

## THE STRUCTURE OF 2-LOCAL LIE DERIVATIONS ON VON NEUMANN ALGEBRAS

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Communicated by Q.-W. Wang

ABSTRACT. In this article we characterize the form of each 2-local Lie derivation on a von Neumann algebra without central summands of type  $I_1$ . We deduce that every 2-local Lie derivation  $\delta$  on a finite von Neumann algebra  $\mathcal{M}$  without central summands of type  $I_1$  can be written in the form  $\delta(A) = AE - EA + h(A)$  for all  $A$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ , where  $E$  is an element in  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $h$  is a center-valued homogenous mapping which annihilates each commutator of  $\mathcal{M}$ . In particular, every linear 2-local Lie derivation is a Lie derivation on a finite von Neumann algebra without central summands of type  $I_1$ . We also show that every 2-local Lie derivation on a properly infinite von Neumann algebra is a Lie derivation.

### 1. Introduction and preliminaries

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a complex linear algebra, and let  $\mathcal{X}$  be an  $\mathcal{A}$ -bimodule. Recall that a linear map  $d$  from  $\mathcal{A}$  into  $\mathcal{X}$  is called a *derivation* if  $d(AB) = d(A)B + Ad(B)$  for all  $A, B$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Obviously, given an element  $A$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ , if  $d_A(X) = [A, X] = AX - XA$  for all  $X$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ , then  $d_A$  is a derivation. Such a derivation is called *inner*. As is well known, every derivation on a von Neumann algebra is inner. More generally, a linear mapping  $\delta$  of an associative algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to be a *Lie derivation* if  $\delta([A, B]) = [\delta(A), B] + [A, \delta(B)]$  for all  $A, B$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ , where  $[A, B] = AB - BA$  is the usual Lie product. By [10], it follows that every Lie derivation  $\delta$  of a von Neumann algebra  $\mathcal{M}$  has the form  $\delta(A) = [A, S] + \tau(A)$ , where  $S$  is an element in

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Copyright 2019 by the Tusi Mathematical Research Group.

Received May 15, 2018; Accepted Aug. 29, 2018.

First published online Mar. 19, 2019.

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2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification*. Primary 47B47; Secondary 47C15.

*Keywords*. 2-local Lie derivations, Lie derivations, von Neumann algebras.

$\mathcal{M}$  and  $\tau$  is a center-valued linear mapping which annihilates each commutator of  $\mathcal{M}$ . Obviously, derivations of associative algebras are Lie derivations.

In the study of derivation theory, we cannot overstate the importance of establishing many sufficient conditions to ensure that a mapping on various algebras is a (Lie) derivation. We mention some remarkable results in this area. In the setting of linear mappings, Kadison in [6] first introduced the notion of a local derivation and also proved that every continuous local derivation from a von Neumann algebra into any of its Banach bimodules is a derivation. In [5], Johnson generalized Kadison's conclusion and showed that every local derivation from a  $C^*$ -algebra into any of its Banach bimodules is a derivation. In [3], Essaleh, Peralta, and Ramírez established the definition of a weak-local derivation—extending the notion of a local derivation—and proved that weak-local derivations on  $C^*$ -algebras are derivations. In the setting of nonlinear mappings, Šemrl in [14] defined the notion of a 2-local derivation as follows. A (not necessarily linear) mapping  $\Delta$  on a Banach algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is called a *2-local derivation* if for every  $A, B$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  there exists a derivation  $d_{A,B} : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ , depending on  $A$  and  $B$ , such that  $\Delta(A) = d_{A,B}(A)$  and  $\Delta(B) = d_{A,B}(B)$ . He also showed that every 2-local derivation on  $B(H)$  of all linear bounded operators on  $H$  is a derivation, where  $H$  is an infinite separable Hilbert space. Ayupov and Kudaybergenov showed in [1] that every 2-local derivation on an arbitrary von Neumann algebra is a derivation. (Whether or not a 2-local derivation is a derivation on a general  $C^*$ -algebra remains an open question.) In order to solve the problem, and motivated by the definitions of local derivations, weak-local derivations, and 2-local derivations, Niazi and Peralta in [11] introduced the definition of a weak-2-local derivation and proved that every weak-2-local  $*$ -derivation on  $M_n(\mathbb{C})$  is a  $*$ -derivation. Recently, Cabello and Peralta [2] characterized that every weak-2-local derivation on  $B(H)$ ,  $K(H)$  of all compact operators on  $H$ , where  $H$  is any complex Hilbert space, atomic von Neumann algebras, and compact  $C^*$ -algebras, is a derivation. In [16], Yang and Fang showed that weak-2-local derivations on finite von Neumann algebras are derivations.

