

# Derivable Maps on Alternative Rings

## Aplicações Derivação sobre Anéis Alternativos

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**Abstract:**  $D$  is an application of an alternative ring in  $\mathcal{R}$  satisfying  $D(ab) = D(a)b + aD(b)$  to the whole;  $b \in \mathcal{R}$ . With some conditions on  $\mathcal{R}$ , we show that  $D$  additive.

**Keywords:** prime alternative ring; idempotent element; derivable map; additive map.

**Resumo:** Seja  $D$  uma aplicação de um anel alternativo  $\mathcal{R}$  em  $\mathcal{R}$  satisfazendo  $D(ab) = D(a)b + aD(b)$  para todo  $a, b \in \mathcal{R}$ . Com algumas condições sobre  $\mathcal{R}$ , mostramos que  $D$  é aditiva.

**Palavras - Chave:** anel alternativo primo; aplicação aditiva; aplicação derivação; elemento idempotente.

### 1 Introduction

In this paper,  $\mathcal{R}$  will be a ring not necessarily associative or commutative. For  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{R}$  we denote the *associator* by  $(x, y, z) = (xy)z - x(yz)$ .

A ring  $\mathcal{R}$  is called *k-torsion free* if  $kx = 0$  implies  $x = 0$ , for any  $x \in \mathcal{R}$ , where  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $k > 0$ , *prime* if  $IJ \neq 0$  for any two nonzero ideals  $I, J \subseteq \mathcal{R}$  and *semiprime* if it contains no nonzero ideal whose square is zero.

A ring  $\mathcal{R}$  is said to be alternative if

$$(x, x, y) = 0 = (y, x, x), \text{ for all } x, y \in \mathcal{R},$$

and flexible if

$$(x, y, x) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in \mathcal{R}.$$

One easily sees that any alternative ring is flexible.

Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be an alternative ring (not necessarily with identity element) and let  $a, b \in \mathcal{R}$ .

Recall that for a 3-torsion free alternative ring  $\mathcal{R}$  the following are equivalent:

- (i)  $\mathcal{R}$  is prime;
- (ii)  $(a\mathcal{R})b \neq 0$  for any nonzero  $a, b \in \mathcal{R}$ ;
- (iii)  $a(\mathcal{R}b) \neq 0$  for any nonzero  $a, b \in \mathcal{R}$ .

You can find the proof in [1]. A mapping  $D : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$  is derivable (multiplicative derivation) if  $D(ab) = D(a)b + aD(b)$  for all  $a, b \in \mathcal{R}$ . Let us consider  $\mathcal{R}$  an alternative ring and let us fix a nontrivial idempotent  $e_1 \in \mathcal{R}$ , i.e.,  $e_1^2 = e_1$ ;  $e_1 \neq 0$  and  $e_1$  is not an unity element. Let  $e_2 : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$  and  $e'_2 : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$  be given by  $e_2a = a - e_1a$  and  $e'_2a = a - ae_1$ . We shall denote  $e'_2a$  by  $ae_2$ . Note that  $\mathcal{R}$  need not have an identity element. The operation  $x(1-y)$  for  $x, y \in \mathcal{R}$  is understood as  $x - xy$ . It is easy to see that  $(e_i a)e_j = e_i(ae_j)$  for all  $a \in \mathcal{R}$  and  $i, j = 1, 2$ . Then  $\mathcal{R}$  has a Peirce decomposition  $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}_{11} \oplus \mathcal{R}_{12} \oplus \mathcal{R}_{21} \oplus \mathcal{R}_{22}$ , where  $\mathcal{R}_{ij} = e_i \mathcal{R} e_j$  ( $i, j = 1, 2$ ), satisfying the multiplicative relations:

- (i)  $\mathcal{R}_{ij}\mathcal{R}_{jl} \subseteq \mathcal{R}_{il}$  ( $i, j, l = 1, 2$ );
- (ii)  $\mathcal{R}_{ij}\mathcal{R}_{ij} \subseteq \mathcal{R}_{ji}$  ( $i, j = 1, 2; i \neq j$ );
- (iii)  $\mathcal{R}_{ij}\mathcal{R}_{kl} = 0$ , if  $j \neq k$  and  $(i, j) \neq (k, l)$ , ( $i, j, k, l = 1, 2$ );
- (iv)  $x_{ij}^2 = 0$  for all  $x_{ij} \in \mathcal{R}_{ij}$  ( $i, j = 1, 2; i \neq j$ ).

