



## CHARACTERIZATION OF JORDAN HOMOMORPHISMS AND JORDAN DERIVATIONS

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**ABSTRACT.** We show that if  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is a continuous linear map between Banach algebras satisfying  $f(a \circ b) = f(a) \circ f(b)$  for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $a \circ b = e_A$  or  $ab = ba = e_A$ , then  $f$  is a Jordan homomorphism. It is also proved that if  $\delta : A \rightarrow X$  is a continuous linear map satisfying  $\delta(a \circ b) = \delta(a)b + a\delta(b)$  for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $a \circ b = w$ , where  $w \in Z(A)$  is a right (or left) separating point of Banach  $A$ -bimodule  $X$ , then  $\delta$  is a generalized Jordan derivation.

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARIES

Let  $A$  be a unital Banach algebra with unit  $e_A$  and let  $X$  be a unital Banach  $A$ -bimodule. A linear map  $\delta : A \rightarrow X$  is called a *derivation* [respectively, *generalized derivation*] if for all  $a, b \in A$ ,

$$\delta(ab) = \delta(a)b + a\delta(b), \quad [\delta(ab) = \delta(a)b + a\delta(b) - a\delta(e_A)b],$$

and it is called a *Jordan derivation* [respectively, *generalized Jordan derivation*] if

$$\delta(a^2) = \delta(a) \bullet a, \quad [\delta(a^2) = \delta(a) \bullet a - a\delta(e_A)a], \quad a \in A,$$

where “ $\bullet$ ” denotes the Jordan product on  $X$ :

$$a \bullet x = x \bullet a = ax + xa, \quad a \in A, \quad x \in X.$$

Obviously,  $\delta$  is a Jordan derivation [generalized Jordan derivation] if and only if  $\delta(a \circ b) = \delta(a) \bullet b + a \bullet \delta(b)$ ,  $[\delta(a \circ b) = \delta(a) \bullet b + a \bullet \delta(b) - a\delta(e_A)b - b\delta(e_A)a]$ , for all  $a, b \in A$ . Here “ $\circ$ ” denotes the Jordan product  $a \circ b = ab + ba$  on  $A$ .

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It is clear that each derivation (respectively, generalized derivation) is a Jordan derivation (respectively, generalized Jordan derivation), but the converse is failed in general [5].

It is proved by Johnson [5, Theorem 6.3] that every continuous Jordan derivation from  $C^*$ -algebra  $A$  into any Banach  $A$ -bimodule  $X$  is a derivation.

Recently, several authors have studied the linear maps that satisfy the derivation equation whether  $ab = 0$ , or  $ab$  is a non-trivial idempotent. We refer the reader to [1, 2, 4, 6] for a full account of the topic and a list of references.

We say that  $w \in A$  is a left (right) separating point of  $A$ -bimodule  $X$  if the condition  $wx = 0$  [ $xw = 0$ ] for  $x \in X$  implies that  $x = 0$ .

A linear map  $f : A \rightarrow B$  between two Banach algebras  $A$  and  $B$  is called Jordan homomorphism if  $f(a \circ b) = f(a) \circ f(b)$  for all  $a, b \in A$ , which is equivalent to assuming that  $f(a^2) = f(a)^2$  for all  $a \in A$ .

Some characterizations of Jordan homomorphisms on Banach algebras were obtained by the author in [8–10].

In this paper, we show that  $f$  is a Jordan homomorphism whenever

$$f(a \circ b) = f(a) \circ f(b),$$

for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $a \circ b = e_A$ . Moreover, under special hypotheses, it is proved that  $f$  is a Jordan homomorphism if and only if

$$a, b \in A, \quad ab = ba = e_A \implies f(a \circ b) = f(a) \circ f(b).$$

As a consequence we characterize [generalized] Jordan derivations on Banach algebras. We also investigate the continuous linear maps from a Banach algebra  $A$  into a Banach  $A$ -bimodule  $X$  satisfying

$$a, b \in A, \quad a \circ b = w \implies \delta(a \circ b) = \delta(a)b + a\delta(b),$$

where  $w \in Z(A)$  is a right or left separating point of  $X$  and  $Z(A)$  is the center of  $A$ .

