

ON COMMUTING PAIR AND CENTRALISING PAIR OF AUTOMORPHISMS OF RINGS

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ABSTRACT. Let R be a ring and S and T be non trivial automorphisms of R . If $[S(x), T(x)] = 0$ for all $x \in R$, then R is a commutative ring. If $[S(x), T(x)] \in Z$, the centre of R , then R is a commutative integral domain.

1. INTRODUCTION

Let R be an associative ring. An automorphism T of R is called a commuting automorphism, if $T(x)x = xT(x)$ for every $x \in R$, In [3] Drivinsky showed that a semisimple artinian ring must be commutative if it possesses a non trivial commuting automorphism. Luh [4] extended this result by proving that a prime ring R possessing a non-trivial commuting automorphism T must be an integral domain. Mayne [5] generalised this result further by proving that a prime ring R possessing a non-trivial automorphism T such that $T(x)x - xT(x)$ is in the centre of R , for every $x \in R$ must necessarily be commutative. L.O.Chung and J.Luh [2] called an automorphism T of R , a semi commuting automorphism if $T(x) \cdot x = \pm xT(x)$ for each $x \in R$. They also proved that a prime ring R with

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characteristic $\neq 2, 3$ possessing a non-trivial semi-commuting automorphism is necessarily a commutative integral domain.

In this paper we generalise the result of J. Mayne [5] by defining commuting pair of automorphisms and centralising pair of automorphisms and more general results are obtained. Throughout this paper R denote an associative ring unless otherwise specifically stated. Z denote the centre of R .

2. PRELIMINARY

Definition 2.1. Let R be an associative ring and T be an automorphism of R . T is called.

- (i) a commuting automorphism if $xT(x) = T(x)x \forall x \in R$ i.e, $[xT(x)] = 0 \forall x \in R$;
- (ii) an anti commuting automorphism if $xT(x) = -T(x)x \forall x \in R$;
- (iii) a semi-commuting automorphism if either $xT(x) = T(x)x$ (or) $xT(x) = -T(x)x$ i.e, $xT(x) = \pm T(x)x \forall x \in R$;
- (iv) a strong commuting automorphism if $[x, T(y)] = [T(x), y] \forall x, y \in R$;
- (v) a strong semi commuting automorphism if $[x, T(y)] = \pm [T(x), y] \forall x, y \in R$;
- (vi) a centralising automorphism if $[x, T(x)] \in Z \forall x \in R$. i.e, $xT(x) - T(x)x \in Z, \forall x \in R$;
- (vii) an anti-centralising automorphism if $xT(x) + T(x)x \in Z, \forall x \in R$;
- (viii) a semi-centralising automorphism if $xT(x) - T(x)x \in Z$ (or) $xT(x) + T(x)x \in Z, \forall x \in R$;
- (ix) a strong centralising automorphism if $[x, T(y)] - [T(x), y] \in Z, \forall x, y \in R$;
- (x) a strong semi-centralising automorphism if $[x, T(y)] \pm [T(x), y] \in Z, \forall x, y \in R$.

Remark 2.1. Let R be any ring. Then

- (i) $[x, y + z] = [x, y] + [x, z], \forall x, y, z \in R$;
- (ii) $[x + y, z] = [x, z] + [y, z], \forall x, y, z \in R$;
- (iii) $[x, y] = -[y \times x], \forall x, y \in R$;
- (iv) $[xy, z] = x[y, z] + [x, z]y, \forall x, y, z \in R$; $v[x, y] = 0$ if $x = y$.

Definition 2.2. Let R be an associative ring and T be an automorphism of R . Let

$$R_- = \{x \in R/[x, T(y)] - [y, T(x)] \in Z, \forall x, y \in R\};$$

$$R_+ = \{x \in R/[x, T(y)] + [y, T(x)] \in Z, \forall x, y \in R\}.$$

3. MAIN RESULTS

We generalize the above definitions and prove many interesting results.

