



## RESULTS ON $\alpha$ -\*CENTRALIZERS OF PRIME AND SEMIPRIME RINGS WITH INVOLUTION

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ABSTRACT. Let  $R$  be a prime or semiprime ring equipped with an involution  $*$  and  $\alpha$  be an automorphism of  $R$ . An additive mapping  $T : R \rightarrow R$  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  $R$ . A left (resp. right) Jordan  $\alpha$ -\*centralizer  $T : R \rightarrow R$  is an additive mapping such that  $T(x^2) = T(x)\alpha(x^*)$  (resp.  $T(x^2) = \alpha(x^*)T(x)$ ) holds for all  $x \in R$ . In this paper, we obtain some results about Jordan  $\alpha$ -\*centralizer of  $R$  with involution.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

This paper deals with the study of  $\alpha$ -\*centralizers of prime and semiprime rings with involution  $*$  and was motivated by work of [8] and [6]. 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 [10], an additive mapping  $T : R \rightarrow R$  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 homomorphisms. 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  $R$ . A left (resp. right) Jordan centralizer  $T : R \rightarrow R$  is an additive mapping such that  $T(x^2) = T(x)x$  (resp.  $T(x^2) = xT(x)$ ) holds for all  $x \in R$ . Zalar proved that any left (right) Jordan centralizer on a 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

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additive mapping  $T : R \rightarrow R$  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  $T : R \rightarrow R$  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. Albas showed Zalar's result holds for  $\alpha$ -centralizer.

On the other hand, in [3], J. Vukman and M. Fosner proved that an additive mapping  $T : R \rightarrow R$ , where  $R$  is a prime ring with characteristic different from two into, satisfying  $T(x^3) = xT(x)x$  for all  $x \in R$ , is a two sided centralizer. In [5], the authors investigated this result for a  $\alpha$ -centralizer of  $R$ .

Inspired by the definition of 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  $T(xy) = T(x)y^*$  (resp.  $T(xy) = x^*T(y)$ ) 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  $T(x^2) = T(x)x^*$  (resp.  $T(x^2) = x^*T(x)$ ) holds for all  $x \in R$ . For some fixed  $a \in R$ , the map  $x \rightarrow ax^*$  is a Jordan left \*-centralizer. Every left \*-centralizer on a ring  $R$  is a Jordan left \*-centralizer. It is natural to question whether the converse of above statement is true and it was be shown that the answer to this question is affirmative if underlying \*-ring is semiprime in [8]. In [2], the authors 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  $T(xy) = T(x)\alpha(y^*)$  (resp.  $T(xy) = \alpha(x^*)T(y)$ ) holds for all  $x, y \in R$ , where  $\alpha$  is an endomorphism of  $R$ . They investigated that  $T$  is a Jordan  $\alpha$ -\*centralizer under some conditions. Considerable work has been done on this topic during the last couple of decades (see [1-8], where further references can be found).

The main aim of the present article is a generalization of above results to the case  $\alpha$ -\*centralizer of  $R$  with involution.

## 2. RESULTS

**Lemma 1.** [9, Lemma 1] *Let  $R$  be a prime ring, the elements  $a_i, b_i$  in the central closure of  $R$  satisfy  $\sum a_i x b_i = 0$  for all  $x \in R$ . If  $b_i \neq 0$  for some  $i$ , then  $a_i$ 's are  $C$ -independent.*

**Lemma 2.** [5, Theorem 2.1] *Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free semiprime ring with an identity element,  $\alpha$  is a nonzero surjective homomorphism of  $R$  and  $T : R \rightarrow R$  be an additive mapping such that  $T(x^3) = \alpha(x)T(x)\alpha(x)$  holds for all  $x \in R$ . Then  $T$  is a  $\alpha$ -centralizer of  $R$ .*

**Lemma 3.** [3, Theorem 2.1] *Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free ring,  $U$  a square closed Lie ideal of  $R$  which has a commutator right (resp. left) nonzero divisor,  $\alpha$  is*

an automorphism of  $R$  and  $T : R \rightarrow R$  a left (resp. right) Jordan  $\alpha$ -centralizer mapping of  $U$  into  $R$ . Then  $T$  is a left (resp. right)  $\alpha$ -centralizer mapping of  $U$  into  $R$ .