Similarly, the notions of local and 2-local Lie derivations can be defined. Some contributions to local Lie derivations can be found in [7]. A (not necessarily linear) mapping  $\delta$  on a Banach algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is called a *2-local Lie derivation* if for every  $A, B$  in  $\mathcal{A}$  there exists a Lie derivation  $\delta_{A,B}$  on  $\mathcal{A}$ , depending on  $A$  and  $B$ , such that  $\delta(A) = \delta_{A,B}(A)$  and  $\delta(B) = \delta_{A,B}(B)$ . We note some new contributions to 2-local Lie derivations. Liu in [8] characterized 2-local Lie derivations on a semifinite factor von Neumann algebra and showed that every 2-local Lie derivation on a semifinite factor von Neumann algebra with dimension greater than 4 can be written in the form of an inner derivation by adding a center-valued homogenous mapping which annihilates each commutator. In their recent article [4], He, Li, An, and Huang showed that 2-local Lie derivations are Lie derivations on factor von Neumann algebras, uniformly hyperfinite algebras, and the Jiang–Su algebra, and they constructed an example of a (nonlinear) 2-local Lie derivation, but not a Lie derivation on a finite von Neumann algebra which is not a factor. It seems natural to consider the form of a 2-local Lie derivation on a general von Neumann

algebra which is not a factor and whether all linear 2-local Lie derivations on finite von Neumann algebras are Lie derivations.

In this article, we expect to obtain a complete characterization for proving problems in several cases. By [15], we know that every element in a properly infinite von Neumann algebra  $\mathcal{M}$  has the form  $\sum_{i=1}^n [A_i, B_i]$  for  $A_i, B_i \in \mathcal{M}$ ; then every 2-local Lie derivation on a properly infinite von Neumann algebra is a 2-local derivation. Therefore, every 2-local Lie derivation on a properly infinite von Neumann algebra is a derivation by [1]. Obviously, each derivation on a properly infinite von Neumann algebra is a Lie derivation. So we only consider each 2-local Lie derivation on a finite von Neumann algebra. In Theorem 2.1 we obtain that every 2-local Lie derivation  $\delta$  on a finite von Neumann algebra  $\mathcal{M}$  without central summands of type  $I_1$  can be written in the form  $\delta(A) = AE - EA + h(A)$  for all  $A$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ , where  $E$  is an element in  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $h$  is a center-valued homogenous mapping which annihilates each commutator of  $\mathcal{M}$ . In particular, every linear 2-local Lie derivation is a Lie derivation on a finite von Neumann algebra without central summands of type  $I_1$ .

## 2. Main results

Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a von Neumann algebra. Recall that the set  $Z(\mathcal{M}) = \{T \in \mathcal{M} : ST = TS \text{ for all } S \in \mathcal{M}\}$  is said to be the *center* of  $\mathcal{M}$ . For every  $A \in \mathcal{M}$ , the central carrier of  $A$ , denoted by  $c(A)$ , can be defined as the intersection of all central projections  $Q \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $QA = A$ . For each self-adjoint element  $A \in \mathcal{M}$ , the core of  $A$  is defined to be  $\sup\{T \in Z(\mathcal{M}) : T = T^*, T \leq A\}$ , denoted by  $\underline{A}$ . Furthermore, if  $P$  a projection and  $\underline{P} = 0$ , then  $P$  is said to be *core-free*. Obviously,  $\underline{P} = 0$  if and only if  $c(I - P) = I$ . It is well known that every finite von Neumann algebra has a separating family of normal tracial states. (We refer the reader to [12] for basic theories of von Neumann algebras involved in this article.)

