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# STRUCTURE OF 3-PRIME NEAR RINGS WITH GENERALIZED $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-DERIVATIONS

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we define generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -*n*-derivation for any mappings  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  of a near ring N and also investigate the structure of a 3-prime near ring satisfying certain identities with generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -*n*-derivation. Moreover, we characterize the aforementioned mappings.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

A left near ring N is a triplet (N, +, .), where + and . are two binary operations such that (i) (N, +) is a group (not necessarily abelian); (ii) (N, .) is a semigroup, and (iii) x.(y + z) = x.y + x.z for all  $x, y, z \in N$ . Analogously, if N satisfies the right distributive law, i.e., (x + y).z = x.z + y.z for all  $x, y \in N$ , then N is said to be a right near ring. The most natural example of a left near ring is the set of all identity preserving mappings acting from right of an additive group G (not necessarily abelian) into itself with pointwise addition and composition of mappings as multiplication. If these mappings act from left on G, then we get a right near ring (Pilz [10, Example 1.4]). Throughout the paper, N denotes a zero-symmetric left near ring with multiplicative centre Z and for any pair of elements  $x, y \in N$ ,  $[x, y] = xy - yx, x \circ y = xy + yx$  and (x, y) = x + y - x - y stand for the Lie product, Jordan Product and additive commutator respectively. Let  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  be mappings on N. For any  $x, y \in N$ , set the symbol  $[x, y]_{\sigma,\tau}$  will denote  $x\sigma(y) - \tau(y)x$ , while the symbol  $(x \circ y)_{\sigma,\tau}$  will denote  $x\sigma(y) + \tau(y)x$ . The terminology multiplicative mappings on a near ring N is used for the mappings  $\sigma, \tau : N \to N$  satisfying  $\sigma(xy) = \sigma(x)\sigma(y)$ 

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and  $\tau(xy) = \tau(x)\tau(y)$  for all  $x, y \in N$ . A near ring N is called zero-symmetric if 0x = 0, for all  $x \in N$  (recall that left distributivity yields that x0 = 0). A near ring N is said to be 3-prime if  $xNy = \{0\}$  for  $x, y \in N$  implies that x = 0 or y = 0. A near ring N is called 2-torsion free if (N, +) has no element of order 2. A nonempty subset U of N is called a semigroup right (resp. semigroup left) ideal if  $UN \subseteq U$  (resp.  $NU \subseteq U$ ) and if U is both a semigroup right ideal and a semigroup left ideal, it is called a semigroup ideal.

Let  $n \ge 2$  be a fixed positive integer and  $N^n = \underbrace{N \times N \times \cdots \times N}_{n-\text{times}}$ . A map  $\Delta$ :

 $N^n \to N$  is said to be permuting (symmetric) on a near ring N if the relation  $\Delta(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) = \Delta(x_{\pi(1)}, x_{\pi(2)}, \ldots, x_{\pi(n)})$  holds for all  $x_i \in N$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ , and for every permutation  $\pi \in S_n$ , where  $S_n$  is the permutation group on  $\{1, 2, \ldots, n\}$ . An additive mapping  $F: N \to N$  is said to be a right (resp. left) generalized derivation with associated derivation d if F(xy) = F(x)y + xd(y) (resp. F(xy) = d(x)y + xF(y)), for all  $x, y \in N$  and F is said to be a generalized derivation with associated derivation d if F(xy) = F(x)y + xd(y) (resp. F(xy) = d(x)y + xF(y)), for all  $x, y \in N$  and F is said to be a generalized derivation with associated derivation N if it is both a right generalized derivation and a left generalized derivation on N with associated derivation d.

Ozturk et al. [9] and Park et al. [6] studied bi-derivations and tri-derivations in near rings. Further, Ceven et al. [4] and Ozturk et al. [8] defined  $(\sigma, \tau)$  bi-derivations and  $(\sigma, \tau)$  tri-derivations in near rings. Let  $\sigma, \tau$  be automorphisms on a near ring N. A symmetric bi-additive (additive in both arguments) mapping  $d: N \times N \to N$  is said to be a  $(\sigma, \tau)$  bi-derivation if  $d(xx', y) = d(x, y)\sigma(x') + \tau(x)d(x', y)$  holds for all  $x, x', y \in$ N. A symmetric tri-additive (additive in each argument) mapping  $d: N \times N \times N \to N$ is said to be a  $(\sigma, \tau)$  tri-derivation if  $d(xx', y, z) = d(x, y, z)\sigma(x') + \tau(x)d(x', y, z)$  holds for all  $x, x', y, z \in N$ .

Motivated by these concepts, we define  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -*n*-derivation and generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -*n*-derivation for any arbitrary mappings  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  of a near ring N in place of automorphisms.

**Definition 1.1** ( $(\sigma, \tau)$ -*n*-derivation). Let  $\sigma, \tau : N \to N$  be mappings on N. An *n*-additive (additive in each argument) mapping  $d : \underbrace{N \times N \times \cdots \times N}_{n-\text{times}} \to N$  is called

a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -*n*-derivation of N if the following equations

$$d(x_1x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x'_1) + \tau(x_1)d(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n),$$
  

$$d(x_1, x_2x'_2, \dots, x_n) = d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x'_2) + \tau(x_2)d(x_1, x'_2, \dots, x_n),$$
  

$$\vdots$$
  

$$d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_nx'_n) = d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x'_n) + \tau(x_n)d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x'_n)$$

hold for all  $x_1, x'_1, x_2, x'_2, \dots, x_n, x'_n \in N$ .

**Definition 1.2** (Right generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -*n*-derivation). An *n*-additive (additive in each argument) mapping  $F : \underbrace{N \times N \times \cdots \times N}_{n-\text{times}} \to N$  is called a right generalized

 $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation associated with  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation d on N if the relations

$$F(x_1x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x'_1) + \tau(x_1)d(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n),$$
  

$$F(x_1, x_2x'_2, \dots, x_n) = F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x'_2) + \tau(x_2)d(x_1, x'_2, \dots, x_n),$$
  

$$\vdots$$
  

$$F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_nx'_n) = F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x'_n) + \tau(x_n)d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x'_n)$$

hold for all  $x_1, x'_1, x_2, x'_2, \dots, x_n, x'_n \in N$ .

