

# Generalized derivations and multilinear polynomials in prime rings

Basudeb Dhara, Shuliang Huang\* and Atanu Pattanayak

ABSTRACT: Let  $R$  be a prime ring with Utumi quotient ring  $U$  and extended centroid  $C$ ,  $g$  a nonzero generalized derivation of  $R$ ,  $I$  a nonzero right ideal of  $R$ ,  $f(r_1, \dots, r_k)$  a multilinear polynomial over  $C$  and  $n \geq 2$  be a fixed integer. If  $g(f(r_1, \dots, r_k)^n) = g(f(r_1, \dots, r_k))^n$  for all  $r_1, \dots, r_k \in I$ , then one of the following holds:

- (1)  $IC = eRC$  for some idempotent  $e \in \text{soc}(RC)$  and  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  is central-valued on  $eRCe$ ;
- (2) there exist  $a, b \in U$  such that  $g(x) = ax + xb$  for all  $x \in R$  and  $(a - \alpha)I = (0)$ ,  $(b - \beta)I = (0)$  for some  $\alpha, \beta \in C$  with  $(\alpha + \beta)^{n-1} = 1$ ;
- (3) there exists  $a \in U$  such that  $g(x) = ax$  for all  $x \in R$  with  $aI = (0)$ .

*Mathematics Subject Classification:* 16W25, 16R50, 16N60.

*Key words and phrases:* Prime ring, derivation, generalized derivation, extended centroid.

1

## 1 Introduction

Let  $R$  be an associative prime ring with center  $Z(R)$ . Throughout this paper,  $U$  will denote the Utumi quotient ring of  $R$  and  $C = Z(U)$ , the center of  $U$ , which is called

---

<sup>1\*</sup>The second author is the corresponding author. Address correspondence to Shuliang Huang, Department of Mathematics, Chuzhou University, Chuzhou 239012, P. R. China.

extended centroid of  $R$ . For  $x, y \in R$ , the symbol  $[x, y]$  stands for the commutator  $xy - yx$ .

An additive mapping  $d : R \rightarrow R$  is called a derivation if  $d(xy) = d(x)y + xd(y)$  holds for all  $x, y \in R$ . The concept of derivation is extended to generalized derivation. The generalized derivation means an additive mapping  $g : R \rightarrow R$  such that  $g(xy) = g(x)y + xd(y)$  for all  $x, y \in R$ , where  $d$  is a derivation of  $R$ . For some fixed  $a, b \in R$ , the maps  $g(x) = ax + xb$  for all  $x \in R$ , is an example of generalized derivation. This kind of generalized derivations are called generalized inner derivations.

Let  $S$  be a nonempty set of  $R$  and  $F : R \rightarrow R$  be an additive mapping. Then we say that  $F$  acts as homomorphism or anti-homomorphism on  $S$  if  $F(xy) = F(x)F(y)$  or  $F(xy) = F(y)F(x)$  holds for all  $x, y \in S$  respectively. The additive mapping  $F$  acts as a Jordan homomorphism on  $S$  if  $F(x^2) = F(x)^2$  holds for all  $x \in S$ . Obviously, any additive mapping acting as homomorphism or anti-homomorphism is a surjective Jordan homomorphism, but the converse is not true in general. In [11, Theorem 3.1], Herstein proved that in a 2-torsion free prime ring, any Jordan homomorphism is either a homomorphism or an anti-homomorphism.

In [2], Bell and Kappe proved that if a derivation  $d$  of a prime ring  $R$  acts as a homomorphism or anti-homomorphism on a nonzero right ideal of  $R$ , then  $d = 0$  on  $R$ . Recently, Ali, Rehman and Ali in [1] proved a similar result to Lie ideal case. They proved that if  $R$  is a 2-torsion free prime ring,  $L$  a nonzero Lie ideal of  $R$  such that  $u^2 \in L$  for all  $u \in L$  and  $d$  acts as a homomorphism or anti-homomorphism on  $L$ , then either  $d = 0$  or  $L \subseteq Z(R)$ . In [22], Wang and You eliminated the assumption  $u^2 \in L$  for all  $u \in L$  and obtain the same conclusion of [1].

On the other hand, the authors developed above results, replacing the derivation  $d$  with a generalized derivation  $g$  of  $R$ . In [15], Rehman proved that the 2-torsion free prime ring  $R$  must be commutative, if there is a generalized derivation  $g$  admitting a nonzero associated derivation, that acts as homomorphism or anti-homomorphism on a nonzero ideal of  $R$ . Gusic in [10] showed that the result of Rehman is not in complete form. He proved the following: let  $R$  be a prime ring,  $I$  a nonzero ideal of  $R$  and  $d, g$  any two functions on  $R$  (not necessary to be additive and  $d$  not necessary to be a derivation) such that  $g(xy) = g(x)y + xd(y)$  for all  $x, y \in R$ . If  $g$  acts as a homomorphism or an anti-homomorphism on  $I$ , then  $d = 0$  and either  $g = 0$  or  $g(x) = x$  for all  $x \in R$ ; in addition, when  $g$  acts as an anti-homomorphism on  $I$ ,

then  $R$  must be commutative.

