} o(t)(F, A).$$

Thus  $f \circ \phi$  is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ .

The other part of the Proposition 3.6 proceeds in a similar way.  $\square$

#### 4. SOFT DIFFERENTIATION

**Definition 4.1.** Let  $(V_1, A, \tau_1)$  and  $(V_2, A, \tau_2)$  be two vector soft topologies of which  $(V_2, A, \tau_2)$  is soft  $T_1$  and contains a balanced neighbourhood base at  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$ ,  $\theta'$  is the null vector of  $V_2$ . Then a soft continuous function  $f : (V_1, A, \tau_1) \rightarrow (V_2, A, \tau_2)$  is said to be soft differentiable at a soft point  $E_\alpha^x \tilde{\in} (\tilde{V}_1, A)$ , if there exists a linear soft continuous function  $u : (V_1, A, \tau_1) \rightarrow (V_2, A, \tau_2)$  such that we can write  $f(E_\alpha^{x+y}) = f(E_\alpha^x) + u(E_\alpha^y) + \phi(E_\alpha^y)$ ,  $y \in V_1$ , where  $\phi$  is a soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ .

The mapping  $u$  is called the soft derivative of  $f$  at  $E_\alpha^x$  and denoted by  $f'(E_\alpha^x)$ . Here the function  $u$  depends on  $x$  and  $\alpha$  both.

Henceforth, we shall consider the soft topology of the range space of a soft differentiable function is soft  $T_1$  and contains a balanced soft neighbourhood base at the soft point corresponding to the null vector.

**Example 4.2.** Consider the vector space  $\mathbb{R}$  over the field  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $A$  be the parameter set. Let  $\tau^\alpha$  be the usual topology on  $\mathbb{R}$  for all  $\alpha \in A$  and  $\tau$  be the soft topology on  $\mathbb{R}$  as of Proposition 2.6. Then  $(\mathbb{R}, A, \tau)$  is an enriched vector soft topology. Now for any  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ , define the mapping  $U_r : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $U_r(x) = rx$ . Then obviously,  $U_r : (\mathbb{R}, A, \tau) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, A, \tau)$  is linear soft continuous mapping. Also, for any  $E_\alpha^x \tilde{\in} (\tilde{\mathbb{R}}, A)$ ,  $U_r(E_\alpha^{x+y}) = E_\alpha^{r(x+y)} = E_\alpha^{rx} + E_\alpha^{ry} + O(E_\alpha^y)$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{R}$ , where  $O$ , the zero function (i.e.  $O(x) = 0 \in \mathbb{R}, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ ), is a soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^0$ . So,  $U_r$  is soft differentiable at every soft point  $E_\alpha^x \tilde{\in} (\tilde{\mathbb{R}}, A)$ .

**Proposition 4.3.** The soft derivative of a function  $f : (V_1, A, \tau_1) \rightarrow (V_2, A, \tau_2)$  at a soft point  $E_\alpha^x$  is unique.

*Proof.* Suppose if possible that the derivative of  $f$  at soft point  $E_\alpha^x$  is not unique. Then there exist two linear soft continuous functions  $u_1, u_2$  such that

$$u_1(E_\alpha^y) + \phi(E_\alpha^y) = u_2(E_\alpha^y) + \psi(E_\alpha^y), y \in V_1,$$

where  $\phi, \psi$  are each tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ .

Let  $\eta : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  such that  $\eta(y) = u_1(y) - u_2(y)$ ,  $y \in V_1$ . Then clearly,  $\eta$  is a linear function such that  $\eta(E_\alpha^y) = u_1(E_\alpha^y) - u_2(E_\alpha^y) = \psi(E_\alpha^y) - \phi(E_\alpha^y)$ ,  $y \in V_1$ . Thus by Proposition 3.5,  $\eta$  is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ . By assumption,  $\eta$  is not zero. Let  $a \in V_1$  such that  $\eta(a) = r \neq \theta'$ . Since  $(V_2, A, \tau_2)$  is soft  $T_1$ , for  $E_\alpha^r \tilde{\in} (\tilde{V}_2, A)$ , there exists a soft open set  $(G, A)$  such that  $E_\alpha^r \notin (G, A)$ ,  $E_\alpha^{\theta'} \tilde{\in} (G, A)$ .

