Research Article

A Characterization of Bi-Jordan Homomorphisms on Banach Algebras

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For Banach algebras $\mathcal{A}$ and $\mathcal{B}$, we show that if $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B}$ is unital and commutative, each bi-Jordan homomorphism from $\mathcal{U}$ into a semisimple commutative Banach algebra $\mathcal{D}$ is a bihomomorphism.

1. Introduction

Let $\mathcal{A}$ and $\mathcal{B}$ be complex Banach algebras and let $\varphi : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ be a linear map. Then φ is called n -homomorphism if for all $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in \mathcal{A}$,

$$\varphi(a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n) = \varphi(a_1) \varphi(a_2) \cdots \varphi(a_n). \quad (1)$$

The concept of n -homomorphism was studied for complex algebras by Hejazian et al. in [1]. A 2-homomorphism is then just a homomorphism, in the usual sense. We refer the reader to [2], for certain properties of 3-homomorphisms.

In [3], Eshaghi Gordji introduced the concept of an n -Jordan homomorphism. A linear map φ between Banach algebras $\mathcal{A}$ and $\mathcal{B}$ is called an n -Jordan homomorphism if

$$\varphi(a^n) = \varphi(a)^n, \quad (a \in \mathcal{A}). \quad (2)$$

A 2-Jordan homomorphism is called simply a Jordan homomorphism.

It is obvious that each n -homomorphism is an n -Jordan homomorphism, but in general the converse is false. The converse statement may be true under certain conditions. For example, Zelazko in [4] proved that every Jordan homomorphism from Banach algebra $\mathcal{A}$ into a semisimple commutative Banach algebra $\mathcal{B}$ is a homomorphism. See also [5] for another approach to the same result. The reader is referred to [6], for characterization of 3-Jordan homomorphism.

Also it is shown in [3] that every n -Jordan homomorphism between two commutative Banach algebras is an n -homomorphism for $n \in \{2, 3, 4\}$ and this result is extended

to the case $n = 5$ in [7]. Some investigation has been done about Jordan derivations and Jordan centralizers in [8, 9].

Throughout the paper, let $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B}$. Then $\mathcal{U}$ is a Banach algebra for the multiplication

$$(a, b)(x, y) = (ax, by), \quad (a, b), (x, y) \in \mathcal{U}, \quad (3)$$

and with norm

$$\|(a, b)\| = \|a\| + \|b\|. \quad (4)$$

Clearly, $\mathcal{U}$ is commutative if and only if both $\mathcal{A}$ and $\mathcal{B}$ are commutative, and it is unital if and only if both $\mathcal{A}$ and $\mathcal{B}$ are unital. Without any confusion we denote by e , the unit element of both $\mathcal{A}$ and $\mathcal{B}$.

Let $\mathcal{D}$ be a complex Banach algebra. A bilinear map is a function $\varphi : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ such that for any $a \in \mathcal{A}$ the map $b \mapsto \varphi(a, b)$ is linear map from $\mathcal{B}$ to $\mathcal{D}$, and for any $b \in \mathcal{B}$ the map $a \mapsto \varphi(a, b)$ is linear map from $\mathcal{A}$ to $\mathcal{D}$.

A bilinear map φ is called bihomomorphism if for all $(a, b), (x, y) \in \mathcal{U}$,

$$\varphi(ax, by) = \varphi(a, b) \varphi(x, y), \quad (5)$$

and it is called bi-Jordan homomorphism (BJH, for short) if

$$\varphi(a^2, b^2) = \varphi(a, b)^2, \quad (a, b) \in \mathcal{U}. \quad (6)$$

It is obvious that each bihomomorphism is BJH, but in general the converse is not true. For example, let

$$\mathcal{A} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a, b \in \mathbb{R} \right\}, \quad (7)$$

and $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{A} \cup \{I\}$, where $I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$. Define $\varphi : \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ by $\varphi(x, y) = xy$. Then φ is bilinear and

$$\varphi(x^2, y^2) = x^2 y^2 = (xy)^2 = \varphi(x, y)^2, \quad (8)$$

for all $(x, y) \in \mathcal{U} = \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B}$. Thus, φ is a bi-Jordan homomorphism, but it is not bihomomorphism. For instance, let

$$\begin{aligned} u &= \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\ x &= \begin{bmatrix} c & d \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\ v &= \begin{bmatrix} s & t \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\ y &= I. \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Then $(u, v), (x, y) \in \mathcal{U}$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(ux, vy) &= \begin{bmatrix} acs & act \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} asc & asd \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \varphi(u, v) \varphi(x, y). \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