In the same line of investigation, recently in [7] De Filippis studied the situation when generalized derivation  $g$  acts as a Jordan homomorphism on a noncentral Lie ideal  $L$  of  $R$  and on the set  $[I, I]$ , where  $I$  is a nonzero right ideal of a prime ring  $R$ . More precisely, De Filippis proved the following two theorems:

**Theorem A:** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring,  $L$  a non-central Lie ideal of  $R$  and  $g$  a non-zero generalized derivation of  $R$ . If  $g$  acts as a Jordan homomorphism on  $L$ , then either  $g(x) = x$  for all  $x \in R$ , or  $\text{char}(R) = 2$ ,  $R$  satisfies the standard identity  $s_4(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$ ,  $L$  is commutative and  $u^2 \in Z(R)$  for any  $u \in L$ .*

**Theorem B:** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring,  $I$  a non-zero right ideal of  $R$  and  $g$  a non-zero generalized derivation of  $R$ . If  $g$  acts as a Jordan homomorphism on the set  $[I, I]$ , then one of the following holds: (i)  $\text{char}(R) = 2$  and  $I$  satisfies the identity  $s_4(x_1, \dots, x_4)x_5$ ; (ii)  $[I, I]I = 0$ ; (iii) there exists  $a \in R$  such that  $g(x) = ax$  for all  $x \in R$  and  $aI = 0$ ; (iv)  $g(x) = x$  for all  $x \in I$ ; (v) there exists  $q \in R$  such that  $g(x) = xq$  and  $qx = x$  for all  $x \in I$ .*

It is natural to generalize above results considering the generalized derivation  $g$  acts as Jordan homomorphism on the set  $\{f(x_1, \dots, x_k) \mid x_1, \dots, x_k \in I\}$ , where  $I$  is a nonzero right ideal of  $R$  and  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  is a multilinear polynomial on  $R$  over  $C$ . In the present paper, our aim is to study this situation in more generalized form by considering  $n$ -power values.

Let  $R$  be a prime ring and  $U$  be the Utumi quotient ring of  $R$  and  $C = Z(U)$ , the center of  $U$ . Note that  $U$  is also a prime ring with  $C$  a field. Let  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  be a multilinear polynomial over  $C$ . We can write it as

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_k) = x_1 x_2 \dots x_k + \sum_{I \neq \sigma \in S_k} \alpha_\sigma x_{\sigma(1)} \dots x_{\sigma(k)},$$

where  $S_k$  is the permutation group over  $k$  elements and any  $\alpha_\sigma \in C$ . We denote by  $f^d(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  the polynomial obtained from  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  by replacing each coefficient  $\alpha_\sigma$  with  $d(\alpha_\sigma \cdot 1)$ . In this way we have

$$d(f(x_1, \dots, x_k)) = f^d(x_1, \dots, x_k) + \sum_i f(x_1, \dots, d(x_i), \dots, x_k).$$

Now we include some facts which will be used to prove our theorems.

**Fact 1.** It is well known that any derivation of  $R$  can be uniquely extended to a derivation of  $U$  (see [18, Lemma 2]).

**Fact 2.** Let  $\rho$  be a nonzero right ideal of  $R$ . Then  $\rho$ ,  $\rho C$ ,  $\rho U$  satisfy the same generalized polynomial identities with coefficients in  $U$  (see [5]).

**Fact 3.** Let  $\rho$  be a nonzero right ideal of  $R$ . Then  $\rho$ ,  $\rho R$  and  $\rho U$  satisfy the same differential identities with coefficients in  $U$  (see [18, Theorem 2]).

**Fact 4.** Let  $\rho$  be a nonzero right ideal of  $R$ . If  $\rho$  satisfies a nontrivial polynomial identity, then  $RC$  is a primitive ring with  $\text{soc}(RC) \neq 0$  and  $\rho C = eRC$  for some idempotent  $e = e^2 \in \text{soc}(RC)$  (see [17, Proposition])

**Fact 5.** Let  $R$  be a dense ring of linear transformations of a vector space  $V$  over a division ring  $D$  and  $a \in R$ . If for any  $v \in V$ ,  $av$  and  $v$  are linearly  $D$ -dependent, then there exists a  $\beta \in D$  such that  $av = v\beta$  for all  $v \in V$ .

*Proof.* For any  $v \in V$ ,  $av = v\alpha_v$  for some  $\alpha_v \in D$ . Now we prove that  $\alpha_v$  is independent of the choice of  $v \in V$ . Let  $u$  be a fixed vector of  $V$ . Then  $au = u\alpha$ . Let  $v$  be any vector of  $V$ . Then  $av = v\alpha_v$ , where  $\alpha_v \in D$ . If  $u$  and  $v$  are linearly  $D$ -dependent, then  $u = v\beta$ , for  $\beta \in D$ . In this case, we see that  $u\alpha = au = av\beta = (v\alpha_v)\beta = (v\beta)\alpha_v = u\alpha_v$ , implying  $\alpha = \alpha_v$ .

Now if  $u$  and  $v$  are linearly  $D$ -independent, then we have  $(u+v)\alpha_{u+v} = a(u+v) = au + av = u\alpha + v\alpha_v$ , which implies  $u(\alpha_{u+v} - \alpha) + v(\alpha_{u+v} - \alpha_v) = 0$ . Since  $u$  and  $v$  are linearly  $D$ -independent, we have  $\alpha_{u+v} - \alpha = 0 = \alpha_{u+v} - \alpha_v$  and so  $\alpha = \alpha_v$ . Thus  $av = v\alpha$  for all  $v \in V$ , where  $\alpha \in D$  independent of the choice of  $v \in V$ .

**Fact 6.** Let  $I$  be a nonzero right ideal of  $R$  and  $a \in U$ . If for every  $x \in I$ ,  $ax$  and  $x$  are linearly  $C$ -dependent, then there exists  $\alpha \in C$  such that  $(a - \alpha)I = (0)$ .

