

## A Note on An Engel Condition with Generalized Derivations in Rings

M. A. Raza\*

Aligarh Muslim University

N. Rehman

Taibah University KSA

T. Bano

Aligarh Muslim University

**Abstract.** Let  $R$  be a prime ring with characteristic different from two,  $I$  be a nonzero ideal of  $R$ , and  $F$  be a generalized derivation associated with a nonzero derivation  $d$  of  $R$ . In the present paper we investigate the commutativity of  $R$  satisfying the relation  $F([x, y]_k)^n = ([x, y]_k)^l$  for all  $x, y \in I$ , where  $l, n, k$  are fixed positive integers. Moreover, let  $R$  be a semiprime ring,  $A = O(R)$  be an orthogonal completion of  $R$ , and  $B = B(C)$  be the Boolean ring of  $C$ . Suppose  $F([x, y]_k)^n = ([x, y]_k)^l$  for all  $x, y \in R$ , then there exists a central idempotent element  $e$  of  $B$  such that  $d$  vanishes identically on  $eA$  and the ring  $(1 - e)A$  is commutative.

**AMS Subject Classification:** 16N60; 16U80; 16W25

**Keywords and Phrases:** Prime and semiprime rings, generalized derivation, generalized polynomial identity (GPI), ideal

### 1. Introduction

Let  $R$  be an associative ring with center  $Z(R)$ . For each  $x, y \in R$ , define  $[x, y]_k$  inductively by  $[x, y]_1 = xy - yx$  and  $[x, y]_k = [[x, y]_{k-1}, y]$  for  $k > 1$ . The ring  $R$  is said to satisfy an Engel condition if there exists a positive integer  $k$  such that  $[x, y]_k = 0$  for all  $x, y \in R$ . Note that an Engel condition is a polynomial

---

Received: July 2015; Accepted: November 2015

\*Corresponding author

$[x, y]_k = \sum_{m=0}^k (-1)^m \binom{k}{m} y^m x y^{k-m}$  in non-commutative indeterminates  $x, y$  and  $[x+z, y]_k = [x, y]_k + [z, y]_k$ . Recall that a ring  $R$  is prime if  $xRy = \{0\}$  implies either  $x = 0$  or  $y = 0$ , and  $R$  is semiprime if  $xRx = \{0\}$  implies  $x = 0$ . An additive mapping  $d : R \rightarrow R$  is called a derivation if  $d(xy) = d(x)y + yd(x)$  holds, for all  $x, y \in R$ . In particular  $d$  is an inner derivation induced by an element  $q \in R$ , if  $d(x) = [q, x]$  holds, for all  $x \in R$ . An additive mapping  $F : R \rightarrow R$  is called generalized derivation associated with a derivation  $d$  if  $F(xy) = F(x)y + xd(y)$  holds, for all  $x, y \in R$ .

The Engel type identity with derivation first appeared in the well-known paper of Posner [17] which states that a prime ring admitting a nonzero derivation  $d$  must be commutative if  $[d(x), x] \in Z(R)$  holds, for all  $x \in R$ . Since then, several authors have studied this kind of Engel type identities with derivations acting on an appropriate subset of prime and semiprime rings (see [6, 8, 19] for a partial bibliography). In 1992, Daif and Bell [4, Theorem 3] proved that if in a semiprime ring  $R$  there exists a nonzero ideal  $I$  of  $R$  and a derivation  $d$  of  $R$  such that  $d([x, y]) = [x, y]$  for all  $x, y \in I$ , then  $I \subseteq Z(R)$ . In addition, if  $R$  is a prime ring, then  $R$  is commutative. In 2003, Quadri et al. [18] extended the result of Daif and Bell and proved that if  $R$  is a prime ring,  $I$  a nonzero ideal of  $R$  and  $F$  a generalized derivation associated with a nonzero derivation  $d$  such that  $F([x, y]) = [x, y]$  for all  $x, y \in I$ , then  $R$  is commutative. Very recently, Huang and Davvaz [9] generalized the result of Quadri et al. and proved that if  $R$  is a prime ring and  $F$  is a generalized derivation associated with a nonzero derivation  $d$  of  $R$  such that  $F([x, y])^m = [x, y]^n$  for all  $x, y \in R$ , where  $m, n$  are fixed positive integers, then  $R$  is commutative.

On the other hand, in 1994 Giambruno et al. [7] established that a ring must be commutative if it satisfies  $([x, y]_k)^n = [x, y]_k$ . Inspired by the above mention results it is natural to investigate what we can say about the commutativity of ring satisfying the relation  $F([x, y]_k)^n = ([x, y]_k)^l$ , where  $F$  is a generalized derivation associated with a nonzero derivation  $d$  of  $R$  and  $l, n, k$  are fixed positive integers.