**Example 1.** [4, Example] A semiprime ring may not contain a commutator nonzero divisor (after all, take commutative semiprime rings, or more generally, semiprime rings  $R$  containing a nonzero central idempotent element  $e \in R$  such that  $eR$  is commutative). Conversely, a ring may contain a commutator nonzero divisor, but is not semiprime. For example, let  $R = T_2(A_1)$  be the ring of the  $2 \times 2$  upper triangular matrices whose entries are elements from the Weyl algebra  $A_1$  (polynomials in  $x, y$  such that  $xy - yx = 1$ ). Then  $R$  is not semiprime, but the commutator of scalar matrices generated by  $x$  and  $y$  is the identity matrix.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free semiprime ring,  $U$  a square closed Lie ideal of  $R$ ,  $\alpha$  is an automorphism of  $R$  and  $T : R \rightarrow R$  a left (resp. right) Jordan  $\alpha$ -centralizer mapping of  $U$  into  $R$ . Then  $T$  is a left (resp. right)  $\alpha$ -centralizer mapping of  $U$  into  $R$ .

*Proof.* The proof is obvious from Lemma 3 and the well known fact that a semiprime ring may not contain a commutator nonzero divisor by above example.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.** Let  $R$  be a non-commutative prime  $*$ -ring,  $\alpha$  is an automorphism of  $R$  and  $T : R \rightarrow R$  be a Jordan left  $\alpha$ - $*$ centralizer. If  $T(x) \in Z$  for all  $x \in R$ , then  $T = 0$ .

*Proof.* By the hypothesis, we have

$$[T(x), y] = 0 \quad \text{for all } x, y \in R. \quad (2.1)$$

Replacing  $x$  by  $x^2$  in (2.1) and using this, we obtain that

$$T(x)[\alpha(x^*), y] = 0 \quad \text{for all } x, y \in R.$$

In the view of  $T(x) \in Z$  and centre of prime ring is free from zero divisors, we get

$$T(x) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad [\alpha(x^*), y] = 0 \quad \text{for all } x, y \in R.$$

We obtain  $R$  is union of its two additive subgroups such that

$$K = \{x \in R \mid T(x) = 0\}$$

and

$$L = \{x \in R \mid \alpha(x^*) \in Z\}.$$

Clearly each of  $K$  and  $L$  is additive subgroup of  $R$ . Moreover,  $R$  is the set-theoretic union of  $K$  and  $L$ . But a group can not be the set-theoretic union of two proper subgroups, hence  $K = R$  or  $L = R$ . In the former case, we have  $T = 0$  and the second case,  $R$  is commutative, a contradiction. This finishes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free semiprime \*-ring,  $\alpha$  is an automorphism of  $R$  such that  $*\alpha = \alpha*$  and  $T : R \rightarrow R$  be a Jordan left  $\alpha$ -\*centralizer. Then  $T$  is a reverse left  $\alpha$ -\*centralizer, that is  $T(xy) = T(y)\alpha(x^*)$  for all  $x, y \in R$ .*

*Proof.* By the hypothesis, we have

$$T(x^2) = T(x)\alpha(x^*) \quad \text{for all } x \in R. \quad (2.2)$$

Applying involution both sides to (2.2), we conclude that

$$(T(x^2))^* = \alpha(x^*)^*T(x)^* \quad \text{for all } x \in R.$$

Using  $*\alpha = \alpha*$ , we get

$$(T(x^2))^* = \alpha(x)T(x)^* \quad \text{for all } x \in R.$$

Define  $S : R \rightarrow R, S(x) = T(x)^*$  for all  $x \in R$ . Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} S(x^2) &= T(x^2)^* \\ &= (T(x)\alpha(x^*))^* \\ &= \alpha(x)T(x)^* = \alpha(x)S(x) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in R$ . This means  $S$  is a Jordan right  $\alpha$ -centralizer on  $R$ . By Theorem 1,  $S$  is a right  $\alpha$ -centralizer that is,  $S(xy) = \alpha(x)S(y)$  for all  $x, y \in R$ . This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} T(xy)^* &= S(xy) \\ &= \alpha(x)S(y) = \alpha(x)T(y)^*, \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

