

SOME NOTES ON GENERALIZED LIE IDEALS

Neşet Aydın<sup>1</sup>, Öznur Gölbaşı<sup>2</sup> §

<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics  
Faculty of Arts and Science  
Çanakkale 18 Mart University  
Çanakkale, 17020, TURKEY  
e-mail: neseta@comu.edu.tr

<sup>2</sup>Department of Mathematics  
Cumhuriyet University  
Sivas, 58140, TURKEY  
e-mail: ogolbasi@cumhuriyet.edu.tr

**Abstract:** In [3], I.N. Herstein has proved if  $R$  is a prime ring and  $T$  is a Lie ideal of  $R$  such that  $[T, T] \subset Z$  then  $T \subset Z$ . In the first part of this note the above theorem is generalized for  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -left Lie ideal  $U$  of prime ring. In the second part, some results given for one sided  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -left Lie ideals of prime rings.

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1. Introduction

Let  $R$  be a ring and  $\sigma, \tau$  be two mappings from  $R$  into itself. For any two elements  $x, y \in R$ , we denote  $[x, y] = xy - yx$  and  $[x, y]_{\sigma, \tau} = x\sigma(y) - \tau(y)x$ . An additive mapping  $d : R \rightarrow R$  is called a derivation if  $d(xy) = d(x)y + xd(y)$  holds for pairs  $x, y \in R$ . We use the identities  $[x, yz] = [x, y]z + x[y, z]$ . A derivation  $d$  is inner if there exists an  $a \in R$  such that  $D(x) = [a, x]$  holds for all  $x \in R$ . Recall that a ring is prime if  $aRb = \{0\}$  implies that  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ . For subsets  $A, B \subset R$ , let  $[A, B]$  ( $[A, B]_{\sigma, \tau}$ ) be the additive subgroup generated by all  $[a, b]$  ( $[a, b]_{\sigma, \tau}$ ) for all  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ . We recall that a Lie ideal,  $L$  is an additive

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§Correspondence author

subgroup of  $R$  such that  $[R, L] \subset L$ . We first introduce the generalized Lie ideal in [5] as following. Let  $U$  be an additive subgroup of  $R$ ,  $\sigma, \tau : R \rightarrow R$  two mappings. Then: (i)  $U$  is a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -right Lie ideal of  $R$  if  $[U, R]_{\sigma, \tau} \subset U$ ; (ii)  $U$  is a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -left Lie ideal of  $R$  if  $[R, U]_{\sigma, \tau} \subset U$ ; (iii)  $U$  is both a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -right Lie ideal and  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -left Lie ideal of  $R$  then  $U$  is a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -Lie ideal of  $R$ . Every Lie ideal of  $R$  is a  $(1, 1)$ -left Lie ideal of  $R$ , where  $1 : R \rightarrow R$  is the identity map. As an example, let  $I$  be the set of integers,

$$R = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ z & t \end{pmatrix} \mid x, y, z, t \in I \right\}, \quad U = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & x \end{pmatrix} \mid x, y \in I \right\} \subset R,$$

and  $\sigma, \tau : R \rightarrow R$  the mappings defined by  $\tau(x) = axa$ ,  $\sigma(x) = bxb^{-1}$ , where

$$a = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in R.$$

Then  $U$  is a  $(\sigma, \tau)$  left Lie ideal but not a Lie ideal of  $R$ .

In [3], I. N. Herstein has proved if  $R$  is prime ring and  $T$  is a Lie ideal of  $R$  such that  $[T, T] \subset Z$  then  $T \subset Z$ . This result is generalized for  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -right Lie ideals [5]. In the first part of this paper we shall generalize the above theorem for  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -left Lie ideal  $U$  of prime ring. In the second part, some results will be given for one-sided  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -Lie ideals of prime rings.

Throughout the present paper  $R$  will be a prime ring of with characteristic not two and  $\sigma, \tau \in \text{Aut}R$ . We set  $C_{\sigma, \tau} = \{c \in R \mid c\sigma(x) = \tau(x)c, \text{ for all } x \in R\}$  and call  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -center of  $R$ . Furthermore we shall use the following identities:

$$[xy, z]_{\sigma, \tau} = x[y, z]_{\sigma, \tau} + [x, \tau(z)]y, \quad (1)$$

$$[xy, z]_{\sigma, \tau} = x[y, \sigma(z)] + [x, z]_{\sigma, \tau}y, \quad (2)$$

$$[x, yz]_{\sigma, \tau} = \tau(y)[x, z]_{\sigma, \tau} + [x, y]_{\sigma, \tau}\sigma(z). \quad (3)$$

