

Mathematical Journal of Okayama University

Volume 40, Issue 1

1998

Article 9

JANUARY 1998

Purely Inseparable Ring Extensions and H-Separable Polynomials

Shûichi Ikehata*

*Okayama University

Copyright ©1998 by the authors. *Mathematical Journal of Okayama University* is produced by
The Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress). <http://escholarship.lib.okayama-u.ac.jp/mjou>

Math. J. Okayama Univ. **40** (1998), 55-63 [2000]

**PURELY INSEPARABLE RING EXTENSIONS AND
H-SEPARABLE POLYNOMIALS**

SHÛICHI IKEHATA

1. INTRODUCTION

Purely inseparable ring extensions of exponent one has been studied by S. Yuan ([17], [18]), and G. Georgantas ([2]). In the theory, derivations play a role analogous to that of automorphisms in the theory of cyclic Galois extensions. H -separable polynomials in skew polynomial rings has been studied in [6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 16]. If the coefficient ring is commutative, the existence of H -separable polynomials has been characterized in terms of Azumaya algebras and purely inseparable extensions ([6]). However, if the coefficient ring is non-commutative, we have only results without satisfaction. Concerning skew polynomial rings of derivation type, in [15] we studied H -separable polynomials of degree 2.

The purpose of this paper is to give some generalizations and sharpening of the results in [6] and [15]. Our first main result is the following: If the skew polynomial ring of derivation type $B[X; D]$ contains an H -separable polynomial f of degree $m \geq 2$, then necessarily B is of prime characteristic p , and f is a p -polynomial of the form $\sum_{j=0}^e X^{p^j} b_{j+1} + b_0$ ($m = p^e$), and the center of $B[X; D]$ coincides with $Z^D[f]$, where Z is the center of B , and $Z^D = \{a \in Z \mid D(a) = 0\}$ (See Theorem 2.2). By using a purely inseparable extension and an H -separable polynomial, we shall give a construction theorem: Let B be an Azumaya Z -algebra, and Z a purely inseparable extension of exponent one over a ring A . Then there exists an Azumaya A -algebra S such that B can be embedded as the centralizer of Z in S (See Theorem 2.4). This theorem was proved for central simple algebras by K. Hoechsman ([3]). As an application, the present study contains a sharpening of a result of K. A. Knus, M. Ojanguren and D. J. Saltman [12, Theorem 6.3] and some related results of G. Georgantas [2, Theorems 1,2].

Throughout this paper, B will represent a ring with 1, D a derivation of B . We denote by $B[X; D]$ the skew polynomial ring defined by $aX = Xa + D(a)$ ($a \in B$). By $B[X; D]_{(0)}$, we denote the set of all monic polynomials g in $B[X; D]$ such that $gB[X; D] = B[X; D]g$. A ring extension T/S is called a *separable* extension, if the T - T -homomorphism of $T \otimes_S T$ onto T defined by $a \otimes b \rightarrow ab$ splits, and T/S is called an *H-separable* extension, if $T \otimes_S T$ is T - T -isomorphic to a direct summand of a finite direct

1991 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* 16W25, 16S36.

Key words and phrases. Derivation, Skew polynomial rings, H -separable extensions, Purely inseparable extensions of exponent one.

sum of copies of T . As is well known every H -separable extension is a separable extension. A polynomial g in $B[X; D]_{(0)}$ is called *separable* (resp. *H-separable*) if $B[X; D]/gB[X; D]$ is a *separable* (resp. *H-separable*) extension of B . A ring extension B/A of commutative rings is called a *purely inseparable extension of exponent one with δ* , if ${}_A B$ is a finitely generated projective module of finite rank and $\text{Hom}({}_A B, {}_A B) = B[\delta]$, where δ is a derivation of B and $A = \{a \in B \mid \delta(a) = 0\}$. ([17], [18])

In this paper, we shall use the following conventions.

Z = the center of B .