Definition 3.1. Let R be an associative ring and S and T be two non-trivial automorphisms of R . They are said to be

- (i) a commuting pair of automorphism if $S(x)T(x) = T(x)S(x) \forall x \in R$ i.e. $[S(x), T(x)] = 0 \forall x \in R$;
- (ii) an anti commuting pair of automorphism if $S(x)T(x) = -T(x)S(x) \forall x \in R$;
- (iii) a semi-commuting pair of automorphism if either $S(x)T(x) = T(x)S(x)$ (or) $S(x)T(x) = -T(x)S(x)$ i.e, $S(x)T(x) = \pm T(x)S(x) \forall x \in R$;
- (iv) a strong commuting pair of automorphism if $[S(x), T(y)] = [T(x), S(y)] \forall x, y \in R$;
- (v) a strong semi commuting pair of automorphism if

$$[S(x), T(y)] = \pm [T(x), S(y)], \quad \forall x, y \in R;$$

- (vi) acentralising pair of automorphism if $[S(x), T(x)] \in Z \forall x \in R$ (or) $S(x)T(x) - T(x)S(x) \in z, \forall x \in R$;
- (vii) an anti-centralising pair of automorphism if $S(x)T(x) = -T(x)S(x), \forall x \in R$;
- (viii) a semi-centralising pair of automorphism if $S(x)T(x) - T(x)S(x) \in z$ (or) $S(x)T(x) + T(x)S(x) \in Z, \forall x \in R$;
- (ix) a strong centralizing pair of automorphism if $[S(x), T(y)] - [T(x), S(y)] \in Z, \forall x, y \in R$;
- (x) a strong semi-centralising pair of automorphism if

$$[S(x), T(y)] \pm [T(x), S(y)] \in Z, \quad \forall x, y \in R.$$

Definition 3.2. Let R be an associative ring and S and T be two automorphisms of R . Define

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \{x \in R / [S(x), T(y)] - [T(x), S(y)] \in Z, \forall y \in R\}; \\ R_+ &= \{x \in R / [S(x), T(y)] + [T(x), S(y)] \in Z, \forall y \in R\}; \\ R_0 &= \{x \in R / [S(x), T(x)] = 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 3.1. Let R be an associative ring and S and T be a commuting pair of automorphisms of R . Then they are Strong commuting pair of automorphism of R .

Proof. Let S and T be a commuting pair of automorphisms of R . Then

$$(3.1) \quad [S(x) \quad T(x)] = 0, \quad \forall x \in R.$$

So, $[S(x+y) \cdot T(x+y)] = 0 \forall x, y \in R$, i.e., $[S(x) + S(y), T(x) + T(y)] = 0 \forall x, y \in R$, i.e., $[S(x), T(x)] + [S(x), T(y)] + [S(y), T(x)] + [S(y), T(y)] = 0 \forall x, y \in R$.

Using equation (3.1) we get

$$[S(x), T(y)] + [S(y) - T(x)] = 0, \quad \forall x, y \in R,$$

i.e., $[S(x), T(y)] = -[S(y), T(x)] = [T(x), S(y)] \forall x, y \in R$ and

$$[S(x), T(y)] = [T(x), S(y)], \quad \forall x, y \in R.$$

This proves that S and T are strong commuting pair of automorphisms of R . \square

Lemma 3.2. Let R be an associative ring and S and T be a centralizing pair of automorphisms of R . Then they are Strong centralising pair of automorphisms of R .

Proof. Let R be an associative ring and S and T be a centralising pair of automorphisms of R . Then

$$(3.2) \quad [S(x) - T(x)] \in Z, \quad \forall x \in R.$$

Then, $[S(x+y) - T(x+y)] \in Z \forall x, y \in R$ i.e., $[S(x), T(x)] + [S(x), T(y)] + [S(y), T(x)] + [S(y), T(y)] \in Z \forall x, y \in R$.

