

# On triple $\theta$ -centralizers

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(Communicated by Sirous Moradi)

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## Abstract

In this paper, we introduce triple  $\theta$ -centralizers and weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizers on an algebra  $A$ , where  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  is a triple homomorphism. Some observations concerning triple  $\theta$ -centralizers, weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizers and approximate weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizers are given.

Keywords: Triple  $\theta$ -centralizer, Factorizable, Without order, Semisimple  
2020 MSC: 16N60, 47B48

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## 1 Introduction

A left (right) centralizer on an algebra  $A$  is a mapping  $T$  of  $A$  into  $A$  such that

$$T(ab) = T(a)b \quad (T(ab) = aT(b))$$

for all  $a, b \in A$ . A centralizer is a mapping  $T : A \rightarrow A$  such that

$$T(a)b = aT(b)$$

for all  $a, b \in A$ . The notion of left centralizers was introduced by Wendel [24] who used it to investigate group algebras. The general notion of centralizers on commutative Banach algebras was studied by Helgason [10] and Wang [23]. Helgason used the term *multiplier* instead of *centralizer*. In the non-commutative setting, the notions of left (right) centralizers and centralizers were introduced by Johnson [13] on semigroups, rings, algebras, Banach algebras and topological algebras.

Albas [1] generalized the notion of centralizers and introduced  $\theta$ -centralizers. For a ring  $R$ , if  $\theta : R \rightarrow R$  is a homomorphism, then a mapping  $T : R \rightarrow R$  is said to be a left (right)  $\theta$ -centralizer if

$$T(ab) = T(a)\theta(b) \quad (T(ab) = \theta(a)T(b))$$

for all  $a, b \in R$ . Jordan left (right)  $\theta$ -centralizers are obtained if  $b = a$ . In special case that  $\theta = id_A$ , we may see that a left (right)  $id_A$ -centralizer is a left (right) centralizer.  $T$  is said to be a (Jordan)  $\theta$ -centralizer if it is both (Jordan) left and (Jordan) right  $\theta$ -centralizer. For a 2-torsion free semiprime ring  $R$  (i.e., for  $a \in R$ ,  $2a = 0$  implies  $a = 0$ , and

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$aRa = \{0\}$  implies  $a = 0$ ), Albas [1] proved that every Jordan  $\theta$ -centralizer of  $R$  is a  $\theta$ -centralizer provided that  $\theta$  is surjective and  $\theta(Z) = Z$ , where  $Z$  is the center of  $R$ . For more properties of  $\theta$ -centralizers, one can see [1]-[6] and [11, 21].

Let us mention that a Banach algebra  $A$  is not without order if there exist nonzero elements  $a_0$  and  $b_0$  in  $A$  such that  $a_0A = Ab_0 = \{0\}$ ; for example, semisimple Banach algebras are without order. Wang [23] (see also [13]) showed that every centralizer on a without order Banach algebra is necessarily continuous and linear. Also, Johnson [15] proved that every left (right) centralizer on a Banach algebra with a bounded left (right) approximate identity is continuous and linear. The same result for  $\theta$ -centralizers has been obtained in [21].

Miura et al. [20] showed that every approximate centralizer (multiplier) on a Banach algebra can be approximated by a centralizer. They also proved that every approximate centralizer on a without order Banach algebra is an exact centralizer. The same results for approximate  $\theta$ -centralizers have been obtained in [21].

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two algebras. A linear mapping  $\theta : A \rightarrow B$  is called a triple homomorphism if

$$\theta(abc) = \theta(a)\theta(b)\theta(c)$$

for all  $a, b, c \in A$ . It is evident that if  $\theta : A \rightarrow B$  is a homomorphism, then  $\theta$  is a triple homomorphism, but the converse is not true. To see, let  $\phi : A \rightarrow A$  be a homomorphism, then one can see that  $\theta := -\phi$  is a triple homomorphism which is not a homomorphism; for more details, see [7, 9, 17, 18, 22].