The proof of Fact 6 is similar to that of Fact 5, so we omit it here.

*Remark 1.* Now we mention a result of Lee in [16] which will be used to prove our main theorem. In [16], Lee extended the definition of generalized derivation as follows: generalized derivation means an additive mapping  $g : \rho \rightarrow U$  such that  $g(xy) = g(x)y + x\delta(y)$  for all  $x, y \in \rho$ , where  $\rho$  is a dense right ideal of  $R$  and  $\delta$  is a derivation from  $\rho$  into  $U$ . The author proved that every generalized derivation of  $R$  can be uniquely extended to generalized derivation of  $U$  and has the form  $g(x) = ax + \delta(x)$  for all  $x \in U$ , where  $a \in U$  and  $\delta$  is a derivation of  $U$  [16, Theorem

3]. For more details about generalized derivations we refer to [3], [12], [16] and [19].

## 2 Main Results

First we study the case when  $g$  is inner generalized derivation of  $R$ , that is, for some  $a, b \in U$ ,  $g(x) = ax + xb$  for all  $x \in R$ .

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $R = M_m(F)$ ,  $m \geq 2$ , be the set of all  $m \times m$  matrices over a field  $F$  and  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  be a noncentral multilinear polynomial over  $F$ . If for some  $a, b \in R$ ,  $af(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^nb = (af(x_1, \dots, x_k) + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)b)^n$  for all  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in R$ , then  $a, b \in F.I_m$  with  $(a + b)^n - (a + b) = 0$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $a = (a_{ij})_{m \times m}$ ,  $b = (b_{ij})_{m \times m}$ . Since  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  is not central valued on  $R$ , by [20, Lemma 2, Proof of Lemma 3] there exists a sequence of matrices  $r = (r_1, \dots, r_k)$  in  $R$  such that  $f(r_1, \dots, r_k) = \gamma e_{ij}$  with  $0 \neq \gamma \in F$  and  $i \neq j$ . Since the set  $f(R) = \{f(x_1, \dots, x_k), x_i \in R\}$  is invariant under the action of all inner automorphisms of  $R$ , for all  $i \neq j$  there exists a sequence of matrices  $r = (r_1, \dots, r_k)$  such that  $f(r) = \gamma e_{ij}$ . Thus

$$af(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^nb = (af(x_1, \dots, x_k) + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)b)^n$$

gives  $0 = (a\gamma e_{ij} + \gamma e_{ij}b)^n$  i.e.,  $0 = (ae_{ij} + e_{ij}b)^n$ . Left multiplying by  $e_{ij}$  yields  $a_{ji}^n = 0$  and right multiplying by  $e_{ij}$  yields  $b_{ji}^n = 0$ . Thus, we have  $a_{ji} = 0$  and  $b_{ji} = 0$  for any  $i \neq j$ , that is,  $a$  and  $b$  are diagonal matrices.

Now for any  $F$ -automorphism  $\theta$  of  $R$ , we have

$$a^\theta f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^nb^\theta = (a^\theta f(x_1, \dots, x_k) + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)b^\theta)^n$$

for all  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in R$ . Then by above argument  $a^\theta$  and  $b^\theta$  must be diagonal. Write,  $a = \sum_{i=0}^m a_{ii}e_{ii}$  and  $b = \sum_{i=0}^m b_{ii}e_{ii}$ ; then for  $s \neq t$ , we have

$$(1 + e_{ts})a(1 - e_{ts}) = \sum_{i=0}^m a_{ii}e_{ii} + (a_{ss} - a_{tt})e_{ts}$$

diagonal and

$$(1 + e_{ts})b(1 - e_{ts}) = \sum_{i=0}^m b_{ii}e_{ii} + (b_{ss} - b_{tt})e_{ts}$$

diagonal, implying  $a_{ss} = a_{tt}$ ,  $b_{ss} = b_{tt}$  and so  $a, b \in F.I_m$ .

Then our assumption

$$af(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n b = (af(x_1, \dots, x_k) + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)b)^n$$

for all  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in R$ , reduces to  $((a+b)^n - (a+b))f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n = 0$ . This implies either  $(a+b)^n - (a+b) = 0$  or  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n = 0$  for all  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in R$ . But by [20, Corollary 5],  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n = 0$  for all  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in R$ , implies that  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k) = 0$  for all  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in R$ , a contradiction.

Hence, the lemma is proved.

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with Utumi quotient ring  $U$  and extended centroid  $C$ , and  $f(r_1, \dots, r_k)$  be a multilinear polynomial over  $C$  which is not central valued on  $R$ . If for some  $a, b \in U$ ,  $af(r)^n + f(r)^n b = (af(r) + f(r)b)^n$  for all  $r = (r_1, \dots, r_k) \in R^k$ , where  $n \geq 2$  is a fixed integer, then  $a, b \in C$  with  $(a+b)^n - (a+b) = 0$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $R$  and  $U$  satisfy same generalized polynomial identity (see [5]),  $U$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} & h(x_1, \dots, x_k) \\ &= af(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n b - (af(x_1, \dots, x_k) + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)b)^n = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that  $h(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  is a trivial GPI for  $U$ . Let  $T = U *_C C\{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ , the free product of  $U$  and  $C\{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ , the free  $C$ -algebra in noncommuting indeterminates  $x_1, \dots, x_k$ . Then,

