

1-1-2000

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### Recommended Citation

KANDAMAR, HATİCE (2000) "The k-Derivation of a Gamma-Ring," *Turkish Journal of Mathematics*: Vol. 24: No. 3, Article 1. Available at: <https://journals.tubitak.gov.tr/math/vol24/iss3/1>

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## The $k$ -Derivation of a Gamma-Ring

Hatice Kandamar

### Abstract

In this paper, the  $k$ -derivation is defined on a  $\Gamma$ -ring  $M$  (that is, if  $M$  is a  $\Gamma$ -ring,  $d : M \rightarrow M$  and  $k : \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma$  are to additive maps such that  $d(a\beta b) = d(a)\beta b + ak(\beta)b + a\beta d(b)$  for all  $a, b \in M$ ,  $\beta \in \Gamma$ , then  $d$  is called a  $k$ -derivation of  $M$ ) and the following results are proved. (1) Let  $R$  be a ring of characteristic not equal to 2 such that if  $xry = 0$  for all  $x, y \in R$  then  $r = 0$ . If  $d$  is a  $k$ -derivation of the  $(R =)\Gamma$ -ring  $R$  with  $k = d$ , then  $d$  is the ordinary derivation of  $R$ . (2) Let  $M$  be a nonzero prime  $\Gamma$ -ring of characteristic not equal to 2,  $\gamma$  be an element of  $\Gamma$  and  $a$  is an element in  $M$  such that  $[[x, a]_\gamma, a]_\gamma = 0$  for all  $x \in M$ . Then  $a\gamma a = 0$  or  $a \in C_\gamma$ . (3) Let  $M$  be a prime  $\Gamma$ -ring with  $\text{Char}M \neq 2$ ,  $d$  be a nonzero  $k$ -derivation of  $M$ ,  $\gamma$  be a nonzero element of  $\Gamma$  and  $k(\gamma) \neq 0$ . If  $d(M) \subseteq C_\gamma$ , then  $M$  is a commutative  $\Gamma$ -ring.

**Key Words:**  $k$ -derivation, derivation, commutativity, gamma-ring

### 1. Preliminaries

Let  $M$  be additive abelian groups. If there exists a mapping of  $M \times \Gamma \times M$  to  $M$  ( the image of  $(a, \gamma, b)$ ,  $a, b \in M$ ,  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , being denoted by  $(a\gamma b)$ ), satisfying for all  $a, b, c \in M$ ,  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ :

**B1.**  $(a + b)\alpha c = a\alpha c + b\alpha c$ ,  $a(\alpha + \beta)b = a\alpha b + a\beta b$ ,  $a\alpha(b + c) = a\alpha b + a\alpha c$

**B2.**  $(a\alpha b)\beta c = a\alpha(b\beta c)$ ,

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*AMS subject classifications.* primary 16Y60, secondary 16W25, 16U70, 16N60, 16U80

then  $M$  is called a  $\Gamma$ -ring in the sense of Barnes [1]. This definition is due to Barnes, and is slightly weaker than the original one due to Nobusawa [7].

If, in addition, there exists a mapping of  $\Gamma \times M \times \Gamma$  to  $\Gamma$  (the image of  $(\gamma, a, \beta)$ , being denoted by  $\gamma a \beta$ ) such that the following axioms are satisfied for all  $a, b, c \in M$ ,  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ :

**N1.** Same as B1

**N2.**  $(a\alpha b)\beta c = a(\alpha b\beta)c = a\alpha(b\beta c)$

**N3.**  $a\alpha b = 0$  for all  $a, b \in M$  implies  $\alpha = 0$ ,

then  $M$  is called a  $\Gamma$ -ring in the sense of Nobusawa.