## 2. Results

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic not two,  $(0) \neq U$ ,  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -left Lie ideal of  $R$  and  $a \in R$ . If  $[U, a]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0$  then  $a = 0$  or  $\sigma(u) + \tau(u) \in Z$ , for all  $u \in U$ .*

*Proof.* For any  $x \in R, u \in U$ , using the identity [1], we have  $[\tau(u)x, u]_{\sigma, \tau} = \tau(u)[x, u]_{\sigma, \tau} \in U$ . Hence

$$0 = [\tau(u)[x, u]_{\sigma, \tau}, a]_{\sigma, \tau} = \tau(u)[[x, u]_{\sigma, \tau}, a]_{\sigma, \tau} + [\tau(u), \tau(a)][x, u]_{\sigma, \tau}$$

and so

$$\tau([u, a])[x, u]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0, \quad \forall x \in R, u \in U. \quad (4)$$

Replacing  $x$  by  $xy, y \in R$  in [4] and using the identity [1] and the equation [4], we have

$$0 = \tau([u, a])[xy, u]_{\sigma, \tau} = \tau([u, a])x[y, \sigma(u)] + \tau([u, a])[x, u]_{\sigma, \tau}y$$

yields that

$$\tau([u, a])x[y, \sigma(u)] = 0, \quad \forall x \in R, u \in U. \quad (5)$$

Since  $R$  is prime ring, [5] implies that for all  $u \in U$ ,

$$[u, a] = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad u \in Z.$$

We set  $K = \{u \in U \mid u \in Z\}$  and  $L = \{u \in U \mid [u, a] = 0\}$ . Clearly each of  $L$  and  $K$  is additive subgroup of  $U$ . Moreover,  $U$  is the set-theoretic union of  $L$  and  $K$ . But a group cannot be the set-theoretic union of two proper subgroups, hence  $K = U$  or  $L = U$ . In the first case  $U \subset Z$  which forces  $\sigma(u) + \tau(u) \in Z$ , for all  $u \in U$ . In the latter case,  $[U, a] = 0$ . By [1, Lemma 6] we get  $a \in Z$  or  $\sigma(u) + \tau(u) \in Z$ , for all  $u \in U$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 1.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic not two,  $(0) \neq U$ ,  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -left Lie ideal of  $R$ . If  $[U, U]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0$  then  $\sigma(u) + \tau(u) \in Z$ , for all  $u \in U$ .*

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic not two,  $a \in R$  and  $d$  the additive mapping on  $R$  defined by  $d(x) = [x, a]_{\sigma, \tau}$ . If  $d^2(R) = 0$  then  $a \in Z$ .*

*Proof.* For any  $x, y \in R$ , using the identity (2), we have

$$d(xy) = [xy, a]_{\sigma, \tau} = x[y, \sigma(a)] + [x, a]_{\sigma, \tau}y.$$

That is

$$d(xy) = x[y, \sigma(a)] + d(x)y, \quad \forall x, y \in R. \quad (6)$$

By the hypothesis,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= d^2(xy) = d(d(xy)) = d(d(x)y + x[y, \sigma(a)]) \\ &= d^2(x)y + 2d(x)[y, \sigma(a)] + x[[y, \sigma(a)], \sigma(a)]. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$2d(x)[y, \sigma(a)] + x[[y, \sigma(a)], \sigma(a)] = 0, \quad \forall x, y \in R. \quad (7)$$

Taking  $d(x)$  instead of  $x$  in [7] and using the hypothesis, we obtain

$$d(x)[[y, \sigma(a)], \sigma(a)] = 0, \quad \forall x, y \in R.$$

It follows from [7, Lemma 1(i)] that

$$a \in Z \quad \text{or} \quad [[y, \sigma(a)], \sigma(a)] = 0, \forall y \in R.$$

Assume that  $[[y, \sigma(a)], \sigma(a)] = 0$ , for all  $y \in R$ . Let us consider the following map on  $R$ .  $I_{\sigma(a)} = [x, \sigma(a)]$  is an inner derivation determined by  $\sigma(a)$ . It is easy to see that  $I_{\sigma(a)}^2(R) = 0$ . By [8, Theorem 1] we have  $I_{\sigma(a)} = 0$ , and so  $a \in Z$ .  $\square$

The following result is generalization of Lemma 3 in [3] mentioned in the introduction.

