

# A Characterization of Jordan Automorphisms on Jordan Ideals of Prime Gamma Rings

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## ABSTRACT

We study and develop the concepts of homomorphism and anti-homomorphism to derive some important results in the theory of gamma rings. This article attempts to analyze some of the results of Ali et al. [1] in case of classical rings for extending those in the context of gamma rings. We establish a number of results related to automorphism, anti-automorphism and Jordan automorphism on Jordan ideal of prime gamma rings to obtain a new characterizing result. If  $M$  is a 2-torsion free prime gamma ring fulfilling a suitable condition,  $J$  is a non-zero Jordan ideal as well as a subring of  $M$  and  $\varphi: M \rightarrow M$  is a Jordan automorphism, then we prove that  $\varphi$  is an automorphism or  $\varphi$  is an anti-automorphism.

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## 1. Introduction

We begin by recalling the concept and some properties of gamma ring. If  $M, \Gamma$  are two abelian groups under addition and  $(a, \alpha, b) \rightarrow a\alpha b$  is a map of  $M \times \Gamma \times M \rightarrow M$  such that  $(a + b)\alpha c = a\alpha c + b\alpha c$ ,  $a(\alpha + \beta)b = a\alpha b + a\beta b$ ,  $a\alpha(b + c) = a\alpha b + a\alpha c$ , and  $(a\alpha b)\beta c = a\alpha(b\beta c) \forall a, b, c \in M$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ , then  $M$  is called a *gamma ring* (shortly: a  $\Gamma$ -ring). Nobusawa introduced the concept of gamma ring in [5] and Barnes developed various properties of gamma rings in [2].  $M$  is called *2-torsion free*  $\Leftrightarrow 2x = 0$  forces  $x = 0 \forall x \in M$ . Here  $M$  is called (i) *prime*  $\Leftrightarrow a\Gamma M\Gamma b = 0$  (with  $a, b \in M$ ) forces  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ ; and (ii) *commutative*  $\Leftrightarrow x\gamma y = y\gamma x \forall x, y \in M$  and  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ . If  $a, b \in M$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ , then  $[a, b]_\alpha = a\alpha b - b\alpha a$  is called the *commutator* (sometimes called the *Lie product*) of  $a, b$  with respect to  $\alpha$ . As a result,  $M$  is commutative  $\Leftrightarrow [a, b]_\alpha = 0 \forall a, b \in M$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . If  $a, b \in M$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ , then  $(a \circ b)_\alpha = a\alpha b + b\alpha a$  is called the *Jordan product* of  $a, b$  with respect to  $\alpha$ .

Consider  $J$  as an additive subgroup of  $M$ .  $J$  is called (i) a *left* (or, *right*) *ideal*  $\Leftrightarrow M\Gamma J \subset J$  (or,  $J\Gamma M \subset J$ ); (ii) an *ideal*  $\Leftrightarrow m\gamma u \in J$  and  $u\gamma m \in J \forall m \in M, \gamma \in \Gamma$  and  $u \in J$ ; and (iii) a *Jordan ideal*  $\Leftrightarrow (u \circ m)_\gamma \in J$  (that is, iff  $u\gamma m + m\gamma u \in J$ )  $\forall u \in J, m \in M$  and  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ .  $x \in M$  is called a *nilpotent element*  $\Leftrightarrow \forall \gamma \in \Gamma \exists n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  (depends on  $\gamma$ ) such that  $(x\gamma)^n x = (x\gamma)(x\gamma) \dots (x\gamma)x = 0$ .  $J$  is called (i) a *nil ideal*  $\Leftrightarrow$  each element of  $J$  is nilpotent; and (ii) a *nilpotent ideal*  $\Leftrightarrow \exists n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  for which  $(J\Gamma)^n J = (J\Gamma)(J\Gamma) \dots (J\Gamma)J = 0$ . Every nilpotent ideal of a  $\Gamma$ -ring is *thus* a nil ideal.

