

## MAPS PRESERVING JORDAN TRIPLE PRODUCT $A^*B + BA^*$ ON $*$ -ALGEBRAS

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ABSTRACT. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be two prime  $*$ -algebras. Let  $\Phi : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  be a bijective and satisfies

$$\Phi(A \bullet B \bullet A) = \Phi(A) \bullet \Phi(B) \bullet \Phi(A),$$

for all  $A, B \in \mathcal{A}$  where  $A \bullet B = A^*B + BA^*$ . Then,  $\Phi$  is additive. Moreover, if  $\Phi(I)$  is idempotent then we show that  $\Phi$  is  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear  $*$ -isomorphism.

### 1. Introduction

Let  $\mathcal{R}$  and  $\mathcal{R}'$  be rings. We say the map  $\Phi : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathcal{R}'$  preserves product or is multiplicative if  $\Phi(AB) = \Phi(A)\Phi(B)$  for all  $A, B \in \mathcal{R}$ , see [9]. Motivated by this, many authors pay more attention to the map on rings (and algebras) preserving different kinds of products to establish characteristics of  $\Phi$  on rings. A natural problem is to study whether the map  $\Phi$  preserving the new product on ring or algebra  $\mathcal{R}$  is a ring or algebraic isomorphism. (for example [1–4, 6–8, 10–12]).

Recently, Liu and Ji [5] proved that a bijective map  $\Phi$  on factor von Neumann algebras preserves,  $A^*B + BA^*$  if and only if  $\Phi$  is a  $*$ -isomorphism. Also, the authors in [14] considered such a bijective map  $\Phi : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  on prime  $C^*$ -algebras which preserves  $A^*B + \eta BA^*$ , where

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$\eta$  is a non-zero scalar such that  $\eta \neq \pm 1$ . They proved that  $\Phi$  is additive. Moreover, if  $\Phi(I)$  is projection then  $\Phi$  is  $*$ -isomorphism.

The authors of [13], proved that if the map  $\Phi$  from a prime  $*$ -ring  $\mathcal{A}$  onto a  $*$ -ring  $\mathcal{B}$  is bijective and preserves Jordan triple product

$$\Phi(ABA) = \Phi(A)\Phi(B)\Phi(A)$$

or  $*$ -Jordan triple product

$$\Phi(AB^*A) = \Phi(A)\Phi(B)^*\Phi(A)$$

then it is additive. Also, we show that if  $\Phi : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ , where  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are two prime rings, preserves Jordan triple product then it is multiplicative or anti-multiplicative. Also, we show that  $\Psi(A) = \Phi(A)\Phi(I)^*$ , for  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear or conjugate  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear  $*$ -isomorphism.

In this paper, motivated by the above results, we consider a map  $\Phi$  on two prime  $*$ -algebras  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  with a nontrivial projection such that  $\Phi$  is bijective and holds in the following condition

$$\Phi(A \bullet B \bullet A) = \Phi(A) \bullet \Phi(B) \bullet \Phi(A),$$

for all  $A, B \in \mathcal{A}$  where  $A \bullet B = A^*B + BA^*$ . We show that  $\Phi$  described in the above is additive. Also, if  $\Phi(I)$  is idempotent then  $\Phi$  is  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear  $*$ -isomorphism.

It is well known that  $C^*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  is prime, in the sense that  $AAB = 0$  for  $A, B \in \mathcal{A}$  implies either  $A = 0$  or  $B = 0$ .

## 2. Main Results

We need the following lemma for proving our theorems.

LEMMA 2.1. *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be two  $*$ -algebras and  $\Phi : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  be a map which satisfies in the following case:*

$$(2.1) \quad \Phi(A \bullet B \bullet A) = \Phi(A) \bullet \Phi(B) \bullet \Phi(A).$$

*If  $\Phi(T) = \Phi(A) + \Phi(B)$  for  $T, A, B \in \mathcal{A}$  then we have*

$$\Phi(X \bullet T \bullet X) = \Phi(X \bullet A \bullet X) + \Phi(X \bullet B \bullet X)$$

*for all  $X, Y \in \mathcal{A}$ .*

*Proof.* By assumption we have

$$(2.2) \quad \Phi(T)^* = \Phi(A)^* + \Phi(B)^*.$$

Multiplying the left and right sides of (2.2) by  $\Phi(X)$ , we obtain

$$(2.3) \quad 2\Phi(X)\Phi(T)^*\Phi(X) = 2\Phi(X)\Phi(A)^*\Phi(X) + 2\Phi(X)\Phi(B)^*\Phi(X).$$