**Lemma 1.1** ([7, Lemma 6.3.2]). *Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a Jordan homomorphism. Then*

$$f(aba) = f(a)f(b)f(a), \quad a, b \in A.$$

Through this paper,  $A$  and  $B$  are two Banach algebras, where  $A$  is unital and  $X$  is a unital Banach  $A$ -bimodule, unless indicated otherwise.

## 2. CHARACTERIZATION OF JORDAN HOMOMORPHISMS

We commence with the following result, which is our first main theorem.

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a continuous linear map such that*

$$f(a \circ b) = f(a) \circ f(b),$$

for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $a \circ b = e_A$ . Then

$$f(e_A)f(a^2) + f(a^2)f(e_A) = 2f(a)^2, \quad a \in A.$$

Moreover, if for all  $a \in A$ ,

$$f(a) = f(a)f(e_A) = f(e_A)f(a),$$

then  $f$  is a Jordan homomorphism.

*Proof.* Since  $\frac{1}{2}(e_A \circ e_A) = e_A$ , we get  $f(e_A) = f(e_A)^2$ .

Let  $a \in A$  be arbitrary. For  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  with  $|\lambda| < 1/\|a\|$ ,  $e_A - \lambda a$  is invertible and  $(e_A - \lambda a)^{-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n a^n$ . It is obvious that

$$\frac{1}{2}(e_A - \lambda a) \circ (e_A - \lambda a)^{-1} = e_A;$$

thus it follows from the continuity of  $f$  that

$$\begin{aligned} 2f(e_A) &= f(e_A - \lambda a)f\left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n a^n\right) + f\left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n a^n\right)f(e_A - \lambda a) \\ &= (f(e_A) - \lambda f(a))\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n f(a^n) + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n f(a^n)(f(e_A) - \lambda f(a)) \\ &= f(e_A)f(e_A) + f(e_A)\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda^n f(a^n) - \lambda f(a)\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n f(a^n) \\ &\quad + f(e_A)f(e_A) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda^n f(a^n)f(e_A) - \lambda \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n f(a^n)f(a) \\ &= f(e_A)\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{n+1} f(a^{n+1}) - \lambda f(a)\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n f(a^n) \\ &\quad + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{n+1} f(a^{n+1})f(e_A) - \lambda \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n f(a^n)f(a). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{n+1} [f(e_A)f(a^{n+1}) - f(a)f(a^n) + f(a^{n+1})f(e_A) - f(a^n)f(a)] = 0,$$

for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , with  $|\lambda| < 1/\|a\|$ . Hence

$$f(e_A)f(a^{n+1}) + f(a^{n+1})f(e_A) = f(a)f(a^n) + f(a^n)f(a),$$

for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Taking  $n = 1$ , we obtain

$$f(e_A)f(a^2) + f(a^2)f(e_A) = 2f(a)^2, \quad a \in A.$$

If  $f(a) = f(a)f(e_A) = f(e_A)f(a)$  for all  $a \in A$ , then it follows that  $f(a^2) = f(a)^2$ , and hence  $f$  is a Jordan homomorphism.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two unital Banach algebras and let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a unital continuous linear map such that  $f(ab) = f(a)f(b)$  for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $ab = e_A$ . Then  $f$  is a Jordan homomorphism.*

*Proof.* Since  $e_A e_A = e_A$ , we get  $f(e_A)^2 = f(e_A)$ . Let  $a \in A$ . For  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , with  $|\lambda| < 1/\|a\|$ ,  $e_A - \lambda a$  is invertible and  $(e_A - \lambda a)^{-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n a^n$ . Noting that

$$(e_A - \lambda a)(e_A - \lambda a)^{-1} = e_A,$$

thus by our assumption and a similar argument of Theorem 2.1, we obtain

$$f(e_A)f(a^{n+1}) = f(a)f(a^n),$$

for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  and for every  $a \in A$ . Taking  $n = 1$  and using the fact that  $f(e_A) = e_B$ , we conclude that  $f(a^2) = f(a)^2$  for all  $a \in A$ .  $\square$

The set of all invertible elements of  $A$  is denoted by  $Inv(A)$ .

