

## NOTES ON $(\sigma, \tau)$ -DERIVATIONS OF LIE IDEALS IN PRIME RINGS

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ABSTRACT. Let  $R$  be a prime ring with center  $Z$  and characteristic different from two,  $U$  a nonzero Lie ideal of  $R$  such that  $u^2 \in U$  for all  $u \in U$  and  $d$  be a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -derivation of  $R$ . We prove the following results: (i) If  $[d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0$  or  $[d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau} \in C_{\sigma, \tau}$  for all  $u \in U$ , then  $U \subseteq Z$ . (ii) If  $a \in R$  and  $[d(u), a]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0$  for all  $u \in U$ , then  $U \subseteq Z$  or  $a \in Z$ . (iii) If  $d([u, v]) = \pm[u, v]_{\sigma, \tau}$  for all  $u \in U$ , then  $U \subseteq Z$ .

### 1. Introduction

Let  $R$  denote an associative ring with center  $Z$ . Recall that a ring  $R$  is prime if  $xRy = \{0\}$  implies  $x = 0$  or  $y = 0$ . For any  $x, y \in R$ , the symbol  $[x, y]$  stands for the commutator  $xy - yx$  and the symbol  $xoy$  denotes the anticommutator  $xy + yx$ . An additive subgroup  $U$  of  $R$  is said to be a Lie ideal of  $R$  if  $[u, r] \in U$  for all  $u \in U, r \in R$ . An additive mapping  $d : R \rightarrow R$  is called a derivation if  $d(xy) = d(x)y + xd(y)$  holds for all  $x, y \in R$ . For a fixed  $a \in R$ , the mapping  $I_a : R \rightarrow R$  given by  $I_a(x) = [a, x]$  is a derivation which is said to be an inner derivation. Let  $S$  be a nonempty subset of  $R$ . A mapping  $F$  from  $R$  to  $R$  is called centralizing on  $S$  if  $[F(x), x] \in Z$  for all  $x \in S$  and is called commuting on  $S$  if  $[F(x), x] = 0$  for all  $x \in S$ . In [15], Posner showed that if a prime ring has a nontrivial derivation which is centralizing on the entire ring, then the ring must be commutative (Posner's second theorem). In [13] and [16] the same results is proved for a prime ring with a nontrivial centralizing automorphism. A number of authors have generalized these results by considering mappings which are only assumed to be centralizing on an appropriate ideal of the ring.

In [3], Awtar considered centralizing derivations on Lie and Jordan ideals. For prime rings, Awtar showed that a nontrivial derivation which is centralizing on Lie ideal implies that the ideal is contained in the center if the ring is not of characteristic two or three. In [12], Lee and Lee obtained the result while

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removing the restriction of characteristic not three. This result is extended in [14] where it is shown that if  $R$  is any prime ring with a nontrivial centralizing automorphism on a Lie ideal  $U$ , then  $U$  is contained in the center of  $R$ . Bell and Martindale have proved similar results assuming that the ring is semiprime in [6].

Inspired by the definition derivation, the notion of  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -derivation was extended as follow: Let  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  be any two automorphisms of  $R$ . An additive mapping  $d : R \rightarrow R$  is called a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -derivation if  $d(xy) = d(x)\sigma(y) + \tau(x)d(y)$  holds for all  $x, y \in R$ . Of course a  $(1, 1)$ -derivation where 1 is the identity map on  $R$  is a derivation. For any  $x, y \in R$ , we set  $[x, y]_{\sigma, \tau} = x\sigma(y) - \tau(y)x$ . We set  $C_{\sigma, \tau} = \{c \in R \mid c\sigma(x) = \tau(x)c \text{ for all } x \in R\}$  and call this set the  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -center of  $R$ . In particular  $C_{1,1} = Z$ . It can be given  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -centralizing (resp.  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -commuting) on  $R$  by the similarly definition centralizing (resp. commuting).

In attempt to generalize Posner's second theorem Ashraf and Rehman proved that if  $R$  is a 2-torsion free prime ring and  $d$  is a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -derivation of  $R$  such that the map  $x \rightarrow [d(x), x]_{\sigma, \tau}$  is  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -commuting on  $R$ , then  $R$  is commutative in [2]. In [4], Aydin showed that the conclusion of the above theorem holds for a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -derivation  $d$  the mapping  $x \rightarrow d(x)$  is  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -centralizing on  $R$ . In the present paper, our objective is to generalize this result for a nonzero Lie ideal  $U$  of  $R$  such that  $u^2 \in U$  for all  $u \in U$ .