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic not two,  $(0) \neq U$ ,  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -left Lie ideal of  $R$ . If  $[U, U]_{\sigma, \tau} \subset C_{\sigma, \tau}$  then  $U \subset Z$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $U$  is  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -left Lie ideal, for any  $x \in R, u \in U, \tau(u)[x, u]_{\sigma, \tau} \in U$ . Using the identity (1), we have

$$[\tau(u)[x, u]_{\sigma, \tau}, u]_{\sigma, \tau} = \tau(u)[[x, u]_{\sigma, \tau}, u]_{\sigma, \tau} \in C_{\sigma, \tau}. \quad (8)$$

Since  $[[x, u]_{\sigma, \tau}, u]_{\sigma, \tau} \in C_{\sigma, \tau}$  by [6, Lemma 6], the equation (8) implies that

$$[[x, u]_{\sigma, \tau}, u]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad u \in Z, \forall x \in R, u \in U. \quad (9)$$

If  $[[x, u]_{\sigma, \tau}, u]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0$ , for all  $x \in R$ , we define the mapping on  $R$  by  $d(x) = [x, u]_{\sigma, \tau}$ . It follows that  $d^2(R) = 0$ . Applying Lemma 1, we have  $u \in Z$ . Therefore [9] implies that  $U \subset Z$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic not two,  $(0) \neq U$ ,  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -left Lie ideal of  $R, a, b \in R$  and  $f : R \rightarrow R$  a map defined by  $f(x) = xa - bx$ . If  $f(U) = 0$  then  $\sigma(u) + \tau(u) \in Z$ , for all  $u \in U$  or  $f = 0$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $a$  or  $b$  in  $Z$ . Since  $f(U) = 0$  and  $U \neq (0)$ , we have  $U(a - b) = 0$  and so by [7, Lemma 1(iii)], we get  $a = b$  or  $U \subset Z$ . If  $a = b$  then  $f$  becomes the inner derivation determined by  $a$ . Hence, since  $f(U) = 0$ , by [1, Lemma 6] we have  $f = 0$  or  $\sigma(u) + \tau(u) \in Z$ , for all  $u \in U$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

Now assume that neither  $a$  nor  $b$  in  $Z$ . From the definition of  $U$ , using the identity (1), we get for any  $x \in R, u \in U, \tau(u)[x, u]_{\sigma, \tau} \in U$ . Applying the hypothesis

$$0 = \tau(u)[x, u]_{\sigma, \tau}a - b\tau(u)[x, u]_{\sigma, \tau}$$

and so

$$[\tau(u), b][x, u]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0, \quad \forall x \in R, u \in U. \quad (10)$$

Replacing  $x$  by  $xy, y \in R$  in (10) and using the identity (2), the equation (10), one obtains

$$[\tau(u), b]x[y, \sigma(u)] = 0, \quad \forall x, y \in R, u \in U.$$

Since  $R$  is prime ring, it follows either  $u \in Z$  or  $[\tau(u), b] = 0$ , for all  $u \in U$ . By a standart argument one of these must hold for all  $u \in U$ . If  $u \in Z$  then  $[\tau(u), b] = 0$ , for all  $u \in U$ . Therefore we have

$$[U, \tau^{-1}(b)] = 0.$$

Applying [1, Lemma 6] and nothing that  $b \notin Z$ , one obtains  $\sigma(u) + \tau(u) \in Z$ , for all  $u \in U$ .

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic not two,  $(0) \neq U$ ,  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -right Lie ideal of  $R$ ,  $a, b \in R$  and  $f : R \rightarrow R$ ,  $f(x) = xa - bx$ . If  $f(U) = 0$  then  $U \subset C_{\sigma, \tau}$  or  $f = 0$ .*

*Proof.* If  $a$  or  $b$  in  $Z$ , then from the hypothesis  $U(a - b) = 0$ . Since  $U \neq (0)$ , it follows from [2, Lemma 3(ii)] that  $U \subset C_{\sigma, \tau}$  or  $a = b$ . If  $a = b$  then  $f$  becomes the inner derivation determined by  $a$  (or  $b$ ). By [2, Theorem 4] we have  $f = 0$  or  $U \subset C_{\sigma, \tau}$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

Now assume that neither  $a$  nor  $b$  in  $Z$ . Since  $U$  is  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -right Lie ideal, for any  $y, z \in R$ ,  $u \in U$ ,  $[u, yz]_{\sigma, \tau} \in U$ . Using the identity (3) and the hypothesis, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= [u, yz]_{\sigma, \tau} a - b[u, yz]_{\sigma, \tau} \\ &= \tau(y)[u, z]_{\sigma, \tau} a + [u, y]_{\sigma, \tau} \sigma(z) a - b\tau(y)[u, z]_{\sigma, \tau} - b[u, y]_{\sigma, \tau} \sigma(z), \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$[\tau(y), b][u, z]_{\sigma, \tau} + [u, y]_{\sigma, \tau}[\sigma(z), a] = 0, \quad \forall x, y, z \in R, u \in U.$$

Substituting  $z$  by  $\sigma^{-1}(a)$  in this equation, we get

$$[\tau(y), b][u, \sigma^{-1}(a)]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0, \quad \forall y \in R, u \in U. \quad (11)$$

Replacing  $y$  by  $yx$ ,  $x \in R$  in (11) and using this, we get

$$[\tau(x), b]\tau(y)[u, \sigma^{-1}(a)]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0, \quad \forall x, y \in R, u \in U. \quad (12)$$

Since  $R$  is prime ring and  $b \notin Z$ , (12) implies that

$$[U, \sigma^{-1}(a)]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0.$$

By [2, Lemma 2], we get  $U \subset C_{\sigma, \tau}$ .

