

## ON ORTHOGONAL REVERSE DERIVATIONS OF SEMIPRIME RINGS

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### Abstract

In this paper some results concerning two reverse derivations on semiprime rings are presented. These results are related to a result which is inspired by the classical result of E. Posner. This result asserts that if  $R$  is a 2-torsion free semiprime ring,  $f$  and  $h$  are non-zero reverse derivations of  $R$ . Then  $fh$  can not be a non-zero derivation. A notion of orthogonal reverse derivations arises here.

Key word and phrases: prime ring, semi-prime ring, derivation, reverse derivation, orthogonal reverse derivation.

### حول تعامد المشتقات المتعاكسة في الحلقات شبه الاولية

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### الخلاصة

قدمنا في هذا البحث بعض النتائج حول المشتقات المتعاكسة على الحلقات شبه الاولية. هذه النتائج لها علاقة بنتيجة بوسنر المعروفة. احدى هذه النتائج تتضمن, اذا كانت  $R$  حلقة شبه اولية طليقة الالتواء من النمط 2  $f$  و  $h$  مشتقات متعاكسة على  $R$ . فان  $fh$  لا يمكن ان تكون مشتقة غير صفرية. استخدمنا هنا مفهوم تعامد المشتقات.

### 1.Introduction

Throughout  $R$  will represent an associative ring.  $R$  is said to be 2-torsion free if  $2x = 0, x \in R$  implies  $x = 0$ . Recall that  $R$  is prime if  $xRy = 0$  implies  $x = 0$  or  $y = 0$ , and  $R$  is semiprime if  $xRx = 0$  implies  $x = 0$ . An additive mapping  $f: R \rightarrow R$  is called a derivation if

$$f(xy) = f(x)y + xf(y) \text{ holds for all } x, y \in R.$$

Brešar and Vukman [1] have introduced the notion of a reverse derivation as, an additive mapping  $f: R \rightarrow R$  satisfying

$$f(xy) = f(y)x + yf(x) \text{ holds for all } x, y \in R.$$

Other properties of derivations and reverse derivations can be found in ([2], [3], [4],[5],[6]and[7])

Two additive mapping  $f, h: R \rightarrow R$  is said to be orthogonal if

$$f(x)Rh(y) = 0 = h(y)Rf(x) \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$

In [8] Brešar and Vukman introduced the notion of orthogonality for two derivations  $f$  and  $h$  on a semiprime ring, and they presented several necessary and sufficient conditions for  $f$  and  $h$  to be orthogonal and they gave the related result to a classical result of E. Posner [9], which state that, if  $R$  is prime ring of characteristic not 2, and  $f, h$  are non-zero derivations of  $R$ , then  $fh$  can't be a derivation. In [10] Argaç Nakajima and

Albaş introduced orthogonal generalized derivations on a semiprime ring and they presented some results concerning two generalized derivations on a semiprime ring. Their results are a generalization of results of M. Brešar and J. Vukman in [8]. And in [11] Gölbashi and Aydin, introduced the notion of orthogonal  $(\sigma, \tau)$  – derivations and orthogonal generalized  $(\sigma, \tau)$  – derivations. Their results abstracted some results of M. Brešar and J. Vukman[8].

In this paper, our aim is to introduce the notion of orthogonal for two reverse derivations  $f$  and  $h$  on a semiprime ring, and we presented several necessary and sufficient conditions for  $f$  and  $h$  to be orthogonal. Also we will give the same results of M. Brešar and J. Vukman [8] to orthogonal reverse derivations. We will show that if  $R$  is a 2 – torsion free semi-prime ring and  $f, h$  be reverse derivations of  $R$ . Then if  $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal reverse derivations of  $R$ , then there exists an essential ideal  $K$  of  $R$  ( i.e.  $K \cap N \neq 0$  for every ideal  $N$  of  $R$  ), such that the restrictions of  $f$  and  $h$  to  $N$  are appropriate direct sums.

For a semiprime ring  $R$  and an ideal  $U$  of  $R$ , it is well- known that the left and right annihilators of  $U$  in  $R$  coincide. We denote the annihilator of  $U$  by  $\text{Ann}(U)$ . Note that  $U \cap \text{Ann}(U) = 0$  and  $U \oplus \text{Ann}(U)$  is an essential ideal of  $R$ .

