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## Generalized derivations on Jordan ideals in prime rings

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**Abstract:** Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free prime ring with center  $Z(R)$ ,  $J$  be a nonzero Jordan ideal also a subring of  $R$ , and  $F$  be a generalized derivation with associated derivation  $d$ . In the present paper, we shall show that  $J \subseteq Z(R)$  if any one of the following properties holds: (i)  $[F(u), u] \in Z(R)$ , (ii)  $F(u)u = ud(u)$ , (iii)  $d(u^2) = 2F(u)u$ , (iv)  $F(u^2) - 2uF(u) = d(u^2) - 2ud(u)$ , (v)  $F^2(u) + 3d^2(u) = 2Fd(u) + 2dF(u)$ , (vi)  $F(u^2) = 2uF(u)$  for all  $u \in J$ .

**Key words:** Prime rings, Jordan ideals, generalized derivations, derivations

### 1. Introduction

Let  $R$  denote an associative ring with center  $Z(R)$ . For any  $x, y \in R$ , we write the commutator  $[x, y] = xy - yx$ , and the Jordan product  $x \circ y = xy + yx$ . We recall that a ring  $R$  is called prime if for any  $a, b \in R$ ,  $aRb = (0)$  implies that either  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ ; it is called a semiprime if  $aRa = (0)$  implies that  $a = 0$ . A prime ring is clearly a semiprime ring. An additive mapping  $d : R \rightarrow R$  is called a derivation if  $d(xy) = d(x)y + xd(y)$  holds for all  $x, y \in R$ . An additive mapping  $F : R \rightarrow R$  is called a generalized derivation if there exists a derivation  $d : R \rightarrow R$  such that  $F(xy) = F(x)y + xd(y)$  holds for all  $x, y \in R$ . A ring  $R$  is said to be  $n$ -torsion free, where  $n \neq 0$  is a positive integer, if whenever  $na = 0$ , with  $a \in R$ , then  $a = 0$ . An additive subgroup  $J$  is said to be a Jordan ideal of  $R$  if  $uor \in J$ , for all  $u \in J$  and  $r \in R$ . One may observe that every ideal of  $R$  is a Jordan ideal of  $R$  but the converse need not be true. An additive subgroup  $U$  of  $R$  is said to be a Lie ideal of  $R$  if  $[u, r] \in U$ , for all  $u \in U$  and  $r \in R$ . It is clear that if  $\text{char} R = 2$ , then the Jordan ideal and Lie ideal of  $R$  are the same. In [4] Huang proved: Let  $R$  be an associative prime ring with  $\text{char} R \neq 2$ ,  $U$  a Lie ideal of  $R$  such that  $u^2 \in U$  for all  $u \in U$ , and  $F$  a generalized derivation associated with  $d \neq 0$ . If any one of the following conditions holds: (1)  $[d(x), F(y)] = 0$ , (2)  $d(x) \circ F(y) = 0$ , (3) either  $d(x) \circ F(y) = x \circ y$  or  $d(x) \circ F(y) + x \circ y = 0$ , (4) either  $[d(x), F(y)] = [x, y]$  or  $[d(x), F(y)] + [x, y] = 0$ , (5) either  $[d(x), F(y)] = (x \circ y)$  or  $[d(x), F(y)] + (x \circ y) = 0$ , (6) either  $d(x) \circ F(y) = [x, y]$  or  $d(x) \circ F(y) + [x, y]$ , (7) either  $d(x) \circ F(y) + xy \in Z(R)$  or  $d(x) \circ F(y) - xy \in Z(R)$  for all  $x, y \in U$ , then either  $d = 0$  or  $U \subseteq Z(R)$ .

Motivated by the results of Huang, we continue this line of investigation. In this paper, we study generalized derivation  $F$  with derivation  $d$  if any one of the following conditions holds: (i)  $[F(u), u] \in Z(R)$ , (ii)  $F(u)u = ud(u)$ , (iii)  $d(u^2) = 2F(u)u$ , (iv)  $F(u^2) - 2uF(u) = d(u^2) - 2ud(u)$ , (v)  $F^2(u) + 3d^2(u) = 2Fd(u) + 2dF(u)$ , (vi)  $F(u^2) = 2uF(u)$  for all  $u$  in a Jordan ideal that is also a subring of  $R$ .