In this paper, we introduce triple  $\theta$ -centralizers and weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizers on an algebra  $A$ , where  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  is a triple homomorphism. We will see that the notions of triple  $\theta$ -centralizers, weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizers and  $\theta$ -centralizers are different. We generalize the results of [23, 15, 21] on the linearity and continuity of weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizers on Banach algebras. We present some observations concerning approximate weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizers, which improve and extend the same results in [20, 21].

## 2 Triple and weak triple $\theta$ -centralizers

Let us start with the following.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $A$  be an algebra and  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  be a triple homomorphism. A mapping  $T : A \rightarrow A$  is said to be a triple left (right)  $\theta$ -centralizer if

$$T(abc) = T(a)\theta(b)\theta(c) \quad (T(abc) = \theta(a)\theta(b)T(c))$$

for all  $a, b, c \in A$ .  $T$  is said to be a triple  $\theta$ -centralizer if it is both triple left and right  $\theta$ -centralizer.

For the case that  $\theta = id_A$ , we may see that a triple  $id_A$ -centralizer is a triple centralizer. Also, if we set  $c = a$ , one can see that a triple centralizer is a Jordan triple centralizer [19, p. 1398].

It is easy to see that every  $\theta$ -centralizer is also a triple  $\theta$ -centralizer, but the converse is not true. For illustration, see Example 2.3 (ii).

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $A$  be an algebra and  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  be a triple homomorphism. A mapping  $T : A \rightarrow A$  is said to be a weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizer if

$$T(a)\theta(b)\theta(c) = \theta(a)\theta(b)T(c)$$

for all  $a, b, c \in A$ .

We notice that if  $T$  is a triple  $\theta$ -centralizer, then it is a weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizer, but the converse is not true (see Example 2.3 (i)). However, there exist some conditions under which a weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizer is a triple  $\theta$ -centralizer (see Theorem 2.4).

**Example 2.3.** Let

$$\mathcal{A} = \left\{ \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} 0 & r_1 & r_2 & r_3 \\ 0 & 0 & r_4 & r_5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & r_6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] : r_1, \dots, r_6 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

(i) Define mappings  $T, \theta: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  via

$$T \left( \begin{bmatrix} 0 & r_1 & r_2 & r_3 \\ 0 & 0 & r_4 & r_5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & r_6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & r_1 & r_2 & r_5 \\ 0 & 0 & r_4 & r_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & r_6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \theta \left( \begin{bmatrix} 0 & r_1 & r_2 & r_3 \\ 0 & 0 & r_4 & r_5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & r_6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & r_1 & r_5 & r_3 \\ 0 & 0 & r_4 & r_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & r_6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then  $\theta$  is a triple homomorphism on  $\mathcal{A}$ , but it is not a homomorphism and

$$\theta(\mathbf{a})\theta(\mathbf{b})T(\mathbf{c}) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & r_1s_4t_6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = T(\mathbf{a})\theta(\mathbf{b})\theta(\mathbf{c}),$$

$$T(\mathbf{abc}) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & r_1s_4t_6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

where

$$\mathbf{a} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & r_1 & r_2 & r_3 \\ 0 & 0 & r_4 & r_5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & r_6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & s_1 & s_2 & s_3 \\ 0 & 0 & s_4 & s_5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & s_6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{c} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & t_1 & t_2 & t_3 \\ 0 & 0 & t_4 & t_5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & t_6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

are arbitrary elements of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Thus  $T$  is a weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizer, but it is not a triple left (right)  $\theta$ -centralizer. On the other hand, we have

$$T(\mathbf{ab}) \neq T(\mathbf{a})\theta(\mathbf{b}), \quad T(\mathbf{ab}) \neq \theta(\mathbf{a})T(\mathbf{b}), \quad \theta(\mathbf{a})T(\mathbf{b}) \neq T(\mathbf{a})\theta(\mathbf{b}),$$

whence  $T$  is not a left (right)  $\theta$ -centralizer.

