

## A Note on Posner's Theorem with Generalized Derivations on Lie Ideals

V. DE FILIPPIS (\*) - M. S. TAMMAM EL-SAYIAD (\*\*)

ABSTRACT - Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic different from 2,  $Z(R)$  its center,  $U$  its Utumi quotient ring,  $C$  its extended centroid,  $G$  a non-zero generalized derivation of  $R$ ,  $L$  a non-central Lie ideal of  $R$ . We prove that if  $[[G(u), u], G(u)] \in Z(R)$  for all  $u \in L$  then one of the following holds:

1. there exists  $\alpha \in C$  such that  $G(x) = \alpha x$ , for all  $x \in R$ ;
2.  $R$  satisfies the standard identity  $s_4(x_1, \dots, x_4)$  and there exist  $a \in U$ ,  $\alpha \in C$  such that  $G(x) = ax + xa + \alpha x$ , for all  $x \in R$ .

### 1. Introduction.

The motivation for this paper lies in an attempt to extend in some way the well known first Posner's Theorem contained in [15]: there Posner proved that if  $d$  is a derivation of a prime ring  $R$  such that  $[d(x), x]$  falls in the center of  $R$ , for all  $x \in R$ , then either  $d = 0$  or  $R$  is a commutative ring. Recently in [3] Cheng studied derivations of prime rings that satisfy certain special Engel type conditions: he showed that if  $R$  is a prime ring of characteristic different from 2 and  $d$  a non-zero derivation of  $R$  which satisfies the condition  $[[d(x), x], d(x)] = 0$  for all  $x \in R$ , then  $R$  must be commutative.

Our purpose here is to continue this line of investigation by studying the set  $S = \{[[G(x), x], G(x)], x \in L\}$ , where  $G$  is a generalized derivation

(\*) Indirizzo dell'A.: DI.S.I.A., Faculty of Engineering University of Messina, Contrada di Dio, 98166, Messina, Italy.

E-mail: defilippis@unime.it

(\*\*) Indirizzo dell'A.: Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science Beni Suef University, Beni Suef, Egypt.

E-mail: m\_s\_tammam@yahoo.com

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defined on  $R$  and  $L$  is a non-central Lie ideal of  $R$ . More specifically an additive map  $G : R \rightarrow R$  is said to be a generalized derivation if there is a derivation  $d$  of  $R$  such that, for all  $x, y \in R$ ,  $G(xy) = G(x)y + xd(y)$ . A significative example is a map of the form  $G(x) = ax + xb$ , for some  $a, b \in R$ ; such generalized derivations are called inner. Our goal is to confirm that there is a relationship between the structure of the prime ring  $R$  and the behaviour of suitable additive mappings defined on  $R$  that satisfy certain special identities. We will show that if any element of  $S$  is central in  $R$ , then some informations about the form of the generalized derivation  $G$  and the structure of  $R$  can be obtained. More precisely we will prove the following:

**THEOREM.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic different from 2,  $Z(R)$  its center,  $U$  its Utumi quotient ring,  $C$  its extended centroid,  $G$  a non-zero generalized derivation of  $R$ ,  $L$  a non-central Lie ideal of  $R$ . We prove that if  $[G(u), u], G(u) \in Z(R)$  for all  $u \in L$  then one of the following holds:*

1. *there exists  $\alpha \in C$  such that  $G(x) = \alpha x$ , for all  $x \in R$ ;*
2.  *$R$  satisfies the standard identity  $s_4(x_1, \dots, x_4)$  and there exist  $a \in U$ ,  $\alpha \in C$  such that  $G(x) = ax + xa + \alpha x$ , for all  $x \in R$ .*

For sake of clearness we premit the following:

**FACT 1.** Denote by  $T = U *_C C\{X\}$  the free product over  $C$  of the  $C$ -algebra  $U$  and the free  $C$ -algebra  $C\{X\}$ , with  $X$  a countable set consisting of non-commuting indeterminates  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n, \dots\}$ . The elements of  $T$  are called generalized polynomial with coefficients in  $U$ . Moreover if  $I$  is a non-zero ideal of  $R$ , then  $I, R$  and  $U$  satisfy the same generalized polynomial identities with coefficients in  $U$ . For more details about these objects we refer the reader to [1] and [4].