$V_B(A)$ = the centralizer of A in B for a ring extension B/A .

u_ℓ (resp. u_r) = the left (resp. right) multiplication effected by $u \in B$.

$B^D = \{a \in B \mid D(a) = 0\}$, where D is a derivation of B .

$D|_A$ = the restriction of D to a subring A of B .

I_u = the inner derivation effected by u , that is, $I_u = u_\ell - u_r$.

$D^* : B[X; D] \rightarrow B[X; D]$ is the derivation defined by $D^*(\sum_i X^i d_i) = \sum_i X^i D(d_i)$.

2. H-SEPARABLE POLYNOMIALS.

First, we shall state the following lemma which is a generalization of [15, Lemma 2] and corresponds to [7, Lemma 1].

Lemma 2.1. *Let $f = X^m + X^{m-1}a_{m-1} + \cdots + Xa_1 + a_0$ be in $B[X; D]_{(0)}$ and $m \geq 2$. If f is an H -separable polynomial in $B[X; D]$, then there holds the following:*

(1) *If $\sum_{j=0}^{m-1} (\beta_j)_\ell D^j = I_u$ ($\beta_j \in B, u \in B^D$), then $\beta_j = 0$ ($0 \leq j \leq m-1$) and $u \in Z^D$.*

(2) *If $\sum_{j=0}^{m-1} (\beta_j)_r D^j = I_u$ ($\beta_j \in B, u \in B^D$), then $\beta_j = 0$ ($0 \leq j \leq m-1$) and $u \in Z^D$.*

Proof. (1) Assume that $\sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \beta_j D^j(a) = ua - au$ ($a \in B$). Then

$$\sum_{j=0}^{m-1} D(\beta_j) D^j(a) + \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \beta_j D^j(D(a)) = uD(a) - D(a)u.$$

Hence we have $\sum_{j=0}^{m-1} D(\beta_j)_\ell D^j = 0$. An easy induction shows that

$$\sum_{j=0}^{m-1} D^\nu(\beta_j)_\ell D^j = 0 \quad (\nu \geq 1) \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} (\beta_j)_\ell D^j = I_u.$$

Then for all $h = \sum_{k=0}^r X^k d_k \in B[X; D]$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \beta_j D^{*j}(h) &= \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \beta_j \left(\sum_{k=0}^r X^k D^j(d_k) \right) \\
&= \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \sum_{k=0}^r \left(\sum_{\nu=0}^k X^\nu \binom{k}{\nu} \right) D^{k-\nu}(\beta_j) D^j(d_k) \\
&= \sum_{k=0}^r \sum_{\nu=0}^k X^\nu \binom{k}{\nu} \left(\sum_{j=0}^{m-1} D^{k-\nu}(\beta_j) D^j(d_k) \right) \\
&= \sum_{\nu=0}^r X^\nu \sum_{k=\nu}^r \binom{k}{\nu} \left(\sum_{j=0}^{m-1} D^{k-\nu}(\beta_j) D^j(d_k) \right) \\
&= \sum_{\nu=0}^r X^\nu \left(\sum_{k=\nu+1}^r \binom{k}{\nu} \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} D^{k-\nu}(\beta_j) D^j(d_k) \right) \\
&\quad + \sum_{\nu=0}^r X^\nu \left(\sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \beta_j D^j(d_\nu) \right) \\
&= \sum_{\nu=0}^r X^\nu (I_u(d_\nu)) = I_u^*(h).
\end{aligned}$$

Since f is an H -separable polynomial in $B[X; D]$, it follows from [6, Lemma 1.5] that there exist $y_i, z_i \in B[X; D]$ with $\deg y_i < m$ and $\deg z_i < m$ such that $ay_i = y_i a, az_i = z_i a$ ($a \in B$). and

$$\sum_i D^{*m-1}(y_i) z_i \equiv 1, \sum_i D^{*k}(y_i) z_i \equiv 0 \pmod{fB[X; D]} \quad (0 \leq k \leq m-2).$$

