

## CHARACTERIZATIONS OF $t^2$ -REVERSIBLE RINGS

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**Abstract:** This article aims to investigate the ring theoretic structures of (strongly)  $t^2$ -reversible ring using the concept of non-zero tripotent elements. A ring  $R$  is said to be  $t^2$ -reversible if  $ab = 0$  implies  $bat^2 = 0$  for all  $a, b \in R$  and  $t$  is a non-zero tripotent element of  $R$ . It is proved that  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring if and only if  $t^2$  is left semicentral and  $t^2Rt^2$  is a reversible ring. We also introduce and establish several characteristics of strongly  $t^2$ -reversible rings. It is proved that every strongly  $t^2$ -reversible ring is also a  $t^2$ -reversible ring but the converse need not be true. Moreover we call,  $R$  is a right (left)  $t^2$ -reduced ring if  $N(R)t^2 = 0$  ( $t^2N(R) = 0$ ), where  $N(R)$  stands for the set of all nilpotent elements of  $R$  and we have established some of its properties.

**Keywords and Phrases:**  $t^2$ -reversible rings, strongly  $t^2$ -reversible rings,  $t^2$ -reduced rings, tripotent elements.

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### 1. Introduction

All rings are associative with identity throughout this paper. Assuming that  $R$  is a ring, we denote its centre as  $Z(R)$  and its set of all nilpotent elements as  $N(R)$  respectively. Additionally, the  $n \times n$  upper triangular matrix ring over  $R$  is denoted by the symbol  $M_n(R)$ . For a ring  $R$ , an element  $t$  is said to be tripotent if  $t^3 = t$ , the set of all non-zero tripotent elements is denoted by  $T(R)$ . It is obvious that all idempotents are tripotents but the converse is not true. For example let,  $R =$

$M_2(\mathbb{R})$  then  $T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$  is a tripotent element in  $R$ , as  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$  but not idempotent, as  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}^2 \neq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Following [5], an idempotent element  $e \in R$  is called left (resp. right)-semicentral if  $(1 - e)Re = 0$  (resp.  $eR(1 - e) = 0$ ).

A ring is usually called reduced if it has zero as the only nilpotent element. According to Lambek [12], a ring  $R$  is called symmetric if  $abc = 0$  implies  $acb = 0$  for all  $a, b, c \in R$ . In [1], used the term  $ZC_3$  for symmetric. Clearly, commutative rings are symmetric. Also every reduced rings are symmetric by [1, Theorem 1.3]. The notion of reversible ring was first introduced by Cohn [4] in 1999. A ring  $R$  is said to be reversible if  $ab = 0$  implies  $ba = 0$  for any  $a, b \in R$ . Anderson and Camillo [1] used the term  $ZC_2$  for reversibility. After that many researchers had studied the notion of reversible rings and extended in many different ways (refer to [13], [9], [10], [17], [7]).

Kose et al. [11] introduced the right (left)  $e$ -reversible rings and they defined a ring  $R$  to be right  $e$ -reversible (left  $e$ -reversible) if for any  $a, b \in R$ ,  $ab = 0$  implies  $bae = 0$  ( $eba = 0$ ), where  $e$  is an idempotent element in  $R$ . Also they established various properties of right  $e$ -reversibility in a ring. Later on Sabah et al. [16] introduced a strong condition on the Kose's notion and they defined a ring  $R$  is to be  $e$ -strongly reversible if  $ab = 0$  implies  $bea = 0$  for any  $a, b \in R$ . In recent time Chaturvedi and Verma [3] also studied the  $e$ -reversible rings and some associated ring extensions.

In this article, the results appeared in Sabah et al. [16], Kose et al. [11] and Chaturvedi and Verma [3] are extended and generalized using the concept of non-zero tripotent elements in a ring. With the aid of non-zero tripotent elements, the objective is to investigate and define a new type of ring known as a (strongly)  $t^2$ -reversible ring. Moreover, we introduce and study the notion of  $t^2$ -reduced rings and some associated concepts.