Let  $M$  be a  $\Gamma$ -ring in the sense of Barnes. A subgroup  $A$  of the additive group  $M$  is said to be a right (resp. left) ideal of  $\Gamma$ -ring  $M$  if  $a\gamma y$  (resp.  $y\gamma a$ ) for all  $a \in A$ ,  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ ,  $y \in M$ . If  $A$  is both a left and a right ideal, then  $A$  is said to be a two-sided ideal or simply an ideal of  $M$ . When  $S$  and  $T$  are subsets of  $M$ , and  $\Omega$  is a subset of  $\Gamma$ , we denote by  $S\Omega T$  the set of all finite sums of the form  $\sum s_i \gamma_i t_i$  where  $s_i \in S$ ,  $\gamma_i \in \Omega$  and  $t_i \in T$ . If  $\Omega = \{\gamma\}$ , then  $S\Omega T$  is denoted by  $S\gamma T$  and so on [4]. If  $I$  and  $J$  are a left ideal and a right ideal of  $M$ , respectively, then  $I\Omega J$  is an ideal of  $M$ . Similar properties hold depending on ideal properties of  $I$  and  $J$ . If  $a\Gamma M \Gamma b = 0$  with  $a, b \in M$  implies either  $a=0$  or  $b=0$ , then  $M$  is called a prime  $\Gamma$ -ring [5]. Moreover, a  $\Gamma$ -ring  $M$  is said to be completely prime  $a\Gamma b = 0$  with  $a, b \in M$  implies  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$  [6]. We also note that, for a  $\Gamma$ -ring in the sense Nobusawa, primeness and completely primeness are equivalent.  $C_\Gamma = \{c \in M : c\alpha m = m\alpha c \quad \forall \alpha \in \Gamma \quad \text{and} \quad \forall m \in M\}$  and  $C_\alpha = \{c \in M : c\alpha m = m\alpha c \quad \forall m \in M\}$  with  $\alpha \in \Gamma$  are called the center and the  $\alpha$ -center of a  $\Gamma$ -ring  $M$ , respectively. If  $C_\Gamma = M$  then  $M$  is called a commutative  $\Gamma$ -ring. If  $M$  is a  $\Gamma$ -ring in the sense of Nobusawa, the center  $C_M$  and the  $a$ -center  $C_a$  of a  $M$ -ring  $\Gamma$  are similarly defined.

As it is well known, if  $R$  is a semiprime 2-torsion-free ring and  $t \in R$  commutes with all  $tx - xt$  for  $x \in R$  then  $t \in Z$  (the center of  $R$ ) [2]. This corollary is used in the proofs of many theorems on commutativity of rings. In this paper, we shall consider a similar problem on the  $\Gamma$ -ring  $M$ . That is, let  $M$  be a nonzero prime  $\Gamma$ -ring of characteristic not equal to 2,  $\gamma$  be a nonzero element of  $\Gamma$ ,  $a$  is an element in  $M$  such that  $a\gamma a \neq 0$  and  $a$  commutes with all  $x\gamma a - a\gamma x$  for  $x \in M$ , then  $a$  must be in  $C_\gamma$ .

## 2. $k$ -Derivation of $\Gamma$ -Ring

Let  $M$  be a  $\Gamma$ -ring (in the sense of Barnes),  $d$  and  $k$  two additive maps from  $M$  to  $M$  and from  $\Gamma$  to  $\Gamma$ , respectively. If for all  $a, b \in M$  and  $\beta \in \Gamma$ ,  $d(a\beta b) = d(a)\beta b + ak(\beta)b + a\beta d(b)$  is satisfied, then  $d$  is called a  $k$ -derivation of  $M$ .

Every associative ring  $R$  is a  $\Gamma$ -ring where  $R = \Gamma$  in the sense of Barnes. Let  $d$  be a derivation of a ring  $R$ , that is,  $d$  is an additive map from  $R$  to  $R$  and  $d(xy) = d(x)y + xd(y)$  for all  $x, y \in R$ . It is clear that  $d$  is a  $k$ -derivation of the  $(R =)\Gamma$ -ring  $R$  with  $d = k$ .

**Remark :** If  $M$  is a  $\Gamma$ -ring in the sense of Barnes and  $d$  is a  $k$ -derivation of the  $\Gamma$ -ring  $M$ ,  $k$  need not be determined uniquely. But if  $M$  is a  $\Gamma$ -ring in the sense of Nobusawa and  $d$  is a  $k$ -derivation of the  $\Gamma$ -ring  $M$ , then  $k$  is uniquely determined. Particularly, if a ring  $R$  satisfies N3 (or  $R$  is semiprime or  $R$  has unity or  $R$  has no nonzero zero divisor), then  $R$  is a  $(R =)\Gamma$ -ring in the sense of Nobusawa. In this case, if  $d$  is a  $k$ -derivation of the  $(R =)\Gamma$ -ring  $R$  with characteristic not equal to 2, then  $d$  is the ordinary derivation of this ring  $R$  if and only if  $d = k$  (This proves in Theorem 1).

**Lemma 1:** Let  $M$  be a  $\Gamma$ -ring in the sense of Nobusawa. If  $d$  is a  $k$ -derivation of the  $\Gamma$ -ring  $M$ , then  $k(\alpha a\beta) = k(\alpha)a\beta + \alpha d(a)\beta + \alpha ak(\beta)$  for all  $a \in M$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ .

Proof: It is clear by using N3.

**Lemma 2:** Let  $M$  be a  $\Gamma$ -ring in the sense of Nobusawa. If  $d$  is both a  $k_1$ - and  $k_2$ -derivation of the  $\Gamma$ -ring  $M$ , then  $k_1 = k_2$ .

