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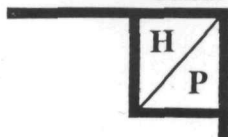
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# ALGEBRAS, GROUPS AND GEOMETRIES

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**A CONTRACTION FORMULA FOR THE INVARIANTS OF THE COADJOINT REPRESENTATION OF LIE ALGEBRAS, 385**

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**SUR QUELQUES TRIN ALGÈBRES ASSOCIATIVES NON COMMUTATIVES, 395**

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**GRADING ISOMANIFOLDS AND SUPER ISOMANIFOLDS, 409**

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**DERIVATIVES IN  $N^{\text{th}}$ -ORDER BERNSTEIN ALGEBRAS, II<sup>1</sup>, 423**

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**Abstract**

Derivation in some special cases of  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebras are studied. Inner derivations for arbitrary  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebras are also treated.

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### 1 Introduction

In this paper all algebras considered will be commutative, non necessarily associative and finite dimensional over an infinite field  $K$  of  $\text{char}(K) \neq 2$ .

Let  $A$  be an algebra over a field  $K$ . As usual in non-associative algebras we will consider principal powers and plenary powers of an element  $x \in A$ , defined by  $x^1 = x$  and  $x^{n+1} = x^n x$  for  $n \geq 1$  and  $x^{[1]} = x$ ,  $x^{[n+1]} = x^{[n]} x^{[n]}$ ,  $n \geq 1$ . If  $X \subseteq A$ , then  $K(X)$  is the vector subspace of  $A$  generated by  $X$ .

If  $\omega: A \rightarrow K$  is a nonzero homomorphism, then the ordered pair  $(A, \omega)$  will be called a baric algebra over  $K$  and  $\omega$  its weight function. For  $x \in A$ ,  $\omega(x)$  is called the weight of  $x$ . The set  $N = \{x \in A \mid \omega(x) = 0\}$  is an ideal of  $A$  of codimension 1. If  $e \in A$  has weight 1 and  $e^2 = e$ , then  $e$  will be called idempotent element of  $A$ .

A  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra is a commutative baric algebra  $(A, \omega)$  satisfying:  $x^{[n+2]} = (\omega(x))^{2^n} x^{[n+1]}$ , for all  $x \in A$  and  $n$  is the smallest one with such property. If  $n = 2$ , that is,  $x^{[4]} = \omega(x)^4 x^{[3]}$ , then  $A$  is a  $2^{\text{nd}}$ -order Bernstein algebra.

Some general results about  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein are the following (see [3], [7], [9] and [12]).

**Proposition 1.1** *Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra, then:*

1. *The weight homomorphism is unique.*
2. *The set of idempotent elements of  $A$  is*

$$\mathfrak{I}(A) = \{x^{[n+1]} \mid x \in A \text{ and } \omega(x) = 1\}.$$

3. *If  $e \in A$  is an idempotent element, then  $A$  has a Peirce decomposition,  $A = Ke \oplus U_e \oplus Z_e$ , where  $U_e = \{x \in A \mid ex = \frac{1}{2}x\}$ ,  $Z_e = \{x \in A \mid L_e^n(x) = 0\}$  and  $L_e(x) = ex$ . Moreover  $L_e^n(x) \in U_e$  for all  $x \in N$ ,  $L_e(z) \in Z_e$  for all  $z \in Z_e$ .*
4.  *$U_e^2 \subseteq Z_e$ ,  $\dim U_e$  (and so  $\dim Z_e$ ) does not depend on the particular idempotent element, and we can define  $\text{type}(A) = (1 + r, d)$ , where  $r = \dim U_e$  and  $d = \dim Z_e$ .*

### 2 Preliminary results

Some general results about Derivations in  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein are the following (see [1] and [5]).

**Definition 2.1** *A derivation  $D$  in an algebra  $A$  is a linear application  $D: A \rightarrow A$  that verifies  $D(xy) = D(x)y + xD(y)$  for every  $x, y$  in  $A$ .*

**Definition 2.2** *Let  $A$  be an algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element. Then  $C_{j,e} = \ker L_e^j$ ,  $j \geq 0$ , where  $L_e^0$  is the identity function on  $A$ .*

**Proposition 2.1** *Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element. Then:*

1. *If  $D: A \rightarrow A$  is a derivation then*

$$(a) \ D(e) \in U_e$$

$$(b) \ D(A) \subseteq N.$$

2. *If  $x \in A$  and  $L_x$  is a derivation then  $x \in U_e \oplus C_{1,e}$ .*

The following definition appear in [3].

**Definition 2.3** *Let  $A$  be a commutative algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element. Let  $G_{k,l,e}: A \rightarrow A$  be given by:  $G_{k,l,e}(a) = L_e^k(a)$  for all  $k \geq 0$  and  $a \in A$ ,*

$$G_{k,l,e}(a^{(r)}, b^{(s)}) = \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} 2^{i-1} L_e^{k-1-i} \left( \sum_{j=1}^{l-1} \sum_{\substack{r'+r''=r \\ 0 \leq r' \leq j \\ 0 \leq r'' \leq l-j}} G_{i,j,e}(a^{(r')}, b^{(j-r')}) G_{i,l-j,e}(a^{(r'')}, b^{(l-j-r'')}) \right),$$

*if  $2^k \geq l$  and  $G_{k,l,e}(a^{(r)}, b^{(s)}) = 0$  if  $2^k < l$ , where  $l \geq 2$ ;  $r+s=l$ ;  $k, r, s \geq 0$  and  $a, b \in A$ .*

We will denote  $G_e(a, b) = G_{n,2,e}(a, b) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 2^{i-1} L_e^{n-1-i} (L_e^i(a) L_e^i(b))$ .

**Theorem 2.1** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra,  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element and  $D: A \rightarrow A$  be a derivation. Then  $D$  determine and is uniquely determined by a triple  $(\tilde{u}, f, g)$  with  $\tilde{u} = D(e)$ ,  $f: U_e \rightarrow U_e$ ,  $g: Z_e \rightarrow Z_e$  linear applications verifying for every  $u, u' \in U_e$ , and  $z, z' \in Z_e$ :

$$D(u) = f(u) + 2^{n+1}G_e(D(e), u); \tag{1}$$

$$D(z) = g(z) - 2^{n+1}G_e(D(e), z); \tag{2}$$

1.  $g(uu') = f(u)u' + uf(u') + 2^{n+1}[G_e(D(e), u)u' + uG_e(D(e), u') + G_e(D(e), uu')];$
2.  $2^n f(L_e^n(uz)) + g(uz - 2^n L_e^n(uz)) = f(u)z + ug(z) + 2^{n+1}[G_e(D(e), u)z - uG_e(D(e), z) + G_e(D(e), uz) - 2^{n+1}G_e(D(e), L_e^n(uz))];$
3.  $2^n f(L_e^n(zz')) + g(zz' - 2^n L_e^n(zz')) = g(z)z' + zg(z') - 2^{n+1}[G_e(D(e), z)z' + zG_e(D(e), z') - G_e(D(e), zz') + 2^{n+1}G_e(D(e), L_e^n(zz'))];$
4.  $g(ez) = eg(z) + D(e)z - 2^n L_e^n(D(e)z).$

Moreover, the application  $\varphi: \text{Der}(A) \rightarrow U_e \times \text{End}_K(U_e) \times \text{End}_K(Z_e)$  such that  $\varphi(D) = (\tilde{u}, f, g)$  is a monomorphism of vector spaces, where  $\text{Der}(A)$  is the set of all derivations of  $A$ .

