



Derivations and 2-Local Derivations on Matrix Algebras and Algebras of Locally Measurable Operators

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Abstract

Let \mathcal{A} be a unital algebra over \mathbb{C} and \mathcal{M} be a unital \mathcal{A} -bimodule. We show that every derivation $D : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, can be represented as a sum $D = D_m + \bar{\delta}$, where D_m is an inner derivation and $\bar{\delta}$ is a derivation induced by a derivation δ from \mathcal{A} into \mathcal{M} . If \mathcal{A} commutes with \mathcal{M} , we prove that every 2-local inner derivation $\Delta : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, is an inner derivation. In addition, if \mathcal{A} is commutative and commutes with \mathcal{M} , then every 2-local derivation $\Delta : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, is a derivation. Let \mathcal{R} be a finite von Neumann algebra of type I with center \mathcal{Z} and $LS(\mathcal{R})$ be the algebra of locally measurable operators affiliated with \mathcal{R} . We also prove that if the lattice $\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{P}}$ of all projections in \mathcal{Z} is atomic, then every derivation $D : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow LS(\mathcal{R})$ is an inner derivation.

Keywords Derivation · 2-Local derivation · Locally measurable operator · Von Neumann algebra

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1 Introduction

Let \mathcal{A} be an algebra over \mathbb{C} the field of complex numbers and \mathcal{M} be an \mathcal{A} -bimodule. A linear map δ from \mathcal{A} into \mathcal{M} is called a *Jordan derivation* if $\delta(a^2) = \delta(a)a + a\delta(a)$ for each a in \mathcal{A} . A linear map δ from \mathcal{A} into \mathcal{M} is called a *derivation* if $\delta(ab) = \delta(a)b + a\delta(b)$ for each a, b in \mathcal{A} . Let m be an element in \mathcal{M} , the map $\delta_m : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$, $a \rightarrow \delta_m(a) := ma - am$, is a derivation. A derivation $\delta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ is said to be an *inner derivation* when it can be written in the form $\delta = \delta_m$ for some m in \mathcal{M} . A fundamental result, due to Sakai [18], states that every derivation on a von Neumann algebra is an inner derivation.

An algebra \mathcal{A} is called *regular* (in the sense of von Neumann) if for each a in \mathcal{A} there exists b in \mathcal{A} such that $a = aba$. Let \mathcal{R} be a von Neumann algebra. We denote $S(\mathcal{R})$ and $LS(\mathcal{R})$, respectively, the algebras of all measurable and locally measurable operators affiliated with \mathcal{R} . For a faithful normal semi-finite trace τ on \mathcal{R} , we denote the algebra of all τ -measurable operators from $S(\mathcal{R})$ by $S(\mathcal{R}, \tau)$ (cf. [1,4,14]). If \mathcal{R} is an abelian von Neumann algebra, then it is $*$ -isomorphic to the algebra $L^\infty(\Omega) = L^\infty(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ of all (classes of equivalence of) essentially bounded measurable complex functions on a measurable space (Ω, Σ, μ) , and therefore, $LS(\mathcal{R}) = S(\mathcal{R}) \cong L^0(\Omega)$, where $L^0(\Omega) = L^0(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ is a unital commutative regular algebra of all measurable complex functions on (Ω, Σ, μ) . In this case inner derivations on the algebra $S(\mathcal{R})$ are identically zero, i.e., trivial.

Ber et al. [9] obtain necessary and sufficient conditions for existence of non-trivial derivations on commutative regular algebras. In particular, they prove that the algebra $L^0(0, 1)$ of all measurable complex functions on the interval $(0, 1)$ admits non-trivial derivations. Let \mathcal{R} be a properly infinite von Neumann algebra. Ayupov and Kudaybergenov [4] show that every derivation on the algebra $LS(\mathcal{R})$ is an inner derivation.

In 1997, Šemrl [17] introduced 2-local derivations and 2-local automorphisms. A map $\Delta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ (not necessarily linear) is called a *2-local derivation* if, for every $x, y \in \mathcal{A}$, there exists a derivation $D_{x,y} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ such that $D_{x,y}(x) = \Delta(x)$ and $D_{x,y}(y) = \Delta(y)$. In particular, if, for every $x, y \in \mathcal{A}$, $D_{x,y}$ is an inner derivation, then we call Δ is a *2-local inner derivation*. Niazi and Peralta [15] introduce the notion of weak-2-local derivation (respectively, $*$ -derivation) and prove that every weak-2-local $*$ -derivation on M_n is a derivation. 2-local derivations and weak-2-local derivations have been investigated by many authors on different algebras and many results have been obtained in [3–8,11,13,15–17,19].

Let \mathcal{H} be a infinite-dimensional separable Hilbert space. In [17] Šemrl shows that every 2-local derivation on $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ is a derivation. Kim and Kim [13] give a short proof of that every 2-local derivation on a finite-dimensional complex matrix algebra is a derivation. Ayupov and Kudaybergenov [3] extend this result to an arbitrary von Neumann algebra. Ayupov et al. [5] prove that if \mathcal{R} is a finite von Neumann algebra of type I without abelian direct summands, then each 2-local derivation on the algebra $LS(\mathcal{R}) = S(\mathcal{R})$ is a derivation. In the same paper, the authors also show that if \mathcal{R} is an abelian von Neumann algebra such that the lattice of all projections in \mathcal{R} is not atomic, then there exists a 2-local derivation on the algebra $S(\mathcal{R})$ which is not a derivation. Zhang and Li [19] construct an example of a 2-local derivation on the algebra of all triangular complex 2×2 matrices which is not a derivation.