**FACT 2.** Let  $a_1, \dots, a_k \in U$  be linearly independent over  $C$  and  $a_1g_1(x_1, \dots, x_n) + \dots + a_kg_k(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0 \in T$ , for some  $g_1, \dots, g_k \in T = U *_C C\{X\}$ . As a consequence of the result in [4], if for any  $i$ ,  $g_i(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{j=1}^n x_j h_j(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and  $h_j(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in T$ , then  $g_1(x_1, \dots, x_n), \dots, g_k(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  are the zero element of  $T$ . The same conclusion holds if  $g_1(x_1, \dots, x_n)a_1 + \dots + g_k(x_1, \dots, x_n)a_k = 0 \in T$ , and  $g_i(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \sum_{j=1}^n h_j(x_1, \dots, x_n)x_j$  for some  $h_j(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in T$ .

## 2. The case of Inner Generalized Derivations.

In this section we study the case when the generalized derivation  $G$  is inner defined as follows:  $G(x) = ax + xb$  for all  $x \in R$ , where  $a, b$  are fixed elements of  $U$ .

In all that follows we denote

$$P(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \left[ [a[x_1, x_2] + [x_1, x_2]b, [x_1, x_2]], a[x_1, x_2] + [x_1, x_2]b \right] x_3 \\ - x_3 \left[ [a[x_1, x_2] + [x_1, x_2]b, [x_1, x_2]], a[x_1, x_2] + [x_1, x_2]b \right]$$

and assume that  $R$  satisfies the generalized identity  $P(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ .

**LEMMA 1.** *If  $R$  does not satisfy any non trivial generalized polynomial identity, then  $a, b \in C$  and  $G(x) = \alpha x$ , for all  $x \in R$  and for  $\alpha = a + b$ .*

**PROOF.** Denote by  $T = U *_C C\{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$  the free product over  $C$  of the  $C$ -algebra  $U$  and the free  $C$ -algebra  $C\{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$ . Any element of  $T$  is a generalized polynomial with coefficients in  $U$ .

Suppose that  $R$  does not satisfy any non trivial generalized polynomial identity. Thus

$$P(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \left[ a[x_1, x_2]^2 + [x_1, x_2](b-a)[x_1, x_2] - [x_1, x_2]^2 b, a[x_1, x_2] + [x_1, x_2]b \right] x_3 \\ - x_3 \left[ a[x_1, x_2]^2 + [x_1, x_2](b-a)[x_1, x_2] - [x_1, x_2]^2 b, a[x_1, x_2] + [x_1, x_2]b \right] \\ = a \left( [x_1, x_2]^2 a[x_1, x_2] + [x_1, x_2]^3 b - [x_1, x_2] a[x_1, x_2]^2 \right. \\ \left. - [x_1, x_2]^2 (b-a)[x_1, x_2] + [x_1, x_2]^3 b \right) x_3 \\ + [x_1, x_2] \left( (b-a)[x_1, x_2] a[x_1, x_2] + (b-a)[x_1, x_2]^2 b - [x_1, x_2] b a[x_1, x_2] \right. \\ \left. - [x_1, x_2] b [x_1, x_2] b - b a[x_1, x_2]^2 - b [x_1, x_2] (b-a)[x_1, x_2] + b [x_1, x_2]^2 b \right) x_3 \\ - x_3 \left[ a[x_1, x_2]^2 + [x_1, x_2](b-a)[x_1, x_2] - [x_1, x_2]^2 b, a[x_1, x_2] + [x_1, x_2]b \right] = 0 \in T.$$