The study of the relationship between the multiplicative and the additive structures of a ring has become an interesting and active topic in ring theory. The present

paper takes up the special case of an alternative ring. We investigate the problem of when a derivable map must be an additive map for the class of alternative rings.

## 2 The main theorem

We shall prove the following result:

**Theorem 2.1:** *Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be an alternative ring containing a non-trivial idempotent  $e_1$  and  $\mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}_{11} \oplus \mathcal{R}_{12} \oplus \mathcal{R}_{21} \oplus \mathcal{R}_{22}$ , the Peirce Decomposition of  $\mathcal{R}$ , relative to  $e_1$ , satisfying:*

(i) *If  $((e_i a)e_j)x_{jk} = 0$  for all  $x_{jk} \in \mathcal{R}_{jk}$ , then  $((e_i a)e_j) = 0$ ;*

(ii) *If  $x_{ij}((e_j a)e_i) = 0$  for all  $x_{ij} \in \mathcal{R}_{ij}$ , then  $((e_j a)e_i) = 0$ ,*

for  $i, j, k \in \{1, 2\}$ . If  $D : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$  is a multiplicative derivation, then  $D$  is additive.

The proof of the theorem is organized as a series of lemmas.

We begin with the following lemma with a simple proof.

**Lemma 2.1:**  $D(0) = 0$ .

**Proof.**  $D(0) = D(0 \cdot 0) = D(0)0 + 0D(0) = 0$ . ◊

**Lemma 2.2:**  $D(a_{ii} + a_{jk}) = D(a_{ii}) + D(a_{jk})$ ,  $j \neq k$ .

**Proof.** If  $i = 1, j = 1, k = 2$ , for any  $t_{11} \in \mathcal{R}_{11}$ , we compute  $D(a_{11} + a_{12})t_{11} + a_{11}D(t_{11}) + D(a_{12}t_{11}) - D(a_{12})t_{11} = D(a_{11} + a_{12})t_{11} + (a_{11} + a_{12})D(t_{11}) = D((a_{11} + a_{12})t_{11}) = D(a_{11}t_{11}) = D(a_{11})t_{11} + a_{11}D(t_{11})$ . By condition (i) of Theorem 2.1, we have  $[D(a_{11} + a_{12}) - (D(a_{11}) + D(a_{12}))]_{11} = 0$  and  $[D(a_{11} + a_{12}) - (D(a_{11}) + D(a_{12}))]_{21} = 0$ . Now, for any  $t_{22} \in \mathcal{R}_{22}$ , we compute  $D(a_{11} + a_{12})t_{22} + a_{12}D(t_{22}) + D(a_{11}t_{22}) - D(a_{11})t_{22} = D(a_{11} + a_{12})t_{22} + (a_{11} + a_{12})D(t_{22}) = D((a_{11} + a_{12})t_{22}) = D(a_{12}t_{22}) = D(a_{12})t_{22} + a_{12}D(t_{22})$ . By condition (i) of Theorem 2.1, we have  $[D(a_{11} + a_{12}) - (D(a_{11}) + D(a_{12}))]_{12} = 0$  and  $[D(a_{11} + a_{12}) - (D(a_{11}) + D(a_{12}))]_{22} = 0$ . Thus,  $D(a_{11} + a_{12}) = D(a_{11}) + D(a_{12})$ .

The proof of the remaining cases is similar. ◊

**Lemma 2.3:**  $D(a_{12} + a_{21}) = D(a_{12}) + D(a_{21})$ .

**Proof.** For any  $t_{11} \in \mathcal{R}_{11}$ , we compute  $D(a_{12} + a_{21})t_{11} - D(a_{12})t_{11} + D(a_{21}t_{11}) - D(a_{21})t_{11} = D(a_{12} + a_{21})t_{11} + (a_{12} + a_{21})D(t_{11}) = D((a_{12} + a_{21})t_{11}) = D(a_{21}t_{11})$ . By condition (i) of Theorem 2.1, we have  $[D(a_{12} + a_{21}) - (D(a_{12}) + D(a_{21}))]_{11} = 0$  and  $[D(a_{12} + a_{21}) - (D(a_{12}) + D(a_{21}))]_{21} = 0$ . Similarly, replacing  $t_{11}$  by  $t_{22}$  we obtain  $[D(a_{12} + a_{21}) - (D(a_{12}) + D(a_{21}))]_{12} = 0$  and  $[D(a_{12} + a_{21}) - (D(a_{12}) + D(a_{21}))]_{22} = 0$ .