Proof: Using the definition,  $k_1 = k_2$  is obtained by N3.

**Theorem 1:** Let  $R$  be a ring of characteristic not equal to 2 satisfying N3,  $d$  be a  $k$ -derivation of the  $(R =)\Gamma$ -ring  $R$ .  $d$  is the ordinary derivation of the ring  $R$  if and only if  $d = k$ .

Proof: Let  $R$  be a ring of characteristic not equal to 2 satisfying N3 and  $d$  be a  $k$ -derivation of the  $(R =)\Gamma$ -ring  $R$ . If  $d$  is the ordinary derivation of  $R$ , then it is clear that  $d = k$ . Now we prove the converse. Let  $d$  be a  $k$ -derivation of the  $(R =)\Gamma$ -ring  $R$  with  $k = d$ . Since  $d$  is an additive map from  $R$  to  $R$ , we need only to show that  $d(xy) = d(x)y + xd(y)$

for all  $x, y \in R$ . By hypothesis, we have  $d(xyt) = d(x)yt + xd(y)t + xyd(t)$  for all  $x, y, t \in R$ . Replace  $y$  by  $yz$  and  $t$  by  $tn$  in the equation where  $z, n \in R$ , and using  $d(x(yz)(tn)) = d(xy(ztn))$ , we get  $xd(yz)tn + xyzd(tn) = xd(y)ztn + xyd(z)tn + xyzd(t)n + xyztd(n)$ . This gives  $x(d(yz)tn + yzd(tn) - d(y)ztn - yd(z)tn - yzd(t)n - yztd(n))m = 0$  for all  $m \in R$ . Using N3, we have

$$d(yz)tn + yzd(tn) - d(y)ztn - yd(z)tn - yzd(t)n - yztd(n) = 0 \quad \forall y, z, t, n \in R.$$

Moreover, since  $d((yz)tn) = d(yz(tn))$ , using the definition of  $k$ -derivation we have

$$d(yz)tn - yzd(tn) - d(y)ztn - yd(z)tn + yzd(t)n + yztd(n) = 0 \quad \forall y, z, t, n \in R.$$

Adding up the last two equations, using  $\text{Char}R \neq 2$  we have

$$d(yz)tn - d(y)ztn - yd(z)tn = 0.$$

This implies  $s(d(yz)t - d(y)zt - yd(z)t)n = 0$ , for all  $s \in R$ . Using N3, we have  $d(yz)t - d(y)zt - yd(z)t = 0$ . In the same way, we get,

$$d(yz) - d(y)z - yd(z) = 0, \quad \forall y, z \in R.$$

Hence, the theorem is proved.

From now on, (except where stated otherwise)  $M$  will be a  $\Gamma$ -ring in the sense of Nobusawa. For  $a, b \in M$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ ,  $[a, b]_\alpha$  and  $[\alpha, \beta]_b$  will be denoted  $a\alpha b - b\alpha a$  and  $\alpha b\beta - \beta b\alpha$  respectively.

**Lemma 3:** Let  $M$  be a  $\Gamma$ -ring and  $d$  be a  $k$ -derivation of  $M$ . Then the following equalities are satisfied for  $a, b, c, x \in M$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Gamma$ :

- i.  $[a, b]_\beta = -[b, a]_\beta, [\alpha, \beta]_a = -[\beta, \alpha]_a$
- ii.  $[a + b, c]_\beta = [a, c]_\beta + [b, c]_\beta, [\alpha + \beta, \gamma]_a = [\alpha, \gamma]_a + [\beta, \gamma]_a$
- iii.  $[a\alpha b, x]_\beta = [a, x]_\beta\alpha b + a[\alpha, \beta]_x b + a\alpha[b, x]_\beta$
- iv.  $[\alpha b\beta, \gamma]_a = [\alpha, \gamma]_a b\beta + \alpha[b, a]_\gamma\beta + \alpha b[\beta, \gamma]_a$

- v.  $[[\alpha, \beta]_a, \gamma]_a + [[\gamma, \alpha]_a, \beta]_a + [[\beta, \gamma]_a, \alpha]_a = 0$
- vi.  $[[a, b]_\beta, c]_\beta + [[c, a]_\beta, b]_\beta + [[b, c]_\beta, a]_\beta = 0$
- vii.  $d([a, b]_\beta) = [d(a), b]_\beta + [a, b]_{k(\beta)} + [a, d(b)]_\beta$
- viii.  $k([\alpha, \beta]_a) = [k(\alpha), \beta]_a + [\alpha, \beta]_{d(a)} + [\alpha, k(\beta)]_a$ .

Proof: Obvious.

