RESEARCH NOTES

NOTES ON (α, β) -DERIVATIONS

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ABSTRACT. Let R be a prime ring of characteristic not 2, U a nonzero ideal of R and $0 \neq d$ a (α, β) -derivation of R where α and β are automorphisms of R . i) $[d(U), a] = 0$ then $a \in Z$ ii) For $a, b \in R$, the following conditions are equivalent (I) $\alpha(a)d(x) = d(x)\beta(b)$, for all $x \in U$ (II) Either $\alpha(a) = \beta(b) \in C_R(d(U))$ or $C_R(a) = C_R(b) = R'$ and $a[a, x] = [a, x]b$ (or $a[b, x] = [b, x]b$) for all $x \in U$ Let R be a 2-torsion free semiprime ring and U be a nonzero ideal of R iii) Let d be a (α, β) -derivation of R and g be a (γ, δ) -derivation of R . Suppose that dg is a $(\alpha\gamma, \beta\delta)$ -derivation and g commutes both γ and δ then $g(x)U\alpha^{-1}d(y) = 0$, for all $x, y \in U$. iv) Let $\text{Ann}(U) = 0$ and d be an (α, β) -derivation of R and g be a (γ, δ) -derivation of R such that g commutes both γ and δ . If for all $x, y \in U$, $\beta^{-1}(d(x))Ug(y) = 0 = g(x)U\alpha^{-1}(d(y))$ then dg is a $(\alpha\gamma, \beta\delta)$ -derivation on R .

KEY WORDS AND PHRASES: Derivation, semiprime ring, prime ring, commutative

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1. INTRODUCTION

Let R be a ring and X be a subset of R . Let $\text{Ann}_r(X) = \{a \in R \mid xa = 0 \text{ all } x \in X\}$ and $\text{Ann}_l(X) = \{a \in R \mid ax = 0 \text{ all } x \in X\}$ be the right and left annihilators, respectively, of the subset X of R . If R is a semiprime ring then the left and right and two-sided annihilators of an ideal X coincide. It will be denoted by $\text{Ann}(X)$. Let U be an ideal of R . Note that if σ is an automorphism of R and $\text{Ann}(U) = 0$ then $\text{Ann}(\sigma(U)) = 0$. Let R be a ring and α, β be two automorphisms of R . An additive mapping $d : R \rightarrow R$ is called an (α, β) -derivation if $d(xy) = \alpha(x)d(y) + d(x)\beta(y)$ holds for all pairs $x, y \in R$.

Throughout this note R will represent an associative ring. Let $R' = \{x \in R \mid d(x) = 0\}$. The centralizer of a subset A of R is $C_R(A) = \{y \in R \mid ay = ya, \forall a \in A\}$. $C_R(R) = Z$, the center of R .

There are two motivations for this research. Herstein [1] has proved. Let R be a prime ring of characteristic not 2, and $0 \neq d$ be a derivation of R . Then any element $a \in R$ satisfying $ad(x) = d(x)a$ for all $x \in R$, should be central. In [2], Daif has proved the following theorem. Let R be a prime ring and $a, b \in R$. Then the following conditions are equivalent

(i) $ad(x) = d(x)b, \forall x \in R$

(ii) Either $a = b \in C_R(d(R))$ or $C_R(a) = C_R(b) = R'$ and $a[a, x] = [a, x]b$ (or $a[b, x] = [b, x]b$) for all $x \in R$. In the first part of this note we generalized these two theorems for an ideal U and (α, β) -derivation of R .

In the second part, Bresar and Vukman [3] give some results concerning two derivations in semiprime rings. We will generalize some of these results by taking an ideal of R instead of R and extend to more general mappings. As a result of this, we will give a generalization of a well-known result of Posner which states that if R is a prime ring of characteristic not 2 and d, g are nonzero derivation of R then dg cannot be a derivation.

2. RESULTS

LEMMA 1. Let R be a prime ring of characteristics not 2, $(0) \neq U$ an ideal of R , $0 \neq d : R \rightarrow R$ a (α, β) -derivation such that $\alpha d = d\alpha$, $d\beta = \beta d$ and $a \in R$. If $a \in C_R(d(U))$ then $a \in Z$.