◊

**Lemma 2.4:** (i)  $D(a_{12} + b_{12}c_{22}) = D(a_{12}) + D(b_{12}c_{22})$ ,

(ii)  $D(a_{21} + b_{22}c_{21}) = D(a_{21}) + D(b_{22}c_{21})$ .

**Proof.** (i) We have  $(e_1 + b_{12})(a_{12} + c_{22}) = a_{12} + b_{12}a_{12} + b_{12}c_{22}$ . Then by Lemma 2.2 we have  $D[(e_1 + b_{12})(a_{12} + c_{22})] = D(e_1 + b_{12})(a_{12} + c_{22}) + (e_1 + b_{12})D(a_{12} + c_{22}) = (D(e_1) + D(b_{12}))(a_{12} + c_{22}) + (e_1 + b_{12})(D(a_{12}) + D(c_{22})) = D(e_1a_{12}) + D(e_1c_{22}) + D(b_{12}a_{12}) + D(b_{12}c_{22})$ . By other hand, by Lemma 2.3,  $D(a_{12} + b_{12}a_{12} + b_{12}c_{22}) = D(b_{12}a_{12}) + D(a_{12} + b_{12}c_{22})$ . Thus,  $D(a_{12} + b_{12}c_{22}) = D(a_{12}) + D(b_{12}c_{22})$ .

(ii) It is analogous, by using the relation  $(a_{21} + b_{22})(e_1 + c_{21}) = a_{21} + a_{21}c_{21} + b_{22}c_{21}$ .

◊

**Lemma 2.5:** (i)  $D(a_{12} + b_{12}) = D(a_{12}) + D(b_{12})$ ,

(ii)  $D(a_{21} + b_{21}) = D(a_{21}) + D(b_{21})$ .

**Proof.** (i) For any  $t_{22} \in \mathcal{R}_{22}$ , by Lemma 2.4 part (i), we have  $D(a_{12})t_{22} + a_{12}D(t_{22}) + D(b_{12})t_{22} + b_{12}D(t_{22}) = D(a_{12}t_{22}) + D(b_{12}t_{22}) = D(a_{12}t_{22} + b_{12}t_{22}) = D((a_{12} + b_{12})t_{22}) = D(a_{12} + b_{12})t_{22} + (a_{12} + b_{12})D(t_{22})$ . Thus, by (i) of the Theorem 2.1,  $[D(a_{12} + b_{12}) - (D(a_{12}) + D(b_{12}))]_{12} = 0$  and  $[D(a_{12} + b_{12}) - (D(a_{12}) + D(b_{12}))]_{22} = 0$ . Now, for any  $t_{11} \in \mathcal{R}_{11}$ , we have  $D(a_{12} + b_{12})t_{11} + (a_{12} + b_{12})D(t_{11}) = D((a_{12} + b_{12})t_{11}) = D(0) = 0 = D(0) + D(0) = D(a_{12}t_{11}) + D(b_{12}t_{11}) = D(a_{12})t_{11} + a_{12}D(t_{11}) + D(b_{12})t_{11} + b_{12}D(t_{11})$ . So, by (i) of Theorem 2.1,  $[D(a_{12} + b_{12}) - (D(a_{12}) + D(b_{12}))]_{11} = 0$  and  $[D(a_{12} + b_{12}) - (D(a_{12}) + D(b_{12}))]_{21} = 0$ .

(ii) For any  $t_{22} \in \mathcal{R}_{22}$  by Lemma 2.4 part (ii), we have  $D(t_{22}(a_{21} + b_{21})) = D(t_{22}a_{21} + t_{22}b_{21}) = D(t_{22}a_{21}) + D(t_{22}b_{21}) = D(t_{22})a_{21} + t_{22}D(a_{21}) + D(t_{22})b_{21} + D(t_{22})D(a_{21})$ .