Suppose that  $\{1, a\}$  are linearly  $C$ -independent. Since  $P(x_1, x_2, x_3)$  is a trivial generalized polynomial identity for  $R$ , then

$$\left( [x_1, x_2]^2 a[x_1, x_2] + [x_1, x_2]^3 b - [x_1, x_2] a[x_1, x_2]^2 - [x_1, x_2]^2 (b-a)[x_1, x_2] \right. \\ \left. + [x_1, x_2]^3 b \right) x_3 = 0 \in T$$

that is

$$\begin{aligned} & [x_1, x_2]^2 a[x_1, x_2] + [x_1, x_2]^3 b - [x_1, x_2] a[x_1, x_2]^2 \\ & - [x_1, x_2]^2 (b - a)[x_1, x_2] + [x_1, x_2]^3 b = 0 \in T. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that  $\{1, b\}$  are linearly  $C$ -dependent. In fact, if not it follows that  $[x_1, x_2]^3$  is an identity for  $R$ , a contradiction. Thus  $b = \beta \in C$  and  $R$  satisfies

$$[x_1, x_2]^2 a[x_1, x_2] + \beta [x_1, x_2]^3 - [x_1, x_2] a[x_1, x_2]^2 + [x_1, x_2]^2 a[x_1, x_2]$$

which is a non-trivial generalized identity, since we suppose that  $\{1, a\}$  are linearly  $C$ -independent. This contradiction says that  $\{1, a\}$  are linearly  $C$ -dependent, that is  $a = \alpha \in C$ .

Therefore  $R$  satisfies the generalized identity

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[ [x_1, x_2](b + \alpha)[x_1, x_2] - [x_1, x_2]^2(b + \alpha), [x_1, x_2](b + \alpha) \right] x_3 \\ & - x_3 \left[ [x_1, x_2](b + \alpha)[x_1, x_2] - [x_1, x_2]^2(b + \alpha), [x_1, x_2](b + \alpha) \right] \end{aligned}$$

that is

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \left( [x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2]^2 b' - [x_1, x_2]^2 b' [x_1, x_2] b' - [x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2] \right. \\ & \quad \left. + [x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2]^2 b' \right) x_3 \\ & - x_3 \left( [x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2]^2 b' - [x_1, x_2]^2 b' [x_1, x_2] b' - [x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2] \right. \\ & \quad \left. + [x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2]^2 b' \right) \\ &= \left( [x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2]^2 b' - [x_1, x_2]^2 b' [x_1, x_2] b' - [x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2] \right. \\ & \quad \left. + [x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2]^2 b' \right) x_3 \\ & - x_3 [x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2] - x_3 \left( 2[x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2]^2 - [x_1, x_2]^2 b' [x_1, x_2] \right) b' \end{aligned}$$

where  $b' = b + \alpha$ . If  $\{1, b'\}$  are linearly  $C$ -independent, then

$$-x_3 \left( 2[x_1, x_2] b' [x_1, x_2]^2 - [x_1, x_2]^2 b' [x_1, x_2] \right)$$

is a non-trivial generalized identity for  $R$ , a contradiction. Then  $\{1, b'\}$  are linearly  $C$ -dependent, that is  $b' \in C$  as well as  $b$ , and we are done.  $\square$

**LEMMA 2.** *Let  $R = M_m(F)$  be the ring of  $m \times m$  matrices over the field  $F$  of characteristic different from 2, with  $m > 1$ ,  $a, b$  elements of  $R$  such that*

$$[[au + ub, u], au + ub] \in Z(R)$$

for all  $u \in [R, R]$ . Then one of the following holds:

- 1)  $a, b \in Z(R)$ ;
- 2)  $a - b \in Z(R)$  and  $m = 2$ .

PROOF. The first aim is to prove that  $a - b$  is a diagonal matrix. Say  $a = \sum_{ij} a_{ij}e_{ij}$ ,  $b = \sum_{ij} b_{ij}e_{ij}$ , where  $a_{ij}, b_{ij} \in F$ , and  $e_{ij}$  are the usual matrix units. Let  $u = [r_1, r_2] = [e_{ii}, e_{ij}] = e_{ij}$ , for any  $i \neq j$ . Thus

$$[ae_{ij} + e_{ij}b, e_{ij}], ae_{ij} + e_{ij}b = (b_{ji} - a_{ji})(a_{ji} - b_{ji})e_{ij} \in Z(R)$$

that is all the off-diagonal entries of the matrix  $a - b$  are zeros.