Using equation (3.2) we get

$$[S(x), T(y)] + [S(y)] = [T(x)] \in Z, \quad \forall x, y \in R,$$

i.e., $[S(x), T(y)] = -[S(y), T(x)] = [T(x), S(y)] \forall x, y \in R$, and

$$[S(x), T(y)] = [T(x), S(y)], \quad \forall x, y \in R.$$

This proves that S and T are strong centralising pair of automorphisms of R . \square

Lemma 3.3. *Let R be an associative ring and S and T be a strong semi centralizing pair of automorphisms of R . If $a, b \in R$ Then $a + b \in R$ and $a - b \in R, \forall x, y \in R$.*

Proof. Let $a, b \in R$. Then

$$(3.3) \quad [S(a), T(y)] - [T(a), S(y)] \in Z, \quad \forall y \in R,$$

$$(3.4) \quad [S(b), T(y)] - [T(b), S(y)] \in Z, \quad \forall y \in R.$$

Expressions (3.3) and (3.4) give

$$[S(a) + S(b), T(y)] - [T(a) + T(b), S(y)] \in Z, \quad \forall y \in R,$$

i.e.,

$$[S(a + b), T(y)] - [T(a + b), S(y)] \in Z, \forall y \in R.$$

This implies $a + b \in R_-$. Similarly (3.3) and (3.4) give $a - b \in R_-$. \square

Lemma 3.4. *Let R be any ring and S and T be a strong semi centralizing pair of automorphisms of R . If $a, b \in R_+$ Then $a + b \in R_+$ and $a - b \in R_+$*

Proof. Similar to the proof of lemma 3.3. \square

Lemma 3.5. *Let R be a 2-torsion free ring. Let S and T be a strong commuting pair of automorphisms of R . Then the v are commuting pair of automorphisms of R .*

Proof. Let S and T be a strong commuting pair of automorphisms of R . Then

$$(3.5) \quad [S(x), T(y)] = [T(x), S(y)], \quad \forall x, y \in R,$$

i.e, $[S(x), T(x)] = [T(x), S(x)] = -[S(x), T(x)], \quad \forall x \in R$, i.e. S and T are commuting pair of automorphisms of R . \square

Lemma 3.6. *Let R be a 2-torsion free ring. Let S and T be a strong centralising pair of automorphisms of R , then they are centralising pair of automorphisms of R .*

Proof. Let S and T be a strong centralising pair of automorphisms of R . Then

$$(3.6) \quad [S(x), T(y)] - [T(x), S(y)] \in Z, \quad \forall x, y \in R,$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\Rightarrow [S(x), T(x)] - [T(x), S(x)] \in Z, \quad \forall x \in Z \\
&\Rightarrow [S(x), T(x)] + [S(x), T(x)] \in Z, \quad \forall x \in Z \\
&\Rightarrow 2[S(x), T(x)] \in Z, \quad \forall x \in Z \\
&\Rightarrow [S(x), T(x)] \in Z, \quad \forall x \in Z.
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, S and T are centralising automorphisms of R . □

Theorem 3.1. *Let R be a Prime ring and S and T be two non-trivial automorphisms of R , such that $S \neq T$. If S and T are commuting pair of automorphisms of R , then R is a commutative integral domain.*

Proof. Let S and T be two non-trivial commuting pair of automorphisms of R , such that $S \neq T$. Then

$$(3.7) \quad [S(x), T(x)] = 0, \quad \forall x \in R.$$

Replace x by $x + y$ in (3.7) we get,

$$[S(x + y), T(x + y)] = 0, \quad \forall x, y \in R,$$

i.e.,

$$[S(x), T(x)] + [S(x), T(y)] + [S(y), T(x)] + [S(y), T(y)] = 0, \quad \forall x, y \in R.$$

Using (3.7) we get,

$$\begin{aligned}
&[S(x), T(y)] + [S(y), T(x)] = 0, \quad \forall x, y \in R, \\
&[S(x), T(y)] = -[S(y), T(x)], \quad \forall x, y \in R, \\
(3.8) \quad &[S(x), T(y)] = -[T(x), S(y)], \quad \forall x, y \in R.
\end{aligned}$$

