

## ON PERMUTING $n$ -DERIVATIONS IN NEAR-RINGS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we introduce the notion of permuting  $n$ -derivations in near-ring  $N$  and investigate commutativity of addition and multiplication of  $N$ . Further, under certain constraints on a  $n!$ -torsion free prime near-ring  $N$ , it is shown that a permuting  $n$ -additive mapping  $D$  on  $N$  is zero if the trace  $d$  of  $D$  is zero. Finally, some more related results are also obtained.

### 1. Introduction

Throughout this paper  $N$  will denote a zero-symmetric left near ring. A near ring  $N$  is called zero symmetric if  $0x = 0$  for all  $x \in N$  (recall that in a left near ring  $x0 = 0$  for all  $x \in N$ ).  $N$  is called prime if  $xNy = \{0\}$  implies  $x = 0$  or  $y = 0$ . It is called semi prime if  $xNx = \{0\}$  implies  $x = 0$ . Near-ring  $N$  is called  $n$ -torsion free if  $nx = 0$  implies  $x = 0$ . The symbol  $Z$  will represent the multiplicative center of  $N$ , that is,  $Z = \{x \in N \mid xy = yx \text{ for all } y \in N\}$ . As usual, for  $x, y \in N$ ,  $[x, y]$  will denote the commutator  $xy - yx$ , while  $(x, y)$  will indicate the additive group commutator  $x + y - x - y$ . The symbol  $C$  will represent the set of all additive commutators of near ring  $N$ . For terminologies concerning near-rings we refer to G. Pilz [10].

An additive map  $f : N \rightarrow N$  is called a derivation if  $f(xy) = f(x)y + xf(y)$  holds for all  $x, y \in N$ . The concepts of symmetric bi-derivation, permuting tri-derivation and permuting  $n$ -derivation have already been introduced in rings by G. Maksa, M. A. Öztürk and K. H. Park in [4, 5, 6], and [8], respectively. These concepts of symmetric bi-derivations and permuting tri-derivations have been studied in near-rings by M. A. Öztürk and K. H. Park in [7] and [9], respectively. In the present paper, motivated by these concepts, we define permuting  $n$ -derivations in near-rings and study some properties involved there. Some relations between permuting  $n$ -derivations and  $C$ , the set of all additive commutators in near-ring  $N$  have also been studied.

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A map  $D : \underbrace{N \times N \times \cdots \times N}_{n\text{-times}} \rightarrow N$  is said to be permuting if the equation  $D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = D(x_{\pi(1)}, x_{\pi(2)}, \dots, x_{\pi(n)})$  holds for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in N$  and for every permutation  $\pi \in S_n$ , where  $S_n$  is the permutation group on  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . A map  $d : N \rightarrow N$  defined by  $d(x) = D(x, x, \dots, x)$  for all  $x \in N$  where  $D : \underbrace{N \times N \times \cdots \times N}_{n\text{-times}} \rightarrow N$  is a permuting map, is called

the trace of  $D$ . A permuting  $n$ -additive (i.e., additive in each argument) mapping  $D : \underbrace{N \times N \times \cdots \times N}_{n\text{-times}} \rightarrow N$  is called a permuting  $n$ -derivation if

$D(x_1 x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) x'_1 + x_1 D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  holds for all  $x_1, x'_1, \dots, x_n \in N$ . Of course, a permuting 1-derivation is a derivation and permuting 2-derivation is a symmetric bi-derivation. For an example of permuting  $n$ -derivation let  $n \geq 1$  be a fixed positive integer,  $N$  a commutative near-ring. Then  $R = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, 0 \in N \right\}$  is a non-commutative near-ring with regard to matrix addition and matrix multiplication. Define  $D : \underbrace{R \times R \times \cdots \times R}_{n\text{-times}} \rightarrow$

$R$  such that

$$D\left(\begin{pmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \dots, \begin{pmatrix} a_n & b_n \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

It is easy to see that  $D$  is a permuting  $n$ -derivation of  $R$ .