PROOF. Since $a \in C_R(d(U))$, $ad(x) = d(x)a$ for all $x \in U$. Replacing x by xy , $y \in U$, we obtain $a\alpha(x)d(y) + ad(x)\beta(y) = \alpha(x)d(y)a + d(x)\beta(y)a$. Using hypothesis we have

$$d(x)[a, \beta(y)] = [\alpha(x), a]d(y).$$

Taking yr , $r \in R$, instead of y , we obtain

$$d(x)\beta(y)[a, \beta(r)] = [\alpha(x), a]\alpha(y)d(r) \quad \text{for all } x, y \in U, r \in R.$$

If we replace r by $\beta^{-1}(d(z))$, $z \in U$, we get $d(x)\beta(y)[a, d(z)] = [\alpha(x), a]\alpha(y)\beta^{-1}(d^2(z))$. Since $a \in C_R(d(U))$ we have $[\alpha(x), a]\alpha(y)\beta^{-1}(d^2(z)) = 0$ for all $x, y, z \in U$. Since $\alpha(U)$ is an ideal of R and R is prime we get $a \in Z$ or $d^2(U) = 0$. If $d^2(U) = 0$ then $0 = d^2(xy) = \alpha^2(x)d^2(y) + 2d(\alpha(x))d(\beta(y))$ and so $d(\alpha(x))d(\beta(y)) = 0$. By [4, Lemma 3] we have a contradiction. Thus $a \in Z$.

THEOREM 1. Let R be a prime ring of characteristic not 2, $0 \neq d : R \rightarrow R$ a (α, β) -derivation, $(0) \neq U$ and ideal of R and $a, b \in R$. Then the following conditions are equivalent

- (I) $\alpha(a)d(x) = d(x)\beta(b)$, for all $x \in U$.
- (II) Either $\beta(b) = \alpha(a) \in C_R(d(U))$ or $C_R(a) = C_R(b) = R'$ and $a[a, x] = [a, x]b$ (or $a[b, c] = [b, c]b$) for all $x \in U$.

PROOF. (I) $\Rightarrow$ (II) If $a \in C_R(d(U))$ then by Lemma 1 we get $\alpha(a) \in Z$. (I) gives $d(x)(\beta(b) - \alpha(a)) = 0$, for all $x \in U$. By [4, Lemma 3] it implies that $\beta(b) = \alpha(a)$. Similarly, if $\beta(b) \in C_R(d(U))$ then $\beta(b) = \alpha(a)$.

We assume henceforth that neither $\alpha(a)$ nor $\beta(b)$ in $C_R(d(U))$. Let in (I) x be rx , where $r \in R$, and using (I), we have $\alpha(a)\alpha(r)d(x) + \alpha(a)d(r)\beta(x) = \alpha(r)d(x)\beta(b) + d(r)\beta(x)\beta(b)$ and so

$$\alpha([a, r])d(x) = d(r)\beta(xb) - \alpha(a)d(r)\beta(x). \quad (2.1)$$

Taking y instead of r where $y \in U$, in (2.1) and using (I) we obtain

$$\alpha([a, y])d(x) = d(y)\beta([x, b]), \quad \text{for all } x, y \in U. \quad (2.2)$$

Now if $d(x) = 0$ then (2.2) gives us $d(y)\beta([x, b]) = 0$ for all $y \in U$. By [4, Lemma 3], we get $x \in C_R(b)$. Conversely, if $x \in C_R(b)$, then (2.2) gives us $\alpha([y, a])d(x) = 0$. Since by [4, Lemma 3] $a \notin Z$, we have $d(x) = 0$. Therefore $C_R(b) = R'$. Similarly, we can show that $C_R(a) = R'$. In particular, $d(a) = d(b) = 0$ and $ab = ba$.

Replace r by yb , $y \in U$, in (2.1) we have $\alpha([a, y])\alpha(b)d(x) = d(y)\beta(b)(xb) - \alpha(a)d(y)\beta(bx) = \alpha(a)d(y)\beta(bx) = \alpha(a)d(y)\beta(xb) - \alpha(a)d(y)\beta(bx) = \alpha(a)d(y)\beta([x, b])$ and using (2.2) we get $\alpha([a, y])\alpha(b)d(x) = \alpha(a)\alpha([a, y])d(x)$ and so

$$\alpha([a, y]b - a[a, y])d(x) = 0 \quad \text{for all } x, y \in U.$$

By [4, Lemma 3] we obtain

$$a[a, y] = [a, y]b \quad \text{for all } y \in U.$$

Furthermore, replacing x by ax in (2.2) and using (2.2) and hypothesis we also have $a[b, x] = [b, x]b$