$$af(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n b - (af(x_1, \dots, x_k) + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)b)^n$$

is zero element in  $T$ . If  $a \notin C$ , then  $a$  and 1 are linearly independent over  $C$ . Then expanding the above identity, it will imply

$$af(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n - af(x_1, \dots, x_k)(af(x_1, \dots, x_k) + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)b)^{n-1} = 0$$

that is,

$$af(x_1, \dots, x_k)\{f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^{n-1} - (af(x_1, \dots, x_k) + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)b)^{n-1}\} = 0$$

in  $T$ . Again, since  $a$  and 1 are linearly independent over  $C$ , this implies that

$$af(x_1, \dots, x_k)\{af(x_1, \dots, x_k)(af(x_1, \dots, x_k) + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)b)^{n-2}\} = 0$$

and so  $(af(x_1, \dots, x_k))^n = 0$ , implying  $a = 0$ , a contradiction. Hence,  $a \in C$ . Then our generalized polynomial identity (GPI) reduces to  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n(a+b) - (f(x_1, \dots, x_k)(a+b))^n = 0$  in  $T$ . If  $a+b \notin C$ , then  $a+b$  and 1 are linearly independent over  $C$ . Then by same argument as above,  $(f(x_1, \dots, x_k)(a+b))^n = 0$ , which is a nontrivial generalized polynomial identity for  $R$ , a contradiction. Thus,  $a+b \in C$  and hence  $b \in C$ . Then our GPI becomes  $\{(a+b) - (a+b)^n\}f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n = 0$ , which is trivial GPI for  $R$ , implying  $(a+b) - (a+b)^n = 0$ .

Next suppose that  $h(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  is a nontrivial GPI for  $R$  and so for  $U$ . In case  $C$  is infinite, we have  $h(x_1, \dots, x_k) = 0$  for all  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in U \otimes_C \overline{C}$ , where  $\overline{C}$  is the algebraic closure of  $C$ . Since both  $U$  and  $U \otimes_C \overline{C}$  are prime and centrally closed [8, Theorems 2.5 and 3.5], we may replace  $R$  by  $U$  or  $U \otimes_C \overline{C}$  according to  $C$  finite or infinite. Then  $R$  is centrally closed over  $C$  and  $h(x_1, \dots, x_k) = 0$  for all  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in R$ . By Martindale's theorem [21],  $R$  is then a primitive ring with nonzero socle  $\text{soc}(R)$  and with  $C$  as its associated division ring. Then, by Jacobson's theorem [13, p.75],  $R$  is isomorphic to a dense ring of linear transformations of a vector space  $V$  over  $C$ . Assume first that  $V$  is finite dimensional over  $C$ , that is,  $\dim_C V = m$ . By density of  $R$ , we have  $R \cong M_m(C)$ . Since  $f(r_1, \dots, r_k)$  is not central valued on  $R$ ,  $R$  must be noncommutative and so  $m \geq 2$ . In this case, by Lemma 2.1, we obtain our required conclusion.

Now, if  $V$  is infinite dimensional over  $C$ , then as in lemma 2 in [23], the set  $f(R)$  is dense on  $R$  and so from

$$af(r_1, \dots, r_k)^n + f(r_1, \dots, r_k)^n b - (af(r_1, \dots, r_k) + f(r_1, \dots, r_k)b)^n = 0$$

for all  $r_1, \dots, r_k \in R$ , we have

$$ar^n + r^n b - (ar + rb)^n = 0$$

for all  $r \in R$ . Let  $v$  and  $bv$  be linearly  $C$ -independent for some  $v \in V$ . Then by density there exists  $r \in R$  such that  $rv = 0$ ,  $rbv = v$ . Therefore, we have  $0 = \{ar^n + r^n b - (ar + rb)^n\}v = -v$  for  $n \geq 2$ , contradiction. Hence,  $v$  and  $bv$  are linearly  $C$ -dependent for all  $v \in V$ . By Fact 5, we can write  $bv = v\alpha$  for all  $v \in V$  and  $\alpha \in C$  fixed.

Now let  $r \in R$ ,  $v \in V$ . Since  $bv = v\alpha$ ,

$$[b, r]v = (br)v - (rb)v = b(rv) - r(bv) = (rv)\alpha - r(v\alpha) = 0.$$

Thus  $[b, r]v = 0$  for all  $v \in V$  i.e.,  $[b, r]V = 0$ . Since  $[b, r]$  acts faithfully as a linear transformation on the vector space  $V$ ,  $[b, r] = 0$  for all  $r \in R$ . Therefore,  $b \in C$ . Then we obtain

$$(a + b)r^n - ((a + b)r)^n = 0$$

for all  $r \in R$ . Let  $v$  and  $(a + b)v$  be linearly  $C$ -independent for some  $v \in V$ . By density, we may choose  $r \in R$  such that  $rv = v$ ,  $r(a + b)v = 0$ . Then we get  $0 = \{(a + b)r^n - ((a + b)r)^n\}v = (a + b)v$  for  $n \geq 2$ , a contradiction. Hence,  $v$  and  $(a + b)v$  are linearly  $C$ -dependent for all  $v \in V$ , which implies as before that  $a + b \in C$  and so  $a \in C$ . Therefore,  $\{(a + b)^n - (a + b)\}r^n = 0$  for all  $r \in R$ . Since  $V$  is infinite dimensional over  $C$ ,  $(a + b)^n - (a + b) = 0$ .