**Corollary 2.3.** *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two unital Banach algebras and let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a unital continuous linear map such that  $f(aa^{-1}) = f(a)f(a^{-1})$  for all  $a \in Inv(A)$ . Then  $f$  is a Jordan homomorphism.*

Similar to the proof of Theorem 2.1, we can obtain the following result.

**Theorem 2.4.** *Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a continuous linear map such that*

$$a, b \in A, \quad ab = ba = e_A \implies f(a \circ b) = f(a) \circ f(b).$$

*If  $f(a) = f(a)f(e_A) = f(e_A)f(a)$  for every  $a \in A$ , then  $f$  is a Jordan homomorphism.*

Next, we show that the converse of Theorem 2.4 is also true with additional hypothesis.

**Theorem 2.5.** *Suppose that  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is a Jordan homomorphism. Then*

$$(f(ab) - f(a)f(b))f(a) = 0,$$

*for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $ab = e_A$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $f$  is a Jordan homomorphism, we have

$$f(x)f(e_A) = f(e_A)f(x),$$

for all  $x \in A$ , and hence

$$f(x) = f(x)f(e_A) = f(e_A)f(x), \quad x \in A. \quad (2.1)$$

Now, let  $a, b \in A$  with  $ab = e_A$ . Then  $a = aba$ , and by Lemma 1.1, we have

$$f(a) = f(aba) = f(a)f(b)f(a). \quad (2.2)$$

It follows from (2.1) and (2.2) that

$$(f(e_A) - f(a)f(b))f(a) = 0,$$

for every  $a, b \in A$  with  $ab = e_A$ .  $\square$

The next result is a consequence of Theorem 2.5.

**Corollary 2.6.** *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two unital Banach algebras and let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  be a Jordan homomorphism. If  $f(a) \in Inv(B)$  for all  $a \in A$ , then  $f(ab) = f(a)f(b)$  for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $ab = e_A$ .*

It should be pointed out that by the hypotheses of the corollary above, we get  $f(a \circ b) = f(a) \circ f(b)$  for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $ab = ba = e_A$ .

Let us mention an example of a Jordan homomorphism  $f : A \rightarrow B$ , where the identity  $f(a \circ b) = f(a) \circ f(b)$  for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $a \circ b = e_A$  does not imply that  $f$  is a homomorphism.

**Example 2.7.** Let

$$A = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ 0 & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} : a_{11}, a_{12}, a_{22} \in \mathbb{C} \right\}.$$

We make  $X = \mathbb{C}$  an  $A$ -bimodule by defining

$$a\lambda = a_{22}\lambda, \quad \lambda a = \lambda a_{11}, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{C}, \quad a \in A.$$

Consider the linear map  $\delta : A \rightarrow X$  defined by  $\delta(a) = a_{12}$ . Note that  $\delta(e_A) = 0$ . Then  $\delta(ab) = \delta(b)a + b\delta(a)$  for all  $a, b \in A$  and hence  $\delta$  is a Jordan derivation. However,  $\delta$  is not a derivation. Take

$$B = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & x \\ 0 & a \end{bmatrix} : a \in A, x \in X \right\}.$$

Then  $B$  becomes a unital Banach algebra under the usual matrix operations. Define a linear map  $f : A \rightarrow B$  by

$$f(a) = \begin{bmatrix} a & \delta(a) \\ 0 & a \end{bmatrix}, \quad a \in A.$$

Then for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $a \circ b = e_A$ , we have

$$f(a) \circ f(b) = \begin{bmatrix} a \circ b & \delta(a \circ b) \\ 0 & a \circ b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} e_A & 0 \\ 0 & e_A \end{bmatrix} = f(a \circ b).$$

Therefore  $f$  is a Jordan homomorphism by Theorem 2.1, but it is not a homomorphism.