A famous result due to Herstein [10] states that if  $R$  is a prime ring of characteristic not 2 which admits a nonzero derivation  $d$  such that  $[d(x), a] = 0$  for all  $x \in R$ , then  $a \in Z$ . This result proved for a nonzero Lie ideal of  $R$  in [7]. Aydin and Kaya showed that  $d$  be a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -derivation and  $U$  an ideal of a prime ring  $R$  such that  $[d(u), a]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0$  for all  $u \in U$ , then  $a \in Z$  in [5]. Güven proved that  $\alpha, \beta \in \text{Aut}R$ ,  $I \neq (0)$  be an ideal,  $d$  be a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -derivation of  $R$  such that  $d\sigma = \sigma d, d\tau = \tau d$  and  $[a, d(I)]_{\alpha, \beta} = 0$  then  $a \in C_{\alpha, \beta}$  or  $R$  is a commutative ring in [9]. In this paper, we shall prove Herstein's theorem for a nonzero Lie ideal  $U$  of  $R$  such that  $u^2 \in U$  for all  $u \in U$ .

On the other hand, in [8], Daif and Bell showed that if a semiprime ring  $R$  has a derivation  $d$  satisfying the following condition, then  $I$  is a central ideal; there exists a nonzero ideal  $I$  of  $R$  such that

$$d([x, y]) = [x, y] \text{ or } d([x, y]) = -[x, y] \text{ for all } x, y \in I.$$

In [1], Argaç proved this result for semiprime rings with derivation. Our second aim is to show this result for a nonzero Lie ideal of  $R$  such that  $u^2 \in U$  for all  $u \in U$  and a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -derivation  $d$ .

## 2. Preliminaries

Throughout the present paper, we shall make some extensive use of the basic commutator identities:

$$\begin{aligned} [x, yz] &= y[x, z] + [x, y]z, \\ [xy, z] &= [x, z]y + x[y, z], \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} [xy, z]_{\sigma, \tau} &= x[y, z]_{\sigma, \tau} + [x, \tau(z)]y = x[y, \sigma(z)] + [x, z]_{\sigma, \tau}y, \\ [x, yz]_{\sigma, \tau} &= \tau(y)[x, z]_{\sigma, \tau} + [x, y]_{\sigma, \tau}\sigma(z), \text{ and} \\ [x, [y, z]]_{\sigma, \tau} &+ [[x, z]_{\sigma, \tau}, y]_{\sigma, \tau} - [[x, y]_{\sigma, \tau}, z]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, we shall require the following lemmas.

**Lemma 1** ([10, Lemma 1]). *Let  $R$  be a semiprime, 2-torsion free ring and  $U$  a nonzero Lie ideal of  $R$ . Suppose that  $[U, U] \subset Z$ , then  $U \subseteq Z$ .*

**Lemma 2** ([7, Lemma 4]). *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with characteristic not two,  $a, b \in R$ . If  $U$  is a noncentral Lie ideal of  $R$  and  $aUb = 0$ , then  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ .*

**Lemma 3** ([7, Theorem 1]). *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with characteristic not two and  $U$  a nonzero Lie ideal of  $R$ . If  $d$  is a nonzero derivation of  $R$  such that  $d^2(U) = 0$ , then  $U \subseteq Z$ .*

**Lemma 4** ([12, Lemma 1.1]). *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with characteristic not two and  $U$  a nonzero Lie ideal of  $R$ . If  $d$  is a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -derivation of  $R$  such that  $d(U) = 0$ , then  $U \subseteq Z$ .*

**Lemma 5** ([11, Lemma 1.2]). *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with characteristic not two,  $U$  a nonzero Lie ideal of  $R$  and  $a \in R$ . If  $d$  is a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -derivation of  $R$  such that  $ad(U) = 0$  ( $d(U)a = 0$ ), then  $U \subseteq Z$  or  $a = 0$ .*

**Lemma 6** ([11, Lemma 1.4]). *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with characteristic not two and  $a \in R$ . If  $[U, a] \in Z$ , then  $a \in Z$  or  $U \subseteq Z$ .*

### 3. Results

The following theorem gives a generalization of Posner's well known result [15, Theorem 2] and a extension of [2, Theorem 1].