The following is our main result.

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a finite von Neumann algebra without central summands of type  $I_1$ . Then every 2-local Lie derivation  $\delta : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  can be written in the form  $\delta(A) = AE - EA + h(A)$  for all  $A$  in  $\mathcal{M}$ , where  $E$  is an element in  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $h : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow Z(\mathcal{M})$  is a homogenous mapping which annihilates each commutator of  $\mathcal{M}$ .*

To prove Theorem 2.1, we need some lemmas.

**Lemma 2.2** ([9, Lemmas 4, 5, 14]). *Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a von Neumann algebra.*

- (1) *If  $\mathcal{M}$  has no central summands of type  $I_1$ , then each nonzero central projection of  $\mathcal{M}$  is the central carrier of a core-free projection of  $\mathcal{M}$ .*
- (2) *For projections  $P, Q \in \mathcal{M}$  with  $c(P) = c(Q) \neq 0$ , if  $A \in \mathcal{M}$  commutes with  $PXQ$  and  $QXP$  for all  $X \in \mathcal{M}$ , then  $A$  commutes with  $PXP$  and  $QXQ$  for all  $X \in \mathcal{M}$ .*
- (3) *If  $P$  is a core-free projection in  $\mathcal{M}$ , then  $PMP \cap Z(\mathcal{M}) = 0$ .*

**Lemma 2.3** ([12, Lemma 2.6.4]). *Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a von Neumann algebra. If  $A$  is a self-adjoint operator in  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $Z$  is a self-adjoint operator in  $Z(\mathcal{M})$ , then  $c(A + Z) = c(A) + Z$ . Moreover, if  $Z \geq 0$ , then  $c(AZ) = c(A)Z$ .*

**Lemma 2.4** ([13, Lemma 2.1]). *Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a von Neumann algebra without central summands of type  $I_1$  or type  $I_2$ . Suppose that  $L : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  is an additive map. Then  $L$  satisfies  $L([A, B]) = [L(A), B] + [A, L(B)]$  whenever  $[A, B] = 0$  if and only if there exists an element  $Z_0 \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$ , an additive derivation  $D : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$ , and an additive map  $h : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$  such that  $L(A) = D(A) + h(A) + Z_0A$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{M}$ .*

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a finite von Neumann algebra. If  $\delta : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$  is a 2-local Lie derivation, then  $\delta(\lambda A) = \lambda\delta(A)$  and  $\delta(A + B) - \delta(A) - \delta(B) \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$  for each  $A, B \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ .*

*Proof.* For each  $A \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , by definition we easily have  $\delta(\lambda A) = \delta_{A, \lambda A}(\lambda A) = \lambda\delta_{A, \lambda A}(A) = \lambda\delta(A)$ .

Let  $P$  be a projection in  $\mathcal{M}$ , and denote  $P^\perp = I - P$ . Let  $\Gamma$  be the set of a separating family of normal tracial states on  $\mathcal{M}$ . Given  $A, X \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $\tau \in \Gamma$ , there exist an element  $T_{A, PXP^\perp}$ , depending on  $A$  and  $PXP^\perp$ , and a linear mapping  $h_{A, PXP^\perp}$  from  $\mathcal{M}$  into  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$  annihilating each commutator such that