### 3. CHARACTERIZATION OF JORDAN DERIVATIONS

In this section, we characterize continuous linear maps on Banach algebras, which are necessarily [generalized] Jordan derivations.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $\delta : A \rightarrow X$  be a continuous linear map.*

- (1)  $\delta$  is a Jordan derivation if and only if  $\delta(a \circ b) = \delta(a) \bullet b + a \bullet \delta(b)$  for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $a \circ b = e_A$ .
- (2)  $\delta$  is a generalized Jordan derivation if and only if for every  $a, b \in A$  with  $a \circ b = e_A$ ,

$$\delta(a \circ b) = \delta(a) \bullet b + a \bullet \delta(b) - a\delta(e_A)b - b\delta(e_A)a. \quad (3.1)$$

*Proof.* (1) Let  $\delta(a \circ b) = \delta(a) \bullet b + a \bullet \delta(b)$  for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $a \circ b = e_A$ . Let  $f$  and  $B$  be as in Example 2.7. Then  $f(a \circ b) = f(a) \circ f(b)$  for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $a \circ b = e_A$ . So  $f$  is a Jordan homomorphism by Theorem 2.1 and hence  $\delta$  is a Jordan derivation. The converse is clear.

(2) Suppose that equality (3.1) holds for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $a \circ b = e_A$ . Define a linear map  $D : A \rightarrow X$  by  $D(a) = \delta(a) - a\delta(e_A)$ . Then  $D(a \circ b) = D(a) \bullet b + a \bullet D(b)$  for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $a \circ b = e_A$ , and hence (1) implies that  $D$  is a Jordan derivation. This means that  $\delta$  is a generalized Jordan derivation.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $\delta : A \rightarrow X$  be a continuous linear map.*

- (1)  $\delta$  is a Jordan derivation if and only if

$$a, b \in A, \quad ab = ba = e_A \implies \delta(a \circ b) = \delta(a) \bullet b + a \bullet \delta(b). \quad (3.2)$$

- (2)  $\delta$  is a generalized Jordan derivation if and only if for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $ab = ba = e_A$ ,

$$\delta(a \circ b) = \delta(a) \bullet b + a \bullet \delta(b) - a\delta(e_A)b - b\delta(e_A)a.$$

*Proof.* (1) If  $\delta$  is a Jordan derivation, then (3.2) holds. For the converse, let  $f$  and  $B$  be as in Example 2.7. Then  $f(a \circ b) = f(a) \circ f(b)$  for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $ab = ba = e_A$ . Consequently,  $f$  is a Jordan homomorphism by Theorem 2.4, and hence  $\delta$  is a Jordan derivation.

Part (2) can be proved by similar argument as in the part (2) of Theorem 3.1.  $\square$

An immediate but noteworthy result to Theorem 3.2 is the following result.

**Corollary 3.3.** *Let  $\delta : A \rightarrow X$  be a continuous linear map.*

- (1) [6, Corollary 2.3]  $\delta$  is a Jordan derivation if and only if for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $ab = e_A$ ,  $\delta(ab) = \delta(a)b + a\delta(b)$ .  
(2)  $\delta$  is a generalized Jordan derivation if and only if for every  $a, b \in A$  with  $ab = e_A$ ,  $\delta(ab) = \delta(a)b + a\delta(b) - a\delta(e_A)b$ .

*Proof.* Let for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $ab = e_A$ ,

$$\delta(ab) = \delta(a)b + a\delta(b). \quad (3.3)$$

Then

$$a, b \in A, \quad ba = e_A \implies \delta(ba) = \delta(b)a + b\delta(a). \quad (3.4)$$

By (3.3) and (3.4),  $\delta(a \circ b) = \delta(a) \bullet b + a \bullet \delta(b)$  for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $ab = ba = e_A$ . Thus,  $\delta$  is a Jordan derivation by Theorem 3.2.