For  $\Gamma$ -rings  $M$  and  $N$ , an additive map  $\varphi: M \rightarrow N$  is called (i) a *homomorphism*  $\Leftrightarrow \varphi(a\alpha b) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b) \forall a, b \in M$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ ; (ii) an *anti-homomorphism*  $\Leftrightarrow \varphi(a\alpha b) = \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a) \forall a, b \in M$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ ; and (iii) a *Jordan homomorphism*  $\Leftrightarrow$

$\varphi(a\alpha a) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(a) \forall a \in M$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . From the very definition, it follows that every homomorphism and anti-homomorphism of  $\Gamma$ -rings is a Jordan homomorphism of the same, but the converse is not always true.

We know that a bijective homomorphism of a  $\Gamma$ -ring onto another  $\Gamma$ -ring is called an isomorphism, and an isomorphism of a  $\Gamma$ -ring onto itself is called an automorphism. A bijective additive map  $\varphi: M \rightarrow M$  is thus called an *automorphism*, an *anti-automorphism* and a *Jordan automorphism*  $\Leftrightarrow \varphi(aab) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)$ ,  $\varphi(aab) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)$  and  $\varphi(a\alpha a) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(a) \forall a, b \in M$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ , respectively.

Oukhtite et al. [6] developed the concept of homomorphism and anti-homomorphism on  $\sigma$ -Lie ideals in the theory of classical rings. Afterwards, Dey and Paul [3] worked with the notions of homomorphism and anti-homomorphism on a non-zero ideal in the theory of gamma rings. Later on, Paul and Chakraborty [7] also worked on the development of the concepts of homomorphism and anti-homomorphism to derive some more important results in the theory of  $\Gamma$ -rings.

We are inspired to perform this attempt from the work of Ali et al. [1] in the theory of classical rings in order to generalize extensively some of their results in the context of gamma rings. If  $M$  is a 2-torsion free prime  $\Gamma$ -ring fulfilling a suitable condition,  $J$  is a non-zero Jordan ideal as well as a subring of  $M$  and  $\varphi: M \rightarrow M$  is a Jordan automorphism, then we prove that  $\varphi$  is an automorphism or  $\varphi$  is an anti-automorphism.

## 2. Main Results

We start this section with the following well-known identities on commutators.

- (i)  $[a, b]_\alpha + [b, a]_\alpha = 0$ ,
- (ii)  $[a + b, c]_\alpha = [a, c]_\alpha + [b, c]_\alpha$ ,
- (iii)  $[a, b + c]_\alpha = [a, b]_\alpha + [a, c]_\alpha$ ,
- (iv)  $[a, b]_{\alpha+\beta} = [a, b]_\alpha + [a, b]_\beta$ ,
- (v)  $[a\beta b, c]_\alpha = a\beta[b, c]_\alpha + [a, c]_\alpha\beta b + a\beta(cab) - a\alpha(c\beta b)$ , and
- (vi)  $[a, b\beta c]_\alpha = b\beta[a, c]_\alpha + [a, b]_\alpha\beta c + b\alpha(a\beta c) - b\beta(a\alpha c)$ .

We need to consider throughout this section hereafter that a  $\Gamma$ -ring  $M$  fulfills the condition

$$(*) \quad aab\beta c = a\beta b\alpha c \forall a, b, c \in M \text{ and } \alpha, \beta \in \Gamma.$$

If  $M$  fulfills the condition (\*), then the last two commutator identities become (respectively)

- (V)  $[a\beta b, c]_\alpha = a\beta[b, c]_\alpha + [a, c]_\alpha\beta b$ , and
- (VI)  $[a, b\beta c]_\alpha = b\beta[a, c]_\alpha + [a, b]_\alpha\beta c$ .

Unless otherwise stated,  $M$  will represent a prime  $\Gamma$ -ring and  $J$  will represent a non-zero Jordan ideal of  $M$  (throughout this section hereafter)

**Lemma 2.1** *Let  $M$  fulfill the condition (\*). Then  $2[M, M]_\Gamma\Gamma J \subseteq J$  and  $2J\Gamma[M, M]_\Gamma \subseteq J$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $a, b \in M$  and  $c \in J$ .

For any  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Gamma$ , we get  $(c \circ [a, b]_\alpha)_\beta - ((c \circ a)_\alpha \circ b)_\beta + ((c \circ b)_\alpha \circ a)_\beta \in J$ .

It gives  $c\beta(aab - b\alpha a) + (aab - b\alpha a)\beta c - ((c\alpha a + a\alpha c) \circ b)_\beta + ((cab + bac) \circ a)_\beta \in J$ .