Ayupov et al. [5] show that if \mathcal{A} is a unital commutative regular algebra, then every 2-local derivation on the algebra $M_n(\mathcal{A})$, $n \geq 2$, is a derivation. Ayupov and Arzikulov [8] show that if \mathcal{A} is a unital commutative ring, then every 2-local inner derivation on $M_n(\mathcal{A})$, $n \geq 2$, is an inner derivation. Let \mathcal{A} be a unital Banach algebra and \mathcal{M} be a unital \mathcal{A} -bimodule. He et al. [11] prove that if every Jordan derivation from \mathcal{A} into \mathcal{M} is an inner derivation then every 2-local derivation from $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ ($n \geq 3$) into $M_n(\mathcal{M})$ is a derivation.

Throughout this paper, \mathcal{A} is an algebra with unit 1 over \mathbb{C} and \mathcal{M} is a unital \mathcal{A} -bimodule. We say that \mathcal{A} commutes with \mathcal{M} if $am = ma$ for every $a \in \mathcal{A}$ and $m \in \mathcal{M}$. From now on, $M_n(\mathcal{A})$, for $n \geq 2$, will denote the algebra of all $n \times n$ matrices over \mathcal{A} with the usual operations. By the way, we denote any element in $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ by $(a_{rs})_{n \times n}$, where $r, s \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$; E_{ij} , $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, the matrix units in $M_n(\mathbb{C})$; and $x \otimes E_{ij}$, the matrix whose (i, j) -th entry is x and zero elsewhere. We use A_{ij} for the (i, j) -th entry of $A \in M_n(\mathcal{A})$ and denote $\text{diag}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ or $\text{diag}(x_i)$ the diagonal matrix with entries $x_i \in \mathcal{A}$, $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, in the diagonal positions. Particularly, we denote $\text{diag}(x_i)$ by $\text{diag}(x)$, where $x_i = x$ for every $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.

Let $\delta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ be a derivation. Setting

$$\bar{\delta}((a_{ij})_{n \times n}) = (\delta(a_{ij}))_{n \times n}, \tag{1.1}$$

we obtain a well-defined linear operator from $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ into $M_n(\mathcal{M})$, where $M_n(\mathcal{M})$ has a natural structure of $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ -bimodule. Moreover, $\bar{\delta}$ is a derivation from $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ into $M_n(\mathcal{M})$. If \mathcal{A} is a commutative algebra, then the restriction of $\bar{\delta}$ onto the center of the algebra $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ coincides with the given δ .

In this paper we give characterizations of derivations, 2-local inner derivations and 2-local derivations from $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ into $M_n(\mathcal{M})$. In Sect. 2, we show that a derivation $D : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, can be decomposed as a sum of an inner derivation and a derivation induced by a derivation from \mathcal{A} to \mathcal{M} as (1.1), as follows:

$$D = D_B + \bar{\delta}.$$

In addition, the representation of the above form is unique if and only if \mathcal{A} commutes with \mathcal{M} . Let \mathcal{R} be a finite von Neumann algebra of type I with center \mathcal{Z} and $LS(\mathcal{R})$ be the algebra of locally measurable operators affiliated with \mathcal{R} . we prove that if the lattice $\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{P}}$ of all projections in \mathcal{Z} is atomic, then every derivation $D : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow LS(\mathcal{R})$ is an inner derivation.

In Sect. 3, we consider 2-local inner derivations and 2-local derivations from $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ into $M_n(\mathcal{M})$. For the case that \mathcal{A} commutes with \mathcal{M} , we obtain that every inner 2-local derivation from $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ into $M_n(\mathcal{M})$ is an inner derivation. In addition, if \mathcal{A} is commutative, we prove that every 2-local derivation $\Delta : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, is a derivation. Let \mathcal{R} be an arbitrary von Neumann algebra without abelian direct summands. We also show every 2-local derivation $\Delta : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow LS(\mathcal{R})$ is a derivation.

2 Derivations

Let \mathcal{A} be an algebra with unit 1 over \mathbb{C} and \mathcal{M} be a unital \mathcal{A} -bimodule. Let $D : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, be a derivation. Firstly, we define a map $D_{rs}^{ij} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ by

$$D_{rs}^{ij}(a) = [D(a \otimes E_{rs})]_{ij}, \quad a \in \mathcal{A}, \quad i, j, r, s \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}.$$

For any $a, b \in \mathcal{A}$ and some fixed $m \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} D_{rs}^{ij}(ab) &= [D(ab \otimes E_{rs})]_{ij} \\ &= [D((a \otimes E_{rm})(b \otimes E_{ms}))]_{ij} \\ &= [D(a \otimes E_{rm})(b \otimes E_{ms})]_{ij} + [(a \otimes E_{rm})D(b \otimes E_{ms})]_{ij} \\ &= \delta_{js}[D(a \otimes E_{rm})]_{im}b + \delta_{ir}a[D(b \otimes E_{ms})]_{mj}, \end{aligned}$$

where δ is the Kronecker's delta. It follows that

$$D_{rs}^{ij}(ab) = \delta_{js}[D(a \otimes E_{rm})]_{im}b + \delta_{ir}a[D(b \otimes E_{ms})]_{mj}. \tag{2.1}$$

For any $m \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, we deduce from the equality (2.1) that

$$D_{mm}^{mm}(ab) = D_{mm}^{mm}(a)b + aD_{mm}^{mm}(b),$$

thus $D_{mm}^{mm} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ is a derivation. We abbreviate the derivation D_{mm}^{mm} by D^m . Particularly, we denote the derivation D_{11}^{11} by D^1 .

