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# On Skew Strongly Reversible Rings Relative to a Monoid

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**Abstract** For a monoid M, we introduce the concept of skew strongly M-reversible rings which is a generalization of strongly M-reversible rings, and investigate their properties. It is shown that if G is a finitely generated Abelian group, then G is torsion-free if and only if there exists a ring R with  $|R| \ge 2$  such that R is skew strongly G-reversible. Moreover, we prove that if R is a right Ore ring with classical right quotient ring Q, then R is skew strongly M-reversible if and only if Q is skew strongly M-reversible.

Keywords reversible rings; skew strongly M-reversible rings; skew monoid rings

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## 1. Introduction

Throughout this article, R denotes an associative ring with identity and M denotes a monoid, respectively. In [1], Cohn introduced the notion of a reversible ring. A ring R is reversible if  $a, b \in R$  with ab = 0 implies ba = 0. Anderson and Camillo [2] used the term of  $ZC_2$  for what is called reversible. A ring R is called symmetric, whenever abc = 0 implies acb = 0 for all  $a, b, c \in R$ . Moreover, a ring R is reduced if  $a^2 = 0$  implies a = 0 for all  $a \in R$ . Huh and Lee studied a generalization of commutative rings, which is called semicommutative in [3], if ab = 0 implies aRb = 0 for all  $a, b \in R$ . In general, we have the following implications:

reduced (resp., commutative) rings  $\Rightarrow$  symmetric rings  $\Rightarrow$  reversible rings  $\Rightarrow$  semicommutative rings. But none of them is irreversible.

In [4], Kim and Lee showed that polynomial rings over reversible rings need not be reversible. Later in 2008, Yang and Liu [5] introduced the notion of strongly reversible rings. A ring R is called strongly reversible, whenever polynomials  $f(x), g(x) \in R[x]$  with f(x)g(x) = 0 implies g(x)f(x) = 0. It is well-known that every reduced ring is strongly reversible and the inverse is not true. Rage and Chhawchharia [6], presented the concept of an Armendariz ring. They called a ring R an Armendariz ring, if polynomials  $f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \cdots + a_nx^n$ ,  $g(x) = b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + \cdots + b_mx^m$  are in R[x] and satisfy f(x)g(x) = 0, then  $a_ib_j = 0$ for all i, j. In the following, we denote by R[M] the monoid ring constructed from a ring R and a monoid M, e will always stand for the identity of M. Liu [7] called a ring R an M-Armendariz

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ring (an Armendariz ring relative to a monoid M), if whenever  $\alpha = a_1g_1 + a_2g_2 + \cdots + a_ng_n$ ,  $\beta = b_1h_1 + b_2h_2 + \cdots + b_mg_m \in R[M]$  satisfy  $\alpha\beta = 0$ , then  $a_ib_j = 0$ , for all i, j. As mentioned in [8], Singh, Juyal and Khan studied a generalization of a strongly reversible ring, which is called strongly M-reversible, whenever  $\alpha\beta = 0$  implies  $\beta\alpha = 0$  with  $\alpha, \beta \in R[M]$ .

Motivated by the results of [5,7,9,10], we propose a unified approach to generalize strongly reversible rings and strongly *M*-reversible rings. The idea is to study the reversible condition defined for the skew monoid ring R \* M, where *R* is a ring and *M* is a monoid. Assume that there exists a monoid homomorphism  $\omega : M \to \operatorname{End}(R)$ . We denote  $\omega(g)$  by  $\omega_g$ , for each  $g \in M$ . According to [11], we can form a skew monoid ring R \* M (induced by the monoid homomorphism  $\omega$ ) by taking its elements to be finite formal combinations  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i g_i$ , with multiplication induced by  $(ag)(bh) = (a\omega_g(b))(gh)$ . Note that the trivial monoid homomorphism is  $\omega : M \to \operatorname{End}(R)$ defined by  $\omega_g(r) = r$  for each  $g \in M$  and  $r \in R$ . We say that *R* is a skew strongly *M*-reversible ring relative to *M* (or simply skew strongly *M*-reversible ring), whenever  $\alpha\beta = 0$  implies  $\beta\alpha = 0$ , where  $\alpha, \beta \in R * M$ . If  $M = (\mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, +)$  and the monoid homomorphism  $\omega : M \to \operatorname{End}(R)$ is trivial, it is clear that a ring *R* is skew strongly *M*-reversible if and only if *R* is strongly *M*-reversible if and only if *R* is strongly reversible. Therefore, our results will unify some results on strongly reversible rings and strongly *M*-reversible rings.