(II) $\Rightarrow$ (I) If $\alpha(a) = \beta(b) \in C_R(d(U))$ it is obviously $\alpha(a)d(x) = d(x)\beta(b)$ for all $x \in U$. Therefore it suffices to show that if $C_R(a) = C_R(b) = R'$ and $a[a, x] = [a, x]b$ for all $x \in U$ then $\alpha(a)d(x) = d(x)\beta(b)$ for all $x \in U$.

Since $d(a) = d(b) = 0$, $ab = ba$, $[a, ax - xb] = a[a, x] - [a, x]b = 0$. It gives $ax - xb \in R'$ and so $0 = d(ax - xb) = \alpha(a)d(x) - d(x)\beta(b)$. This proves the theorem.

For the second part we begin with

LEMMA 2 [3, Lemma 1]. Let R be a 2-torsion free semiprime ring and a, b the elements of R . Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- (i) $axb = 0$ for all $x \in R$
- (ii) $bxa = 0$ for all $x \in R$
- (iii) $axb + bxa = 0$ for all $x \in R$

If one of these conditions is fulfilled then $ab = ba = 0$ too.

LEMMA 3. Let R be a semiprime ring and U a nonzero ideal of R such that $\text{Ann}(U) = 0$. Let d be an (α, β) -derivation of R and g be a (γ, δ) -derivation of R . If $d(U)Ug(U) = 0$ then $d(R)Ug(R) = 0$.

PROOF. For all $x, y, z \in U$, $d(x)yg(z) = 0$. Replace x by xs , $s \in R$ we have $0 = d(xs)yg(z) = \alpha(x)d(s)yg(z) + d(x)\beta(s)yg(z)$. Since $\beta(s)y \in U$, the last equation implies that $\alpha(x)d(s)yg(z) = 0$, for all $x, y, z \in U$ and $s \in R$. Taking tz instead of z , where $t \in R$, we have $0 = \alpha(x)d(s)y\gamma(t)g(z) + \alpha(x)d(s)yg(t)\delta(z)$. Since $y\gamma(t) \in U$, it gives $\alpha(x)d(s)yg(t)\delta(z) = 0$ for all $x, y, z \in U$ and $s, t \in R$. Therefore $d(s)yg(t)\delta(z) \in \text{Ann}(\alpha(U)) = 0$. Thus we get $d(s)yg(t)\delta(z) = 0$ for all $y, z \in U$ and $s, t \in R$. Hence $d(s)yg(t) \in \text{Ann}(\delta(U)) = 0$. As a result of this, it implies that $d(R)Ug(R) = 0$.

LEMMA 4. Let R be a semiprime ring and U be a nonzero ideal of R such that $\text{Ann}(U) = 0$. Let $a, b \in R$ be such that $aUb = 0$ then $aRb = 0$.

PROOF. For all $x \in U$ $0 = axb$. Replace x by $tbxrat$, where $t, r \in R$ we have $atbxbatbx = 0$. Since R is semiprime ring, this implies that $atbU = 0$ for all $t \in R$. Thus $atb \in \text{Ann}(U) = 0$ we get $aRb = 0$.

THEOREM 2. Let R be a 2-torsion free semiprime ring and U be a nonzero ideal of R with $\text{Ann}(U) = 0$. Let d be a (α, β) -derivation of R and g be a (γ, δ) -derivation of R . Suppose that dg is a $(\alpha\gamma, \beta\delta)$ -derivation and g commutes both γ and δ . Then $g(x)U\alpha^{-1}d(y) = 0$, for all $x, y \in U$.