Let now  $\chi \in \text{Aut}_F(R)$  with  $\chi(x) = (1 + e_{ji})x(1 - e_{ji})$ . Of course  $[\chi(au) + u\chi(b), u], \chi(a)u + u\chi(b) \in Z(R)$ , for all  $u \in [R, R]$ . By calculation we have that

$$\begin{aligned}\chi(a) &= a + e_{ji}a - ae_{ji} - e_{ji}ae_{ji} \\ \chi(b) &= b + e_{ji}b - be_{ji} - e_{ji}be_{ji}\end{aligned}$$

and by the previous argument we also have that  $\chi(a - b)$  is a diagonal matrix. In particular the  $(j, i)$ -entry of  $\chi(a - b)$  is zero, that is  $a_{ji} - b_{ji} = a_{jj} - b_{jj}$ . By the arbitrariness of  $i \neq j$ , we have that  $a - b = \alpha$  is a central matrix in  $R$  and  $[au + ua + \alpha u, u], au + ua + \alpha u \in Z(R)$ , for all  $u \in [R, R]$ , that is  $R$  satisfies

$$\left[ [a[x_1, x_2]^2 - [x_1, x_2]^2 a, a[x_1, x_2] + [x_1, x_2]a + \alpha[x_1, x_2]], x_3 \right].$$

In case  $m = 2$  we are done. Thus assume that  $m \geq 3$ .

Suppose that  $a$  is not a diagonal matrix, for example let  $a_{ji} \neq 0$  for  $i \neq j$ .

Let now  $v = [e_{ii}, e_{ij} + e_{ji}] = e_{ij} - e_{ji}$ . Thus

$$X = [av^2 - v^2a, av + va + \alpha v] \in Z(R)$$

hence for any  $k \neq i, j$ , the  $(k, i)$ -entry  $X_{ki}$  of the matrix  $X$  is zero. By calculations we have that

$$(1) \quad X_{ki} = a_{ki}(a_{ij} - a_{ji}) + a_{kj}(a_{jj} + a_{ii} + \alpha) = 0$$

On the other hand for  $w = [e_{ii}, e_{ij} - e_{ji}] = e_{ij} + e_{ji}$  we have

$$Y = [aw^2 - w^2a, aw + wa + \alpha w] \in Z(R) = 0.$$

Again the  $(k, i)$ -entry  $Y_{ki}$  of the matrix  $Y$  is zero, that is

$$(2) \quad Y_{ki} = a_{ki}(a_{ij} + a_{ji}) + a_{kj}(a_{jj} + a_{ii} + \alpha) = 0$$

By (1) and (2) it follows that

$$(3) \quad -2a_{ki}a_{ji} = 0$$

Therefore we have that if  $a_{ji} \neq 0$ , then  $a_{ki} = 0$  for all  $k \neq i, j$ .

Let  $\varphi \in \text{Aut}_F(R)$  defined as  $\varphi(x) = (1 + e_{kj})x(1 - e_{kj})$ . Of course for all  $u \in [R, R]$ ,  $[\varphi(a)u^2 - u^2\varphi(a), \varphi(a)u + u\varphi(a) + au] \in Z(R)$ . Since the  $(k, i)$ -entry of the matrix  $\varphi(a)$  is equal to  $a_{ji} \neq 0$ , then by the argument in (3) we have that the  $(j, i)$ -entry  $a'_{ji}$  of the matrix  $\varphi(a)$  is zero. By calculations it follows  $0 = a'_{ji} = a_{ji}$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $a$  must be a diagonal matrix in  $R$ . As above, for all  $r \neq s$ , let  $\chi \in \text{Aut}_F(R)$  with  $\chi(x) = (1 + e_{sr})x(1 - e_{sr})$ . Hence also  $\chi(a) = a + e_{sr}a - ae_{sr} - e_{sr}ae_{sr}$  must be a diagonal matrix. In particular the  $(s, r)$ -entry of  $\chi(a)$  is zero, that is  $a_{rr} = a_{ss}$ . By the arbitrariness of  $i \neq j$ , we have that  $a$  is a central matrix in  $R$ , and we are done again.  $\square$

**PROPOSITION 1.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic different from 2. Suppose that  $a, b$  are elements of  $U$  such that  $[[au + ub, u], au + bu] \in Z(R)$ , for all  $u \in [R, R]$ . Then one of the following holds:*

- 1)  $a, b \in C$ ;
- 2)  $a - b \in C$  and  $R$  satisfies the standard identity  $s_4(x_1, \dots, x_4)$ .

