# On $\alpha$ -\*Centralizers of Semiprime Rings With Involution

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Dedicated to Patrick Smith and John Clark on the occasion of their 70th birthdays.

Communicated by Ayman Badawi

MSC 2010 Classifications: 16W10, 16N60.

Keywords and phrases: Semiprime ring, centralizer,  $\alpha-^*$  centralizer.

**Abstract**. Let R be a semiprime ring equipped with an involution \* and  $\alpha$  be an epimorphism of R. In this paper, we prove that an additive mapping  $T: R \to R$  is a Jordan  $\alpha-*$  centralizer if the following holds:

$$2T(xyx) = T(x)\alpha(y^*)\alpha(x^*) + \alpha(x^*)\alpha(y^*)T(x)$$
, for all  $x, y \in R$ .

### 1 Introduction

Throughout, R will represent an associative ring with center Z. Recall that a ring R is prime if xRy=0 implies x=0 or y=0, and semiprime if xRx=0 implies x=0. An additive mapping  $x\mapsto x^*$  satisfying  $(xy)^*=y^*x^*$  and  $(x^*)^*=x$  for all  $x,y\in R$  is called an involution and R is called a \*-ring.

According B. Zalar [8], an additive mapping  $T:R\to R$  is called a left (resp. right) centralizer of R if T(xy)=T(x)y (resp. T(xy)=xT(y)) holds for all  $x,y\in R$ . If T is both left as well right centralizer, then it is called a centralizer. This concept appears naturally  $C^*$ -algebras. In ring theory it is more common to work with module homorphisms. Ring theorists would write that  $T:R_R\to R_R$  is a homomorphism of a ring module R into itself instead of a left centralizer. In case  $T:R\to R$  is a centralizer, then there exists an element  $\lambda\in C$  such that  $T(x)=\lambda x$  for all  $x\in R$  and  $x\in C$ , where  $x\in C$  is the extended centroid of  $x\in C$ .

An additive mapping  $T:R\to R$  is said to be a left (resp. right) Jordan centralizer if  $T(x^2)=T(x)x$  (resp.  $T(x^2)=xT(x)$ ) holds for all  $x\in R$ . Zalar proved in [8] that any left (right) Jordan centralizer on 2-torsion free semiprime ring is a left (right) centralizer. Recently, in [1], E. Albaş introduced the definition of  $\alpha$ -centralizer of R, i. e. an additive mapping  $T:R\to R$  is called a left (resp. right)  $\alpha$ -centralizer of R if  $T(xy)=T(x)\alpha(y)$  (resp.  $T(xy)=\alpha(x)T(y)$ ) holds for all  $x,y\in R$ , where  $\alpha$  is an endomorphism of R. If T is left and right  $\alpha$ -centralizer then it is natural to call  $\alpha$ -centralizer. Clearly every centralizer is a special case of a  $\alpha$ -centralizer with  $\alpha=id_R$ . Also, an additive mapping  $T:R\to R$  associated with a homomorphism  $\alpha:R\to R$ , if  $L_a(x)=a\alpha(x)$  and  $R_a(x)=\alpha(x)a$  for a fixed element  $a\in R$  and for all  $x\in R$ , then  $L_a$  is a left  $\alpha$ -centralizer and  $R_a$  is a right  $\alpha$ -centralizer. Albaş showed Zalar's result holds for  $\alpha$ -centralizer. Considerable work has been done on this topic during the last couple of decades (see [1-8], where further references can be found).

On the other hand, it was proved that T is a centralizer if one of the following holds

$$2T(x^2) = T(x)x + xT(x),$$
  

$$2T(xyx) = T(x)yx + xyT(x), \text{ for all } x, y \in R,$$

where  $T: R \to R$  is an additive mapping respectively in [5] and [7]. These results proved for  $\alpha$ -centralizer in [4] and [3].