Multiplying the left side of (2.2) by  $\Phi(X)^2$ , we obtain

$$(2.4) \quad \Phi(X)^2\Phi(T)^* = \Phi(X)^2\Phi(A)^* + \Phi(X)^2\Phi(B)^*.$$

Multiplying the right side of (2.2) by  $\Phi(X)^2$ , we obtain

$$(2.5) \quad \Phi(T)^*\Phi(X)^2 = \Phi(A)^*\Phi(X)^2 + \Phi(B)^*\Phi(X)^2.$$

Adding 2 times of (2.3), (2.4) and (2.5) together and making use of (2.1) we have

$$\Phi(X \bullet T \bullet X) = \Phi(X \bullet A \bullet X) + \Phi(X \bullet T \bullet X).$$

□

Our first theorem is as follows:

**THEOREM 2.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be two prime  $*$ -algebras with unit  $I_{\mathcal{A}}$  and  $I_{\mathcal{B}}$  respectively, a nontrivial projection and  $\Phi : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  be a bijective map which satisfies in the following condition*

$$(2.6) \quad \Phi(A \bullet B \bullet A) = \Phi(A) \bullet \Phi(B) \bullet \Phi(A)$$

for all  $A, B \in \mathcal{A}$ . Then  $\Phi$  is additive.

*Proof.* Let  $P_1$  be a nontrivial projection in  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $P_2 = I_{\mathcal{A}} - P_1$ . Denote  $\mathcal{A}_{ij} = P_i \mathcal{A} P_j$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2$ , then  $\mathcal{A} = \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \mathcal{A}_{ij}$ . For every  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  we may write  $A = A_{11} + A_{12} + A_{21} + A_{22}$ . In all that follow, when we write  $A_{ij}$ , it indicates that  $A_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}_{ij}$ . For showing additivity of  $\Phi$  on  $\mathcal{A}$ , we use above partition of  $\mathcal{A}$  and give some claims that prove  $\Phi$  is additive on each  $\mathcal{A}_{ij}$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2$ .

We prove the above theorem by several claims.

**CLAIM 1.** *We show that  $\Phi(0) = 0$ .*

We know that for all  $A, B \in \mathcal{A}$ , the following holds

$$\Phi(A \bullet B \bullet A) = \Phi(A) \bullet \Phi(B) \bullet \Phi(A).$$

Let  $B = 0$  then

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(0) &= \Phi(A) \bullet \Phi(0) \bullet \Phi(A) \\ &= \Phi(A)\Phi(0)^*\Phi(A) + \Phi(0)^*\Phi(A)\Phi(A) \\ &\quad + \Phi(A)^2\Phi(0)^* + \Phi(A)\Phi(0)^*\Phi(A) \end{aligned}$$

for every  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ . Since  $\Phi$  is surjective, we can find  $A$  such that  $\Phi(A) = 0$ , then we have  $\Phi(0) = 0$ .

CLAIM 2. For each  $A_{11} \in \mathcal{A}_{11}$  and  $A_{22} \in \mathcal{A}_{22}$  we have

$$\Phi(A_{11} + A_{22}) = \Phi(A_{11}) + \Phi(A_{22}).$$

Since  $\Phi$  is surjective, there exists  $T = T_{11} + T_{12} + T_{21} + T_{22} \in \mathcal{A}$  such that

$$(2.7) \quad \Phi(T) = \Phi(A_{11}) + \Phi(A_{22}).$$

By applying Lemma (2.1) to (2.7) for  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ , we have

$$\Phi(P_1 \bullet T \bullet P_1) = \Phi(P_1 \bullet A_{11} \bullet P_1) + \Phi(P_1 \bullet A_{22} \bullet P_1) = \Phi(4A_{11}^*)$$

and

$$\Phi(P_2 \bullet T \bullet P_2) = \Phi(P_2 \bullet A_{11} \bullet P_2) + \Phi(P_2 \bullet A_{22} \bullet P_2) = \Phi(4A_{22}^*).$$