**PROOF.** By Lemma 1 we may assume that  $R$  satisfies the non-trivial generalized polynomial identity

$$P(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \left[ a[x_1, x_2]^2 + [x_1, x_2](b - a)[x_1, x_2] - [x_1, x_2]^2 b, a[x_1, x_2] + [x_1, x_2]b \right] x_3 \\ - x_3 \left[ a[x_1, x_2]^2 + [x_1, x_2](b - a)[x_1, x_2] - [x_1, x_2]^2 b, a[x_1, x_2] + [x_1, x_2]b \right].$$

By a theorem due to Beidar (Theorem 2 in [1]) this generalized polynomial identity is also satisfied by  $U$ . In case  $C$  is infinite, we have  $P(r_1, r_2, r_3) \in C$  for all  $r_1, r_2, r_3 \in U \otimes_C \overline{C}$ , where  $\overline{C}$  is the algebraic closure of  $C$ . Since both  $U$  and  $U \otimes_C \overline{C}$  are centrally closed ([6], Theorems 2.5 and 3.5), we may replace  $R$  by  $U$  or  $U \otimes_C \overline{C}$  according as  $C$  is finite or infinite. Thus we may assume that  $R$  is centrally closed over  $C$  which is either finite or algebraically closed. By Martindale's theorem [14],  $R$  is a primitive ring having a non-zero socle  $H$  with  $C$  as the associated division ring. In light of Jacobson's theorem ([10], pag 75)  $R$  is isomorphic to a dense ring of linear transformations on some vector space  $V$  over  $C$ .

Assume first that  $V$  is finite-dimensional over  $C$ . Then the density of  $R$  on  $V$  implies that  $R \cong M_k(C)$ , the ring of all  $k \times k$  matrices over  $C$ . Since  $R$  is not commutative we assume  $k \geq 2$ . In this case the conclusion follows by Lemma 2.

Assume next that  $V$  is infinite-dimensional over  $C$ . As in lemma 2 in [16], the set  $[R, R]$  is dense on  $R$  and so from  $P(r_1, r_2, r_3) \in Z(R)$ , for all  $r_1, r_2, r_3 \in R$ , we have  $[[ar + rb, r], ar + rb] \in Z(R)$ , for all  $r \in R$ . Due to the infinity-dimensionality,  $R$  cannot satisfies any polynomial identity. In particular the non-zero ideal  $H$  cannot satisfies  $s_4(x_1, \dots, x_4)$ . Suppose that either  $a \notin C$  or  $b \notin C$ , then at least one of them doesn't centralize the non zero ideal  $H$  of  $R$ , and we will prove that this leads to a contradiction.

Hence we are supposing that there exist  $h_1, h_2 \in H$  such that either  $[a, h_1] \neq 0$  or  $[b, h_2] \neq 0$  and there exist  $h_3, h_4, h_5, h_6 \in H$  such that  $s_4(h_3, \dots, h_6) \neq 0$ .

Let  $e^2 = e$  any non-trivial idempotent element of  $H$ . For  $r = exe$ , with any  $x \in R$ , we have that  $[[axe + xeb, exe], axe + bxe] \in Z(R)$ . By commuting with  $(1 - e)$  and then right multiplying by  $(1 - e)$  it follows  $2(1 - e)a(exe)^3b(1 - e) = 0$ . Since  $\text{char}(R) \neq 2$ , we have that either  $(1 - e)ae = 0$  or  $eb(1 - e) = 0$ . If  $(1 - e)ae = 0$  then  $ae = eae$  and  $bae = beae$ . On the other hand, in case  $eb(1 - e) = 0$ , we get  $eb = ebe$ , and so  $eba = abea$ . In any case we notice that the ring  $eRe$  satisfies the generalized identity  $\left[ [(eae)X + X(ebe), X], (eae)X + X(ebe), Y \right]$ .