Conversely, suppose that  $\delta$  is a Jordan derivation. Let  $f$  and  $B$  be as in Example 2.7. Since  $\delta(e_A) = 0$ , it follows that

$$f(a) = f(a)f(e_A) = f(e_A)f(a), \quad a \in A. \quad (3.5)$$

Now, let  $a, b \in A$  with  $ab = e_A$ . As  $\delta$  is a Jordan derivation,  $f$  is a Jordan homomorphism, and thus by Lemma 1.1, we have

$$f(a) = f(aba) = f(a)f(b)f(a), \quad (3.6)$$

for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $ab = e_A$ . It follows from (3.5) and (3.6) that

$$f(e_A)f(a) = f(a)f(b)f(a),$$

which yields that  $(\delta(a)b + a\delta(b))a = 0$  for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $ab = e_A$ . Multiplying this equality from the right by  $b$ , we reach the desired result.

(2) follows from (1).  $\square$

#### 4. GENERALIZED JORDAN DERIVATIONS

By Theorem 3.1,  $\delta : A \rightarrow X$  is a generalized Jordan derivation if and only if equality (3.1) holds for all  $a, b \in A$  with  $a \circ b = e_A$ . However, the following result is another tool for characterizing generalized Jordan derivations.

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $w \in Z(A)$  be a right or left separating point of  $X$  and let  $\delta : A \rightarrow X$  be a continuous linear map satisfying*

$$a, b \in A, \quad a \circ b = w \implies \delta(a \circ b) = \delta(a)b + a\delta(b).$$

*Then  $\delta$  is a generalized Jordan derivation and*

$$\delta(aw) = \delta(a)w + a\delta(w) - \delta(e_A)aw, \quad \delta(wa) = \delta(w)a + w\delta(a) - wa\delta(e_A).$$

*Proof.* Since  $\frac{1}{2}(e_A \circ w) = w$ , it follows that  $\delta(w) = \delta(e_A)w = w\delta(e_A)$ .

Let  $a \in A$  be arbitrary. For  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , with  $|\lambda| < 1/\|a\|$ ,  $e_A - \lambda a$  is invertible and  $(e_A - \lambda a)^{-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n a^n$ . As

$$\frac{1}{2}(e_A - \lambda a) \circ (e_A - \lambda a)^{-1}w = w,$$

so from the continuity of  $\delta$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} 2\delta(w) &= \delta(e_A - \lambda a)(e_A - \lambda a)^{-1}w + (e_A - \lambda a)\delta((e_A - \lambda a)^{-1}w) \\ &= \delta(e_A - \lambda a) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n a^n w + (e_A - \lambda a)\delta\left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n a^n w\right) \\ &= \delta(e_A - \lambda a)w + \delta(e_A - \lambda a) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda^n a^n w \\ &\quad + (e_A - \lambda a)\delta(w) + (e_A - \lambda a) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n \delta(a^n w) \\ &= 2\delta(w) - \lambda\delta(a)w - \lambda a\delta(w) \\ &\quad + \delta(e_A - \lambda a) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda^n a^n w + (e_A - \lambda a) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda^n \delta(a^n w) \\ &= 2\delta(w) + \delta(e_A) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda^n a^n w - \lambda\delta(a) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n a^n w \\ &\quad + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda^n \delta(a^n w) - \lambda a \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^n \delta(a^n w). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{n+1} [\delta(e_A)a^{n+1}w - \delta(a)a^n w + \delta(a^{n+1}w) - a\delta(a^n w)] = 0,$$

for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , with  $|\lambda| < 1/\|a\|$ . Hence

$$\delta(a^{n+1}w) = \delta(a)a^n w + a\delta(a^n w) - \delta(e_A)a^{n+1}w,$$

for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . In particular, we have

$$\delta(aw) = \delta(a)w + a\delta(w) - \delta(e_A)aw \tag{4.1}$$

and

$$\delta(a^2w) = \delta(a)aw + a\delta(aw) - \delta(e_A)a^2w, \tag{4.2}$$

for all  $a \in A$ . It follows from (4.1) and (4.2) that

$$\delta(a^2w) = \delta(a)aw + a[\delta(a)w + a\delta(w) - \delta(e_A)aw] - \delta(e_A)a^2w. \quad (4.3)$$