This implies that  $c\beta aab - c\beta b\alpha a + aab\beta c - b\alpha a\beta c - c\alpha a\beta b - a\alpha c\beta b - b\beta c\alpha a - b\beta a\alpha c + cab\beta a + bac\beta a + a\beta cab + a\beta bac \in J$ .

Using (\*), we obtain  $2(aab - b\alpha a)\beta c \in J$ .

It gives that  $2[a, b]_\alpha\beta c \in J \forall a, b \in M, c \in J$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ .

That is,  $2[M, M]_\Gamma\Gamma J \subseteq J$ .

Similarly,  $\forall a, b \in M, c \in J$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ ,

$$2c\beta(aab - b\alpha a) = ((c \circ b)_\alpha \circ a)_\beta - (c \circ [a, b]_\alpha)_\beta - ((c \circ a)_\alpha \circ b)_\beta \in J.$$

This gives  $2J\Gamma[M, M]_\Gamma \subseteq J$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.2** *If  $a \in M$  and  $a\Gamma J = (0)$  [or  $J\Gamma a = (0)$ ], then  $a = 0$ .*

**Proof.** For any  $x \in M, c \in J$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ , we get  $(c \circ x)_\alpha \in J$ .

According to hypothesis,  $a\beta((c \circ x)_\alpha) = 0 \forall x \in M, c \in J$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ .

Now we get  $0 = a\beta(cax + xac) = a\beta cax + a\beta xac = a\beta xac$ , since  $a\beta c = 0$ .

That is,  $a\beta M\alpha J = 0$ .

Since  $J \neq 0$  and  $M$  is prime, the above equation yields that  $a = 0$ .

If  $J\Gamma a = (0)$ , in view of the similar arguments with necessary variations, we also obtain that  $a = 0$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.3** Let  $M$  be 2-torsion free fulfilling the condition (\*) such that  $a\alpha J\beta b = (0) \forall a, b \in M$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ . Then  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ .

**Proof.** From Lemma 2.1, we get  $2[M, M]_\Gamma \Gamma J \subseteq J$ .

Therefore,  $\forall u, v \in M, c \in J$  and  $\gamma, \delta \in \Gamma$ , we get  $2[u, v]_\gamma \delta c \in J$ .

By hypothesis, we get  $2a\alpha[u, v]_\gamma \delta c\beta b = 0$ .

The 2-torsion freeness of  $M$  then gives

$$(1) \quad a\alpha[u, v]_\gamma \delta c\beta b = 0.$$

Now substituting  $vva$  (with  $v \in \Gamma$ ) for  $v$  in (1), we obtain

$$0 = a\alpha[u, vva]_\gamma \delta c\beta b = a\alpha vv[u, a]_\gamma \delta c\beta b + a\alpha[u, v]_\gamma v\alpha \delta c\beta b.$$

Since  $a\alpha J\beta b = (0)$ , we get  $a\alpha[u, v]_\gamma v\alpha \delta c\beta b = 0$ .

Hence we obtain  $a\alpha vv[u, a]_\gamma \delta c\beta b = 0 \forall u, v \in M, c \in J$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, v \in \Gamma$ .

This implies that  $a\alpha Mv[u, a]_\gamma \delta c\beta b = 0$ .

By the primeness of  $M$ , we find that  $a = 0$  or  $[u, a]_\gamma \delta c\beta b = 0$ .

If  $[u, a]_\gamma \delta c\beta b = 0 \forall u \in M, c \in J$  and  $\beta, \gamma, \delta \in \Gamma$ , it gives  $u\gamma\alpha\delta c\beta b - \alpha\gamma u\delta c\beta b = 0$ .

Since  $a\delta c\beta b = 0$ , we get  $\alpha\gamma u\delta c\beta b = 0 \forall u \in M, c \in J$  and  $\beta, \gamma, \delta \in \Gamma$ .

This implies that  $\alpha\gamma M\delta c\beta b = 0$ .

Since  $M$  is prime, we get  $a = 0$  or  $c\beta b = 0$ .

If  $c\beta b = 0 \forall c \in J$  and  $\beta \in \Gamma$ , then by Lemma 2.2,  $b = 0$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.4** Let  $M$  be 2-torsion free fulfilling the condition (\*). If  $J$  is commutative, then  $J \subseteq Z(M)$ .