Replace y by xy in (3.8) we get,

$$\begin{aligned}
&[S(x), T(xy)] = [T(x), S(xy)], \quad \forall x, y \in R; \\
&[S(x), T(x)T(y)] = [T(x), S(x)S(y)], \quad \forall x, y \in R; \\
&T(x)[S(x), T(y)] + [S(x), T(xy)]T(y) = S(x)[T(x), S(y)]; \\
&\quad + [T(x), S(x)]S(y), \quad \forall x, y \in R.
\end{aligned}$$

Using (3.7) we get,

$$T(x)[S(x), T(y)] = S(x)[T(x), S(y)], \quad \forall x, y \in R.$$

Using (3.8) we get

$$T(x)[S(x), T(y)] = S(x)[S(x), T(y)], \quad \forall x, y \in R,$$

i.e.,

$$(3.9) \quad (S(x) - T(x))[S(x), T(y)] = 0, \quad \forall x, y \in R.$$

Since T is an automorphism we have

$$(3.10) \quad (S(x) - T(x))[S(x), z] = 0, \quad \forall x, z \in R.$$

Now,

$$y[S(x), z] = [S(x), yz] - [S(x), y]z, \quad \forall x, y, z \in R,$$

i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} (S(x) - T(x))y[S(x), z] &= (S(x) - T(x))[S(x), yz] \\ &\quad - (S(x) - T(x))[S(x), y]z = 0. \end{aligned}$$

This is true for all $y \in R$. Hence

$$(3.11) \quad (S(x) - T(x))R[S(x), z] = 0, \quad \forall x, z \in R.$$

Since $S \neq T$ there must be atleast one $x_0 \in R$ such that $S(x_0) \neq T(x_0)$. Since R is Prime $[S(x_0), z] = 0 \forall z \in R$ i.e. $S(x_0) \in Z$. Suppose $S(y) \notin Z$ for some $y \in R$. Thus $S(x_0) + S(y) \notin Z$. Using (3.11) we get

$$[S(y) - T(y)]R[S(y), z] = 0, \quad \forall z \in R$$

Since

$$(3.12) \quad S(y) \notin Z, [S(y), z] \neq 0.$$

Since R is Prime. $S(y) - T(y) = 0$ i.e. $S(y) = T(y)$. Similarly,

$$(3.13) \quad S(x_0 + y) = T(x_0 + y)$$

(3.12) and (3.13) gives $S(x_0) = T(x_0)$ So $S(y) \in Z$ is contradictives. Since S is an automorphism of R $x \in Z \forall x \in R$ and R is commutative. \square

Remark 3.1. Taking S as identity automorphism of R , we get the Theorem of J. Luh [4].

Theorem 3.2. Let R be a 2 torision free prime ring and S and T are non-trivial automorphisms of R . If S and T are strong commuting automorphisms of R then R is commutative.

Proof. Let S and T be strong commuting pair of automorphisms of R . By lemma 3.5, They are commuting pair of automorphisms of R .

R is commutative follows from theorem 3.1. \square

Lemma 3.7. *Let R be a prime ring and $x, y \in R$ such that $0 \neq x \in Z$ If $xy = 0$, then $y = 0$.*

Proof. Let $z \in R$ be any element then $zxy = 0 \Rightarrow xzy = 0$ (since $x \in Z$) $\Rightarrow xRy = 0$. Since R is prime $x = 0$ or $y = 0$. Now As $x \neq 0$, we get $y = 0$. \square

Lemma 3.8. *Let b and ab be in the centre of a prime ring R . If b is not zero, then a is in the centre of R .*

Proof. Let $x \in R$ be any element. Now

$$\begin{aligned}(ax - xa)b &= axb - xab \\ &= abx - abx \quad (\because b \in Z \text{ and } ab \in Z) \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

By lemma 3.7, we get $ax - xa = 0$ i.e, $ax = xa \forall x \in R$, i.e, $a \in Z$. \square

Theorem 3.3. *Let R be a prime ring with non-trivial centralizing pair of automorphisms S and T such that $S \neq T$. Then R is commutative integral domains.*