## 2. Orthogonal reverse derivations

Now we present the definition of orthogonal reverse derivations as follows

**Definition .** Two reverse derivations  $f$  and  $h$  of  $R$  are called orthogonal if

$$f(x) R h(y) = 0 = h(y) R f(x) \quad \text{for all } x, y \in R. \quad (1)$$

It is obvious that a non-zero reverse derivation can not be orthogonal on itself.

Let us consider an example of the non-zero orthogonal reverse derivations. Let  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are prime rings, set  $R = R_1 \oplus R_2$ . Then  $R$  is semiprime ring. Let  $d_1$  be a non-zero reverse derivation of  $R_1$ . A mapping  $d: R \rightarrow R$  defined by  $d((r_1, r_2)) = (d_1(r_1), 0)$  is a nonzero reverse derivation of  $R$ . We write  $d$  as  $d_1 \oplus 0$ . Similarly, let  $g_2$  be a nonzero reverse derivation of  $R_2$  and define  $g: R \rightarrow R$  by  $g(r_1, r_2) = (0, g_2(r_2))$ , thus  $g = 0_1 \oplus g_2$ . Then  $d$  and  $g$  are orthogonal.

## 3. The Results

The main goal of this section is to prove the following theorem, which corresponds to ([8], Theorem 1).

**Theorem 1.** Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free semiprime ring. Let  $f$  and  $h$  be reverse derivations of  $R$ . Then  $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal if and only if one of the following conditions holds

- (i)  $fh = 0$ .
- (ii)  $hf = 0$ .
- (iii)  $fh + hf = 0$ .
- (iv)  $fh$  is a derivation.
- (v)  $hf$  is a derivation.
- (vi)  $f(x)h(x) = 0$ , for all  $x \in R$ .
- (vii)  $f(x)h(x) + h(x)f(x) = 0$ , for all  $x \in R$ .
- (viii) There exist ideals  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  of  $R$  such that:
  - (a)  $K_1 \cap K_2 = 0$  and  $K = K_1 \oplus K_2$  is an essential ideal of  $R$ .
  - (b)  $f$  maps  $R$  into  $K_1$  and  $h$  maps  $R$  into  $K_2$ .
  - (c) The restriction of  $f$  to  $K = K_1 \oplus K_2$  is a direct sum  $f_1 \oplus 0_2$ , where  $f_1: K_1 \rightarrow K_1$  is a reverse derivation of  $K_1$  and  $0_2: K_2 \rightarrow K_2$  is zero. If  $f_1 = 0$  then  $f = 0$ .
  - (d) The restriction of  $h$  to  $K = K_1 \oplus K_2$  is a direct sum  $0_1 \oplus h_2$ , where  $0_1: K_1 \rightarrow K_1$  is zero and  $h_2: K_2 \rightarrow K_2$  is a reverse derivation of  $K_2$ . If  $h_2 = 0$  then  $h = 0$ .

For the proof of the Theorem 1 we need the following lemmas:

**Lemma 1. ([8], 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  $ab = ba = 0$ .

**Lemma 2. ([8], Lemma 2).** Let  $R$  be a semiprime ring. And suppose that additive mappings  $f$  and  $h$  of  $R$  into itself satisfy  $f(x) R h(x) = 0$ , for all  $x \in R$ . Then  $f(x) R h(y) = 0$ , for all  $x, y \in R$ .

**Lemma 3.** Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free semiprime ring. Let  $f$  and  $h$  be reverse derivations of  $R$ . Then  $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal if and only if  $f(x)h(y) + h(x)f(y) = 0$ , for all  $x, y \in R$ .

**Proof.** Suppose that

$$f(x)h(y) + h(x)f(y) = 0,$$

for all  $x, y \in R$ . (2)

Take  $y = xy$  in (2). Then we obtain

$$0 = f(x)h(xy) + h(x)f(xy)$$

$$0 = \{f(x)h(y) + h(x)f(y)\}x + f(x)yh(x) + h(x)yf(x).$$

By (2) we get

$$0 = f(x)yh(x) + h(x)yf(x).$$

And by Lemma 1, we get

$$f(x)yh(x) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$

Hence

$$f(x)Rh(x) = 0, \text{ for all } x \in R.$$

By Lemma 2 we see that  $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal.