If  $\mathcal{B}$  is a balanced soft neighbourhood base of  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$  in  $(V_2, A, \tau_2)$ , then there is a  $(H, A) \in \mathcal{B}$ ,  $E_\alpha^{\theta'} \tilde{\in} (H, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (G, A)$  with  $(\varepsilon H, A) \tilde{\subseteq} (H, A)$ , for all  $|\varepsilon| \leq 1$ .

If  $\xi = \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$ , for  $\varepsilon \neq 0$ , then  $E_\alpha^{\xi r} \tilde{\notin} (H, A)$ . Since  $\eta$  is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ , there must be a soft neighbourhood  $(J, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^\theta$  such that  $\eta(t(J, A)) \tilde{\subseteq} o(t)(H, A)$ . Thus

$\eta(J, A) \subseteq \frac{o(t)}{t}(H, A)$ , as  $\eta$  is linear. Put  $\frac{t}{o(t)} = \xi$ . Then

$$\eta(J, A) \subseteq \frac{1}{\xi}(H, A) = (\varepsilon H, A) \subseteq (H, A).$$

Thus  $E_\alpha^{\xi r} \not\subseteq \eta(J, A)$ , i.e.,  $E_\alpha^{\xi a} \not\subseteq (J, A)$ . For  $|\xi| \leq 1$ ,  $\xi \neq 0$ , as  $E_\alpha^r \not\subseteq (H, A)$ ,  $E_\alpha^{\xi r} \not\subseteq (H, A)$ . Since  $\eta(J, A) \subseteq \frac{o(t)}{t}(H, A)$ ,  $\eta(J, A) \subseteq \xi(H, A)$ . So  $E_\alpha^{\xi r} \not\subseteq \eta(J, A)$  and thus  $E_\alpha^{\xi a} \not\subseteq (J, A)$ . Setting  $\xi = k$ , we get that there is a point  $a \in V_1$ , such that for any  $k$ ,  $k \neq 0$ ,  $E_\alpha^{ak} \not\subseteq (J, A)$ . Hence by Lemma 3.2,  $(J, A)$  is not a soft neighbourhood of  $E_\alpha^\theta$ , a contradiction. Therefore the soft derivative of  $f$  at soft point  $E_\alpha^x$  is unique.  $\square$

**Proposition 4.4.** Let  $(V_1, A, \tau_1)$ ,  $(V_2, A, \tau_2)$  be vector soft topologies. Then any soft continuous constant function  $f : (V_1, A, \tau_1) \rightarrow (V_2, A, \tau_2)$  is soft differentiable at every soft point of  $(\tilde{V}_1, A)$ .

**Proposition 4.5.** The soft derivative of a linear soft continuous mapping  $u : (V_1, A, \tau_1) \rightarrow (V_2, A, \tau_2)$  exists at every soft point  $E_\alpha^x \in (\tilde{V}_1, A)$ .

**Proposition 4.6.** Let  $(W, A, \nu) = \prod_{j=1}^n (W_j, A, \nu_j)$  be the product vector soft topology of a finite family of vector soft topologies  $(W_j, A, \nu_j)$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , and  $(V, A, \tau)$  be any vector soft topology. Then a soft continuous mapping  $f : (V, A, \tau) \rightarrow (W, A, \nu)$  is soft differentiable at  $E_\alpha^x \in (\tilde{V}, A)$  iff  $\pi_j \circ f$  is soft differentiable at  $E_\alpha^x$ .

*Proof.* Let  $f$  be soft differentiable at  $E_\alpha^x$ . Then

$$f(E_\alpha^{x+y}) = f(E_\alpha^x) + u(E_\alpha^y) + \phi(E_\alpha^y), y \in V,$$

where  $\phi$  is a soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ .

By linearity of projection mapping  $\pi_j$ , we can write for every  $j$ ,

$$\pi_j(f(E_\alpha^{x+y})) - \pi_j(f(E_\alpha^x)) = \pi_j(f'(E_\alpha^x)(E_\alpha^y)) + \pi_j(\phi(E_\alpha^y)), y \in V.$$

Since  $\pi_j$  and  $f'$  both are linear and soft continuous,  $\pi_j \circ f'$  is linear and soft continuous and by Proposition 3.6,  $\pi_j \circ \phi$  is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

Conversely, let  $\pi_j \circ f$  be soft differentiable at  $E_\alpha^x$ , for every  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Then, for every  $j$ , we can write,

$$\pi_j(f(E_\alpha^{x+y})) - \pi_j(f(E_\alpha^x)) = u_j(E_\alpha^y) + \phi_j(E_\alpha^y),$$

where  $u_j$  is a linear soft continuous mapping and  $\phi_j$  is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ . Let  $(G, A)$  be a soft neighbourhood of  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$  in  $(W, A, \nu)$ . By definition of soft product topology,  $(G, A) \supseteq \prod_{j=1}^n (G_j, A)$ , where  $(G_j, A)$  are soft neighbourhoods of  $E_\alpha^{\theta'_j}$  in  $(W_j, A, \nu_j)$ .

Now, for every  $(G_j, A)$ , there exists a soft neighbourhood  $(F_j, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^\theta$  in  $(V, A, \tau)$  such that  $\phi_j(t(F_j, A)) \subseteq o(t).(G_j, A)$ .

Setting  $(F, A) = \bigcap (F_j, A)$ , we have  $\phi_j(t(F, A)) \subseteq o(t).(G_j, A)$ ,  $\forall j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

Again,  $o(t)(G, A) \supseteq o(t) \prod_{j=1}^n (G_j, A) = \prod_{j=1}^n o(t)(G_j, A)$ .

Let  $\phi = \prod_{j=1}^n \phi_j$ . Then

$$\phi(t(F, A)) = \prod_{j=1}^n \phi_j(t(F, A)) \subseteq \prod_{j=1}^n o(t).(G_j, A) \subseteq o(t)(G, A).$$

Thus  $\phi$  is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^\theta$ .

Define  $u = \prod_{j=1}^n u_j$ . This mapping is linear and soft continuous by linearity and soft continuity of the functions  $u_j$ . The uniqueness of  $f'(E_\alpha^x)$  follows by the uniqueness of  $u_j$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.7.** *Let  $(V_1, A, \tau_1), (V_2, A, \tau_2), (V_3, A, \tau_3)$  be three vector soft topologies,  $f : (V_1, A, \tau_1) \rightarrow (V_2, A, \tau_2)$  and  $g : (V_2, A, \tau_2) \rightarrow (V_3, A, \tau_3)$  be two soft continuous mappings. Let  $x \in V_1$  and  $y = f(x)$ . If  $f$  is soft differentiable at  $E_\alpha^x$  and  $g$  is soft differentiable at  $E_\alpha^y$ , then the composition  $h = g \circ f$  is soft differentiable at  $E_\alpha^x$ .*

*Proof.* By hypothesis,  $f$  and  $g$  are soft differentiable. Then,

$$f(E_\alpha^{x+r}) = f(E_\alpha^x) + f'(E_\alpha^x)(E_\alpha^r) + \phi(E_\alpha^r), r \in V_1$$

and

$$g(E_\alpha^{y+s}) = g(E_\alpha^y) + g'(E_\alpha^y)(E_\alpha^s) + \psi(E_\alpha^s), s \in V_2,$$

where  $\phi, \psi$  are soft tangents to  $E_\alpha^\theta$  and  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$ , respectively.