Then we have

$$\beta_{m-1} = \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \sum_i \beta_j D^{*j}(y_i) z_i \equiv 0 \pmod{fB[X; D]}.$$

This implies $\beta_{m-1} = 0$ and $\sum_{j=0}^{m-2} \beta_j D^{*j} = I_u^*$. Since $\sum_{j=0}^{m-2} \beta_j D^{*j+1} = I_u^* D^* = D^* I_u^*$ and $uy_i = y_i u$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\beta_{m-2} &= \sum_{j=0}^{m-2} \sum_i \beta_j D^{*j+1}(y_i) z_i \\
&= \sum_i D^*(I_u^*(y_i)) z_i \equiv 0 \pmod{fB[X; D]}.
\end{aligned}$$

Repeating this procedure, we conclude that $\beta_j = 0$ ($0 \leq k \leq m-2$), and $u \in Z$. Similarly, we can prove (2). \square

The following is a sharpening of [15, Corollary 3], and a partial generalization of [6, Theorem 3.1]. We realize that the existence of an H -separable polynomial is very strong condition.

Theorem 2.2. *If $B[X; D]$ contains an H -separable polynomial f of degree $m \geq 2$, then we have the following:*

(1) *B is of prime characteristic p and f is a p -polynomial of the form*

$$\sum_{j=0}^e X^{p^j} b_{j+1} + b_0 \quad (m = p^e), \quad b_{j+1} \in Z^D \quad (0 \leq j \leq e) \quad \text{and} \quad b_0 \in B^D.$$

(2) *The center of $B[X; D]$ coincides with $Z^D[f]$, that is, $V_{B[X; D]}(B[X; D]) = Z^D[f]$.*

(3) *Every H -separable polynomial in $B[X; D]$ is of the form $f + c_0$, where c_0 is an element in Z^D .*

Proof. (1) Let $f = X^m + X^{m-1}a_{m-1} + \cdots + Xa_1 + a_0$. By [4, Lemma 1.6], we have

$$a_i a = \sum_{j=i}^m \binom{j}{i} D^{j-i}(a) a_j \quad (a \in B, \quad 0 \leq j \leq m-1)$$

and

$$a_i \in B^D \quad (0 \leq i \leq m-1).$$

Hence by Lemma 2.1, we obtain

$$\binom{m}{i} = 0 \quad (1 \leq i \leq m-1) \quad \text{and} \quad \binom{j}{i} a_j = 0 \quad (1 \leq i < j \leq m-1).$$

Then by the same arguments in the proof of [6, Theorem 3.1], we see that B is of prime characteristic p , and f is a p -polynomial of the form $\sum_{j=0}^e X^{p^j} b_{j+1} + b_0$ ($m = p^e$). Since $af = fa$, and $aX^{p^j} = X^{p^j}a + D^{p^j}(a)$ ($a \in B$), we have $b_{j+1} \in Z^D$ ($0 \leq j \leq e$).

(2) Since $Xf = fX$ and $af = fa$ ($a \in B$), we see that f is contained in the center of $B[X; D]$. Next, assume $g \in V_{B[X; D]}(B[X; D])$. Then since f is monic and of degree p^e , there exist $h, r \in B[X; D]$ such that $g = hf + r$ and $\deg r < p^e$. Noting that $g, f \in V_{B[X; D]}(B[X; D])$, we obtain $(ah - ha)f = ra - ar$ for all $a \in B$, and $(Xh - hX)f = rX - Xr$. Since $\deg f = p^e > \deg(ra - ar), \deg(rX - Xr)$, it follows that $ra = ar, ah = ha, rX = Xr$, and $Xh = hX$. Hence $r, h \in V_{B[X; D]}(B[X; D])$. We put here $r = \sum_{j=0}^{p^e-1} X^j d_j$ ($d_j \in B^D$). Since $ra = ar$, we have $\sum_{j=0}^{p^e-1} D^j(a) d_j = d_0 a$ ($a \in B$), that is, $\sum_{j=1}^{p^e-1} (d_j)_r D^j = I_{d_0}$. Then by Lemma 2.1, we have $d_j = 0$ ($1 \leq k \leq p^e - 1$). Hence we obtain $r = d_0 \in Z^D$. Replacing g by h , we repeat the same method. Then we see that there exist $h_1 \in V_{B[X; D]}(B[X; D])$ and $d_1 \in Z^D$ such that $h = h_1 f + d_1$. Repeating this, we see that g is contained in $Z^D[f]$.