PROOF. Since g commutes both γ and δ , from the first part to the proof of [5, Lemma 1] there is no loss of generality in assuming $\beta = 1$ and $\delta = 1$. For all $x, y \in U$, $dg(xy) = d(\gamma(x)g(y) + g(x)y) = \alpha\gamma(x)dg(y) + d(\gamma(x))g(y) + \alpha(g(x))d(y) + dg(x)y$. On the other hand, since dg is an $(\alpha\gamma, 1)$ -derivation we have $dg(xy) = \alpha\gamma(x)dg(y) + dg(x)y$. Comparing the two expressions so obtained for $dg(xy)$, we see that

$$d(\gamma(x))g(y) + \alpha(g(x))d(y) = 0 \quad \text{for all } x, y \in U. \quad (2.3)$$

Replacing y by yz where $z \in R$ in (2.3) we obtain $0 = d(\gamma(x))g(yz) + \alpha(g(x))d(yz) = d(\gamma(x))\gamma(y)g(z) + d(\gamma(x))g(y)z + \alpha(g(x))\alpha(y)d(z) + \alpha(g(x))d(y)z = \{d(\gamma(x))g(y) + \alpha(g(x))d(y)\}z + d(\gamma(x))\gamma(y)g(z) + \alpha(g(x))\alpha(y)d(z)$. This relation reduces to

$$d(\gamma(x))\gamma(y)g(z) + \alpha(g(x))\alpha(y)d(z) = 0 \quad \text{for all } x, y \in U, z \in R. \quad (2.4)$$

Replace y by $yg(t)$, $t \in U$ and take $z \in U$ we have $d(\gamma(x))\gamma(y)\gamma(g(t))g(z) + \alpha(g(x))\alpha(y)\alpha(g(t))d(z) = 0$. Considering this relation (2.4) and (2.3) we obtain $d(\gamma(x))\gamma(y)\gamma(g(t))g(z) = -\alpha(g(x))\alpha(y)d(\gamma(t))g(z) = \alpha(g(x))\alpha(y)\alpha(g(t))d(z)$ for all $x, y, z \in U$. Comparing the last two relations we get $2\alpha(g(x))\alpha(y)\alpha(g(t))d(z) = 0$. Since R is 2-torsion free, it gives

$$g(x)yg(t)\alpha^{-1}d(z) = 0 \quad \text{for all } x, y, z, t \in U.$$

Replacing t by $tu, u \in U$ it follows $0 = g(x)y\gamma(t)g(u)\alpha^{-1}(d(z)) + g(x)yg(t)u\alpha^{-1}(d(z))$. Since $y\gamma(t) \in U$ this relation reduces to $g(x)Ug(t)u\alpha^{-1}(d(z)) = 0$ for all $x, t, u, z \in U$. By Lemma 4 we have for all $x, t, u, z \in U, g(x)Rg(t)u\alpha^{-1}(d(z)) = 0$. In particular $g(x)u\alpha^{-1}(d(z))Rg(x)u\alpha^{-1}(d(z)) = 0$ for all $x, u, z \in U$. Since R is semiprime we obtain $g(x)U\alpha^{-1}(d(z)) = 0$ for all $x, z \in U$.

COROLLARY. Let R be a prime ring of characteristic not 2, d be an (α, β) -derivation of R and g be a (γ, δ) -derivation of R such that g commutes both γ and δ . If the composition dg is a $(\alpha\gamma, \beta\delta)$ -derivation then $d = 0$ or $g = 0$.

THEOREM 3. Let R be a 2-torsion free semiprime ring and U be a nonzero ideal of R such that $\text{Ann}(U) = 0$. Let d be a (α, β) -derivation of R and g be a (γ, δ) -derivation of R such that g commutes both γ and δ . If for all $x, y \in U, \beta^{-1}(d(x))Ug(y) = 0 = g(x)U\alpha^{-1}(d(y))$ then dg is a $(\alpha\gamma, \beta\delta)$ -derivation on R .

PROOF. From Lemma 3 and Lemma 4, we get $\beta^{-1}(d(x))yg(z) = 0 = g(x)y\alpha^{-1}(d(z))$ for all $x, y, z \in R$. On the other hand, since $\beta^{-1}(d(x))yg(z) = 0$ for all $x, y, z \in R$ and since γ is an automorphism of R we obtain $d(\gamma(x))\beta(y)\beta(g(z)) = 0$ for all $x, y, z \in R$. Since R is a semiprime ring, by Lemma 2 we get $d(\gamma(x))\beta(g(z)) = 0$ for all $x, z \in R$. Similarly from $g(x)U\alpha^{-1}(d(y)) = 0$, we get $\alpha(g(x))d(\delta(y)) = 0$. Therefore dg is an $(\alpha\gamma, \beta\delta)$ -derivation on R .

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