By Litoff's theorem in [7] there exists  $e^2 = e \in H$  such that  $h_1, h_2, h_3, h_4, h_5, h_6 \in eRe$ , moreover  $eRe$  is a central simple algebra finite dimensional over its center. Since  $s_4(h_3, \dots, h_6) \neq 0$ , then  $eRe \cong M_t(C)$ , for  $t \geq 3$ . By the finite dimensional case, we have that  $eae, ebe \in Z(eRe)$ , but this contradicts with the choices of  $h_1, h_2$  in  $eRe$ .  $\square$

### 3. The proof of the Theorem.

In this final section we will make use of the result of Kharchenko [11] about the differential identities on a prime ring  $R$ . We refer to Chapter 7 in [2] for a complete and detailed description of the theory of generalized polynomial identities involving derivations.

It is well known that any derivation of a prime ring  $R$  can be uniquely extended to a derivation of its Utumi quotients ring  $U$ , and so any derivation of  $R$  can be defined on the whole  $U$  ([2], pg. 87).

Now, we denote by  $\text{Der}(Q)$  the set of all derivations on  $Q$ . By a derivation word we mean an additive map  $\Delta$  of the form  $\Delta = d_1 d_2 \dots d_m$ , with each  $d_i \in \text{Der}(Q)$ . Then a differential polynomial is a generalized polynomial, with coefficients in  $Q$ , of the form  $\Phi(\Delta_j(x_i))$  involving non-commutative indeterminates  $x_i$  on which the derivations words  $\Delta_j$  act as

unary operations. The differential polynomial  $\Phi(\Delta_j(x_i))$  is said a differential identity on a subset  $T$  of  $Q$  if it vanishes for any assignment of values from  $T$  to its indeterminates  $x_i$ .

Let  $D_{\text{int}}$  be the  $C$ -subspace of  $\text{Der}(Q)$  consisting of all inner derivations on  $Q$  and let  $d$  and  $\delta$  be two non-zero derivations on  $R$ . As a particular case of Theorem 2 in [11] we have the following result (see also Theorem 1 in [13]):

**FACT 3.** If  $d$  is a non-zero derivation on  $R$  and  $\Phi(x_1, \dots, x_n, d(x_1), \dots, d(x_n))$  is a differential identity on  $R$ , then one of the following holds:

- 1) either  $d \in D_{\text{int}}$ ;
- 2) or  $R$  satisfies the generalized polynomial identity

$$\Phi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n).$$

Now we are ready to prove our main result:

**THEOREM.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic different from 2,  $Z(R)$  its center,  $U$  its Utumi quotient ring,  $C$  its extended centroid,  $G$  a non-zero generalized derivation of  $R$ ,  $L$  a non-central Lie ideal of  $R$ . We prove that if  $[[G(u), u], G(u)] \in Z(R)$  for all  $u \in L$  then one of the following holds:*

- 1) *there exists  $\alpha \in C$  such that  $G(x) = \alpha x$ , for all  $x \in R$ ;*
- 2)  *$R$  satisfies the standard identity  $s_4(x_1, \dots, x_4)$  and there exist  $a \in U$ ,  $\alpha \in C$  such that  $G(x) = ax + xa + \alpha x$ , for all  $x \in R$ .*