Since  $\Phi$  is injective, we obtain

$$T^*P_1 + 2P_1T^*P_1 + P_1T^* = 4A_{11}^*$$

and

$$T^*P_2 + 2P_2T^*P_2 + P_2T^* = 4A_{22}^*.$$

Hence, we have  $A_{11} = T_{11}$ ,  $A_{22} = T_{22}$  and  $T_{12} = T_{21} = 0$ . So,

$$\Phi(A_{11} + A_{22}) = \Phi(A_{11}) + \Phi(A_{22}).$$

CLAIM 3. For each  $A_{12} \in \mathcal{A}_{12}$ ,  $A_{21} \in \mathcal{A}_{21}$  we have

$$\Phi(A_{12} + A_{21}) = \Phi(A_{12}) + \Phi(A_{21}).$$

Since  $\Phi$  is surjective, we can find  $T = T_{11} + T_{12} + T_{21} + T_{22} \in \mathcal{A}$  such that

$$(2.8) \quad \Phi(T) = \Phi(A_{12}) + \Phi(A_{21}).$$

By applying Lemma (2.1) to (2.8) for  $P_1 - P_2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \Phi((P_1 - P_2) \bullet T \bullet (P_1 - P_2)) \\ &= \Phi((P_1 - P_2) \bullet A_{12} \bullet (P_1 - P_2)) \\ &+ \Phi((P_1 - P_2) \bullet A_{21} \bullet (P_1 - P_2)) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\Phi$  is injective, we have

$$(P_1 - P_2) \bullet T \bullet (P_1 - P_2) = 0.$$

So, we obtain

$$T_{11}^* + T_{22}^* = 0$$

it follows that  $T_{11} = T_{22} = 0$ .

On the other hand, by applying Lemma (2.1) to (2.8) for  $X_{12}$  and  $X_{21}$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(X_{12} \bullet T \bullet X_{12}) &= \Phi(X_{12} \bullet A_{12} \bullet X_{12}) + \Phi(X_{12} \bullet A_{21} \bullet X_{12}) \\ &= \Phi(2X_{12}A_{12}^*X_{12})\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(X_{21} \bullet T \bullet X_{21}) &= \Phi(X_{21} \bullet A_{12} \bullet X_{21}) + \Phi(X_{21} \bullet A_{21} \bullet X_{21}) \\ &= \Phi(2X_{21}A_{21}^*X_{21}).\end{aligned}$$

By injection, we have

$$X_{12} \bullet T \bullet X_{12} = 2X_{12}A_{12}^*X_{12},$$

for all  $X_{12} \in \mathcal{A}_{12}$  and

$$X_{21} \bullet T \bullet X_{21} = 2X_{21}A_{21}^*X_{21},$$

for all  $X_{21} \in \mathcal{A}_{21}$ . Therefore, by primeness we have  $T_{12} = A_{12} =$  and  $T_{21} = A_{21}$ .

CLAIM 4. For each  $A_{11} \in \mathcal{A}_{11}$ ,  $A_{12} \in \mathcal{A}_{12}$ ,  $A_{21} \in \mathcal{A}_{21}$  we have

$$\Phi(A_{11} + A_{12} + A_{21}) = \Phi(A_{11}) + \Phi(A_{12}) + \Phi(A_{21})$$

and

$$\Phi(A_{22} + A_{12} + A_{21}) = \Phi(A_{22}) + \Phi(A_{12}) + \Phi(A_{21}).$$

Since  $\Phi$  is surjective, there exists  $T = T_{11} + T_{12} + T_{21} + T_{22}$  such that

$$(2.9) \quad \Phi(T) = \Phi(A_{11}) + \Phi(A_{12}) + \Phi(A_{21}).$$

By applying Lemma (2.1) to (2.9) for  $P_2$  and implying Claim 3, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(P_2 \bullet T \bullet P_2) &= \Phi(P_2 \bullet A_{11} \bullet P_2) + \Phi(P_2 \bullet A_{12} \bullet P_2) + \Phi(P_2 \bullet A_{21} \bullet P_2) \\ &= \Phi(A_{12}^* + A_{21}^*).\end{aligned}$$

So, we have

$$T^*P_2 + 2P_2T^*P_2 + P_2T^* = A_{12}^* + A_{21}^*$$

then

$$4T_{22}^* + T_{12}^* + T_{21}^* = A_{12}^* + A_{21}^*.$$

Therefore, we have  $T_{12} = A_{12}$ ,  $T_{21} = A_{21}$  and  $T_{22} = 0$ .

For showing that  $T_{11} = A_{11}$  we use the following trick. It is easy to check that

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(4T_{11}^*) &= \Phi((P_1 - P_2) \bullet T \bullet (P_1 - P_2)) \\ &= \Phi((P_1 - P_2) \bullet A_{11} \bullet (P_1 - P_2)) + \Phi((P_1 - P_2) \bullet A_{12} \bullet (P_1 - P_2)) \\ &\quad + \Phi((P_1 - P_2) \bullet A_{21} \bullet (P_1 - P_2)) \\ &= \Phi(4A_{11}^*).\end{aligned}$$

By injection we have  $T_{11} = A_{11}$ .

