

# ON 3-PRIME NEAR-RINGS WITH GENERALIZED DERIVATIONS

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Communicated by N. Mahdou

MSC 2010 Classifications: Primary 16N60; Secondary 16Y30.

Keywords and phrases: 3-prime near-rings, generalized derivations, commutativity.

**Abstract** We prove some theorems in the setting of a 3-prime near-ring admitting a suitably constrained generalized derivation, thereby extending some known results on derivations. Moreover, we give an example proving that the hypothesis of 3-primeness is necessary.

## 1 Introduction

A left near-ring is a set  $N$  with two operations  $+$  and  $\cdot$  such that  $(N, +)$  is a group not necessarily abelian and  $(N, \cdot)$  is a semigroup satisfying the left distributive law  $x \cdot (y + z) = x \cdot y + x \cdot z$  for all  $x, y, z \in N$ . In this paper  $N$  will be a zero-symmetric *left* near-ring, and usually  $N$  will be 3-prime, that is, it will have the property that  $xNy = \{0\}$  for all  $x, y \in N$  implies  $x = 0$  or  $y = 0$ . The symbol  $Z(N)$  will denote the multiplicative center of  $N$ . A near-ring  $N$  is called zero-symmetric if  $0x = 0$  for all  $x \in N$  (recall that left distributivity yields  $x0 = 0$ ); and  $N$  is called 2-torsion free if  $2x = 0$  implies  $x = 0$  for all  $x \in N$ . An additive mapping  $d : N \rightarrow N$  is said to be a derivation if  $d(xy) = xd(y) + d(x)y$  for all  $x, y \in N$ , or equivalently, as noted in [15], that  $d(xy) = d(x)y + xd(y)$  for all  $x, y \in N$ . An additive mapping  $F : N \rightarrow N$  is said to be a generalized derivation on  $N$  if there exists a derivation  $d : N \rightarrow N$  such that  $F(xy) = F(x)y + xd(y)$  holds for all  $x, y \in N$ . (Note that this definition differs from the one given by Ö. Gölbası in [12]; for us, a generalized derivation is exactly a right generalized derivation, but is not a left generalized derivation). Clearly, every derivation on a near-ring is a generalized derivation. But the converse statement does not hold in general. We will write for all  $x, y \in N$ ,  $[x, y] = xy - yx$  and  $x \circ y = xy + yx$  for the Lie products and Jordan products, respectively. We note that for left near-rings,  $x(-y) = -xy$  for all  $x, y \in N$ .

During the last two decades, there has been a great deal of work concerning the relationship between the commutativity of a ring  $R$  and the existence of certain specified derivations of  $R$  (see [1], [2], [3], [4], [11], [13], [14] and [15]). In 1992 Daif and Bell [11] demonstrated that a prime ring  $R$  must be commutative if it admits a derivation  $d$  such that  $d([x, y]) = [x, y]$  for all  $x, y \in R$ . In [14] M. A. Quadri, M. Shadab Khan and N. Rehman generalized this result in the case of a generalized derivation instead of a derivation, also the researchers A. Boua and L. Oukhtite extended this result to 3-prime near-rings (see [7], [8]). In the present paper, our aim is to establish conditions under which a near-ring becomes a commutative ring. More precisely, we shall attempt to generalize some known results for rings with derivations or near-rings with derivations to near-rings with generalized derivations.

## 2 Preliminary results

We begin our discussion with the following lemmas which are essential for developing the proof of the main theorem:

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $N$  be a 3-prime near-ring.*

- i) [4, Lemma 1.2 (iii)] *If  $z \in Z(N) - \{0\}$  and  $xz \in Z(N)$ , then  $x \in Z(N)$ .*
- ii) [11, Lemma 2] *Let  $d$  be a derivation on  $N$ . If  $x \in Z(N)$ , then  $d(x) \in Z(N)$ .*

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $N$  be a 3-prime near-ring.*

- i) [4, Lemma 1.3 (i)] *If  $x \in N$  and  $Nx = \{0\}$ , then  $x = 0$ .*
- ii) [4, Lemma 1.5] *If  $N \subseteq Z(N)$ , then  $N$  is a commutative ring.*