**Proof.** From Lemma 2.1, we get  $2[M, M]_\Gamma \Gamma J \subseteq J$ .

For any  $u, v \in M, c, d \in J$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Gamma$ , we thus get  $[2[u, v]_\alpha \beta c, d]_\gamma = 0$ .

Hence  $[2[u, v]_\alpha, d]_\gamma \beta c + 2[u, v]_\alpha \beta [c, d]_\gamma = 0$ .

Since  $J$  is a commutative Jordan ideal,  $2[u, v]_\alpha \beta [c, d]_\gamma = 0$ .

Using this fact in the above equation, we obtain  $2[[u, v]_\alpha, d]_\gamma \beta c = 0$ .

The 2-torsion freeness of  $M$  then gives  $[[u, v]_\alpha, d]_\gamma \beta c = 0 \forall u, v \in M, c, d \in J$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Gamma$ .

By Lemma 2.2,  $[[u, v]_\alpha, d]_\gamma = 0 \forall u, v \in M, d \in J$  and  $\alpha, \gamma \in \Gamma$ .

Now putting  $u\beta v$  (with  $\beta \in \Gamma$ ) for  $v$  in (1), we get  $[[u, u\beta v]_\alpha, d]_\gamma = 0$ .

This implies that  $[u\beta[u, v]_\alpha, d]_\gamma + [[u, u]_\alpha \beta v, d]_\gamma = 0$ .

It becomes  $0 = [u\beta[u, v]_\alpha, d]_\gamma = u\beta[[u, v]_\alpha, d]_\gamma + [u, d]_\gamma \beta [u, v]_\alpha = [u, d]_\gamma \beta [u, v]_\alpha$

$$\forall u, v \in M, d \in J \text{ and } \alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Gamma.$$

Further replacing  $v$  by  $v\delta d$  (with  $\delta \in \Gamma$ ), the last equation becomes

$$0 = [u, d]_\gamma \beta [u, v\delta d]_\alpha = [u, d]_\gamma \beta v\delta [u, d]_\alpha + [u, d]_\gamma \beta [u, v]_\alpha \delta d = [u, d]_\gamma \beta v\delta [u, d]_\alpha.$$

This implies that  $[u, d]_\gamma \beta M\delta [u, d]_\alpha = 0 \forall u \in M, d \in J$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta \in \Gamma$ .

The primeness of  $M$  then gives  $[u, d]_\gamma = 0$  or  $[u, d]_\alpha = 0$ .

In both cases,  $d \in Z(M) \forall d \in J$ . Hence  $J \subseteq Z(M)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5** Let  $M$  be 2-torsion free fulfilling the condition (\*) and let  $J$  be a subring of  $M$  as well. If  $\varphi: M \rightarrow M$  is an additive map with  $\varphi(\alpha\alpha a) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(a) \forall a \in J$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ , then  $\forall a, b, c \in J$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ ,

(i)  $\varphi(a\alpha b + b\alpha a) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b) + \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a)$ ;

(ii)  $\varphi(a\alpha b\beta a) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(a)$ ;

(iii)  $\varphi(a\alpha b\beta c + c\alpha b\beta a) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(c) + \varphi(c)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(a)$ .

**Proof.** (i) For any  $a, b \in J$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ , we get  $a\alpha b + b\alpha a \in J$ , as  $J$  is a Jordan ideal and a subring of  $M$ .

By assumption, we get  $\varphi(a\alpha a) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(a) \forall a \in J$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ .

Substitute  $a$  by  $a + b$  to obtain  $\varphi((a + b)\alpha(a + b)) = \varphi(a + b)\alpha\varphi(a + b)$ .

It gives  $\varphi(a\alpha a + a\alpha b + b\alpha a + b\alpha b) = (\varphi(a) + \varphi(b))\alpha(\varphi(a) + \varphi(b))$ .

This yields

$$\varphi(a\alpha a) + \varphi(a\alpha b + b\alpha a) + \varphi(b\alpha b) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(a) + \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b) + \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a) + \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(b).$$

It then gives

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(a) + \varphi(a\alpha b + b\alpha a) + \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(b) \\ &= \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(a) + \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b) + \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a) + \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(b). \end{aligned}$$

Thus we get

$$(1) \quad \varphi(a\alpha b + b\alpha a) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b) + \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a),$$

which proves the claim.