Conversely, if  $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal then by Lemma 1, we get

$$f(x)h(y) = h(x)f(y) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$

Thus

$$f(x)h(y) + h(x)f(y) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$

Let  $f$  and  $h$  be reverse derivations of any ring  $R$ . By a direct computation, we verify the following identities:

$$(fh)(xy) = (fh)(x)y + f(x)h(y) + h(x)f(y) + x(fh)(y) \text{ for all } x, y \in R. \quad (3)$$

We now have enough information to prove Theorem 1.

**Proof of Theorem 1.** (i)  $\Rightarrow$  " $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal". Suppose that  $fh = 0$ . According to (3), we have

$$f(x)h(y) + h(x)f(y) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$

Hence  $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal by Lemma 3.

" $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal"  $\Rightarrow$  (i). We have  $f(x)yh(z) = 0$ , for all  $x, y, z \in R$ .

Hence

$$0 = f(f(x)yh(z))$$

$$= f(yh(z))f(x) + (yh(z))f^2(x)$$

$$= fh(z)yf(x) + h(z)f(y)f(x) + yh(z)^2(x).$$

The second and third summands are zero since  $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal.

Therefore this relation is reduced to

$$(fh)(z)yf(x) = 0$$

where  $x, y, z$  are arbitrary elements in  $R$ , so take  $x = h(z)$  in the above relation, we get

$$(fh)(z)R(fh)(z) = 0, \text{ for all } z \in R.$$

Since  $R$  is semiprime, we get

$$(fh)(z) = 0, \text{ for all } z \in R.$$

(ii) similar way used in the proof of (i).

(iii)  $\Rightarrow$  " $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal". If  $f$  and  $h$  are any reverse derivations, then we have by (3) and (4) that

$$(fh + hf)(xy) = (fh)(x)y + f(x)h(y) + h(x)f(y) + x(fh)(y) + (hf)(x)y + f(x)h(y) + h(x)f(y) + x(hf)(y)$$

$$= (fh + hf)(x)y + 2f(x)h(y) + 2h(x)f(y) + x(fh + hf)(y).$$

Thus, if  $fh + hf = 0$  then the above relation reduces to

$$2(f(x)h(y) + h(x)f(y)) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$

Since  $R$  is 2-torsion free, we get

$$f(x)h(y) + h(x)f(y) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$

By Lemma 3, we get  $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal.

" $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal"  $\Rightarrow$  (iii). From (i) and (ii), Theorem 1, we get  $fh + hf = 0$ .

(iv)  $\Rightarrow$  " $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal". Since  $fh$  is a derivation we have

$$(fh)(xy) = (fh)(x)y + x(fh)(y).$$

Comparing this expression with (3), we obtain

$$f(x)h(y) + h(x)f(y) = 0$$

Now apply Lemma 3.

(i)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv). Clear.

(v)  $\Rightarrow$  " $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal". Similar way use in the proof of (v).

(ii)  $\Rightarrow$  (v). Clear.

(vi)  $\Rightarrow$  " $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal". A linearization of  $f(x)h(x) = 0$  gives

$$f(x)h(y) + f(y)h(x) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in R. \quad (5)$$

Take  $y = yz$  in (5), we obtain

$$f(x)h(z)y + f(x)zh(y) + f(z)yh(x) + zf(y)h(x) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y, z \in R.$$

By (5),  $f(x)h(z) = -f(z)h(x)$  and  $f(y)h(x) = -f(x)h(y)$  and so the above relation becomes

$$-f(z)h(x)y + f(x)zh(y) + f(z)yh(x) - zf(x)h(y) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y, z \in R.$$

Hence we have

$$f(z)[y, h(x)] + [f(x), z]h(y) = 0, \text{ Where } [u, v] \text{ denotes the commutator } uv - vu.$$