**Lemma 4:** Let  $M$  be a prime  $\Gamma$ -ring,  $U, \Omega$  be nonzero ideals of  $M$  and  $\Gamma$ , respectively. Then the following statements are satisfied for  $a, b \in M$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ :

- i.  $a\Omega b = 0 \Rightarrow a = 0$  or  $b = 0$
- ii.  $\alpha U \beta = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha = 0$  or  $\beta = 0$
- iii.  $a\Gamma U \Gamma b = 0 \Rightarrow a = 0$  or  $b = 0$
- iv.  $\alpha M \Omega M \beta = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha = 0$  or  $\beta = 0$
- v. If  $u\alpha v = 0$  for all  $u, v \in U$  then  $\alpha = 0$
- vi.  $C_\Gamma = 0 \Leftrightarrow C_M = 0$
- vii. Either  $C_\Gamma \neq 0$  or  $C_M \neq 0 \Rightarrow M$  is a commutative  $\Gamma$ -ring.
- viii.  $U \subseteq C_\gamma$ , for  $0 \neq \gamma \in \Gamma \Rightarrow M$  is a commutative  $\Gamma$ -ring.
- ix.  $0 \neq \gamma \in \Gamma$  and for all  $u, v \in U$   $[u, v]_\gamma = 0 \Rightarrow M$  is a commutative  $\Gamma$ -ring [3].

Proof: The clarity of **ii, iii, iv, v, viii** is evident. Now we prove **i, vi** and **vii**.

**i:** Let  $a\Omega b = 0$ . So  $a\Gamma M \Omega M \Gamma b \subseteq a\Omega b = 0$ . By primeness of  $M$   $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ , since  $M \Omega M \neq 0$ :

**iv:** Let  $C_M = 0$ . Suppose that  $C_\Gamma \neq 0$ . Then, there exists a nonzero element  $a$  of  $C_\Gamma$ . So,  $a\gamma x - x\gamma a = 0$  for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $x \in M$ . By this equation, replace  $\gamma$  by  $\gamma y \delta$  where  $y \in M$  and  $\delta \in \Gamma$ , using  $a \in C_\Gamma$  we obtain

$$0 = a\gamma y \delta x - x\gamma y \delta a = a\gamma y \delta x - x\gamma a \delta y = a\gamma y \delta x - a\gamma x \delta y = a\gamma(y\delta x - x\delta y)$$

That is,  $a\gamma(y\delta x - x\delta y) = 0$  for all  $\gamma, \delta \in \Gamma$  and  $x, y \in M$ . So  $a\Gamma(y\delta x - x\delta y) = 0$ . By primeness of  $M$ , we get  $x\delta y - y\delta x = 0$  for all  $x, y \in M, \delta \in \Gamma$ . This implies that  $\delta \in C_M$  for all  $\delta \in \Gamma$ . This contradicts by  $C_M = 0$ .

**vii:** Suppose that  $C_\Gamma \neq 0$ . There should be a nonzero element  $a$  of  $C_\Gamma$ . That is,  $x\gamma a = a\gamma x$  for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma, x \in M$ . We obtain

$a\delta(x\gamma y - y\gamma x) = a\delta x\gamma y - a\delta y\gamma x = y(\delta x\gamma)a - a\delta(y\gamma x) = y\delta(x\gamma a) - a\delta(y\gamma x) = y\delta(a\gamma x) - a\delta(y\gamma x) = (y\delta a)\gamma x - a\delta(y\gamma x) = (a\delta y)\gamma x - (a\delta y)\gamma x = 0$ . Hence  $a\Gamma(x\gamma y - y\gamma x) = 0$  for all  $x, y \in M, \gamma \in \Gamma$ . By primeness of  $M$ , we have  $x\gamma y - y\gamma x = 0$  for all  $x, y \in M, \gamma \in \Gamma$ . So,  $M$  is a commutative  $\Gamma$ -ring.

**Theorem 2:** Let  $M$  be a nonzero prime  $\Gamma$ -ring of characteristic not equal to 2 and  $\gamma$  be an element of  $\Gamma$ . If there exists  $a \in M$  such that  $[[x, a]_\gamma, a]_\gamma = 0$  for all  $x \in M$ , then  $a\gamma a = 0$  or  $a \in C_\gamma$ .