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic not two,  $(0) \neq U$ ,  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -right Lie ideal of  $R$  and  $a \in R$ . If  $[U, a]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0$  then  $a \in Z$  or  $U \subset C_{\sigma, \tau}$ .*

*Proof.* Let us consider the following map on  $R$ ,  $f(x) = [x, a]_{\sigma, \tau} = x\sigma(a) - \tau(a)x$ . It is easy to see, by hypothesis,  $f(U) = 0$ . By Theorem 4, we get  $f = 0$  or  $U \subset C_{\sigma, \tau}$ . If  $f = 0$  then use the identity (1), we have

$$0 = f(xy) = [xy, a]_{\sigma, \tau} = x[y, a]_{\sigma, \tau} + [x, \tau(a)]y$$

and so

$$[x, \tau(a)]y = 0, \quad \forall x, y \in R.$$

Since  $R$  is prime ring, we obtain that  $a \in Z$ . □

**Corollary 2.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic not two,  $(0) \neq U$ ,  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -right Lie ideal of  $R$  and  $a \in R$ . If  $[U, U]_{\sigma, \tau} = 0$  then  $U \subset Z$  or  $U \subset C_{\sigma, \tau}$ .*

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $R$  be a prime ring of characteristic not two and  $f, g$  be nonzero derivations of  $R$  such that  $uf(x) = g(x)u$ , for all  $x \in R, u \in U$ .*

(i) *If  $U$  is  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -left Lie ideal of  $R$  then  $\sigma(u) + \tau(u) \in Z$ , for all  $u \in U$ .*

(ii) *If  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -right Lie ideal of  $R$  then  $U \subset Z$  or  $U \subset C_{\sigma, \tau}$ .*

*Proof.* Taking  $xy$  instead of  $x$  in the hypothesis, one obtains

$$0 = uf(xy) - g(xy)u = uf(x)y + uxf(y) - g(x)yu - xg(y)u$$

and so

$$g(x)[u, y] + [u, x]f(y) = 0, \quad \forall x, y \in R, u \in U. \quad (13)$$

Replacing  $y$  by  $yu, u \in U$  in (13) and using (13), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= g(x)[u, y]u + [u, x]f(y)u + [u, x]yf(u) \\ &= (g(x)[u, y] + [u, x]f(y))u + [u, x]yf(u), \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$[u, x]Rf(u) = 0, \quad \forall x \in R, u \in U. \quad (14)$$

Since  $R$  is prime ring, (14) implies that

$$u \in Z \quad \text{or} \quad f(u) = 0.$$

Now let us define the set  $K = \{u \in U \mid u \in Z\}$  and  $L = \{u \in U \mid f(u) = 0\}$ . Clearly each of  $L$  and  $K$  is additive subgroup of  $U$ . Moreover,  $U$  is the set-theoretic union of  $L$  and  $K$ . By Brauer's Trick, we must have  $U = K$  or  $U = L$ .

(i) Let assume that  $U$  is a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -left Lie ideal. In the former case  $U \subset Z$  and so we have

$$0 = uf(x) - g(x)u = u(f(x) - g(x)).$$

Since  $R$  is prime ring,  $U \neq (0)$ , it implies that  $f(x) = g(x)$ , for all  $x \in R$ . Hence, from the hypothesis we get

$$0 = uf(x) - f(x)u = [u, f(x)], \quad \forall x \in R, u \in U.$$

By [3, Theorem] we conclude that  $U \subset Z$ , and so  $\sigma(u) + \tau(u) \in Z$ , for all  $u \in U$ .

In the latter case,  $f(U) = 0$  then  $\sigma(u) + \tau(u) \in Z$ , for all  $u \in U$ , by [6, Lemma 3].

(ii) Let assume that  $U$  is a  $(\sigma, \tau)$ -right Lie ideal. If  $U = K$  then it is obvious that  $U \subset Z$ . If  $U = L$  then  $U \subset C_{\sigma, \tau}$  by [9, Lemma 2] or  $R$  is commutative. If  $R$  is commutative, then  $U \subset Z$ . Thus we complete the proof of the theorem.

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