## 2. $t^2$ -Reversible and Strongly $t^2$ -reversible Rings

In this section we introduce  $t^2$ -reversible and strongly  $t^2$ -reversible rings and some examples are presented to illustrate the concepts. We begin with the following definitions.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $R$  be a ring and  $t \in T(R)$ . Then,

- (1)  $R$  is called  $t^2$ -reversible if  $ab = 0$  implies  $bat^2 = 0$ , for all  $a, b \in R$ .
- (2)  $R$  is called strongly  $t^2$ -reversible if  $ab = 0$  implies  $bt^2a = 0$ , for all  $a, b \in R$ .

**Remark 2.1.** In the above Definition 2.1, we have observed that, whenever  $t \in T(R)$ , then  $t^2$  is always idempotent, as  $(t^2)^2 = (t^3)t = t^2$ . But  $t$  need not be an idempotent element. For  $t = -1$  then  $(-1)^3 = -1$  so  $t \in T(R)$  and  $((-1)^2)^2 = (-1)^2$  so  $t^2$  is idempotent. But  $(-1)^2 \neq -1$ . So,  $t$  is not an idempotent element.

**Example 2.1.** Every reversible ring is  $t^2$ -reversible for any non-zero tripotent element  $t$  in  $R$ , but the converse need not be true.

Let us consider,  $R = M_2(\mathbb{Z}_3)$ , where  $\mathbb{Z}_3 = \{-1, 0, 1\}$  is the field. Then  $T = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in T(R)$ . Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, B = \begin{pmatrix} b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in R$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are non-zero elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_3$ . Then  $AB = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  implies that  $BAT^2 = \begin{pmatrix} b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . This shows that  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring. But  $R$  is not a reversible ring, since

$$BA = \begin{pmatrix} b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & ba \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \neq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ as } ba \neq 0.$$

**Example 2.2.** Every strongly  $t^2$ -reversible ring is also a  $t^2$ -reversible for any non-zero tripotent element  $t$  of the ring (it follows from Theorem 2.1 and 2.2). But the converse need not be true.

In Example 2.1,  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring but not strongly  $t^2$ -reversible because

$$BT^2A = \begin{pmatrix} b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & a \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & ba \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \neq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ as } ba \neq 0.$$

**Remark 2.2.**

- (1) From the Definition 2.1, it is clear that for  $t = -1, 1$ ; we have  $R$  is a reversible ring if and only if  $R$  is a strongly  $t^2$ -reversible ring if and only if  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring, as both  $-1$  and  $1$  are in  $T(R)$ .
- (2) Let  $R$  be a ring and  $e$  be an idempotent element in  $R$ . Since every idempotent is also a tripotent but tripotent need not be an idempotent element. So,  $e \in T(R)$  then  $e^2$  must be an idempotent. So by [3], every  $e$ -reversible ring is also  $e^2$ -reversible. But the converse need not be true.

Because in Example 2.1, we have  $R$  is a  $E^2$ -reversible ring for  $E = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

but  $R$  is not  $E$ -reversible, as  $E = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  is not an idempotent element.

### 2.1. Some properties

In this section we discuss some basic properties of (strongly)  $t^2$ -reversible rings using the concept of non-zero tripotent elements in  $R$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $R$  be a ring such that  $t \in T(R)$ . Then the subsequent conditions are equivalent.*

- (1)  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring;
- (2)  $t^2Rt^2$  is a reversible ring and  $t^2$  is left semicentral.