### 3 Derivations

#### 3.1 The case $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$

In this section we will suppose that  $\text{char}(K) = 0$ .

It's known that the condition  $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$  is an invariant of the algebra  $A$  and  $Z_e = Z_{e'}$  for all  $e, e' \in \mathfrak{S}(A)$  (see [3]).

**Lemma 3.1** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element such that  $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$ . Then  $G_e(u, z) = 0$ ,  $L_e^n(uz) = 0$  and  $L_e^n(zz') = 0$  for all  $u \in U_e$  and  $z, z' \in Z_e$

**Proof:** For all  $u \in U_e$  and  $z \in Z_e$  we have,  $L_e^n(uz), L_e^n(zz') \in U_e \cap Z_e$ , so  $L_e^n(uz) = L_e^n(zz') = 0$ . By [3],  $G_e(u, z) = G_{n,2,e}(u, z) = 0$ . ■

By Theorem 2.1 and Lemma 3.1, we have

**Proposition 3.1** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra,  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element such that  $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$  and  $D: A \rightarrow A$  be a derivation. Then  $D$  determine and is uniquely determined by a triple  $(\tilde{u}, f, g)$  with  $\tilde{u} = D(e) \in U_e$ ,  $f: U_e \rightarrow U_e$ ,  $g: Z_e \rightarrow Z_e$  linear applications verifying for every  $u, u' \in U_e$ , and  $z, z' \in Z_e$ :

$$D(u) = f(u) + 2^{n+1}G_e(D(e), u); \tag{3}$$

$$D(z) = g(z); \tag{4}$$

1.  $g(uu') = f(u)u' + uf(u') + 2^{n+1}[G_e(D(e), u)u' + uG_e(D(e), u')];$
2.  $g(uz) = f(u)z + ug(z) + 2^{n+1}G_e(D(e), u)z;$
3.  $g(zz') = g(z)z' + zg(z');$
4.  $g(ez) = eg(z) + D(e)z.$

**Corollary 3.1** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra,  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element such that  $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$  and  $D: A \rightarrow A$  be a derivation. Then  $D(Z_e) \subseteq Z_e$ .

**Theorem 3.1** Let  $Z$  be a finite dimensional algebra such that  $Z^2 \neq 0$ . If there exists  $n \geq 3$  such that  $z^{[n]} = 0$  for all  $z \in Z$ , then

$$\dim_K \text{Der}(Z) \leq d^2 - 2d + 2,$$

where  $d = \dim_K Z$ .

**Proof:** Let  $z \in Z$  such that  $z^2 \neq 0$ . We will prove that  $\{z, z^2\}$  is linearly independent. Given  $\alpha, \beta \in K$  such that  $\alpha z + \beta z^2 = 0$ . Since  $z^{[n]} = 0$  and  $z^{[2]} = z^2 \neq 0$ , there exists  $k \geq 2$  such that  $z^{[k]} \neq 0$  and  $z^{[k+1]} = 0$ . So  $\alpha^{2^{k-1}} z^{[k]} = \beta^{2^{k-1}} z^{[k+1]} = 0$ . Hence  $\alpha = \beta = 0$ .

Let  $\{z_1 = z, z_2 = z^2, z_3, \dots, z_d\}$  be a basis of  $Z$ . We define the linear functions  $g_{i2}: Z \rightarrow Z$  ( $i = 1, \dots, d$ ) and  $g_{1j}: Z \rightarrow Z$  ( $j = 3, \dots, d$ ) given by

$$g_{i2}(z_k) = \begin{cases} z_i & \text{if } k = i, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad g_{1j}(z_k) = \begin{cases} z_1 & \text{if } k = j, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We have  $\{g_{12}, \dots, g_{d2}, g_{13}, \dots, g_{1d}\}$  is a linearly independent set. Moreover if  $g \in K(g_{12}, \dots, g_{d2}, g_{13}, \dots, g_{1d})$  and  $g$  is a derivation, then  $g = 0$ . Hence  $\dim_k \text{Der}(Z) \leq d^2 - (2d - 2)$ . ■

**Corollary 3.2** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra of type  $(1 + r, d)$  and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element such that  $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$ ,  $eZ_e = 0$  and  $Z_e^2 \neq 0$ . Then  $\text{Der}(A) \leq r + r^2 + d^2 - 2d + 2$ .

**Remark 1** There is an example of a  $2^{\text{nd}}$ -order Bernstein algebra of type  $(1 + r, d)$ , where  $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$ ,  $eZ_e = 0$ ,  $Z_e^2 \neq 0$  and  $\dim_k \text{Der}(A) = r + r^2 + d^2 - 2d + 2$  (see [1]).

### 3.2 The power-associative case

In this section we study derivation in power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebras. In this section we will suppose that  $n \geq 2$ .

An algebra  $A$  is power-associative if  $x^i x^j = x^{i+j}$  for every  $i, j \geq 1$  and  $x \in A$ . It is known that,  $A$  is power-associative if and only if  $x^2 x^2 = x^4$  for all  $x \in A$ .

Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra. By [5] and [12] we have the following results:

For all  $e \in \mathfrak{S}(A)$ ,  $u \in U_e$ ,  $z \in Z_e$  we have:

$$U_e Z_e \subseteq U_e, Z_e^2 \subseteq Z_e, eZ_e = 0, \tag{5}$$

$$\mathfrak{S}(A) = \{e + u + u^2 \mid u \in U_e\} \tag{6}$$

$$U_{e'} = \{u' + 2uu' \mid u' \in U_e\}, Z_{e'} = \{z - 2uz \mid z \in Z_e\}, \tag{7}$$

for all  $e' = e + u + u^2 \in \mathfrak{S}(A)$ , where  $u \in U_e$ .