$$\delta(A) = [A, T_{A, PXP^\perp}] + h_{A, PXP^\perp}(A)$$

and

$$\delta(PXP^\perp) = [PXP^\perp, T_{A, PXP^\perp}].$$

Noting that

$$\begin{aligned} & (\delta(A) - h_{A, PXP^\perp}(A))PXP^\perp + A\delta(PXP^\perp) \\ &= [A, T_{A, PXP^\perp}]PXP^\perp + A[PXP^\perp, T_{A, PXP^\perp}] \\ &= [APXP^\perp, T_{A, PXP^\perp}], \end{aligned}$$

we obtain

$$\tau((\delta(A) - h_{A, PXP^\perp}(A))PXP^\perp) + \tau(A\delta(PXP^\perp)) = 0;$$

that is,

$$\tau(\delta(A)PXP^\perp) = -\tau(A\delta(PXP^\perp)).$$

For arbitrary  $A, B \in \mathcal{M}$ , we then have

$$\begin{aligned} \tau(\delta(A + B)PXP^\perp) &= -\tau((A + B)\delta(PXP^\perp)) \\ &= -\tau(A\delta(PXP^\perp)) - \tau(B\delta(PXP^\perp)) \\ &= \tau(\delta(A)PXP^\perp) + \tau(\delta(B)PXP^\perp) \\ &= \tau((\delta(A) + \delta(B))PXP^\perp). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\tau((\delta(A + B) - \delta(A) - \delta(B))PXP^\perp) = 0.$$

Denote  $Y = \delta(A + B) - \delta(A) - \delta(B)$ . Then

$$\tau(YPXP^\perp) = 0. \tag{2.1}$$

Let  $X = Y^*$  in (2.1). Then

$$\tau(P^\perp Y P (P^\perp Y P)^*) = \tau(Y P Y^* P^\perp) = 0.$$

Since the trace  $\tau$  is arbitrary in  $\Gamma$ , it implies that  $P^\perp Y P = 0$ . Therefore, by the arbitrariness of  $P$ ,  $PY = YP$  for all  $P \in \mathcal{M}$ . Since each self-adjoint operator is the norm limit of finite linear combinations of projections in von Neumann algebras, we obtain that  $AY = YA$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{M}$ . Therefore,  $\delta(A + B) - \delta(A) - \delta(B) \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$  for all  $A, B \in \mathcal{M}$ .  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 2.1.* By Lemma 2.2, we can find out a nontrivial core-free projection  $P_1$  with  $c(P_1) = I$ . Denote  $P_2 = I - P_1$ . Moreover, by the definition of central core and central carrier, we can obtain that  $P_2$  is also core-free and  $c(P_2) = I$ . Let  $\mathcal{M}_{ij} = P_i \mathcal{M} P_j$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2$ . Then  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{M}_{11} + \mathcal{M}_{12} + \mathcal{M}_{21} + \mathcal{M}_{22}$  and each element  $A \in \mathcal{M}$  can be represented as  $A = A_{11} + A_{12} + A_{21} + A_{22}$ , where  $A_{ij} = P_i A P_j$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2$ . We will finish the proof of our main theorem by considering a number of steps.

**Claim 1.** *There exists an element  $T_0 \in \mathcal{M}$  such that  $\delta(P_1) - [P_1, T_0] \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$ , and  $\delta(A_{ij}) = P_i \delta(A_{ij}) P_j + [A_{ij}, T_0]$  for all  $A_{ij} \in \mathcal{M}_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq i \neq j \leq 2$ ).*

For each  $A_{12} \in \mathcal{M}_{12}$ , note that  $A_{12} = [P_1, A_{12}]$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(A_{12}) &= \delta_{P_1, A_{12}}([P_1, A_{12}]) \\ &= [\delta_{P_1, A_{12}}(P_1), A_{12}] + [P_1, \delta_{P_1, A_{12}}(A_{12})] \\ &= [\delta(P_1), A_{12}] + [P_1, \delta(A_{12})] \\ &= \delta(P_1)A_{12} - A_{12}\delta(P_1) + P_1\delta(A_{12}) - \delta(A_{12})P_1. \end{aligned} \tag{2.2}$$