In this paper, we show that the converse statement holds under certain conditions.

2. Main Results

We commence with some useful lemmas.

Lemma 1. Suppose that $\varphi : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a BJH. Then

- (1) $\varphi(xy + yx, b^2) = 2\varphi(x, b)\varphi(y, b)$;
- (2) $\varphi(a^2, xy + yx) = 2\varphi(a, x)\varphi(a, y)$.

Proof. The proof is straightforward. $\square$

Lemma 2. Suppose that $\varphi : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a BJH. If $\mathcal{U}$ is unital and commutative, then

- (1) $\varphi(ax, e) = \varphi(a, e)\varphi(x, e)$;
- (2) $\varphi(e, by) = \varphi(e, b)\varphi(e, y)$.

Proof. The proof follows from Lemma 1. $\square$

Lemma 3. Let $\mathcal{U}$ be unital, and let $\varphi : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a nonzero BJH. Then $\varphi(e, e) \neq 0$.

Proof. Let φ be a BJH. Then for all $(a, b) \in \mathcal{U}$, we get

$$\varphi(a^2, b^2) = \varphi(a, b)^2. \quad (11)$$

Replacing a by $x + e$ and b by $y + e$ in (11) gives

$$\varphi(x^2 + 2x + e, y^2 + 2y + e) = \varphi(x + e, y + e)^2. \quad (12)$$

Assume that $\varphi(e, e) = 0$; then by Lemma 1,

$$\varphi(x, e) = \varphi(e, y) = 0, \quad (x, y) \in \mathcal{U}. \quad (13)$$

It follows from (12) and (13) that

$$\varphi(2x, 2y) + \varphi(2x, y^2) + \varphi(x^2, 2y) = 0, \quad (14)$$

for all $(x, y) \in \mathcal{U}$. By Lemma 1,

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(2x, y^2) &= 2\varphi(x, y)\varphi(e, y) = 0, \\ \varphi(x^2, 2y) &= 2\varphi(x, e)\varphi(x, y) = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

Thus, by (14) and (15), we get $\varphi(x, y) = 0$, for all $(x, y) \in \mathcal{U}$, which is contradiction. $\square$

Now we state and prove the main theorem. The main idea of the proof can be found in [6].

Theorem 4. Let $\mathcal{U}$ be unital and commutative, and let φ be a BJH from $\mathcal{U}$ into a semisimple commutative Banach algebra $\mathcal{D}$. Then φ is a bihomomorphism.

Proof. We first assume that $\mathcal{D} = \mathbb{C}$ and let $\varphi : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a BJH. Then, for all $(a, b) \in \mathcal{U}$, we get

$$\varphi(a^2, b^2) = \varphi(a, b)^2. \quad (16)$$

Replacing a by $x + e$ and b by $y + e$ in (16), we have

$$\varphi(x^2 + 2x + e, y^2 + 2y + e) = \varphi(x + e, y + e)^2. \quad (17)$$

By Lemma 3, $\varphi(e, e) \neq 0$, so (16) gives

$$\varphi(e, e) = 1. \quad (18)$$

It follows from Lemma 1 that

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(2x, y^2) &= 2\varphi(x, y)\varphi(e, y), \\ \varphi(x^2, 2y) &= 2\varphi(x, e)\varphi(x, y). \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