**PROOF.** By Theorem 3 in [12] every generalized derivation  $g$  on a dense right ideal of  $R$  can be uniquely extended to the Utumi quotient ring  $U$  of  $R$ , and thus we can think of any generalized derivation of  $R$  to be defined on the whole  $U$  and to be of the form  $g(x) = ax + d(x)$  for some  $a \in U$  and  $d$  a derivation on  $U$ . Thus we will assume in all that follows that there exist  $a \in U$  and  $d$  derivation on  $U$  such that  $G(x) = ax + d(x)$ . We note that we may assume that  $R$  is not commutative, since  $L$  is not central. Moreover, since  $\text{char}(R) \neq 2$ , there exists a non-central two-sided ideal  $I$  of  $R$  such that  $[I, I] \subseteq L$  (see p. 4-5 in [8]; Lemma 2 and Proposition 1 in [5]). Therefore  $[[G(u), u], G(u)] \in Z(R)$  for all  $u \in [I, I]$ . Moreover by [13]  $R$  and  $I$  satisfy the same differential polynomial identities, that is  $[[G(u), u], G(u)] \in Z(R)$  for all  $u \in [R, R]$ .



By assumption  $R$  satisfies the differential identity

$$(4) \quad \left[ [a[x_1, x_2] + [d(x_1), x_2] + [x_1, d(x_2)], [x_1, x_2]], a[x_1, x_2] + [d(x_1), x_2] + [x_1, d(x_2)] \right] x_3 \\ - x_3 \left[ [a[x_1, x_2] + [d(x_1), x_2] + [x_1, d(x_2)], [x_1, x_2]], a[x_1, x_2] + [d(x_1), x_2] + [x_1, d(x_2)] \right]$$

First suppose that  $d$  is not an inner derivation on  $U$ . By Kharchenko's theorem [11]  $R$  satisfies the polynomial identity

$$(5) \quad \left[ [a[x_1, x_2] + [y_1, x_2] + [x_1, y_2], [x_1, x_2]], a[x_1, x_2] + [y_1, x_2] + [x_1, y_2] \right] x_3 \\ - x_3 \left[ [a[x_1, x_2] + [y_1, x_2] + [x_1, y_2], [x_1, x_2]], a[x_1, x_2] + [y_1, x_2] + [x_1, y_2] \right]$$

in particular  $R$  satisfies any blended component

$$\left[ [a[x_1, x_2], [x_1, x_2]], a[x_1, x_2] \right] x_3 - x_3 \left[ [a[x_1, x_2], [x_1, x_2]], a[x_1, x_2] \right]$$

that is

$$\left[ [a[x_1, x_2], [x_1, x_2]], a[x_1, x_2] \right] \in Z(R)$$

and by Proposition 1 we have that  $a = \alpha \in C$ . Thus from (5), it follows that  $R$  satisfies the polynomial identity

$$\left[ [ [y_1, x_2] + [x_1, y_2], [x_1, x_2] ], \alpha[x_1, x_2] + [y_1, x_2] + [x_1, y_2] \right] x_3 \\ - x_3 \left[ [ [y_1, x_2] + [x_1, y_2], [x_1, x_2] ], \alpha[x_1, x_2] + [y_1, x_2] + [x_1, y_2] \right].$$

Since  $R$  satisfies a polynomial identity, there exists  $M_k(F)$ , the ring of all matrices over a suitable field  $F$ , such that  $R$  and  $M_k(F)$  satisfy the same polynomial identities (see [9], Theorem 2 p.54 and Lemma 1 p.89). For  $x_1 = e_{22}$ ,  $x_2 = e_{21}$ ,  $y_1 = e_{21}$  and  $y_2 = e_{12}$  we obtain

$$[y_1, x_2] = 0, \quad [x_1, y_2] = -e_{12}, \quad [x_1, x_2] = e_{21}$$

and it follows the contradiction

$$\left[ [-e_{12}, e_{21}], \alpha e_{21} - e_{12} \right] = 2e_{12} + 2\alpha e_{21} \notin Z(R).$$

Now consider the case when  $d$  is an inner derivation induced by the element  $b \in U$ . Since  $G(x) = ax + [b, x] = ax + bx - xb = (a + b)x + x(-b)$  and by Proposition 1, we have that either  $a, b \in C$  or  $a + 2b \in C$  and  $R$  satisfies  $s_4(x_1, \dots, x_4)$ . In the first case we conclude that  $G(x) = ax$ , for  $a \in C$ ; in the second one  $G(x) = a'x + xa' + \alpha x$ , where  $a' = -b$ .  $\square$

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