**Lemma 2.3.** [4, Lemma 1.1] *If  $N$  is an arbitrary left near-ring and  $d$  is a derivation, then*

$$(d(x)y + xd(y))z = d(x)yz + xd(y)z \text{ for all } x, y, z \in N.$$

**Lemma 2.4.** [2, Corollary 4.1] *Let  $N$  be a 2-torsion free 3-prime near-ring. If  $N$  admits a nonzero derivation  $d$  such that  $d([x, y]) = 0$  for all  $x, y \in N$ , then  $N$  is a commutative ring.*

**Remark.** Lemma 2.4 remains true if we remove the assumption " 2-torsion free" and the proof is often the same .

**Lemma 2.5.** [5, Lemma 1.3] *Let  $N$  be a near-ring. If  $N$  admits a generalized derivation  $F$  associated with a derivation  $d$ , then*

$$(F(x)y + xd(y))z = F(x)yz + xd(y)z \text{ for all } x, y, z \in N.$$

### 3 Polynomial conditions with generalized derivation

This section is devoted to studying the commutativity of a near-ring admitting a nonzero generalized derivation  $F$  satisfying the properties  $F([x, y]) = 0$ ,  $F([x, y]) = [x, y]$  for all  $x, y \in N$ . As a consequence of the results obtained in this section, we generalize Theorem 2 due to Daif and Bell in [11], Theorem 2.1 due to M. A. Quadri, M. Shadab Khan and N. Rehman in [14], Corollary 4.1 due to M. Ashraf and S. Ali in [1], and Theorem 2.2 due to A. Boua and L. Oukhtite in [7].

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $N$  be a 3-prime near-ring. If  $N$  admits a nonzero generalized derivation  $F$  associated with a derivation  $d$ , then the following assertions are equivalent:*

- i)  $F([x, y]) = 0$  for all  $x, y \in N$ .
- ii)  $N$  is a commutative ring.

**Proof.** It is obvious that ii) implies i).

i)  $\Rightarrow$  ii)

a) If  $d = 0$ , then  $F(xy) = F(x)y$  for all  $x, y \in N$ ; and since  $F(xy - yx) = 0$ , we have

$$F(x)y - F(y)x = 0 \text{ for all } x, y \in N.$$

Taking  $y = [u, v]$ , we get  $F(x)[u, v] = 0$  for all  $x, u, v \in N$ ; and replacing  $x$  by  $xw$  gives  $F(x)w[u, v] = 0$  for all  $x, w, u, v \in N$ . Since  $N$  is 3-prime and  $F \neq 0$ , we conclude that  $[u, v] = 0$  for all  $u, v \in N$  and therefore  $N$  is a commutative ring by Lemma 2.2(ii).

b) Assume that  $d \neq 0$ , we are given that

$$F([x, y]) = 0 \text{ for all } x, y \in N. \quad (3.1)$$

Replacing  $x$  and  $y$  by  $[u, v]$  and  $[u, v]y$  respectively in (3.1) and using (3.1), we get

$$[u, v]d([u, v], y) = 0 \text{ for all } u, v, y \in N. \quad (3.2)$$

Substituting  $[u, v]y$  for  $y$  in (3.2) and invoking (3.2), we arrive at

$$[u, v]d([u, v])[u, v], y = 0 \text{ for all } u, v, y \in N,$$

so that,

$$[u, v]d([u, v])[u, v]y = [u, v]d([u, v])y[u, v] \text{ for all } u, v, y \in N. \quad (3.3)$$

Taking  $yz$  instead of  $y$  in (3.3), we obtain

$$[u, v]d([u, v])y[u, v]z = [u, v]d([u, v])yz[u, v] \text{ for all } u, v, y, z \in N,$$

that is

$$[u, v]d([u, v])N[[u, v], z] = \{0\} \text{ for all } u, v, z \in N.$$

In light of the 3-primeness of  $N$ , the last expression implies that

$$[u, v]d([u, v]) = 0 \text{ or } [u, v] \in Z(N) \text{ for all } u, v \in N. \quad (3.4)$$