Furthermore, by multiplying (2.2) on left-hand side by  $P_i$  and on the right-hand side by  $P_j$  ( $1 \leq i \neq j \leq 2$ ), we deduce that

$$P_1\delta(P_1)P_1A_{12} = A_{12}P_2\delta(P_1)P_2 \tag{2.3}$$

and

$$P_2\delta(A_{12})P_1 = 0. \tag{2.4}$$

Similarly, for each  $A_{21} \in \mathcal{M}_{21}$ , we also have

$$\delta(A_{21}) = \delta(A_{21})P_1 - P_1\delta(A_{21}) + A_{21}\delta(P_1) - \delta(P_1)A_{21}. \tag{2.5}$$

By multiplying (2.5) on the left-hand side by  $P_j$  and on the right-hand side by  $P_i$  ( $1 \leq i \neq j \leq 2$ ), we also deduce that

$$A_{21}P_1\delta(P_1)P_1 = P_2\delta(P_1)P_2A_{21} \tag{2.6}$$

and

$$P_1\delta(A_{21})P_2 = 0.$$

Hence, by (2.3) and (2.6), we obtain that

$$[P_1\delta(P_1)P_1 + P_2\delta(P_1)P_2, A_{12}] = [P_1\delta(P_1)P_1 + P_2\delta(P_1)P_2, A_{21}] = 0.$$

From Lemma 2.2(2), it follows that

$$P_1\delta(P_1)P_1 + P_2\delta(P_1)P_2 \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M}).$$

Now we denote  $T_0 = P_1\delta(P_1)P_2 - P_2\delta(P_1)P_1$ . Then

$$\delta(P_1) - [P_1, T_0] = P_1\delta(P_1)P_1 + P_2\delta(P_1)P_2 \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M}).$$

Since  $[A_{12}, T_0] = -A_{12}P_2\delta(P_1)P_1 + P_2\delta(P_1)P_1A_{12}$ , (2.3) implies that

$$\begin{aligned} [A_{12}, T_0] &= -A_{12}P_2\delta(P_1)P_1 + P_2\delta(P_1)P_1A_{12} + P_1\delta(P_1)P_1A_{12} - A_{12}P_2\delta(P_1)P_2 \\ &= \delta(P_1)A_{12} - A_{12}\delta(P_1). \end{aligned}$$

Thus, by (2.2) and (2.4), we have proved that  $\delta(A_{12}) = P_1\delta(A_{12})P_2 + [A_{12}, T_0]$ . By the same argument as that used above, we can get  $\delta(A_{21}) = P_2\delta(A_{21})P_1 + [A_{21}, T_0]$ .

*Remark 1.* Let  $\delta_{T_0}(A) = [A, T_0]$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{M}$ . Then  $\delta_{T_0}$  is an inner derivation on  $\mathcal{M}$ . Denote  $\phi = \delta - \delta_{T_0}$ . Then it is easy to verify that  $\phi$  is a 2-local Lie derivation.

**Claim 2.** *We have  $\phi(P_1) \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$  and  $\phi(A_{ij}) \in \mathcal{M}_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq i \neq j \leq 2$ ).*

From Claim 1, we can get  $\phi(P_1) \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$  and  $\phi(A_{ij}) \in \mathcal{M}_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq i \neq j \leq 2$ ).

**Claim 3.** *We have  $\phi(P_2) \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$ .*

Note that  $A_{12} = [A_{12}, P_2]$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(A_{12}) &= \phi_{A_{12}, P_2}(A_{12}) \\ &= \phi_{A_{12}, P_2}([A_{12}, P_2]) \\ &= [\phi_{A_{12}, P_2}(A_{12}), P_2] + [A_{12}, \phi_{A_{12}, P_2}(P_2)] \\ &= [\phi(A_{12}), P_2] + [A_{12}, \phi(P_2)]. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by Claim 2, we deduce that  $[A_{12}, \phi(P_2)] = 0$ . By the same argument as that used above, we can get  $[\phi(P_2), A_{21}] = 0$ . Thus, we can get  $\phi(P_2) \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$  by Lemma 2.2(2).