(3) Let g be any H -separable polynomial of degree n in $B[X; D]$. Then by Lemma 2.1 and [4, Lemma 1.6], we see that $n = p^e$, and $g = f + c_0$, for some $c_0 \in Z^D$. \square

Corresponding to [6, Proposition 1.4], we have the following

Proposition 2.3. *Let B be a ring with its center Z , D a derivation of B , and $\delta = D|Z$. Assume that Z/Z^δ is a purely inseparable extension of exponent one with δ , Z is a projective module over Z^δ of rank p^e , and δ satisfies the minimal polynomial $t^{p^e} + t^{p^e-1}\alpha_e + \cdots + t^p\alpha_2 + t\alpha_1$ ($\alpha_i \in Z^\delta$). If there exists an element u in B^D such that $D^{p^e} + \alpha_e D^{p^e-1} + \cdots + \alpha_2 D^p + \alpha_1 D = I_u$, then there hold the following:*

- (1) $f = X^{p^e} + X^{p^e-1}\alpha_e + \cdots + X^p\alpha_2 + X\alpha_1 - u$ is an H -separable polynomial in $B[X; D]$.
- (2) $V_{B[X; D]}(B) = Z[f]$, and $V_{B[X; D]}(B[X; D]) = Z^\delta[f]$.
- (3) $B[X; D]_{(0)} = \{h(f) \mid h(t) \text{ is a monic polynomial in } Z^\delta[f]\}$.
- (4) $\{g \in B[X; D] \mid g \text{ is an } H\text{-separable polynomial in } B[X; D]\} = \{f + z \mid z \in Z^\delta\}$.

Proof. (1) Since $\alpha_i \in B^D$ ($1 \leq i \leq e$) and $aX^{p^j} = X^{p^j}a + D^{p^j}(a)$ ($a \in B, 1 \leq j \leq e$), we have $Xf = fX$ and $af = fa$, and hence f is contained in the center of $B[X; D]$ and so in $B[X; D]_{(0)}$. Since Z/Z^δ is a purely inseparable extension of exponent one with δ , it follows from [6, Theorem 3.3(d)] that there exist $x_i, y_i \in Z$ such that

$$\sum_i \delta^{p^e-1}(x_i)y_i = 1 \text{ and } \sum_i \delta^k(x_i)y_i = 0 \text{ (} 0 \leq k \leq p^e - 2 \text{)}.$$

Thus f is H -separable in $B[X; D]$ by [6, Lemma 1.5].

(2) Let $g \in V_{B[X; D]}(B)$. Then since f is monic and of degree p^e , there exist $h, r \in B[X; D]$ such that $g = hf + r$ and $\deg r < p^e$. Noting that $g, f \in V_{B[X; D]}(B)$, we obtain $(ah - ha)f = ra - ar$ for all $a \in B$. Since $\deg f = p^e > \deg(ra - ar)$, it follows that $ra = ar$, and $ah = ha$. Hence $r, h \in V_{B[X; D]}(B)$. We put here $r = \sum_{j=0}^{p^e-1} X^j d_j$ ($d_j \in B$). Since $ra = ar$, we have $\sum_{j=0}^{p^e-1} D^j(a)d_j = d_0 a$ ($a \in B$). Then since $\sum_i \delta^{p^e-1}(x_i)y_i = 1$ and $\sum_i \delta^k(x_i)y_i = 0$ ($0 \leq k \leq p^e - 2$), we obtain