(ii) Taking  $\theta$  as the above, we may see that if  $S = id_{\mathcal{A}}$ , then

$$S(\mathbf{abc}) = S(\mathbf{a})\theta(\mathbf{b})\theta(\mathbf{c}) = \theta(\mathbf{a})\theta(\mathbf{b})S(\mathbf{c})$$

for all  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c} \in \mathcal{A}$ . Hence  $S$  is a triple  $\theta$ -centralizer. On the other hand, we have

$$S(\mathbf{ab}) \neq S(\mathbf{a})\theta(\mathbf{b}), \quad S(\mathbf{ab}) \neq \theta(\mathbf{a})S(\mathbf{b}),$$

whence  $S$  is not a left (right)  $\theta$ -centralizer.

Let us mention that an algebra  $A$  is factorizable if for each  $a$  in  $A$ , there exist  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  in  $A$  such that  $a = a_1a_2$ . By a classical theorem due to Cohen [4], Banach algebras with a bounded approximate identity are factorizable.

**Theorem 2.4.** Let  $A$  be a without order factorizable algebra and  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  be a surjective triple homomorphism. If  $T : A \rightarrow A$  is a weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizer, then  $T$  is a linear triple  $\theta$ -centralizer.

**Proof .** Let  $a, b, c$  be arbitrary elements of  $A$ . Take  $x$  in  $A$ , since  $A$  is facotizable there exist  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  in  $A$  such that  $x = x_1x_2$ . On the other hand,  $\theta$  is surjective, so there exist  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  in  $A$  such that  $\theta(y_1) = x_1$  and  $\theta(y_2) = x_2$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} xT(abc) &= \theta(y_1)\theta(y_2)T(abc) \\ &= T(y_1)\theta(y_2)\theta(abc) \\ &= (T(y_1)\theta(y_2)\theta(a))\theta(b)\theta(c) \\ &= (\theta(y_1)\theta(y_2)T(a))\theta(b)\theta(c) \\ &= \theta(y_1)\theta(y_2)((T(a)\theta(b)\theta(c)) \\ &= x(\theta(a)\theta(b)T(c)). \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$x(T(abc) - \theta(a)\theta(b)T(c)) = 0,$$

and this is true for each  $x \in A$ . Since  $A$  is without order, so

$$T(abc) - \theta(a)\theta(b)T(c) = 0.$$

Thus,  $T$  is a triple right  $\theta$ -centralizer. Similarly, it is proved that  $T$  is a triple left  $\theta$ -centralizer. Thus  $T$  is a triple  $\theta$ -centralizer.

To see that  $T$  is linear, let  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $a, b \in A$  and

$$\Lambda := T(\lambda a + b) - \lambda T(a) - T(b).$$

Let  $x \in A$  be arbitrary, since again  $A$  is factorizable and  $\theta$  is surjective, there exists  $x_1, x_2, y_1, y_2 \in A$  such that  $x = x_1 x_2$  and  $x_1 = \theta(y_1)$ ,  $x_2 = \theta(y_2)$ . Now we can see that

$$\begin{aligned} x\Lambda &= \theta(y_1)\theta(y_2)[T(\lambda a + b) - \lambda T(a) - T(b)] \\ &= \theta(y_1)\theta(y_2)T(\lambda a + b) - \theta(y_1)\theta(y_2)\lambda T(a) - \theta(y_1)\theta(y_2)T(b) \\ &= T(y_1)\theta(y_2)\theta(\lambda a + b) - \lambda T(y_1)\theta(y_2)\theta(a) - T(y_1)\theta(y_2)\theta(b) \\ &= T(y_1)\theta(y_2)[\theta(\lambda a + b) - \lambda\theta(a) - \theta(b)] \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

This is true for each  $x \in A$ . Since  $A$  is without order, so  $\Lambda = 0$  for all  $a, b \in A$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ ; that is,  $T$  is linear.  $\square$

**Remark 2.5.** Let  $A$  be a factorizable algebra and  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  be a homomorphism. If  $T : A \rightarrow A$  is a triple  $\theta$ -centralizer, then  $T$  is a  $\theta$ -centralizer.

To see, let  $a, b$  be arbitrary elements of  $A$ . Since  $A$  is factorizable, there exist  $b_1, b_2 \in A$  such that  $b = b_1 b_2$ . Since  $T$  is a triple left  $\theta$ -centralizer, so

$$T(ab) = T(ab_1 b_2) = T(a)\theta(b_1)\theta(b_2) = T(a)\theta(b_1 b_2) = T(a)\theta(b).$$

Thus  $T$  is a left  $\theta$ -centralizer. Similarly, one can see that  $T$  is a right  $\theta$ -centralizer and so  $T$  is a  $\theta$ -centralizer.