**Claim 4.** *For each  $A \in \mathcal{M}$ , if  $P_iAP_j = 0$  ( $1 \leq i \neq j \leq 2$ ), then  $P_i\phi(A)P_j = 0$  ( $1 \leq i \neq j \leq 2$ ).*

For each  $A \in \mathcal{M}$ , by assumption we have  $[P_i, A] = P_iA - AP_i = P_iAP_j - P_jAP_i = 0$ . Furthermore, Claims 2 and 3 imply that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \phi_{P_i, A}([P_i, A]) \\ &= [\phi_{P_i, A}(P_i), A] + [P_i, \phi_{P_i, A}(A)] \\ &= [P_i, \phi(A)], \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $P_i\phi(A) - \phi(A)P_i = 0$ . Hence, by multiplying the last equality on the right-hand side by  $P_j$ , we can get the desired equality.

**Claim 5.** *We have  $\phi(A_{ii}) \in \mathcal{M}_{ii} + \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ .*

For every  $A_{11} \in \mathcal{M}_{11}$ , denote  $\phi(A_{11}) = \sum_{i,j=1}^2 B_{ij}$ , where  $B_{ij} = P_i\phi(A_{11})P_j$  ( $1 \leq i, j \leq 2$ ). Then, by Claim 4,  $B_{12} = B_{21} = 0$ . For each  $S_{22} \in \mathcal{M}_{22}$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \phi_{A_{11}, S_{22}}([A_{11}, S_{22}]) \\ &= [\phi_{A_{11}, S_{22}}(A_{11}), S_{22}] + [A_{11}, \phi_{A_{11}, S_{22}}(S_{22})] \\ &= B_{22}S_{22} - S_{22}B_{22} + A_{11}\phi(S_{22}) - \phi(S_{22})A_{11}. \end{aligned} \tag{2.7}$$

Furthermore, multiplying (2.7) from both sides by  $P_2$ , we deduce that

$$B_{22}S_{22} = S_{22}B_{22};$$

that is,

$$B_{22} = P_2Z_1$$

for some  $Z_1 \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$ . Thus  $\phi(A_{11}) = B_{11} - P_1Z_1 + Z_1 \in \mathcal{M}_{11} + \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$ . By the same argument as that used above, we can get  $\phi(A_{22}) \in \mathcal{M}_{22} + \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$ .

*Remark 2.* In fact, both  $B_{11}$  and  $Z_1$  in the Claim 6 are unique. Indeed, if  $\phi(A_{11}) = B_{11} + P_2Z_1$  and  $\phi(A_{11}) = \tilde{B}_{11} + P_2\tilde{Z}_1$ , then by multiplying the above equalities from both sides by  $P_1$ , we get  $B_{11} = \tilde{B}_{11}$ , which implies that  $P_2(Z_1 - \tilde{Z}_1) = 0$ . By Lemma 2.3, we can get  $c(P_2)(Z_1 - \tilde{Z}_1)(Z_1 - \tilde{Z}_1)^* = 0$ . Thus  $Z_1 - \tilde{Z}_1 = 0$  since  $c(P_2) = I$ . Then we can define a mapping  $f_i : \mathcal{M}_{ii} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$  by  $f_i(A_{ii}) = Z_i$  for all  $A_{ii} \in \mathcal{M}_{ii}$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ). Obviously,  $f_i$  is homogeneous. Indeed, it suffices to see that the case  $i = 1$  for all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}$ . We easily have  $f_1(\alpha A_{11})P_2 = \phi(\alpha A_{11})P_2 = \alpha\phi(A_{11})P_2 = \alpha f_1(A_{11})P_2$ . Therefore, by Lemma 2.3 and  $c(P_2) = I$ , we can get  $f_1(\alpha A_{11}) = \alpha f_1(A_{11})$ , as desired.