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## 2. Preliminaries

Throughout the present paper, we shall make use of the following 2 basic identities without any specific mention:

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

$$[x, yz] = y[x, z] + [x, y]z, \text{ for all } x, y, z \in R. \quad (2.2)$$

We begin with the following known results, which will be used to prove our theorems.

**Lemma 2.1** [[5], Lemma 2.7]. *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with  $\text{char}R \neq 2$  and  $J$  a nonzero Jordan ideal of  $R$ . If  $J$  is a commutative Jordan ideal, then  $J \subseteq Z(R)$ .*

**Lemma 2.2** [[5], Lemma 2.5]. *Let  $R$  be a prime ring and  $J$  a nonzero Jordan ideal of  $R$ . If  $a \in R$  and  $aJ = (0)$  (or  $Ja = (0)$ ), then  $a = 0$ .*

**Lemma 2.3** [[5], Lemma 2.6]. *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with  $\text{char}R \neq 2$  and  $J$  a nonzero Jordan ideal of  $R$ . If  $a, b \in R$  and  $aJb = (0)$ , then either  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ .*

**Lemma 2.4** [[1], Lemma 2.5]. *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with  $\text{char}R \neq 2$  and  $J$  a nonzero Jordan ideal of  $R$ . Suppose that  $\theta, \phi$  are automorphisms of  $R$ . If  $R$  admits a  $(\theta, \phi)$ -derivation  $d$  such that  $d(J) = (0)$ , then either  $d = 0$  or  $J \subseteq Z(R)$ .*

**Lemma 2.5** [[5], Theorem 3.1]. *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with  $\text{char}R \neq 2$  and  $J$  be both a Jordan ideal and a subring of  $R$ . If  $\theta$  is an automorphism of  $R$  and  $G : R \rightarrow R$  is an additive mapping satisfying  $G(u^2) = 2\theta(u)G(u)$  for all  $u \in J$ , then either  $J \subseteq Z(R)$  or  $G(J) = 0$ .*

**Lemma 2.6** [[4], Lemma 2.6]. *A group cannot be the union of 2 of its proper subgroups.*

Now, we will prove the following 2 lemmas, which will be used to prove our theorems.

**Lemma 2.7** *Let  $R$  be a ring. If  $R$  admits a generalized derivation  $F$  associated with derivation  $d \neq 0$ , then the mapping  $F - d$  is a left centralizer on  $R$ .*

**Proof** Let  $G = F - d$ . It is clear that  $G$  is an additive mapping and for all  $x, y \in R$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} G(xy) &= (F - d)(xy) = F(xy) - d(xy) \\ &= F(x)y + xd(y) - d(x)y - xd(y) \\ &= (F(x) - d(x))y = G(x)y. \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

Therefore,  $G$  is a left centralizer on  $R$ . □

**Lemma 2.8** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring and  $J$  a nonzero Jordan ideal of  $R$ . If  $G$  is a left centralizer of  $R$  such that  $G(u) = 0$  for all  $u \in J$ , then  $G(r) = 0$  for all  $r \in R$ .*

**Proof** Since  $J$  is a Jordan ideal of  $R$ ,  $ur + ru \in J$  for all  $u \in J$  and  $r \in R$ . By hypotheses,

$$F(u) = 0 \text{ for all } u \in J. \tag{2.4}$$

Replacing  $u$  by  $ur + ru$ ,  $r \in R$ , in (2.4) and using (2.4), we get  $G(r)u = 0 \quad \forall u \in J, r \in R$ , and hence  $G(r)J = (0)$  for all  $r \in R$ . Thus, by Lemma 2.2, we get  $G(r) = (0)$  for all  $r \in R$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.9** The assumption that  $J$  is both a Jordan ideal and a subring of  $R$  seems close to assuming that  $J$  is an ideal of the ring. However, we can see that there exists a Jordan ideal and a subring of  $R$ , which is not an ideal of  $R$ .

**Example 2.10** [2]. Let  $R$  be a ring of all  $2 \times 2$  matrices with entries form  $GF(2)$ . Consider  $J = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & a \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b \in GF(2) \right\}$  we can verify that  $J$  is both a Jordan ideal and a subring of  $R$ , but it is not an ideal of  $R$ .

### 3. Main results

We start by the following theorem, which is the proposition 3.1 in [3] neglecting the condition subring on a subset.