Inspired by the definition centralizer, the notion of \*-centralizer was extended as follow:

Let R be a ring with involution \*. An additive mapping  $T:R\to R$  is called a left (resp. right) \*-centralizer of R if  $T(xy)=T(x)\,y^*$  (resp.  $T(xy)=x^*T(y)$ ) holds for all  $x,y\in R$ . An additive mapping  $T:R\to R$  is said to be a left (resp. right) Jordan \*-centralizer if  $T(x^2)=T(x)\,x^*$  (resp.  $T(x^2)=x^*T(x)$ ) holds for all  $x\in R$ . In [2], the authors proved that if R is a 2-torsion free semiprime ring and  $T:R\to R$  is an additive mapping such that  $2T(x^2)=T(x)\alpha(x^*)+\alpha(x^*)T(x)$ , for all  $x\in R$ , then T is a Jordan  $\alpha-*$  centralizer. Motivated this result, we will prove that an additive mapping  $T:R\to R$  is a Jordan  $\alpha-*$  centralizer if the following holds:

$$2T(xyx) = T(x)\alpha(y^*)\alpha(x^*) + \alpha(x^*)\alpha(y^*)T(x)$$
, for all  $x, y \in R$ 

This enables us a unified treatment (and extensions) of several results that can be found in the literature.

### 2 Results

**Lemma 2.1.** [6, Lemma 1] Let R be a 2-torsion free semiprime ring. Suppose that the identity axb+bxc=0 holds for all  $x \in R$  and some  $a,b,c \in R$ . Then in this case (a+c)xb=0 satisfied for all  $x \in R$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** [2, Theorem 2.1] Let R be a 2-torsion free semiprime \*-ring. Suppose that  $\alpha$  is an automorphism of R. If  $T: R \to R$  is an additive mapping satisfying  $2T(x^2) = T(x)\alpha(x^*) + \alpha(x^*)T(x)$  for all  $x \in R$ , then T is a Jordan  $\alpha$ -\*centralizer.

**Theorem 2.3.** Let R be a 2-torsion free semiprime \*-ring. Suppose that  $\alpha$  is an automorphism of R. If  $T: R \to R$  is an additive mapping satisfying  $2T(xyx) = T(x)\alpha(y^*)\alpha(x^*) + \alpha(x^*)\alpha(y^*)T(x)$  for all  $x, y \in R$ , then T is a Jordan  $\alpha$ -\*centralizer.

*Proof.* By the hyphotesis, we have

$$2T(xyx) = T(x)\alpha(y^*)\alpha(x^*) + \alpha(x^*)\alpha(y^*)T(x), \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$
 (2.1)

Replacing x by x + z in (2.1) and using this, we obtain that

$$2T(xyz + zyx) = T(x)\alpha(y^*)\alpha(z^*) + T(z)\alpha(y^*)\alpha(x^*)$$
$$+ \alpha(x^*)\alpha(y^*)T(z) + \alpha(z^*)\alpha(y^*)T(x), \text{ for all } x, y, z \in R.$$
 (2.2)

Taking  $x^2$  instead of z, we arrive at

$$2T(xyx^{2} + x^{2}yx) = T(x)\alpha(y^{*})\alpha(x^{*})\alpha(x^{*}) + T(x^{2})\alpha(y^{*})\alpha(x^{*}) + \alpha(x^{*})\alpha(y^{*})T(x^{2}) + \alpha(x^{*})\alpha(y^{*})T(x), \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$
(2.3)

Substituting xy + yx for x in (2.1), we have

$$2T(xyx^{2} + x^{2}yx) = T(x)\alpha(y^{*})\alpha(x^{*})\alpha(x^{*}) + T(x)\alpha(x^{*})\alpha(y^{*})\alpha(x^{*}) + \alpha(x^{*})\alpha(y^{*})\alpha(x^{*})T(x) + \alpha(x^{*})\alpha(y^{*})T(x), \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$
(2.4)

By comparing (2.3) and (2.4), we get

$$T(x^{2})\alpha(y^{*})\alpha(x^{*}) + \alpha(x^{*})\alpha(y^{*})T(x^{2}) = T(x)\alpha(x^{*})\alpha(y^{*})\alpha(x^{*}) + \alpha(x^{*})\alpha(y^{*})\alpha(x^{*})T(x),$$

and so

$$(T(x^{2}) - T(x)\alpha(x^{*}))\alpha(y^{*})\alpha(x^{*})$$

$$+ \alpha(x^{*})\alpha(y^{*})(T(x^{2}) - \alpha(x^{*})T(x)) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$
(2.5)