Thus, by (17), (18), and (19) we get

$$\varphi(x, y) = \varphi(x, e)\varphi(e, y), \quad (20)$$

for all $(x, y) \in \mathcal{U}$. Replacing x by ax and y by by in (20) gives

$$\varphi(ax, by) = \varphi(ax, e)\varphi(e, by). \quad (21)$$

By (20) and Lemma 2 we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(a, b)\varphi(x, y) &= [\varphi(a, e)\varphi(x, e)][\varphi(e, b)\varphi(e, y)] \\ &= \varphi(ax, e)\varphi(e, by). \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

By (21) and (22),

$$\varphi(ax, by) = \varphi(a, b) \varphi(x, y), \quad (23)$$

for all $(a, b), (x, y) \in \mathcal{U}$, and so φ is bihomomorphism.

Now suppose that $\mathcal{D}$ is semisimple and commutative. Let $\mathfrak{M}(\mathcal{D})$ be the maximal ideal space of $\mathcal{D}$. We associate with each $f \in \mathfrak{M}(\mathcal{D})$ a function $\varphi_f : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ defined by

$$\varphi_f(a, b) := f(\varphi(a, b)), \quad (a, b) \in \mathcal{U}. \quad (24)$$

Pick $f \in \mathfrak{M}(\mathcal{D})$ arbitrary. It is easy to see that φ_f is a BJH, so by the above argument it is a bihomomorphism. Thus by the definition of φ_f we have

$$\begin{aligned} f(\varphi(ax, by)) &= f(\varphi(a, b)) f(\varphi(x, y)) \\ &= f(\varphi(a, b) \varphi(x, y)). \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

Since $f \in \mathfrak{M}(\mathcal{D})$ was arbitrary and $\mathcal{D}$ is assumed to be semisimple, we obtain

$$\varphi(ax, by) = \varphi(a, b) \varphi(x, y), \quad (26)$$

for all $(a, b), (x, y) \in \mathcal{U}$. $\square$

The second dual space $\mathcal{A}''$ of a Banach algebra $\mathcal{A}$ admits two Banach algebra multiplications known as the first and second Arens products, each extending the product on $\mathcal{A}$. These products which we denote by $\square$ and $\diamond$, respectively, can be defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} F \square G &= w^* - \lim_i \lim_j a_i b_j, \\ F \diamond G &= w^* - \lim_j \lim_i a_i b_j, \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

where (a_i) and (b_j) are nets in $\mathcal{A}$ that converge, in w^* -topologies, to F and G , respectively. The Banach algebra $\mathcal{A}$ is said to be Arens regular if $F \square G = F \diamond G$ on the whole of $\mathcal{A}''$. Some significant results related to the Arens regularity of certain bilinear maps and Banach algebra obtained in [10]. For more information on the Arens products, we refer the reader to [11, 12], for example.

It is shown in [11] that every C^* -algebra $\mathcal{A}$ is Arens regular and semisimple. Also the second dual of each C^* -algebra is also a C^* -algebra.

Theorem 5. *If k is the natural embedding of a Banach space X into X'' , then $k(X)$ is w^* -dense in X'' .*

Proof. See [13]. $\square$

Theorem 6. *Let $\varphi : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ be a continuous BJH. Then the second adjoint $\varphi'' : \mathcal{U}'' \rightarrow \mathcal{D}''$ of φ is also a BJH.*

Proof. By Theorem 5, there are bounded nets (a_i) and (b_j) in $\mathcal{A}$ and $\mathcal{B}$ that converge, in w^* -topologies, to F and G , respectively. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi''(F^2, G^2) &= \varphi''\left(w^* - \lim_i a_i^2, w^* - \lim_j b_j^2\right) \\ &= \varphi\left(w^* - \lim_i a_i^2, w^* - \lim_j b_j^2\right) \\ &= w^* - \lim_i \lim_j \varphi(a_i^2, b_j^2) \\ &= w^* - \lim_i \lim_j \varphi(a_i, b_j)^2 \\ &= w^* - \lim_i \lim_j \varphi''(a_i, b_j)^2 \\ &= \varphi''\left(w^* - \lim_i a_i, w^* - \lim_j b_j\right)^2 \\ &= \varphi''(F, G)^2. \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

Thus, φ'' is BJH, as claimed. $\square$

Since the second dual of every C^* -algebra is unital [14], we deduce the following result from Theorems 4 and 6.