Now let  $D$  be a permuting  $n$ -derivation of a near-ring  $N$ . Then it can be easily seen that  $D(0, x_2, \dots, x_n) = D(0 + 0, x_2, \dots, x_n) = D(0, x_2, \dots, x_n) + D(0, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ . Therefore  $D(0, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0$  for all  $x_2, \dots, x_n \in N$ . We also observe that  $D(-x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = -D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  for all  $x_i \in N; i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

There has been a great deal of work concerning derivations, biderivations and triderivations in near-rings (see [1, 2, 3, 4, 9] where further references can be found). In this paper we study the commutativity of addition and multiplication of near-rings. Many well known results for derivations, bi-derivations and tri-derivations in near-rings have been generalized for permuting  $n$ -derivation. In fact, our results generalize and complement several well known theorems for near-rings.

## 2. Preliminary results

We begin with the following lemmas which are essential for developing the proofs of our main results. Proofs of Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2 can be seen in [2, Lemma 3] and [3, Lemma 1.2], respectively.

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

- (i) *If  $z \in Z \setminus \{0\}$ , then  $z$  is not a zero divisor.*
- (ii) *If  $Z \setminus \{0\}$  contains an element  $z$  for which  $z + z \in Z$ , then  $(N, +)$  is abelian.*

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $N$  be a prime near-ring. If  $z \in Z \setminus \{0\}$  and  $x$  is an element of  $N$  such that  $xz \in Z$  or  $zx \in Z$ , then  $x \in Z$ .*

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $N$  be a near-ring. Then  $D$  is a permuting  $n$ -derivation of  $N$  if and only if  $D(x_1x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = x_1D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) + D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x'_1$  for all  $x_1, x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in N$ .*

*Proof.* We have

$$\begin{aligned} &D(x_1(x'_1 + x'_1), x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ &= D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)(x'_1 + x'_1) + x_1D(x'_1 + x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ &= D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x'_1 + D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x'_1 \\ &\quad + x_1D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) + x_1D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} &D(x_1x'_1 + x_1x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ &= D(x_1x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) + D(x_1x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ &= D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x'_1 + x_1D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ &\quad + D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x'_1 + x_1D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n). \end{aligned}$$

Combining above two equalities we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} &D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x'_1 + x_1D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ &= x_1D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) + D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x'_1. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $D(x_1x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = x_1D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) + D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x'_1$ .

Converse can be proved in a similar way. □

In a left near-ring  $N$ , right distributive law does not hold in general, however, we can prove the following partial distributive properties in  $N$ .

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $N$  be a near-ring. Let  $D$  be a permuting  $n$ -derivation of  $N$  and  $d$  be the trace of  $D$ . Then for every  $x_1, x'_1, \dots, x_n, y \in N$ ,*

- (i)  $\{D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x'_1 + x_1D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\}y = D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x'_1y + x_1D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)y,$
- (ii)  $\{x_1D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) + D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x'_1\}y = x_1D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)y + D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x'_1y,$
- (iii)  $\{d(x)x_1 + xD(x, x, \dots, x, x_1)\}y = d(x)x_1y + xD(x, x, \dots, x, x_1)y,$
- (iv)  $\{xD(x, x, \dots, x, x_1) + d(x)x_1\}y = xD(x, x, \dots, x, x_1)y + d(x)x_1y.$

*Proof.* (i) For all  $x_1, x'_1, x''_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in N$

$$\begin{aligned} &D((x_1x'_1)x''_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ &= D(x_1x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x''_1 + (x_1x'_1)D(x''_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ &= \{D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x'_1 + x_1D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\}x''_1 + (x_1x'_1)D(x''_1, x_2, \dots, x_n). \end{aligned}$$

Also

$$\begin{aligned} & D(x_1(x_1'x_1''), x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ &= D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1'x_1'' + x_1D(x_1'x_1'', x_2, \dots, x_n) \\ &= D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1'x_1'' + x_1\{D(x_1', x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1'' + x_1'D(x_1'', x_2, \dots, x_n)\} \\ &= D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1'x_1'' + x_1D(x_1', x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1'' + x_1x_1'D(x_1'', x_2, \dots, x_n). \end{aligned}$$