$$d_k = \sum_{j=0}^{p^e-1} \sum_i D^{j+p^e-1-k}(x_i)y_i d_j - d_0 \sum_i D^{p^e-1-k}(x_i)y_i = 0$$

for all $1 \leq k \leq p^e - 1$. Hence we have $r = d_0 \in Z$. Replacing g by h , we repeat the same argument. Then we see that there exist $h_1 \in V_{B[X; D]}(B)$ and $d_1 \in Z$ such that $h = h_1 f + d_1$. Repeating this, we obtain g is contained in $Z[f]$. By Theorem 2.2 (2), we already know $V_{B[X; D]}(B[X; D]) = Z^\delta[f]$. This completes the proof of (2).

(3) If g is monic, then $c_s = 1$. Thus we obtain the assertion.

(4) It is clear that $f + z$ is contained in $B[X; D]_{(0)}$ for any $z \in Z^\delta$. We already have elements $x_i, y_i \in Z$ such that

$$\sum_i \delta^{p^e-1}(x_i)y_i = 1 \text{ and } \sum_i \delta^k(x_i)y_i = 0 \ (0 \leq k \leq p^e - 2).$$

Hence, it follows from [6, Lemma 1.5] that $f + z$ is an H -separable polynomial in $B[X; D]$. □

The following theorem corresponds to [7, Theorem 2] which treats to the case whose coefficient ring is an Azumaya algebra.

Theorem 2.4. *Let B be an Azumaya Z -algebra, D a derivation of B , and $\delta = D|Z$. Assume that Z/Z^δ is a purely inseparable extension of exponent one with δ , and δ satisfies the minimal polynomial $t^{p^e} + t^{p^e-1}\alpha_e + \dots + t^p\alpha_2 + t\alpha_1$ ($\alpha_i \in Z^\delta$). If there exists an element u in B^D such that $D^{p^e} + \alpha_e D^{p^e-1} + \dots + \alpha_2 D^p + \alpha_1 D = I_u$, then there hold the following:*

- (1) $B[X; D]$ is an Azumaya $Z^\delta[f]$ -algebra, where $f = X^{p^e} + X^{p^e-1}\alpha_e + \dots + X^p\alpha_2 + X\alpha_1 - u$.
- (2) For any $z \in Z^\delta$, we put $S_z = B[X; D]/(f + z)B[X; D]$. Then S_z is an Azumaya Z^δ -algebra with $V_{S_z}(Z) = B$ and $V_{S_z}(B) = Z$.

Proof. (1) By Proposition 2.3.(2), the center of $B[X; D]$ coincides with $Z^\delta[f]$. Let

$$\hat{D} : B[f] \rightarrow B[f] \text{ be the derivation defined by } \hat{D}\left(\sum_i f^i d_i\right) = \sum_i f^i D(d_i).$$

We put here

$$h = Y^{p^e} + Y^{p^e-1}\alpha_e + \dots + Y^p\alpha_2 + Y\alpha_1 - u - f \in B[f][Y; \hat{D}],$$

where Y is an indeterminate and $\beta Y = Y\beta + \hat{D}(\beta)$ ($\beta \in B[f]$). Then h is in the center of $B[f][Y; \hat{D}]$. Since Z/Z^δ is a purely inseparable extension of exponent one with δ , it is obvious that $Z[f]/Z^\delta[f]$ is also a purely inseparable extension of exponent one with $\hat{D}|Z[f]$. We see that $\hat{D}^{p^e} + \alpha_e \hat{D}^{p^e-1} + \dots + \alpha_2 \hat{D}^p + \alpha_1 \hat{D} = I_u$. Hence by Proposition 2.3, h is an H -separable polynomial in $B[f][Y; \hat{D}]$. Let $\phi : B[f][Y; \hat{D}] \rightarrow B[X; D]$ be the mapping defined by $\phi(\sum_i Y^i \beta_i) = \sum_i X^i \beta_i$ ($\beta_i \in B[f]$). Since $\beta Y = Y\beta + \hat{D}(\beta)$ ($\beta \in B[f]$), ϕ is $B[f]$ -ring epimorphism. Now we shall show that