$$u^3 = 0, \tag{8}$$

$$2u(uz) = u^2 z, \tag{9}$$

$$2(uz)z = uz^2, \tag{10}$$

$$u^2(uz) = u(u^2 z) = 0, \tag{11}$$

$$2(uz)z^2 = 2(uz^2)z = uz^3, \tag{12}$$

$$2(uz)^2 + u(uz^2) = (u^2 z)z. \tag{13}$$

By Theorem 2.1, and (5), (8), (9) and (10), we have

**Proposition 3.2** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra,  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element and  $D: A \rightarrow A$  a derivation. Then  $D$  determine and is uniquely determined by a triple  $(\tilde{u}, f, g)$  with  $\tilde{u} = D(e)$ ,  $f: U_e \rightarrow U_e$ ,  $g: Z_e \rightarrow Z_e$  are linear applications verifying for every  $u, u' \in U_e$ , and  $z, z' \in Z_e$ :

$$D(u) = f(u) + 2D(e)u; \tag{14}$$

$$D(z) = g(z) - 2D(e)z; \tag{15}$$

$$1. g(uu') = f(u)u' + uf(u');$$

$$2. f(uz) = f(u)z + ug(z);$$

$$3. g(zz') = g(z)z' + zg(z').$$

**Lemma 3.2** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element. Then  $Z_e^2 \neq 0$ .

**Proof:** Suppose that  $Z_e^2 = 0$ . By (9), (11) and (13) we have

$$u(uz) = 0, u^2(uz) = 0 \text{ and } (uz)^2 = 0.$$

Hence  $(A, \omega)$  is a Bernstein algebra ( $n = 1$ ), it is a contradiction. ■

**Corollary 3.3** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra of type  $(1 + r, d)$  and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element.

$$1. \text{ If } U_e \neq 0 \text{ then } \text{Der}(A) \neq 0,$$

$$2. \text{ If } U_e = 0 \text{ and } Z_e^k = 0 \text{ for some } k, \text{ then } \text{Der}(A) \neq 0.$$

**Proof:** 1. By Proposition 3.2 we have  $(\bar{u}, O_{U_e}, 0_{Z_e})$  define a derivation in  $A$  for all  $\bar{u} \in U_e$ . ■

2. By [6, Prop.2.5], we have  $\text{Der}(A) \neq 0$ .

**Corollary 3.4** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra. If  $\text{Der}(A) = 0$ , then  $(A, \omega)$  is not genetic algebra.

**Proof:** By Corollary 3.3 we have  $U_e = 0$  and  $\ker \omega = Z_e$  is not nilpotent. Hence  $A$  is not genetic algebra. ■

By Theorem 3.1, Lemma 3.2 and Proposition 3.2 we have

**Proposition 3.3** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra of type  $(1+r, d)$ . Then  $\text{Der}(A) \leq r + r^2 + d^2 - 2d + 2$ .

**Theorem 3.2** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra. Suppose that there exists  $e \in A$  an idempotent element such that  $U_e = 0$ , then  $A$  is determined, up to isomorphisms, by a commutative power-associative nil algebra  $Z$  of index  $2^n$ . Moreover  $\text{Der}(A) \cong \text{Der}(Z)$ .

**Proof:** Let  $e' \in A$  other idempotent element, then  $e' = (e+z)^{[n+1]}$  for some  $z \in Z_e$ , but  $e' = (e+z)^{[n+1]} = e$ , so  $(A, \omega)$  has an unique idempotent element and the Peirce decomposition is unique too.

We will denote  $Z_e = Z$ . Since  $(A, \omega)$  is power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra, then  $0 = z^{[n+1]} = z^{2^n}$  for all  $z \in Z$  and  $2^n$  is the nil index of  $Z$ .

Let  $Z$  be a commutative power-associative algebra of nil index  $2^n$ . For  $A(Z) = Ke \oplus Z$  with multiplication:

$$(\alpha e + z)(\alpha' e + z') = \alpha \alpha' e + z z' \text{ for all } \alpha, \alpha' \in K \text{ and } z, z' \in Z,$$

and the weight homomorphism  $\omega: A(Z) \rightarrow K$  given by  $\omega(\alpha e + z) = \alpha$ , we have  $(A(Z), \omega)$  is a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra.

It is easy to see that, if  $Z$  and  $Z'$  are commutative power-associative algebras of nil index  $2^n$  and  $Z \cong Z'$ , then  $A(Z) \cong A(Z')$ .

Given  $D \in \text{Der}(A)$ . By Proposition 2.1 we have  $D(e) \in U_e$  and  $D(A) \subseteq \ker \omega$  so  $D(e) = 0$  and  $D(A) \subseteq Z$ . Hence  $D|_Z \in \text{Der}(Z)$ . Given  $D \in \text{Der}(Z)$ . Let  $D': A \rightarrow A$  be given by  $D'(\alpha e + z) = D(z)$ , then  $D' \in \text{Der}(A)$ . ■

**Theorem 3.3** Let  $Z$  be a finite dimensional power-associative nil algebra of index  $k+1$ . Then,

$$\dim_K \text{Der}(Z) \leq d^2 - 2(k-1)d + k(k-1),$$

where  $d = \dim_K Z$ .

**Proof:** Given  $z \in Z$  such that  $z^k \neq 0$ . Since  $z^{k+1} = 0$ , then  $\{z, \dots, z^k\}$  is linearly independent set. Let  $\{z_1 = z, \dots, z_k = z^k, z_{k+1}, \dots, z_d\}$  be a basis of  $Z$ .

We define the linear functions  $g_{ij}: Z \rightarrow Z$  ( $i = 1, \dots, d; j = 2, \dots, k$ ) and  $g_{lj}: Z \rightarrow Z$  ( $l = 1, \dots, k-1; j = k+1, \dots, d$ ) given by

$$g_{ij}(z_t) = \begin{cases} z_i & \text{if } t = j, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad g_{lj}(z_t) = \begin{cases} z_l & \text{if } t = j, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

We have that  $\left\{ g_{ij} \right\}_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq d \\ 2 \leq j \leq k}} \cup \left\{ g_{lj} \right\}_{\substack{1 \leq l \leq k-1 \\ k+1 \leq j \leq d}}$  is a linearly independent set. Moreover if  $g \in K \left( \left\{ g_{ij} \right\}_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq d \\ 2 \leq j \leq k}} \cup \left\{ g_{lj} \right\}_{\substack{1 \leq l \leq k-1 \\ k+1 \leq j \leq d}} \right)$  and  $g$  is a derivation then  $g = 0$ .