Theorem 2.1 *Every derivation $D : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, can be represented as a sum*

$$D = D_B + \bar{\delta}, \tag{2.2}$$

where D_B is an inner derivation implemented by an element $B \in M_n(\mathcal{M})$ and $\bar{\delta}$ is a derivation of the form (1.1) induced by a derivation δ from \mathcal{A} into \mathcal{M} . Furthermore, if this representation is unique for every derivation D , then \mathcal{A} commutes with \mathcal{M} (i.e., $am = ma$ for every $a \in \mathcal{A}$, $m \in \mathcal{M}$); and if \mathcal{A} commutes with \mathcal{M} then this representation is always unique.

Before the proof of Theorem 2.1, we first present the following lemma.

Lemma 2.2 *For every $i, j, r, s, m \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ and every $a \in \mathcal{A}$ the following equalities hold:*

- (i) $D_{rs}^{ij} = 0$, $i \neq r$ and $j \neq s$,
- (ii) $D_{rj}^{ij}(a) = D_{rm}^{im}(a) = D_{rm}^{im}(1)a$, if $i \neq r$,
- (iii) $D_{is}^{ij}(a) = D_{ms}^{mi}(a) = aD_{ms}^{mj}(1)$, if $j \neq s$,

- (iv) $D_{jm}^{im}(1) = -D_{mi}^{mj}(1)$,
- (v) $D_{ij}^{ij}(a) = D_{im}^{im}(1)a - aD_{jm}^{jm}(1) + D^m(a)$.

Proof It obviously follows from (2.1) that statements (i), (ii) and (iii) hold. We only need to prove (iv) and (v).

(iv): In the case $i = j$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= [D(1 \otimes E_{ii})]_{ii} = [D((1 \otimes E_{im})(1 \otimes E_{mi}))]_{ii} \\ &= [D((1 \otimes E_{im}))(1 \otimes E_{mi})]_{ii} + [(1 \otimes E_{im})D((1 \otimes E_{mi}))]_{ii} \\ &= D_{im}^{im}(1) + D_{mi}^{mi}(1), \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$D_{im}^{im}(1) = -D_{mi}^{mi}(1). \tag{2.3}$$

For the case $i \neq j$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= D(0) = [D((1 \otimes E_{ii})(1 \otimes E_{jj}))]_{ij} \\ &= [D((1 \otimes E_{ii}))(1 \otimes E_{jj})]_{ij} + [(1 \otimes E_{ii})D((1 \otimes E_{jj}))]_{ij} \\ &= [D(1 \otimes E_{ii})]_{ij} + [D(1 \otimes E_{jj})]_{ij} \\ &= D_{ii}^{ij}(1) + D_{jj}^{ij}(1), \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$D_{jj}^{ij}(1) = -D_{ii}^{ij}(1).$$

By (ii), (iii) and equality (2.3), it follows that

$$D_{jm}^{im}(1) = -D_{mi}^{mj}(1).$$

(v): By equality (2.1), we have

$$D_{ij}^{ij}(a) = D_{im}^{im}(1)a + D_{mj}^{mj}(a), \tag{2.4}$$

and

$$D_{ij}^{ij}(a) = D_{im}^{im}(a) + aD_{mj}^{mj}(1). \tag{2.5}$$

Taking $j = m$ in equality (2.4), we obtain that

$$D_{im}^{im}(a) = D_{im}^{im}(1)a + D^m(a). \tag{2.6}$$

By equalities (2.3), (2.5) and (2.6), it follows that

$$D_{ij}^{ij}(a) = D_{im}^{im}(1)a - aD_{jm}^{jm}(1) + D^m(a).$$

The proof is complete. □

Now we are in position to prove Theorem 2.1.

Proof of Theorem 2.1. Let $(a_{rs})_{n \times n}$ be an arbitrary element in $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ and D be a derivation from $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ into $M_n(\mathcal{M})$. For any $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, it follows from Lemma 2.2 that

$$\begin{aligned}
 [D((a_{rs})_{n \times n})]_{ij} &= \sum_{r,s=1}^n D_{rs}^{ij}(a_{rs}) \\
 &= \sum_{r=1}^n D_{rj}^{ij}(a_{rj}) + \sum_{s=1}^n D_{is}^{ij}(a_{is}) - D_{ij}^{ij}(a_{ij}) \\
 &= \sum_{r \neq i} D_{rj}^{ij}(a_{rj}) + \sum_{s \neq j} D_{is}^{ij}(a_{is}) + D_{ij}^{ij}(a_{ij}) \\
 &= \sum_{r \neq i} D_{r1}^{i1}(1)a_{rj} + \sum_{s \neq j} a_{is}D_{1s}^{1j}(1) + D_{i1}^{i1}(1)a_{ij} \\
 &\quad - a_{ij}D_{j1}^{j1}(1) + D^1(a_{ij}) \\
 &= \sum_{r=1}^n D_{r1}^{i1}(1)a_{rj} - \sum_{s=1}^n a_{is}D_{j1}^{s1}(1) + D^1(a_{ij}) \\
 &= \sum_{k=1}^n \left(D_{k1}^{i1}(1)a_{kj} - a_{ik}D_{j1}^{k1}(1) \right) + D^1(a_{ij}) \\
 &= \left[(D_{s1}^{r1}(1))_{n \times n} (a_{rs})_{n \times n} - (a_{rs})_{n \times n} (D_{s1}^{r1}(1))_{n \times n} \right]_{ij} \\
 &\quad + \left[\overline{D^1}((a_{rs})_{n \times n}) \right]_{ij},
 \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned}
 [D((a_{rs})_{n \times n})]_{ij} &= \left[\left((D_{s1}^{r1}(1))_{n \times n} (a_{rs})_{n \times n} - (a_{rs})_{n \times n} (D_{s1}^{r1}(1))_{n \times n} \right) \right]_{ij} \\
 &\quad + \left[\overline{D^1}((a_{rs})_{n \times n}) \right]_{ij}, \tag{2.7}
 \end{aligned}$$