Now we define a homogeneous mapping  $\omega$  on  $\mathcal{M}$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \omega(A) &= \phi(P_1AP_1) + \phi(P_1AP_2) + \phi(P_2AP_1) + \phi(P_2AP_2) \\ &\quad - f_1(P_1AP_1) - f_2(P_2AP_2) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $A \in \mathcal{M}$ . Then, by Claims 2, 3, and 5, we get

- (1)  $\omega(P_i) = 0, i = 1, 2,$
- (2)  $\omega(A_{ij}) \in \mathcal{M}_{ij}, i, j = 1, 2,$
- (3)  $\omega(A_{ii}) = \phi(A_{ii}) - f_i(A_{ii})$  for each  $A_{ii} \in \mathcal{M}_{ii}, i = 1, 2,$
- (4)  $\omega(A_{ij}) = \phi(A_{ij}), 1 \leq i \neq j \leq 2.$

**Claim 6.** We have  $\omega(A_{ii} + B_{ii}) = \omega(A_{ii}) + \omega(B_{ii})$  for all  $A_{ii}, B_{ii} \in \mathcal{M}_{ii}$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ).

For all  $A_{ii}, B_{ii} \in \mathcal{M}_{ii}$ , by Lemma 2.5, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \omega(A_{ii} + B_{ii}) - \omega(A_{ii}) - \omega(B_{ii}) &= \phi(A_{ii} + B_{ii}) - \phi(A_{ii}) - \phi(B_{ii}) \\ &\quad - f_i(A_{ii} + B_{ii}) + f_i(A_{ii}) + f_i(B_{ii}) \\ &\in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M}). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\omega(A_{ii} + B_{ii}) - \omega(A_{ii}) - \omega(B_{ii}) \in \mathcal{M}_{ii}$ , it follows that  $\omega(A_{ii} + B_{ii}) - \omega(A_{ii}) - \omega(B_{ii}) \in \mathcal{M}_{ii} \cap \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$ . Thus, by Lemma 2.2(3), we can get  $\omega(A_{ii} + B_{ii}) - \omega(A_{ii}) - \omega(B_{ii}) = 0$ .

**Claim 7.** We have  $\omega(A_{ij} + B_{ij}) = \omega(A_{ij}) + \omega(B_{ij})$  for all  $A_{ij}, B_{ij} \in \mathcal{M}_{ij}$  ( $1 \leq i \neq j \leq 2$ ).

For all  $A_{12}, B_{12} \in \mathcal{M}_{12}$ , by Lemma 2.5 and Claims 2 and 3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \omega(A_{12} + B_{12}) &= \phi(A_{12} + B_{12}) \\ &= \phi_{A_{12}+B_{12}, P_2}([A_{12} + B_{12}, P_2]) \\ &= [\phi_{A_{12}+B_{12}, P_2}(A_{12} + B_{12}), P_2] + [A_{12} + B_{12}, \phi_{A_{12}+B_{12}, P_2}(P_2)] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= [\phi_{A_{12}+B_{12},P_2}(A_{12}) + \phi_{A_{12}+B_{12},P_2}(B_{12}), P_2] \\
&\quad + [A_{12} + B_{12}, \phi_{A_{12}+B_{12},P_2}(P_2)] \\
&= [\phi(A_{12}) + \phi(B_{12}), P_2] + [A_{12} + B_{12}, \phi(P_2)] \\
&= [\phi(A_{12}) + \phi(B_{12}), P_2] \\
&= \phi(A_{12}) + \phi(B_{12}) \\
&= \omega(A_{12}) + \omega(B_{12}).
\end{aligned}$$