$t_{22}D(b_{21}) = t_{22}(D(a_{21}) + D(b_{21})) + D(t_{22})(a_{21} + b_{21})$ . By other hand,  $D(t_{22}(a_{21} + b_{21})) = D(t_{22})(a_{21} + b_{21}) + t_{22}D(a_{21} + b_{21})$ . Thus, by condition (ii) of Theorem 2.1,  $[D(a_{21} + b_{21}) - (D(a_{21}) + D(b_{21}))]_{21} = 0$  and  $[D(a_{21} + b_{21}) - (D(a_{21}) + D(b_{21}))]_{22} = 0$ . Now, for any  $t_{11} \in \mathcal{R}_{11}$ ,  $D(t_{11})a_{21} + t_{11}D(a_{21}) + D(t_{11})b_{21} + t_{11}D(b_{21}) = D(t_{11}a_{21}) + D(t_{11}b_{21}) = 0 = D(0) = D(t_{11}(a_{21} + b_{21})) = D(t_{11})(a_{21} + b_{21}) + t_{11}D(a_{21} + b_{21})$ . By condition (ii) of Theorem 2.1,  $[D(a_{21} + b_{21}) - (D(a_{21}) + D(b_{21}))]_{11} = 0$  and  $[D(a_{21} + b_{21}) - (D(a_{21}) + D(b_{21}))]_{12} = 0$ .  $\diamond$

**Lemma 2.6:** (i)  $D(a_{11} + b_{11}) = D(a_{11}) + D(b_{11})$ ,

(ii)  $D(a_{22} + b_{22}) = D(a_{22}) + D(b_{22})$ .

**Proof.** (i) For any  $t_{22} \in \mathcal{R}_{22}$ , we have  $D(a_{11} + b_{11})t_{22} + (a_{11} + b_{11})D(t_{22}) = D((a_{11} + b_{11})t_{22}) = 0 = D(0) = D(0) + D(0) = D(a_{11}t_{22}) + D(b_{11}t_{22}) = D(a_{11})t_{22} + a_{11}D(t_{22}) + D(b_{11})t_{22} + b_{11}D(t_{22})$ . So, by condition (i) of Theorem 2.1,  $[D(a_{11} + b_{11}) - (D(a_{11}) + D(b_{11}))]_{12} = 0$  and  $[D(a_{11} + b_{11}) - (D(a_{11}) + D(b_{11}))]_{22} = 0$ . Now, for any  $t_{12} \in \mathcal{R}_{12}$  by Lemma 2.5 part (i), we have  $D(a_{11} + b_{11})t_{12} + (a_{11} + b_{11})D(t_{12}) = D((a_{11} + b_{11})t_{12}) = D(a_{11}t_{12}) + D(b_{11}t_{12}) = D(a_{11})t_{12} + a_{11}D(t_{12}) + D(b_{11})t_{12} + b_{11}D(t_{12})$ . Thus, by (i) of the Theorem, we have  $[D(a_{11} + b_{11}) - (D(a_{11}) + D(b_{11}))]_{11} = 0$  and  $[D(a_{11} + b_{11}) - (D(a_{11}) + D(b_{11}))]_{21} = 0$ .