Similarly, one can prove

$$\Phi(A_{22} + A_{12} + A_{21}) = \Phi(A_{22}) + \Phi(A_{12}) + \Phi(A_{21}).$$

CLAIM 5. For each  $A_{11} \in \mathcal{A}_{11}$ ,  $A_{12} \in \mathcal{A}_{12}$ ,  $A_{21} \in \mathcal{A}_{21}$ ,  $A_{22} \in \mathcal{A}_{22}$ , we have

$$\Phi(A_{11} + A_{12} + A_{21} + A_{22}) = \Phi(A_{11}) + \Phi(A_{12}) + \Phi(A_{21}) + \Phi(A_{22}).$$

We assume  $T$  is an element in  $\mathcal{A}$  such that

$$(2.10) \quad \Phi(T) = \Phi(A_{11}) + \Phi(A_{12}) + \Phi(A_{21}) + \Phi(A_{22}).$$

By applying Lemma (2.1) to (2.10) for  $P_1$  and Claim 4, we have

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(P_1 \bullet T \bullet P_1) &= \Phi(P_1 \bullet A_{11} \bullet P_1) + \Phi(P_1 \bullet A_{12} \bullet P_1) + \Phi(P_1 \bullet A_{21} \bullet P_1) \\ &\quad + \Phi(P_1 \bullet A_{22} \bullet P_1) \\ &= \Phi(4A_{11}^*) + \Phi(A_{12}^*) + \Phi(A_{21}^*) \\ &= \Phi(4A_{11}^* + A_{12}^* + A_{21}^*).\end{aligned}$$

Then, we have

$$4T_{11}^* + T_{12}^* + T_{21}^* = 4A_{11}^* + A_{12}^* + A_{21}^*$$

so,  $T_{11} = A_{11}$ ,  $T_{12} = A_{12}$  and  $T_{21} = A_{21}$ .

Similarly, by Lemma (2.1) to (2.10) for  $P_2$  and Claim 4, we have

$$\Phi(P_2 \bullet T \bullet P_2) = \Phi(4A_{22}^* + A_{12}^* + A_{21}^*).$$

So, we obtain  $T_{22} = A_{22}$ . Hence, we obtain

$$\Phi(A_{11} + A_{12} + A_{21} + A_{22}) = \Phi(A_{11}) + \Phi(A_{12}) + \Phi(A_{21}) + \Phi(A_{22}).$$

CLAIM 6. For each  $A_{ij}, B_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}_{ij}$  such that  $1 \leq i, j \leq 2$  and  $i \neq j$ , we have

$$\Phi(A_{ij} + B_{ij}) = \Phi(A_{ij}) + \Phi(B_{ij}).$$

By a simple computation, we can show the following

$$(P_i + A_{ij}) \bullet (P_j + B_{ij}^*) \bullet (P_i + A_{ij}) = A_{ij} + B_{ij}.$$

By using Claim 5, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(A_{ij} + B_{ij}) &= \Phi((P_i + A_{ij}) \bullet (P_j + B_{ij}^*) \bullet (P_i + A_{ij})) \\ &= \Phi(P_i + A_{ij}) \bullet \Phi(P_j + B_{ij}^*) \bullet \Phi(P_i + A_{ij}) \\ &= (\Phi(P_i) + \Phi(A_{ij})) \bullet (\Phi(P_j) + \Phi(B_{ij}^*)) \bullet (\Phi(P_i) + \Phi(A_{ij})) \\ &= \Phi(P_i) \bullet \Phi(P_j) \bullet \Phi(P_i) + \Phi(P_i) \bullet \Phi(B_{ij}^*) \bullet \Phi(P_i) \\ &\quad + \Phi(P_i) \bullet \Phi(P_j) \bullet \Phi(A_{ij}) + \Phi(P_i) \bullet \Phi(B_{ij}^*) \bullet \Phi(A_{ij}) \\ &\quad + \Phi(A_{ij}) \bullet \Phi(P_j) \bullet \Phi(P_i) + \Phi(A_{ij}) \bullet \Phi(P_j) \bullet \Phi(A_{ij}) \\ &\quad + \Phi(A_{ij}) \bullet \Phi(B_{ij}^*) \bullet \Phi(P_i) + \Phi(A_{ij}) \bullet \Phi(B_{ij}^*) \bullet \Phi(A_{ij}) \\ &= \Phi(P_i \bullet P_j \bullet P_i) + \Phi(P_i \bullet B_{ij}^* \bullet P_i) \\ &\quad + \Phi(P_i \bullet P_j \bullet A_{ij}) + \Phi(P_i \bullet B_{ij}^* \bullet A_{ij}) \\ &\quad + \Phi(A_{ij} \bullet P_j \bullet P_i) + \Phi(A_{ij} \bullet P_j \bullet A_{ij}) \\ &\quad + \Phi(A_{ij} \bullet B_{ij}^* \bullet P_i) + \Phi(A_{ij} \bullet B_{ij}^* \bullet A_{ij}) \\ &= \Phi(A_{ij}) + \Phi(B_{ij}). \end{aligned}$$