**Theorem 3.1** Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free semiprime ring,  $J$  a nonzero Jordan ideal, and  $F$  an additive mapping on  $R$ . If  $F$  is centralizing on  $J$ , then  $F$  is commuting on  $J$ .

**Proof** A linearization of  $[F(u), u] \in Z(R)$  gives  $[F(u), v] + [F(v), u] \in Z(R)$  for all  $u, v \in J$ . In particular, replacing  $v$  by  $2u^2$ , we get  $2[F(u), u^2] + 2[F(u^2), u] \in Z(R)$ .

Since  $[F(u), u] \in Z(R)$ , we have  $[F(u), u^2] = 2[F(u), u]u$ . Thus

$$4[F(u), u]u + 2[F(u^2), u] \in Z(R) \text{ for all } u \in J. \tag{3.1}$$

By assumption,  $4[F(u^2), u^2] \in Z(R)$  for all  $u \in J$ . That is,

$$4[F(u^2), u]u + 4u[F(u^2), u] \in Z(R) \text{ for all } u \in J. \tag{3.2}$$

Now fix  $u \in J$  and let  $z = [F(u), u] \in Z(R)$ ,  $s = [F(u^2), u]$ . By (3.1) we have  $0 = [F(u), 4zu + 2s] = 2(2z^2 + [F(u), s])$ . Thus

$$[F(u), s] = -2z^2 \tag{3.3}$$

According to (3.2) we have  $0 = [F(u), 4su + 4us] = 4([F(u), s]u + s[F(u), u] + [F(u), u]s + u[F(u), s])$ , and applying (3.3), we get  $-4z^2u + 2zs = 0$ . Multiplying (3.3) by  $z$  from the left and using the last relation we obtain  $-2z^3 = z[F(u), s] = [F(u), zs] = [F(u), 2z^2u] = 2z^3$ . Hence  $z^3 = 0$ . Since the center of a semiprime ring contains no nonzero nilpotent elements, we conclude that  $z = 0$ . This proves the theorem.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.2** Let  $R$  be a prime ring with  $\text{char}R \neq 2$ , and  $J$  a nonzero Jordan ideal and a subring of  $R$ . If  $R$  admits a generalized derivation  $F$  with associated derivation  $d \neq 0$  such that  $F$  is centralizing on  $J$ , then  $J \subseteq Z(R)$ .

**Proof** By Theorem 3.1 we have

$$[F(u), u] = 0 \text{ for all } u \in J. \quad (3.4)$$

Linearizing (3.4) and using (3.4), we obtain

$$[F(u), v] + [F(v), u] = 0 \text{ for all } u, v \in J. \quad (3.5)$$

Replacing  $v$  by  $vu$  in (3.5) and using (3.5) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} [F(u), v]u + [F(v), u]u + v[d(u), u] + [v, u]d(u) \\ = v[d(u), u] + [v, u]d(u) = 0 \text{ for all } u, v \in J. \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

Again replacing  $v$  by  $wv$  in (3.6) and using (3.6), we get  $[w, u]vd(u) = 0$  for all  $u, v, w \in J$ , and hence  $[w, u]Jd(u) = (0)$ . Thus, by Lemma 2.3, we find that for each  $u \in J$  either  $[w, u] = 0$  or  $d(u) = 0$ . Now let  $J_1 = \{u \in J \mid d(u) = 0\}$  and  $J_2 = \{u \in J \mid [w, u] = 0, \text{ for all } w \in J\}$ . Thus,  $J_1$  and  $J_2$  are additive subgroups of  $J$  and  $J = J_1 \cup J_2$ . However, a group cannot be the union of 2 of its proper subgroups; hence  $J_1 = J$  or  $J_2 = J$ . If  $J_1 = J$ , then  $d(u) = 0$  for all  $u \in J$ . Thus, by Lemma 2.4, we get  $J \subseteq Z(R)$ . On the other hand, if  $[w, u] = 0$  for all  $w, u \in J$ , then, by Lemma 2.1, we get  $J \subseteq Z(R)$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.3** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with  $\text{char}R \neq 2$  and  $J$  a nonzero Jordan ideal and a subring of  $R$ . If  $R$  admits a generalized derivation  $F$  with associated derivation  $d \neq 0$  such that  $F(u)u = ud(u)$  for all  $u \in J$ , then  $J \subseteq Z(R)$ .*

