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# THE STRUCTURE OF DERIVATIONS FROM A FULL MATRIX ALGEBRA INTO ITS DUAL\*

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**Abstract** – Let A be a unital algebra over a field of characteristic zero. We show that every derivation from  $M_n(A)$  into its dual  $M_n(A)^*$  is the sum of an inner derivation and a derivation induced by a derivation from A into  $A^*$ .

**Keywords** – Derivation, full matrix algebra, dual space

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Throughout A is a unital algebra over a field of characteristic zero and M is an A-bimodule. We denote the full matrix algebra of  $n \times n$  matrices over A with the usual operations by  $M_n(A)$ .  $E_{ij}$  s,  $1 \le i, j \le n$  are also usual matrix units in  $M_n(A)$ . For all  $x \in A$  we display matrix whose (i, j) th entry is x and zero elsewhere, by  $x \otimes E_{ij}$ . The dual  $A^*$  of A is the set of all linear maps from A into its field. We denote the action of an element  $g \in A^*$  on an element  $a \in A$  with  $a \in A$  with  $a \in A$  with  $a \in A$  with  $a \in A$  is an  $a \in A$ -bimodule with the following module operations:

$$\langle a, f, b \rangle = \langle f, ba \rangle \text{ and } \langle f, a, b \rangle = \langle f, ab \rangle, \forall a, b \in A, f \in A^*.$$

A derivation  $D: A \to M$  is a linear map which satisfies the identity D(ab) = D(a)b + aD(b)  $a,b \in A$ . We say that D is inner if there exists  $m \in M$  such that D(a) = am - ma for all  $a \in A$ . Every derivation  $D: A \to M$  induces a derivation  $\overline{D}: M_n(A) \to M_n(M)$  by  $\overline{D}((a_{ij})) = (D(a_{ij}))$ .

Benkart and Osborn [1] characterized derivations of  $M_n(A)$ , where A is a unital nonassociative algebra with char(A)  $\neq 2,3$  and n>2. They showed that every derivation of  $M_n(A)$  is a sum of an inner derivation generated by a matrix with entries in the nucleus N of A, and a derivation induced by a derivation of A. A similar result for full matrix rings was proved in [2]. The case of the centers of upper triangular matrix rings over simple algebras which are finite dimensional modulo, was discussed in [3]. Coelho and Milies in [4] proved a similar result for upper triangular matrices over an arbitrary ring with identity. Jondrup gave a new proof of the latter result in [5].

In this article we prove an analog of the above mentioned result for derivations from  $M_n(A)$  into its dual  $M_n(A)^*$ . In other words, we prove the following theorem.

**Theorem:** Every derivation from  $M_n(A)$  into its dual  $M_n(A)^*$  is the sum of an inner derivation and a derivation induced by a derivation from A into  $A^*$ .

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## 2. MAIN RESULT

Let  $g \in M_n(A)^*$  and  $1 \le i, j \le n$ . Define  $g_{ij} \in A^*$  by  $\langle g_{ij}, a \rangle = \langle g, a \otimes E_{ij} \rangle$ . We can identify  $M_n(A)^*$  with  $M_n(A^*)$  via the map

$$\phi: M_n(A)^* \to M_n(A^*), \quad g \mapsto (g_{ii}).$$

From now on we display  $g \in M_n(A)^*$  by  $(g_{ij})$ . For all  $(a_{ij}) \in M_n(A)$  we have

$$< g, (a_{ij}) > = < (g_{ij}), (a_{ij}) > = \sum_{i,j=1}^{n} < g_{ij}, a_{ij} > .$$

**Theorem:** Every derivation from  $M_n(A)$  into its dual  $M_n(A)^*$  is the sum of an inner derivation and a derivation induced by a derivation from A into  $A^*$ .

**Proof:** Let  $(f_{ii}) \in M_n(A)^*$ ,  $(a_{ii}) \in M_n(A)$  and  $a \in A$ . Then we have

$$<(f_{ij})(a_{ij}), a \otimes E_{kl}> = <(f_{ij}), (a_{ij})[a \otimes E_{kl}]> = <(f_{ij}), \sum_{s=1}^{n} [a_{sk}a \otimes E_{sl}]> = \sum_{s=1}^{n} < f_{sl}, a_{sk}a> = <\sum_{s=1}^{n} f_{sl}a_{sk}, a>.$$

Thus

$$[(f_{ij})(a_{ij})]_{kl} = \sum_{s=1}^{n} f_{sl} a_{sk}.$$
 (1)

Similarly, we have:

$$[(a_{ij})(f_{ij})]_{kl} = \sum_{s=1}^{n} a_{ls} f_{ks}.$$
 (2)

Suppose  $D: M_n(A) \to M_n(A)^*$  is a derivation. Define

$$D_{ii}^{kl}: A \to A^*, \ D_{ii}^{kl}(a) = [D(a \otimes E_{ii})]_{kl}, \ 1 \le i, j, k, l \le n.$$
(3)