Defining  $h = g \circ f$ , we obtain, after substitution,

$$\begin{aligned} h(E_\alpha^{x+r}) - h(E_\alpha^x) \\ = g'(E_\alpha^y)(f'(E_\alpha^x)(E_\alpha^r)) + g'(E_\alpha^y)(\phi(E_\alpha^r)) + \psi(f'(E_\alpha^x)(E_\alpha^r) + \phi(E_\alpha^r)), r \in V_1. \end{aligned}$$

By Proposition 3.6,  $g'(E_\alpha^y) \circ \phi$  is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$ . Consider the mapping  $\psi \circ (f'(E_\alpha^x) + \phi)$ . For every soft neighbourhood  $(G, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^{\theta''}$  in  $(V_3, A, \tau_3)$ , there is a soft neighbourhood  $(F, A)$  in  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$  in  $(V_2, A, \tau_2)$  such that  $\psi(t(F, A)) \subseteq o(t)(G, A)$ . Given  $(F, A)$  in  $(V_2, A, \tau_2)$ , there exists a soft neighbourhood  $(F', A)$  of  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$  such that  $(F', A) + (F', A) \subseteq (F, A)$ . Without loss of generality, suppose that both  $(F, A)$  and  $(F', A)$  are balanced. By soft continuity of  $f'(E_\alpha^x)$ , there is a soft neighbourhood  $(H, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^\theta$  in  $(V_1, A, \tau_1)$  such that  $f'(E_\alpha^x)((H, A)) \subseteq (F', A)$ , which implies that  $t f'(E_\alpha^x)((H, A)) \subseteq t(F', A)$ , i.e.,  $f'(E_\alpha^x)(t(H, A)) \subseteq t(F', A)$ . For every  $(F', A)$ , there exists a soft neighbourhood  $(J, A)$  of  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$  in  $(V_1, A, \tau_1)$ , such that  $\phi(t(J, A)) \subseteq o(t)(F', A)$  and for  $|\frac{o(t)}{t}| \leq 1$ ,  $o(t)(F', A) \subseteq t(F', A)$ .

Setting  $(N, A) = (H, A) \tilde{\cap} (J, A)$ , we get  $f'(E_\alpha^x)(t(N, A)) + \phi(t(N, A)) \subseteq t(F, A)$  and which implies that

$$\psi[f'(E_\alpha^x)(t(N, A)) + \phi(t(N, A))] \subseteq \psi(t(F, A)) \subseteq o(t)(G, A).$$

Then the mapping  $\psi \circ (f'(E_\alpha^x) + \phi)$  is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$ . Thus we can write

$$h(E_\alpha^{x+r}) - h(E_\alpha^x) = g'(E_\alpha^y) \circ f'(E_\alpha^x)(E_\alpha^r) + \chi(E_\alpha^r), r \in V_1,$$

where  $g'(E_\alpha^y) \circ f'(E_\alpha^x)$  is linear soft continuous and  $\chi$ , the sum of two mappings which are soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$ , is soft tangent to  $E_\alpha^{\theta'}$ . So the result holds.  $\square$

**Proposition 4.8.** *Let  $(V_1, A, \tau_1), (V_2, A, \tau_2)$  be two vector soft topologies and  $f, g : (V_1, A, \tau_1) \rightarrow (V_2, A, \tau_2)$  be two soft continuous mappings. If  $f$  and  $g$  are soft differentiable at  $E_\alpha^x$ , so are  $f + g$  and  $kf$ ,  $k \in K$ .*

*Proof.* The mapping  $f + g$  is composition of  $x \rightarrow (f(x), g(x))$  from  $(V_1, A, \tau_1)$  into  $(V_2 \tilde{\times} V_2, A, \tau_2 \tilde{\times} \tau_2)$  and of  $(u, v) \rightarrow u + v$  from  $(V_2 \tilde{\times} V_2, A, \tau_2 \tilde{\times} \tau_2)$  into  $(V_2, A, \tau_2)$ . The first is soft differentiable, by Proposition 4.6 and the second by the definition of sum; the result follows from Proposition 4.7. For  $kf$  it is sufficient to note that the mapping  $u \rightarrow ku$  of  $(V_2, A, \tau_2)$  into itself is soft differentiable, by Proposition 4.5.  $\square$

**Remark 4.9.** In Definition 4.1, if we replace soft  $T_1$  by soft Tychonoff or soft  $T_2$ , then all the results in section 4 also hold.

## 5. CONCLUSION

There is a future scope of studying higher order soft differentiation in vector soft topologies and other properties of soft differentiable functions.

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