**Definition 1.3** (Left generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -*n*-derivation). An *n*-additive (additive in each argument) mapping  $F : \underbrace{N \times N \times \cdots \times N}_{n-\text{times}} \to N$  is called a left generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -*n*-derivation associated with  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -*n*-derivation *d* on *N* if the relations

$$F(x_1x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x'_1) + \tau(x_1)F(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n),$$
  

$$F(x_1, x_2x'_2, \dots, x_n) = d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x'_2) + \tau(x_2)F(x_1, x'_2, \dots, x_n),$$
  

$$\vdots$$
  

$$F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_nx'_n) = d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x'_n) + \tau(x_n)F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x'_n)$$

hold for all  $x_1, x'_1, x_2, x'_2, ..., x_n, x'_n \in N$ .

A mapping  $F: \underbrace{N \times N \times \cdots \times N}_{n-\text{times}} \to N$  is called a generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation associated with  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation d on N if F is both a right generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation and a left generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation associated with  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation d on N.

Example 1.1. Let S be a zero-symmetric left near ring and

$$N = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & x & y \\ 0 & 0 & z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \mid x, y, z, 0 \in S \right\}.$$

Then N is a zero-symmetric left near ring with respect to matrix addition and matrix multiplication. Define mappings  $F, d: \underbrace{N \times N \times \cdots \times N}_{n-times} \to N$  by

$$F\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_1 & y_1 \\ 0 & 0 & z_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_2 & y_2 \\ 0 & 0 & z_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \dots, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_n & y_n \\ 0 & 0 & z_n \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & z_1 z_2 \dots z_n \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \\d\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_1 & y_1 \\ 0 & 0 & z_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_2 & y_2 \\ 0 & 0 & z_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \dots, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_n & y_n \\ 0 & 0 & z_n \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_1 x_2 \dots x_n & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Define  $\sigma, \tau : N \to N$  by

$$\sigma \left(\begin{array}{ccc} 0 & x & y \\ 0 & 0 & z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right) = \left(\begin{array}{ccc} 0 & 0 & y^2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right) \quad and \quad \tau \left(\begin{array}{ccc} 0 & x & y \\ 0 & 0 & z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right) = \left(\begin{array}{ccc} 0 & xy & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right)$$

It is easy to check that F is a nonzero right (but not left) generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation associated with a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation d of N, where  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  are any arbitrary mappings on N.

Example 1.2. Let N be a zero-symmetric left near ring as in Example 1.1. Define mappings  $F, d: \underbrace{N \times N \times \cdots \times N}_{n-times} \to N$  by

$$F\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_1 & y_1 \\ 0 & 0 & z_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_2 & y_2 \\ 0 & 0 & z_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \dots, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_n & y_n \\ 0 & 0 & z_n \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_1 x_2 \dots x_n & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$d\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_1 & y_1 \\ 0 & 0 & z_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_2 & y_2 \\ 0 & 0 & z_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \dots, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_n & y_n \\ 0 & 0 & z_n \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & z_1 z_2 \dots z_n \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$
$$Define \ \sigma, \tau : N \to N \ by$$
$$\sigma\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 & x & y \\ 0 & 0 & z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \ and \ \tau\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 & x & y \\ 0 & 0 & z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & y \\ 0 & 0 & z^2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

It can be easily seen that F is a nonzero left (but not right) generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -nderivation associated with a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation d of N for any arbitrary mappings  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  on N.

Example 1.3. Let S be a zero-symmetric left near ring and

$$N = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & x & y \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & z & 0 \end{array} \right) \mid x, y, z, 0 \in S \right\}.$$

It is easy to see that N is a zero-symmetric left near ring with respect to matrix addition and matrix multiplication. Define mappings  $F, d: \underbrace{N \times N \times \cdots \times N}_{n-times} \to N$  by

$$F\left(\left(\begin{array}{ccc}0 & x_1 & y_1\\0 & 0 & 0\\0 & z_1 & 0\end{array}\right), \left(\begin{array}{ccc}0 & x_2 & y_2\\0 & 0 & 0\\0 & z_2 & 0\end{array}\right), \dots, \left(\begin{array}{ccc}0 & x_n & y_n\\0 & 0 & 0\\0 & z_n & 0\end{array}\right)\right) = \left(\begin{array}{ccc}0 & 0 & y_1y_2\dots y_n\\0 & 0 & 0\\0 & 0 & 0\end{array}\right), \\d\left(\left(\begin{array}{ccc}0 & x_1 & y_1\\0 & 0 & 0\\0 & z_1 & 0\end{array}\right), \left(\begin{array}{ccc}0 & x_2 & y_2\\0 & 0 & 0\\0 & z_2 & 0\end{array}\right), \dots, \left(\begin{array}{ccc}0 & x_n & y_n\\0 & 0 & 0\\0 & z_n & 0\end{array}\right)\right) = \left(\begin{array}{ccc}0 & 0 & 0\\0 & 0 & 0\\0 & z_1z_2\dots z_n & 0\end{array}\right).$$

Define 
$$\sigma, \tau: N \to N$$
 by

$\sigma\left($	0 0 0	$x \\ 0 \\ z$	$\begin{pmatrix} y \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$	=	$ \left(\begin{array}{c} 0\\ 0\\ 0 \end{array}\right) $	$egin{array}{c} x^2 \ 0 \ 0 \end{array}$	$\begin{pmatrix} y \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$	and	τ	$ \left(\begin{array}{c} 0\\ 0\\ 0 \end{array}\right) $	$egin{array}{c} x \ 0 \ z \end{array}$	$\begin{pmatrix} y \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$	=	$ \left(\begin{array}{c} 0\\ 0\\ 0 \end{array}\right) $	$x \\ 0 \\ yz$	0 ) 0 0 )	) .
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It can be easily verified that F is a nonzero right as well as left generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -nderivation associated with a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation d of N, where  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  are any arbitrary mappings on N.

Obviously this notion covers the notion of a generalized *n*-derivation (in case  $\sigma = \tau = I$ ), notion of an *n*-derivation (in case F = d,  $\sigma = \tau = I$ ), notion of a left *n*-centralizer (in case d = 0,  $\sigma = I$ ), notion of a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -*n*-derivation (in case F = d) and the notion of a left  $\sigma$ -*n*-multiplier (in case d = 0). Thus, it is interesting to investigate the properties of this general notion. In [7], Bresar has proved that if R is a 2-torsion free semiprime ring and  $F : R \to R$  is an additive map on R such that F(x)x + xF(x) = 0 for all  $x \in R$ , then F = 0. Further, Vukman [5] proved that if there exist a derivation  $d : R \to R$  and an automorphism  $\alpha : R \to R$ , where R is 2-torsion free semiprime ring such that [d(x)x + xd(x), x] = 0 for all  $x \in R$ , then d and  $\alpha - I$ , I denotes the identity mapping on R, map R into its centre. Motivated by the mentioned results we prove that if a 3-prime near ring N with a generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -*n*-derivation F satisfies certain identity, then N is a commutative ring and F is a left  $\sigma$ -*n*-multiplier on N.