$$\ker \phi = hB[f][Y; \hat{D}].$$

Obviously, $h \in \ker \phi$. Let $g \in \ker \phi$. Then there exists $q, r \in B[f][Y; \hat{D}]$ such that $g = qh + r$, $\deg r < \deg h = p^e$. We denote $r = \sum_{k=0}^{p^e-1} Y^k \beta_k$, $\beta_k \in B[f]$. Then $\phi(g) = \phi(r) = \sum_{k=0}^{p^e-1} X^k \beta_k = 0$. Suppose there exists k such that $\beta_k \neq 0$. Let $\beta_k = f^{n_k} c_k +$ (lower terms), $c_k \neq 0$. We consider the largest suffix s such that n_s is the largest number. Then the highest degree term in $\sum_{k=0}^{p^e-1} X^k \beta_k$ equals to $X^{n_s p^e + s} c_s \neq 0$, which is a contradiction. Hence

we have $r = 0$, and so, $\ker \phi = hB[f][Y; \hat{D}]$. Thus we have a $B[f]$ -ring isomorphism

$$B[f][Y; \hat{D}]/hB[f][Y; \hat{D}] \cong B[X; D].$$

Hence $B[X; D]$ is an H -separable extension over $B[f]$. Since B is an Azumaya Z -algebra, $B[f]$ is also Azumaya over $Z[f]$. Then it follows from [14, Theorem 1] that $B[X; D]$ is an Azumaya algebra.

(2) Considering the canonical epimorphism $B[X; D] \rightarrow S_z = B[X; D]/(f + z)B[X; D]$ defined by $X \rightarrow X + (f + z)B[X; D]$, we see that S_z is Azumaya Z^δ -algebra. Then by Proposition 2.3 (2), we have $V_{S_z}(B) = Z$. Finally, $V_{S_z}(Z) = B$ follows from [16, Proposition 3.2]. \square

As a special case of Theorem 2.4, we have the following which relates to a theorem of G. Georgantas [2, Theorem 1].

Corollary 2.5. *Let B be a commutative ring, D a derivation of B , and $A = B^D$. Assume that B/A is a purely inseparable extension of exponent one with D , and D satisfies the minimal polynomial $t^{p^e} + t^{p^e-1}\alpha_e + \cdots + t^p\alpha_2 + t\alpha_1$ ($\alpha_i \in A$). Then there holds the following:*

(1) $B[X; D]$ is an Azumaya $A[f]$ -algebra, and $V_{B[X; D]}(B[f]) = B[f]$, where $f = X^{p^e} + X^{p^e-1}\alpha_e + \cdots + X^p\alpha_2 + X\alpha_1$.

(2) For any $a \in A$, $S_a = B[X; D]/(f + a)B[X; D]$ is an Azumaya A -algebra with $V_{S_a}(B) = B$.

In the Theorem 2.4, if α_1 is an invertible element in Z^δ , then necessarily we can take an element $u \in B^D$ such that $D^{p^e} + \alpha_e D^{p^e-1} + \cdots + \alpha_2 D^p + \alpha_1 D = I_u$. Precisely, we have

Proposition 2.6. *Let B be an Azumaya Z -algebra, D a derivation of B , and $\delta = D|Z$. Assume that Z/Z^δ is a purely inseparable extension of exponent one with δ , and δ satisfies the minimal polynomial $t^{p^\delta} + t^{p^\delta-1}\alpha_e + \cdots + t^p\alpha_2 + t\alpha_1$ ($\alpha_i \in Z^\delta$). If α_1 is an invertible element in Z^δ , then there exists an element $u \in B^D$ such that $D^{p^e} + \alpha_e D^{p^e-1} + \cdots + \alpha_2 D^p + \alpha_1 D = I_u$.*