**Claim 8.** *We have that  $[\omega(A), B] + [A, \omega(B)] = 0$  whenever  $[A, B] = 0$ .*

By Lemma 2.5, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &= \phi_{A,B}([A, B]) \\
&= [\phi_{A,B}(A), B] + [A, \phi_{A,B}(B)] \\
&= [\phi(A), B] + [A, \phi(B)] \\
&= [\phi(A_{11}) + \phi(A_{12}) + \phi(A_{21}) + \phi(A_{22}), B] \\
&\quad + [A, \phi(B_{11}) + \phi(B_{12}) + \phi(B_{21}) + \phi(B_{22})] \\
&= [\omega(A) + f_1(A_{11}) + f_2(A_{22}), B] + [A, \omega(B) + f_1(B_{11}) + f_2(B_{22})] \\
&= [\omega(A), B] + [A, \omega(B)].
\end{aligned}$$

By Claims 6 and 7, we easily obtain that  $\omega$  is linear. From Lemma 2.4 and Claim 8, it follows that there exists an element  $Z_0 \in \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$ , a derivation  $d$ , and a linear mapping  $h_1 : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$  such that  $\omega(A) = d(A) + h_1(A) + Z_0A$ . And we claim that  $Z_0 = 0$ . Indeed, by the properties of  $\omega$ ,  $0 = \omega(P_1) = d(P_1) + h_1(P_1) + Z_0P_1$ . Multiplying this identity on both sides by  $P_i$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ), we then obtain  $h_1(P_1)P_1 = -Z_0P_1$  and  $h_1(P_1)P_2 = 0$ , which yields  $Z_0 = 0$  by  $c(P_1) = c(P_2) = I$  and Lemma 2.3. Thus we get

$$\omega(A) = d(A) + h_1(A)$$

for all  $A \in \mathcal{M}$ .

We denote  $\delta_E = d + \delta_{T_0}$  and  $h(A) = h_1(A) + f_1(P_1AP_1) + f_2(P_2AP_2) + \phi(A) - \phi(P_1AP_1) - \phi(P_1AP_2) - \phi(P_2AP_1) - \phi(P_2AP_2)$ . Obviously, by Lemma 2.5,  $h$  is a center-valued homogenous mapping. Then the definition of  $\omega$  implies that

$$\begin{aligned}
\delta(A) &= \phi(A) + \delta_{T_0}(A) \\
&= \omega(A) + f_1(P_1AP_1) + f_2(P_2AP_2) + \phi(A) - \phi(P_1AP_1) \\
&\quad - \phi(P_1AP_2) - \phi(P_2AP_1) - \phi(P_2AP_2) + \delta_{T_0}(A) \\
&= d(A) + h_1(A) + f_1(P_1AP_1) + f_2(P_2AP_2) + \phi(A) - \phi(P_1AP_1) \\
&\quad - \phi(P_1AP_2) - \phi(P_2AP_1) - \phi(P_2AP_2) + \delta_{T_0}(A) \\
&= \delta_E(A) + h(A)
\end{aligned}$$

for all  $A \in \mathcal{M}$ .

Since every finite von Neumann algebra has a unique center-valued trace, it follows that each nonzero element in the center of  $\mathcal{Z}(\mathcal{M})$  cannot be the form



$\sum_{i=1}^n [A_i, B_i]$  for  $A_i, B_i \in \mathcal{M}$ . Then for every  $A \in \mathcal{M}$  and commutator  $X \in \mathcal{M}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} h(A + X) - h(A) &= \delta(A + X) - \delta_E(A + X) - \delta(A) + \delta_E(A) \\ &= [A + X, S_{A+X,A}] + \tau_{A+X,A}(A + X) - [A + X, E] \\ &\quad - [A, S_{A+X,A}] - \tau_{A+X,A}(A) + [A, E] \\ &= [A + X, S_{A+X,A} - E] - [A, S_{A+X,A} - E] \\ &= [X, S_{A+X,A} - E]. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $h$  is a homogenous mapping of  $\mathcal{M}$  into its center which annihilates each commutator of  $\mathcal{M}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 2.6.** *Every linear 2-local Lie derivation on a finite von Neumann algebra without central summands of type  $I_1$  is a Lie derivation.*

**Acknowledgments.** This work was partially supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China grant 1141101088.

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