where $(D_{s1}^{r1}(1))_{n \times n} \in M_n(\mathcal{M})$ and $[(D_{s1}^{r1}(1))_{n \times n}]_{ij} = D_{j1}^{i1}(1)$. By equality (2.7), we have

$$D((a_{rs})_{n \times n}) = \left[(D_{s1}^{r1}(1))_{n \times n} (a_{rs})_{n \times n} - (a_{rs})_{n \times n} (D_{s1}^{r1}(1))_{n \times n} \right] + \left[\overline{D^1}((a_{rs})_{n \times n}) \right].$$

We denote $B = (D_{s1}^{r1}(1))_{n \times n}$ and $\delta = D^1$. Therefore, every derivation $D : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, can be represented as a sum

$$D = D_B + \overline{\delta}.$$

Suppose that D_M is an inner derivation from $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ into $M_n(\mathcal{M})$ implemented by an element $M \in M_n(\mathcal{M})$, and $\bar{\zeta}$ is a derivation of the form (1.1) induced by a derivation ζ from \mathcal{A} into \mathcal{M} , such that $D_M = \bar{\zeta}$. The first step is to establish the following. □

Claim 1 If \mathcal{A} commutes with \mathcal{M} , then $D_M = \bar{\zeta} = 0$.

Proof of Claim 1 If $i \neq j, i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, we have

$$0 = \bar{\zeta}(E_{ij}) = D_M(E_{ij}) = ME_{ij} - E_{ij}M.$$

It follows that $M_{ji} = 0$. Thus, M has a diagonal form, i.e., $M = \text{diag}(M_{kk})$. Suppose that $\bar{\zeta} \neq 0$, then there exists an element $a \in \mathcal{A}$ such that $\zeta(a) \neq 0$. Take $A = \text{diag}(a)$, then $\bar{\zeta}(A) \neq 0$. On the other hand,

$$\bar{\zeta}(A) = D_M(A) = \text{diag}(M_{kk})\text{diag}(a) - \text{diag}(a)\text{diag}(M_{kk}) = 0.$$

This is a contradiction. Thus, $\bar{\zeta} = 0$. □

Claim 2 If \mathcal{A} does not commute with \mathcal{M} , then there exist D_M and $\bar{\zeta}$, such that $D_M = \bar{\zeta} \neq 0$.

Proof of Claim 2 By assumption, we can take $a \in \mathcal{A}$ and $m \in \mathcal{M}$ such that $ma \neq am$. We define a derivation $\zeta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ by $\zeta(x) = mx - xm$ for every x in \mathcal{A} . We denote $M = \text{diag}(m) \in M_n(\mathcal{M})$, then D_M is an inner derivation from $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ into $M_n(\mathcal{M})$. Obviously, $D_M = \bar{\zeta}$ and $\bar{\zeta}(\text{diag}(a)) \neq 0$. Thus, $D_M = \bar{\zeta} \neq 0$.

In the following, we show that the representation of the above form is unique if and only if \mathcal{A} commutes with \mathcal{M} .

Case 1 If \mathcal{A} commutes with \mathcal{M} , we suppose that there exists a derivation $D : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, which can be represented as $D = D_{B_1} + \bar{\delta}_1 = D_{B_2} + \bar{\delta}_2$. This means that $D_{B_1} - D_{B_2} = \bar{\delta}_2 - \bar{\delta}_1$. Since $D_{B_1} - D_{B_2} = D_{B_1 - B_2}$ and $\bar{\delta}_2 - \bar{\delta}_1 = \bar{\delta}_2 - \bar{\delta}_1$, we have $D_{B_1 - B_2} = \bar{\delta}_2 - \bar{\delta}_1$. It follows from Claim 1 that $D_{B_1 - B_2} = \bar{\delta}_2 - \bar{\delta}_1 = 0$. i.e., $D_{B_1} = D_{B_2}$ and $\bar{\delta}_1 = \bar{\delta}_2$.

Case 2 If \mathcal{A} does not commute with \mathcal{M} , by Claim 2, there exist derivations D_M and $\bar{\zeta}$ from $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ into $M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, such that $D_M = \bar{\zeta} \neq 0$. Let $D : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, be an arbitrary derivation. By hypothesis, D can be represented as $D = D_B + \bar{\delta}$. We have $D = D_B + \bar{\delta} = D_B + D_M - \bar{\zeta} + \bar{\delta} = D_{B+M} + \bar{\delta} - \bar{\zeta}$. This means that the derivation D can be represented as $D = D_B + \bar{\delta}$, and as $D = D_{B+M} + \bar{\delta} - \bar{\zeta}$ too. Therefore, the representation of (2.2) is not unique for every derivation D . It follows from Cases 1 and 2 that the representation of (2.2) is unique if and only if \mathcal{A} commutes with \mathcal{M} . The proof is complete. □

As applications of Theorem 2.1, we obtain the following corollaries.

Corollary 2.3 *The following statements are equivalent.*

- (i) Every derivation $\delta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ is an inner derivation.
- (ii) Every derivation $D : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, is an inner derivation.

Proof If $\delta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ is an inner derivation, by the equality (1.1), obviously, $\bar{\delta} : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M}), n \geq 2$, is an inner derivation.