Combining the above two relations, we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \{D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1' + x_1D(x_1', x_2, \dots, x_n)\}x_1'' \\ &= D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1'x_1'' + x_1D(x_1', x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1''. \end{aligned}$$

Putting  $y$  in the place of  $x_1''$ , we find that

$$\begin{aligned} & \{D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1' + x_1D(x_1', x_2, \dots, x_n)\}y \\ &= D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1'y + x_1D(x_1', x_2, \dots, x_n)y. \end{aligned}$$

(ii) It can be proved, in a similar, way as above, with the help of Lemma 2.3.

(iii) In the proof (i) above putting  $x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = \dots = x_n = x$ , we get

$$\{d(x)x_1' + xD(x_1', x, \dots, x)\}y = d(x)x_1'y + xD(x_1', x, \dots, x)y.$$

In particular for  $x_1' = x_1$  we get

$$\{d(x)x_1 + xD(x, x, \dots, x_1)\}y = d(x)x_1y + xD(x, x, \dots, x_1)y.$$

(iv) It can be proved in a similar way as above.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5.** Let  $N$  be prime near-ring and  $D$  be a non zero permuting  $n$ -derivation of  $N$ ,

- (i) If  $D(N, N, \dots, N)x = \{0\}$  where  $x \in N$ , then  $x = 0$ ,
- (ii) If  $xD(N, N, \dots, N) = \{0\}$  where  $x \in N$ , then  $x = 0$ .

*Proof.* (i) Given that  $D(x_1x_1', x_2, \dots, x_n)x = 0$  for all  $x_1, x_1', \dots, x_n \in N$ . This yields that  $\{D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1' + x_1D(x_1', x_2, \dots, x_n)\}x = 0$ . By hypothesis and Lemma 2.4(i) we have  $D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)Nx = \{0\}$ . But since  $N$  is a prime near ring and  $D \neq 0$ , we have  $x = 0$ .

(ii) It can be proved in a similar way.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.6.** Let  $D$  be a nonzero permuting  $n$ -derivation of a prime near ring  $N$ . Then  $D(C, C, \dots, C) \neq \{0\}$  where  $C \neq \{0\}$ .

*Proof.* If possible assume  $D(C, C, \dots, C) = \{0\}$ , then  $D(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) = 0$  for all  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in C$ . For all  $r_1 \in N$  and  $c_1 \in C$  we get  $r_1c_1 \in C$ . Also  $D(r_1c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) = 0$  implies  $r_1D(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) + D(r_1, c_2, \dots, c_n)c_1 = 0$ . Thus we get

$$(2.1) \quad D(r_1, c_2, \dots, c_n)c_1 = 0.$$

Replacing  $c_1$  by  $xc_1$  in equation (2.1) where  $x \in N$  we find that

$$D(r_1, c_2, \dots, c_n)Nc_1 = \{0\}.$$

Primeness of  $N$  yields,

$$(2.2) \quad D(r_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) = 0.$$

Now putting  $r_2c_2 \in C$  in place of  $c_2$  where  $r_2 \in N$  in the equation (2.2) and proceeding as above we have  $D(r_1, r_2, c_3, \dots, c_n) = 0$ . Proceeding inductively we conclude that  $D(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n) = 0$  for all  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n \in N$  leading to a contradiction.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.7.** *Let  $N$  be a  $m!$ -torsion free near-ring, where  $(N, +)$  is an abelian group. Suppose  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m \in N$  satisfy  $\alpha y_1 + \alpha^2 y_2 + \dots + \alpha^m y_m = 0$  for  $\alpha = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . Then  $y_i = 0$  for all  $i$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \\ 2 & 2^2 & \dots & 2^m \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ m & m^2 & \dots & m^m \end{pmatrix}$  be any  $m \times m$  matrix. Then by our assumption  $A \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_m \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Now pre multiplying by  $\text{Adj } A$  yields  $\text{Det } A \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_m \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Since  $\text{Det } A$ , as a Vandermonde determinant, is equal to a product of positive integers, each of which is less than or equal to  $m$  and as  $N$  is a  $m!$ -torsion free near-ring, it follows immediately that  $y_i = 0$  for all  $i$ .  $\square$