Hence  $\dim_K \text{Der}(Z) \leq d^2 - [2(k-1)d - k(k-1)]$ . ■

**Corollary 3.5** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra of type  $(1+r, d)$ ,  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element and  $k+1$  be the nil index of  $Z_e$ . Then

$$\dim_K \text{Der}(Z) \leq r + r^2 + d^2 - 2(k-1)d + k(k-1).$$

**Example 3.1** Let  $V$  be a vector space and  $T: V \rightarrow V$  be a linear function such that  $T^{2^n} = 0$  and  $T^{2^n-1} \neq 0$ . Let  $U$  be a vector space of  $\dim_K U = r$ . In the vector space  $A = Ke \oplus U \oplus K(T, \dots, T^{2^n-1})$  we define a following multiplication:

$$(\alpha e + u + z)(\alpha' e + u' + z') = \alpha \alpha' e + \frac{1}{2}(\alpha' u + \alpha u') + z z',$$

for all  $\alpha, \alpha' \in K$ ,  $u, u' \in U$  and  $z, z' \in K(T, \dots, T^{2^n-1})$  and the weight homomorphism  $\omega: A \rightarrow K$  given by  $\omega(\alpha e + u + z) = \alpha$ . Then  $(A, \omega)$

is a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra of type  $(1 + r, d)$ , where  $d = 2^n - 1$ . The nil index of  $Z_e = K(T, \dots, T^{2^n-1})$  is  $k + 1 = 2^n$ . In this case,  $\dim_K \text{Der}(A) = r + r^2 + d^2 - 2(k - 1)d + k(k - 1) = 2^n - 1$ .

**Proposition 3.4** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra. If  $J$  is the Etherington's ideal of  $A$ , that is, the ideal of  $A$  generated by  $\{x^2 - \omega(x)x \mid x \in A\}$ , then  $J = U_e Z_e \oplus Z_e$  for all idempotent element  $e \in A$ .

**Proof:** Let  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element. It is easy to see that  $U_e Z_e \oplus Z_e$  is an ideal of  $A$ . If  $x = \alpha e + u + z \in A$  with  $\alpha \in K$ ,  $u \in U_e$  and  $z \in Z_e$ , then

$$x^2 - \omega(x)x = 2uz + u^2 + z^2 - \alpha z \in U_e Z_e \oplus Z_e.$$

If  $z \in Z_e$ , for  $x_1 = z$  and  $x_2 = e - z$  we have  $x_1^2 - \omega(x_1)x_1 = z^2 \in J$  and  $x_2^2 - \omega(x_2)x_2 = z + z^2 \in J$  so  $z \in J$ . For all  $u \in U_e$  and  $z \in Z_e$  we have  $uz \in J$  because  $J$  is an ideal. ■

**Corollary 3.6** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra. Then the dimension of  $U_e Z_e$  and  $U_e^2 + Z_e^2$  are invariants.

**Proof:** Since  $\dim_K Z_e$  is invariant, then by Proposition 3.4,  $\dim_K(U_e Z_e)$  is invariant so  $\dim(U_e^2 + Z_e^2)$  is invariant too, because  $(\ker \omega)^2 = U_e Z_e \oplus (U_e^2 + Z_e^2)$ . ■

**Proposition 3.5** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra of type  $(1 + r, d)$ . Then

$$\dim_K \text{Der}(A) \leq r + s^2 + r(r - s) + t^2 + d(d - t),$$

where  $s = \dim_K(U_e Z_e)$  and  $t = \dim_K(U_e^2 + Z_e^2)$ .

**Proof:** By Proposition 3.2 the triple  $(D(e), f, g)$  determine a derivation if and only if

$$g(uu') = f(u)u' + uf(u'); \quad f(uz) = f(u)z + ug(z); \quad g(zz') = g(z)z' + zg(z'),$$

for all  $u, u' \in U_e$  and  $z, z' \in Z_e$ . It follows that  $f(U_e Z_e) \subseteq U_e Z_e$  and  $g(U_e^2 + Z_e^2) \subseteq U_e^2 + Z_e^2$ .

Hence,  $\dim_K \text{Der}(A) \leq r + s^2 + r(r - s) + t^2 + d(d - t)$ . ■

## 4 Inner derivations

### 4.1 General case

**Definition 4.1** A derivation  $D: A \rightarrow A$  is an inner derivation if  $D \in \mathcal{L}(A)$ , where  $\mathcal{L}(A)$  is the Lie algebra generated by  $L_x$  and  $R_x$  with  $x \in A$

We will see what conditions determine that  $L_u$  and  $L_z$  are derivations in a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra.

**Lemma 4.1** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element. If  $x \in N$  verifies that  $x + 2ex = 0$ , then  $x = 0$ .

**Proof:** Given  $u \in U_e$  and  $z \in Z_e$  such that  $x = u + z$  then  $u + z + u + 2ez = 0$ , so  $u = 0$  and  $x \in Z_e$ . Therefore  $x = -2L_e(x) = (-2)^2 L_e^2(x) = \dots = (-2)^n L_e^n(x) = 0$ . ■

**Proposition 4.1** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element. If  $\bar{u} \in U_e$ , then  $L_{\bar{u}}$  is a derivation if and only if:

1.  $\bar{u}U_e \subseteq C_{1e}$ ;
2.  $\bar{u}Z_e = 0$ ;
3.  $(\bar{u}u)u' + (\bar{u}u')u = 0$  for all  $u, u' \in U_e$ . In particular  $(\bar{u}u)u = 0$  for all  $u \in U_e$ ;
4.  $(\bar{u}u)z = \bar{u}(uz)$  for all  $u \in U_e$  and  $z \in Z_e$ ;
5.  $\bar{u}Z_e^2 = 0$ .

In this case the triple associated to  $L_{\bar{u}}$  is  $(\frac{1}{2}\bar{u}, 0_{U_e}, 0_{Z_e})$ .

**Proof:** Suppose that  $L_{\bar{u}}$  is a derivation. For all  $x, x' \in A$  we have  $L_{\bar{u}}(xx') = L_{\bar{u}}(x)x' + xL_{\bar{u}}(x')$  then  $\bar{u}(xx') = (\bar{u}x)x' + x(\bar{u}x')$ .

If  $x = e$  and  $x' = u$ , we have  $e(\bar{u}u) = 0$  and so  $\bar{u}u \in C_{1e}$ .

If  $x = e$  and  $x' = L_e^{n-1}(z)$ , we have  $\bar{u}L_e^{n-1}(z) + 2e(\bar{u}L_e^{n-1}(z)) = 0$  and by Lemma 4.1  $\bar{u}L_e^{n-1}(z) = 0$ . We will by induction that  $\bar{u}L_e^{n-k}(z) = 0$ . If  $k = 1$  the result holds. So assume that it holds for  $k - 1$ . If  $x = e$  and  $x' = L_e^{n-k}(z)$  we have  $\bar{u}L_e^{n-k}(z) + 2e(\bar{u}L_e^{n-k}(z)) = 0$  and so  $\bar{u}L_e^{n-k}(z) = 0$ . If  $k = n$  then  $\bar{u}z = 0$ .

If we take  $x = u$  and  $x' = u'$  or  $x = u$  and  $x' = z$  or  $x = z$  and  $x' = z'$  respectively and we consider  $\bar{u}Z_e = 0$  we have 3, 4 and 5.

Conversely a calculation shows that  $L_{\bar{u}}$  is a derivation.