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free prime ring and  $U$  a nonzero Lie ideal of  $R$  such that  $u^2 \in U$  for all  $u \in U$ . If  $R$  admits a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -derivation such that  $[d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0$  for all  $u \in U$ , then  $U \subseteq Z$ .*

*Proof.* By the hypothesis, we have

$$(3.1) \quad [d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0 \quad \text{for all } u \in U.$$

A linearization of (3.1) yields that

$$(3.2) \quad [d(u), v]_{\sigma, \tau} + [d(v), u]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0 \quad \text{for all } u, v \in U.$$

Notice that  $uv + vu = (u + v)^2 - u^2 - v^2$  for all  $u, v \in U$ . Since  $u^2 \in U$  for all  $u \in U$ ,  $uv + vu \in U$ . Also  $uv - vu \in U$  for all  $u, v \in U$ . Hence, we get  $2uv \in U$  for all  $u, v \in U$ . Replacing  $v$  by  $2vu$  in this equation and using the hypothesis and (3.2), we obtain that

$$2[\tau(v), \tau(u)]d(u) = 0 \quad \text{for all } u, v \in U.$$

Since  $R$  is a 2-torsion free ring and  $\tau$  is an automorphism of  $R$ , the above relation yields that

$$\tau([v, u])d(u) = 0 \quad \text{for all } u, v \in U.$$

Taking  $2vw$ ,  $w \in U$  instead of  $v$  and using  $R$  is a 2-torsion free ring, we get

$$\tau([v, u])\tau(w)d(u) = 0 \quad \text{for all } u, v, w \in U.$$

Since  $\tau$  is an automorphism of  $R$ , we see that

$$[v, u]U\tau^{-1}(d(u)) = 0 \quad \text{for all } u, v \in U.$$

By Lemma 2, we get either  $[v, u] = 0$  or  $d(u) = 0$  for each  $u \in U$ . Let  $K = \{u \in U \mid d(u) = 0\}$  and  $L = \{u \in U \mid [v, u] = 0 \text{ for all } v \in U\}$  of additive subgroups of  $U$ . Moreover,  $U$  is the set-theoretic union of  $K$  and  $L$ . But a group can not be the set-theoretic union of two proper subgroups, hence  $K = U$  or  $L = U$ . In the former case, we get  $U \subseteq Z$  by Lemma 4. In the latter case,  $[U, U] = (0)$ . That is  $U \subseteq Z$  by Lemma 1. This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free prime ring and  $U$  a nonzero Lie ideal of  $R$  such that  $u^2 \in U$  for all  $u \in U$ . If  $R$  admits a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -derivation such that  $[d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau} \in C_{\sigma, \tau}$  for all  $u \in U$ , then  $U \subseteq Z$ .*

*Proof.* Linearizing  $[d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau} \in C_{\sigma, \tau}$ , we get

$$(3.3) \quad [d(u), v]_{\sigma, \tau} + [d(v), u]_{\sigma, \tau} \in C_{\sigma, \tau} \quad \text{for all } u, v \in U.$$

On the other hand, we have

$$[d(u), [v, u]]_{\sigma, \tau} = [[d(u), v]_{\sigma, \tau}, u]_{\sigma, \tau} - [[d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau}, v]_{\sigma, \tau}$$

and so

$$(3.4) \quad [d(u), [v, u]]_{\sigma, \tau} = [[d(u), v]_{\sigma, \tau}, u]_{\sigma, \tau} \quad \text{for all } u, v \in U.$$

Replacing  $v$  by  $[v, u]$  in (3.3), we see that

$$[d(u), [v, u]]_{\sigma, \tau} + [d([v, u]), u]_{\sigma, \tau} \in C_{\sigma, \tau} \quad \text{for all } u, v \in U.$$

Since  $d([v, u]) = [d(v), u]_{\sigma, \tau} - [d(u), v]_{\sigma, \tau}$ , we can write the last equation

$$[d(u), [v, u]]_{\sigma, \tau} + [[d(v), u]_{\sigma, \tau}, u]_{\sigma, \tau} - [[d(u), v]_{\sigma, \tau}, u]_{\sigma, \tau} \in C_{\sigma, \tau} \quad \text{for all } u, v \in U.$$

Using (3.4) and this in the last equation, we obtain that

$$(3.5) \quad [[d(v), u]_{\sigma, \tau}, u]_{\sigma, \tau} \in C_{\sigma, \tau} \quad \text{for all } u, v \in U.$$