### 3. Main results

Recently M. A. Öztürk and Y. B. Jun [7, Lemma 3.1] proved that in a 2-torsion free near-ring which admits a symmetric bi-additive mapping  $D$  if the trace  $d$  of  $D$  is zero, then  $D = 0$ . Further, this result was generalized by K. H. Park and Y. S. Jung [9, Lemma 2.2] for permuting tri-additive mapping in 3!-torsion free near-ring in the year 2010. We have extended this result, as below, for permuting  $n$ -additive mapping in a  $n!$ -torsion free prime near-ring under some constraints.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $N$  be  $n!$ -torsion free prime near-ring and  $D$  be a permuting  $n$ -additive mapping of  $N$  such that  $D(N, N, \dots, N) \subseteq Z$ . If  $d(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in N$ , then  $D = 0$ .*

*Proof.* If  $D = 0$ , then we have nothing to do, if not then  $D$  is a non zero permuting  $n$ -additive mapping of prime near-ring  $N$  such that  $D(N, N, \dots, N) \subseteq Z$ . Hence there exist  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in N$ , all nonzero such that  $D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \neq 0$  and  $D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in Z$ . Since  $D(x_1 + x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) + D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in Z$ , by Lemma 2.1(ii),  $(N, +)$  is an abelian group. Hence

the trace  $d(x) = D(x, x, \dots, x)$  of permuting  $n$ -additive mapping  $D$  can be expressed as;

$$(3.1) \quad d(x+y) = d(x) + d(y) + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \binom{n}{k} h_k(x, y),$$

where  $x, y \in N$  and  $h_k(x, y) = D(\underbrace{x, x, \dots, x}_{(n-k)\text{-times}}, \underbrace{y, y, \dots, y}_{k\text{-times}})$ . In particular by our

hypothesis  $d(\mu x + x_n) = 0$  where  $1 \leq \mu \leq n-1$ . With the help of equation (3.1) we get

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= d(\mu x) + d(x_n) + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \binom{n}{k} h_k(\mu x, x_n) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \binom{n}{k} h_k(\mu x, x_n). \end{aligned}$$

This yields that

$$\mu y_1 + \mu^2 y_2 + \dots + \mu^{n-2} y_{n-2} + \mu^{n-1} n D(x, x, \dots, x, x_n) = 0,$$

where  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{n-2} \in N$ . By our hypothesis and Lemma 2.7, we deduce that

$$(3.2) \quad D(x, x, \dots, x, x_n) = 0$$

for all  $x, x_n \in N$ . Let  $\nu (1 \leq \nu \leq n-2)$  be any integer. By equation (3.2) we find that

$$D(\nu x + x_{n-1}, \nu x + x_{n-1}, \dots, \nu x + x_{n-1}, x_n) = 0.$$

Expanding the above relation and using equation (3.2) again we obtain

$$\nu z_1 + \nu^2 z_2 + \dots + \nu^{n-3} z_{n-3} + \nu^{n-2} \binom{n}{2} D(x, x, \dots, x, x_{n-1}, x_n) = 0,$$

where  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{n-3} \in N$ . By our hypothesis and Lemma 2.7, we conclude that  $D(x, x, \dots, x, x_{n-1}, x_n) = 0$  for all  $x, x_{n-1}, x_n \in N$ . Now if we continue the above process inductively, then we finally arrive at  $D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}, x_n) = 0$ . This gives that  $D = 0$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