## 2. Some Preliminaries

Lemma 2.1. ([1, Lemmas 1.2]). Let N be 3-prime near ring.

- (i) If  $z \in Z \setminus \{0\}$ , then z is not a zero divisor.
- (ii) If  $Z \setminus \{0\}$  and x is an element of N for which  $xz \in Z$ , then  $x \in Z$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** ([1, Lemmas 1.3 and Lemma 1.4]). Let N be 3-prime near ring and U be a nonzero semigroup ideal of N.

- (i) If  $x, y \in N$  and  $xUy = \{0\}$ , then x = 0 or y = 0.
- (ii) If  $x \in N$  and  $xU = \{0\}$  or  $Ux = \{0\}$ , then x = 0.

**Lemma 2.3.** ([1, Lemma 1.5]). If N is a 3-prime near ring and Z contains a nonzero semigroup left ideal or a nonzero semigroup right ideal, then N is a commutative ring.

**Lemma 2.4.** If N is a 3-prime near ring admitting a generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation F associated with a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation d of N such that  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  are multiplicative mappings on N, then

$$\{ d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \sigma(y_1) + \tau(x_1) F(y_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \} \sigma(z_1)$$
  
=  $d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \sigma(y_1) \sigma(z_1) + \tau(x_1) F(y_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \sigma(z_1),$   
 $\{ d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \sigma(y_2) + \tau(x_2) F(x_1, y_2, \dots, x_n) \} \sigma(z_2)$   
=  $d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \sigma(y_2) \sigma(z_2) + \tau(x_2) F(x_1, y_2, \dots, x_n) \sigma(z_2),$ 

$$\{d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(y_n) + \tau(x_n)F(x_1, x_2, \dots, y_n)\}\sigma(z_n) = d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(y_n)\sigma(z_n) + \tau(x_n)F(x_1, x_2, \dots, y_n)\sigma(z_n),$$

for all  $x_1, y_1, z_1, x_2, y_2, z_2, \dots, x_n, y_n, z_n \in N$ .

:

Proof. For all 
$$x_1, y_1, z_1, x_2, y_2, z_2, \dots, x_n, y_n, z_n \in N$$
  

$$F(x_1y_1z_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = F(x_1y_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(z_1) + \tau(x_1y_1)d(z_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

$$= \{d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(y_1) + \tau(x_1)F(y_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\}\sigma(z_1)$$

$$+ \tau(x_1)\tau(y_1)d(z, u_2, \dots, u_n)$$
(2.1)

and

$$F(x_1y_1z_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(y_1z_1) + \tau(x_1)F(y_1z_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$
  
=  $d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(y_1)\sigma(z_1) + \tau(x_1)F(y_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(z_1)$   
+  $\tau(x_1)\tau(y_1)d(z_1, x_2, \dots, x_n).$ 

Combining (2.1) and (2.2), we get

$$\{d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(y_1) + \tau(x_1)F(y_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\}\sigma(z_1) = d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(y_1)\sigma(z_1) + \tau(x_1)F(y_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(z_1).$$

Similarly, we can prove other relations for i = 2, 3, ..., n.

Remark 2.1. If  $\sigma$  is an onto map on N, then Lemma 2.4 becomes

$$\{d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(y_1) + \tau(x_1)F(y_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\}a$$
  
=  $d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(y_1)a + \tau(x_1)F(y_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)a$ ,  
 $\{d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(y_2) + \tau(x_2)F(x_1, y_2, \dots, x_n)\}a$   
=  $d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(y_2)a + \tau(x_2)F(x_1, y_2, \dots, x_n)a$ ,  
 $\vdots$   
 $\{d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(y_n) + \tau(x_n)F(x_1, x_2, \dots, y_n)\}a$   
=  $d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(y_n)a + \tau(x_n)F(x_1, x_2, \dots, y_n)a$ ,

for all  $x_1, y_1, x_2, y_2, \dots, x_n, y_n, a \in N$ .

**Lemma 2.5.** Let N be a 3-prime near ring and  $U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n$  be nonzero semigroup ideals of N. Let  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  be mappings on N such that  $U_i \subseteq \tau(U_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ . If d is a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation on N, then  $d(U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n) \neq \{0\}$ .

*Proof.* Assume that

(2.3)  $d(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) = 0$ , for all  $u_1 \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$ .

Replacing  $u_1$  by  $u_1r_1$ , where  $r_1 \in N$  in (2.3) and using (2.3), we get

$$\tau(u_1)d(r_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0.$$

Since  $U_i \subseteq \tau(U_i)$  for i = 1, 2, ..., n, we have  $U_1d(r_1, u_2, ..., u_n) = \{0\}$ . Applying Lemma 2.2 (ii), we obtain  $d(r_1, u_2, ..., u_n) = 0$  for all  $u_2 \in U_2, ..., u_n \in U_n$  and  $r_1 \in N$ . Replacing  $u_2$  by  $u_2r_2$ , where  $r_2 \in N$  in the last expression and another application of Lemma 2.2(ii) yields that  $d(r_1, r_2, ..., u_n) = 0$ . Proceeding inductively, we conclude that  $d(r_1, r_2, ..., r_n) = 0$  for all  $r_1, r_2, ..., r_n \in N$ , a contradiction which completes the proof.

**Lemma 2.6.** Let N be a 3-prime near-ring and  $U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n$  be nonzero semigroup ideals of N. Let  $\sigma, \tau$  be multiplicative mappings on  $U_i$  such that  $U_1 \subseteq \sigma(U_1)$ . If d is a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation on N such that  $d(U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n)\sigma(a) = \{0\}$  or  $\sigma(a)d(U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n) = \{0\}$  for all  $a \in N$ , then  $\sigma(a) = 0$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $d(U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n)\sigma(a) = \{0\}$ . Then

(2.4) 
$$d(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(a) = 0$$
, for all  $u_1 \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$ .

Replacing  $u_1$  by  $u_1u'_1$  in (2.4) and using it again yields that

$$d(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(u'_1)\sigma(a) = 0$$
, for all  $u_1, u'_1 \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$ .

Equivalently,

$$d(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(U_1)\sigma(a) = \{0\}, \text{ for all } u_1, \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n.$$

Since  $U_1 \subseteq \sigma(U_1)$ , we obtain

$$d(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)U_1\sigma(a) = \{0\}, \text{ for all } u_1, \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n.$$

Applying Lemma 2.2 (i) and Lemma 2.5, we obtain  $\sigma(a) = 0$ . Similarly, we can prove the result for later case.