Corollary 7. *Let $\varphi : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ be a continuous BJH between commutative C^* -algebras. Then $\varphi'' : \mathcal{U}'' \rightarrow \mathcal{D}''$ is a bihomomorphism.*

Theorem 8. *Suppose that φ is a BJH from the unital Banach algebra $\mathcal{U}$ into $\mathbb{C}$. Then φ is a n -BJH; that is,*

$$\varphi(a^n, b^n) = \varphi(a, b)^n, \quad (29)$$

for all $n \geq 3$.

Proof. Let $\varphi : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a BJH. Then, for all $(a, b) \in \mathcal{U}$,

$$\varphi(a^2, b^2) = \varphi(a, b)^2. \quad (30)$$

Replacing a by $a + x$ and b by $b + y$ in (30), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(ax + xa, by + yb) &= 2\varphi(a, b) \varphi(x, y) \\ &\quad + 2\varphi(a, y) \varphi(x, b). \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

Replacing a by a^2 and b by b^2 in (31) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(a^2x + xa^2, b^2y + yb^2) &= 2\varphi(a^2, b^2) \varphi(x, y) + 2\varphi(a^2, y) \varphi(x, b^2). \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

Replacing x by a and y by b in (32), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(2a^3, 2b^3) &= 2\varphi(a^2, b^2) \varphi(a, b) \\ &\quad + 2\varphi(a^2, b) \varphi(a, b^2). \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

Replacing x and y by e in (31), we get

$$\varphi(2a, 2b) = 2\varphi(a, b)\varphi(e, e) + 2\varphi(a, e)\varphi(e, b). \quad (34)$$

Since $\varphi(e, e) = 1$, so (34) gives

$$\varphi(a, b) = \varphi(a, e)\varphi(e, b), \quad (35)$$

for all $(a, b) \in \mathcal{U}$. By Lemma 1,

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(a^2, b) &= \varphi(a, b)\varphi(a, e), \\ \varphi(a, b^2) &= \varphi(a, b)\varphi(e, b). \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

It follows from (35) and (36) that

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(a^2, b)\varphi(a, b^2) &= \varphi(a, b)^2\varphi(a, e)\varphi(e, b) \\ &= \varphi(a, b)^3. \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$

By (33) and (37),

$$\varphi(a^3, b^3) = \varphi(a, b)^3, \quad (38)$$

for all $(a, b) \in \mathcal{U}$. Thus, the result is established for $n = 3$. An easy induction argument now finishes the proof. $\square$

As a consequence of Theorem 8 we have the next result.

Corollary 9. Suppose that φ is a BJH from the unital Banach algebra $\mathcal{U}$ into a semisimple commutative Banach algebra $\mathcal{D}$. Then φ is an n -BJH.

Baker in [15] proved that an almost multiplicative function is either bounded or multiplicative. Now we prove an analogous result of Baker's theorem for bihomomorphism.

Theorem 10. Let $\delta > 0$ and $\varphi : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ satisfy

$$|\varphi(ax, by) - \varphi(a, b)\varphi(x, y)| \leq \delta, \quad (39)$$

for all $(a, b), (x, y) \in \mathcal{U}$. Then either φ is bihomomorphism or

$$|\varphi(x, y)| \leq \frac{1}{2}(1 + \sqrt{1 + 4\delta}) := \varepsilon, \quad (40)$$

for all $(x, y) \in \mathcal{U}$.

