# 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. 

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#### 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 $T: R \rightarrow R$ is a Jordan $\alpha-{ }^{*}$ centralizer if the following holds: $$
2 T(x y x)=T(x) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)+\alpha\left(x^{*}\right) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) T(x), \text { for all } x, y \in R .
$$


## 1 Introduction

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

According B. Zalar [8], an additive mapping $T: R \rightarrow R$ is called a left (resp. right) centralizer of $R$ if $T(x y)=T(x) y$ (resp. $T(x y)=x T(y))$ 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 $T: R_{R} \rightarrow R_{R}$ is a homomorphism of a ring module $R$ into itself instead of a left centralizer. In case $T: R \rightarrow R$ is a centralizer, then there exists an element $\lambda \in C$ such that $T(x)=\lambda x$ for all $x \in R$ and $\lambda \in C$, where $C$ is the extended centroid of $R$.

An additive mapping $T: R \rightarrow R$ is said to be a left (resp. right) Jordan centralizer if $T\left(x^{2}\right)=T(x) x\left(\right.$ resp. $\left.T\left(x^{2}\right)=x T(x)\right)$ 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 $T: R \rightarrow R$ is called a left (resp. right) $\alpha-$ centralizer of $R$ if $T(x y)=T(x) \alpha(y)$ (resp. $T(x y)=\alpha(x) T(y))$ 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 $\alpha=i d_{R}$. Also, an additive mapping $T: R \rightarrow R$ associated with a homomorphism $\alpha: R \rightarrow R$, 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

$$
\begin{aligned}
2 T\left(x^{2}\right) & =T(x) x+x T(x) \\
2 T(x y x) & =T(x) y x+x y T(x), \text { for all } x, y \in R,
\end{aligned}
$$

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

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

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 $a x b+b x c=0$ holds for all $x \in R$ and some $a, b, c \in R$. Then in this case $(a+c) x b=0$ satisfied for all $x \in R$.

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

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

Proof. By the hyphotesis, we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
2 T(x y x)=T(x) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)+\alpha\left(x^{*}\right) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) T(x), \text { for all } x, y \in R . \tag{2.1}
\end{equation*}
$$

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

$$
\begin{align*}
& 2 T(x y z+z y x)=T(x) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) \alpha\left(z^{*}\right)+T(z) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)  \tag{2.2}\\
& \quad+\alpha\left(x^{*}\right) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) T(z)+\alpha\left(z^{*}\right) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) T(x), \text { for all } x, y, z \in R
\end{align*}
$$

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

$$
\begin{align*}
& 2 T\left(x y x^{2}+x^{2} y x\right)=T(x) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)+T\left(x^{2}\right) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)  \tag{2.3}\\
& \quad+\alpha\left(x^{*}\right) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) T\left(x^{2}\right)+\alpha\left(x^{*}\right) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) T(x), \text { for all } x, y \in R
\end{align*}
$$

Substituting $x y+y x$ for $x$ in (2.1), we have

$$
\begin{align*}
& 2 T\left(x y x^{2}+x^{2} y x\right)=T(x) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)+T(x) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right) \\
& \quad+\alpha\left(x^{*}\right) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right) T(x)+\alpha\left(x^{*}\right) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) T(x), \quad \text { for all } x, y \in R . \tag{2.4}
\end{align*}
$$

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

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

and so

$$
\begin{align*}
& \quad\left(T\left(x^{2}\right)-T(x) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)\right) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)  \tag{2.5}\\
& +\alpha\left(x^{*}\right) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right)\left(T\left(x^{2}\right)-\alpha\left(x^{*}\right) T(x)\right)=0, \text { for all } x, y \in R .
\end{align*}
$$

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

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

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

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

By Lemma 2.1, we conclude that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(2 T\left(x^{2}\right)-T(x) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)-\alpha\left(x^{*}\right) T(x)\right) y \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)=0, \text { for all } x, y \in R \tag{2.6}
\end{equation*}
$$

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

$$
\begin{equation*}
A(x) y \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)=0, \text { for all } x, y \in R . \tag{2.7}
\end{equation*}
$$

Substituting $\alpha\left(x^{*}\right) y A(x)$ for $y$ in (2.7), we get

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

Using $R$ is semiprime ring, we arrive at

$$
\begin{equation*}
A(x) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)=0, \text { for all } x \in R \tag{2.8}
\end{equation*}
$$

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

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

By the semiprimeness of $R$, we find that

$$
\begin{equation*}
\alpha\left(x^{*}\right) A(x)=0, \text { for all } x \in R \tag{2.9}
\end{equation*}
$$

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

$$
A(x+y) \alpha\left(x^{*}+y^{*}\right)=0
$$

and so

$$
\left(A(x)+A(y)+2 T(x y+y x)-T(x) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right)-T(y) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)-\alpha\left(x^{*}\right) T(y)-\alpha\left(y^{*}\right) T(x)\right) \alpha\left(x^{*}+y^{*}\right)=0 .
$$

That is

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A(x) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)+A(y) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)+B(x, y) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)+A(x) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right) \\
& \quad+A(y) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right)+B(x, y) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right)=0, \text { for all } x, y \in R,
\end{aligned}
$$

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

$$
\begin{equation*}
A(x) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right)+A(y) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)+B(x, y) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)+B(x, y) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right)=0, \text { for all } x, y \in R \tag{2.10}
\end{equation*}
$$

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

$$
\begin{equation*}
A(x) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right)-A(y) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)+B(x, y) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)-B(x, y) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right)=0, \text { for all } x, y \in R \tag{2.11}
\end{equation*}
$$

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

$$
\begin{equation*}
A(x) \alpha\left(y^{*}\right)+B(x, y) \alpha\left(x^{*}\right)=0, \text { for all } x, y \in R \tag{2.12}
\end{equation*}
$$

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

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

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

$$
A(x) y A(x)=0, \text { for all } x, y \in R
$$

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

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

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

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