If we take  $k = 1$ , then we obtain the following:

**Corollary 1.1.** ([9, Theorem A]) *Let  $R$  is a prime ring and  $n, l$  are fixed positive integers. If  $R$  admits a generalized derivation  $F$  associated with a nonzero derivation  $d$  such that  $F([x, y])^n = ([x, y])^l$  for all  $x, y \in R$ , then  $R$  is commutative.*

## 2. Generalized Derivation in Prime Ring

Throughout this section, we take  $R$  is a prime ring,  $I$  is a nonzero ideal,  $U$  is the Utumi quotient ring,  $C$  is the extended centroid and  $Q$  is the symmetric

Martindale quotient ring. For a complete and detailed description of the theory of generalized polynomial identities involving derivations, we refer to [1].

We denote by  $Der(U)$  the set of all derivations on  $U$ . By a derivation word we mean an additive map  $\Delta$  of the form  $\Delta = d_1 d_2 \dots d_m$  with each  $d_i \in Der(U)$ . Then a differential polynomial is a generalized polynomial with coefficients in  $U$  of the form  $\Phi(\Delta_j x_i)$  involving non-commuting indeterminates  $x_i$  on which the derivation words  $\Delta_j$  act as unary operations. The differential polynomial  $\Phi(\Delta_j x_i)$  is said to be a differential identity on a subset  $T$  of  $U$  if it vanishes for any assignment of values from  $T$  to its indeterminates  $x_i$ . Let  $D_{int}$  be the  $C$ -subspace of  $Der(U)$  consisting of all inner derivations on  $U$  and  $d$  be a nonzero derivation on  $R$ . By [11, Theorem 2], we have the following result (see also [13, Theorem 1]).

If  $\Phi(x_1, \dots, x_n, {}^d x_1, \dots, {}^d x_n)$  is a differential identity on  $R$ , then one of the following assertions holds:

- (i) either  $d \in D_{int}$ ;
- (ii) or,  $R$  satisfies the generalized polynomial identity

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

Before starting our result, we state the following theorem which is very crucial for developing the proof of our main result.

**Theorem 2.1.** ([14, Theorem 3]) *Every generalized derivation  $F$  on a dense right ideal of  $R$  can be uniquely extended to a generalized derivation of  $U$  and assumes of the form  $F(x) = ax + d(x)$ , for some  $a \in U$  and a derivation  $d$  on  $U$ .*

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with characteristics different from two,  $n, k$  be the fixed positive integers and  $b \in Q$  with  $b \notin C$  such that  $([b, x]_{k+1})^n = 0$  for all  $x \in R$ . Then  $R$  satisfies a nonzero generalized polynomial identity (GPI).*

**Proof.** By both [1, Theorem 6.4.1] and [3, Theorem 2], we have

$$([b, x]_{k+1})^n = 0 \text{ for all } x \in Q.$$

That is, the element  $([b, X]_{k+1})^n$  in the free product  $T = Q *_C C\{X\}$  is a generalized polynomial identity on  $R$ . As  $b \notin C$ , we can easily see that the term  $(bX^{k+1})^n$  appears nontrivially in the expansion of  $([b, X]_{k+1})^n$ . So  $([b, X]_{k+1})^n$  is a nonzero element in  $T = Q *_C C\{X\}$ . Therefore,  $R$  satisfies a nonzero generalized polynomial identity.  $\square$

Now, we prove our main result of this section.

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with characteristics different from two and  $I$  be a nonzero ideal of  $R$ . If  $R$  admits a nonzero generalized derivation  $F$  associated with a nonzero derivation  $d$  such that  $F([x, y]_k)^n = ([x, y]_k)^l$  for all  $x, y \in I$ , where  $l, n, k$  are fixed positive integers, then  $R$  is commutative.*

**Proof.** Since  $R$  is a prime ring and  $F([x, y]_k)^n = ([x, y]_k)^l$  for all  $x, y \in I$ . By Theorem 2.1, for some  $a \in U$  and a derivation  $d$  on  $U$  such that  $I$  satisfies the differential identity

$$(a[x, y]_k + d([x, y]_k))^n = ([x, y]_k)^l,$$

which can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( a \left( \sum_{m=0}^k (-1)^m \binom{k}{m} y^m x y^{k-m} \right) \right. \\ & + \sum_{m=0}^k (-1)^m \binom{k}{m} \left( \sum_{i+j=m-1} y^i d(y) y^j \right) x y^{k-m} \\ & + \sum_{m=0}^k (-1)^m \binom{k}{m} y^m d(x) y^{k-m} \\ & + \sum_{m=0}^k (-1)^m \binom{k}{m} y^m x \left( \sum_{r+s=k-m-1} y^r d(y) y^s \right)^n \\ & \left. - \left( \sum_{m=0}^k (-1)^m \binom{k}{m} y^m x y^{k-m} \right)^l = 0. \right. \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Firstly we assume that  $d$  is an outer derivation on  $Q$ . By Kharchenko's Theorem [11],  $I$  satisfies the generalized polynomial identity