and so

$$T(xy)^* = \alpha(x)T(y)^* \quad \text{for all } x, y \in R.$$

Applying involution both sides the last equation, we get

$$T(xy) = T(y)\alpha(x^*) \quad \text{for all } x, y \in R.$$

Hence  $T$  is a reverse left  $\alpha$ -\*centralizer.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free semiprime \*-ring with an identity element,  $\alpha$  is an automorphism of  $R$  such that  $*\alpha = \alpha*$  and  $T : R \rightarrow R$  be an additive mapping such that  $T(x^3) = \alpha(x^*)T(x)\alpha(x^*)$  holds for all  $x \in R$ . Then  $T$  is a reverse  $\alpha$ -\*centralizer, that is  $T(xy) = T(y)\alpha(x^*) = \alpha(y^*)T(x)$  for all  $x, y \in R$ .*

*Proof.* By the hypothesis, we have

$$T(x^3) = \alpha(x^*)T(x)\alpha(x^*) \quad \text{for all } x \in R. \quad (2.4)$$

Applying involution both sides to (2.4) and using  $*\alpha = \alpha*$ , we obtain that

$$T(x^3)^* = (\alpha(x^*)T(x)\alpha(x^*))^* = \alpha(x)T(x)^*\alpha(x) \quad \text{for all } x \in R.$$

Define  $S : R \rightarrow R, S(x) = T(x)^*$  for all  $x \in R$ . Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} S(x^3) &= T(x^3)^* \\ &= \alpha(x)T(x)^* \alpha(x) = \alpha(x)S(x) \alpha(x) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in R$ . Hence we obtain that

$$S(x^3) = \alpha(x)S(x) \alpha(x) \text{ for all } x \in R.$$

Using Lemma 2, we conclude that  $S$  is a two sided  $\alpha$ -centralizer that is,  $S(xy) = \alpha(x)S(y) = S(x)\alpha(y)$  for all  $x, y \in R$ . This implies for all  $x, y \in R$

$$\begin{aligned} T(xy)^* &= S(xy) \\ &= \alpha(x)S(y) = \alpha(x)T(y)^* \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} T(xy)^* &= S(xy) \\ &= S(x) \alpha(y) = T(x)^* \alpha(y). \end{aligned}$$

Applying involution both sides the two last equations and using  $*\alpha = \alpha^*$ , we get

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

□

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free non-commutative prime  $*$ -ring,  $\alpha$  is an automorphism of  $R$  such that  $*\alpha = \alpha^*$  and  $T, S : R \rightarrow R$  be two Jordan left  $\alpha$ - $*$ centralizer. If  $[S(x), T(x)] = 0$  holds for all  $x \in R$  and  $T \neq 0$ , then there exists  $\lambda \in C$  such that  $S = \lambda T$ .*

*Proof.* We know that  $S$  and  $T$  are reverse left  $\alpha$ - $*$ centralizers by Theorem 3. Now we assume that

$$[S(x), T(x)] = 0 \text{ for all } x \in R. \quad (2.6)$$

Linearizing (2.6) and using this, we have

$$[S(x), T(y)] + [S(y), T(x)] = 0 \text{ for all } x, y \in R. \quad (2.7)$$

Replacing  $x$  by  $zx$  in (2.7) and using this, we arrive at

$$S(x)[\alpha(z^*), T(y)] + T(x)[S(y), \alpha(z^*)] = 0 \text{ for all } x, y, z \in R. \quad (2.8)$$

Writing  $z^*$  instead of  $z$  in (2.8) and using  $\alpha$  is an automorphism of  $R$ , we get

$$S(x)[z, T(y)] + T(x)[S(y), z] = 0 \text{ for all } x, y, z \in R. \quad (2.9)$$