**Proof.** (1)  $\implies$  (2). Let  $R$  be a  $t^2$ -reversible ring. Since  $t$  is tripotent, so  $t^2$  is always an idempotent element in  $R$ . Thus,  $(t^2)^2 = t^2 \implies t^2(1 - t^2) = 0$ . For each  $x \in R$ ,  $t^2(1 - t^2)x = 0$ . Since  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring so,  $(1 - t^2)xt^2t^2 = 0 \implies (1 - t^2)xt^2 = 0 \implies xt^2 = t^2xt^2$ . Thus,  $t^2$  is left semicentral. Secondly, let  $a, b \in t^2Rt^2$  such that  $ab = 0$ . Since  $t^2Rt^2$  is a subring of  $R$  and  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring. So we get,  $bat^2 = 0 \implies ba = 0$ , as  $at^2 = a$ . Thus  $t^2Rt^2$  is a reversible ring.

(2)  $\implies$  (1). Let us assume that condition (2) is true. Let  $a, b \in R$  such that  $ab = 0$ . Then the elements  $t^2at^2, t^2bt^2 \in t^2Rt^2$  and  $t^2Rt^2$  is a reversible ring. So we get,  $t^2at^2t^2bt^2 = t^2at^2bt^2 = 0$  implies  $t^2bt^2t^2at^2 = t^2bt^2at^2 = 0$ , as  $t^3 = t$  so,  $t^4 = t^2$ . Since  $t^2$  is a left semi central, so  $t^2bt^2at^2 = 0 \implies bt^2at^2 = 0 \implies bat^2 = 0$ . Thus we get,  $ab = 0$  implies  $bat^2 = 0$  for  $a, b \in R$ . This shows that  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring.

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $R$  be a ring such that  $t \in T(R)$ . Then the subsequent conditions are equivalent.*

- (1)  $R$  is a strongly  $t^2$ -reversible ring;
- (2)  $t^2Rt^2$  is a reversible ring and  $t^2 \in Z(R)$ .

**Proof.** (1)  $\implies$  (2). Let us assume that condition (1) is true. Since  $t \in T(R)$ , so  $t^2$  is idempotent in  $R$ . Thus for each  $x \in R$ ,  $x(1 - t^2)t^2 = 0$ . Since  $R$  is a strongly  $t^2$ -reversible ring, so we have  $t^2t^2x(1 - t^2) = 0 \implies t^2x(1 - t^2) = 0 \implies t^2x = t^2xt^2$ . Again  $R$  is a strongly  $t^2$ -reversible ring, so  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring. This implies that  $t^2$  is left semicentral by Theorem 2.1. Thus  $t^2x = xt^2$  and so  $t^2 \in Z(R)$ . Again by Theorem 2.1, we get  $t^2Rt^2$  is a reversible ring.

(2)  $\implies$  (1). Suppose condition (2) holds. Let  $a, b \in R$  such that  $ab = 0$ . Since  $t^2Rt^2$  is a reversible ring, thus from the second part of Theorem 2.1 we have,  $t^2bt^2at^2 = 0$ . Again since  $t^2 \in Z(R)$  so,  $t^2a = at^2$  and  $t^2b = bt^2$  for all  $a, b \in R$ . This implies that  $bt^2a = 0$ . Thus  $R$  is a strongly  $t^2$ -reversible ring.

We have the following corollary as a consequence of Theorem 2.1 and Theorem 2.2.

**Corollary 2.2.1.** *Let  $R$  be a ring and  $t \in T(R)$ . Then  $R$  is a strongly  $t^2$ -reversible ring if and only if  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring and  $t^2 \in Z(R)$ .*

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $R$  be a ring and  $t \in T(R)$ . Then the subsequent conditions are equivalent.*

- (1)  $R$  is a reversible ring;
- (2)  $R$  is both  $t^2$ -reversible and  $(1 - t^2)$ -reversible ring.

**Proof.** (1)  $\implies$  (2). It is obvious.

(2)  $\implies$  (1). Suppose condition (2) holds. Let  $a, b \in R$  such that  $ab = 0$ . Then  $ba(1 - t^2)^2 = ba(1 - 2t^2 + t^4) = ba(1 - t^2) = 0$ , as  $R$  is a  $(1 - t^2)$ -reversible ring and  $t^3 = t$ . This implies that  $ba = bat^2$ . Again  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring. So, we have  $bat^2 = 0$ . Hence  $ba = 0$ . This shows that  $R$  is a reversible ring.