(i) implies (ii): Let $D : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M}), n \geq 2$, be an arbitrary derivation. By Theorem 2.1, D can be represented as a sum $D = D_M + \bar{\delta}$, where D_M is an inner derivation. By hypothesis, δ is an inner derivation from \mathcal{A} into \mathcal{M} , and therefore, $\bar{\delta}$ is an inner derivation. We know that the sum of two inner derivations is an inner derivation, this means that $D : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M}), n \geq 2$, is an inner derivation.

(ii) implies (i): Suppose that δ is a derivation from \mathcal{A} into \mathcal{M} , then $\bar{\delta} : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M}), n \geq 2$, is a derivation. By hypothesis, $\bar{\delta}$ is an inner derivation. then the restriction of $\bar{\delta}$ onto $E_{11}M_n(\mathcal{A})E_{11}$, the subalgebra of $M_n(\mathcal{A})$, is an inner derivation. This means that $\delta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ is an inner derivation. □

Corollary 2.4 *Let \mathcal{A} be a commutative unital algebra over \mathbb{C} . Then every derivation on the matrix algebra $M_n(\mathcal{A}) (n \geq 2)$ is inner if and only if every derivation on \mathcal{A} is identically zero, i.e., trivial.*

Let \mathcal{R} be a von Neumann algebra. Denote by $S(\mathcal{R})$ and $LS(\mathcal{R})$, respectively, the sets of all measurable and locally measurable operators affiliated with \mathcal{R} . Then the set $LS(\mathcal{R})$ of all locally measurable operators with respect to \mathcal{R} is a unital $*$ -algebra when equipped with the algebraic operations of strong addition and multiplication and taking the adjoint of an operator and $S(\mathcal{R})$ is a solid $*$ -subalgebra in $LS(\mathcal{R})$. If \mathcal{R} is a finite von Neumann algebra, then $S(\mathcal{R}) = LS(\mathcal{R})$ (see, for example, [1,4,14]). Let \mathcal{A} be a commutative algebra with unit 1 over \mathbb{C} . We denote by ∇ the set $\{e \in \mathcal{A} : e^2 = e\}$ of all idempotents in \mathcal{A} . For $e, f \in \nabla$ we set $e \leq f$ if $ef = e$. Equipped with this partial order, lattice operations $e \vee f = e + f - ef, e \wedge f = ef$ and the complement $e^\perp = 1 - e$, the set ∇ forms a Boolean algebra. A nonzero element q from the Boolean algebra ∇ is called an *atom* if $0 \neq e \leq q, e \in \nabla$, imply that $e = q$. If given any nonzero $e \in \nabla$ there exists an atom q such that $q \leq e$, then the Boolean algebra ∇ is said to be *atomic*.

Let \mathcal{R} be an abelian von Neumann algebra. Theorem 3.4 of [9] implies that every derivation on the algebra $S(\mathcal{R})$ is inner if and only if the lattice $\mathcal{R}_{\mathcal{P}}$ of all projections in \mathcal{R} is atomic. If \mathcal{R} is a properly infinite von Neumann algebra, in [4] the authors show that every derivation on the algebra $LS(\mathcal{R})$ is inner (see [4], Theorem 4.6). In the case of \mathcal{R} is a finite von Neumann algebra of type I, Theorem 3.5 of [4] shows that a derivation on the algebra $LS(\mathcal{R})$ is an inner derivation if and only if it is identically zero on the center of \mathcal{R} .

As a direct application of Corollary 2.3, we obtain the following result.

Corollary 2.5 *Let \mathcal{R} be a finite von Neumann algebra of type I with center \mathcal{Z} . Then every derivation D on the algebra $LS(\mathcal{R})$ is inner if and only if the lattice $\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{P}}$ of all projections in \mathcal{Z} is atomic.*

Proof Let \mathcal{R} be a finite von Neumann algebra of type I with center \mathcal{Z} . There exists a family $\{e_n\}_{n \in \mathcal{F}}, \mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathbb{N}$, of central projections from \mathcal{R} with $\bigvee_{n \in \mathcal{F}} e_n = 1$ such that the algebra \mathcal{R} is $*$ -isomorphic with the C^* -product of von Neumann algebras $e_n \mathcal{R}$ of type I_n , respectively, $n \in \mathcal{F}$, i.e., $\mathcal{R} \cong \bigoplus_{n \in \mathcal{F}} e_n \mathcal{R}$. By Proposition 1.1 of [1], we have that $LS(\mathcal{R}) \cong \prod_{n \in \mathcal{F}} LS(e_n \mathcal{R})$.

Suppose that D is a derivation on $LS(\mathcal{R})$ and δ its restriction onto the center $S(\mathcal{Z})$. Since δ maps each $e_n S(\mathcal{Z})$ into itself, δ generates a derivation δ_n on $e_n S(\mathcal{Z})$ for each $n \in \mathcal{F}$. By Proposition 1.5 of [1], $LS(e_n \mathcal{R}) \cong M_n(e_n S(\mathcal{Z}))$. Let $\bar{\delta}_n$ be the derivation on the matrix algebra $M_n(e_n S(\mathcal{Z}))$ defined as in (1.1). Put

$$\bar{\delta}(\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathcal{F}}) = \{\bar{\delta}_n(x_n)\}, \quad \{x_n\}_{n \in \mathcal{F}} \in LS(\mathcal{R}). \tag{2.8}$$

Then the map $\bar{\delta}$ is a derivation on $LS(\mathcal{R})$. Lemma 2.3 of [1] implies that each derivation D on $LS(\mathcal{R})$ can be uniquely represented in the form $D = D_B + \bar{\delta}$, where D_B is an inner derivation and $\bar{\delta}$ is a derivation given as (2.8).