Proof. Since B is separable over Z and the derivation $D^{p^e} + \alpha_e D^{p^e-1} + \cdots + \alpha_2 D^p + \alpha_1 D$ equals to zero on the center Z , it is an inner derivation of B . Hence there is an element $w \in B$ such that $D^{p^e} + \alpha_e D^{p^e-1} + \cdots + \alpha_2 D^p + \alpha_1 D = I_w$. Since $\alpha_i \in Z^\delta$, we have $DI_w = I_w D$. Hence $D(w) \in Z$. By $I_w(w) = 0$, we see that

$$D^{p^e-1}(w) + \alpha_e D^{p^e-1-1}(w) + \cdots + \alpha_2 D^{p-1}(w) + \alpha_1 w \in B^D.$$

Hence $\alpha_1 w \in Z + B^D$. Then since α_1 is invertible in Z^δ , we can take an element u in B^D such that $I_w = I_u$. \square

The following is a generalization of [12, Theorem 6.3] and correspond to [2, Theorem 2].

Theorem 2.7. *Let A be a commutative ring. Suppose E is an Azumaya A -algebra and suppose E contains a commutative subalgebra Z such that ${}_Z E$ is a projective module, Z/A is a purely inseparable extension of exponent one with δ , ${}_A Z$ is a projective module of rank p^e , and δ satisfies a minimal polynomial $t^{p^e} + t^{p^{e-1}}\alpha_e + \cdots + t^p\alpha_2 + t\alpha_1$ ($\alpha_i \in A$). We put $B = V_E(Z)$. Then there exists a derivation D of B which is an extension of δ , and an element u in B^D such that E is B -ring isomorphic to $B[X; D]/(X^{p^e} + X^{p^{e-1}}\alpha_e + \cdots + X^p\alpha_2 + X\alpha_1 - u)B[X; D]$.*

Proof. By [12, Theorem 4.1], B is an Azumaya Z -algebra. By [12, Theorem 6.1], δ extends to a derivation Δ of E . Since $\delta(Z) \subset Z$, we have $\Delta(B) \subset B$. Since E is a separable A -algebra, and Δ is an A -derivation, Δ is an inner derivation of E . Hence there is $v \in E$ such that $\Delta(c) = cv - vc$ ($c \in E$). Then we have $cv^{p^j} = v^{p^j}c + \Delta^{p^j}(c)$ ($j \geq 0$). Hence $c(v^{p^e} + v^{p^{e-1}}\alpha_e + \cdots + v^p\alpha_2 + v\alpha_1) - (v^{p^e} + v^{p^{e-1}}\alpha_e + \cdots + v^p\alpha_2 + v\alpha_1)c = (\Delta^{p^e} + \alpha_e\Delta^{p^{e-1}} + \cdots + \alpha_2\Delta^p + \alpha_1\Delta)(c)$. That is, $\Delta^{p^e} + \alpha_e\Delta^{p^{e-1}} + \cdots + \alpha_2\Delta^p + \alpha_1\Delta = I_u$, where $u = v^{p^e} + v^{p^{e-1}}\alpha_e + \cdots + v^p\alpha_2 + v\alpha_1$. Since $(\Delta^{p^e} + \alpha_e\Delta^{p^{e-1}} + \cdots + \alpha_2\Delta^p + \alpha_1\Delta)|_Z = \delta^{p^e} + \alpha_e\delta^{p^{e-1}} + \cdots + \alpha_2\delta^p + \alpha_1\delta = 0$, it follows that u is contained in $V_E(Z) = B$. We denote here E' , the subalgebra of E generated by B and v , and put $D = \Delta|_B$. Since $D(u) = \Delta(u) = uv - vu = 0$, the polynomial $f = X^{p^e} + X^{p^{e-1}}\alpha_e + \cdots + X^p\alpha_2 + X\alpha_1 - u$ is contained in $B[X; D]_{(0)}$. Then there is a B -ring epimorphism

