

## *Derivations on Matrix Near-Ring*

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### **Abstract**

The existence of a derivation in a near-ring is not known. We construct derivations on  $2 \times 2$  matrix near-ring in the sense of [MW].

KEYWORDS: Near-ring, matrix near-ring, derivation

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### **1. Introduction**

Let  $R$  be a ring identity 1 and  $M_2(R)$  the  $2 \times 2$  matrix ring over  $R$ . All derivations in  $M_2(R)$  are known and it is used to determine the structure of a ring which has a derivation with invertible values in [BHL]. On the other hand, the notion of a derivation is useful in the theory of near-rings, and several properties of near-rings with derivations were given by [BM], [H] and [W]. But it is not known that there exists a derivation on matrix near-ring  $M_2(N)$ , where  $N$  is a right near-ring.

In this note, using a similar way as in the case of the matrix ring  $M_2(R)$  over  $R$ , we construct derivations on matrix near-ring  $M_2(N)$ .

### **2. Preliminaries**

The notion of a near-ring and related things are seen in his book [P]. But it is not well known, so we begin to give a definition of a near-ring.

**Definition 2.1.** A set  $N$  with two binary operations "+" and "." is called a *near-ring* if the following properties hold:

- (a)  $(N, +)$  is a group (not necessarily abelian),
- (b)  $(N, \cdot)$  is a semigroup,
- (c)  $(a + b)n = an + bn$  for any  $a, b, n \in N$  ("right distributive law").

In view of (c), we call more precisely a "right near-ring". The left distributive law is defined similarly and when this is the case, it is called a left near-ring. We also define some other notions for a right near-ring.  $N$  is called *zero-symmetric* if  $a \cdot 0 = 0$  for any  $a \in N$ , and the set  $C(N) := \{x \in N \mid xa = ax \text{ for any } a \in N\}$  is called the *center* of  $N$ . A map  $d : N \rightarrow N$  is said to be a *derivation* if

$$d(a + b) = d(a) + d(b), \quad d(ab) = d(a)b + ad(b) \quad (a, b \in N).$$

This is different in [P, p. 232], but it is the same as the definition of their papers [BM], [H] and [W].

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In this note, we mean that a near-ring is a right near-ring and zero-symmetric. The notion of a near-ring is not well known, but there are many examples of near-rings.

**Example 2.2.** (1) Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with identity and  $R[X]$  the set of all polynomials with coefficients in  $R$ . Then  $R[X]$  is an additive group under the usual addition of polynomials. For  $f(X), g(X) \in R[X]$ , we define

$$f(X) \circ g(X) = f(g(X)),$$

that is,  $\circ$  is a substitution. Then  $(R[X], +, \circ)$  is a near-ring and zero-symmetric.

(2) Let  $V$  be a vector space over a field  $k$ . We call a map  $f : V \rightarrow V$  an *affine map* if  $f$  is the sum of a linear map and a constant map. Then the set  $A_{ff}(V)$  of all affine maps is a near-ring and zero-symmetric with pointwise addition and composition:

$$(f + g)(v) = f(v) + g(v), \quad (f \circ g)(v) = f(g(v)) \quad (f, g \in A_{ff}(V), v \in V).$$

Now, we give the definition of a matrix near-ring according to J. D. P. Meldrum and A. P. J. van der Walt [MW]. Let  $N$  be a near-ring and  $N^n$  the direct sum of  $n$  copies of the group  $(N, +)$ . Then  $N^n$  is also a near-ring as usual way. We denote  $M(N^n)$  the set of all maps from  $(N^n, +)$  into itself. Then  $M(N^n)$  is a near-ring with pointwise addition and composition.

Let  $\varepsilon_j = (0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$  ( $j$ th position is 1 and the other positions are zero). We define the following maps:

$$\iota_j : N \ni a \rightarrow a\varepsilon_j = (0, \dots, 0, a, 0, \dots, 0) \in N, \quad (a \text{ is the } j\text{th position})$$

$$\pi_j : N^n \rightarrow N, \quad \text{where } \pi_j(\varepsilon_j) = 1, \quad \pi_j(\varepsilon_i) = 0 \quad (i \neq j)$$

$$f^a : N \ni x \rightarrow ax \in N$$

$$f_{ij}^a = \iota_i f^a \pi_j : N^n \rightarrow N^n$$

**Definition 2.3.** ([MW, Definition 2.1]) The *near-ring of  $n \times n$  matrices*  $\mathbf{M}_n(N)$  over  $N$  is the subnear-ring of  $M(N^n)$  generated by the set  $\{f_{ij}^a \mid a \in N, 1 \leq i, j \leq n\}$ .