In the year 1987 H. E. Bell [3, Theorem 2] proved that if a 2-torsion free zero symmetric prime near-ring  $N$  admits a non zero derivation  $D$  for which  $D(N) \subseteq Z$ , then  $N$  is a commutative ring. Further, this result was generalized by K. H. Park [5, Theorem 3.1] in the year 2010 for permuting tri-derivation, who showed that if 3!-torsion free zero symmetric prime near-ring  $N$  admits a non zero permuting tri-derivation  $D$  for which  $D(N, N, N) \subseteq Z$ , then  $N$  is a commutative ring. The following result shows that 2-torsion free and 3!-torsion free restrictions in the above results used by Bell and Park are superfluous. In fact, for permuting  $n$ -derivation in a prime near-ring  $N$  we have obtained the following:

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $D$  be a non zero permuting  $n$ -derivation of prime near-ring  $N$  such that  $D(N, N, \dots, N) \subseteq Z$ . Then  $N$  is a commutative ring.*

*Proof.* For all  $x_1, x'_1, \dots, x_n \in N$ , we have

$$(3.3) \quad D(x_1 x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) x'_1 + x_1 D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in Z.$$

Hence  $x'_1 \{D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) x'_1 + x_1 D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\} = \{D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) x'_1 + x_1 D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\} x'_1$ . Using the hypothesis and Lemma 2.4(i) we get  $x_1 x'_1 D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = x_1 x'_1 D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ . This yields that  $D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) (x'_1 x_1 - x_1 x'_1) = 0$ . Since  $Z$  has no zero divisors, for each fixed  $x'_1 \in N$  either  $(x'_1 x_1 - x_1 x'_1) = 0$  or  $D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0$  for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in N$ . If first holds, then  $x'_1 \in Z$  if not, i.e.,  $D(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0$ , then equation(3.3) reduces to  $D(x_1 x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) x'_1$ . Since  $D \neq 0$  and  $D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in Z$ , by Lemma 2.2  $x'_1 \in Z$ . Hence we conclude that  $N \subseteq Z$ . Thus we obtain that  $N = Z$ , i.e.,  $N$  is a commutative near-ring. If  $N = \{0\}$ , then  $N$  is trivially a commutative ring. If  $N \neq \{0\}$ , then there exists  $0 \neq x \in N$  and hence  $x + x \in N = Z$ . Now by Lemma 2.1(ii), we conclude that  $N$  is a commutative ring.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $N$  be a prime near-ring and  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  be any two non zero permuting  $n$ -derivations of  $N$ . If  $[D_1(N, N, \dots, N), D_2(N, N, \dots, N)] = \{0\}$ , then  $(N, +)$  is an abelian group.*

*Proof.* If both  $z$  and  $z + z$  commute element wise with  $D_2(N, N, \dots, N)$ , then  $z D_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = D_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) z$  and  $(z + z) D_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = D_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) (z + z)$  for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in N$ . In particular,  $(z + z) D_2(x_1 + x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = D_2(x_1 + x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) (z + z)$  for all  $x_1, x'_1, \dots, x_n \in N$ . From the previous equalities we get  $z D_2(x_1 + x'_1 - x_1 - x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0$ , i.e.,  $z D_2((x_1, x'_1), x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0$ . Putting  $z = D_1(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$  we get  $D_1(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) D_2((x_1, x'_1), x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0$ . By Lemma 2.5(i) we conclude that  $D_2((x_1, x'_1), x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0$ . Putting  $w(x_1, x'_1)$  in place of additive commutator  $(x_1, x'_1)$  where  $w \in N$  we have  $D_2(w(x_1, x'_1), x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0$ , i.e.,  $D_2(w, x_2, \dots, x_n)(x_1, x'_1) + w D_2((x_1, x'_1), x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0$ . Previous equality yields  $D_2(w, x_2, \dots, x_n)(x_1, x'_1) = 0$ . By Lemma 2.5(i) again we conclude that  $(x_1, x'_1) = 0$ . Hence  $(N, +)$  is an abelian group.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $N$  be a prime near-ring with non zero permuting  $n$ -derivations  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  such that*

$$D_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) D_2(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = -D_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) D_1(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$$

*for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \in N$ . Then  $(N, +)$  is an abelian group.*