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( a \left( \sum_{m=0}^k (-1)^m \binom{k}{m} y^m x y^{k-m} \right) + \sum_{m=0}^k (-1)^m \binom{k}{m} \left( \sum_{i+j=m-1} y^i z y^j \right) x y^{k-m} \right. \\ & + \sum_{m=0}^k (-1)^m \binom{k}{m} y^m w y^{k-m} + \sum_{m=0}^k (-1)^m \binom{k}{m} y^m x \left( \sum_{r+s=k-m-1} y^r z y^s \right)^n \\ & \left. - \left( \sum_{m=0}^k (-1)^m \binom{k}{m} y^m x y^{k-m} \right)^l = 0. \right. \end{aligned}$$

In particular  $x = z = 0$ , we have

$$\left( \sum_{m=0}^k (-1)^m \binom{k}{m} y^m w y^{k-m} \right)^n = 0 \quad \text{for all } y, w \in I.$$

By Chuang [3, Theorem 2], this polynomial identity is also satisfied by  $Q$  and hence  $R$  as well, i.e.,  $(\sum_{m=0}^k (-1)^m \binom{k}{m} y^m w y^{k-m})^n = 0$  for all  $y, w \in R$ . Substituting  $y$  with  $[b, w]$ , where  $b$  is a noncentral element of  $R$  in the above identity, we have  $([b, w]_{k+1})^n = 0$  for all  $w \in R$ . It follows from both [1, Theorem 6.4.1] and [3, Theorem 2] that  $([b, w]_{k+1})^n = 0$  for all  $w \in Q$ .

In case  $C$  is infinite, we have  $([b, w]_{k+1})^n = 0$  for all  $w \in Q \otimes_C \bar{C}$ , where  $\bar{C}$  is the algebraic closure of  $C$ . Since both  $C$  and  $Q \otimes_C \bar{C}$  are centrally closed [5, Theorem 2.5 and Theorem 3.5], we may replace  $R$  by  $Q$  or  $Q \otimes_C \bar{C}$  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 and  $([b, w]_{k+1})^n = 0$  for all  $w \in R$ . By Lemma 2.2,  $R$  is a nontrivial generalized polynomial identity (GPI). By Martindale's Theorem [15],  $R$  is a primitive ring and so is isomorphic to a dense subring of linear transformations on a vector space  $\mathcal{V}$  over  $C$ .

Suppose that  $\mathcal{V}$  is infinite dimensional over  $C$ . For any  $v \in \mathcal{V}$ , we claim that  $v$  and  $vb$  are  $C$ -dependent. On contrary suppose that  $v$  and  $vb$  are  $C$ -independent. We choose  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$  such that  $v, vb, v_1, \dots, v_k$  are  $C$ -dependent. By the density of  $R$  on  $\mathcal{V}$ , there exists  $x_0 \in R$  such that

$$vx_0 = 0, vbx_0 = v_1, v_ix_0 = v_{i+1}, v_kx_0 = v, \text{ where } i = 1, 2, \dots, k-1.$$

We see that

$$v[b, x_0]_{k+1} = vbx_0^{k+1} = v_1x_0^k = v_2x_0^{k-1} = \dots = v_kx_0 = v,$$

and so  $0 = v([b, x_0]_{k+1})^n = v \neq 0$ , a contradiction. Our next goal is to show that there exists  $\alpha \in C$  such that  $bv = v\alpha$ , for any  $v \in \mathcal{V}$ . Now choose  $v, w \in \mathcal{V}$  such that they are linearly  $C$ -independent. By the previous argument there exist  $\alpha_v, \alpha_w, \alpha_{v+w} \in C$  such that  $bv = v\alpha_v, bw = w\alpha_w, b(v+w) = (v+w)\alpha_{v+w}$ . Moreover  $v\alpha_v + w\alpha_w = (v+w)\alpha_{v+w}$ . Hence  $v(\alpha_v - \alpha_{v+w}) + w(\alpha_w - \alpha_{v+w}) = 0$ , and because  $v, w$  are linearly  $C$ -independent, we have  $\alpha_v = \alpha_w = \alpha_{v+w}$ , that is,  $\alpha$  does not depend on the choice of  $v$ . Now for  $r \in R, v \in \mathcal{V}$ , we have  $bv = v\alpha, r(bv) = r(v\alpha)$  and also  $b(rv) = (rv)\alpha$ . Thus  $0 = [b, r]v$ , for any  $v \in \mathcal{V}$ , that is  $[b, r]\mathcal{V} = 0$ . Since  $\mathcal{V}$  is a left faithful irreducible  $R$ -module, hence  $[b, r] = 0$ , for all  $r \in R$ , i.e.,  $b \in C$ , a contradiction.