**Corollary 2.3.1.** *Let  $R$  be a ring and  $t \in T(R)$ . Then the subsequent conditions are equivalent.*

- (1)  $R$  is a reversible ring;
- (2)  $R$  is a strongly  $t^2$ -reversible and  $(1 - t^2)R(1 - t^2)$  is a reversible ring.

**Proof.** (1)  $\implies$  (2). Let us assume that condition (1) is true. Since  $R$  is a reversible ring, so  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible and an Abelian ring. This implies  $t^2 \in Z(R)$  and hence  $R$  is a strongly  $t^2$ -reversible ring. Again  $(1 - t^2)R(1 - t^2)$  is a subring of  $R$ . Thus  $(1 - t^2)R(1 - t^2)$  is also a reversible ring.

(2)  $\implies$  (1). Suppose condition (2) holds. By Theorem 2.2, we have  $R$  is a strongly  $(1 - t^2)$ -reversible ring, as  $(1 - t^2) \in Z(R)$  and  $(1 - t^2)R(1 - t^2)$  is a reversible ring. This implies that  $R$  is both  $t^2$ -reversible and  $(1 - t^2)$ -reversible ring. Thus by Lemma 2.3,  $R$  is a reversible ring.

Generalising the notion defined by F. Meng et. al [15], the following concept is defined using tripotent elements. A ring  $R$  is called left  $t^2$ -reflexive if  $xRt^2 = 0 \implies t^2Rx = 0$  for any  $x \in R$  and  $t \in T(R)$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** *For a ring  $R$  and  $t \in T(R)$ , the following conditions are equivalent.*

- (1)  $R$  is a strongly  $t^2$ -reversible ring;
- (2)  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible and left  $t^2$ -reflexive.

**Proof.** Suppose that  $R$  is a strongly  $t^2$ -reversible ring. Then by Corollary 2.2.1, we get  $t^2$  is central and  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring. Let  $x \in R$  such that  $xRt^2 = 0$ . This implies  $xt^2 = 0$  and since  $t^2$  is central so,  $t^2Rx = Rxt^2 = 0$ . This implies that  $R$  is left  $t^2$ -reflexive.

Conversely let, condition (2) holds. Since  $R$  is  $t^2$ -reversible, so by Theorem 2.1 we get  $t^2$  is left semicentral and hence  $(1-t^2)Rt^2 = 0$  this implies that  $t^2R(1-t^2) = 0$ , as  $R$  is left  $t^2$ -reflexive. Thus  $t^2 \in Z(R)$  and hence  $R$  is a strongly  $t^2$ -reversible ring by Corollary 2.2.1.

Following [16], a ring  $R$  and an  $R$ -bimodule  ${}_R M_R$ , the trivial extension of  $R$  by  $M$  is the ring  $U(R, M) = R \oplus M$  under the operations  $(r_1, m_1)(r_2, m_2) = (r_1r_2, r_1m_2 + m_1r_2)$ , where  $r_1, r_2 \in R$  and  $m_1, m_2 \in M$ . Then  $U(R, M)$  is isomorphic to the ring of all matrices of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} r & m \\ 0 & r \end{pmatrix}$  where  $r \in R$  and  $m \in M$  under usual matrix operations.

**Theorem 2.5.** *Let  $R$  be a reduced ring and  $t \in T(R)$ . Then  $U(R, R)$  is a  $T^2$ -reversible ring if and only if  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring, where  $T = \begin{pmatrix} t & 0 \\ 0 & t \end{pmatrix}$ .*