**Lemma 2.7.** Let N be a 3-prime near ring and  $U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n$  be nonzero semigroup ideals of N. Let  $\sigma$  be a onto map on N such that  $U_1 \subseteq \sigma(U_1)$  and  $U_1 \cap Z \neq \emptyset$ . If d is a  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation on N, then  $d(Z, U_2, U_3, \ldots, U_n) \subseteq Z$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $z \in U_1 \cap Z$ . Then

 $d(zx_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = d(x_1z, x_2, \dots, x_n),$  for all  $x_1 \in U_1, x_2 \in U_2, \dots, x_n \in U_n,$ 

and

$$d(z, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x_1) + \sigma(z)d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$
  
= $\sigma(x_1)d(z, x_2, \dots, x_n) + d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(z).$ 

Substituting  $x'_1 \in U_1$  and  $z' \in U_1 \cap Z$  for  $\sigma(x_1)$  and  $\sigma(z)$  respectively, we get

$$d(z, x_2, \dots, x_n)x'_1 = x'_1 d(z, x_2, \dots, x_n),$$
 for all  $x'_1 \in U_1, x_2 \in U_2, \dots, x_n \in U_n.$ 

Replacing  $x'_1$  by  $x'_1r$  for  $r \in N$  in above expression and using it again, we find that  $x'_1[d(z, x_2, \ldots, x_n), r] = 0$ . Hence,  $d(Z, U_2, U_3, \ldots, U_n) \subseteq Z$  by Lemma 2.2 (ii).  $\Box$ 

**Lemma 2.8.** Let N be a 3-prime near ring and  $U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n$  be nonzero semigroup ideals of N. Let  $\sigma, \tau$  be mappings on N such that  $U_i \subseteq \sigma(U_i)$  and  $U_i \subseteq \tau(U_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ . If F is a nonzero right generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation associated with a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation d on N, then  $F(U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n) \neq \{0\}$ .

Proof. Let

(2.5) 
$$F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) = 0$$
, for all  $u_1 \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$ .

Replacing  $u_1$  by  $u_1r_1$ , where  $r_1 \in N$  in (2.5) and using (2.5), we get

 $\tau(u_1)d(r_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) = \{0\}.$ 

Since  $U_1 \subseteq \tau(U_1)$ , we have

$$U_1d(r_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) = \{0\}, \text{ for all } u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n \text{ and } r_1 \in N.$$

Applying Lemma 2.2(ii), we find

(2.6) 
$$d(r_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) = 0$$
, for all  $u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$  and  $r_1 \in N$ .

Now replacing  $u_2$  by  $u_2r_2$  in (2.6) for  $r_2 \in N$  and another application of Lemma 2.2 (ii) yields that  $d(r_1, r_2, u_3, \ldots, u_n) = 0$  for all  $u_3 \in U_3, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$  and  $r_1, r_2 \in N$ . Proceeding inductively, we get  $d(r_1, r_2, \ldots, r_n) = 0$  for all  $r_1, r_2, \ldots, r_n \in N$ , i.e., d = 0. Therefore, our hypothesis reduces to

$$F(r_1u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) = F(r_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(u_1) = 0$$

for all  $u_1 \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$  and  $r_1 \in N$  which implies that

(2.7)  $F(r_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) = 0$ , for all  $u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$  and  $r_1 \in N$ .

Replacing  $u_2$  by  $r_2u_2$  in (2.7), we get  $F(r_1, r_2, \ldots, u_n)U_2 = \{0\}$  and Lemma 2.2 (ii) gives  $F(r_1, r_2, u_3, \ldots, u_n) = 0$  for all  $u_3 \in U_3, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$  and  $r_1, r_2 \in N$ . Proceeding inductively, we obtain F = 0 on N, a contradiction.

## 3. MAIN RESULTS

**Theorem 3.1.** Let N be a 3-prime near ring and  $U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n$  are nonzero semigroup ideals of N. Suppose that  $\sigma$ ,  $\tau$  are multiplicative mappings on  $U_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ , such that  $U_i \subseteq \tau(U_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ , and  $\sigma$  is onto on N. If N admits a generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation F associated with a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation d such that  $F(x_1x'_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) = F(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n)F(x'_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n)$  for all  $x_1, x'_1 \in U_1, x_2 \in$  $U_2, \ldots, x_n \in U_n$ , then F is a left  $\sigma$ -n-multiplier on N.

*Proof.* By hypothesis

$$F(x_1x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x'_1) + \tau(x_1)F(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$
  
=  $F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)F(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n),$ 

$$\{d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x_1') + \tau(x_1)F(x_1', x_2, \dots, x_n)\}F(z, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$
  
=  $d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x_1'z) + \tau(x_1)\{d(x_1', x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(z) + \tau(x_1')F(z, x_2, \dots, x_n)\}.$ 

Applying Lemma 2.4 and using the hypothesis, we obtain

$$d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x_1')F(z, x_2, \dots, x_n) + \tau(x_1)d(x_1', x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(z) + \tau(x_1)\tau(x_1')F(z, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

 $= d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \sigma(x'_1 z) + \tau(x_1) d(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \sigma(z) + \tau(x_1) \tau(x'_1) F(z, x_2, \dots, x_n),$ which reduces to

$$d(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n)\sigma(x_1')(F(z, x_2, \ldots, x_n) - \sigma(z)) = 0,$$

for all  $x_1, x'_1, z \in U_1, x_2 \in U_2, \ldots, x_n \in U_n$ . This implies that

$$d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)U_1(F(z, x_2, \dots, x_n) - \sigma(z)) = \{0\}.$$

By Lemma 2.2 (i), we obtain  $d(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n) = 0$  or  $F(z, x_2, ..., x_n) = \sigma(z)$  for all  $z \in U_1, x_2 \in U_2, ..., x_n \in U_n$ .

If  $F(z, x_2, \ldots, x_n) = \sigma(z)$  for all  $z \in U_1$ , replacing z by zt, we get

$$-(z)d(t, x_2, \dots, x_n) = 0.$$

Putting  $u \in U_1$  in place of  $\tau(z)$  and using Lemma 2.2 (ii), we obtain  $d(t, x_2, \ldots, x_n) = 0$  for all  $t \in U_1$ . Therefore, in both cases we arrive at  $d(U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n) = \{0\}$ . Now arguing in the similar manner as we have done in Lemma 2.5, we can get d = 0 on N, which completes the proof.