If D is an arbitrary derivation on $LS(\mathcal{R})$ and δ its restriction onto center $S(\mathcal{Z})$, by Theorem 3.4 of [9], the lattice $\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{P}}$ is atomic if and only if $\delta = 0$. We have $\delta = 0$ if and only if $\delta_n = 0$ for each $n \in \mathcal{F}$. By Corollary 2.3, $\delta_n = 0$ if and only if $\bar{\delta}_n = 0$ for each $n \in \mathcal{F}$. By equality (2.8), $\bar{\delta}_n = 0$ for each $n \in \mathcal{F}$ if and only if $\bar{\delta} = 0$. Therefore, every derivation on the algebra $LS(\mathcal{R})$ is inner derivation if and only if the lattice $\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{P}}$ of all projections in \mathcal{Z} is atomic. The proof is complete. \square

Let \mathcal{R} be a properly infinite von Neumann algebra and \mathcal{M} be a \mathcal{R} -bimodule of locally measurable operators. In [10], the authors show that every derivation $D : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ is an inner derivation. In the case of \mathcal{R} is a finite von Neumann algebra of type I, we obtain the following result.

Theorem 2.6 *Let \mathcal{R} be a finite von Neumann algebra of type I with center \mathcal{Z} . If the lattice $\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{P}}$ of all projections in \mathcal{Z} is atomic, then every derivation $D : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow LS(\mathcal{R})$ is an inner derivation.*

Proof Choose a central decomposition $\{e_n\}_{n \in \mathcal{F}}$, $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \mathbb{N}$, of the unity 1 such that $e_n \mathcal{R}$ is a type I_n von Neumann algebra for each $n \in \mathcal{F}$. By hypothesis, it is easy to check that $D(e_n \mathcal{R}) \subseteq e_n LS(\mathcal{R})$ for each $n \in \mathcal{F}$. Thus, we only need to show that the derivation D restricted to $e_n \mathcal{R}$ is an inner derivation for each $n \in \mathcal{F}$.

Let $e_n \mathcal{R}$ be a type I_n ($n \in \mathcal{F}$) von Neumann algebra with center $e_n \mathcal{Z}$. It is well known that $e_n \mathcal{R} \cong M_n(e_n \mathcal{Z})$. We denote the center of $S(e_n \mathcal{R})$ by $\mathcal{Z}(S(e_n \mathcal{R}))$. By Proposition 1.2 of [1], we have $\mathcal{Z}(S(e_n \mathcal{R})) = S(e_n \mathcal{Z})$. By Proposition 1.5 of [1], $LS(e_n \mathcal{R}) = S(e_n \mathcal{R}) \cong M_n(S(e_n \mathcal{Z}))$.

By assumption, the lattice $\mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{P}}$ of all projections in \mathcal{Z} is atomic. This implies that the lattice $e_n \mathcal{Z}_{\mathcal{P}}$ is also atomic for each $n \in \mathcal{F}$. Statements (ii) of Proposition 2.3 and (vi) of Proposition 2.6 of [9] imply that every derivation $\delta : e_n \mathcal{Z} \rightarrow S(e_n \mathcal{Z})$ is trivial. By Corollary 2.3, we have that every derivation from $M_n(e_n \mathcal{Z})$ into $M_n(S(e_n \mathcal{Z}))$ is inner. The proof is complete. \square

3 2-Local Derivations

This section is devoted to 2-local inner derivations and 2-local derivations from $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ into $M_n(\mathcal{M})$. Throughout this section, we always assume that $\Delta : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$ is a 2-local derivation. Firstly, we give the following lemma.

Lemma 3.1 *For every 2-local derivation $\Delta : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, there exists a derivation $D : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$ such that $\Delta(E_{ij}) = D(E_{ij})$ for all $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. In particular, if Δ is a 2-local inner derivation, then D is an inner derivation.*

Proof Let $\Delta : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, be a 2-local derivation. By Theorem 2.1, with the proof similar to the proof of Theorem 3 in [13], it is easy to check that there exists a derivation D such that $\Delta(E_{ij}) = D(E_{ij})$ for all $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.

Let Δ be an inner 2-local derivation. We define two matrices S, T in $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ by

$$S = \sum_{i=1}^n i1 \otimes E_{ii}, \quad T = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} E_{ii+1}.$$

By assumption, there exists an inner derivation $D : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$ such that

$$\Delta(S) = D(S), \quad \Delta(T) = D(T).$$

Replacing Δ by $\Delta - D$ if necessary, we may assume that $\Delta(S) = \Delta(T) = 0$. Fixed $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, by assumption, we can take two elements X, Y in $M_n(\mathcal{M})$ such that

$$\Delta(E_{ij}) = XE_{ij} - E_{ij}X, \quad 0 = \Delta(S) = XS - SX,$$

and

$$\Delta(E_{ij}) = YE_{ij} - E_{ij}Y, \quad 0 = \Delta(T) = YT - TY.$$

It follows from $XS = SX$ that X is a diagonal matrix. We denote X by $\text{diag}(x_k)$. The equality $YT = TY$ implies that Y is of the form

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 & y_2 & y_3 & \cdot & \cdot & y_n \\ 0 & y_1 & y_2 & \cdot & \cdot & y_{n-1} \\ 0 & 0 & y_1 & \cdot & \cdot & y_{n-2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \cdot & y_1 & y_2 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \cdot & 0 & y_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

On the one side, we have

$$\Delta(E_{ij}) = XE_{ij} - E_{ij}X = \text{diag}(x_k)E_{ij} - E_{ij}\text{diag}(x_k) = (x_i - x_j) \otimes E_{ij}.$$