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with Utumi quotient ring  $U$  and extended centroid  $C$ ,  $I$  a nonzero right ideal of  $R$  and  $f(r_1, \dots, r_k)$  a multilinear polynomial over  $C$ . If for some  $a, b \in U$ ,  $af(r)^n + f(r)^nb = (af(r) + f(r)b)^n$  for all  $r = (r_1, \dots, r_k) \in I^k$ , then one of the following holds:*

- (1)  $IC = eRC$  for some idempotent  $e \in \text{soc}(RC)$  and  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  is central-valued on  $eRCe$ ;
- (2) there exist  $\alpha, \beta \in C$  such that  $(a - \alpha)I = (0)$  and  $(b - \beta)I = (0)$  with  $(\alpha + \beta)^{n-1} = 1$ ;
- (3)  $b \in C$  and  $(a + b)I = (0)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $u \in I$ . Then  $R$  satisfies the GPI

$$\begin{aligned} & af(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)^n + f(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)^nb \\ &= (af(ux_1, \dots, ux_k) + f(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)b)^n. \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Now we consider following two cases:

*Case-I:  $R$  does not satisfy any nontrivial GPI*

Then (1) is a trivial GPI for  $R$ , that is,

$$af(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)^n + f(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)^nb - (af(ux_1, \dots, ux_k) + f(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)b)^n \quad (2)$$

is zero element in  $R *_C C\{x_1, \dots, x_k\}$ . Suppose first that there exists  $u \in I$  such that  $\{bu, u\}$  are linearly  $C$ -independent. Then  $b \notin C$ , and hence above GPI implies that

$$f(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)^nb - (af(ux_1, \dots, ux_k) + f(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)b)^{n-1}f(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)b = 0.$$



Now since  $\{bu, u\}$  are linearly  $C$ -independent, we see expanding the above expression that  $(f(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)b)^n$  appears nontrivially, a contradiction. Hence  $bu$  and  $u$  are linearly  $C$ -dependent for all  $u \in I$ . Then by Fact 6, there exists  $\beta \in C$  such that  $(b - \beta)I = (0)$ . Next suppose that there exists  $u \in I$  such that  $\{au, u\}$  are linearly  $C$ -independent. Then from above (2), we obtain that

$$af(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)^n - af(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)\{af(ux_1, \dots, ux_k) + f(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)b\}^{n-1} = 0. \quad (3)$$

Expanding the above expression we find that the term  $\{af(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)\}^n$  appears nontrivially, a contradiction. Hence we conclude that  $au$  and  $u$  are linearly  $C$ -dependent for all  $u \in I$ . By Fact 6, there exists  $\alpha \in C$  such that  $(a - \alpha)I = (0)$ .

Then (1) reduces to

$$f(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)^n(\alpha + b) = (f(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)(\alpha + b))^n. \quad (4)$$

Using  $(b - \beta)I = (0)$ , it follows that

$$f(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)^n(\alpha + b) = f(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)^n(\alpha + \beta)^{n-1}(\alpha + b) \quad (5)$$

that is

$$f(ux_1, \dots, ux_k)^n\{1 - (\alpha + \beta)^{n-1}\}(\alpha + b) = 0. \quad (6)$$

Since this is trivial GPI for  $R$ , either  $1 - (\alpha + \beta)^{n-1} = 0$  or  $b = -\alpha \in C$ . These two cases gives conclusion (2) and (3) respectively.

*Case-II:  $R$  satisfy a nontrivial GPI*

Now assume first that  $[f(I), I]I = 0$ , that is  $[f(x_1, \dots, x_k), x_{k+1}]x_{k+2} = 0$  for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{k+2} \in I$ . Then by Fact 4,  $IC = eRC$  for some idempotent  $e \in \text{soc}(RC)$ . Since  $[f(I), I]I = 0$ , we have  $[f(IR), IR]IR = 0$  and hence  $[f(IU), IU]IU = 0$  by [5, Theorem 2]. In particular,  $[f(IC), IC]IC = 0$ , or equivalently,  $[f(eRC), eRC]eRC = 0$ . Then  $[f(eRCe), eRCe] = 0$ , that is,  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  is central-valued on  $eRCe$  and hence conclusion (1) is obtained.

So, we assume that  $[f(I), I]I \neq 0$ , that is,  $[f(x_1, \dots, x_k), x_{k+1}]x_{k+2}$  is not an identity for  $I$ . In this case  $R$  is a prime GPI-ring and so is  $U$  (see [5]). Since  $U$  is centrally closed over  $C$ , it follows from [21] that  $U$  is a primitive ring with  $H = \text{Soc}(U) \neq 0$ . Then  $[f(IH), IH]IH \neq 0$ . For otherwise,  $[f(IU), IU]IU = 0$  by [5], a contradiction. Choose  $u_1, \dots, u_{k+2} \in IH$  such that  $[f(u_1, \dots, u_k), u_{k+1}]u_{k+2} \neq$

0. Let  $u \in IH$ . Since  $H$  is a regular ring, there exists  $e^2 = e \in H$  such that  $eH = uH + u_1H + \cdots + u_{k+2}H$ . Then  $e \in IH$  and  $u = eu$ ,  $u_i = eu_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k+2$ . Thus, we have  $0 \neq [f(eH), eH]eH = [f(eHe), eHe]H$  i.e.,  $f(r_1, \dots, r_k)$  is not central-valued in  $eHe$ .