**Proof.** We assume that  $U(R, R)$  is a  $T^2$ -reversible ring. Let  $a, b, c, d \in R$  such that  $ab = 0$ . Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{pmatrix} b & d \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} \in U(R, R)$ , so  $AB = \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b & d \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} ab & ad + cb \\ 0 & ab \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & ad + cb \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , as  $ab = 0$ . Now  $(ba)^2 = baba = 0 \implies ba = 0$ , as  $R$  is reduced. Again  $ad + cb = 0 \implies ada + cba = 0 \implies ada = 0 \implies adad = 0 = (ad)^2$ . Since  $R$  is reduced so,  $ad = 0$  this gives us  $cb = 0$ . Hence  $AB = 0$ . Since  $U(R, R)$  is  $T^2$ -reversible so we get  $BAT^2 = 0$ . This implies that  $\begin{pmatrix} b & d \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & c \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t^2 & 0 \\ 0 & t^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \implies \begin{pmatrix} bat^2 & bct^2 + dat^2 \\ 0 & bat^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . So,  $bat^2 = 0, bct^2 = 0, dat^2 = 0$ . Thus  $ab = 0$  implies that  $bat^2 = 0$  for  $a, b \in R$  and  $t \in T(R)$ . Hence  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring.

Conversely let  $R$  be a  $t^2$ -reversible ring. Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{pmatrix} c & d \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} \in U(R, R)$  such that  $AB = 0$ . This implies  $ac = 0$  and  $ad + bc = 0$ . Now  $(ca)^2 = caca = 0$ , since  $R$  is reduced so we have  $ca = 0$  and hence  $cat^2 = 0$ . Also  $ad + bc = 0 \implies ada + bca = 0 \implies ada = 0 \implies adad = 0 \implies (ad)^2 = 0$ . Since  $R$  is reduced so  $ad = 0$  this gives  $bc = 0$ . Again,  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring so we get  $dat^2 = 0$  and  $cbt^2 = 0$ . Thus  $BAT^2 = \begin{pmatrix} c & d \\ 0 & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t^2 & 0 \\ 0 & t^2 \end{pmatrix} =$

$\begin{pmatrix} cat^2 & cbt^2 + dat^2 \\ 0 & cat^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$ . This shows that  $U(R, R)$  is a  $T^2$ -reversible ring, where  $T = \begin{pmatrix} t & 0 \\ 0 & t \end{pmatrix}$  and for each  $t = t^3$ .

**Theorem 2.6.** *Let  $R$  be a ring and  $T = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & r \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in T(M_2(R))$  for each  $r \in R$ .*

*Then  $M_2(R)$  is a  $T^2$ -reversible ring if and only if  $R$  is a reversible ring.*

**Proof.** We assume that,  $M_2(R)$  is a  $T^2$ -reversible ring. Let  $a, b \in R$  such that  $ab = 0$ . So we have,  $\begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Since  $M_2(R)$  is  $T^2$ -reversible, so we get,  $\begin{pmatrix} b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & r \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \implies \begin{pmatrix} ba & -bar \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Thus we get,  $ba = 0$ . This implies  $R$  is a reversible ring.

Conversely let,  $R$  be a reversible ring and  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ 0 & c_1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{pmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ 0 & c_2 \end{pmatrix} \in M_2(R)$  such that  $AB = 0$ . This implies  $a_1a_2 = 0 = c_1c_2$ . Since  $R$  is reversible so  $a_2a_1 = 0$  and  $c_2c_1 = 0$ . Now,  $BAT^2 = \begin{pmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ 0 & c_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ 0 & c_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & r \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2$   
 $= \begin{pmatrix} a_2a_1 & -a_2a_1r \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$ . Thus,  $M_2(R)$  is a  $T^2$ -reversible ring.

**Theorem 2.7.** *Let  $R$  be a ring,  $t \in T(R)$  and  $T = \begin{pmatrix} t & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in T(M_2(R))$ . Then  $M_2(R)$  is a  $T^2$ -reversible ring if and only if  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring.*

**Proof.** Let us assume that,  $M_2(R)$  is a  $T^2$ -reversible ring. Let  $a, b \in R$  such that  $ab = 0$ . So we have,  $\begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Since  $M_2(R)$  is  $T^2$ -reversible, so we get,  $\begin{pmatrix} b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \implies \begin{pmatrix} bat^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Thus we get,  $bat^2 = 0$ . This implies  $R$  is a  $t^2$  reversible ring.