So  $\mathcal{V}$  must be of finite dimensional, i.e.,  $R \cong M_t(\mathbb{F})$  for some  $t > 1$ . Now we assume that  $t = 2$ , i.e.,  $M_2(\mathbb{F})$  satisfies  $([b, w]_{k+1})^n = 0$ . Let  $e_{ij}$  be the usual unit matrix with 1 in  $(i, j)$ -entry and zero elsewhere. Take  $b = \sum_{i,j=1}^2 b_{ij}e_{ij}$  with  $b_{ij} \in \mathbb{F}$  and by choosing  $w = e_{11}$ , we see that  $[b, e_{11}]_{k+1} = (-1)^{k+1}b_{12}e_{12} + b_{21}e_{21}$ . Thus we have

$0 = ([b, e_{11}]_{k+1})^{2n} = (-1)^{(k+1)n}(b_{12}b_{21})^ne_{11} + (-1)^{(k+1)n}(b_{12}b_{21})^ne_{22}$  which gives  $b_{12}b_{21} = 0$  and so either  $b_{12} = 0$  or  $b_{21} = 0$ . Now we assume that  $b_{21} = 0$ . Let  $\chi$  be any automorphism of  $R$  such that  $\chi(x) = (1 + e_{21})x(1 - e_{21})$ . Therefore  $\chi(b) = (b_{11} - b_{12})e_{11} + b_{12}e_{12} + (b_{11} - b_{12} - b_{22})e_{21} + (b_{12} + b_{22})e_{22}$ . Since  $([\chi(b), w]_{k+1})^n = 0$  for all  $x \in R$ , then it can be easily seen that  $b_{12}(b_{11} - b_{12} - b_{22}) = 0$ . Hence either  $b_{12} = 0$  or  $(b_{11} - b_{12} - b_{22}) = 0$ . Suppose that  $(b_{11} - b_{12} - b_{22}) = 0$ . If  $k$  is even, then by easy computation we see that  $0 = ([b, e_{11} + e_{21}]_{k+1})^{2n} = (2b_{12}^2)^ne_{11} + (2b_{12}^2)^ne_{22}$ . It implies that  $(2b_{12}^2)^n = 0$  and so  $b_{12} = 0$ . If  $k$  is odd, then we have  $0 = ([b, e_{11} + e_{21}]_{k+1})^{2n} = (-2b_{12}^2)^ne_{11} + (-2b_{12}^2)^ne_{22}$ , which implies that  $(-2b_{12}^2)^n = 0$  and so  $b_{12} = 0$ . Thus in all,  $b$  is a diagonal matrix. As above we know that  $\chi(b) = \sum_{i=1}^2 b_{ii}e_{ii} + (b_{11} - b_{22})e_{21}$  is a diagonal matrix. Therefore,  $b_{11} = b_{22}$ , and so,  $b$  is central in  $R$ , a contradiction.

Now we consider the case when  $t > 2$ . Let  $b = \sum_{i,j=1}^t b_{ij}$  with  $b_{ij} \in \mathbb{F}$ . Write

$b = \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & \mathcal{A} \\ \mathcal{B} & \mathcal{C} \end{pmatrix}$  where  $\mathcal{A} = (b_{12}, \dots, b_{1t})$ ,  $\mathcal{B} = (b_{21}, \dots, b_{t1})^T$  and  $\mathcal{C} = (b_{ij})$  with  $2 \leq i, j \leq t$ . Note that  $[b, e_{11}]_{k+1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & (-1)^{k+1}\mathcal{A} \\ \mathcal{B} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . By given hypothesis, one can have

$$([b, e_{11}]_{k+1})^{2n} = \begin{pmatrix} (-1)^{n(k+1)}(\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B})^n & 0 \\ 0 & (-1)^{n(k+1)}(\mathcal{B}\mathcal{A})^n \end{pmatrix}.$$

In particular  $(-1)^{n(k+1)}(\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B})^n = 0$  and so  $\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B} = 0$ .