By our assumption and by [5], we may also assume that

$$af(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^nb = (af(x_1, \dots, x_k) + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)b)^n$$

is an identity for  $IU$ . In particular,

$$af(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^nb = (af(x_1, \dots, x_k) + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)b)^n$$

is an identity for  $IH$  and so for  $eH$ . It follows that, for all  $r_1, \dots, r_k \in H$ ,

$$af(er_1, \dots, er_k)^n + f(er_1, \dots, er_k)^nb = (af(er_1, \dots, er_k) + f(er_1, \dots, er_k)b)^n. \quad (7)$$

We may write

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_k) = \sum_i t_i(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_k)x_i,$$

where  $t_i$  is a suitable multilinear polynomial in  $k-1$  variables and  $x_i$  never appears in any monomials of  $t_i$ . Since  $f(eHe) \neq 0$ , there exists some  $t_i$  which does not vanish in  $eHe$ . Without loss of generality, we assume that  $t_k(eHe) \neq 0$ . Let  $r \in H$ . Then replacing  $r_k$  with  $r(1-e)$  in (7), we have

$$0 = (at_k(er_1, \dots, er_{k-1})er(1-e) + t_k(er_1, \dots, er_{k-1})er(1-e)b)^n. \quad (8)$$

Left multiplying by  $(1-e)$ , we obtain  $(1-e)(at_k(er_1, \dots, er_{k-1})er(1-e))^n = 0$ , that is,  $\{(1-e)at_k(er_1, \dots, er_{k-1})er\}^{n+1} = 0$  for all  $r \in H$ . By [9],  $(1-e)at_k(er_1e, \dots, er_{k-1}e) = 0$  for all  $r_1, \dots, r_{k-1} \in H$ . Since  $eHe$  is a simple Artinian ring and  $t_k(eHe) \neq 0$  is invariant under the action of all inner automorphisms of  $eHe$ , by [6, Lemma 2],  $(1-e)ae = 0$ . Now again right multiplying by  $e$  in (8), we obtain  $(t_k(er_1, \dots, er_{k-1})er(1-e)b)^ne = 0$  that is,  $\{(1-e)bt_k(er_1, \dots, er_{k-1})er\}^{n+1} = 0$  for all  $r \in H$ , implying  $(1-e)bt_k(er_1e, \dots, er_{k-1}e) = 0$  for all  $r_1, \dots, r_{k-1} \in H$ . By above argument we conclude that  $(1-e)be = 0$ .

In particular, from (7), we can write that  $H$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} & e\{af(er_1e, \dots, er_ke)^n + f(er_1e, \dots, er_ke)^nb \\ & - (af(er_1e, \dots, er_ke) + f(er_1e, \dots, er_ke)b)^n\}e = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

and so using the facts  $(1 - e)ae = 0$  and  $(1 - e)be = 0$ , we have, prime ring  $eHe$  satisfies

$$eae f(r_1, \dots, r_k)^n + f(r_1, \dots, r_k)^n ebe - (eae f(r_1, \dots, r_k) + f(r_1, \dots, r_k) ebe)^n = 0. (10)$$

By Proposition 2.2, since  $f(r_1, \dots, r_k)$  is not central-valued in  $eHe$ , we conclude  $eae, ebe \in Ce$  with  $(eae + ebe)^n - (eae + ebe) = 0$ . Therefore,  $ae = eae \in Ce$  and  $be = ebe \in Ce$ . Thus  $au = aeu = eaeu \in Cu$  and hence  $au, u$  are linearly  $C$ -dependent for each  $u \in I$ . So  $(a - \alpha)I = (0)$  for some  $\alpha \in C$ . Similarly,  $(b - \beta)I = (0)$  for some  $\beta \in C$ .

Thus our hypothesis  $af(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n b = (af(x_1, \dots, x_k) + f(x_1, \dots, x_k)b)^n$  for all  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in I$ , implies that  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n \{(\alpha + \beta)^{n-1} - 1\}(\alpha + b) = 0$  for all  $x_1, \dots, x_k \in I$ . By Lemma 2 in [4], either  $f(I)I = 0$  or  $\{(\alpha + \beta)^{n-1} - 1\}(\alpha + b) = 0$ . If  $f(I)I = 0$ , then by Fact 4, conclusion (1) is obtained. If  $\{(\alpha + \beta)^{n-1} - 1\}(\alpha + b) = 0$ , then either  $(\alpha + \beta)^{n-1} = 1$  or  $b = -\alpha \in C$ . Both cases imply conclusions (2) and (3) respectively.

We are now ready to prove our main theorem.

**Theorem 2.4.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with Utumi quotient ring  $U$  and extended centroid  $C$ ,  $g$  a nonzero generalized derivation of  $R$ ,  $I$  a nonzero right ideal of  $R$ ,  $f(r_1, \dots, r_k)$  a multilinear polynomial over  $C$  and  $n \geq 2$  be a fixed integer. If  $g(f(r_1, \dots, r_k)^n) = g(f(r_1, \dots, r_k))^n$  for all  $r_1, \dots, r_k \in I$ , then one of the following holds:*

- (1)  $IC = eRC$  for some idempotent  $e \in \text{soc}(RC)$  and  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  is central-valued on  $eRCe$ ;
- (2) there exist  $a, b \in U$  such that  $g(x) = ax + xb$  for all  $x \in R$  and  $(a - \alpha)I = (0)$ ,  $(b - \beta)I = (0)$  for some  $\alpha, \beta \in C$  with  $(\alpha + \beta)^{n-1} = 1$ ;
- (3) there exists  $a \in U$  such that  $g(x) = ax$  for all  $x \in R$  with  $aI = (0)$ .