Conversely let,  $R$  be a reversible ring and  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ 0 & c_1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{pmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ 0 & c_2 \end{pmatrix} \in M_2(R)$  such that  $AB = 0$ . This implies  $a_1a_2 = 0 = c_1c_2$ . Since  $R$  is  $t^2$  reversible so  $a_2a_1t^2 = 0$  and  $c_2c_1t^2 = 0$ . Now  $BAT^2 = \begin{pmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ 0 & c_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ 0 & c_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} a_2a_1t^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$ . Thus,  $M_2(R)$  is a  $T^2$ -reversible ring.

**Theorem 2.8.** Let  $R$  be a ring,  $t \in T(R)$  and  $T = \begin{pmatrix} t & t \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in T(M_2(R))$ . Then  $M_2(R)$  is a  $T^2$ -reversible ring if and only if  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring.

**Proof.** The proof is similar to the proof of Theorem 2.7.

### 3. $t^2$ -Reduced Rings

In this section we define right (left)  $t^2$ -reduced rings and study some basic properties of it.

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $R$  be a ring and  $t \in T(R)$ . Then,

(1)  $R$  is called right  $t^2$ -reduced if  $N(R)t^2 = 0$ .

(2)  $R$  is called left  $t^2$ -reduced if  $t^2N(R) = 0$ .

**Example 3.1.** Let  $R = M_3(F)$  and  $F$  is a field. Then  $N(R) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & F & F \\ 0 & 0 & F \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , as

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & F & F \\ 0 & 0 & F \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ is nilpotent.}$$

Let  $t = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in T(R)$ . Then  $N(R)t^2 = N(R) \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$ . Thus,  $R$  is a right  $t^2$ -reduced ring. But  $R$  is not a left  $t^2$ -reduced ring as,

$$t^2N(R) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 N(R) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & F & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \neq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

**Remark 3.1.** We can also construct a left  $t^2$ -reduced ring which is not right  $t^2$ -reduced. In Example 3.1, if we consider  $R = M_3(F)$  as a  $3 \times 3$  lower triangular matrix ring over the field  $F$ .

Then clearly,  $N(R) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ F & 0 & 0 \\ F & F & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Let  $t = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in T(R)$ . Then  $t^2N(R) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 N(R) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$ . Thus  $R$  is a left  $t^2$ -reduced ring. But  $R$  is not a right  $t^2$ -reduced ring as,



$$N(R)t^2 = N(R) \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ F & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \neq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $R$  be a ring and  $t \in T(R)$ . Then the subsequent conditions are equivalent.*

- (1)  $R$  is right  $t^2$ -reduced;
- (2)  $t^2$  is left semicentral in  $R$  and  $t^2Rt^2$  is reduced.

**Proof.** (1)  $\implies$  (2). Let  $t \in T(R)$  then  $t^2$  must be idempotent so,  $t^2 = (t^2)^2$ . This implies that  $(1 - t^2)t^2 = 0$ . So for any  $x \in R$  we have,  $(1 - t^2)xt^2 \in N(R)$  and  $(1 - t^2)xt^2 \in N(R)t^2 = 0$ , as  $R$  is a right  $t^2$ -reduced ring. This implies that  $(1 - t^2)xt^2 = 0 \implies t^2xt^2 = xt^2$ . Thus  $t^2$  is left semicentral in  $R$ . Again  $N(t^2Rt^2) \subseteq N(R)t^2 = 0 \implies t^2Rt^2$  is a reduced ring, by (1).

(2)  $\implies$  (1). Let  $t^2$  is left semicentral in  $R$  and  $t^2Rt^2$  is reduced, then  $N(R)t^2 = t^2Rt^2 = N(t^2Rt^2) = 0$ . This implies that  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reduced ring.

The following theorem is related to Theorem 3.1.