*Proof.* By our hypothesis we have,  $D_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) D_2(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) + D_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) D_1(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = 0$  for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \in N$ . Replacing  $y_1$  by  $y_1 + y'_1$  in previous equation we get  $D_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) D_2(y_1 + y'_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) + D_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) D_1(y_1 + y'_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = 0$

$y'_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) + D_2(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)D_1(y_1 + y'_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = 0$ . Using our hypothesis we get,  $D_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)D_2(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) + D_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)D_2(y'_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) + D_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)D_2(-y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) + D_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)D_2(-y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = 0$ , i.e.,  $D_1(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)D_2((y_1, y'_1), y_2, \dots, y_n) = 0$ . Now using Lemma 2.5(i) we conclude that  $D_2((y_1, y'_1), y_2, \dots, y_n) = 0$ . Putting  $w(y_1, y'_1)$  in place of  $(y_1, y'_1)$  where  $w \in N$  in the previous equality and using Lemma 2.5(i); as used in the previous theorem, we conclude that  $(N, +)$  is an abelian group.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.1** ([1, Lemma 2.1]). *Let  $N$  be a prime near-ring with non zero derivations  $d_1$  and  $d_2$  such that  $d_1(x)d_2(y) = -d_2(x)d_1(y)$  for all  $x, y \in N$ . Then  $(N, +)$  is an abelian group.*

**Theorem 3.5.** *Let  $D$  be a non zero permuting  $n$ -derivation of prime near-ring  $N$ . If  $D(C, N, N, \dots, N) = \{0\}$ , then  $(N, +)$  is an abelian group.*

*Proof.* Since  $D(c, r_2, \dots, r_n) = 0$  for all  $c \in C$  and for all  $r_2, \dots, r_n \in N$ ,  $D(wc, r_2, \dots, r_n) = 0$  where  $w \in N$ , i.e.,  $wD(c, r_2, \dots, r_n) + D(w, r_2, \dots, r_n)c = 0$ . In turn we get  $D(w, r_2, \dots, r_n)c = 0$  but  $D \neq 0$ , and therefore by Lemma 2.5(i);  $c = 0$ . Hence  $(N, +)$  is an abelian group.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $N$  be a semi prime near-ring and  $D$  be a permuting  $n$ -derivation of  $N$ . If  $D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)y_1 = x_1D(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$  for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \in N$ , then  $D = 0$ .*

*Proof.* We have

$$(3.4) \quad D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)y_1 = x_1D(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n).$$

Putting  $y_1z_1$  in place of  $y_1$  in the above equation; where  $z_1 \in N$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)y_1z_1 &= x_1D(y_1z_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) \\ &= x_1D(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)z_1 + x_1y_1D(z_1, y_2, \dots, y_n). \end{aligned}$$

By equation (3.4) we get  $D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)y_1z_1 = D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)y_1z_1 + x_1y_1D(z_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$ . This yields that  $x_1y_1D(z_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = 0$ . Now replacing  $x_1$  by  $D(z_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$  we get  $D(z_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)ND(z_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = \{0\}$ . But since  $N$  is a semi prime near-ring, we conclude that  $D = 0$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.7.** *Let  $N$  be any prime near-ring and  $D$  be any non-zero permuting  $n$ -derivation of  $N$ . If  $K = \{a \in N \mid [D(N, N, \dots, N), a] = \{0\}\}$ , then*

- (i)  $a \in K$  implies either  $a \in Z$  or  $d(a) = 0$ ,
- (ii)  $d(K) \subseteq Z$ ,
- (iii)  $K$  is a semigroup under multiplication,
- (iv) If there exists an element  $a \in K$  for which  $d(a) \neq 0$  and  $D(a^2, a, \dots, a) \in Z$ , then  $(N, +)$  is an abelian group.