*Proof.* If  $g$  is inner generalized derivation of  $R$ , then result follows by Proposition 2.3. Assume that  $g$  is not  $U$ -inner. Then by Remark 1, we may assume that for all  $x \in U$ ,  $g(x) = ax + d(x)$ , where  $a \in U$  and  $d$  is a derivation of  $U$ . By our assumption,  $I$  satisfies  $g(f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n) = g(f(x_1, \dots, x_k))^n$ . Since  $I$  and  $IU$  satisfy the same generalized polynomial identities (see [5]) as well as the same differential identities (see [18]), we may assume for  $u_1, \dots, u_k \in I$  that  $U$  satisfies

$$af(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k)^n + d(f(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k)^n)$$

$$= \{af(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k) + d(f(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k))\}^n \quad (11)$$

that is,

$$\begin{aligned} & af(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k)^n \\ & + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} f(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k)^i d(f(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k)) f(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k)^{n-i-1} \\ & = \{af(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k) + d(f(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k))\}^n. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Since  $g$  is not inner,  $d$  can not be inner derivation of  $U$ . Then we have from (12) that

$$\begin{aligned} & af(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k)^n \\ & + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} f(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k)^i \left\{ f^d(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k) \right. \\ & \left. + \sum_j f(u_1x_1, \dots, d(u_j)x_j + u_jd(x_j), \dots, u_kx_k) \right\} f(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k)^{n-i-1} \\ & = \left\{ af(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k) + f^d(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k) \right. \\ & \left. + \sum_j f(u_1x_1, \dots, d(u_j)x_j + u_jd(x_j), \dots, u_kx_k) \right\}^n. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

By Kharchenko's theorem [14], we have that  $U$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} & af(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k)^n \\ & + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} f(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k)^i \left\{ f^d(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k) \right. \\ & \left. + \sum_j f(u_1x_1, \dots, d(u_j)x_j + u_jy_j, \dots, u_kx_k) \right\} f(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k)^{n-i-1} \\ & = \left\{ af(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k) + f^d(u_1x_1, \dots, u_kx_k) \right. \\ & \left. + \sum_j f(u_1x_1, \dots, d(u_j)x_j + u_jy_j, \dots, u_kx_k) \right\}^n. \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

In particular, putting  $x_1 = 0$ , we have that  $U$  satisfies

$$0 = \{f(u_1y_1, \dots, u_kx_k)\}^n. \quad (15)$$

Since  $I$  and  $IU$  satisfy the same polynomial identities, we have that  $I$  satisfies  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)^n = 0$ . By [6, Main Theorem],  $f(I)I = 0$  and hence conclusion (2) is obtained by using Fact 4. Hence the theorem is proved.

It is well known that if  $R$  is a prime ring and  $L$  is a non-central Lie ideal of  $R$ , then there exists a nonzero two-sided ideal  $I$  of  $R$  such that  $0 \neq [I, R] \subseteq L$ , unless

$\text{char}(R) = 2$  and  $R$  satisfies the standard identity  $s_4$ . Thus from above theorem following corollary is straightforward.

**Corollary 2.5.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with Utumi quotient ring  $U$  and extended centroid  $C$ ,  $g$  a nonzero generalized derivation of  $R$ ,  $L$  a noncentral Lie ideal of  $R$  and  $n \geq 2$  be a fixed integer. If  $g(u^n) = g(u)^n$  for all  $u \in L$ , then one of the following holds:*

- (1)  $\text{char}(R) = 2$  and  $R$  satisfies  $s_4$ , standard identity of four variables.
- (2) there exists  $\lambda \in C$  such that  $g(x) = \lambda x$  for all  $x \in R$  with  $\lambda^{n-1} = 1$ .

Now we prove our next corollary, which states that the restriction on  $\text{char}(R) = 2$  and  $R$  satisfies  $s_4$  in the Theorem B can be omitted.

**Corollary 2.6.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with Utumi quotient ring  $U$  and extended centroid  $C$ ,  $g$  a nonzero generalized derivation of  $R$ ,  $I$  a nonzero right ideal of  $R$  and  $f(r_1, \dots, r_k)$  be a multilinear polynomial over  $C$ . If  $g(f(r_1, \dots, r_k)^2) = g(f(r_1, \dots, r_k))^2$  for all  $r_1, \dots, r_k \in I$ , then one of the following holds:*

- (1)  $IC = eRC$  for some idempotent  $e \in \text{soc}(RC)$  and  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  is central-valued on  $eRCe$ ;
- (2) there exists  $a \in U$  such that  $g(x) = xa$  for all  $x \in I$  and  $(a-1)I = (0)$ ;
- (3) there exists  $a \in U$  such that  $g(x) = ax$  for all  $x \in R$  with  $aI = (0)$ .

*Proof.* By theorem 2.4, we have only to consider the case when  $g(x) = ax + xb$  for all  $x \in R$  and  $(a-\alpha)I = (0)$ ,  $(b-\beta)I = (0)$  for some  $\alpha, \beta \in C$  with  $\alpha + \beta = 1$ . Then  $g(x) = ax + xb = \alpha x + xb = x(\alpha + b)$  for all  $x \in I$  with  $(0) = (b-\beta)I = (b+\alpha-1)I$ . Hence we obtain our conclusion (2).