Replacing  $z$  by  $f(x)$  in the above relation, we obtain

$$f^2(x)[y, h(x)] = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$

Letting  $y = yw$  in the last relation results in

$$0 = f^2(x)[yw, h(x)]$$

$$= f^2(x)y[w, h(x)] + f^2(x)[y, h(x)]w$$

$$= f^2(x)z[w, h(x)].$$

Hence from Lemma 2 we obtain that

$$f^2(x) R [w, h(y)] = 0, \text{ for all } x, y, w \in R \quad (6)$$

Replacing  $x$  by  $xu$  in (6) and using (3) yields that

$$(f^2(x)u + 2f(x)f(u) + x f^2(u)) R [w, h(y)] = 0.$$

By (6) the above relation reduces to

$$2 f(x)f(u) R [w, h(y)] = 0.$$

Since  $R$  is 2-torsion free, we have

$$f(x)f(u) R [w, h(y)] = 0, \text{ for all } x \in R. \quad (7)$$

Taking  $x = xz$  in (7), we get

$$f(z)xf(u) R [w, h(y)] + zf(x)f(u) R [w, h(y)] = 0,$$

and by using (7), we get

$$f(z)xf(u) R [w, h(y)] = 0.$$

In particular,

$$f(x) R [w, h(y)] R f(x) R [w, h(y)] = 0$$

since  $R$  is semiprime, which implies

$$f(x) R [w, h(y)] = 0.$$

But then also

$$[f(x), h(y)] R [f(x), h(y)] = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$

Hence

$$f(x)h(y) = h(y)f(x), \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$

Thus (5) can be written in the form

$$h(y)f(x) + f(y)h(x) = 0, \text{ for all } x, y \in R.$$

Now use Lemma 3.

" $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal"  $\Rightarrow$  (vi). If  $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal then we have

$$f(x) R h(x) = 0, \text{ for all } x \in R.$$

Then by Lemma 1, we get

$$f(x)h(x) = 0, \text{ for all } x \in R.$$

(vii)  $\Rightarrow$  (iv). Take  $y = x$  in (3). Then we see that

$$(fh)(x^2) = (fh)(x)x + f(x)h(x) + h(x)f(x) + x(fh)(x).$$

Thus we have

$$(fh)(x^2) = (fh)(x)x + x(fh)(x), \text{ for all } x \in R.$$

The above relation implies that  $fh$  is a Jordan derivation. Then  $fh$  is a derivation by [[2], Theorem 1].

" $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal"  $\Rightarrow$  (vii). This follows immediately from Lemma 3.

(viii)  $\Rightarrow$  " $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal". Clear.

" $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal"  $\Rightarrow$  (viii). Let  $K_1$  be an ideal of  $R$  generated by all  $f(x)$ ,  $x \in R$ , and let  $K_2$  be  $Ann(K_1)$ , the annihilator of  $K_1$ . From (1), we see that  $h(x) \in K_2$ , for all  $x \in R$ . Whenever  $K_1$  is an ideal in a semiprime ring we

have  $K_1 \cap K_2 = 0$  and  $K = K_1 \oplus K_2$  is an essential ideal. Thus (a) and (b) are proved.

Our next goal is to show that  $f$  is zero on  $K_2$ . Take  $k_2 \in K_2$ . Then  $k_1 k_2 = 0$ , for all  $k_1 \in K_1$ . Hence

$$0 = f(k_1 k_2) = f(k_2)k_1 + k_2 f(k_1).$$

It is obvious from the definition of  $K$  that  $f$  leaves  $K_1$  invariant and, hence  $k_2 f(k_1) = 0$ . Then the above relation reduces to  $f(k_2)k_1 = 0$ . Since in a semiprime ring the left and right and two-sided annihilators of an ideal coincide, we then have  $f(k_2) \in Ann(K_1) = K_2$ . But on the other hand  $f(k_2)$  belongs to the set of generating elements of  $K_1$ . Thus  $f(k_2) \in K_1 \cap K_2 = 0$ , which means that  $f$  is zero on  $K_2$ .

As we have mentioned above  $f$  leaves  $K_1$  invariant. Therefore we may define a mapping  $f_1 : K_1 \rightarrow K_1$  as a restriction of  $f$  to  $K_1$ .

Suppose that  $f_1 = 0$ . Then  $f$  is zero on  $K = K_1 \oplus K_2$ .

Take  $k \in K$  and  $y \in R$ , we have

$$f(yk) = f(k)y + k f(y)$$

But  $f(yk) = f(k) = 0$  since  $ky, k \in K$ .

Consequently  $k f(y) = 0$ , for all  $y \in R$ . Thus  $f(y) \in Ann(K)$ . But ideal  $K$  is essential and therefore  $Ann(K) = 0$  by . Hence  $f(y) = 0$ , for all  $y \in R$ .

Then (c) is thereby proved.