Then  $\mathbf{M}_n(N)$  is a (right) near-ring with identity ([MW, Proposition 2.2]). In their paper [BHL], Bergen, Herstein and Lanski gave all derivations on  $2 \times 2$  matrix ring over  $R$ . Using this method, we try to construct derivations on  $2 \times 2$  matrix near-ring  $\mathbf{M}_2(N)$ . By definition of  $f_{ij}^x$ , we see

$$f_{11}^x : N^2 \ni (a, b) \rightarrow (xa, 0) \in N^2, \quad f_{12}^x : N^2 \ni (a, b) \rightarrow (xb, 0) \in N^2$$

$$f_{21}^x : N^2 \ni (a, b) \rightarrow (0, xa) \in N^2, \quad f_{22}^x : N^2 \ni (a, b) \rightarrow (0, xb) \in N^2.$$

Thus the multiplications of  $f_{ij}^x$  with each other are similar to the multiplication of the matrix units in ring theory.

**Lemma 2.4.** The multiplication of  $f_{ij}^x$  are follows:

$$f_{ij}^a f_{j\ell}^b = f_{i\ell}^{ab}, \quad f_{ij}^a f_{k\ell}^b = 0, \quad (j \neq k)$$

for any  $1 \leq i, j, k, \ell \leq 2$  and  $a, b \in N$ .

### 3. Construction of derivations

Let  $a, b \in N$  and  $x, y, z, w \in N$ . We define

$$(f_{11}^x)' = f_{12}^{ax} + f_{21}^{bx}, \quad (f_{12}^y)' = -f_{11}^{by} + f_{22}^{by}, \quad (f_{21}^z)' = -f_{11}^{az} + f_{22}^{az}, \quad (f_{22}^w)' = -f_{12}^{aw} + f_{21}^{bw}.$$

Then we have

**Lemma 3.1.** *The following relations hold for any  $1 \leq i, j, k, \ell \leq 2$ .*

$$(f_{ij}^x f_{j\ell}^y)' = (f_{i\ell}^{xy})' = (f_{ij}^x)' f_{j\ell}^y + f_{ij}^x (f_{j\ell}^y)',$$

$$(f_{ij}^x f_{k\ell}^y)' = 0 = (f_{ij}^x)' f_{k\ell}^y + f_{ij}^x (f_{k\ell}^y)' \quad (j \neq k).$$

*Proof.* We only prove the case  $i = j = k = \ell = 1$ , because the other relations are proved by the similar way as in the first case. By definition, we have

$$(f_{11}^x)' f_{11}^y + f_{11}^x (f_{11}^y)' = (f_{12}^{ax} + f_{21}^{bx}) f_{11}^y + f_{11}^x (f_{12}^{ay} + f_{21}^{by}).$$

Since  $M_2(N)$  is a right near-ring, then the first part is expanded and the second part is

$$f_{11}^x (f_{12}^{ay} + f_{21}^{by})(s, t) = f_{11}^x((ayt, 0) + (0, bys)) = f_{11}^x(ayt, bys) = (xayt, 0) = f_{12}^{xay}(s, t).$$

Thus  $(f_{11}^x)' f_{11}^y + f_{11}^x (f_{11}^y)' = f_{21}^{bxy} + f_{12}^{xay}$ . In this case, we see  $f_{21}^{bxy} + f_{12}^{xay} = f_{12}^{xay} + f_{21}^{bxy}$ . This prove the case  $i = j = k = \ell = 1$ .

Using this lemma, we have the following

**Theorem 3.2.** *There exists a derivation on the matrix near-ring  $M_2(N)$ .*

*Proof.* Applying the relations in Lemma 3.1 to  $(a, b) \in N^2$ , we see

$$(f_{ij}^x)' f_{k\ell}^y + f_{ij}^x (f_{k\ell}^y)' = f_{ij}^x (f_{k\ell}^y)' + (f_{ij}^x)' f_{k\ell}^y$$

for any  $1 \leq i, j, k, \ell \leq 2$  and  $x, y \in N$ . Since  $M_2(N)$  is generated by the set  $\{f_{11}^x, f_{12}^y, f_{21}^z, f_{22}^w\}$  and using the above relation, we can easily see that the map

$$d : M_2(N) \ni f \rightarrow f' \in M_2(N)$$

is a derivation.

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