Proof : We suppose  $\gamma \neq 0$  (otherwise  $a\gamma a = 0$ ). By the hypothesis, we have  $[[x\beta y, a]_\gamma, a]_\gamma = 0$  for all  $x, y \in M$  and  $\beta \in \Gamma$ . Using Lemma 3 (iii) and hypothesis, we get

$$2[x, a]_\gamma[\beta, \gamma]_a y + 2[x, a]_\gamma \beta[y, a]_\gamma + 2x[\beta, \gamma]_a[y, a]_\gamma + x[[\beta, \gamma]_a, \gamma]_a y = 0. \quad (2.1)$$

Replace  $x$  and  $y$  by  $[x, a]_\gamma$  and  $[y, a]_\gamma$ , respectively, then we have

$$[x, a]_\gamma[[\beta, \gamma]_a, \gamma]_a[y, a]_\gamma = 0, \quad \forall x, y \in M \quad \forall \beta \in \Gamma. \quad (2.2)$$

On the other hand, Lemma 3 (iv) implies

$$[\beta[z, a]_\gamma \delta, \gamma]_a = [\beta, \gamma]_a[z, a]_\gamma \delta + \beta[z, a]_\gamma[\delta, \gamma]_a, \quad \forall z \in M \quad \forall \beta, \delta \in \Gamma. \quad (2.3)$$

In (2.2) replacing  $\beta$  by  $\beta[z, a]_\gamma \delta$  where  $z \in M, \delta \in \Gamma$ , using (2.2) (2.3) and considering  $Char M \neq 2$ , we obtain

$$[x, a]_\gamma[\beta, \gamma]_a[z, a]_\gamma[\delta, \gamma]_a[y, a]_\gamma = 0 \quad \forall x, y, z \in M \quad \forall \beta, \delta \in \Gamma. \quad (2.4)$$

In (2.4), replace  $\beta$  by  $\beta[m, a]_\gamma \sigma$  where  $m \in M, \sigma \in \Gamma$  and use (2.3) and (2.4), we have

$$[x, a]_\gamma[\beta, \gamma]_a[m, a]_\gamma \sigma[z, a]_\gamma[\delta, \gamma]_a[y, a]_\gamma = 0.$$

That is,

$$[x, a]_\gamma[\beta, \gamma]_a[m, a]_\gamma\Gamma[z, a]_\gamma[\delta, \gamma]_a[y, a]_\gamma = 0.$$

Since  $M$  is prime  $\Gamma$ -ring, we get

$$[x, a]_\gamma[\beta, \gamma]_a[m, a]_\gamma = 0 \quad \forall x, m \in M \quad \forall \beta \in \Gamma. \quad (2.5)$$

Replacing  $x$  by  $[x, a]_\gamma$  in (2.1), and using (2.5) and the hypothesis, we have

$$[x, a]_\gamma[[\beta, \gamma]_a, \gamma]_a y = 0 \quad \forall x, y \in M \quad \forall \beta \in \Gamma. \quad (2.6)$$

In the same way, if we replace  $y$  by  $[y, a]_\gamma$  in (2.1) we obtain

$$x[[\beta, \gamma]_a, \gamma]_a[y, a]_\gamma = 0 \quad \forall x, y \in M \quad \forall \beta \in \Gamma. \quad (2.7)$$

In (2.6), replace  $y$  and  $\beta$  by  $[y, a]_\gamma$  and  $\beta z \delta$  where  $z \in M$ ,  $\delta \in \Gamma$ , respectively, and use (2.5), (2.6), (2.7) and  $CharM \neq 2$ , we get

$$[x, a]_\gamma[\beta, \gamma]_a z[\delta, \gamma]_a[y, a]_\gamma = 0 \quad \forall x, y, z \in M \quad \forall \beta, \delta \in \Gamma.$$

In the last statement, replace  $z$  by  $z\sigma n$  with  $n \in M$ ,  $\sigma \in \Gamma$ , we have

$$[x, a]_\gamma[\beta, \gamma]_a z = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad n[\delta, \gamma]_a[y, a]_\gamma = 0 \quad \forall x, y, z, n \in M \quad \forall \beta, \delta \in \Gamma.$$

Suppose that  $[x, a]_\gamma[\beta, \gamma]_a z = 0$  for all  $x, z \in M$ ,  $\beta \in \Gamma$ . Replace  $\beta$  by  $\beta y[\delta, \gamma]_a$  where  $y \in M$ ,  $\delta \in \Gamma$  and using  $[x, a]_\gamma[\beta, \gamma]_a z = 0$  we get

$$[x, a]_\gamma \beta y[[\delta, \gamma]_a, \gamma]_a z = 0 \quad \forall \beta \in \Gamma.$$