Let's see which is the triple  $(\tilde{u}, f, g)$  associated to  $L_{\bar{u}}$ ,  $\tilde{u} = L_{\bar{u}}(e) = \frac{1}{2}\bar{u}$ .

Since for all  $u \in U_e$ ,  $\bar{u}u \in C_{1e}$  we have  $2^{n+1}G_e(\frac{1}{2}\bar{u}, u) = \bar{u}u$  and by  $L_{\bar{u}}(u) = f(u) + 2^{n+1}G_e(\frac{1}{2}\bar{u}, u)$  we obtain  $f(u) = 0$ .

Let  $z \in Z_e$ , since  $\bar{u}Z_e = 0$ , then  $G_e(\frac{1}{2}\bar{u}, z) = 0$  and by  $L_{\bar{u}}(z) = g(z) - 2^{n+1}G_e(\frac{1}{2}\bar{u}, z)$ , we obtain  $g(z) = 0$ . ■

**Proposition 4.2** *Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element. If  $\bar{z} \in Z_e$ , then  $L_{\bar{z}}$  is a derivation if and only if:*

1.  $e\bar{z} = 0$ ;
2.  $\bar{z}U_e \subseteq U_e$ ;
3.  $(ez)\bar{z} = e(z\bar{z})$  for all  $z \in Z_e$ ;
4.  $u^2\bar{z} = 2u(u\bar{z})$  for all  $u \in U_e$ ;
5.  $\bar{z}(uz) = (\bar{z}u)z + u(z\bar{z})$  for all  $u \in U_e$  and  $z \in Z_e$ ;
6.  $z^2\bar{z} = 2z(z\bar{z})$  for all  $z \in Z_e$ .

*In this case the triple associated to  $L_{\bar{z}}$  is  $(0, L_{\bar{z}|U_e}, L_{\bar{z}|Z_e})$ .*

**Proof:** Suppose that  $L_{\bar{z}}$  is a derivation. By Proposition 2.1, we have  $\bar{z} \in C_{1e}$ . For all  $x, x' \in A$  we have  $\bar{z}(xx') = (\bar{z}x)x' + x(\bar{z}x')$ .

If we take  $x = e$  and  $x' = u$ , or  $x = e$  and  $x' = z$  respectively and we consider that  $e\bar{z} = 0$  we have 2 and 3.

Taking  $x = x' = u$ , or  $x = u$  and  $x' = z$ , or  $x = x' = z$ , we obtain the others.

Conversely if we have the conditions, then a calculation shows that  $L_{\bar{z}}$  is a derivation.

Let's see which is the triple  $(\tilde{u}, f, g)$  associated to  $L_{\bar{z}}$ ,  $\tilde{u} = L_{\bar{z}}(e) = 0$  and  $G_e(0, b) = 0$ , so  $L_{\bar{z}}(u) = f(u)$  and  $L_{\bar{z}}(z) = g(z)$  for all  $u \in U_e, z \in Z_e$ . ■

## 4.2 The case $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$

In this section we will suppose that  $\text{char}(K) = 0$ .

By Propositions 4.1 and 4.2, we have

**Proposition 4.3** *Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element such that  $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$ .*

1. *Let  $\bar{u} \in U_e$ . Then  $L_{\bar{u}}$  is a derivation if and only if:*

- (a)  $\bar{u}U_e \subseteq C_{1e}$ ;
- (b)  $\bar{u}Z_e = 0$ ;
- (c)  $(\bar{u}u)u' + (\bar{u}u')u = 0$  for all  $u, u' \in U_e$ . In particular  $(\bar{u}u)u = 0$  for all  $u \in U_e$ ;
- (d)  $(\bar{u}U_e)Z_e = 0$ .

*In this case the triple associated to  $L_{\bar{u}}$  is  $(\frac{1}{2}\bar{u}, 0_{U_e}, 0_{Z_e})$ .*

2. *Let  $\bar{z} \in Z_e$ . Then  $L_{\bar{z}}$  is a derivation if and only if:*

- (a)  $e\bar{z} = u\bar{z} = u^2\bar{z} = 0$  for all  $u \in U_e$ ;
- (b)  $(ez)\bar{z} = e(z\bar{z})$  for all  $z \in Z_e$ ;
- (c)  $\bar{z}(uz) = u(z\bar{z})$  for all  $u \in U_e$  and  $z \in Z_e$ ;
- (d)  $z^2\bar{z} = 2z(z\bar{z})$  for all  $z \in Z_e$ . In particular  $\bar{z}^3 = 0$ .

*In this case the triple associated to  $L_{\bar{z}}$  is  $(0, 0_{U_e}, L_{\bar{z}|Z_e})$ .*

**Corollary 4.1** *Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element such that  $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$ . If  $L_{\bar{z}}$  is a derivation, where  $\bar{z} \in Z_e$ , then*

$$L_e^{n-1}(z\bar{z}) = L_e^{n-1}(z)\bar{z} = G_e(u, z)\bar{z} = 0 \text{ for all } u \in U_e \text{ and } z \in Z_e.$$

**Proof:** By [3] and 2 (a) of Proposition 4.3 we have,

$$0 = G_e(z, \bar{z}) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 2^{i-1} L_e^{n-1-i} (L_e^i(z) L_e^i(\bar{z})) = 2^{-1} L_e^{n-1}(z\bar{z}).$$

By 2 (b) of the same Proposition and induction,

$$L_e^k(z\bar{z}) = L_e^k(z)\bar{z} \text{ for all } k \geq 1 \text{ and } z \in Z_e. \quad (16)$$

By 2 (c) and (16),

$$u L_e^k(z\bar{z}) = \bar{z}(u L_e^k(z)) \text{ for all } u \in U_e \text{ and } z \in Z_e. \quad (17)$$

By [3],

$$G_{n,3,e}(u, z, z) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} 2^i L_e^{n-1-i} (L_e^i(u) G_{i,2,e}(z, z) + L_e^i(z) G_{i,2,e}(u, z)) = 0, \quad (18)$$

where  $G_{0,2,e}(a, b) = 0$ . Linearizing (18) we have,  $\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} L_e^{n-1-i} (u L_e^{i-1}(z\bar{z})) = 0$ .