Let  $\chi_{ij}$  be an inner automorphism of  $R$  given by  $\chi_{ij}(x) = (1 + e_{ij})x(1 - e_{ij})$  for  $x \in R$ . Write  $1 + e_{21} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \mathcal{E}_2 & \mathcal{I}_{t-1} \end{pmatrix}$  where  $\mathcal{E}_2 = (1, 0, \dots, 0)^T$  and  $\mathcal{I}_{t-1}$  is the  $(n-1)$ -identity matrix. Thus  $\chi_{21}(b) = \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} - b_{12} & \mathcal{A} \\ b_{11}\mathcal{E}_2 - b_{12}\mathcal{E}_2 + \mathcal{B} - \mathcal{C}\mathcal{E}_2 & \mathcal{E}_2\mathcal{A} + \mathcal{C} \end{pmatrix}$ . By easy calculation, it follows that  $b_{11}b_{12} - b_{12}^2 - \mathcal{A}\mathcal{C}\mathcal{E}_2 = 0$ . Suppose first that  $k$  is even. We can easily see that  $[b, e_{11} + e_{21}]_{k+1} = \begin{pmatrix} b_{12} & -\mathcal{A} \\ \mathcal{J}_1 & -\mathcal{E}_2\mathcal{A} \end{pmatrix}$  where  $\mathcal{J}_1 = \mathcal{B} + \mathcal{C}\mathcal{E}_2 - \mathcal{E}_2b_{11}$ . Therefore  $([b, e_{11} + e_{21}]_{k+1})^2 = \begin{pmatrix} b_{12}^2 - \mathcal{A}\mathcal{J}_1 & 0 \\ * & -\mathcal{J}_1\mathcal{A} + b_{12}\mathcal{E}_2\mathcal{A} \end{pmatrix}$ . Making use of both  $\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B} = 0$  and  $b_{11}b_{12} - b_{12}^2 - \mathcal{A}\mathcal{C}\mathcal{E}_2 = 0$ , we get  $\mathcal{A}\mathcal{J}_1 = -b_{12}^2$ .

Thus  $([b, e_{11} + e_{21}]_{k+1})^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2b_{12}^2 & 0 \\ * & -\mathcal{J}_1\mathcal{A} + b_{12}\mathcal{E}_2\mathcal{A} \end{pmatrix}$ . Therefore by assumption, we have

$$0 = ([b, e_{11} + e_{21}]_{k+1})^{2n} = \begin{pmatrix} (2b_{12}^2)^n & 0 \\ * & (-\mathcal{J}_1\mathcal{A} + b_{12}\mathcal{E}_2\mathcal{A})^n \end{pmatrix}.$$

In particular,  $(2b_{12}^2)^n = 0$ , and so  $b_{12} = 0$ . Next suppose that  $k$  is odd. By computation we have  $[b, e_{11} + e_{21}]_{k+1} = \begin{pmatrix} -b_{12} & \mathcal{A} \\ \mathcal{J}_2 & \mathcal{E}_2\mathcal{A} \end{pmatrix}$  where  $\mathcal{J}_2 = \mathcal{B} + \mathcal{C}\mathcal{E}_2 - (b_{11} + 2b_{12})\mathcal{E}_2b_{11}$ . Thus

$$([b, e_{11} + e_{21}]_{k+1})^2 = \begin{pmatrix} b_{12}^2 + \mathcal{A}\mathcal{J}_2 & 0 \\ * & \mathcal{J}_2\mathcal{A} + b_{12}\mathcal{E}_2\mathcal{A} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Applying both  $\mathcal{A}\mathcal{B} = 0$  and  $b_{11}b_{12} - b_{12}^2 - \mathcal{A}\mathcal{C}\mathcal{E}_2 = 0$ , we get  $\mathcal{A}\mathcal{J}_2 = -3b_{12}^2$ . Thus

$$([b, e_{11} + e_{21}]_{k+1})^2 = \begin{pmatrix} -2b_{12}^2 & 0 \\ * & \mathcal{J}_2\mathcal{A} + b_{12}\mathcal{E}_2\mathcal{A} \end{pmatrix},$$

and so

$$0 = ([b, e_{11} + e_{21}]_{k+1})^{2n} = \begin{pmatrix} (-2b_{12}^2)^n & 0 \\ * & (\mathcal{J}_2\mathcal{A} + b_{12}\mathcal{E}_2\mathcal{A})^n \end{pmatrix}.$$

In particular,  $(-2b_{12}^2)^n = 0$ , and so  $b_{12} = 0$ .

Now we claim that  $b$  is a diagonal matrix. Since  $([\chi_{j2}(b), x]_{k+1})^n = 0$  for all  $x \in R$ , where  $j > 2$ , as what has been shown, we get that  $-b_{1j} = \chi_{j1}(b)_{12} = 0$ . So  $b_{1j} = 0$  for  $j > 1$ . For  $1 < j < s \leq t$ , we get from  $([\chi_{j2}(b), x]_{k+1})^n = 0$  for all  $x \in R$ , that  $b_{js} = \chi_{1j}(b)_{1s} = 0$ . This shows that  $b$  must be lower triangular. Since the transpose of  $b$  satisfies the same condition,  $b$  is indeed diagonal. We have shown that  $b = \sum_{i=1}^n b_{ii}e_{ii}$  with  $b_{ii} \in \mathbb{F}$ . For  $1 \leq i \neq j \leq t$ , as above we get that  $\chi_{ij}(b)$  is a diagonal matrix. On the other hand,  $\chi(b) = b + (b_{jj} - b_{ii})e_{ij}$ , we infer that  $b_{jj} = b_{ii}$ , and so  $b$  is central in  $R$ , a contradiction.