That is,  $[x, a]_\gamma \Gamma y[[\delta, \gamma]_a, \gamma]_a z = 0$ . So  $[x, a]_\gamma = 0$  or  $y[[\delta, \gamma]_a, \gamma]_a z = 0$ ,  $\forall x, y, z \in M$ ,  $\forall \delta \in \Gamma$ . If  $[x, a]_\gamma = 0$  for all  $x \in M$  then  $a \in C_\gamma$ . Now, suppose that  $y[[\delta, \gamma]_a, \gamma]_a z = 0$   $\forall y, z \in M$ ,  $\forall \delta \in \Gamma$ . By (N3), we have

$$[[\delta, \gamma]_a, \gamma]_a = 0 \quad \forall \delta \in \Gamma. \quad (2.8)$$

Since  $CharM \neq 2$ , by the assumption and (2.8), equation (2.1) implies

$$[x, a]_\gamma \beta [y, a]_\gamma + x[\beta, \gamma]_a [y, a]_\gamma = 0 \quad \forall x, y \in M, \quad \forall \beta \in \Gamma. \quad (2.9)$$



Replace  $x$  by  $x\delta z$  with  $z \in M$ ,  $\delta \in \Gamma$  and use (2.9), then

$$([x, a]_\gamma \delta z + x[\delta, \gamma]_a z)\beta[y, a]_\gamma = 0 \quad \forall \beta \in \Gamma.$$

This implies either  $a \in C_\gamma$  or  $([x, a]_\gamma \delta z + x[\delta, \gamma]_a z) = 0 \quad \forall x, y, z \in M, \quad \forall \delta \in \Gamma$ . Hence, we have  $([x, a]_\gamma \delta z + x[\delta, \gamma]_a z) = 0 \quad \forall x, y, z \in M, \quad \forall \delta \in \Gamma$ . In view of (2.9) the equation in Lemma 3 (iii) reduces to

$$[x\delta z, a]_\gamma = x\delta[z, a]_\gamma \quad \forall x, z \in M, \quad \forall \delta \in \Gamma. \quad (2.10)$$

Now, by Lemma 3 (ii) and (2.10) we get

$$0 = [[x, a]_\gamma, a]_\gamma = [x\gamma a - a\gamma x, a]_\gamma = -a\gamma[x, a]_\gamma.$$

From the last equality we obtain

$$a\gamma x\gamma a = a\gamma a\gamma x \quad \forall x \in M. \quad (2.11)$$

Moreover, by hypothesis we have  $a\gamma[x, a]_\gamma = [x, a]_\gamma a$ . By (2.11), the left side of this equation is zero. Hence

$$a\gamma x\gamma a = x\gamma a\gamma a \quad \forall x \in M \quad (2.12)$$

is obtained. By (2.11) and (2.12), we get  $x\gamma a\gamma a = a\gamma a\gamma x \quad \forall x \in M$ . That is,  $a\gamma a \in C_\gamma$ . On the other hand, using (2.10), we get  $a\beta a\gamma a - a\gamma a\beta a = [a\beta a, a]_\gamma = a\beta[a, a]_\gamma = 0$  for all  $\beta \in \Gamma$ , and so  $a\beta a\gamma a = a\gamma a\beta a \quad \forall \beta \in \Gamma$ . Finally, using this equality and  $a\gamma a \in C_\gamma$ , we obtain  $a\gamma a\beta[x, a]_\gamma = 0$  for all  $x \in M \quad \beta \in \Gamma$ , that is,  $a\gamma a\Gamma[x, a]_\gamma = 0$  for all  $x \in M$ . Consequently, either  $a\gamma a = 0$  or  $a \in C_\gamma$ .

One can prove the case of  $n[\delta, \gamma]_a[y, a]_\gamma = 0$  for all  $y, n \in M, \quad \delta \in \Gamma$  similarly.

**Remark:** Let  $a$  and  $\gamma$  be nonzero elements of  $M$  and  $\Gamma$ , respectively. Then  $d : M \rightarrow M$  defined by  $d(x) = [a, x]_\gamma$  and  $k : \Gamma \rightarrow \Gamma$  defined by  $k(\beta) = [\gamma, \beta]_a$  are two additive maps. Moreover  $d$  is a  $k$ -derivation of  $M$ . We call  $d$  an inner  $k$ -derivation of  $M$  as an inner derivation of an associative ring.

**Lemma 5:** Let  $M$  be a prime  $\Gamma$ -ring,  $\gamma$  and  $a$  be nonzero elements of  $\Gamma$  and  $C_\gamma$ , respectively. For each  $x, y \in M$  and  $\beta \in \Gamma$ , the following conditions are satisfied.