Since  $L_e^{n-1}(z\bar{z}) = 0$  and by (16) and (17) then  $G_e(u, z)\bar{z} = 0$ . ■

**Corollary 4.2** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element such that  $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$  and  $z^3 = 0$  for all  $z \in Z_e$ . Then  $L_{\bar{z}}$  is a derivation if and only if

1.  $e\bar{z} = u\bar{z} = u^2\bar{z} = 0$  for all  $u \in U_e$ ;
2.  $(ez)\bar{z} = e(z\bar{z})$  for all  $z \in Z_e$ ;
3.  $\bar{z}(uz) = u(z\bar{z})$  for all  $u \in U_e$  and  $z \in Z_e$ ;
4.  $z^2\bar{z} = 0$  for all  $z \in Z_e$

**Proof:** By the Proposition 4.3 it's suffices to prove that  $z^2\bar{z} = 0$ . Since  $z^3 = 0$ , we obtain  $z^2 z' + 2z(z z') = 0$  for all  $z, z' \in Z_e$  so  $z^2\bar{z} + 2z(z\bar{z}) = 0$ . Since  $L_{\bar{z}}$  is a derivation we have  $z^2\bar{z} = 2z(z\bar{z})$  so  $z^2\bar{z} = 0$ . Conversely by the Proposition 4.3 it's suffices to prove that  $2z(z\bar{z}) = 0$ , but this is immediate since  $z^2\bar{z} + 2z(z\bar{z}) = 0$  and  $z^2\bar{z} = 0$ . ■

**Corollary 4.3** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a Power-Associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element such that  $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$  then

1.  $L_{\bar{u}}$  is a derivation for all  $\bar{u} \in U_e$
2. If  $\bar{z} \in Z_e$ , then  $L_{\bar{z}}$  is a derivation if and only if  $z^2\bar{z} = 2z(z\bar{z})$  for all  $z \in Z_e$ .

**Proof:** In this case  $C_{1e} = Z_e$ ,  $U_e Z_e = 0$  and  $(uu')z = u(u'z) + u'(uz) = 0$ , so hold the conditions of Proposition 4.3. ■

There are  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra with  $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$  in which there exist derivations  $L_{\bar{u}}$  and  $L_{\bar{z}}$  non null.

**Example 4.1** Let  $A = Ke + K(u) + K(z_1, z_2, z_3, w_1, \dots, w_n)$  the  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra with product given by:

$$e^2 = e, \quad eu = \frac{1}{2}u, \quad ew_i = w_{i+1} \quad i = 1, \dots, n-1, \quad u^2 = z_3, \quad z_1 z_2 = z_3.$$

$L_u$  is a derivation and  $L_u(u) = z_3 \neq 0$ .

**Example 4.2** Let  $A = Ke + K(z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4, z_5, w_1, \dots, w_n)$  the  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra with product given by:

$$e^2 = e, \quad ew_i = w_{i+1} \quad (i = 1, \dots, n-1), \quad z_1 z_2 = z_3, \quad z_1 z_3 = z_4, \quad z_1 z_5 = -z_3, \\ z_2 z_3 = z_5, \quad z_2 z_4 = z_3.$$

$L_{z_3}$  is a derivation and  $L_{z_3}(z_1) = z_4 \neq 0$ .

If  $(A, \omega)$  is a Bernstein algebra and  $L_x$  is a derivation with  $x = \bar{u} + \bar{z}$ , then  $L_{\bar{u}}$  and  $L_{\bar{z}}$  are derivations too. But this is not hold if  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra with  $n \geq 2$  as show this example.

**Example 4.3** Let  $A = Ke + K(u_1, u_2) + K(z_1, z_2, z_3, w_1, \dots, w_n)$  the  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra such that  $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$ , with product given by:

$$e^2 = e, \quad eu_i = \frac{1}{2}u_i, \quad ew_i = w_{i+1} \quad (i = 1, \dots, n-1), \quad u_i^2 = z_i, \quad u_1 u_2 = \\ z_3, \quad u_2 z_3 = \frac{1}{2}z_1, \quad z_2^2 = z_1.$$

$L_{u_1}$  isn't a derivation because if  $u = \alpha_1 u_1 + \alpha_2 u_2$  we obtain  $(u_1 u) u = \frac{1}{2} \alpha_2^2 z_1 \neq 0$  if  $\alpha_2 \neq 0$ . and yet it's suffices to make the calculations to see that  $L_{u_1+z_1}$  is a derivation.

**Proposition 4.4** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element such that  $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$ . If  $x = \bar{u} + \bar{z} \in U_e \oplus Z_e$ , then  $L_x$  is a derivation if and only if for all  $u, u' \in U_e$  and  $z, z' \in Z_e$  we have:

1.  $e\bar{z} = 0$ ;

2.  $\bar{z}u = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} 2^i L_e^i(u\bar{u})$ ;

3.  $\bar{u}z = \sum_{i=1}^{2n-1} 2^i [L_{\bar{z}}, L_e]_i(z)$ ,

where  $[L_a, L_b] = L_a L_b - L_b L_a = [L_a, L_b]_1$  and  $[L_a, L_b]_{k+1} = [[L_a, L_b]_k, L_b]$ ,

4.  $\bar{u}(uu') + \bar{z}(uu') = (\bar{u}u)u' + (\bar{u}u')u + (\bar{z}u)u' + (\bar{z}u')u$ ;

5.  $\bar{u}(uz) + \bar{z}(uz) = (\bar{u}u)z + (\bar{u}z)u + (\bar{z}u)z + (\bar{z}z)u$ ;

6.  $\bar{u}(zz') + \bar{z}(zz') = (\bar{u}z)z' + (\bar{u}z')z + (\bar{z}z)z' + (\bar{z}z')z$ .

**Proof:** Suppose that  $L_x$  is a derivation, then clearly we have 4, 5 and 6.

1. Since  $e$  is an idempotent element, then  $L_x(e) = L_x(e^2) = 2eL_x(e)$  so  $e\bar{z} = 0$ .

2. Since  $eu = \frac{1}{2}u$ , then  $\frac{1}{2}L_x(u) = L_x(eu) = eL_x(u) + uL_x(e)$  so

$$\bar{z}u = 2e(\bar{u}u) + 2e(\bar{z}u) = 2L_e(\bar{u}u) + 2L_e(\bar{z}u). \tag{19}$$

Hence  $\bar{z}u = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} 2^i L_e^i(u\bar{u}) + 2^{n-1} L_e^{n-1}(\bar{z}u)$ . By (19),  $L_e^{n-1}(\bar{z}u) = 0$ .

3. Since  $L_x(ez) = eL_x(z) + zL_x(e)$  we have  $L_{\bar{u}}(z) = 2[L_{\bar{u}}, L_e](z) + 2[L_{\bar{z}}, L_e](z)$ .

Considering  $L_{\bar{u}}$  restrict to  $Z_e$  then

$$L_{\bar{u}} = 2[L_{\bar{u}}, L_e] + 2[L_{\bar{z}}, L_e]. \tag{20}$$

So  $L_{\bar{u}} = \sum_{i=1}^k 2^i [L_{\bar{z}}, L_e]_i + 2^k [L_{\bar{u}}, L_e]_k$  for all  $k \geq 1$ . But

$$[L_a, L_e]_k(z) = \sum_{i=0}^k (-1)^{k-i} \binom{k}{i} L_e^{k-i}(aL_e^i(z)),$$

for all  $a \in N$ ,  $z \in Z_e$  and  $k \geq 1$ . It is easy to see that  $[L_a, L_e]_{2n}(z) = 0$  for all  $z \in Z_e$  because, if  $0 \leq i \leq n$  then  $n \leq 2n - i \leq 2n$  so  $L_e^{2n-i}(aL_e^i(z)) = 0$ . If  $n < i \leq 2n$  we have  $L_e^i(z) = 0$ . Hence  $L_{\bar{u}} = \sum_{i=1}^{2n} 2^i [L_{\bar{z}}, L_e]_i = \sum_{i=1}^{2n-1} 2^i [L_{\bar{z}}, L_e]_i$ .