CLAIM 7. For each  $A_{ii}, B_{ii} \in \mathcal{A}_{ii}$  such that  $1 \leq i \leq 2$ , we have

$$\Phi(A_{ii} + B_{ii}) = \Phi(A_{ii}) + \Phi(B_{ii}).$$

Since  $\Phi$  is surjective, we can find  $T = T_{ii} + T_{ij} + T_{ji} + T_{jj} \in \mathcal{A}$  such that

$$(2.11) \quad \Phi(T) = \Phi(A_{ii}) + \Phi(B_{ii}).$$

By applying Lemma (2.1) to (2.11) for  $P_j$ , we have

$$\Phi(P_j \bullet T \bullet P_j) = \Phi(P_j \bullet A_{ii} \bullet P_j) + \Phi(P_j \bullet B_{ii} \bullet P_j) = 0.$$

Since  $\Phi$  is injective, we obtain

$$P_j T^* + T^* P_j + 2P_j T^* P_j = 0.$$

So,  $T_{ij} = T_{ji} = T_{jj} = 0$ . Hence, we have  $T = T_{ii}$ .

On the other hand, for each  $C_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}_{ij}$  from Claim 6 and Lemma (2.1) for  $P_j + C_{ij}$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(T_{ii}^* C_{ij}) &= \Phi((P_j + C_{ij}) \bullet T \bullet (P_j + C_{ij})) \\ &= \Phi((P_j + C_{ij}) \bullet A_{ii} \bullet (P_j + C_{ij})) + \Phi((P_j + C_{ij}) \bullet B_{ii} \bullet (P_j + C_{ij})) \\ &= \Phi(A_{ii}^* C_{ij}) + \Phi(B_{ii}^* C_{ij}) \\ &= \Phi(A_{ii}^* C_{ij} + B_{ii}^* C_{ij}). \end{aligned}$$

So, we have

$$(T_{ii}^* - A_{ii}^* - B_{ii}^*)C_{ij} = 0$$

for all  $C_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}_{ij}$ . By primeness, we have  $T_{ii} = A_{ii} + B_{ii}$ .

Hence, the additivity of  $\Phi$  comes from the above claims.  $\square$

In the rest of this paper, we show that  $\Phi$  is  $*$ -isomorphism.

**THEOREM 2.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be two prime  $*$ -algebras with unit  $I_{\mathcal{A}}$  and  $I_{\mathcal{B}}$  respectively, a nontrivial projection and  $\Phi : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  be a bijective map which satisfies in the following condition*

$$(2.12) \quad \Phi(A \bullet B \bullet A) = \Phi(A) \bullet \Phi(B) \bullet \Phi(A)$$

for all  $A, B \in \mathcal{A}$ . If  $\Phi(I_{\mathcal{A}})$  is idempotent, then  $\Phi$  is  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear  $*$ -isomorphism.

*Proof.* We prove the above theorem by some claims.

**CLAIM 1.**  $\Phi$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -linear map.

By additivity of  $\Phi$ , it is easy to check that  $\Phi$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -linear.

**CLAIM 2.** We show that  $\Phi$  is unital.

For any  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , by knowing that  $\Phi(I)$  is idempotent, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi\left(\frac{I}{2} \bullet A \bullet \frac{I}{2}\right) &= \Phi\left(\frac{I}{2}\right) \bullet \Phi(A) \bullet \Phi\left(\frac{I}{2}\right) \\ &= \Phi\left(\frac{I}{2}\right)^2 \Phi(A)^* + \Phi(A)^* \Phi\left(\frac{I}{2}\right)^2 + 2\Phi\left(\frac{I}{2}\right) \Phi(A)^* \Phi\left(\frac{I}{2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\Phi$  is surjective, we can find  $A$  such that  $\Phi(A) = I_{\mathcal{B}}$ , then

$$\Phi\left(\frac{I}{2} \bullet A \bullet \frac{I}{2}\right) = \Phi(I)$$

by injectivity of  $\Phi$  we get

$$\frac{I}{2} \bullet A \bullet \frac{I}{2} = I.$$

So,  $A = I$ .