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $R$  be a ring and  $t \in T(R)$ . Then the subsequent conditions are equivalent.*

- (1)  $R$  is left  $t^2$ -reduced;
- (2)  $t^2$  is right semicentral in  $R$  and  $t^2Rt^2$  is reduced.

Following [6], a ring  $R$  is called (strongly)  $t^2$ -symmetric if  $abc = 0$  implies  $(act^2b = 0) acbt^2 = 0$ , for all  $a, b \in R$  and  $t \in T(R)$ .

**Corollary 3.2.1.** *Right  $t^2$ -reduced rings are  $t^2$ -symmetric rings.*

**Proof.** Let  $R$  be a right  $t^2$ -reduced ring. Then by Theorem 3.1, we get,  $t^2$  is left semicentral in  $R$  and  $t^2Rt^2$  is reduced. Since reduced rings are symmetric by [[1], Theorem 1.3]. So,  $t^2Rt^2$  is a symmetric ring and  $t^2$  is left semicentral in  $R$ . Thus by [[6], Theorem 2.1] we get  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -symmetric ring.

**Remark 3.2.** *By Example 3.1 and [[6], Theorem 2.2], we have observed that right  $t^2$ -reduced rings need not be strongly  $t^2$ -symmetric.*

**Theorem 3.3.** *Every  $t^2$ -symmetric ring is  $t^2$ -reversible.*

**Proof.** Let  $R$  be a  $t^2$ -symmetric ring and  $t \in T(R)$ . Let  $x, y \in R$  such that  $xy = 0$ . Since,  $R$  is  $t^2$ -symmetric, so we have  $1xy = 0$ , (since  $1 \in R$ ) implies that  $1yxt^2 = 0 \implies yxt^2 = 0$ . This shows that  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring.

**Remark 3.3.** *In the above Theorem 3.3, we have observed that the  $t^2$ -reversible ring need not be  $t^2$ -symmetric by the following example.*

**Example 3.2.** Let us consider  $R = M_2(\mathbb{R})$  where  $\mathbb{R}$  is the field of all real numbers. Then  $T = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \in T(R)$ . Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} \in R$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are non zero elements in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then  $AB = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$  implies that  $BAT^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$ . This shows that  $R$  is a  $T^2$ -reversible ring.

Now for  $C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in R$  we have,  $ABC = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$  but  $ACBT^2 = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & ab \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \neq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$ , as  $ab \neq 0$ . Thus  $R$  is not a  $T^2$ -symmetric ring.

**Remark 3.4.** In the above Example 3.2, it is seen that  $AB = 0$  implies that  $BA = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$ . Thus in Example 3.2,  $R$  is also a reversible ring.

The following theorem is related to Theorem 3.3.

**Theorem 3.4.** Every strongly  $t^2$ -symmetric ring is strongly  $t^2$ -reversible.

**Proof.** Let  $R$  be a strongly  $t^2$ -symmetric ring and  $t \in T(R)$ . Let  $x, y \in R$  such that  $xy = 0$ . Since  $R$  is strongly  $t^2$ -symmetric, so we have  $1xy = 0$  implies that  $1yt^2x = 0 \implies yt^2x = 0$ . Thus  $R$  is a  $t^2$ -reversible ring.

**Remark 3.5.** The converse of the above Theorem 3.4, need not be true in general. As in Example 3.2, it is observed that  $AB = 0$  implies  $BT^2A = 0$ , so  $R$  is a strongly  $T^2$ -reversible ring. But for  $ABC = 0$  which implies that  $ACT^2B = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}^2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & ab \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \neq \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$ , as  $ab \neq 0$ . So,  $R$  is not a strongly  $T^2$ -symmetric ring.

**Remark 3.6.** From Examples 2.2; 3.2 and Remark 3.5, we have concluded that, every strongly  $t^2$  reversible ring is a  $t^2$ -reversible but  $t^2$ -reversible rings may or may not be strongly  $t^2$ -reversible rings.

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