Secondly we assume that  $d$  is an inner derivation induced by an element  $q \in Q$  such that  $d(x) = [q, x]$  for all  $x \in R$ . Therefore from (1), we have

$$(a[x, y]_k + [q, [x, y]_k])^n = ([x, y]_k)^l \quad \text{for all } x, y \in I.$$

By Chuang [3, Theorem 2],  $I$  and  $Q$  satisfy the same generalized polynomial identities, thus we have

$$(a[x, y]_k + [q, [x, y]_k])^n = ([x, y]_k)^l \quad \text{for all } x, y \in Q.$$

In case the center  $C$  of  $Q$  is infinite, we have

$$(a[x, y]_k + [q, [x, y]_k])^n = ([x, y]_k)^l \quad \text{for all } x, y \in Q \otimes_C \overline{C},$$

where  $\overline{C}$  is algebraic closure of  $C$ . Since both  $Q$  and  $Q \otimes_C \overline{C}$  are prime and centrally closed [5, Theorems 2.5 and 3.5], we may replace  $R$  by  $Q$  or  $Q \otimes_C \overline{C}$

according as  $C$  is finite or infinite. Thus we may assume that  $R$  is centrally closed over  $C$  (i.e.,  $RC = R$ ) which is either finite or algebraically closed and  $(a[x, y]_k + [q, [x, y]_k])^n = ([x, y]_k)^l$  for all  $x, y \in R$ . By Martindale's Theorem [15, Theorem 3],  $RC$  (and so  $R$ ) is a primitive ring having nonzero socle  $H$  with  $\mathcal{D}$  as the associated division ring. Hence by Jacobson's Theorem [10, p.75],  $R$  is isomorphic to a dense ring of linear transformations of some vector space  $\mathcal{V}$  over  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $H$  consists of the finite rank linear transformations in  $R$ . If  $\mathcal{V}$  is a finite dimensional over  $\mathcal{D}$ , then the density of  $R$  on  $\mathcal{V}$  implies that  $R \cong M_t(\mathcal{D})$ , where  $t = \dim_{\mathcal{D}} \mathcal{V}$ .

Assume first that  $\dim_{\mathcal{D}} \mathcal{V} \geq 3$ . First of all, we want to show that for any  $v \in \mathcal{V}$ ,  $v$  and  $qv$  are linearly  $\mathcal{D}$ -dependent. If  $v = 0$ , then  $\{v, qv\}$  is linearly  $\mathcal{D}$ -dependent. Now suppose that  $v \neq 0$  and  $\{v, qv\}$  is linearly  $\mathcal{D}$ -independent. Since  $\dim_{\mathcal{D}} \mathcal{V} \geq 3$ , then there exists  $w \in \mathcal{V}$  such that  $\{v, qv, w\}$  is also linearly  $\mathcal{D}$ -independent. By the density of  $R$  there exist  $x, y \in R$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} xv &= v, & xqv &= 0, & xw &= v \\ yv &= 0, & yqv &= w, & yw &= w. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that  $(-1)^n v = (a[x, y]_k + [q, [x, y]_k])^n v - ([x, y]_k)^l v = 0$ , a contradiction. So, we conclude that  $\{v, qv\}$  are linearly  $\mathcal{D}$ -dependent, for all  $v \in \mathcal{V}$ . A standard argument shows that  $q \in C$  and  $d = 0$ , which contradicts our hypothesis.

Therefore  $\dim_{\mathcal{D}} \mathcal{V}$  must be  $\leq 2$ . In this case  $R$  is a simple GPI-ring with 1, and so it is a central simple algebra finite dimensional over its center. By Lanski [12, Lemma 2], it follows that there exists a suitable field  $\mathbb{F}$  such that  $R \subseteq M_t(\mathbb{F})$ , the ring of all  $t \times t$  matrices over  $\mathbb{F}$ , and moreover,  $M_t(\mathbb{F})$  satisfies the same generalized polynomial identity of  $R$ .

If we assume  $t \geq 3$ , then by the same argument as above, we get a contradiction. Obviously if  $t = 1$ , then  $R$  is commutative. Thus we may assume that  $t = 2$ , i.e.,  $R \subseteq M_2(\mathbb{F})$ , where  $M_2(\mathbb{F})$  satisfies  $(a[x, y]_k + [q, [x, y]_k])^n = ([x, y]_k)^l$ . Since by choosing  $x = e_{12}$ ,  $y = e_{22}$  we have  $(ae_{12} + qe_{12} - e_{12}q)^n = 0$ . Right multiplying by  $e_{12}$ , we get  $(-1)^n (e_{12}q)^n e_{12} = 0$ . Now set  $q = \begin{pmatrix} q_{11} & q_{12} \\ q_{21} & q_{22} \end{pmatrix}$ .