**CLAIM 3.**  $\Phi$  preserves projections on the both sides.



Suppose that  $P \in \mathcal{A}$  is a projection. From the Claim 1 we have

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(P) &= \Phi\left(\frac{I}{2} \bullet P \bullet \frac{I}{2}\right) \\ &= \left(\Phi\left(\frac{I}{2}\right)^* \Phi(P) + \Phi(P)\Phi\left(\frac{I}{2}\right)^*\right) \bullet \Phi\left(\frac{I}{2}\right) \\ &= \Phi(P) \bullet \Phi\left(\frac{I}{2}\right) = \Phi(P)^*.\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\Phi(P) = \Phi(P)^*.$$

Also,

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(P) &= \Phi\left(P \bullet \frac{I}{4} \bullet P\right) \\ &= \left(\Phi(P)^* \Phi\left(\frac{I}{4}\right) + \Phi\left(\frac{I}{4}\right) \Phi(P)^*\right) \bullet \Phi(P) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \Phi(P) \bullet \Phi(P) \\ &= \frac{\Phi(P)^* \Phi(P) + \Phi(P) \Phi(P)^*}{2} \\ &= \Phi(P)^2.\end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\Phi(P) = \Phi(P)^2.$$

Since  $\Phi^{-1}$  has the same characteristics of  $\Phi$  then  $\Phi$  is the preserver of the projections on the both sides.

REMARK 2.4. We note here that if  $P_i$  and  $P_j = I - P_i$  are two Orthogonal projections then  $\Phi(P_i)$  and  $\Phi(P_j)$  are so.

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(P_i)\Phi(P_j) &= \Phi(P_i)(\Phi(I) - P_i) \\ &= \Phi(P_i)(\Phi(I) - \Phi(P_i)) \\ &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

REMARK 2.5. From

$$\Phi\left(\frac{I}{2} \bullet A \bullet \frac{I}{2}\right) = \Phi\left(\frac{I}{2}\right) \bullet \Phi(A) \bullet \Phi\left(\frac{I}{2}\right)$$

we have  $\Phi(A^*) = \Phi(A)^*$ . It means that  $\Phi$  preserves star.

CLAIM 4.  $\Phi(\mathcal{A}_{ii}) = \mathcal{B}_{ii}$ .

Let  $X \in \mathcal{A}_{ii}$  be an arbitrary element, then we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(4X) &= \Phi(P_i \bullet X^* \bullet P_i) \\ &= (\Phi(P_i)^* \Phi(X^*) + \Phi(X^*) \Phi(P_i)^*) \bullet \Phi(P_i) \\ &= \Phi(P_i) \Phi(X) + \Phi(X) \Phi(P_i) + 2\Phi(P_i) \Phi(X) \Phi(P_i)\end{aligned}$$

since  $\Phi$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -linear, so we show that

$$4\Phi(X) = \Phi(P_i) \Phi(X) + 2\Phi(P_i) \Phi(X) \Phi(P_i) + \Phi(X) \Phi(P_i).$$

From the above equation, we obtain the following relations

$$\Phi(P_i) \Phi(X) \Phi(P_j) = 0,$$

$$\Phi(P_j) \Phi(X) \Phi(P_i) = 0$$

and

$$\Phi(P_j) \Phi(X) \Phi(P_j) = 0.$$

So, we have

$$\Phi(X) = \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \Phi(P_i) \Phi(X) \Phi(P_j) = \Phi(P_i) \Phi(X) \Phi(P_i)$$

it follows that

$$\Phi(A_{ii}) \subseteq B_{ii}.$$

Since  $\Phi^{-1}$  has the properties as  $\Phi$  then we have  $\Phi(A_{ii}) = B_{ii}$ .

CLAIM 5.  $\Phi(A_{ij}) \Phi(P_j) = \Phi(P_i) \Phi(A_{ij}) \Phi(P_j)$  for  $A_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}_{ij}$  and  $1 \leq i, j \leq 2$  such that  $i \neq j$ .