**Corollary 2.6.** Let  $A$  be a without order factorizable algebra and  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  be a surjective homomorphism. If  $T : A \rightarrow A$  is a weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizer, then  $T$  is a linear  $\theta$ -centralizer.

**Proof .** By Theorem 2.4,  $T$  is a linear triple  $\theta$ -centralizer. Thus, by Remark 2.5,  $T$  is a linear  $\theta$ -centralizer.  $\square$

We introduce a useful result that can be easily derived from Eshaghi et al. [7, Theorem 2.4].

**Lemma 2.7.** Let  $A$  be a semisimple Banach algebra. Then every surjective triple homomorphism  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  is continuous.

**Theorem 2.8.** Let  $A$  be a semisimple Banach algebra with a bounded left approximate identity and  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  be a surjective triple homomorphism. Then every weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizer  $T : A \rightarrow A$  is linear and continuous.

**Proof .** Let  $a_m \rightarrow 0$  in  $A$ , by Johnson's theorem there exist  $c \in A$  and a sequence  $(b_m) \in A$  such that  $b_m \rightarrow 0$  and  $a_m = cb_m$  for each  $m$ , see [15]. On the other hand, by Cohen's factorization theorem, there exist  $c_1, c_2 \in A$  such that  $c = c_1 c_2$ . By assumptions and Theorem 2.4,  $T$  is a linear triple left  $\theta$ -centralizer, so we have

$$T(a_m) = T(cb_m) = T(c_1 c_2 b_m) = T(c_1)\theta(c_2)\theta(b_m).$$

By Lemma 2.7,  $\theta$  is a continuous map. It forces the last sentence approaches to zero whenever  $m \rightarrow \infty$ ; that is,  $T$  is continuous.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.9.** Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra and  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  be a surjective triple homomorphism. Then every weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizer  $T : A \rightarrow A$  is linear and continuous.

### 3 Approximate weak triple $\theta$ -centralizers

Here, we give some sufficient conditions under which every approximate weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizer is a linear triple  $\theta$ -centralizer.

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $A$  be a without order factorizable Banach algebra,  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  be a surjective triple homomorphism and  $\ell \in \{-1, 1\}$  be fixed. Let  $T : A \rightarrow A$  be a mapping satisfy

$$\|\theta(a)\theta(b)T(c) - T(a)\theta(b)\theta(c)\| \leq \phi(a, b, c),$$

where  $\phi : A^3 \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is a mapping such that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\phi(2^{\ell k} a, b, c)}{2^{\ell k}} = 0 \quad (3.1)$$

for all  $a, b, c \in A$ . Then  $T$  is a linear triple  $\theta$ -centralizer.

**Proof .** Let  $\mu \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $a \in A$  be arbitrary, we show that  $T(\mu a) = \mu T(a)$ . Take  $x \in A$ , since  $A$  is factorizable and  $\theta$  is surjective, there exist  $x_1, x_2$  and  $y_1, y_2$  in  $A$  such that  $x = x_1 x_2$ ,  $\theta(y_1) = x_1$ ,  $\theta(y_2) = x_2$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|2^{\ell k} x [T(\mu a) - \mu T(a)]\| &= \|\theta(2^{\ell k} y_1) \theta(y_2) [T(\mu a) - \mu T(a)]\| \\ &\leq \|\theta(2^{\ell k} y_1) \theta(y_2) T(\mu a) - T(2^{\ell k} y_1) \theta(y_2) \theta(\mu a)\| \\ &\quad + \|T(2^{\ell k} y_1) \theta(y_2) \theta(\mu a) - \theta(2^{\ell k} y_1) \theta(y_2) (\mu T(a))\| \\ &\leq \phi(2^{\ell k} y_1, y_2, a) + |\mu| \phi(2^{\ell k} y_1, y_2, a). \end{aligned}$$

So we have

$$\|x [T(\mu a) - \mu T(a)]\| \leq \frac{1}{2^{\ell k}} [\phi(2^{\ell k} b, c, a) + |\mu| \phi(2^{\ell k} b, c, a)].$$

By letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , we get

$$x [T(\mu a) - \mu T(a)] = 0.$$

Since  $A$  is without order and this is true for each  $x \in A$ ,  $T(\mu a) - \mu T(a) = 0$  for all  $a \in A$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ .

In spacial case that  $\mu = 2^{\ell k}$ , we get  $T(a) = \frac{1}{2^{\ell k}} T(2^{\ell k} a)$ . Thus for each  $a, b, c \in A$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|\theta(a)\theta(b)T(c) - T(a)\theta(b)\theta(c)\| &= \frac{1}{2^{\ell k}} \|2^{\ell k} \theta(a)\theta(b)T(c) - 2^{\ell k} T(a)\theta(b)\theta(c)\| \\ &= \frac{1}{2^{\ell k}} \|\theta(2^{\ell k} a)\theta(b)T(c) - T(2^{\ell k} a)\theta(b)\theta(c)\| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2^{\ell k}} \phi(2^{\ell k} a, b, c). \end{aligned}$$

By taking limit whenever  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , the last sentence approaches to zero; that is,  $T$  is a weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizer. By Theorem 2.4,  $T$  is a linear triple  $\theta$ -centralizer.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.2.** Let  $A$  be a without order factorizable Banach algebra,  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  be a surjective triple homomorphism,  $\ell \in \{-1, 1\}$  be fixed and  $\epsilon, r$  be positive real numbers with  $\ell r < \ell$ . If  $T : A \rightarrow A$  is a mapping such that

$$\|\theta(a)\theta(b)T(c) - T(a)\theta(b)\theta(c)\| \leq \epsilon \|a\|^r \|b\|^r \|c\|^r$$

for all  $a, b, c \in A$ , then  $T$  is a linear triple  $\theta$ -centralizer.

**Proof .** Set  $\phi(a, b, c) := \epsilon \|a\|^r \|b\|^r \|c\|^r$  and use Theorem 3.1.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.3.** Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra (need not be without order),  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  be a triple homomorphism (need not be surjective),  $\ell \in \{-1, 1\}$  be fixed and  $\varphi : A^2 \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  and  $\phi : A^3 \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be mappings such that

$$\sigma(a, b) := \sum_{i=\frac{1-\ell}{2}}^{\infty} \frac{\varphi(2^{\ell i} a, 2^{\ell i} b)}{2^{\ell i}} < \infty, \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\phi(2^{\ell k} a, b, 2^{\ell k} c)}{4^{\ell k}} = 0$$

for all  $a, b, c \in A$ . If  $f : A \rightarrow A$  is a mapping satisfying

$$\|f(a+b) - f(a) - f(b)\| \leq \varphi(a, b), \quad \|\theta(a)\theta(b)f(c) - f(a)\theta(b)\theta(c)\| \leq \phi(a, b, c)$$

for all  $a, b, c \in A$ , then there exists a unique additive weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizer  $T : A \rightarrow A$  such that

$$\|f(a) - T(a)\| \leq \frac{\sigma(a, a)}{2} \quad (3.2)$$

for all  $a \in A$ .

**Proof .** By [8] and [16, Corollary 2.19], there exists a unique additive mapping  $T : A \rightarrow A$  such that (3.2) holds for all  $a \in A$ . The mapping  $T$  is given by

$$T(a) := \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2^{\ell k}} f(2^{\ell k} a)$$

for all  $a \in A$ . On the other hand, by the homogeneity of  $\theta$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| \theta(a)\theta(b) \frac{1}{2^{\ell k}} f(2^{\ell k} c) - \frac{1}{2^{\ell k}} f(2^{\ell k} a) \theta(b)\theta(c) \right\| \\ &= \frac{1}{4^{\ell k}} \left\| \theta(2^{\ell k} a)\theta(b)f(2^{\ell k} c) - f(2^{\ell k} a)\theta(b)\theta(2^{\ell k} c) \right\| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4^{\ell k}} \phi(2^{\ell k} a, b, 2^{\ell k} c) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $a, b, c \in A$ . The last sentence approaches to zero whenever  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ; that is,