Putting  $y^*$  for y in (2.4) yields that

$$(T(x^2)-T(x)\alpha(x^*))\alpha(y)\alpha(x^*)+\alpha(x^*)\alpha(y)(T(x^2)-\alpha(x^*)T(x))=0, \text{ for all } x,y\in R.$$

Since  $\alpha$  is an epimorphism of R, we have

$$(T(x^2) - T(x)\alpha(x^*))y\alpha(x^*) + \alpha(x^*)y(T(x^2) - \alpha(x^*)T(x)) = 0$$
, for all  $x, y \in R$ .

By Lemma 2.1, we conclude that

$$(2T(x^2) - T(x)\alpha(x^*) - \alpha(x^*)T(x))y\alpha(x^*) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$
 (2.6)

Define  $A(x) = 2T(x^2) - T(x)\alpha(x^*) - \alpha(x^*)T(x)$ . Hence (2.6) can be rewritten as

$$A(x)y\alpha(x^*) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$
(2.7)

Substituting  $\alpha(x^*)yA(x)$  for y in (2.7), we get

$$A(x)\alpha(x^*)yA(x)\alpha(x^*)=0$$
, for all  $x,y\in R$ .

Using R is semiprime ring, we arrive at

$$A(x)\alpha(x^*) = 0$$
, for all  $x \in R$ . (2.8)

Left multiplying (2.7) by  $\alpha(x^*)$  and right multiplying (2.8) by A(x), we have

$$\alpha(x^*)A(x)y\alpha(x^*)A(x)=0$$
, for all  $x\in R$ .

By the semiprimeness of R, we find that

$$\alpha(x^*)A(x) = 0, \text{ for all } x \in R. \tag{2.9}$$

Replacing x by x + y in (2.8) and using this, we obtain that

$$A(x+y)\alpha(x^*+y^*) = 0,$$

and so

$$(A(x) + A(y) + 2T(xy + yx) - T(x)\alpha(y^*) - T(y)\alpha(x^*) - \alpha(x^*)T(y) - \alpha(y^*)T(x))\alpha(x^* + y^*) = 0.$$

That is

$$A(x)\alpha(x^*) + A(y)\alpha(x^*) + B(x,y)\alpha(x^*) + A(x)\alpha(y^*)$$
$$+ A(y)\alpha(y^*) + B(x,y)\alpha(y^*) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in R,$$

where  $B(x,y) = 2T(xy + yx) - T(x)\alpha(y^*) - T(y)\alpha(x^*) - \alpha(x^*)T(y) - \alpha(y^*)T(x)$ . Using (2.8) in the last equation, we see that

$$A(x)\alpha(y^*) + A(y)\alpha(x^*) + B(x,y)\alpha(x^*) + B(x,y)\alpha(y^*) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$
 (2.10)

Substituting -x for x in (2.10) and using A(-x) = A(x), B(-x,y) = -B(x,y), we arrive at

$$A(x)\alpha(y^*) - A(y)\alpha(x^*) + B(x,y)\alpha(x^*) - B(x,y)\alpha(y^*) = 0$$
, for all  $x, y \in R$ . (2.11)

Now, combining (2.10) and (2.11), we get

$$A(x)\alpha(y^*) + B(x,y)\alpha(x^*) = 0$$
, for all  $x, y \in R$ . (2.12)

Multiplying (2.12) from the right by A(x) and using (2.9), we obtain that

$$A(x)\alpha(y^*)A(x) = 0$$
, for all  $x, y \in R$ .

Writing  $y^*$  instead of y and  $\alpha$  is an epimorphism of R, we have

$$A(x)yA(x) = 0$$
, for all  $x, y \in R$ .

By the semiprimeness of R, we find that A(x) = 0 for all  $x \in R$ , and so

$$2T(x^2) = T(x)\alpha(x^*) + \alpha(x^*)T(x)$$
, for all  $x, y \in R$ .

Hence T is a Jordan  $\alpha$ -\*centralizer by Lemma 2.2.

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Received: March 22, 2014.

Accepted: June 8, 2014.