(ii) It is analogous.  $\diamond$

**Lemma 2.7:**  $D(a_{11} + b_{12} + c_{21} + d_{22}) = D(a_{11}) + D(b_{12}) + D(c_{21}) + D(d_{22})$ .

**Proof.** For any  $t_{11} \in \mathcal{R}_{11}$  by Lemma 2.2, we have  $D(a_{11} + b_{12} + c_{21} + d_{22})t_{11} + (a_{11} + b_{12} + c_{21} + d_{22})D(t_{11}) = D((a_{11} + b_{12} + c_{21} + d_{22})t_{11}) = D(a_{11}t_{11} + c_{21}t_{11}) = D(a_{11}t_{11}) + D(c_{21}t_{11}) = D(a_{11})t_{11} + a_{11}D(t_{11}) + D(c_{21})t_{11} + c_{21}D(t_{11}) + 0 + 0 = D(a_{11})t_{11} + a_{11}D(t_{11}) + D(c_{21})t_{11} + c_{21}D(t_{11}) + D(b_{12}t_{11}) + D(d_{22}t_{11}) = D(a_{11})t_{11} + a_{11}D(t_{11}) + D(c_{21})t_{11} + c_{21}D(t_{11}) + D(b_{12})t_{11} + b_{12}D(t_{11}) + D(d_{22})t_{11} + d_{22}D(t_{11})$ . Thus, by condition (i) of the Theorem 2.1, we have,  $[D(a_{11} + b_{12} + c_{21} + d_{22}) - (D(a_{11}) + D(b_{12}) + D(c_{21}) + D(d_{22}))]_{11} = 0$  and  $[D(a_{11} + b_{12} + c_{21} + d_{22}) - (D(a_{11}) + D(b_{12}) + D(c_{21}) + D(d_{22}))]_{21} = 0$ . Now, for any  $t_{22} \in \mathcal{R}_{22}$  by Lemma 2.2, we have  $D(a_{11} + b_{12} + c_{21} + d_{22})t_{22} + (a_{11} + b_{12} + c_{21} + d_{22})D(t_{22}) = D((a_{11} + b_{12} + c_{21} + d_{22})t_{22}) = D(b_{12}t_{22} + d_{22}t_{22}) = D(b_{12}t_{22}) + D(d_{22}t_{22}) = D(b_{12})t_{22} + b_{12}D(t_{22}) +$

$D(d_{22})t_{22} + d_{22}D(t_{22}) + 0 + 0 = D(b_{12})t_{22} + b_{12}D(t_{22}) + D(d_{22})t_{22} + d_{22}D(t_{22}) + D(a_{11}t_{22}) + D(c_{21}t_{22}) = D(b_{12})t_{22} + b_{12}D(t_{22}) + D(d_{22})t_{22} + d_{22}D(t_{22}) + D(a_{11})t_{22} + a_{11}D(t_{22}) + D(c_{21})t_{22} + c_{21}D(t_{22})$ . So, by condition (i) of Theorem 2.1, we have,  $[D(a_{11} + b_{12} + c_{21} + d_{22}) - (D(a_{11}) + D(b_{12}) + D(c_{21}) + D(d_{22}))]_{12} = 0$  and  $[D(a_{11} + b_{12} + c_{21} + d_{22}) - (D(a_{11}) + D(b_{12}) + D(c_{21}) + D(d_{22}))]_{22} = 0$ .  $\diamond$

Now we are ready to prove our main result.

**Proof of the Theorem 2.1:** For any  $a, b \in \mathcal{R}$ , we write  $a = a_{11} + a_{12} + a_{21} + a_{22}$  and  $b = b_{11} + b_{12} + b_{21} + b_{22}$ . Applying Lemmas 2.5, 2.6 and 2.7, we have

$$\begin{aligned} D(a + b) &= D((a_{11} + a_{12} + a_{21} + a_{22}) + (b_{11} + b_{12} + b_{21} + b_{22})) \\ &= D(a_{11} + b_{11} + a_{12} + b_{12} + a_{21} + b_{21} + a_{22} + b_{22}) \\ &= D(a_{11} + b_{11}) + D(a_{12} + b_{12}) + D(a_{21} + b_{21}) + D(a_{22} + b_{22}) \\ &= D(a_{11}) + D(b_{11}) + D(a_{12}) + D(b_{12}) + D(a_{21}) + D(b_{21}) + D(a_{22}) + \\ &\quad D(b_{22}) \\ &= D(a_{11} + a_{12} + a_{21} + a_{22}) + D(b_{11} + b_{12} + b_{21} + b_{22}) = D(a) + D(b). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $D$  is additive.  $\diamond$

**Corollary 2.1:** Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a 3-torsion free prime alternative ring containing a nontrivial idempotent and a multiplicative derivation  $D : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$ , then  $D$  is additive.

**Definition 2.1:** Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be an alternative ring and  $d$  be a map from  $\mathcal{R}$  into itself. We call  $d$  a Jordan derivable map if  $d(ab + ba) = d(a)b + bd(a) + d(b)a + bd(a)$  for all  $a, b \in \mathcal{R}$ .

**Corollary 2.2:** Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be an alternative ring containing a nontrivial idempotent, satisfying (i), (ii) of the Theorem 2.1 and a multiplicative derivation,  $D : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$ , then  $D$  is a additive Jordan derivable map.

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