Proof. Let S and T be non trivial centralizing automorphisms of R such that $S \neq T$. Now,

$$(3.14) \quad [S(x), T(x)] \in Z, \quad \forall x \in R.$$

We will first prove that S and T are commuting pair of automorphisms of R . Suppose there exists $x_0 \in R$ such that

$$(3.15) \quad [S(x_0), T(x_0)] \neq 0.$$

Replacing x by $x_0 + y$ in (3.14) we get, $[S(x_0 + y), T(x_0 + y)] \in Z, \forall y \in R$,

$$[S(x_0), T(x_0)] + [S(x_0), T(y)] + [S(y), T(x_0)] + [S(y), T(y)] \in Z, \quad \forall y \in R.$$

Using (3.14) we get

$$(3.16) \quad [S(x_0), T(y)] + [S(y), T(x_0)] \in Z, \quad \forall y \in R.$$

So,

$$(3.17) \quad [S(x_0), [S(x_0)T(y)] + [S(y), T(x_0)]] = 0, \quad \forall y \in R.$$

Replace y by x_0^2 in (iv) we get,

$$\text{i.e. } [S(x_0), [S(x_0), T(x_0^2)] + [S(x_0^2), T(x_0)]] = 0$$

$$\text{i.e. } [S(x_0), S(x_0), T(x_0)T(x_0)] + S(x_0)[S(x_0)S(x_0), T(x_0)] = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} & [S(x_0), T(x_0)[S(x_0), T(x_0)] + [S(x_0), T(x_0)], T(x_0)] \\ & + [S(x_0), S(x_0)[S(x_0), T(x_0)] + [S(x_0), T(x_0)], S(x_0)] = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Using (3.14) we get,

$$\begin{aligned} & [S(x_0), 2T(x_0)[S(x_0), T(x_0)] + [S(x_0), 2S(x_0)[S(x_0), T(x_0)]] = 0 \\ & 2T(x_0)[S(x_0)[S(x_0), T(x_0)] + 2[S(x_0), T(x_0)][S(x_0), T(x_0)] \\ & + 2S(x_0)[S(x_0)[S(x_0), T(x_0)] + 2[S(x_0), S(x_0)][S(x_0), T(x_0)] = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Using (3.14) we get, $0 + 2[S(x_0), T(x_0)]^2 + 0 + 0 = 0$ i.e., $2[S(x_0), T(x_0)]^2 = 0$.

If $\text{Char } R \neq 2$ then $[S(x_0), T(x_0)]^2 = 0$. Using lemma 3.8, $[S(x_0)T(x_0)] = 0$.

Contradicting (3.15), this contradiction proves that $[S(x), T(x)] = 0 \forall x \in R$ if $\text{Char } R \neq 2$. Assume $\text{Char } R = 2$, then $x = -x \forall x \in R$. Now,

$$\begin{aligned} & [[S(x)S(y)]T(x)] + [S(x^2), T(y)] \\ & = [S(x)S(y) - S(y)S(x), T(x)] + S(x)[S(x), T(y)] + [S(x), T(y)]S(x) \\ & = [S(x)S(y), T(x)] - [S(y)S(x), T(x)] + S(x)[S(x), T(y)] + [S(x), T(y)]S(x) \\ & = S(x)[S(y), T(x)] + [S(x)T(x)]S(y) - S(y)[S(x), T(x)] - [S(y), T(x)]S(x) \\ & \quad + S(x)[S(x), T(y)] + [S(x), T(y)]S(x) \end{aligned}$$

Using the fact $[S(x), T(x)] \in Z \forall x$ and $x = x^2 \forall x \in R$. We get

$$\begin{aligned} & S(x)[S(y), T(x)] + [S(y), T(x)]S(x) + S(x)[S(x), T(y)] + [S(x), T(y)]S(x) \\ & = S(x)\{[S(y), T(x)] + [S(x), T(y)]\} + \{[S(y), T(x)] + [S(x), T(y)]\}S(x) \\ & = 2S(x)\{[S(y), T(x)] + [S(x), T(y)]\} \\ & = 0 \quad (\text{since char } R = 2). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$(3.18) \quad [[S(x), S(y)], T(x)] + [S(x^2), T(y)] = 0, \quad \forall x, y \in R.$$