(ii) Substituting  $b$  by  $a\beta b + b\beta a$  (where  $\beta \in \Gamma$ ) in (1) and using (\*), we get

$$\begin{aligned} (2) \quad & \varphi(a\alpha(a\beta b + b\beta a) + (a\beta b + b\beta a)\alpha a) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(a\beta b + b\beta a) + \varphi(a\beta b + b\beta a)\alpha\varphi(a) \\ &= \varphi(a)\alpha(\varphi(a)\beta\varphi(b) + \varphi(b)\beta\varphi(a)) + (\varphi(a)\beta\varphi(b) + \varphi(b)\beta\varphi(a))\alpha\varphi(a) \\ &= \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(a)\beta\varphi(b) + \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(a) + \varphi(a)\beta\varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a) + \varphi(b)\beta\varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(a). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} (3) \quad & \varphi(a\alpha(a\beta b + b\beta a) + (a\beta b + b\beta a)\alpha a) = \varphi(a\alpha a\beta b + a\alpha b\beta a + a\beta b\alpha a + b\beta a\alpha a) \\ &= \varphi(a\alpha a\beta b + b\beta a\alpha a) + \varphi(a\alpha b\beta a) + \varphi(a\beta b\alpha a) \\ &= \varphi(a\alpha a)\beta\varphi(b) + \varphi(b)\beta\varphi(a\alpha a) + 2\varphi(a\alpha b\beta a) \\ &= \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(a)\beta\varphi(b) + \varphi(b)\beta\varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(a) + 2\varphi(a\alpha b\beta a). \end{aligned}$$

Comparing (2) and (3), and using (\*), we obtain  $\varphi(a\alpha b\beta a) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(a)$ .

(iii) Putting  $a + c$  for  $a$  (where  $c \in J$ ) in (ii), we get

$$\begin{aligned} (4) \quad & \varphi((a + c)\alpha b\beta(a + c)) = \varphi(a + c)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(a + c) \\ &= (\varphi(a) + \varphi(c))\alpha\varphi(b)\beta(\varphi(a) + \varphi(c)) \\ &= \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(a) + \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(c) + \varphi(c)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(a) + \varphi(c)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(c). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand,

$$\begin{aligned} (5) \quad & \varphi((a + c)\alpha b\beta(a + c)) = \varphi(a\alpha b\beta a + a\alpha b\beta c + c\alpha b\beta a + c\alpha b\beta c) \\ &= \varphi(a\alpha b\beta c + c\alpha b\beta a) + \varphi(a\alpha b\beta a) + \varphi(c\alpha b\beta c) \\ &= \varphi(a\alpha b\beta c + c\alpha b\beta a) + \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(a) + \varphi(c)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(c). \end{aligned}$$

Comparing (4) and (5), we obtain  $\varphi(a\alpha b\beta c + c\alpha b\beta a) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(c) + \varphi(c)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(a)$ .  $\square$

**Definition 2.1** For convenience we now define  $\Phi_\alpha(a, b) = \varphi(a\alpha b) - \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)$ .

**Lemma 2.6** For any  $a, b, c \in J$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ , the following are true.

- (i)  $\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Phi_\alpha(b, a) = 0$ ;
- (ii)  $\Phi_\alpha(a + b, c) = \Phi_\alpha(a, c) + \Phi_\alpha(b, c)$ ;
- (iii)  $\Phi_\alpha(a, b + c) = \Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Phi_\alpha(a, c)$ ;
- (iv)  $\Phi_{\alpha+\beta}(a, b) = \Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Phi_\beta(a, b)$ .

**Proof.** Obvious.  $\square$

**Definition 2.2** For convenience we next define  $\Psi_\alpha(a, b) = \varphi(a\alpha b) - \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a)$ .

**Lemma 2.7** For any  $a, b, c \in J$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ , the following results hold.

- (i)  $\Psi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(b, a) = 0$ ;
- (ii)  $\Psi_\alpha(a + b, c) = \Psi_\alpha(a, c) + \Psi_\alpha(b, c)$ ;
- (iii)  $\Psi_\alpha(a, b + c) = \Psi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, c)$ ;
- (iv)  $\Psi_{\alpha+\beta}(a, b) = \Psi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\beta(a, b)$ .