**Corollary 2.7.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with extended centroid  $C$ ,  $g$  a nonzero generalized derivation of  $R$  and  $f(r_1, \dots, r_k)$  a noncentral multilinear polynomial over  $C$ . If  $g(f(r_1, \dots, r_k)^2) = g(f(r_1, \dots, r_k))^2$  for all  $r_1, \dots, r_k \in R$ , then  $g(x) = x$  for all  $x \in R$ .*

**Corollary 2.8.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with extended centroid  $C$ ,  $d$  a derivation of  $R$  and  $f(r_1, \dots, r_k)$  a noncentral multilinear polynomial over  $C$ . If  $d(f(r_1, \dots, r_k)^2) = d(f(r_1, \dots, r_k))^2$  for all  $r_1, \dots, r_k \in R$ , then  $d = 0$ .*

**Example 1.** Let  $Z$  be the set of all integers. Consider a ring  $R = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mid x, y \in Z \right\}$

and a multilinear polynomial  $f(X, Y) = XY$  which is not central-valued on  $R$ . We define maps  $g, d : R \rightarrow R$ , by  $g \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x & 2y \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $d \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & y \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $g$  is a generalized derivation associated to the derivation  $d$  satisfying  $g(f(X, Y)^2) = g(f(X, Y))^2$  for all  $X, Y \in R$ . Since  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} R \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$ ,  $R$  is not prime ring. Since  $g$  is not an identity mapping in  $R$ , the primeness hypothesis in Corollary 2.7 is essential.

**Acknowledgement.** The authors would like to thank the referees for their careful reading the paper and providing very helpful comments and suggestions to improve the paper.

## References

- [1] A. Ali, N. Rehman and S. Ali, On Lie ideals with derivations as homomorphisms or anti-homomorphisms, *Acta Math. Hungar* 101 (1-2) (2003) 79-82.
- [2] H. E. Bell and L. C. Kappe, Rings in which derivations satisfy certain algebraic conditions, *Acta Math. Hungar* 53 (3-4) (1989) 339-346.
- [3] L. Carini, V. De Filippis O. M. Di Vincenzo, On some generalized identities with derivations on multilinear polynomials, *Algebra Colloq.* 17(2) (2010) 319-336.
- [4] C. M. Chang, Power central values of derivations on multilinear polynomials, *Taiwanese J. Math.* 7 (2)(2003) 329-338.
- [5] C. L. Chuang, GPI's having coefficients in Utumi quotient rings, *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.* 103(3)(1988) 723-728.
- [6] C. L. Chuang and T. K. Lee, Rings with annihilator conditions on multilinear polynomials, *Chinese J. Math.* 24 (2) (1996) 177-185.
- [7] V. De Filippis, Generalized derivations as Jordan homomorphisms on Lie ideals and right ideals, *Acta Math. Sinica, English Series* 25(2)(2009) 1965-1974.
- [8] T.S. Erickson, W.S. Martindale III and J.M. Osborn, Prime nonassociative algebras, *Pacific J. Math.*, 60 (1975) 49-63.
- [9] B. Felzenszwalb, On a result of Levitzki, *Canad. Math. Bull.* 21 (1978) 241-242.
- [10] I. Gusic, A note on generalized derivations of prime rings, *Glasnik. Mat.* 40(1) (2005) 47-49.

- [11] I. N. Herstein, *Topics in ring theory*, Univ. of Chicago Press, Chicago 1969.
- [12] B. Hvala, Generalized derivations in rings, *Comm. Algebra* 26 (4) (1998) 1147-1166.
- [13] N. Jacobson, *Structure of rings*, Amer. Math. Soc. Colloq. Pub., 37, Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, RI, 1964.
- [14] V. K. Kharchenko, Differential identity of prime rings, *Algebra and Logic.* 17 (1978) 155-168.
- [15] N. Rehman, On generalized derivations as homomorphisms and anti-homomorphisms, *Glasnik. Mat.* 39(59) (2004) 27-30.
- [16] T. K. Lee, Generalized derivations of left faithful rings, *Comm. Algebra* 27 (8) (1999) 4057-4073.
- [17] T. K. Lee, Power reduction property for generalized identities of one sided ideals, *Algebra Colloquium* 3 (1996) 19-24.
- [18] T. K. Lee, Semiprime rings with differential identities, *Bull. Inst. Math. Acad. Sinica* 20(1) (1992) 27-38.
- [19] T. K. Lee and W. K. Shiue, Identities with generalized derivations , *Comm. Algebra* 29 (10) (2001) 4437-4450.
- [20] U. Leron, Nil and power central valued polynomials in rings, *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* 202 (1975) 97-103.
- [21] W. S. Martindale III, Prime rings satisfying a generalized polynomial identity, *J. Algebra* 12 (1969) 576-584.
- [22] Y. Wang and H. You, Derivations as homomorphisms or anti-homomorphisms on Lie ideals, *Acta Math. Sinica, English Series* 23 (6) (2007) 1149-1152.
- [23] T. L. Wong, Derivations with power central values on multilinear polynomials, *Algebra Colloquium* 3 (4) (1996) 369-378.

Basudeb Dhara  
 Department of Mathematics  
 Belda College, Belda,  
 Paschim Medinipur  
 721424(W.B.), INDIA  
 e-mail: basu.dhara@yahoo.com

Shuliang Huang  
 Department of Mathematics  
 Chuzhou University  
 Chuzhou 239012, (CHINA)

e-mail: shulianghuang@sina.com

Atanu Pattanayak  
Department of Mathematics  
Belda College, Belda,  
Paschim Medinipur  
721424(W.B.), INDIA  
e-mail: atanu.pattanayak@yahoo.com