Put $z = T(x)$,

$$(3.19) \quad [S(x)_2 S(y), z] + [S(x^2), T(y)] = 0, \quad \forall x, y \in R, z = T(x).$$

Put $x = y$ in (3.19) we get $[S(x^2), T(x)] = 0, \forall x \in R$, i.e.

$$(3.20) \quad [S(x^2), z] = 0.$$

Put $y = xS^{-1}zS$ in (3.19). Then $S(y) = S(xS^{-1}(zS)) = S(x)z$. So (3.19) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} & [[S(x), S(x)z], z] + [S(x^2), T(xS^{-1}(zS))] = 0 \\ & [S(x)[S(x), z] + [S(x), S(x)z], z] + [S(x^2), T(x)T(S^{-1}(zS))] = 0 \\ & [S(x)[S(x), z], z] + [S(x^2), z^w] = 0, \end{aligned}$$

where $w = T(S^{-1}(z))$

$$\begin{aligned} & S(x)[[S(x), z], z] + [S(x), z][S(x), z] + z[S(x^2)w] + [S(x^2), z]w = 0, \\ & [S(x), z] = [S(x), T(x)] \in Z, \end{aligned}$$

$\forall x \in R$. Using (3.20) we get $[S(x), z]^2 + z[S(x^2), w] = 0$, i.e.,

$$(3.21) \quad [S(x), z]^2 = -z[S(x^2), w] = z[S(x^2), w], \quad \forall x \in R.$$

Put $y = xs^{-1}(z)x$ in (3.19). Then $S(y) = S(xs^{-1}(z)x) = S(x)zS(x)$. So, (3.19) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} & [S(x), S(x)zS(x), z] + [S(x^2), T(xs^{-1}(z)x)] = 0 \\ & [S(x^2)zS(x) - S(x)zS(x^2), z] + [S(x^2), T(x)T(S^{-1}(zS))T(x)] = 0 \\ & [S(x^2)zS(x), z] - [S(x)zS(x^2), z] + [S(x^2), z wz] = 0 \\ & S(x^2)[zS(x), z] + [S(x^2), z]zS(x) - S(x)z[S(x^2), z] \\ & \quad - [S(x)z, z]S(x^2) + [S(x^2), z wz] = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Using (3.20) we get

$$\begin{aligned} & S(x^2)[zS(x), z][S(x)z, z]S(x^2) + [S(x^2), z wz] = 0 \\ & S(x^2)\{z[S(x), z] + [z, z]S(x)\} - \{S(x), [z, z] + [S(x), z]z\}S(x) \\ & \quad + [S(x^2), z wz] = 0 \\ & \text{i.e. } S(x^2)z[S(x), z] - [S(x), z]zS(x^2) + [S(x^2), z wz] = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since,

$$\begin{aligned} & [S(x), z] = [S(x), T(x)] \in Z \forall x \\ & [S(x), z][S(x^2)z - zS(x^2)] + [S(x^2), z wz] = 0 \\ & \text{i.e. } [S(x), z][S(x^2), z] + [S(x^2), z wz] = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Using (3.20) we get $[S(x^2), zwz] = 0$ i.e.,

$$z[S(x^2), wz] + [S(x^2), z] wz = 0.$$

Using (3.20) we get $z[S(x^2), wz] = 0$ i.e.

$$z\{w[S(x^2), z] + [S(x^2), w]z\} = 0.$$

Using (3.20) we get $z[S(x^2), w]z = 0$. Using (3.21) we get $[S(x), z]^2 \cdot z = 0$. Since $z = T(x) \neq 0$, we get $[S(x), z]^2 = 0 \forall x$, i.e., $[S(x), z] = 0 \forall x$, i.e., $[S(x), T(x)] = 0 \forall x \in R$ i.e., S and T are commuting pair of automorphism. Hence by Theorem 3.1, R is commutative. \square

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