From (1) and (2) we conclude that for every  $a, b \in A$  and every positive integer  $m \le n$  the following equality holds:

$$[D(a \otimes E_{im})[b \otimes E_{mj}]]_{kl} = \sum_{r=1}^{n} D_{im}^{rl}(a)b\delta_{mr}\delta_{jk} = D_{im}^{ml}(a)b\delta_{jk}$$

$$(4)$$

Where  $\delta$  is the Kronecker's delta. Similarly, we have

$$[[a \otimes E_{im}]D(b \otimes E_{mj})]_{kl} = \sum_{r=1}^{n} a \delta_{il} \delta_{mr} D_{mj}^{kr}(b) = a \delta_{il} D_{mj}^{km}(b).$$
 (5)

From (4) and (5) we conclude that

$$D_{ij}^{kl}(ab) = D_{im}^{ml}(a)b\delta_{jk} + a\delta_{il}D_{mj}^{km}(b).$$
 (6)

Therefore  $D_{ii}^{ii}$  is a derivation from A to  $A^*$ , for  $1 \le i \le n$ . Using (6) we have

The structure of derivations from ...

$$D_{ii}^{jl}(a) = D_{ii}^{il}(1)a, \ D_{ii}^{ki}(a) = aD_{ii}^{kj}(1) \qquad a \in A, \ i \neq l, \ k \neq j.$$
 (7)

Again, using (6) for every  $0 \le i, j, l \le n$ , the following equalities hold.

$$D_{ij}^{ij}(a) = D_{ji}^{ij}(1)a + D_{ij}^{ji}(a).$$
 (8)

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$$D_{ii}^{ji}(a) = D_{il}^{li}(1)a + D_{li}^{jl}(a).$$
(9)

$$D_{ii}^{jl}(a) = D_{ii}^{ll}(a) + aD_{ii}^{jl}(1).$$
(10)

$$D_{ii}^{ij}(a) = aD_{ii}^{ij}(1) + D_{ii}^{ij}(a).$$
(11)

From (8) we have

$$D_{ii}^{ij}(1) = -D_{ii}^{ji}(1). (12)$$

Also, from (9), (10) and (12) we have

$$D_{ij}^{ji}(a) = D_{il}^{li}(1)a - aD_{jl}^{lj}(1) + D_{ll}^{ll}(a).$$
(13)

Using (8) and (11) we conclude that

$$D_{ii}^{ji}(a) = D_{ii}^{ij}(a) - D_{ii}^{ij}(1)a - aD_{ii}^{ij}(1)$$
(14)

In addition, using (6), (7) and (14) we obtain

$$[D((a_{rs}))]_{ij} = \sum_{k,l=1}^{n} D_{kl}^{ij}(a_{kl})$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{n} D_{ki}^{ij}(1)a_{ki} + \sum_{l=1}^{n} a_{jl}D_{jl}^{ij}(1) - D_{ji}^{ij}(1)a_{ji} - a_{ji}D_{ji}^{ij}(1) + D_{ji}^{ij}(a_{ji})$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{n} D_{kk}^{kj}(1)a_{ki} + \sum_{k=1}^{n} a_{jk}D_{kk}^{ik}(1) + D_{ij}^{ji}(a_{ji}).$$
(15)

On the other hand, we have

$$0 = [D(E_{kk}E_{ii})]_{ik} = \sum_{s=1}^{n} D_{kk}^{sk}(1)\delta_{si} + \sum_{s=1}^{n} \delta_{ks}D_{ii}^{is}(1) = D_{kk}^{ik}(1) + D_{ii}^{ik}(1).$$
 (16)

Therefore,

$$D_{kk}^{ik}(1) = -D_{ii}^{ik}(1). (17)$$

Now, for  $1 \le k$ ,  $j \le n$  define  $D_{kj} = D_{kk}^{kj}$ . From (15) and (17) we conclude that

$$[(D(a_{rs}))]_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{n} D_{kj}(1)a_{ki} - \sum_{k=1}^{n} a_{jk}D_{ik}(1) + D_{ij}^{ji}(a_{ji})$$

$$= [(D_{rs}(1))(a_{rs}) - (a_{rs})(D_{rs}(1))]_{ij} + D_{ij}^{ji}(a_{ji}).$$
(18)

Using (13) and (18) for every  $1 \le l \le n$  we obtain

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$$D((a_{ij})) = [(D_{ij}(1)) + diag(D_{1l}^{l1}(1),...,D_{nl}^{ln}(1))](a_{ij})$$
$$-(a_{ij})[(D_{ij}(1)) + diag(D_{1l}^{l1}(1),...,D_{nl}^{ln}(1))] + \overline{D_{ll}^{ll}}((a_{ij})).$$

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