**Theorem 3.2.** Let N be a 3-prime near ring and  $U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n$  be nonzero semigroup ideals of N. Suppose that  $\sigma$  is a multiplicative mapping on  $U_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ , such that  $U_i \subseteq \sigma(U_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ . If N admits a nonzero generalized  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -nderivation F associated with a  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation d such that  $F(U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n) \subseteq$ Z(N), then N is a commutative ring.

Proof. If  $d \neq 0$ , then for all  $u_1, u'_1 \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$ (3.1)  $F(u_1u'_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) = d(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(u'_1) + \sigma(u_1)F(u'_1, u_2, \dots, u_n) \in Z(N).$ 

Now commuting (3.1) with the element  $\sigma(u_1)$  and using Lemma 2.4, we get

 $d(u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n)\sigma(u_1')\sigma(u_1) = \sigma(u_1)d(u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n)\sigma(u_1').$ 

Since  $\sigma$  is an onto map on N, replacing  $\sigma(u'_1)$  by  $r_1 \in N$  in above expression, we find that

(3.2) 
$$d(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)r_1\sigma(u_1) = \sigma(u_1)d(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)r_1$$

Substituting  $r_1r_2$  where  $r_2 \in N$  in place of  $r_1$  in (3.2) and using it again, we obtain

$$d(u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n) N[\sigma(u_1), r_2] = \{0\}.$$

By 3-primeness of N, we get  $d(u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0$  or  $[\sigma(u_1), r] = 0$  for all  $u_1 \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$  and  $r \in N$ .

**Case 1.** Suppose there exists  $x_0 \in U_1$  such that  $d(x_0, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0$  for all  $u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . Then

$$F(u_1x_0, u_2, \dots, u_n) = F(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x_0) \in Z(N),$$

for all  $u_1 \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . Since  $F(u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n) \neq 0$ , then  $\sigma(x_0) \in Z(N)$  by Lemma 2.1 (ii).

**Case 2.** Suppose there exists  $x_0 \in U_1$  such that  $[\sigma(x_0), r] = 0$  for all  $r \in N$ , then  $\sigma(x_0) \in Z(N)$ .

In both cases, we obtain  $\sigma(U_1) \subseteq Z(N)$  which implies that  $U_1 \subseteq Z(N)$ . Hence, by Lemma 2.3, we conclude that N is a commutative ring.

Assume that d = 0, then another application of Lemma 2.1 (ii) and Lemma 2.8, our hypothesis gives  $U_1 \subseteq Z(N)$  and N is a commutative ring by Lemma 2.3.

The following example shows that the 3-primeness hypothesis in Theorem 3.2 can not be omitted.

Example 3.1. Let us consider Example 1.3. Consider

$$U = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & z & 0 \end{array} \right) \mid x, y, z, 0 \in S \right\}.$$

Then clearly U is a nonzero semigroup ideal of a non 3-prime zero-symmetric left near ring N. If we choose  $U_1 = U_2 = \cdots = U_n = U$ , then  $F(U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n) \subseteq Z(N)$ . However, N is not commutative.

**Theorem 3.3.** Let N be a 3-prime near-ring and  $U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n$  are nonzero semigroup ideals of N. Suppose that  $\sigma$ ,  $\tau$  are multiplicative mappings on  $U_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ , such that  $U_i \subseteq \sigma(U_i), U_i \subseteq \tau(U_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ , and  $\sigma$  is onto on N. If N admits a generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation F associated with a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation d such that  $F(x_1x'_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) = F(x'_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n)F(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n)$  for all  $x_1, x'_1 \in U_1, x_2 \in$  $U_2, \ldots, x_n \in U_n$ , then N is commutative ring.

*Proof.* By hypothesis,

(3.3) 
$$F(x_1x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x'_1) + \tau(x_1)F(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$
$$= F(x'_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n),$$

for all  $x_1, x'_1 \in U_1, x_2 \in U_2, \ldots, x_n \in U_n$ . Substituting  $x_1x'_1$  for  $x'_1$  in (3.3) and using Remark 2.1, we obtain

$$F(x_1(x_1x_1'), x_2, \dots, x_n) = F(x_1x_1', x_2, \dots, x_n)F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$
  
=  $d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x_1')F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$   
+  $\tau(x_1)F(x_1', x_2, \dots, x_n)F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n).$ 

Also, using the definition of F, we get

$$F(x_1(x_1x_1'), x_2, \dots, x_n) = d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x_1x_1') + \tau(x_1)F(x_1x_1', x_2, \dots, x_n)$$
  
=  $d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x_1)\sigma(x_1')$   
+  $\tau(x_1)F(x_1', x_2, \dots, x_n)F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n).$ 

By comparing the last two equations, we can easily arrive at

(3.4)  $d(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n)\sigma(x'_1)F(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n) = d(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n)\sigma(x_1)\sigma(x'_1).$ Since  $\sigma$  is onto on N, we get

$$d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)r_1F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)\sigma(x_1)r_1$$

Now substituting  $r_1r_2$  for  $r_1$  in above expression and using it again, we find that

$$d(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) N[F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n), r_2] = \{0\},\$$

for all  $x_1 \in U_1, x_2 \in U_2, \ldots, x_n \in U_n$  and  $r_2 \in N$ . Since N is 3-prime, we have  $d(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) = 0$  or  $F(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) \in Z(N)$  for all  $x_1 \in U_1, x_2 \in U_2, \ldots, x_n \in U_n$ . Using the same argument as used in the proof of the Lemma 2.5 and Theorem 3.2, we conclude that N is a commutative ring.

**Theorem 3.4.** Let N be a 3-prime near-ring and  $U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n$  are nonzero semigroup ideals of N. Let  $\sigma$  be an automorphism and  $\tau$  be a homomorphism on N such that  $U_1 \subseteq \sigma(U_1)$  and  $U_i \subseteq \tau(U_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ . If N admits a left generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation F associated with a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation d such that  $F([x, y], u_2, \ldots, u_n) = \pm \tau([x, y])$  for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ , then N is a commutative ring.

*Proof.* By hypothesis

(3.5) 
$$F([x, y], u_2, ..., u_n) = \pm \tau([x, y]),$$
 for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, ..., u_n \in U_n.$   
Replacing y by xy in (3.5) and using  $[x, xy] = x[x, y],$  we get

 $d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma([x, y]) + \tau(x)F([x, y], u_2, \dots, u_n) = \pm(\tau(x)\tau(xy) - \tau(x)\tau(yx)),$ 

which reduces to

(3.6)  $d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma([x, y]) = 0$ , for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$ .