Proof. Let $\varepsilon^2 - \varepsilon = \delta$ and $\varepsilon > 1$. Suppose that there exist $(s, t) \in \mathcal{U}$ such that $|\varphi(s, t)| > \varepsilon$, so that $|\varphi(s, t)| = \varepsilon + p$, where $p > 0$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\varphi(s^2, t^2)| &\geq |\varphi(s, t)^2 - (\varphi(s, t)^2 - \varphi(s^2, t^2))| \\ &\geq |\varphi(s, t)|^2 - |\varphi(s, t)^2 - \varphi(s^2, t^2)|; \end{aligned} \quad (41)$$

hence

$$\begin{aligned} |\varphi(s^2, t^2)| &\geq |\varphi(s, t)|^2 - \delta = (\varepsilon + p)^2 - \delta \\ &= 2\varepsilon p + p^2 + \varepsilon > \varepsilon + 2p. \end{aligned} \quad (42)$$

Now make the induction assumption:

$$|\varphi(s^{2^n}, t^{2^n})| > \varepsilon + (n+1)p. \quad (43)$$

Let

$$M_n = \varphi(s^{2^n}, t^{2^n}). \quad (44)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} |M_{n+1}| &= |M_n^2 - (M_n^2 - M_{n+1})| \geq |M_n^2| - \delta \\ &= |M_n|^2 + \varepsilon - \varepsilon^2, \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

whence

$$\begin{aligned} |M_{n+1}| &\geq (\varepsilon + (n+1)p)^2 + \varepsilon - \varepsilon^2 \\ &= (2n+2)\varepsilon p + \varepsilon + (n+1)^2 p^2 \\ &> \varepsilon + (n+2)p, \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

and (43) is established for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Given that $(a, b), (x, y), (u, v) \in \mathcal{U}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\varphi(axu, byv) - \varphi(a, b)\varphi(xu, yv)| &\leq \delta, \\ |\varphi(axu, byv) - \varphi(ax, by)\varphi(u, v)| &\leq \delta. \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

Thus,

$$|\varphi(ax, by)\varphi(u, v) - \varphi(a, b)\varphi(xu, yv)| \leq 2\delta. \quad (48)$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} &|\varphi(ax, by)\varphi(u, v) - \varphi(a, b)\varphi(x, y)\varphi(u, v)| \\ &\leq |\varphi(ax, by)\varphi(u, v) - \varphi(a, b)\varphi(xu, yv)| \\ &\quad + |\varphi(a, b)\varphi(xu, yv) - \varphi(a, b)\varphi(x, y)\varphi(u, v)| \\ &\leq 2\delta + \delta|\varphi(a, b)|. \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} &|\varphi(u, v)| |\varphi(ax, by) - \varphi(a, b)\varphi(x, y)| \\ &\leq 2\delta + \delta|\varphi(a, b)|. \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

Now put $(u, v) = (s^{2^n}, t^{2^n})$ to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |\varphi(ax, by) - \varphi(a, b)\varphi(x, y)| &\leq \frac{2\delta + \delta|\varphi(a, b)|}{|M_n|} \\ &\leq \frac{2\delta + \delta|\varphi(a, b)|}{\varepsilon + (n+1)p}, \end{aligned} \quad (51)$$

for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $(a, b) \in \mathcal{U}$. Letting $n \rightarrow \infty$, we get $\varphi(ax, by) = \varphi(a, b)\varphi(x, y)$ and so φ is a bihomomorphism. $\square$

As Baker pointed out in his article, the above proof works for functions $\varphi : \mathcal{U} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$, where $\mathcal{D}$ is a Banach algebra in which the norm is multiplicative; that is, $\|xy\| = \|x\|\|y\|$ for all $x, y \in \mathcal{D}$. For norm algebra $\mathcal{D}$ for which the norm is not multiplicative, the situation is false. For example, let $\delta > 0$ and choose $\varepsilon > 0$ so that $|\varepsilon - \varepsilon^2| = \delta$, and define $\varphi : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow M_3(\mathbb{R})$ by

$$\varphi(x, y) = \begin{bmatrix} x & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & y & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \varepsilon \end{bmatrix} \quad x, y \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (52)$$

Then with the usual matrix norm

$$\|\varphi(ax, by) - \varphi(a, b)\varphi(x, y)\| = \delta, \quad (53)$$

for all $(a, b), (x, y) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$. Clearly, φ is unbounded, but φ is not bihomomorphism.

Competing Interests

The author declares that there is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

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