- i.  $[\gamma, \beta]_a = 0$
- ii.  $[a\gamma x, y]_\beta = a\gamma[x, y]_\beta$  and  $[x\gamma a, y]_\beta = [x, y]_\beta\gamma a$
- iii.  $[a\beta x, y]_\gamma = [a, y]_\beta\gamma x + a\beta[x, y]_\gamma$
- iv. If  $b \in C_\gamma$  then  $[a\gamma b, x]_\beta = [a\beta b, x]_\gamma = a\gamma[b, x]_\beta = a[\beta, \gamma]_x b$
- v. If  $b \in C_\gamma$  and if  $a\Gamma b \subseteq C_\gamma$  then  $b = 0$  or  $M$  is commutative  $\Gamma$ -ring.

Proof: (i) - (iv) obvious. (v) If  $a\Gamma b = 0$  then  $b = 0$ . Otherwise  $a\Gamma b\Gamma M$  is a nonzero ideal of  $M$  contained in  $C_\gamma$ . By Lemma 4 (viii) the proof is completed.

**Lemma 6:** Let  $M$  be a prime  $\Gamma$ -ring,  $U$  be a nonzero left (right) ideal of the  $\Gamma$ -ring  $M$  and  $\Omega$  be a nonzero left (right) of the  $M$ -ring  $\Gamma$ . The following statements are satisfied for each  $a \in M$  and  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ :

- i.  $\gamma U\Gamma = 0 \Rightarrow \gamma = 0$  ( $\Gamma U\gamma = 0 \Rightarrow \gamma = 0$ )
- ii.  $a\Omega M = 0 \Rightarrow a = 0$  ( $M\Omega a = 0 \Rightarrow a = 0$ ).

Proof: Obvious.

**Lemma 7:** Let  $M$  be a prime  $\Gamma$ -ring,  $U$  be a nonzero left (right) ideal of the  $\Gamma$ -ring  $M$  and  $\gamma$  be a nonzero element of  $\Gamma$ . If  $U \subseteq C_\gamma$  then  $M$  is commutative.

Proof: By hypothesis,  $u\gamma x = x\gamma u \in U$  for  $x \in M$ ,  $u \in U$ . Hence  $M\gamma U \subseteq U$ . If  $M\gamma U = 0$  then  $\Gamma M\gamma U\Gamma = 0$ . It is clear that if  $M$  is a prime  $\Gamma$ -ring, then  $\Gamma$  is prime  $M$ -ring. So,  $\Gamma = 0$  or  $\gamma U\Gamma = 0$ . By Lemma 6 (i),  $\gamma = 0$ . This is a contradiction. Consequently,  $M\gamma U \neq 0$ . Moreover, since  $u\gamma x \in U \subset C_\gamma$ , by Lemma 5 (i) and (ii) we have for every  $m, x, y \in M$ ,  $u \in U$ ,  $\beta \in \Gamma$   $m\gamma u\beta[x, y]_\gamma = m\beta u\gamma[x, y]_\gamma = m\beta[u\gamma x, y]_\gamma = 0$ . That is,  $M\gamma U\Gamma[x, y]_\gamma = 0$ . The primeness of  $M$  implies that  $[x, y]_\gamma = 0$  for all  $x, y \in M$ . By Lemma 4 (ix),  $M$  is a commutative  $\Gamma$ -ring.

The proof is similar if  $U$  is a right ideal of  $M$ .

**Lemma 8:** Let  $M$  be a prime  $\Gamma$ -ring,  $d$  be a nonzero  $k$ -derivation of  $M$ ,  $\gamma$  be a nonzero element of  $\Gamma$  and  $d(M)$  is contained in  $C_\gamma$ . If  $a \in C_\gamma$ , then  $a \in C_{k(\gamma)}$ .

Proof: It is clear by using Lemma 3 (vii).

**Lemma 9:** Let  $M$ ,  $d$  and  $\gamma$  be as in Lemma 8. If  $d(x)\gamma d(y) = 0$  for all  $x, y \in M$ , then  $d(M)$  is a left or right ideal of  $M$ .