This implies that

 $d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x)\sigma(y) = d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y)\sigma(x).$ 

Substituting yz in place of y, where  $z \in N$  in the last expression and using it again, we find that

$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y)[\sigma(x), \sigma(z)] = 0$$

Since  $U_1 \subseteq \sigma(U_1)$ , then Lemma 2.2 (i) yields that  $d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0$  or  $\sigma(x) \in Z(N)$ for all  $x \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . Since  $\sigma$  is an automorphism on N, then  $d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0$  or  $x \in Z(N)$  for all  $x \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . Using Lemma 2.7, we get  $d(U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n) \in Z(N)$  which forces that N is a commutative ring by Theorem 3.2 which completes the proof.

**Theorem 3.5.** Let N be a 2-torsion free 3-prime near-ring and  $U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n$  are nonzero semigroup ideals of N. Let  $\sigma$  be an automorphism on N and  $\tau$  be a homomorphism on N such that  $U_1 \subseteq \sigma(U_1)$  and  $U_i \subseteq \tau(U_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ . Then N admits no left generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation F associated with a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation d satisfying one of the following conditions:

- (i)  $F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = \pm \tau([x, y])$  for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$ ;
- (ii)  $F(x \circ y, u_2, ..., u_n) = \pm \tau(x \circ y)$  for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, ..., u_n \in U_n$ ;
- (iii)  $F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = 0$  for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$ .

*Proof.* (i) Assume that

(3.7)  $F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = \pm \tau([x, y]),$  for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n.$ Replacing y by xy in (3.7), we get

 $d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x \circ y) + \tau(x)F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = \pm(\tau(x)\tau(xy) - \tau(x)\tau(yx)),$ which implies that

 $d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x \circ y) + \tau(x)F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = \pm \tau(x)\tau([x, y]).$ Using the hypothesis, we find that

 $d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x \circ y) = 0$ , for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$ , which implies that

(3.8) 
$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y)\sigma(x) = -d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x)\sigma(y).$$

Substituting yz for y in (3.8) where  $z \in N$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y)\sigma(z)\sigma(x) &= -d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x)\sigma(y)\sigma(z) \\ &= d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x)\sigma(y)(-\sigma(z)) \\ &= (-d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y)\sigma(x))(-\sigma(z)) \\ &= d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y)(-\sigma(x))(-\sigma(z)) \\ &= d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y)\sigma(-x)\sigma(-z), \end{aligned}$$

which implies that

$$0 = d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y)(\sigma(z)\sigma(x) - \sigma(-x)\sigma(-z))$$
  
=  $d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y)(-\sigma(z)\sigma(-x) + \sigma(-x)\sigma(z)).$ 

Since  $U_1 \subseteq \sigma(U_1)$ , Lemma 2.2 (i) yields that (3.9)  $d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0$  or  $\sigma(-x) \in Z(N)$ , for all  $x \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . Suppose there exists  $x_0 \in U_1$  such that  $\sigma(-x_0) \in Z(N)$ . Since  $-U_1$  is a nonzero semigroup left ideal of N, replacing x and y by  $-x_0$  in (3.8), we get

$$2d(-x_0, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(-x_0)\sigma(-x_0) = 0,$$

for all  $u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . Using 2-torsion freeness of N, we conclude that  $d(-x_0, u_2, \ldots, u_n) N \sigma(-x_0) N \sigma(-x_0) = \{0\}$  for all  $u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . By 3-primeness of N, we arrive at  $d(-x_0, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0$  or  $\sigma(-x_0) = 0$  for all  $u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . Since  $\sigma$  is an automorphism of N, by (3.9) we get  $d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0$  for all  $x \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ , so  $d(U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n) = \{0\}$ , which contradicts Lemma 2.5.

(ii) Suppose that

(3.10)  $F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = \pm \tau(x \circ y), \text{ for all } x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n.$ 

Replacing y by xy in (3.10), we get

$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x \circ y) + \tau(x)F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = \pm \tau(x)\tau(x \circ y),$$

which reduces to

(3.11) 
$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y)\sigma(x) = -d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x)\sigma(y).$$

Since (3.11) is same as (3.8), arguing in the similar manner as in (i), we find a contradiction with our hypothesis.

Using the same techniques, we can prove the result for (iii).

**Theorem 3.6.** Let N be a 3-prime near ring and  $U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n$  are nonzero semigroup ideals of N. Let  $\sigma$  be an homomorphism on N such that  $U_i \subseteq \sigma(U_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ . If N admits a left generalized  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation F associated with a  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation d such that  $F([x, y], u_2, \ldots, u_n) = [\sigma(x), y]_{\sigma,\sigma}$  for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in$  $U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ , then F is a right  $\sigma$ -n-multiplier on N or N is commutative.

*Proof.* By hypothesis

(3.12) 
$$F([x, y], u_2, \dots, u_n) = [\sigma(x), y]_{\sigma, \sigma}, \text{ for all } x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n.$$

Replacing y by xy in (3.12), we get

$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma([x, y]) + \sigma(x)F([x, y], u_2, \dots, u_n) = \sigma(x)[\sigma(x), y]_{\sigma, \sigma},$$

which reduces to

(3.13) 
$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma([x, y]) = 0$$
, for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$ .

As (3.13) is same as (3.6), arguing in the similar manner as in Theorem 3.4, we obtain the result.

**Theorem 3.7.** Let N be a 2-torsion free 3-prime near-ring and  $U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n$  are nonzero semigroup ideals of N. Let  $\sigma$  be a homomorphism on N such that  $U_i \subseteq \sigma(U_i)$ for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ . Then N admits no left generalized  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation F associated with a nonzero  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation d satisfying one of the following conditions:

- (i)  $F(x \circ y, u_2, ..., u_n) = [\sigma(x), y]_{\sigma,\sigma}$  for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, ..., u_n \in U_n$ ;
- (ii)  $F(x \circ y, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = (\sigma(x) \circ y)_{\sigma,\sigma}$  for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ .

*Proof.* (i) Suppose that

(3.14)  $F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = [\sigma(x), y]_{\sigma,\sigma}$ , for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$ . Replacing y by xy in (3.14), we get

$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x \circ y) + \sigma(x)F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = \sigma(x)[\sigma(x), y]_{\sigma,\sigma},$$

which reduces to

(3.15)  $d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x \circ y) = 0$ , for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$ .