Assume now 1, ..., 6 true.

a) Clearly,  $L_x(e) = \frac{1}{2}\bar{u} = 2eL_x(e)$ .

b) We need to prove that  $L_x(eu) = eL_x(u) + uL_x(e)$  but it is equivalent to  $\bar{z}u = 2L_e(\bar{u}u) + 2L_e(\bar{z}u)$ .

But  $\bar{z}u = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} 2^i L_e^i(u\bar{u})$  then  $2L_e(\bar{z}u) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} 2^{i+1} L_e^{i+1}(u\bar{u}) = \sum_{i=2}^n 2^i L_e^i(u\bar{u}) = \sum_{i=2}^{n-1} 2^i L_e^i(u\bar{u})$ . Hence  $2L_e(\bar{u}u) + 2L_e(\bar{z}u) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} 2^i L_e^i(u\bar{u}) = \bar{z}u$ .

c) Similarly to b) we prove that

$$2[L_{\bar{u}}, L_e](z) + 2[L_{\bar{z}}, L_e](z) = L_{\bar{u}}(z)$$

that is equivalent to  $L_x(ez) = eL_x(z) + zL_x(e)$ . ■

**Proposition 4.5** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element such that  $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e$  and  $eZ_e = 0$ . If  $x = \bar{u} + \bar{z} \in U_e \oplus Z_e$ , then

1.  $L_x$  is a derivation if and only if for all  $u \in U_e$  and  $z \in Z_e$  we have:

(a)  $\bar{z}U_e = 0$ ;

(b)  $\bar{u}Z_e = 0$ ;

(c)  $\bar{z}u^2 = 2u(u\bar{u})$ ;

(d)  $\bar{z}(uz) = (\bar{u}u)z + (\bar{z}z)u;$

(e)  $\bar{z}z^2 = 2z(z\bar{z});$

2. If  $L_x$  is a derivation, then  $\bar{u}^2, \bar{z}^2 \in \text{Ann}(Z_e)$  and  $\bar{u}^2 + \bar{z}^2 \in \text{Ann}(A);$

3. If  $U_e^2 = 0$  or  $U_e Z_e = 0$  or  $Z_e^2 = 0$ , then  $L_x$  is a derivation if and only if  $L_{\bar{u}}$  and  $L_{\bar{z}}$  are derivations.

**Proof:** 1. Suppose that  $L_x$  is a derivation.

By 2 and 3 of Proposition 4.4,  $\bar{z}u = 0$  for all  $u \in U_e$  and  $\bar{u}z = 0$  for all  $z \in Z_e.$

By (a), (b) and 4, 5, 6 of Proposition 4.4, we have

$$\bar{z}u^2 = 2u(\bar{u}u), \bar{z}(uz) = (\bar{u}u)z + (\bar{z}z)u \text{ and } \bar{z}z^2 = 2z(\bar{z}z).$$

The converse is clear.

2. For  $u = \bar{u}$  in (d) we have  $\bar{u}^2 z = 0$  for all  $z \in Z_e.$

Linearizing (e) we have  $\bar{z}(zz') = z(z'\bar{z}) + z'(z\bar{z}).$  If  $z' = \bar{z}$  then  $\bar{z}(z\bar{z}) = z\bar{z}^2 + \bar{z}(z\bar{z}),$  so  $\bar{z}^2 z = 0$  for all  $z \in Z_e.$

Linearizing (c) we have  $\bar{z}(uu') = u(\bar{u}u') + u'(\bar{u}u).$  If  $u' = \bar{u}$  then  $\bar{z}(u\bar{u}) = u\bar{u}^2.$  For  $z = \bar{z}$  in (d),  $0 = (\bar{u}u)\bar{z} + \bar{z}^2 u$  then  $\bar{z}^2 u = -\bar{z}(u\bar{u}).$  Hence  $(\bar{u}^2 + \bar{z}^2)u = 0$  for all  $u \in U_e.$

3. Suppose that  $L_x$  is a derivation.

Then  $L_{\bar{u}}$  and  $L_{\bar{z}}$  are derivation if and only if

$$L_{\bar{u}}(yy') = L_{\bar{u}}(y)y' + yL_{\bar{u}}(y') \text{ and } L_{\bar{z}}(yy') = L_{\bar{z}}(y)y' + yL_{\bar{z}}(y'),$$

for all  $y, y' \in A.$

i) If  $y = y' = e$  it is clear. If  $y = e$  and  $y' = u$  or  $z$  too.

ii) If  $y = y' = u$  we have

$L_{\bar{u}}(u^2) = 2uL_{\bar{u}}(u)$  if and only if  $\bar{u}u^2 = 2u(u\bar{u}).$  By (b),  $\bar{u}u^2 = 0.$  If  $U_e^2 = 0$  or  $U_e Z_e = 0$  then  $u(\bar{u}u) = 0.$  If  $Z_e^2 = 0$  then by (c),  $2u(u\bar{u}) = \bar{z}u^2 = 0.$

$L_{\bar{z}}(u^2) = 2uL_{\bar{z}}(u)$  if and only if  $\bar{z}u^2 = 2u(u\bar{z}).$  By (a),  $u\bar{z} = 0.$  If  $U_e^2 = 0$  or  $Z_e^2 = 0$  then  $zu^2 = 0.$  If  $U_e Z_e = 0$  then by (c),  $zu^2 = 2u(\bar{u}u) = 0.$

iii) For  $y = u$  and  $y' = z$  we have

$L_{\bar{u}}(uz) = L_{\bar{u}}(u)z + uL_{\bar{u}}(z)$  if and only if  $\bar{u}(uz) = u(\bar{u}z) + z(\bar{u}u).$  By (b),  $\bar{u}z = 0 = \bar{u}(uz).$  If  $U_e^2 = 0$  or  $Z_e^2 = 0$  then  $z(\bar{u}u) = 0.$  If  $U_e Z_e = 0$  then by (c),  $\bar{z}(u\bar{u}) = u\bar{u}^2 + \bar{u}(u\bar{u}) = 0.$

$L_{\bar{z}}(uz) = L_{\bar{z}}(u)z + uL_{\bar{z}}(z)$  if and only if  $\bar{z}(uz) = u(\bar{z}z) + z(\bar{z}u).$  By (a),  $\bar{z}u = 0.$  If  $Z_e^2 = 0$  or  $U_e Z_e = 0$  then  $\bar{z}(uz) = u(\bar{z}z) = 0.$  If  $U_e^2 = 0$  and by (d),  $\bar{z}(uz) = (\bar{z}z)u.$

iv) If  $y = y' = z$  we have

$L_{\bar{u}}(z^2) = 2zL_{\bar{u}}(z)$  if and only if  $\bar{u}z^2 = 2z(\bar{u}z).$  By (b),  $\bar{u}z^2 = 0 = \bar{u}z.$

$L_{\bar{z}}(z^2) = 2zL_{\bar{z}}(z)$  if and only if  $\bar{z}z^2 = 2z(\bar{z}z).$  But it is the condition (e).