On the other side, we have

$$[\Delta(E_{ij})]_{ij} = [YE_{ij} - E_{ij}Y]_{ij} = 0.$$

Therefore, $\Delta(E_{ij}) = 0$. The proof is complete. □

Theorem 3.2 *Suppose that \mathcal{A} commutes with \mathcal{M} . Then every 2-local inner derivation $\Delta : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, is an inner derivation.*

Proof By Lemma 3.1, we may assume that $\Delta(E_{ij}) = 0$ for all $i, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. For any $A \in M_n(\mathcal{A})$, we take a pair (j, i) , $j, i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, by assumption, there exists an inner derivation D_B , such that $\Delta(A) = D_B(A)$ and $0 = \Delta(E_{ij}) = D_B(E_{ij})$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} E_{ij} \Delta(A) E_{ij} &= E_{ij} D_B(A) E_{ij} \\ &= D_B(E_{ij} A E_{ij}) - D_B(E_{ij}) A E_{ij} - E_{ij} A D_B(E_{ij}) = D_B(E_{ij} A E_{ij}) \\ &= D_B(A_{ji} \otimes E_{ij}) = D_B(\text{diag}(A_{ji}, \dots, A_{ji}) E_{ij}) \\ &= D_B(\text{diag}(A_{ji}, \dots, A_{ji})) E_{ij} + \text{diag}(A_{ji}, \dots, A_{ji}) D_B(E_{ij}) \\ &= (B \text{diag}(A_{ji}, \dots, A_{ji}) - \text{diag}(A_{ji}, \dots, A_{ji}) B) E_{ij} \\ &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

i.e.,
$$E_{ij} \Delta(A) E_{ij} = 0.$$

Therefore,

$$E_{ji}(E_{ij} \Delta(A) E_{ij}) E_{ji} = E_{jj} \Delta(A) E_{ii} = 0,$$

i.e.,
$$[\Delta(A)]_{ji} = 0,$$

for every $j, i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. Hence $\Delta(A) = 0$. The proof is complete. □

Corollary 3.3 *Suppose that \mathcal{A} is a unital commutative algebra over \mathbb{C} . Then every 2-local inner derivation $\Delta : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{A})$, $n \geq 2$, is an inner derivation.*

Remark 3.4 The above result is proved in [8]. By comparison, our proof is more simple.

Suppose that \mathcal{A} is an algebra over \mathbb{C} and \mathcal{B} is a unital subalgebra in \mathcal{A} . We denote the commutant of \mathcal{B} by $\mathcal{B}' = \{a \in \mathcal{A} : ab = ba, \text{ for every } b \in \mathcal{B}\}$. Let \mathcal{C} be a submodule in \mathcal{B}' . It follows from Theorem 3.2 that

Corollary 3.5 *Every 2-local inner derivation $\Delta : M_n(\mathcal{B}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{C})$, $n \geq 2$, is an inner derivation.*

Theorem 3.6 *Suppose that \mathcal{A} is a commutative algebra which commutes with \mathcal{M} . Then every 2-local derivation $\Delta : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$, $n \geq 2$, is a derivation.*

Proof The proof is similar to the proof of Theorem 4.3 in [5]. We leave it to the reader. □

Corollary 3.7 *Suppose that \mathcal{A} is a unital commutative algebra over \mathbb{C} . Then every 2-local derivation $\Delta : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{A})$, $n \geq 2$, is a derivation.*

If \mathcal{A} is a non-commutative algebra, by Theorem 2.1 every derivation from $M_n(\mathcal{A})$ into $M_n(\mathcal{M})$ ($n \geq 2$) can be represented as a sum $D = D_B + \bar{\delta}$. In [7], the authors apply this representation of derivation to prove the following result.

Theorem 3.8 ([7], Theorem 2.1) *Let \mathcal{A} be a unital Banach algebra and \mathcal{M} be a unital \mathcal{A} -bimodule. If every Jordan derivation from \mathcal{A} into \mathcal{M} is a derivation, then every 2-local derivation $\Delta : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{A})$, $n \geq 3$, is a derivation.*

Theorem 3.9 *Let \mathcal{A} be a unital Banach algebra and \mathcal{M} be a unital \mathcal{A} -bimodule. If $n \geq 6$ is a positive integer but not a prime number, then every 2-local derivation $\Delta : M_n(\mathcal{A}) \rightarrow M_n(\mathcal{M})$ is a derivation.*

Proof Suppose that $n = rk$, where $r \geq 3$ and $k \geq 2$. Then $M_n(\mathcal{A}) \cong M_r(M_k(\mathcal{A}))$ and $M_n(\mathcal{M}) \cong M_r(M_k(\mathcal{M}))$. In [2], the author proves that every Jordan derivation from $M_k(\mathcal{A})$ into $M_k(\mathcal{M})$ ($k \geq 2$) is a derivation ([2], Theorem 3.1). By Theorem 3.8, the proof is complete. \square

Let \mathcal{R} be a type I_n ($n \geq 2$) von Neumann algebra with center \mathcal{Z} and τ be a faithful normal semi-finite trace on \mathcal{R} . We denote the centers of $S(\mathcal{R})$ and $S(\mathcal{R}, \tau)$ by $\mathcal{Z}(S(\mathcal{R}))$ and $\mathcal{Z}(S(\mathcal{R}, \tau))$, respectively. By Proposition 1.2 of [1], we have $\mathcal{Z}(S(\mathcal{R})) = S(\mathcal{Z})$ and $\mathcal{Z}(S(\mathcal{R}, \tau)) = S(\mathcal{Z}, \tau_{\mathcal{Z}})$, where $\tau_{\mathcal{Z}}$ is the restriction of the trace τ on \mathcal{Z} . By Propositions 1.4 and 1.5 of [1], $S(\mathcal{R}) = LS(\mathcal{R}) \cong M_n(S(\mathcal{Z}))$ and $S(\mathcal{R}, \tau) \cong M_n(S(\mathcal{Z}, \tau_{\mathcal{Z}}))$.