If there are two elements  $u_0, v_0 \in N$  such that  $[u_0, v_0] \in Z(N)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= F([u_0, v_0]u_0, v_0) \\ &= F([u_0, v_0][u_0, v_0]) \\ &= [u_0, v_0]d([u_0, v_0]), \end{aligned}$$

and in this case, (3.4) becomes

$$[u, v]d([u, v]) = 0 \text{ for all } u, v \in N. \quad (3.5)$$

Application of (3.5), (3.2) yields that

$$[u, v]^2d(y) = [u, v]d(y)[u, v] + [u, v]yd([u, v]) \text{ for all } u, v, y \in N. \quad (3.6)$$

Replacing  $y$  by  $y[u, v]$  in (3.6) and using again (3.2), we find that

$$\begin{aligned} [u, v]^2yd([u, v]) + [u, v]^2d(y)[u, v] &= [u, v]d(y[u, v])[u, v] \\ &= [u, v]d([u, v]y)[u, v] \\ &= [u, v]^2d(y)[u, v] \text{ for all } u, v, y \in N. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $[u, v]^2yd([u, v]) = 0$  for all  $u, v, y \in N$ , that is

$$[u, v]^2Nd([u, v]) = \{0\} \text{ for all } u, v \in N.$$

Since  $N$  is 3-prime, the last equation gives

$$[u, v]^2 = 0 \text{ or } d([u, v]) = 0 \text{ for all } u, v \in N. \quad (3.7)$$

Suppose there exist two elements  $u_0, v_0 \in N$  such that  $[u_0, v_0]^2 = 0$ , so by (3.6), we have

$$[u_0, v_0]d(y)[u_0, v_0] + [u_0, v_0]yd([u_0, v_0]) = 0 \text{ for all } y \in N. \quad (3.8)$$

On the other hand, we have  $F([u_0, v_0], y) = 0$  for all  $y \in N$ , which implies that

$$F([u_0, v_0]y) = F(y[u_0, v_0]) \text{ for all } y \in N.$$

By the defining property of  $F$ , we get

$$[u_0, v_0]d(y) = F(y)[u_0, v_0] + yd([u_0, v_0]) \text{ for all } y \in N. \quad (3.9)$$

Right multiplying (3.9) by  $[u_0, v_0]$  and invoking Lemma 2.5, we find that

$$[u_0, v_0]d(y)[u_0, v_0] = yd([u_0, v_0])[u_0, v_0] \text{ for all } y \in N. \quad (3.10)$$

Using (3.5) again, we have

$$\begin{aligned} d([u_0, v_0])[u_0, v_0] &= d([u_0, v_0])[u_0, v_0] + [u_0, v_0]d([u_0, v_0]) \\ &= d([u_0, v_0]^2) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

And therefore, (3.10) implies that  $[u_0, v_0]d(y)[u_0, v_0] = 0$  for all  $y \in N$ , and by a return to the equation (3.8), we obtain

$$[u_0, v_0]yd([u_0, v_0]) = 0 \text{ for all } y \in N,$$

which can be rewritten as

$$[u_0, v_0]Nd([u_0, v_0]) = \{0\}.$$

By the 3-primeness of  $N$ , we arrive at  $d([u_0, v_0]) = 0$ , and according to (3.7) we conclude that  $d([u, v]) = 0$  for all  $u, v \in N$  and our result follows by Lemma 2.4.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $N$  be a 3-prime near-ring. If  $N$  admits a nonzero generalized derivation  $F$  associated with a nonzero derivation  $d$ , then the following assertions are equivalent:*

- i)  $F([x, y]) = [x, y]$  for all  $x, y \in N$ .
- ii)  $N$  is a commutative ring.