Suppose that  $L_{\bar{u}}$  and  $L_{\bar{z}}$  are derivations.

For  $x = \bar{u} + 0$  in 1 of Proposition 4.5 we have

$$\bar{u}Z_e = 0, u(\bar{u}u) = 0 \text{ and } (\bar{u}u)z = 0.$$

For  $x = 0 + \bar{z}$  we have

$$\bar{z}U_e = 0, \bar{z}u^2 = 0, \bar{z}(uz) = (\bar{z}z)u \text{ and } \bar{z}z^2 = 2z(\bar{z}z).$$

Therefore  $L_{\bar{u}+\bar{z}}$  is a derivation. ■

**Corollary 4.4** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element such that  $(U_e \oplus Z_e)^2 \subseteq Z_e, eZ_e = 0$  and  $\dim_K U_e = 1.$  Then for  $x = \bar{u} + \bar{z} \in U_e \oplus Z_e$  we have  $L_x$  is a derivation if and only if  $L_{\bar{u}}$  and  $L_{\bar{z}}$  are derivations.

**Proof:** We can suppose that  $\bar{u} \neq 0.$  Since  $L_{\bar{u}}$  is a derivation then  $\bar{u}Z_e = 0$  so  $U_e Z_e = 0.$  Therefore by Proposition 4.5 we have the end of this proof. ■

### 4.3 The power-associative case

By Propositions 4.1 and 4.2, we have

**Proposition 4.6** Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element. If  $\bar{u} \in U_e$  and  $z \in Z_e,$  then:

1.  $L_{\bar{u}}$  is a derivation if and only if  $\bar{u}Z_e = 0,$

In this case the triple associated is  $(\frac{1}{2}\bar{u}, 0_{U_e}, 0_{Z_e}).$

2.  $L_{\bar{z}}$  is a derivation if and only if  $(\bar{z}U_e)Z_e = 0$  and  $L_{\bar{z}}|_{Z_e}$  is a derivation.

In this case the triple associated is  $(0, L_{\bar{z}}|_{U_e}, L_{\bar{z}}|_{Z_e}).$

The proof of the followings results is the same as [1],

**Proposition 4.7** *Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element. If there exists  $\bar{u} \in U_e$  such that  $\bar{u}Z_e = 0$ , then  $L_{\bar{u}u'}$  is a derivation for all  $u' \in U_e$ .*

**Theorem 4.1** *Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element. If  $x = \bar{u} + \bar{z}$ , where  $\bar{u} \in U_e$  and  $\bar{z} \in Z_e$ , then  $L_x$  is a derivation if and only if  $L_{\bar{u}}$  and  $L_{\bar{z}}$  are derivations.*

### 5 The graded $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebras

The proof of followings results in this section is the same as [1].

The algebra  $A$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded if  $A = A_0 + A_1$ , where  $A_0, A_1$  are subspaces of  $A$  and  $A_i A_j \subseteq A_{i+j}$  for all  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}_2$ . It is known that, if  $A$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded then  $\text{Der}(A)$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded too, where

$$D_0(A) = \{D \in \text{Der}(A) \mid D(A_0) \subseteq A_0, D(A_1) \subseteq A_1\} \text{ and}$$

$$D_1(A) = \{D \in \text{Der}(A) \mid D(A_0) \subseteq A_1, D(A_1) \subseteq A_0\}.$$

**Proposition 5.1** *Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra. Then  $A$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ -graded. Moreover if  $e \in A$  is an idempotent element, then  $A_0 = Ke \oplus Z_e$ ,  $A_1 = U_e$ ,  $D_0(A) = \{D \in \text{Der}(A) \mid D(e) = 0\}$  and  $D_1(A) = \{(\bar{u}, 0_{U_e}, 0_{Z_e}) \mid \bar{u} \in U_e\}$ .*

**Corollary 5.1** *Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra of type  $(1 + r, d)$ . Then  $\dim_K D_1(A) = r$ .*

We will denote by  $\text{Inn}(A)$  the set of all inner derivations of  $A$ .

**Corollary 5.2** *Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a power-associative  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra. Then  $D_1(A) \subseteq \text{Inn}(A)$  and  $\text{Inn}(A) = D_1(A) \oplus (D_0(A) \cap \text{Inn}(A))$ .*

A commutative algebra  $A$  is a Jordan algebra if  $(x^2y)x = x^2(yx)$  for all  $x, y \in A$ .

**Corollary 5.3** *Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a Jordan  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element. Then:*

1.  $\text{Der}(A) \neq 0$ ,
2. If  $U_e \neq 0$  there exist  $\bar{u} \in U_e$  such that  $L_{\bar{u}} \neq 0$ .

It is known that, if  $A$  is a Jordan algebra then

$$\mathcal{L}(A) = \left\{ L_x + \sum_{i=1}^k [L_{x_i}, L_{y_i}] \mid k \geq 1, x, y_i, z_i \in A, L_x \text{ is a derivation} \right\}.$$

**Proposition 5.2** *Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a Jordan  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element. Then*

$$D_0(A) \cap \text{Inn}(A) = \left\{ L_{\bar{z}} + \sum_{i=1}^k [L_{u_i}, L_{u'_i}] + \sum_{j=1}^t [L_{z_j}, L_{z'_j}] \mid k \geq 1, t \geq 1, \right.$$

$$\left. u_i, u'_i \in U_e, \bar{z}, z_j, z'_j \in Z_e, (\bar{z}U_e)Z_e = 0, L_{\bar{z}}|_{Z_e} \text{ is a derivation} \right\}.$$

**Corollary 5.4** *Let  $(A, \omega)$  be a Jordan  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Bernstein algebra and  $e \in A$  be an idempotent element. If  $U_e Z_e = 0$ , then*

$$\text{Inn}(A) = L_{U_e} \oplus \left\{ L_{\bar{z}} + \sum_{j=1}^t [L_{z_j}, L_{z'_j}] \mid t \geq 1, \bar{z}, z_j, z'_j \in \right.$$

$$\left. Z_e, L_{\bar{z}}|_{Z_e} \text{ is a derivation} \right\},$$

where  $L_{U_e} = \{L_u \mid u \in U_e\}$ .

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