Proof: Replace  $x$  by  $x\beta z$  where  $z \in M$ ,  $\beta \in \Gamma$  in the equation  $d(x)\gamma d(y) = 0$ , we have  $d(x)\beta z\gamma d(y) + xk(\beta)z\gamma d(y) = 0$ . Replace  $\beta$  by  $\beta m\delta$  with  $m \in M$ ,  $\delta \in \Gamma$  in the equation, we get  $(d(x)\beta m + xk(\beta)m)\delta z\gamma d(y) = 0$ . Since  $M$  is a prime  $\Gamma$ -ring, this statement implies  $(d(x)\beta m + xk(\beta)m) = 0$  or  $z\gamma d(y) = 0$ . Suppose that for all  $x, m \in M$  and  $\beta \in \Gamma$   $(d(x)\beta m + xk(\beta)m) = 0$ . Then  $(d(x\beta m) = x\beta d(y))$  so  $d(M)$  is a left ideal of  $M$ . Now, let  $z\gamma d(y) = 0$  for all  $z, y \in M$ . Replace  $y$  by  $y\beta m$  with  $m \in M$  and  $\beta \in \Gamma$  in the preceding statement to obtain  $z\gamma yk(\beta)m + z\gamma y\beta d(m) = 0$ . In the last equation, replace  $\beta$  by  $\beta n\delta$ , where  $n \in M$ ,  $\delta \in \Gamma$ , we get  $z\gamma y\beta(nk(\delta)m + n\delta d(m)) = 0$ . That is  $z\gamma y\Gamma(nk(\delta)m + n\delta d(m)) = 0$  for all  $n, m, z, y \in M$ ,  $\delta \in \Gamma$ . This implies  $nk(\delta)m + n\delta d(m) = 0$  for all  $n, m \in M$  and  $\delta \in \Gamma$ . One can then easily show that  $d(M)$  is a right ideal of  $M$ .

**Theorem 3:** Let  $M$  be a prime  $\Gamma$ -ring of characteristic not 2,  $d$  be a nonzero  $k$ -derivation of  $M$ ,  $\gamma$  be a nonzero element of  $\Gamma$  and  $k(\gamma) \neq 0$ . If  $d(M) \subseteq C_\gamma$  then  $M$  is commutative  $\Gamma$ -ring.

Proof: By hypothesis and Lemma 3 (vii), we have  $d([m, n]_\gamma) = [m, n]_{k(\gamma)} \in C_\gamma$  for all  $n, m \in M$ . In this statement, replace  $m$  by  $d(x)\beta d(y)$  and  $n$  by  $z$  where  $x, y, z \in M$  and  $\beta \in \Gamma$  and use Lemma 5 (iv), we obtain  $d(x)[\beta, k(\gamma)]_z d(y) \in C_\gamma$ . By Lemma 8, the last statement and hypothesis implies  $d(x)[\beta, k(\gamma)]_z d(y) \in C_{k(\gamma)}$  and  $d(M) \subseteq C_{k(\gamma)}$ , respectively. Hence, we get,

$$[d(x)[\beta, k(\gamma)]_z d(y), z]_{k(\gamma)} = 0 \quad x, y, z \in M, \quad \beta \in \Gamma.$$

Using Lemma 3 (iii) and  $d(M) \subseteq C_{k(\gamma)}$ , we obtain

$$d(x)[[\beta, k(\gamma)]_z, k(\gamma)]_z d(y) = 0 \quad x, y, z \in M, \quad \beta \in \Gamma.$$

In the last equation, replace  $\beta$  by  $\beta d(s)\delta$ , where  $s \in M$ ,  $\delta \in \Gamma$ . Use Lemma 3 (iv), and  $\text{Char}M \neq 2$ , we get  $d(x)[\beta, k(\gamma)]_z d(s)[\delta, k(\gamma)]_z d(y) = 0$ . Replacing  $\beta$  by  $\beta d(n)\sigma$ , where  $n \in M$ ,  $\sigma \in \Gamma$ , we have  $0 = d(x)[\beta, k(\gamma)]_z d(n)\sigma d(s)[\delta, k(\gamma)]_z d(y)$ . That is,

$$d(x)[\beta, k(\gamma)]_z d(n)\Gamma d(s)[\delta, k(\gamma)]_z d(y) = 0 \quad \forall x, y, s, z \in M, \quad \beta, \delta \in \Gamma.$$

The primeness of  $M$  gives us

$$d(x)[\beta, k(\gamma)]_z d(n) = 0 \quad \forall x, y, z \in M, \quad \beta \in \Gamma.$$

By Lemma 5 (iv), we obtain

$$0 = d(x)[\beta, k(\gamma)]_z d(n) = [d(x)\beta d(n), z]_{k(\gamma)} = [d(x)k(\gamma)d(n), z]_{\beta}.$$

This implies  $d(x)k(\gamma)d(n) \in C_{\beta}$ , for all  $\beta \in \Gamma$ , that is,  $d(x)k(\gamma)d(n) \in C_{\Gamma}$ . If there are some elements  $x, n$  of  $M$  such that  $d(x)k(\gamma)d(n) \neq 0$ , then  $M$  is a commutative  $\Gamma$ -ring by Lemma 4 (vii). If  $d(x)k(\gamma)d(n) = 0$  for all  $x, n \in M$ , then  $d(M)$  is a right (or left) ideal of  $M$  by Lemma 9. Since  $0 \neq d(M) \subseteq C_{\gamma}$  by the hypothesis, Lemma 7 implies  $M$  is commutative  $\Gamma$ -ring.

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Received 14.05.1998

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