Now, commutting (3.3) with  $u$ , we have

$$[[d(u), v]_{\sigma, \tau}, u]_{\sigma, \tau} + [[d(v), u]_{\sigma, \tau}, u]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0.$$

Using (3.5) in this equation, we arrive at

$$(3.6) \quad [[d(u), v]_{\sigma, \tau}, u]_{\sigma, \tau} \in C_{\sigma, \tau} \quad \text{for all } u, v \in U.$$

Again using (3.6) in (3.4), we obtain

$$(3.7) \quad [d(u), [v, u]]_{\sigma, \tau} \in C_{\sigma, \tau} \quad \text{for all } u, v \in U.$$

Replacing  $v$  by  $2vu$  in (3.7) and using this, we find that

$$\begin{aligned} & 2[d(u), [v, u]]_{\sigma, \tau} \\ &= 2\tau([v, u])[d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau} + 2[d(u), [v, u]]_{\sigma, \tau}\sigma(u) \in C_{\sigma, \tau} \quad \text{for all } u, v \in U. \end{aligned}$$

Commuting this term with  $u$ , we have

$$2\tau([v, u])[d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau} + 2[\tau([v, u]), \tau(u)][d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau} + 2[[d(u), [v, u]]_{\sigma, \tau}, u]_{\sigma, \tau}\sigma(u) + 2[d(u), [v, u]]_{\sigma, \tau}[\sigma(u), \sigma(u)] = 0$$

and so

$$(3.8) \quad \tau([v, u], u)[d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0 \quad \text{for all } u, v \in U.$$

Multiplying (3.8) with  $\sigma(w)$ , we get

$$\tau([v, u], u)[d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau}\sigma(w) = 0 \quad \text{for all } u, v, w \in U.$$

By the hypothesis, we have  $[d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau}\sigma(w) = \tau(w)[d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau}$  for all  $u, w \in U$ . Applying this in the last equation, we obtain that

$$\tau([v, u], u)\tau(w)[d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0 \quad \text{for all } u, v, w \in U.$$

Since  $\tau$  is an automorphism of  $R$ , we get

$$[[v, u], u]U\tau^{-1}([d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau}) = 0 \quad \text{for all } u, v, w \in U.$$

By the application of Lemma 2 yields that  $[[v, u], u] = 0$  or  $[d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0$  for each  $u \in U$ . If  $[d(u), u]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0$  for all  $u \in U$ , then  $U \subseteq Z$  by Theorem 1. Now let  $[[v, u], u] = 0$  for all  $u, v \in U$ . We define  $I_u(x) = [x, u]$  an inner derivation determined by  $u$ . Hence we have  $I_u^2(U) = (0)$ , and so  $U \subseteq Z$  by Lemma 3.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free prime ring and  $U$  a nonzero Lie ideal of  $R$  such that  $u^2 \in U$  for all  $u \in U$  and  $a \in R$ . If  $R$  admits a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -derivation such that  $[d(u), a]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0$  for all  $u \in U$ , then  $a \in Z$  or  $U \subseteq Z$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $u, v \in U$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= [d(2uv), a]_{\sigma, \tau} = 2[d(u)\sigma(v) + \tau(u)d(v), a]_{\sigma, \tau} \\ &= 2[d(u), a]_{\sigma, \tau}\sigma(v) + 2d(u)[\sigma(v), \sigma(a)] + 2\tau(u)[d(v), a]_{\sigma, \tau} + 2[\tau(u), \tau(a)] \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$(3.9) \quad d(u)\sigma([v, a]) = \tau([a, u])d(v) \quad \text{for all } u, v \in U.$$

Replacing  $v$  by  $2vw$  in (3.9) and using (3.9), we arrive at

$$(3.10) \quad d(u)\sigma(v)\sigma([w, a]) = \tau([a, u])\tau(v)d(w) \quad \text{for all } u, v, w \in U.$$

Let in (3.10)  $v$  be  $[v, a]$  and again using (3.9) we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(u)\sigma([v, a])\sigma([w, a]) &= \tau([a, u])\tau([v, a])d(w), \\ \tau([a, u])d(v)\sigma([w, a]) &= \tau([a, u])\tau([v, a])d(w) \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\tau([a, u])\tau([a, v])d(w) = \tau([a, u])\tau([v, a])d(w) \quad \text{for all } u, v, w \in U.$$