*Proof.* (i) We have

$$(3.5) \quad D(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)a = aD(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in N$ . Putting  $ax_1$  in place of  $x_1$  in the above equation and using Lemma 2.4(i) we get  $D(a, x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1a + aD(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)a = aD(a, x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1 + aaD(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ . Using the equation (3.5), we get  $D(a, x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1a = aD(a, x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1$ . Now putting  $x_1y_1$  for  $x_1$  in the latter relation and using it again, we have  $D(a, x_2, \dots, x_n)x_1[y_1, a] = 0$  where  $y_1 \in N$ . This gives us  $D(a, x_2, \dots, x_n)N[a, y_1] = \{0\}$ . Since  $N$  is a prime near-ring, either  $[a, y_1] = 0$  for all  $y_1 \in N$  or  $D(a, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0$  for all  $x_2, \dots, x_n \in N$ . If first holds, then  $a \in Z$ , if not then  $D(a, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0$ , and hence in particular,  $D(a, a, \dots, a) = 0$  or  $d(a) = 0$ .

(ii) From the above proof we observe that if  $a \in K$ , then either  $a \in Z$  or  $d(a) = 0$ . But  $d(a) = 0$  implies  $d(a) \in Z$ . If  $d(a) \neq 0$ , then we have  $a \in Z$ . In this case we have  $D(xa, a, \dots, a) = D(ax, a, \dots, a)$  for all  $x \in N$ . This yields that  $xD(a, a, \dots, a) + D(x, a, \dots, a)a = D(a, a, \dots, a)x + aD(x, a, \dots, a)$ . This reduces to  $xD(a, a, \dots, a) = D(a, a, \dots, a)x$ , which shows that  $d(a) \in Z$  and thus  $d(K) \subseteq Z$ .

(iii) Let  $a, b \in K$ . Hence  $abD(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n) = D(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n)ab$  holds trivially. Associativity of  $N$  shows that  $K$  is a semigroup.

(iv) Consider  $D(a^2, a, \dots, a) = aD(a, a, \dots, a) + D(a, a, \dots, a)a \in Z$ . As  $d(a) = D(a, a, \dots, a) \neq 0$  implies that  $a \in Z$  by (i). Hence  $D(a^2, a, \dots, a) = D(a, a, \dots, a)(a + a)$ . By above proof (ii) we find that  $D(a, a, \dots, a) \in Z \setminus \{0\}$  and hence using Lemma 2.2,  $(a + a) \in Z$ . By Lemma 2.1(ii) we conclude that  $(N, +)$  is an abelian group.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.8.** *Let  $N$  be a prime near-ring which admits a non zero permuting  $n$ -derivation  $D$  such that  $D(C, C, \dots, C) \subseteq Z$ . Then  $N$  is a commutative ring where  $C \neq \{0\}$ .*

*Proof.* For all  $c_1, c'_1, \dots, c_n \in C$ , we get

$$(3.6) \quad D(c_1c'_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) = D(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n)c'_1 + c_1D(c'_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) \in Z$$

and commuting this element with  $c'_1$  we arrive at  $D(c'_1, c_2, \dots, c_n)(c'_1c_1 - c_1c'_1) = 0$  for all  $c_1, c'_1, \dots, c_n \in C$ . Now by Lemma 2.1(i), we observe that for each  $c'_1$  either  $c'_1$  centralizes  $C$  or  $D(c'_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) = 0$ . If first case holds for each element of  $C$ , then  $C$  becomes commutative with respect to multiplication. On the other hand if second case holds, i.e.,  $D(c'_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) = 0$ , then equation(3.6) takes the form

$$(3.7) \quad D(c_1c'_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) = D(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n)c'_1 \in Z$$

for all  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in C$ . By Lemmas 2.2 and 2.6, we conclude that  $c'_1 \in Z$ . Hence in this case also we conclude that  $c'_1$  centralizes  $C$ . Hence in both cases we conclude that  $C$  is a commutative semi group with respect to multiplication. Now we separate the proof in two cases:

Case I: Let  $C \cap Z \neq \{0\}$ . Then in this case it follows that if  $C$  contains a non zero central element  $w$ , then we have  $wxc = xcw = xwc = wcx$  for all  $c \in C$  and for all  $x \in N$ . Hence we have  $w(xc - cx) = 0$ . By Lemma 2.1(i), we conclude that  $c \in Z$ , i.e.,  $C \subseteq Z$ . For all  $c \in C$  and for all  $x, y \in N$  we have  $xcy = yxc$  or  $cxy = cyx$  since  $xc \in C$ . Lastly we get  $c(xy - yx) = 0$ . As  $C \neq \{0\}$ , by Lemma 2.1(i),  $N$  becomes a commutative near-ring, i.e.,  $N = Z$ . If  $N = \{0\}$ , then  $N$  is trivially a commutative ring. If  $N \neq \{0\}$ , then there exists  $t \in N \setminus \{0\}$ . Hence  $t + t \in N = Z$ , and by Lemma 2.1(ii) we conclude that  $N$  is a commutative ring.

Case II: Let  $C \cap Z = \{0\}$ . For this case in the light of equation (3.7) we claim that  $D(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) \neq 0$  for all  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{i-1}, c_{i+1}, \dots, c_n \in C$  and for all  $c_i \in C \setminus \{0\}$ . For each  $c_i \in C$  and for all  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{i-1}, c_{i+1}, \dots, c_n \in C$ ,  $D(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i^2, \dots, c_n) = D(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i, \dots, c_n)(c_i + c_i)$  and hence by Lemmas 2.2 and 2.6,  $2c_i \in Z$ . Suppose that  $2c_i \neq 0$  for all  $c_i \in C \setminus \{0\}$ . It is obvious that  $xC = \{xc \mid c \in C\} = \{0\}$  implies  $x = 0$ . This shows that for each  $x \in N \setminus \{0\}$ , there exists  $c_x \in C$  such that  $xc_x \neq 0$ . Since  $xc_x$  being an additive commutator also belongs to  $C$ , we have  $2xc_x = x(2c_x)$  and by Lemma 2.2 we conclude that  $x \in Z$ . Hence  $N = Z$ , i.e.,  $N$  is a commutative near-ring. If  $N = \{0\}$ , then  $N$  is trivially a commutative ring. If  $N \neq \{0\}$ , then there exists  $p \in N \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $p + p \in N = Z$ . By Lemma 2.1(ii) we conclude that  $N$  is a commutative ring. The only remaining possibility is that  $C \cap Z = \{0\}$  and there exists  $c_i \in C \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $2c_i = 0$  and we complete our proof by showing that this leads to a contradiction. Suppose that  $c_i \in C \setminus \{0\}$  and  $2c_i = 0$ . We have  $D(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i^3, \dots, c_n) = 3c_i^2 D(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i, \dots, c_n) \in Z$ . Since  $2c_i^2 D(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i, \dots, c_n) = 0$ , we get  $c_i^2 D(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i, \dots, c_n) \in Z$ . This implies that  $c_i^2 \in Z$  by Lemma 2.2. Since  $C \cap Z = \{0\}$ ,  $c_i^2 = 0$ . Now  $D(c_1, c_2, \dots, xc_i, \dots, c_n) = xD(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i, \dots, c_n) + D(c_1, c_2, \dots, x, \dots, c_n)c_i \in Z$  for all  $x \in N$  and  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in C$ . Hence  $c_i\{xD(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i, \dots, c_n) + D(c_1, c_2, \dots, x, \dots, c_n)c_i\} = \{xD(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i, \dots, c_n) + D(c_1, c_2, \dots, x, \dots, c_n)c_i\}c_i = xD(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i, \dots, c_n)c_i$ . Left multiplying by  $c_i$  we get  $c_i^2\{xD(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i, \dots, c_n) + D(c_1, c_2, \dots, x, \dots, c_n)c_i\} = c_ixD(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i, \dots, c_n)c_i$ . Finally we get  $c_ixD(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i, \dots, c_n)c_i = 0$ . This implies that  $c_iND(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i, \dots, c_n)c_i = \{0\}$ , but primeness of  $N$  yields that  $D(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i, \dots, c_n)c_i = 0$ . Since  $D(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_i, \dots, c_n) \in Z \setminus \{0\}$ , by Lemma 2.1(i), we conclude that  $c_i = 0$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

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