By calculation, we find that  $(-1)^n \begin{pmatrix} 0 & q_{21}^n \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$ , which implies that  $q_{21} = 0$ . In the same manner, we can see that  $q_{12} = 0$ . Thus we conclude that  $q$  is a diagonal matrix in  $M_2(\mathbb{F})$ . Let  $\chi \in \text{Aut}(M_2(\mathbb{F}))$ . Since  $(\chi(a)[\chi(x), \chi(y)]_k + [\chi(q), [\chi(x), \chi(y)]_k])^n = ([\chi(x), \chi(y)]_k)^l$ , then  $\chi(q)$  must be diagonal matrix in  $M_2(\mathbb{F})$ . In particular, let  $\chi(x) = (1 - e_{ij})x(1 + e_{ij})$  for  $i \neq j$ . Then  $\chi(q) = q + (q_{ii} - q_{jj})e_{ij}$ , that is  $q_{ii} = q_{jj}$  for  $i \neq j$ . This implies that  $q$  is

central in  $M_2(\mathbb{F})$ , which leads to  $d = 0$ , a contradiction. This completes the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

The following example shows that the primeness of  $R$  is necessary in the hypothesis.

**Example 2.4.** Let  $R = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} : a, b \in S \right\}$  and  $I = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} : a \in S \right\}$ , where  $S$  is any non-commutative ring. We define a map  $F : R \rightarrow R$  by  $F(x) = 2e_{11}x - xe_{11}$  associated with a nonzero derivation  $d = [e_{11}, x]$ . Then it is easy to see that  $F$  is a nonzero generalized derivation and  $I$  is a nonzero ideal of  $R$  which satisfies  $F([x, y]_k)^n = ([x, y]_k)^l$  for  $x, y \in I$ . However,  $R$  is not commutative.

### 3. Generalized Derivation in Semiprime Ring

In this section, we assume that  $R$  is a semiprime ring with extended centroid  $C$ . We denote  $A = O(R)$  the orthogonal completion of  $R$  which is defined as the intersection of all orthogonally complete subset of  $Q$  containing  $R$ . Also  $B = B(C)$  and  $spec(B)$  denotes Boolean ring of  $C$  and the set of all maximal ideal of  $B$ , respectively. It is well know that if  $M \in spec(B)$  then  $R_M = R/RM$  is prime [1, Theorem 3.2.7]. We use the notations  $\Omega$ - $\Delta$ -ring, Horn formulas and Hereditary formulas. For more details see ([1], pages 37, 38, 43, 120). In order to prove our main result, we need the following two results which can be found in [1].

**Lemma 3.1.** ([1], Proposition 2.5.1) *Any derivation  $d$  of a semiprime ring  $R$  can be extended uniquely to a derivation of  $U$  (we shall let  $d$  also denote its extension to  $U$ ).*

**Lemma 3.2.** ([1], Theorem 3.2.18) *Let  $R$  be an orthogonally complete  $\Omega$ - $\Delta$ -ring with extended centroid  $C$ ,  $\Psi_i(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  Horn formulas of signature of  $\Omega$ - $\Delta$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots$  and  $\Phi(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m)$  a hereditary first-order formula such that  $\neg\Phi$  is a Horn formula. Further, let  $\vec{a} = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) \in R^{(n)}$ ,  $\vec{c} = (c_1, c_2, \dots, c_m) \in R^{(m)}$ . Suppose that  $R \models \Phi(c)$  and for every maximal ideal  $M$  of the Boolean ring  $B = B(C)$ , there exists a natural number  $i = i(M) > 0$  such that*

$$R_M \models \Phi(\phi_M(\vec{c})) \Rightarrow \Psi_i(\phi_M(\vec{a})).$$

*Then there exist a natural number  $k > 0$  and pairwise orthogonal idempotents  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k \in B$  such that  $e_1 + e_2 + \dots + e_k = 1$  and  $e_i R \models \Psi_i(e_i \vec{a})$  for all  $e_i \neq 0$ .*

Now, we prove our main result of this section.

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $R$  is a 2-torsion free semiprime ring and  $F$  is a nonzero generalized derivation associated with a nonzero derivation  $d$  of  $R$  such that  $F([x, y]_k)^n = ([x, y]_k)^l$  for all  $x, y \in R$ , where  $l, n, k$  are fixed positive integers. Further, let  $A = O(R)$  is the orthogonal completion of  $R$  and  $B = BC$ , where  $C$  is the extended centroid of  $R$ . Then there exists a central idempotent element  $e \in B$  such that  $d$  vanishes identically on  $eA$  and the ring  $(1 - e)A$  is commutative.*

**Proof.** By the given hypothesis, we have  $R$  satisfies

$$F([x, y]_k)^n = ([x, y]_k)^l.$$

By Theorem 2.1, the generalized derivation  $F$  can be extended uniquely to a generalized derivation on  $U$ . Since  $U$  and  $R$  satisfy the same differential identities (see [13]), we have  $(a[x, y]_k + [q, [x, y]_k])^n = ([x, y]_k)^l$  for all  $x, y \in U$ . According to ([1], Remark 3.1.16)  $d(A) \subseteq A$  and  $d(e) = 0$  for all  $e \in B$ . Therefore,  $A$  is an orthogonally complete  $\Omega$ - $\Delta$ -ring where  $\Omega = \{0, +, \dots, d\}$ .