Since (3.15) is same as (3.8), arguing as in the proof of Theorem 3.5, we find that  $d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0$  for all  $x \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$  or N is a commutative ring. If N is a commutative ring, then our hypothesis becomes

 $2F(xy, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0,$ 

for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . By 2-torsion freeness of N, we have  $F(xy, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0$  for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . This implies that

$$d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n)\sigma(y) + \sigma(x)F(y, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0.$$

Replacing y by yz in last expression, we obtain  $d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n)\sigma(y)\sigma(z) = 0$  for all  $x, y, z \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$  which implies that  $d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n)\sigma(U_1)\sigma(z) = \{0\}$  for all  $x, z \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . Since  $U_1 \subseteq \sigma(U_1)$ , we get

$$d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n)U_1\sigma(z) = \{0\},\$$

for all  $x, z \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . Using Lemma 2.2 (i), we have  $d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0$  for all  $x \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$  or  $\sigma(U_1) = U_1 = \{0\}$ . Since  $U_1 \neq \{0\}$ , we conclude that  $d(U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n) = \{0\}$  which contradicts Lemma 2.5.

(ii) Assume that

(3.16)  $F(x \circ y, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = (\sigma(x) \circ y)_{\sigma,\sigma}$ , for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . Substituting xy for y in (3.16), we have

$$F(x(x \circ y), u_2, \dots, u_n) = \sigma(x)\sigma(xy) + \sigma(xy)\sigma(x),$$
  
$$, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x \circ y) + \sigma(x)F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = \sigma(x)(\sigma(x) \circ y)_{\sigma,\sigma},$$

which implies that

 $d(x, u_2)$ 

$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x \circ y) = 0, \quad \text{for all } x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n.$$

Arguing in the similar manner as we have done above, we obtain  $d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0$ for all  $x \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ , we again get a contradiction.

**Theorem 3.8.** Let N be a 3-prime near-ring and  $U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n$  are nonzero semigroup ideals of N. Let  $\sigma$  be an homomorphism on N such that  $U_i \subseteq \sigma(U_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ . If N admits a left generalized  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation F associated with a nonzero  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation d such that  $F([x, y], u_2, \ldots, u_n) = [d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n), \sigma(y)]$ for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ , then N is a commutative ring.

*Proof.* Suppose that for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ 

(3.17) 
$$F([x,y], u_2, \dots, u_n) = [d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n), \sigma(y)]$$

Replacing y by xy in (3.17), we get

$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma([x, y]) + \sigma(x)F([x, y], u_2, \dots, u_n) = [d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n), \sigma(xy)].$$

In view of our hypothesis, the above expression gives

$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(xy) - d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(yx) + \sigma(x)d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y)$$
  
-  $\sigma(x)\sigma(y)d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)$   
=  $d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(xy) - \sigma(xy)d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n),$ 

which implies that

(3.18) 
$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y)\sigma(x) = \sigma(x)d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y).$$

Replacing y by yu in the last equation and using it, we can easily arrive at

$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y)[\sigma(x), \sigma(u)] = 0.$$

Since  $U_1 \subseteq \sigma(U_1)$ , by Lemma 2.2 (i), we conclude that (3.19)

 $d(x, u_2, ..., u_n) = 0$  or  $\sigma(x) \in Z(U_1)$ , for all  $x \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, ..., u_n \in U_n$ .

Suppose there exists  $x_0 \in U$  such that  $\sigma(x_0) \in Z(U_1)$ . Then  $\sigma(x_0)v = v\sigma(x_0)$  for all  $v \in U_1$  and replacing v by vn, where  $n \in N$  and using it, we conclude that  $U[\sigma(x_0), n] = \{0\}$  for all  $n \in N$  by Lemma 2.2 (ii), we conclude that  $\sigma(x_0) \in Z(N)$ . In this case, (3.19) becomes

$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n) = 0$$
 or  $\sigma(x) \in Z(N)$  for all  $x \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$ .

In all cases, the equation (3.17) becomes

(3.21) 
$$F([x, y], u_2, \dots, u_n) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n.$$

This equation is a special case of Theorem 3.4 with  $\tau = 0$ , which is already treated previously.

**Theorem 3.9.** Let N be a 2-torsion free 3-prime near ring and  $U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n$  are nonzero semigroup ideals of N. Let  $\sigma$  be an automorphism on N such that  $U_i \subseteq \sigma(U_i)$ for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ . Then N admits no left generalized  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation F associated with a nonzero  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation d satisfying one of the following conditions:

(i)  $F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n) \circ \sigma(y);$ 

(ii) 
$$F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = [d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n), \sigma(y)],$$

for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, ..., u_n \in U_n$ .

*Proof.* (i) By hypothesis, for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ 

(3.22) 
$$F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n) \circ \sigma(y).$$

Substituting xy for y in (3.22) and using  $(x \circ xy) = x(x \circ y)$ , we obtain

$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x \circ y) + \sigma(x)F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n) \circ \sigma(xy).$$

Using the hypothesis, we find that

(3.23) 
$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y)\sigma(x) = -\sigma(x)d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y).$$

Replacing y by yz where  $z \in N$  in the last expression and using the same steps that we introduced previously, we obtain  $d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n)\sigma(y)(-\sigma(z)\sigma(-x) + \sigma(-x)\sigma(z)) = 0$  for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n, z \in N$ . Since  $\sigma(U_1) = U_1$  and invoking Lemma 2.2 (i) and Lemma 2.3, we conclude that  $d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0$  or  $\sigma(-x) \in Z(N)$ .

Suppose there exists  $x_0 \in U$  such that  $\sigma(-x_0) \in Z(N)$ . Since  $-U_1$  is a nonzero semigroup left ideal of N, replacing x and y by  $-x_0$  in (3.23), we get

$$2d(-x_0, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(-x_0)\sigma(-x_0) = 0$$
, for all  $u_2 \in U_2, \dots, u_n \in U_n$ .

Using 2-torsion freeness of N, we conclude that

$$d(-x_0, u_2, \dots, u_n) N \sigma(-x_0) N \sigma(-x_0) = \{0\},\$$

for all  $u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . By 3-primeness of N, we arrive at  $d(-x_0, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0$ or  $\sigma(-x_0) = 0$  for all  $u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . Since  $\sigma$  is an automorphism of N, by (3.9) we get  $d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0$  for all  $x \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ , so  $d(U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n) = \{0\}$ , which contradicts Lemma 2.5.

(ii) By hypothesis, we have for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ 

(3.24) 
$$F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = [d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n), \sigma(y)]$$

Substituting xy for y in (3.24) and using  $(x \circ xy) = x(x \circ y)$ , we obtain

$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x \circ y) + \sigma(x)F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = [d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n), \sigma(xy)],$$

which reduces to

(3.25) 
$$d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y)\sigma(x) = -\sigma(x)d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y).$$

(3.25) is same as (3.23), arguing in the similar manner as above, we conclude that  $d(U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n) = \{0\}$ , which leads to a contradiction.