**Proof.** Clear.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.8** For any  $a, b \in J$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ , the following results are true.

- (i)  $\Phi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\Psi_\alpha(a, b) = 0$ ;
- (ii)  $\Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\Phi_\alpha(a, b) = 0$ ;
- (iii)  $[\varphi(a), \varphi(b)]_\alpha = \Psi_\alpha(a, b) - \Phi_\alpha(a, b)$ ;
- (iv)  $\varphi([a, b]_\alpha) = \Psi_\alpha(a, b) + \Phi_\alpha(a, b)$ .

**Proof.** (i)  $\Phi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\Psi_\alpha(a, b) = (\varphi(a\alpha b) - \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b))\beta(\varphi(a\alpha b) - \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a))$   
 $= \varphi(a\alpha b)\beta\varphi(a\alpha b) - \varphi(a\alpha b)\beta\varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a) - \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(a\alpha b) + \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)\beta\varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a)$   
 $= \varphi(a\alpha b\beta a\alpha b) - \varphi(a\alpha b\beta b\alpha a) - \varphi(a\alpha b\beta a\alpha b) + \varphi(a\alpha b\beta b\alpha a) = 0.$

(ii) Similar as (i).

(iii)  $\Psi_\alpha(a, b) - \Phi_\alpha(a, b) = \varphi(a\alpha b) - \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a) - \varphi(a\alpha b) + \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)$   
 $= \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b) - \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a) = [\varphi(a), \varphi(b)]_\alpha.$

(iv)  $\Psi_\alpha(a, b) + \Phi_\alpha(a, b) = \varphi(a\alpha b) - \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a) + \varphi(a\alpha b) - \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)$   
 $= \varphi(a\alpha b) - \varphi(b\alpha a) + \varphi(a\alpha b) - \varphi(a\alpha b)$   
 $= \varphi(a\alpha b - b\alpha a + a\alpha b - a\alpha b) = \varphi(a\alpha b - b\alpha a) = \varphi([a, b]_\alpha). \square$

**Lemma 2.9** For any  $a, b, m \in J$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ , the following results happen.

(i)  $\varphi([a, b]_\alpha\beta m) = \varphi(m)\beta\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m);$

(ii)  $\varphi(m\beta[a, b]_\alpha) = \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m) + \varphi(m)\beta\Psi_\alpha(a, b).$

**Proof.** (i) We get  $\varphi(m)\beta\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)$   
 $= \varphi(m)\beta(\varphi(a\alpha b) - \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)) + (\varphi(a\alpha b) - \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a))\beta\varphi(m)$   
 $= \varphi(m)\beta\varphi(a\alpha b) - \varphi(m)\beta\varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b) + \varphi(a\alpha b)\beta\varphi(m) - \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a)\beta\varphi(m)$   
 $= \varphi(m\beta(a\alpha b)) - \varphi(m\beta a\alpha b) + \varphi((a\alpha b)\beta m) - \varphi(b\alpha a\beta m)$   
 $= \varphi(m\beta a\alpha b - m\beta a\alpha b + a\alpha b\beta m - b\alpha a\beta m)$   
 $= \varphi(a\alpha b\beta m - b\alpha a\beta m) = \varphi([a, b]_\alpha\beta m).$

(ii) Similar as (i).  $\square$

**Lemma 2.10** If  $\varphi: M \rightarrow M$  is a Jordan homomorphism on a  $\Gamma$ -ring  $M$  fulfilling the condition (\*), then  $\forall a, b, m \in J$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Gamma$ ,  $\Phi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Phi_\alpha(a, b) = 0.$

**Proof.** Lemma 2.9(i) yields us that

$$(1) \quad \varphi(m)\beta\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m) = \varphi([a, b]_\alpha\beta m).$$

Multiplying both sides of (1) by  $\Phi_\alpha(a, b)$  from the left, we obtain

$$\Phi_\alpha(a, b)\gamma\varphi(m)\beta\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m) = \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\gamma\varphi([a, b]_\alpha\beta m).$$

Hence, by using Lemma 2.8(i), we get

$$(2) \quad \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\gamma\varphi(m)\beta\Phi_\alpha(a, b) = \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\gamma\varphi([a, b]_\alpha\beta m).$$