Taking  $wx$  instead of  $x$  in (2.9), we find that

$$S(x)\alpha(w^*)[z, T(y)] + T(x)\alpha(w^*)[S(y), z] = 0 \text{ for all } x, y, z, w \in R.$$

Again replacing  $w^*$  instead of  $w$  and using  $\alpha$  is an automorphism of  $R$ , we obtain that

$$S(x)w[z, T(y)] + T(x)w[S(y), z] = 0 \text{ for all } x, y, z, w \in R. \quad (2.10)$$

Using Lemma 1, we have  $[z, T(y)] = 0$  for all  $y, z \in R$  or  $S(x) = \lambda(x)T(x)$  where  $\lambda(x) \in C$ . But  $[z, T(y)] \neq 0$  for some  $z, y \in R$  because of  $T \neq 0$  (see Theorem 2). Hence we get  $S(x) = \lambda(x)T(x)$  where  $\lambda(x) \in C$ .

Returning (2.10), we can write

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= S(x)w[z, T(y)] + T(x)w[S(y), z] \\ &= \lambda(x)T(x)w[z, T(y)] + T(x)w[\lambda(y)T(y), z] \\ &= (\lambda(x) - \lambda(y))T(x)w[z, T(y)] \end{aligned}$$

for all  $z, y \in R$ . By the primeness of  $R$ , the last equation yields that either  $(\lambda(x) - \lambda(y))T(x) = 0$  or  $[z, T(y)] = 0$ . Again using  $[z, T(y)] \neq 0$  some  $z, y \in R$ , we have  $(\lambda(x) - \lambda(y))T(x) = 0$  for all  $x, y \in R$ . This implies  $\lambda(x)T(x) = \lambda(y)T(x)$ , and so,  $S(x) = \lambda(y)T(x)$  for all  $x, y \in R$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $R$  be a semiprime  $\ast$ -ring,  $\alpha$  is an automorphism of  $R$  such that  $\ast\alpha = \alpha\ast$  and  $T : R \rightarrow R$  be a mapping (not necessary additive mapping) such that  $T(x)\alpha(y^\ast) = \alpha(x^\ast)T(y)$  holds for all  $x, y \in R$ . Then  $T$  is a reverse left  $\alpha$ -\*centralizer of  $R$ .*

*Proof.* By the hypothesis, we get

$$T(x)\alpha(y^\ast) = \alpha(x^\ast)T(y) \quad \text{for all } x, y \in R. \quad (2.11)$$

We calculate the following equation using (2.11) and  $\alpha$  is an automorphism of  $R$  :

$$\begin{aligned} (T(x+y) - T(x) - T(y))\alpha(z^\ast) &= T(x+y)\alpha(z^\ast) - T(x)\alpha(z^\ast) - T(y)\alpha(z^\ast) \\ &= \alpha((x+y)^\ast)T(z) - \alpha(x^\ast)T(z) - \alpha(y^\ast)T(z) \\ &= (\alpha((x+y)^\ast) - \alpha(x^\ast) - \alpha(y^\ast))T(z) \\ &= \alpha((x+y)^\ast - x^\ast - y^\ast)T(z) \\ &= \alpha(x^\ast + y^\ast - x^\ast - y^\ast)T(z) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Hence we have

$$(T(x+y) - T(x) - T(y))\alpha(z^\ast) = 0.$$

Writing  $z^\ast$  instead of  $z$  and using  $\alpha$  is an automorphism of  $R$  in this equation, we arrive at

$$(T(x+y) - T(x) - T(y))z = 0 \quad \text{for all } x, y, z \in R.$$

Since  $R$  is semiprime ring, we obtain that

$$T(x+y) = T(x) + T(y) \quad \text{for all } x, y \in R.$$

Similarly, we calculate the relation  $(T(yx) - T(x)\alpha(y^\ast))\alpha(z^\ast)$  using (2.11), we find that  $T(yx) = T(x)\alpha(y^\ast)$  for all  $x, y \in R$ . Hence  $T$  is a reverse left  $\alpha$ -\*centralizer of  $R$ .  $\square$

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