Since  $\Phi$  is star preserving we have

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi(A_{ij}) &= \Phi(P_i \bullet A_{ij}^* \bullet P_i) \\ &= \Phi(P_i) \bullet \Phi(A_{ij}^*) \bullet \Phi(P_i) \\ &= (\Phi(P_i)^* \Phi(A_{ij}^*) + \Phi(A_{ij}^*) \Phi(P_i)) \bullet \Phi(P_i) \\ &= \Phi(P_i) \Phi(A_{ij}) + \Phi(A_{ij}) \Phi(P_i) + 2\Phi(P_i) \Phi(A_{ij}) \Phi(P_i).\end{aligned}$$

So, we showed that

$$\Phi(A_{ij}) = \Phi(P_i) \Phi(A_{ij}) + \Phi(A_{ij}) \Phi(P_i) + 2\Phi(P_i) \Phi(A_{ij}) \Phi(P_i).$$

We multiply the right side of above equation by  $\Phi(P_j)$ , to obtain

$$(2.13) \quad \Phi(A_{ij}) \Phi(P_j) = \Phi(P_i) \Phi(A_{ij}) \Phi(P_j).$$

Similarly, one can show that

$$\Phi(P_j)\Phi(A_{ji}) = \Phi(P_j)\Phi(A_{ji})\Phi(P_i).$$

CLAIM 6. *Suppose that  $A_{ii}, B_{ii} \in \mathcal{A}_{ii}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq 2$ . Then*

$$\Phi(A_{ii}B_{ii}) = \Phi(A_{ii})\Phi(B_{ii}).$$

Let  $C_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}_{ij}$  be an arbitrary element. Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(A_{ii}B_{ii}C_{ij}) &= \Phi((P_j + C_{ij}) \bullet (B_{ii}^*A_{ii}^*) \bullet (P_j + C_{ij})) \\ &= \Phi((P_j + C_{ij}) \bullet \Phi(B_{ii}^*A_{ii}^*) \bullet \Phi(P_j + C_{ij})) \\ &= ((\Phi(P_j + C_{ij})^* \Phi(B_{ii}^*A_{ii}^*) \\ &\quad + \Phi(B_{ii}^*A_{ii}^*) \Phi(P_j + C_{ij})^*) \bullet \Phi(P_j + C_{ij})) \\ &= (\Phi(C_{ij})^* \Phi(B_{ii}^*A_{ii}^*) \bullet \Phi(P_j)) \\ &= \Phi(A_{ii}B_{ii})\Phi(C_{ij}). \end{aligned}$$

So, by the above equation, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(A_{ii}B_{ii})\Phi(C_{ij}) &= \Phi(A_{ii}(B_{ii}C_{ij})) \\ &= \Phi(A_{ii})\Phi(B_{ii}C_{ij}) \\ &= \Phi(A_{ii})\Phi(B_{ii})\Phi(C_{ij}). \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$(\Phi(A_{ii}B_{ii}) - \Phi(A_{ii})\Phi(B_{ii}))\Phi(C_{ij}) = 0.$$

We multiply the above equation by  $\Phi(P_j)$  from the left side, then we have

$$(\Phi(A_{ii}B_{ii}) - \Phi(A_{ii})\Phi(B_{ii}))\Phi(C_{ij})\Phi(P_j) = 0.$$

By Claim 5, we have

$$(\Phi(A_{ii}B_{ii}) - \Phi(A_{ii})\Phi(B_{ii}))\Phi(P_i)\Phi(C_{ij})\Phi(P_j) = 0.$$

By primeness, we obtain

$$\Phi(A_{ii}B_{ii}) = \Phi(A_{ii})\Phi(B_{ii}).$$

CLAIM 7. *Suppose that  $A_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}_{ii}$  and  $B_{ji} \in \mathcal{B}_{ji}$ . Then*

$$\Phi(A_{ij}B_{ji}) = \Phi(A_{ij})\Phi(B_{ji}).$$

Since  $\Phi$  preserves star, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \Phi(A_{ij}B_{ji} + B_{ji}A_{ij}) \\
= & \Phi\left((A_{ij} + B_{ji}) \bullet \frac{I}{4} \bullet (A_{ij} + B_{ji})\right) \\
= & \Phi(A_{ij} + B_{ji}) \bullet \Phi\left(\frac{I}{4}\right) \bullet \Phi(A_{ij} + B_{ji}) \\
= & \left(\Phi(A_{ij} + B_{ji})^* \Phi\left(\frac{I}{4}\right) + \Phi\left(\frac{I}{4}\right) \Phi(A_{ij} + B_{ji})^*\right) \bullet \Phi(A_{ij} + B_{ji}) \\
= & \frac{1}{2}(\Phi(A_{ij})^* + \Phi(B_{ji})^*) \bullet \Phi(A_{ij} + B_{ji}) \\
= & \Phi(A_{ij})\Phi(B_{ji}) + \Phi(B_{ji})\Phi(A_{ij}).
\end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\Phi(A_{ij}B_{ji}) + \Phi(B_{ji}A_{ij}) = \Phi(A_{ij})\Phi(B_{ji}) + \Phi(B_{ji})\Phi(A_{ij}).$$