$$\phi : B[X; D]/fB[X; D] \rightarrow E'$$

defined by $\phi(X) = v$. By Theorem 2.4, $B[X; D]/fB[X; D]$ is an Azumaya A -algebra. Then since ϕ is B -ring epimorphism, we have that ϕ is an isomorphism. Hence E' is an Azumaya A -algebra. Since $V_E(E') \subset V_E(B) = Z$, $V_E(E')$ is commutative. By the double centralizer theorem [1, Theorem 4.3, p.57], we have $V_E(E') = A$ and $E' = E$. \square

REFERENCES

- [1] F. DeMeyer and F. Ingraham: Separable algebras over a commutative ring, Lecture Notes in Math. **181**, Springer, Berlin, 1971.
- [2] G. Georgantzas: Inseparable Galois cohomology, J. Algebra **38** (1976), 368–379.
- [3] K. Hoechsmann: Simple algebras and derivations, Trans. Amer. Math. Soc. **180** (1963), 1–12.
- [4] S. Ikehata: On separable polynomials and Frobenius polynomials in skew polynomial rings, Math. J. Okayama Univ. **22** (1980), 115–129.
- [5] S. Ikehata: Note on Azumaya algebras and H -separable extensions, Math. J. Okayama Univ. **23** (1981), 17–18.
- [6] S. Ikehata: Azumaya algebras and skew polynomial rings. Math. J. Okayama Univ. **23** (1981), 19–32.
- [7] S. Ikehata: Azumaya algebras and skew polynomial rings. II, Math. J. Okayama Univ. **26** (1984), 49–57.
- [8] S. Ikehata: On H -separable polynomials of prime degree, Math. J. Okayama Univ. **33** (1991), 21–26.

- [9] S. Ikehata and G. Szeto: On H -separable polynomials in skew polynomial rings of automorphism type, *Math. J. Okayama Univ.* **34** (1992), 49–55.
- [10] S. Ikehata and G. Szeto: On H -skew polynomial rings and Galois extensions, *Rings, extensions, and cohomology* (Evanston, IL, 1993), 113–121, *Lecture Notes in Pure and Appl. Math.*, **159**, Dekker, New York, 1994.
- [11] R. Irving: Prime ideals of Ore extensions over commutative rings. II, *J. Algebra* **58** (1979), 399–423.
- [12] K. A. Knus, M. Ojanguren and D. J. Saltman: On Brauer groups in characteristic p , *Lecture Notes in Mathematics* **549**, Springer, Berlin 1976, 25–49.
- [13] Y. Miyashita: On a skew polynomial ring, *J. Math. Soc. Japan* **31** (1979), 317–330.
- [14] H. Okamoto: On projective H -separable extensions of Azumaya algebras, *Results in Mathematics* **14** (1988), 330–332.
- [15] H. Okamoto and S. Ikehata: On H -separable polynomials of degree 2, *Math. J. Okayama Univ.* **32** (1990), 53–59.
- [16] S. Szeto and L. Xue: On the Ikehata theorem for H -separable skew polynomial rings, *Math. J. Okayama Univ.*, **40** (1998), 27–32.
- [17] S. Yuan: On logarithmic derivatives, *Bull. Soc. Math. France*, **96** (1968), 41–52.
- [18] S. Yuan: Inseparable Galois theory of exponent one, *Trans. Amer. Math. Soc.* **149** (1970), 163–170.

SHŪICHI IKEHATA

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCE

FACULTY OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

OKAYAMA UNIVERSITY

TSUSHIMA, OKAYAMA 700-8530, JAPAN

(Received May 12, 1999)

(Revised June 4, 1999)