It remains to prove (d). First we show that  $h$  is zero on  $K_1$ . Take  $x, y, z \in R$  and set  $k_1 = zf(y)x$ . Then

$$h(k_1) = h(x)(zf(y)) + xh(zf(y)) = h(x)zf(y) + x(hf)(y)z + xf(y)h(z).$$

Since  $f$  and  $h$  are orthogonal we have  $h(x)zf(y) = 0, f(y)h(z) = 0$  and  $hf = 0$ . Hence  $h(k_1) = 0$ . In a similar fashion we see that  $h(zf(y)) = 0, h(f(y)x) = 0$  and  $h(f(y)) = 0$ . Then  $h$  is zero on  $K_1$ . Recall that  $h$  maps  $R$  into  $K_2$ . In particular, it leaves  $K_2$  invariant. Thus we may define  $h_2 : K_2 \rightarrow K_2$  as a restriction of  $h$  to  $K_2$ . The proof that  $h_2 = 0$  implies  $h = 0$  is the same as the proof that  $f_1 = 0$  implies  $f = 0$ . The proof of the theorem is complete.

A well known result of E. Posner [9] states that if  $R$  is a prime ring of characteristic not equal 2,  $f$  and  $h$  are non-zero derivations of  $R$ , then  $fh$  can not be a non-zero derivation.

The result which is inspired by a theorem of E. Posner, states that, if  $R$  is a 2-torsion free semiprime ring,  $f$  and  $h$  are non-zero reverse derivations of  $R$ . Then  $fh$  can not be a non-zero derivation. One can consider (iv) and (i), Theorem 1 as a proof of this result.

We now state some consequences of Theorem 1.

**Corollary 1.** Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic not equal 2. Let  $f$  and  $h$  be reverse derivations of  $R$ . If  $f$  and  $h$  satisfy one of the conditions of Theorem 1, then either  $f=0$  or  $h=0$ .

Since a non-zero reverse derivation can not be orthogonal on itself we see that (iv) of Theorem 1 yields the following result.

**Corollary 2.** Let  $R$  be a 2 – torsion free semiprime ring and let  $f$  be a reverse derivation of  $R$ . If  $f^2$  is also a derivation, then  $f=0$ .

Similarly, using (vi) of Theorem 1, we obtain

**Corollary 3.** Let  $R$  be a 2–torsion free semiprime ring and let  $f$  be a reverse derivation of  $R$ . If  $f(x)^2=0$  for all  $x \in R$ , then  $f=0$ .

It is natural to ask if there is any connection between reverse derivations  $f$  and  $h$  of a ring  $R$ . If  $f^2=h^2$  or if  $f(x)^2=h(x)^2$ , for every  $x \in R$ . Theorem 1 enables the consideration of these problems.

In the following theorems, we answer this question.

**Theorem 2.** Let  $R$  be a 2-torsion free semiprime ring. Let  $f$  and  $h$  be reverse derivations of  $R$ . Suppose that  $f^2=h^2$ , then  $f+h$  and  $f-h$  are orthogonal. Thus, there exist ideals  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  of  $R$  such that  $K=K_1 \oplus K_2$  is an essential direct sum in  $R$ ,  $f=h$  on  $K_1$  and  $f=-h$  on  $K_2$ .

**Proof .** From  $f^2=h^2$  it follows immediately that

$$(f+h)(f-h) + (f-h)(f+h) = 0.$$

Hence  $f+h$  and  $f-h$  are orthogonal by (iii), Theorem 1. Another part of the Theorem 2, follows from (viii), Theorem 1.

**Corollary 4.** Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic not equal 2. Let  $f$  and  $h$  be derivations of  $R$ . If  $f^2=h^2$  then either  $f=-h$  or  $f=h$ .

**Theorem 3.** Let  $R$  be a 2–torsion free semiprime ring. Let  $f$  and  $h$  be reverse derivations of  $R$ . If  $f(x)^2=h(x)^2$ , for all  $x \in R$ , then  $f+h$  and  $f-h$  are orthogonal. Thus, there exist ideals  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  of  $R$  such that  $K=K_1 \oplus K_2$  is an essential direct sum in  $R$ ,  $f=h$  on  $K_1$  and  $f=-h$  on  $K_2$ .

**Proof .** Note that  $(f+h)(x)(f-h)(x) + (f-h)(x)(f+h)(x) = 0$ , for all  $x \in R$ . Now apply (vii) and (viii), Theorem 1.

**Corollary 5.** Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic not equal 2. Let  $f$  and  $h$  be reverse derivations of  $R$ . If  $f(x)^2=h(x)^2$ , for all  $x \in R$ , then either  $f=-h$  or  $f=h$ .

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