Interchanging  $a$  by  $a^2$  in (4.1), we get

$$\delta(a^2w) = \delta(a^2)w + a^2\delta(w) - \delta(e_A)a^2w. \quad (4.4)$$

Comparing (4.3) and (4.4), we arrive at

$$\delta(a^2)w = \delta(a)aw + a\delta(a)w - a\delta(e_A)aw.$$

If  $w$  is a right separating point of  $X$ , then  $\delta(a^2) = \delta(a)a + a\delta(a) - a\delta(e_A)a$  for all  $a \in A$ . Consequently,  $\delta$  is a generalized Jordan derivation. Similarly, by using the equality

$$w(e_A - \lambda a)^{-1} \circ \frac{1}{2}(e_A - \lambda a) = w,$$

we get

$$\delta(wa) = \delta(w)a + w\delta(a) - wa\delta(e_A)$$

and

$$\delta(wa^2) = \delta(wa)a + wa\delta(a) - wa^2\delta(e_A),$$

for all  $a \in A$ . Thus,

$$w\delta(a^2) = wa\delta(a) + w\delta(a)a - wa\delta(e_A)a.$$

If  $w$  is a left separating point of  $X$ , then  $\delta(a^2) = a\delta(a) + \delta(a)a - a\delta(e_A)a$ , and hence  $\delta$  is a generalized Jordan derivation.  $\square$

Similar to the proof of Theorem 4.1, we can obtain the following result.

**Proposition 4.2.** *Let  $w \in Z(A)$  be a right or left separating point of  $X$  and let  $\delta : A \rightarrow X$  be a continuous linear map satisfying*

$$a, b \in A, \quad ab = ba = w \implies \delta(a \circ b) = \delta(a)b + a\delta(b).$$

*Then  $\delta$  is a generalized Jordan derivation.*

*In particular, if  $w = e_A$ , then  $a\delta(e_A) = \delta(e_A)a$  for all  $a \in A$*

From Proposition 4.2, we have the following result.

**Corollary 4.3.** *Let  $\delta : A \rightarrow X$  be a continuous linear map such that for all  $a \in \text{Inv}(A)$ ,  $\delta(a \circ a^{-1}) = \delta(a)a^{-1} + a\delta(a^{-1})$ . Then  $\delta$  is a generalized Jordan derivation.*

The converse of Theorem 4.1 is not true in general. The following example illustrates this fact.

**Example 4.4.** Let

$$A = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} s & t \\ 0 & r \end{bmatrix} : s, t, r \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

Define a linear map  $\delta : A \rightarrow A$  by

$$\delta\left(\begin{bmatrix} s & t \\ 0 & r \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} s & 0 \\ 0 & r \end{bmatrix}.$$



Then  $\delta(ab) = \delta(a)b + a\delta(b) - a\delta(e_A)b$  for all  $a, b \in A$ . Certainly,  $\delta$  is a generalized Jordan derivation, but the equality  $\delta(a \circ b) = \delta(a)b + a\delta(b)$  is failed, in general, even for  $a \circ b = e_A$ . For example, take

$$a = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1}{2} & 1 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

If  $\delta(a) = a\delta(e_A)$  for all  $a \in A$ , then  $\delta$  is a generalized Jordan derivation, but Example 4.4 shows that the converse is not true, in general. However, for commutative  $C^*$ -algebra it is holds according the next result.

**Corollary 4.5.** *Let  $A$  be a commutative  $C^*$ -algebra and let  $\delta : A \rightarrow X$  be a continuous linear map such that  $\delta(a \circ a^{-1}) = \delta(a)a^{-1} + a\delta(a^{-1})$  for all  $a \in \text{Inv}(A)$ . Then  $\delta(a) = a\delta(e_A)$  for all  $a \in A$ . In particular,  $\delta$  is a generalized derivation.*

*Proof.* By Corollary 4.3,  $\delta$  is a generalized Jordan derivation. Define a linear mapping  $D : A \rightarrow X$  by  $D(a) = \delta(a) - a\delta(e_A)$  for all  $a \in A$ . Clearly,  $D$  is a Jordan derivation, and hence it is a derivation by Johnson's result. On account of [3, Theorem 2.8.63],  $D$  is identically zero. Consequently,  $\delta(a) = a\delta(e_A)$  for all  $a \in A$ .  $\square$

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