Again multiplying both sides of (1) by  $\Psi_\alpha(a, b)$  to the right, we get

$$\varphi(m)\beta\Phi_\alpha(a, b)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b) = \varphi([a, b]_\alpha\beta m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b).$$

Using Lemma 2.8(i) again, we then get

$$(3) \quad \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b) = \varphi([a, b]_\alpha\beta m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b).$$

Also, from Lemma 2.9(ii), we get

$$(4) \quad \varphi(m\gamma[a, b]_\alpha) = \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\gamma\varphi(m) + \varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b).$$

Replacing  $m$  by  $[a, b]_\alpha\beta m$  in (4), we get

$$(5) \quad \varphi([a, b]_\alpha\beta m\gamma[a, b]_\alpha) = \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\gamma\varphi([a, b]_\alpha\beta m) + \varphi([a, b]_\alpha\beta m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b).$$

By adding (2) and (3), we obtain

$$(6) \quad \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\gamma\varphi(m)\beta\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b)$$

$$= \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\gamma\varphi([a, b]_\alpha\beta m) + \varphi([a, b]_\alpha\beta m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b).$$

Combing (5) and (6), we get

$$(7) \quad \varphi([a, b]_\alpha\beta m\gamma[a, b]_\alpha) = \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\gamma\varphi(m)\beta\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b).$$

On the other hand, applying Lemma 2.5(ii) and 2.8(iv), we get

$$\varphi([a, b]_\alpha\beta m\gamma[a, b]_\alpha) = \varphi([a, b]_\alpha)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\varphi([a, b]_\alpha)$$

$$= (\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b))\beta\varphi(m)\gamma(\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b))$$

$$= \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b)$$

$$+ \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b).$$

By (7), we thus get

$$\Phi_\alpha(a, b)\gamma\varphi(m)\beta\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b)$$

$$= \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b)$$

$$+ \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b).$$

Using (\*), we then obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b) \\ &= \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b) \\ & \quad + \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Phi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by cancelling the similar terms from both sides, we get

$$\Phi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Phi_\alpha(a, b) = 0. \square$$

**Lemma 2.11** ([4, Lemma 3.10]) *If  $M$  is 2-torsion free and  $a, b \in M$  such that  $a\alpha m\beta b + b\alpha m\beta a = 0 \forall m \in M$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ , then  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ .*

**Proof.** For any  $m \in M$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \Gamma$ , we get

$$(1) \quad a\alpha m\beta b + b\alpha m\beta a = 0.$$

Replace  $m$  by  $n\gamma a\delta t$  with  $n, t \in M$  and  $\gamma, \delta \in \Gamma$ , and we get

$$(2) \quad a\alpha n\gamma a\delta t\beta b + b\alpha n\gamma a\delta t\beta a = 0.$$

But, by (1), we get  $a\delta t\beta b = -b\delta t\beta a$  and  $b\alpha n\gamma a = -a\alpha n\gamma b$ .

Substituting these in (2), we get  $-a\alpha n\gamma b\delta t\beta a - a\alpha n\gamma b\delta t\beta a = 0$ .

This implies us that  $2a\alpha n\gamma b\delta t\beta a = 0$ .

By the 2-torsion freeness of  $M$ , it then gives  $a\alpha n\gamma b\delta t\beta a = 0$ .

Thus we get  $a\alpha M\gamma(b\delta t\beta a) = 0$ .

Since  $M$  is prime, we get  $a = 0$  or  $b\delta t\beta a = 0$ .

If  $b\delta t\beta a = 0$ , then we get  $b\delta M\beta a = 0$ .

Again, by the primeness of  $M$ , we obtain  $b = 0$  or  $a = 0$ .  $\square$

We are now ready to establish our main results as follows.