As a direct application of Theorem 3.6, we have the following corollary.

Corollary 3.10 *Suppose that \mathcal{R} is a type I_n , $n \geq 2$, von Neumann algebra and τ is a faithful normal semi-finite trace on \mathcal{R} . Then we have*

- (1) every 2-local derivation $\Delta : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow LS(\mathcal{R})$ is a derivation;
- (2) every 2-local derivation $\Delta : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow S(\mathcal{R}, \tau)$ is a derivation.

Lemma 3.11 *Let $\Delta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ be a 2-local derivation. If there exists a central idempotent e in \mathcal{A} which commutes with \mathcal{M} , then $\Delta(ea) = e\Delta(a)$, for each a in \mathcal{A} .*

Proof For any $a \in \mathcal{A}$, by assumption, there exists a derivation $\delta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ such that: $\Delta(ea) = \delta(ea)$, and $\Delta(a) = \delta(a)$. By assumption, e is a central idempotent in \mathcal{A} which commutes with \mathcal{M} , it follows that $\delta(e) = 0$. Then

$$\Delta(ea) = \delta(ea) = \delta(e)a + e\delta(a) = e\delta(a) = e\Delta(a).$$

The proof is complete. \square

Theorem 3.12 *Suppose that \mathcal{R} is a finite von Neumann algebra of type I without abelian direct summands. Then every 2-local derivation $\Delta : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow S(\mathcal{R}) = LS(\mathcal{R})$ is a derivation.*

Proof By assumption, \mathcal{R} is a finite von Neumann algebra of type I without abelian direct summands. Then there exists a family $\{P_n\}_{n \in F}$, $F \subseteq \mathbb{N} \setminus 1$, of orthogonal central

projections in \mathcal{R} with $\sum_{n \in F} P_n = 1$, such that the algebra \mathcal{R} is $*$ -isomorphic with the C^* -product of von Neumann algebras $P_n\mathcal{R}$ of type I_n , respectively, $n \in F$. Then

$$P_nLS(\mathcal{R}) = P_nS(\mathcal{R}) = S(P_n\mathcal{R}) \cong M_n(P_nZ(\mathcal{R})), \quad n \in F.$$

By Lemma 3.11, we have $\Delta(P_nA) = P_n\Delta(A)$, for all $A \in \mathcal{R}$ and each $n \in F$. This implies that Δ maps each $P_n\mathcal{R}$ into $P_nS(\mathcal{R})$. For each $n \in F$, we define $\Delta_n : P_n\mathcal{R} \rightarrow P_nS(\mathcal{R})$ by

$$\Delta_n(P_nA) = P_n\Delta(A), \quad A \in \mathcal{R}.$$

By assumption, it follows that Δ_n is a 2-local derivation from $P_n\mathcal{R}$ into $P_nS(\mathcal{R})$ for each $n \in F$. By (1) of Corollary 3.10, we have that Δ_n is a derivation for each $n \in F$. Since $\sum_{n \in F} P_n = 1$, it follows that Δ is a linear mapping. For any $A, B \in \mathcal{R}$, it follows Δ_n is a derivation for each $n \in F$ that

$$\begin{aligned} P_n\Delta(AB) &= \Delta_n(P_nAB) = \Delta_n(P_nA)P_nB + P_nA\Delta_n(P_nB) \\ &= P_n\Delta(A)B + P_nA\Delta(B) \\ &= P_n(\Delta(A)B + A\Delta(B)). \end{aligned}$$

By assumption, $\sum_{n \in F} P_n = 1$, we get

$$\Delta(AB) = \Delta(A)B + A\Delta(B).$$

Therefore, $\Delta : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow S(\mathcal{R})$ is a derivation. The proof is complete. □

Ayupov et al. [7] have proved the following result. Now we give a different proof.

Theorem 3.13 ([7], Theorem 3.1) *Let \mathcal{R} be an arbitrary von Neumann algebra without abelian direct summands and $LS(\mathcal{R})$ be the algebra of all locally measurable operators affiliated with \mathcal{R} . Then every 2-local derivation $\Delta : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow LS(\mathcal{R})$ is a derivation.*

Proof Let \mathcal{R} be an arbitrary von Neumann algebra without abelian direct summands. We know that \mathcal{R} can be decomposed along a central projection into the direct sum of von Neumann algebras of finite type I, type I_∞ , type II and type III. By Lemma 3.11, we may consider these cases separately.

If \mathcal{R} is a von Neumann algebra of finite type I, Theorem 3.12 shows that every 2-local derivation from \mathcal{R} into $LS(\mathcal{R})$ is a derivation.

If \mathcal{R} is a von Neumann algebra of types I_∞ , II or III, then the halving Lemma ([12], Lemma 6.3.3) for type I_∞ algebras and ([12], Lemma 6.5.6) for types II or III algebras implies that the unit of \mathcal{R} can be represented as a sum of mutually equivalent orthogonal projections e_1, e_2, \dots, e_6 in \mathcal{R} . It is well known that \mathcal{R} is isomorphic to $M_6(\mathcal{A})$, where $\mathcal{A} = e_1\mathcal{R}e_1$. Further, the algebra $LS(\mathcal{R})$ is isomorphic to the algebra $M_6(LS(\mathcal{A}))$. Theorem 3.9 implies that every 2-local derivation from \mathcal{R} into $LS(\mathcal{R})$ is a derivation. The proof is complete. □

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