**Proof** By hypothesis we have

$$F(u)u = ud(u) \text{ for all } u \in J. \quad (3.7)$$

Linearizing the above equation gives

$$F(u)v + F(v)u = ud(v) + vd(u) \text{ for all } u, v \in J. \quad (3.8)$$

Replace  $v$  by  $vu$  and use (3.8) to get

$$2vd(u)u = (u \circ v)d(u) \text{ for all } u, v \in J. \quad (3.9)$$

Replacing  $v$  by  $wv$  in (3.9) and using (3.9), we have  $[u, w]vd(u) = (0)$  for all  $u, v, w \in J$ , so  $[u, w]Jd(u) = (0)$ . Thus by Lemma 2.3, we find that for each  $u \in J$  either  $[u, w] = 0$  or  $d(u) = 0$  for all  $w \in J$ . Now using similar arguments as used in the proof of Theorem 3.2, we get  $J \subseteq Z(R)$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.4** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with  $\text{char}R \neq 2$  and  $J$  a nonzero Jordan ideal and a subring of  $R$ . If  $R$  admits a generalized derivation  $F$  with associated derivation  $d \neq 0$  such that  $F(u^2) - 2uF(u) = d(u^2) - 2ud(u)$  for all  $u \in J$ , then either  $J \subseteq Z(R)$  or  $F = d$ .*

**Proof** By hypothesis we have

$$F(u^2) - 2uF(u) = d(u^2) - 2ud(u) \text{ for all } u \in J. \quad (3.10)$$

Since  $F$  and  $d$  are additive mappings, (3.10) could be rewritten as

$$(F - d)(u^2) = 2u(F - d)(u) \text{ for all } u \in J. \tag{3.11}$$

Let  $G = F - d$  we get  $G(u^2) = 2uG(u)$  for all  $u \in J$ . By Lemma 2.5 (taking  $\theta = I$ ), either  $J \subseteq Z(R)$  or  $G(J) = 0$ . If  $G(J) = 0$ , by Lemma 2.7  $G$  is a left centralizer. Using Lemma 2.8 we get  $G(r) = F(r) - d(r) = 0$  for all  $r \in R$ ; thus  $F(r) = d(r)$  for all  $r \in R$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.5** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with  $\text{char} R \neq 2$  and  $J$  a nonzero Jordan ideal and a subring of  $R$ . If  $R$  admits a generalized derivation  $F$  with associated derivation  $d \neq 0$  such that  $F^2(u) + 3d^2(u) = 2Fd(u) + 2dF(u)$  for all  $u \in J$ , then either  $J \subseteq Z(R)$  or  $F = d$ .*

**Proof** By hypothesis we have

$$F^2(u) + 3d^2(u) = 2Fd(u) + 2dF(u) \text{ for all } u \in J. \tag{3.12}$$

Replacing  $u$  by  $uv$  in (3.12) we get

$$F(F(u)v + ud(v)) + 3d(d(u)v + ud(v)) = 2F(d(u)v + ud(v)) + 2d(F(u)v + ud(v)) \tag{3.13}$$

for all  $u, v \in J$ .

The above equation gives

$$2F(u)d(v) = 2d(u)d(v) \text{ for all } u, v \in J. \tag{3.14}$$

However,  $\text{char} R \neq 2$ ; hence

$$(F(u) - d(u))d(v) = 0 \text{ for all } u, v \in J. \tag{3.15}$$

Again replacing  $v$  by  $vw$  and using (3.15) we get

$$(F(u) - d(u))vd(w) = 0 \text{ for all } u, v, w \in J. \tag{3.16}$$

Thus, we get  $(F(u) - d(u))Jd(w) = (0)$  for all  $u, w \in J$ . By Lemma 2.3 we have either  $d(w) = 0$  for all  $w \in J$  or  $F(u) - d(u) = 0$  for all  $u \in J$ . If  $d(w) = 0$  for all  $w \in J$ , hence  $d(J) = 0$ . Thus by Lemma 2.4 we get  $J \subseteq Z(R)$ . On the other hand, if  $F(u) - d(u) = 0$ . Using the same steps in Theorem 3.4 we get  $F(r) = d(r)$  for all  $r \in R$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.6** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with  $\text{char} R \neq 2$  and  $J$  a nonzero Jordan ideal and a subring of  $R$ . If  $R$  admits a generalized derivation  $F$  with associated derivation  $d \neq 0$  such that  $d(u^2) = 2F(u)u$  for all  $u \in J$ , then  $J \subseteq Z(R)$ .*