**Theorem 2.1** *Let  $M$  fulfils the condition (\*) and let  $J$  be a subring of  $M$  as well. If  $\varphi: M \rightarrow M$  is an automorphism fulfilling  $\varphi(a\alpha a) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(a) \forall a \in J$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ , then  $\varphi(a\alpha b) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)$  or  $\varphi(a\alpha b) = \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a) \forall a, b \in J$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ .*

**Proof.** First we assume that  $J$  is commutative. By Lemma 2.4, we then get  $J \subseteq Z(M)$ .

Applying this fact to Lemma 2.5(i),  $\forall a, b \in J$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ , we obtain

$$(1) \quad 2\varphi(a\alpha b) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b) + \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a).$$

Again since  $J$  is a commutative Jordan ideal and a subring of  $M$ , we find that

$$(2) \quad [a, b]_\alpha = 0 \forall a, b \in J \text{ and } \alpha \in \Gamma.$$

Hence  $\varphi([a, b]_\alpha) = \varphi(0) = 0$ .

This implies that  $[\varphi(a), \varphi(b)]_\alpha = 0 \forall a, b \in J$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ .

We thus get  $\varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b) = \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a)$ .

Substituting this result in (1), we get  $2\varphi(a\alpha b) = 2\varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)$ .

The 2-torsion freeness of  $M$  then gives  $\varphi(a\alpha b) = \varphi(a)\alpha\varphi(b)$ .

Likewise, we also get  $2\varphi(a\alpha b) = 2\varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a)$ , and hence  $\varphi(a\alpha b) = \varphi(b)\alpha\varphi(a)$ .

Now onward we shall assume that  $J \not\subseteq Z(M)$ .

Since we know from [7, Corollary 3.1] that  $M$  has no non-zero nilpotent ideal, so  $J$  has a non-zero ideal (by [8, Theorem 3.4]).

Therefore, by Lemma 2.3,  $J$  is a prime  $\Gamma$ -ring.

Now  $\varphi|_J: J \rightarrow M$  is a Jordan homomorphism, and so, by Lemma 2.10, we get

$$(3) \quad \begin{aligned} & \Phi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Psi_\alpha(a, b) + \Psi_\alpha(a, b)\beta\varphi(m)\gamma\Phi_\alpha(a, b) = 0 \\ & \forall a, b, m \in J \text{ and } \alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Gamma. \end{aligned}$$

For any  $a, b, c \in \varphi(J)$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Gamma$ , it is clear that

$$\varphi^{-1}(a\alpha b\beta c + c\alpha b\beta a) = \varphi^{-1}(a)\alpha\varphi^{-1}(b)\beta\varphi^{-1}(c) + \varphi^{-1}(c)\alpha\varphi^{-1}(b)\beta\varphi^{-1}(a).$$

Now (3) can be treated by means of  $\varphi^{-1}$ , it is then found that

$$\begin{aligned} & \varphi^{-1}(\Phi_\alpha(a, b))\beta\varphi^{-1}(\varphi(m))\gamma\varphi^{-1}(\Psi_\alpha(a, b)) + \varphi^{-1}(\Psi_\alpha(a, b))\beta\varphi^{-1}(\varphi(m))\gamma\varphi^{-1}(\Phi_\alpha(a, b)) = 0 \\ & \forall a, b, m \in J \text{ and } \alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Gamma. \end{aligned}$$

It gives us  $\varphi^{-1}(\Phi_\alpha(a, b))\beta m \gamma \varphi^{-1}(\Psi_\alpha(a, b)) + \varphi^{-1}(\Psi_\alpha(a, b))\beta m \gamma \varphi^{-1}(\Phi_\alpha(a, b)) = 0 \forall a, b, m \in J$  and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \Gamma$ .

In view of Lemma 2.11, we obtain  $\varphi^{-1}(\Phi_\alpha(a, b)) = 0$  or  $\varphi^{-1}(\Psi_\alpha(a, b)) = 0$ .

If  $\varphi^{-1}(\Phi_\alpha(a, b)) = 0 \forall a, b \in J$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ , then  $\Phi_\alpha(a, b) = 0 \forall a, b \in J$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ .

On the other hand, if  $\varphi^{-1}(\Psi_\alpha(a, b)) = 0 \forall a, b \in J$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ , then we find that  $\Psi_\alpha(a, b) = 0 \forall a, b \in J$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . We thus get  $\Phi_\alpha(a, b) = 0$  or  $\Psi_\alpha(a, b) = 0 \forall a, b \in J$  and  $\alpha \in \Gamma$ . That is,  $\varphi$  is an automorphism or  $\varphi$  is an anti-automorphism.  $\square$

### Conflict of Interests

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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