Consider the formulas

$$\Phi = (\forall x)(\forall y) \parallel (a[x, y]_k + [q, [x, y]_k])^n - ([x, y]_k)^l = 0 \parallel,$$

$$\Psi_1 = (\forall x)(\forall y) \parallel xy = yx \parallel,$$

$$\Psi_2 = (\forall x) \parallel d(x) = 0 \parallel.$$

One can easily verify that  $\Phi$  is a hereditary first-order formula and  $\neg\Phi, \Psi_1, \Psi_2$  are Horn formulas. Using Theorem 2,3, we can easily check that all the conditions of Lemma 3.2 are fulfilled. Hence there exist two orthogonal idempotent  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  such that  $e_1 + e_2 = 1$  and if  $e_i \neq 0$ , then  $e_i A \models \Psi_i, i = 1, 2$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

### Acknowledgment

The authors wishes to thank the referee for his/her their valuable comments, suggestions.

## References

- [1] K. I. Beidar, W. S. Martindale III, and A. V. Mikhalev, *Rings with Generalized Identities*, Pure and Applied Mathematics, Marcel Dekker 196, New York, 1996.
- [2] M. Bresar, On the distance of the composition of two derivations to be the generalized derivations, *Glasgow Math. J.*, 33 (1991), 89-93.
- [3] C. L. Chuang, GPIs having coefficients in Utumi quotient rings, *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.*, 103 (1988), 723-728.
- [4] M. N. Daif and H. E. Bell, Remarks on derivations on semiprime rings, *Int. J. Math. Math. Sci.*, 15 (1992), 205-206.
- [5] T. S. Erickson, W. S. Martindale III, and J. M. Osborn, Prime nonassociative algebras, *Pacific. J. Math.*, 60 (1975), 49-63.
- [6] V. De Filippis and S. Huang, Generalized derivations on semiprime rings, *Bull. Korean Math. Soc.*, 48 (6) (2011), 1253-1259.
- [7] A. Giambruno, J. Z. Goncalves, and A. Mandel, Rings with algebraic  $n$ -Engel elements, *Comm. Algebra*, 22 (5) (1994), 1685-1701.
- [8] S. Huang, Derivations with Engel conditions in prime and semiprime rings, *Czechoslovak Math. J.*, 61 (136) (2011), 1135-1140.
- [9] S. Huang and B. Davvaz, Generalized derivations of rings and Banach algebras, *Comm. Algebra*, 41 (2013), 1188-1194.
- [10] N. Jacobson, *Structure of Rings*, Colloquium Publications 37, Amer. Math. Soc. VII, Providence, RI, 1964.
- [11] V. K. Kharchenko, Differential identities of prime rings, *Algebra Logic*, 17 (1979), 155-168.
- [12] C. Lanski, An Engel condition with derivation, *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.*, 118 (1993), 731-734.
- [13] T. K. Lee, Semiprime rings with differential identities, *Bull. Inst. Math. Acad. Sin.*, 20 (1992), 27-38.
- [14] T. K. Lee, Generalized derivation of left faithful rings, *Comm. Algebra*, 27 (8) (1999), 4057-4073.
- [15] W. S. Martindale III, Prime rings satisfying a generalized polynomial identity, *J. Algebra*, 12 (1969), 576-584.
- [16] J. H. Mayne, Centralizing mappings of prime rings, *Cand. Math. Bull.*, 27 (1984), 122-126.

- [17] E. C. Posner, Derivations in prime rings, *Proc. Amer. Math. Soc.*, 8 (1958), 1093-1100.
- [18] M. A. Quadri, M. S. Khan, and N. Rehman, Generalized derivations and commutativity of prime rings, *Indian J. pure appl. Math.*, 34 (98) (2003), 1393-1396.
- [19] N. Rehman, M. A. Raza, and S. Huang, On generalized derivations in prime ring with skew-commutativity conditions, *Rend. Circ. Math. Palermo.*, 64 (2) (2015), 251-159.

**Mohd Arif Raza**

Department of Mathematics  
Guest Faculty  
Aligarh Muslim University  
Aligarh-202002, India  
E-mail: arifraza03@gmail.com

**Nadeem ur Rehman**

Department of Mathematics  
Assistant Professor  
Faculty of Science Taibah University  
Al-Madinah, KSA.  
E-mail: rehman100@gmail.com

**Tarannum Bano**

Department of Mathematics  
Ph. D. Research Scholar  
Aligarh Muslim University  
Aligarh-202002, India  
E-mail: tbanors@amu.ac.in