**Theorem 3.10.** Let N be a 3-prime near ring and  $U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n$  are nonzero semigroup ideals of N. Let  $\sigma$  be an homomorphism on N such that  $U_i \subseteq \sigma(U_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ . If F is a left generalized  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation associated with a nonzero  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation d on N such that  $d([x, y], u_2, \ldots, u_n) = [F(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n), \sigma(y)]$  for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ , then F is a right  $\sigma$ -n-multiplier on N or N is a commutative ring.

*Proof.* Assume that

(3.26)  $d([x, y], u_2, \dots, u_n) = [F(x, u_2, \dots, u_n), \sigma(y)],$ 

for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . Replacing y by xy in (3.26), we get

$$d(x[x,y], u_2, \ldots, u_n) = [F(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n), \sigma(xy)],$$

which implies that

 $d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n)\sigma([x, y]) + \sigma(x)d([x, y], u_2, \ldots, u_n) = [F(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n), \sigma(x)\sigma(y)].$ 

Using (3.26), the last equation becomes

 $d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma([x, y]) + \sigma(x)F(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(y) = F(x, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x)\sigma(y).$ 

For x = y, (3.26) gives  $F(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n)\sigma(x) = \sigma(x)F(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n)$  which implies that  $d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n)\sigma([x, y]) = 0$ . As this equation is same as (3.6), arguing in the similar manner as in Theorem 3.4, we obtain the result.

**Theorem 3.11.** Let N be a 2-torsion free 3-prime near ring and  $U_1, U_2, \ldots, U_n$  are nonzero semigroup ideals of N such that  $U_1$  is closed under addition. Let  $\sigma$  be a onto homomorphism on N such that  $U_1 \subseteq \sigma(U_1)$ . Then N admits no generalized  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation F associated with a  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation d such that  $U_1 \cap Z \neq \emptyset$ ,  $d(U_1 \cap Z, U_2, U_3, \ldots, U_n) \neq \{0\}$  and  $d(x \circ y, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = F(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n) \circ \sigma(y)$  for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that

$$(3.27) d(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = F(x, u_2, \dots, u_n) \circ \sigma(y),$$

for all  $x, y \in U_1, u_2 \in U_2, \ldots, u_n \in U_n$ . Let  $z \in U_1 \cap Z$  such that  $d(z, u_2, u_3, \ldots, u_n) \neq 0$ and replacing y by zy in (3.27), we get

$$d(z, u_2, \dots, u_n)\sigma(x \circ y) + \sigma(z)d(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = F(x, u_2, \dots, u_n) \circ \sigma(z)\sigma(y).$$

Substituting arbitrary element  $z' \in U_1 \cap Z$  for  $\sigma(z)$  in above expression and using (3.27), we obtain  $d(z, u_2, \ldots, u_n)\sigma(x \circ y) = 0$ . By Lemma 2.7, it is clear that  $d(z, u_2, \ldots, u_n) \in Z \setminus \{0\}$  which means that  $d(z, u_2, \ldots, u_n)N\sigma(x \circ y) = \{0\}$ . By 3-primeness of N, we conclude that  $\sigma(x \circ y) = 0$  for all  $x, y \in U_1$  which implies that  $\sigma(x) \circ \sigma(y) = 0$ . Now replacing  $\sigma(x)$  and  $\sigma(y)$  by x' and y' for all  $x', y' \in U_1$  respectively, we have  $x' \circ y' = 0$ . In particular  $x'^2 = 0$  for all  $x' \in U_1$ . Since  $U_1$  is closed under addition, we have  $u(u + u')^2 = 0$  for all  $u, u' \in U_1$  this gives uu'u = 0 for all  $u, u' \in U_1$ , i.e.,  $uU_1u = \{0\}$ . Thus,  $U_1 = \{0\}$ , which contradicts our hypothesis.

The following example shows that the 3-primeness hypothesis in Theorems 3.4 to 3.11 can not be omitted.

Example 3.2. Let S be a zero-symmetric left near-ring which is not abelian. Consider

$$N = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & x & y \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \mid x, y, 0 \in S \right\}$$

and

$$U = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \mid x, 0 \in S \right\}.$$

Then clearly U is a nonzero semigroup ideal of a non 3-prime zero-symmetric left near ring N. Define mappings  $F, d: \underbrace{N \times N \times \cdots \times N}_{n-times} \to N$  by

$$F\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_1 & y_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_2 & y_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \dots, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_n & y_n \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_1 x_2 \dots x_n & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$
$$d\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_1 & y_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_2 & y_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \dots, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & x_n & y_n \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & y_1 y_2 \dots y_n \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$
$$Define \ \sigma, \tau : N \to N \ by$$
$$\left( \begin{array}{c} 0 & x & y \\ 0 & x & y \end{array} \right) \quad \left( \begin{array}{c} 0 & x & -y \\ 0 & x & -y \end{array} \right)$$

$$\tau \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & x & y \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & x & -y \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \quad and \quad \sigma = id_N.$$

If we choose  $U_1 = U_2 = \cdots = U_n = U$ , then it is easy to see that F is a nonzero generalized  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation associated with a nonzero  $(\sigma, \sigma)$ -n-derivation d and also a nonzero generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation associated with a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -n-derivation d of N satisfying

(i) 
$$F(x \circ y, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = 0;$$

(*ii*) 
$$F([x,y], u_2, \ldots, u_n) = \pm \tau([x,y]);$$

(*iii*) 
$$F(x \circ y, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = \pm \tau([x, y]);$$

- (iv)  $F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = (\sigma(x) \circ y)_{\sigma,\sigma}$ ;
- (v)  $F([x,y], u_2, \ldots, u_n) = [\sigma(x), y]_{\sigma,\sigma};$
- (vi)  $F(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = [\sigma(x), y]_{\sigma,\sigma};$

(vii) 
$$F(x \circ y, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = \pm \tau(x \circ y);$$

- (*viii*)  $F([x, y], u_2, \dots, u_n) = [d(x, u_2, \dots, u_n), \sigma(y)];$
- $(ix) \ d([x, y], u_2, \dots, u_n) = [F(x, u_2, \dots, u_n), \sigma(y)];$
- (x)  $F(x \circ y, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = [d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n), \sigma(y)];$
- (xi)  $F(x \circ y, u_2, \ldots, u_n) = d(x, u_2, \ldots, u_n) \circ \sigma(y);$
- (xii)  $d(x \circ y, u_2, \dots, u_n) = F(x, u_2, \dots, u_n) \circ \sigma(y),$

for all  $x, y, u_2, \ldots, u_n \in U$ . However, N is not a commutative ring.

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