

## A NOTE ON GENERALIZED DERIVATIONS OF SEMIPRIME RINGS

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**Abstract.** In this paper we prove that generalized Jordan derivations and generalized Jordan triple derivation of 2-torsion free semiprime rings are generalized derivations.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

This paper is motivated by the work of Jing and Lu [7]. Throughout,  $R$  will represent an associative ring with center  $Z(R)$ . Given an integer  $n > 1$ , a ring  $R$  is said to be  $n$ -torsion free, if for  $x \in R$ ,  $nx = 0$  implies  $x = 0$ . Recall that a ring  $R$  is prime if for  $a, b \in R$ ,  $aRb = (0)$  implies that either  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ , and is semiprime in case  $aRa = (0)$  implies  $a = 0$ . Let  $A$  be an algebra over the real or complex field and let  $B$  be a subalgebra of  $A$ . An additive mapping  $D : R \rightarrow R$  is called a derivation if  $D(xy) = D(x)y + xD(y)$  holds for all pairs  $x, y \in R$  and is called a Jordan derivation in case  $D(x^2) = D(x)x + xD(x)$  is fulfilled for all  $x \in R$ . Every derivation is a Jordan derivation. The converse is in general not true. A classical result of Herstein [6] asserts that any Jordan derivation on a 2-torsion free prime ring is a derivation. A brief proof of Herstein's result can be found in [1]. Cusack [5] generalized Herstein's result to 2-torsion free semiprime rings (see also [2] for an alternative proof). An additive mapping  $D : R \rightarrow R$  is called Jordan triple derivation in case  $D(xyx) = D(x)yx + xD(y)x + xyD(x)$  holds for all pairs  $x, y \in R$ . Bresar [3] has proved that any Jordan triple derivation on 2-torsion free semiprime ring is a derivation. One can easily prove that any Jordan derivation of arbitrary ring is Jordan triple derivation (see for example [1] for the details) which means that the result we have just mentioned generalized Cusack's generalization of

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Herfstein's theorem. An additive mapping  $T : R \rightarrow R$  is called a left centralizer in case  $T(xy) = T(x)y$  holds for all pairs  $x, y \in R$ . An additive mapping  $T : R \rightarrow R$  is called left Jordan centralizer in case  $T(x^2) = T(x)x$  holds for all  $x \in R$ . The definition of a right centralizer and a right Jordan centralizer

should be self-explanatory. Obviously, any left centralizer is a left Jordan centralizer. Zalar [13] has proved that any left Jordan centralizer on a 2-torsion free semiprime ring is a left centralizer. Molnar [8] has proved the following result. Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free prime ring and let  $T : R \rightarrow R$  be an additive mapping. If  $T(xyx) = T(x)yx$  holds for every  $x, y \in R$ , then  $T$  is a left centralizer. This result has been recently generalized to 2-torsion free semiprime rings by Vukman and Kosi-Ulbl [12]. An additive mapping  $F : R \rightarrow R$  is called generalized derivation in case  $F(xy) = F(x)y + xD(y)$  holds for all pairs  $x, y \in R$ , where  $D : R \rightarrow R$  is a derivation. The concept of generalized derivation has been introduced by Bresar [4]. It is easy to see that  $F : R \rightarrow R$  is a generalized derivation iff  $F$  is of the form  $F = D + T$ , where  $D$  is a derivation and  $T$  a left centralizer. Recently, Jing and Lu [7] introduced a concept of generalized Jordan derivation and generalized Jordan triple derivation. An additive mapping  $F : R \rightarrow R$  is generalized Jordan derivation if  $F(x^2) = F(x)x + xD(x)$  holds for all  $x \in R$  where  $D : R \rightarrow R$  is a Jordan derivation. An additive mapping  $F : R \rightarrow R$  is generalized Jordan triple derivation if  $F(xyx) = F(x)yx + xD(y)x + xyD(x)$  holds for all pairs  $x, y \in R$  where  $D : R \rightarrow R$  is a Jordan triple derivation. Jing and Lu [7] conjectured that in case  $F : R \rightarrow R$ , where  $R$  is 2-torsion free semiprime ring, is either a generalized Jordan derivation or generalized Jordan triple derivation, is a generalized derivation. In is our aim in this note to prove both conjectures.

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free semiprime ring and let  $F : R \rightarrow R$  be a generalized Jordan derivation. In this case  $F$  is a generalized derivation.*

*Proof.* We have therefore the relation

$$F(x^2) = F(x)x + xD(x), (1)$$

for all  $x \in R$ , where  $D$  is a Jordan derivation of  $R$ . Since  $R$  is a semiprime ring one can conclude that  $D$  is a derivation. Let us denote  $F - D$  by  $T$ . Then we have  $T(x^2) = F(x^2) - D(x^2) = F(x)x + xD(x) - D(x)x - xD(x) = (F(x) - D(x))x = T(x)x$ . We have therefore  $T(x^2) = T(x)x$ , for all  $x \in R$ . In other words,  $T$  is a left Jordan centralizer of  $R$ . Since  $R$  is a 2-torsion free semiprime ring one can conclude that  $T$  is a left centralizer by Proposition 1.4 in [13]. Hence  $F$  is of the form  $F = D + T$ , where  $D$  is a derivation and  $T$  is a left centralizer of  $R$ , which means that  $F$  is a generalized derivation. The proof is complete.

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free semiprime ring and let  $F : R \rightarrow R$  be a generalized Jordan triple derivation. In this case  $F$  is a generalized derivation.*

*Proof.* We have therefore the relation

$$F(xy x) = F(x)yx + xD(y)x + xyD(x), (1)$$

for all pairs  $x, y \in R$ , where  $D$  is a Jordan triple derivation of  $R$ . Since  $R$  is a semiprime ring one can conclude that  $D$  is a derivation by Theorem A in [3]. Let us denote  $F - D$  by  $T$ . We have  $T(xy x) = F(xy x) - D(xy x) = F(x)yx + xD(y)x + xyD(x) - D(x)yx - xD(y)x - xyD(x) = (F(x) - D(x))yx = T(x)yx$ . We have therefore  $T(xy x) = T(x)yx$ , for all pairs  $x, y \in R$ . By Theorem in [12] one can conclude that  $T$  is a left centralizer. We have therefore proved that  $F$  can be written as  $F = D + T$ , where  $D$  is a derivation and  $T$  is a left centralizer, which means that  $F$  is a generalized derivation. The proof is complete.

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