**Proof.** It is clear that  $ii) \Rightarrow i)$ .

$i) \Rightarrow ii)$  We assume

$$F([x, y]) = [x, y] \text{ for all } x, y \in N. \quad (3.11)$$

Taking  $[u, v]$  and  $[u, v]y$  instead of  $x$  and  $y$  respectively in (3.11) and using the same techniques which are introduced into the proof of the previous theorem, we arrive at

$$[u, v]d([u, v]) = 0 \text{ or } [u, v] \in Z(N) \text{ for all } u, v \in N. \quad (3.12)$$

If there are  $u_0, v_0 \in N$  such that  $[u_0, v_0] \in Z(N)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} [[u_0, v_0]u_0, v_0] &= F([[u_0, v_0]u_0, v_0]) \\ &= F([u_0, v_0][u_0, v_0]) \\ &= [[u_0, v_0]u_0, v_0] + [u_0, v_0]d([u_0, v_0]). \end{aligned}$$

The last expression implies that  $[u_0, v_0]d([u_0, v_0]) = 0$ , hence (3.12) becomes

$$[u, v]d([u, v]) = 0 \text{ for all } u, v \in N. \quad (3.13)$$

Since (3.13) is the same as (3.5), by the same arguments as used after (3.5) in the proof of Theorem 3.1, we obtain

$$[u, v]^2 = 0 \text{ or } d([u, v]) = 0 \text{ for all } u, v \in N. \quad (3.14)$$

Suppose there are  $u_0, v_0 \in N$  such that  $[u_0, v_0]^2 = 0$ .

By (3.11), we have

$$F\left([ [u_0, v_0], y ]\right) = [[u_0, v_0], y] \text{ for all } y \in N,$$

which can be rewritten

$$F([u_0, v_0]y) - F(y[u_0, v_0]) = [u_0, v_0]y - y[u_0, v_0] \text{ for all } y \in N.$$

Using (3.11), the last expression implies that

$$[u_0, v_0]d(y) - yd([u_0, v_0]) - F(y)[u_0, v_0] = -y[u_0, v_0] \text{ for all } y \in N. \quad (3.15)$$

Putting  $[r, s]$  instead of  $y$  in (3.15), we obtain

$$[u_0, v_0]d([r, s]) = [r, s]d([u_0, v_0]) \text{ for all } r, s \in N. \quad (3.16)$$

Left multiplying (3.16) by  $[u_0, v_0]$ , we find that

$$[u_0, v_0][r, s]d([u_0, v_0]) = 0 \text{ for all } r, s \in N,$$

so that,

$$([u_0, v_0]rs - [u_0, v_0]sr)d([u_0, v_0]) = 0 \text{ for all } r, s \in N. \quad (3.17)$$

Taking  $[u_0, v_0]s$  instead of  $s$  in (3.17), we get

$$[u_0, v_0]r[u_0, v_0]sd([u_0, v_0]) = 0 \text{ for all } r, s \in N.$$

Hence,

$$[u_0, v_0]N\left([u_0, v_0]sd([u_0, v_0])\right) = \{0\} \text{ for all } s \in N. \quad (3.18)$$

In the light of the 3-primeness of  $N$ , (3.18) shows that

$$[u_0, v_0] = 0 \text{ or } [u_0, v_0]Nd([u_0, v_0]) = \{0\}.$$

Once again  $N$  is 3-prime, the last expression yields

$$[u_0, v_0] = 0 \text{ or } d([u_0, v_0]) = 0$$

which implies that  $d([u_0, v_0]) = 0$ . By (3.14), we conclude that  $d([u, v]) = 0$  for all  $u, v \in N$  and by Lemma 2.4, we get the required result.  $\square$

The following example demonstrates that  $N$  to be 3-prime is essential in the hypotheses of the

above theorems.

**Example.** Let  $S$  be a near-ring. Let us define  $N, d, F : N \rightarrow N$  by:

$$N = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & x \\ 0 & 0 & y \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mid x, y \in S \right\}, \quad d \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & x \\ 0 & 0 & y \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & x \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } F = d.$$

It is clear that  $N$  is not 3-prime, and  $N$  admits a nonzero generalized derivation  $F$  associated with a nonzero derivation  $d$ . Moreover, it is easy to verify that  $F$  satisfies the properties:

$$F([A, B]) = 0, \quad F([A, B]) = [A, B]$$

for all  $A, B \in N$ . However  $N$  is not a commutative ring.

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Received: December 23, 2014.

Accepted: February 14, 2015