$$\theta(a)\theta(b)T(c) = T(a)\theta(b)\theta(c)$$

for all  $a, b, c \in A$ . So  $T$  is an additive weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizer.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.4.** Let  $A$  be a Banach algebra (need not be without order),  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  be a triple homomorphism (need not be surjective),  $\ell \in \{-1, 1\}$  be fixed and  $\epsilon, p, r$  be positive real numbers with  $\ell p, \ell r < \ell$ . If  $f : A \rightarrow A$  is a mapping such that

$$\|f(a+b) - f(a) - f(b)\| \leq \epsilon(\|a\|^p + \|b\|^p), \quad \|\theta(a)\theta(b)f(c) - f(a)\theta(b)\theta(c)\| \leq \epsilon\|a\|^r\|b\|^r\|c\|^r$$

for all  $a, b, c \in A$ , then there exists a unique additive weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizer  $T : A \rightarrow A$  such that

$$\|f(a) - T(a)\| \leq \frac{\ell\epsilon}{1 - 2^{p-1}} \|a\|^p$$

for all  $a \in A$ .

**Proof .** Set  $\varphi(a, b) := \epsilon(\|a\|^p + \|b\|^p)$ ,  $\phi(a, b, c) := \epsilon\|a\|^r\|b\|^r\|c\|^r$  and use Theorem 3.3.  $\square$

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be Banach algebras. A linear mapping  $T : A \rightarrow B$  is said to be an almost homomorphism (or almost multiplicative linear mapping) if there exists  $\epsilon \geq 0$  such that

$$\|T(ab) - T(a)T(b)\| \leq \epsilon\|a\|\|b\|$$

for all  $a, b \in A$  (see, e.g., [12, 14]). Also, a linear mapping  $T : A \rightarrow B$  is said to be an almost triple homomorphism if there exists  $\epsilon \geq 0$  such that

$$\|T(abc) - T(a)T(b)T(c)\| \leq \epsilon\|a\|\|b\|\|c\|$$

for all  $a, b, c \in A$  (see, e.g., [17]).

**Theorem 3.5.** Let  $A$  be a semisimple Banach algebra with a bounded left approximate identity and  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  be a surjective triple homomorphism. If  $T : A \rightarrow A$  is a weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizer, then  $T$  is a continuous almost triple homomorphism.

**Proof .** By Theorems 2.4 and 2.8,  $T$  is a continuous linear triple left  $\theta$ -centralizer. Also  $\theta$  is a continuous linear map, so

$$\|\theta(a)\| \leq \|\theta\|\|a\|, \quad \|T(a)\| \leq \|T\|\|a\|$$

for all  $a \in A$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \|T(abc) - T(a)T(b)T(c)\| &= \|T(a)\theta(b)\theta(c) - T(a)T(b)T(c)\| \\ &\leq \|T(a)\|\|\theta(b)\theta(c) - T(b)T(c)\| \\ &\leq \|T(a)\|(\|\theta(b)\|\|\theta(c)\| + \|T(b)\|\|T(c)\|) \\ &\leq \|T\|\|a\|(\|\theta\|^2\|b\|\|c\| + \|T\|^2\|b\|\|c\|) \\ &= \|T\|\|\theta\|^2\|a\|\|b\|\|c\| + \|T\|^3\|a\|\|b\|\|c\| \\ &= \|T\|(\|\theta\|^2 + \|T\|^2)\|a\|\|b\|\|c\| \end{aligned}$$

for all  $a, b, c \in A$ . By taking  $\epsilon = \|T\|(\|\theta\|^2 + \|T\|^2)$ , we see that  $T$  is almost triple homomorphism.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.6.** Let  $A$  be a  $C^*$ -algebra and  $\theta : A \rightarrow A$  be a surjective triple homomorphism. If  $T : A \rightarrow A$  is a weak triple  $\theta$ -centralizer, then  $T$  is a continuous almost triple homomorphism.

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