That is  $2\tau([a, u])\tau([a, v])d(w) = 0$ . Since  $R$  is 2-torsion free, we get

$$\tau([a, u][a, v])d(w) = 0 \quad \text{for all } u, v, w \in U.$$

By Lemma 5, we arrive at

$$[a, u][a, v] = 0 \text{ for all } u, v \in U.$$

Again replacing  $v$  by  $2vu$  in the last equation and using this, we have

$$[a, u]U[a, w] = 0 \text{ for all } u, w \in U.$$

By the application of Lemma 2 yields that  $[a, u] = 0$  for all  $u \in U$ , and so,  $a \in Z$  or  $U \subseteq Z$  by Lemma 6. This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free prime ring and  $U$  a nonzero Lie ideal of  $R$  such that  $u^2 \in U$  for all  $u \in U$ . If  $R$  admits a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -derivation  $d$  such that  $d([u, v]) = 0$  for all  $u, v \in U$ , then  $U \subseteq Z$ .*

*Proof.* We assume that

$$(3.11) \quad d([u, v]) = 0 \text{ for all } u, v \in U.$$

Replacing  $v$  by  $2vu$  in (3.11) and using  $R$  is 2-torsion free, we get

$$d([u, v])\sigma(u) + \tau([u, v])d(u) = 0 \text{ for all } u, v \in U.$$

Applying (3.11), we have

$$(3.12) \quad \tau([u, v])d(u) = 0 \text{ for all } u, v \in U.$$

Writing  $2vw$  in (3.12) instead of  $v$  and using this, we have

$$2(\tau([u, v])\tau(w)d(u) + \tau(v)\tau([u, w])d(u)) = 0$$

and so

$$\tau([u, v])\tau(w)d(u) = 0 \text{ for all } u, v, w \in U$$

That is

$$[u, v]U\tau^{-1}(d(u)) = 0 \text{ for all } u, v \in U.$$

By the application of Lemma 2 yields that  $[u, v] = 0$  or  $d(u) = 0$  for each  $u \in U$ . Using the same arguments in the proof of Theorem 1, we get the required result.  $\square$

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free prime ring and  $U$  a nonzero Lie ideal of  $R$  such that  $u^2 \in U$  for all  $u \in U$ . If  $R$  admits a nonzero  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -derivation  $d$  such that  $d([u, v]) = \pm[u, v]_{\sigma, \tau}$  for all  $u, v \in U$ , then  $U \subseteq Z$ .*

*Proof.* By the hypothesis, we get

$$(3.13) \quad d([u, v]) = [u, v]_{\sigma, \tau} \text{ for all } u, v \in U.$$

Substituting  $2vu$  for  $v$  in (3.13) and using  $R$  is 2-torsion free, we arrive at

$$d([u, v])\sigma(u) + \tau([u, v])d(u) = \tau(v)[u, u]_{\sigma, \tau} + [u, v]_{\sigma, \tau}\sigma(u) \text{ for all } u, v \in U.$$

Using the equation (3.13), we have

$$(3.14) \quad \tau([u, v])d(u) = \tau(v)[u, u]_{\sigma, \tau} \text{ for all } u, v \in U.$$

Replacing  $v$  by  $2wv$ ,  $w \in U$  in (3.14), we find that

$$\tau([u, w])\tau(v)d(u) + \tau(w)\tau[u, v]d(u) = \tau(w)\tau(v)[u, u]_{\sigma, \tau} \text{ for all } u, v, w \in U.$$

Using (3.14), we see that

$$\tau([u, w])\tau(v)d(u) = 0 \quad \text{for all } u, v, w \in U$$

and so,

$$[u, w]U\tau^{-1}(d(u)) = 0 \quad \text{for all } u, w \in U.$$

We get the required result applying similar arguments in the proof of Theorem 1.

Let assume that  $d([u, v]) = -[u, v]_{\sigma, \tau}$  for all  $u, v \in U$ . It can be proved using the same techniques above. This completes the proof.  $\square$

*Remark 6.* Since every ideal in a ring  $R$  is a Lie ideal of  $R$ , conclusion of the above theorems hold even if  $U$  is assumed to be an ideal of  $R$ . Though the assumption that  $u^2 \in U$  for all  $u \in U$  seems close to assuming that  $U$  is an ideal of the ring, but there exist Lie ideals with this property which are no ideals. For example, let  $R = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b, c \in Z \right\}$ . Then it can be easily seen that  $U = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b \in Z \right\}$  is a Lie ideal of  $R$  satisfying  $u^2 \in U$  for all  $u \in U$ . However,  $U$  is not an ideal of  $R$ .

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