Multiplying the left side of the above equation by  $\Phi(P_i)$  and applying Claims 4 and 5 to obtain

$$\Phi(P_i)\Phi(A_{ij}B_{ji}) + \Phi(P_i)\Phi(B_{ji}A_{ij}) = \Phi(P_i)\Phi(A_{ij})\Phi(B_{ji}) + \Phi(P_i)\Phi(B_{ji})\Phi(A_{ij}).$$

So,

$$\Phi(A_{ij}B_{ji}) = \Phi(A_{ij})\Phi(B_{ji}).$$

CLAIM 8. For  $A_{ii} \in \mathcal{A}_{ii}$  and  $B_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}_{ij}$  we have

$$\Phi(A_{ii}B_{ij}) = \Phi(A_{ii})\Phi(B_{ij}).$$

Let  $T_{ji}$  in  $\mathcal{A}_{ji}$  such that  $i \neq j$ , Claims 6 and 7 imply that

$$\begin{aligned}
\Phi(A_{ii}B_{ij})\Phi(T_{ji}) &= \Phi(A_{ii}B_{ij}T_{ji}) \\
&= \Phi(A_{ii})\Phi(B_{ij}T_{ji}) \\
&= \Phi(A_{ii})\Phi(B_{ij})\Phi(T_{ji}).
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\mathcal{B}$  is prime and by Claim 5, we have

$$\Phi(A_{ii}B_{ij}) = \Phi(A_{ii})\Phi(B_{ij}).$$

CLAIM 9. For  $A_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}_{ij}$  and  $B_{jj} \in \mathcal{A}_{jj}$  we have

$$\Phi(A_{ij}B_{jj}) = \Phi(A_{ij})\Phi(B_{jj}).$$

For each  $T_{ji} \in \mathcal{A}_{ji}$  such that  $i \neq j$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(T_{ji})\Phi(A_{ij}B_{jj}) &= \Phi(T_{ji}A_{ij}B_{jj}) \\ &= \Phi(T_{ji}A_{ij})\Phi(B_{jj}) \\ &= \Phi(T_{ji})\Phi(A_{ij})\Phi(B_{jj}). \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\Phi(A_{ij}B_{jj}) = \Phi(A_{ij})\Phi(B_{jj}).$$

It should be clear that

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi(AB) &= \Phi((A_{ii} + A_{ij} + A_{ji} + A_{jj})(B_{ii} + B_{ij} + B_{ji} + B_{jj})) \\ &= \Phi(A_{ii}B_{ii} + A_{ii}B_{ij} + A_{ij}B_{ji} + A_{ij}B_{jj} + A_{ji}B_{ii} \\ &\quad + A_{ji}B_{ij} + A_{jj}B_{ji} + A_{jj}B_{jj}) \\ &= \Phi(A_{ii})\Phi(B_{ii}) + \Phi(A_{ii})\Phi(B_{ij}) + \Phi(A_{ij})\Phi(B_{ji}) + \Phi(A_{ij})\Phi(B_{jj}) \\ &\quad + \Phi(A_{ji})\Phi(B_{ii}) + \Phi(A_{ji})\Phi(B_{ij}) + \Phi(A_{jj})\Phi(B_{ji}) + \Phi(A_{jj})\Phi(B_{jj}) \\ &= (\Phi(A_{ii}) + \Phi(A_{ij}) + \Phi(A_{ji}) + \Phi(A_{jj}))(\Phi(B_{ii}) + \Phi(B_{ij}) + \Phi(B_{ji}) \\ &\quad + \Phi(B_{jj})) \\ &= \Phi(A)\Phi(B). \end{aligned}$$

CLAIM 10.  $\Phi$  is  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear.

For every  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , there exists two rational number sequences  $\{r_n\}, \{s_n\}$  such that  $r_n \leq \lambda \leq s_n$  and  $\lim r_n = \lim s_n = \lambda$  when  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . It is clear that  $\Psi$  preserves positive elements, then  $\Psi$  preserves order. So, by the additivity of  $\Phi$  we have

$$r_n I = \Phi(r_n I) \leq \Phi(\lambda I) \leq \Phi(s_n I) = s_n I.$$

Hence,

$$\Phi(\lambda I) = \lambda I$$

for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ . It means that  $\Phi$  is  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear. □

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