**Proof** By hypothesis we have

$$d(u^2) = 2F(u)u \text{ for all } u \in J. \tag{3.17}$$

This gives

$$d(u)u + ud(u) = 2F(u)u \text{ for all } u \in J. \tag{3.18}$$

Linearizing the above equation gives

$$d(u)v + d(v)u + ud(v) + vd(u) = 2F(u)v + 2F(v)u \text{ for all } u, v \in J. \tag{3.19}$$

Replace  $v$  by  $vu$  and use (3.19) to get

$$uvd(u) + vud(u) = 2vd(u)u \text{ for all } u, v \in J. \tag{3.20}$$

Thus

$$(u \circ v)d(u) = 2vd(u)u, \text{ for all } u, v \in J. \tag{3.21}$$

Replacing  $v$  by  $wv$  in (3.21) and using (3.21), we have  $[u, w]vd(u) = (0)$  for all  $u, v, w \in J$ ; hence  $[u, w]Jd(u) = (0)$ . Thus, by Lemma 2.3, we find that for each  $u \in J$  either  $[u, w] = 0$  or  $d(u) = 0$  for all  $w \in J$ . Now, using similar arguments as used in the proof of Theorem 3.2, we get  $J \subseteq Z(R)$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.7** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with  $\text{char}R \neq 2$  and  $J$  a nonzero Jordan ideal and a subring of  $R$ . If  $R$  admits a generalized derivation  $F$  with associated derivation  $d \neq 0$  such that  $F(u^2) = 2uF(u)$  for all  $u \in J$ , then  $J \subseteq Z(R)$ .*

**Proof** By hypothesis we have

$$F(u^2) = 2uF(u) \text{ for all } u \in J. \tag{3.22}$$

Using Lemma 2.5 with  $\theta = I$ , we get either  $J \subseteq Z(R)$  or  $F(J) = 0$ . If  $F(J) = 0$ , then

$$F(u) = 0 \text{ for all } u \in J. \tag{3.23}$$

Replacing  $u$  by  $uv$  in (3.23) we get

$$F(u)v + ud(v) = 0 \text{ for all } u \in J. \tag{3.24}$$

Using (3.23) we have  $ud(v) = 0$  for all  $u, v \in J$ ; thus  $Jd(v) = 0$  for all  $v \in J$ . By Lemma 2.2 we get  $d(v) = 0$  for all  $v \in J$ , and by Lemma 2.4 we get  $J \subseteq Z(R)$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.8** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring with  $\text{char}R \neq 2$  and  $I$  a nonzero ideal of  $R$ . Suppose that  $R$  admits a generalized derivation  $F$  associated with a nonzero derivation  $d$  such that any one of the following holds:*

- (i)  $F(u)u = ud(u)$  for all  $u \in I$ ;
- (ii)  $d(u^2) = 2F(u)u$  for all  $u \in I$ ;
- (iii)  $F(u^2) = 2uF(u)$  for all  $u \in I$ ;

*then  $R$  is commutative.*

*Moreover, if any one of the following holds:*

- (iv)  $F(u^2) - 2uF(u) = d(u^2) - 2ud(u)$  for all  $u \in I$ ;
- (v)  $F^2(u) + 3d^2(u) = 2Fd(u) + 2dF(u)$  for all  $u \in I$ ;

*then either  $R$  is commutative or  $F = d$ .*

In Theorem 3.2, if we assume that  $J$  is only a subring of  $R$ , then  $J$  is not central. This can be shown by the following example.

**Example 3.9** *Let  $R$  be the prime ring of all  $2 \times 2$  matrices over a noncommutative prime ring  $S$  with  $\text{char}S \neq 2$ . Consider  $J = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \mid a, b \in S \right\}$ . Hence  $U$  is a subring, but not a Jordan ideal of  $R$ .*

Let us define mappings  $F : R \rightarrow R$  and  $d : R \rightarrow R$  as follows:

$$F \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & -d \end{pmatrix}, \quad (3.25)$$

$$d \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -b \\ c & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (3.26)$$

Therefore,  $d$  is a nonzero derivation on  $R$ , and  $F$  is a generalized derivation on  $R$  satisfying the condition  $[F(u), u] \in Z(R)$  for all  $u \in J$ . But  $J \not\subseteq Z(R)$ .

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