### 2. Main results

In this section, we introduce the notion of a skew strongly M-reversible ring and investigate its properties. We begin with the following definition.

**Definition 2.1** Let R be a ring, M a monoid and  $\omega : M \to \text{End}(R)$  a monoid homomorphism. A ring R is called skew strongly M-reversible ring relative to M (or simply skew strongly M-reversible ring), if  $\alpha\beta = 0$  implies  $\beta\alpha = 0$  for all  $\alpha, \beta \in R * M$ .

**Example 2.2** Here are some special cases of skew strongly *M*-reversible rings:

(1) Let R be an arbitrary ring and  $M = \{e\}$ . Then the trivial monoid homomorphism  $\omega : M \to \text{End}(R)$  is the only monoid homomorphism and clearly R is skew strongly M-reversible if and only if R is strongly M-reversible.

(2) If  $M = (\mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, +)$  and the monoid homomorphism  $\omega : M \to \text{End}(R)$  is trivial, it is clear that a ring R is skew strongly M-reversible if and only if R is strongly M-reversible if and only if R is strongly reversible.

(3) Every *M*-invariant subring *S* (i.e.,  $\omega_g(S) \subseteq S$  for all  $g \in M$ ) of a skew strongly *M*-reversible ring is also skew strongly *M*-reversible.

**Proposition 2.3** Let R be a ring, M a monoid and  $\omega : M \to \text{End}(R)$  a monoid homomorphism. If a is a central idempotent of R with  $\omega_g(a) = a$  for each  $g \in M$ , then the following statements are equivalent:

- (1) R is a skew strongly M-reversible ring.
- (2) aR and (1-a)R are skew strongly *M*-reversible rings.

#### **Proof** $(1) \Rightarrow (2)$ is straightforward.

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). Let aR and (1-a)R be skew strongly M-reversible rings, and let  $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^{m} a_i g_i$ ,  $\beta = \sum_{j=1}^{n} b_j h_j$  be elements in R \* M with  $\alpha \beta = 0$ . Suppose  $\alpha_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{m} a_i g_i$ ,  $\beta_1 = \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_j h_j$ ,  $\alpha_2 = \sum_{i=1}^{m} (1-a)a_i g_i$  and  $\beta_2 = \sum_{j=1}^{n} (1-a)b_j h_j$ , then  $\alpha_1, \beta_1 \in (aR) * M$  and  $\alpha_2, \beta_2 \in ((1-a)R) * M$ . This implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 \beta_1 &= a a_1 \omega_{g_1} (a b_1) g_1 h_1 + \dots + a a_m \omega_{g_n} (a b_m) g_n h_m &= a \alpha \beta = 0, \\ \alpha_2 \beta_2 &= (1-a) a_1 \omega_{g_1} ((1-a) b_1) g_1 h_1 + \dots + (1-a) a_m \omega_{g_n} ((1-a) b_m) g_n h_m \\ &= (1-a) \alpha \beta = 0, \end{aligned}$$

it follows that  $\beta_1 \alpha_1 = 0$  and  $\beta_2 \alpha_2 = 0$  since aR and (1-a)R are skew strongly *M*-reversible. Therefore,  $\beta \alpha = b_1 \omega_{h_1}(a_1) h_1 g_1 + \dots + b_n \omega_{h_n}(a_m) h_n g_m = 0$ . This shows that *R* is skew strongly *M*-reversible.  $\Box$ 

According to Krempa [12], an endomorphism  $\alpha$  of a ring R is said to be rigid if  $a\alpha(a) = 0$ implies a = 0, for  $a \in R$ . A ring R is  $\alpha$ -rigid if there exists a rigid endomorphism  $\alpha$  of R. Clearly, every domain D with a monomorphism  $\alpha$  is  $\alpha$ -rigid. In [13], the authors introduced  $\alpha$ -compatible rings and studied their properties. A ring R is  $\alpha$ -compatible if for each  $a, b \in R$ , ab = 0 if and only if  $a\alpha(b) = 0$ . Clearly, this may only happen when the endomorphism  $\alpha$  is injective. Also by [13, Lemma 2.2], a ring R is  $\alpha$ -rigid if and only if R is  $\alpha$ -compatible and reduced. For a ring R and a monoid M with  $\omega : M \to \text{End}(R)$  a monoid homomorphism, we say that R is M-compatible (resp., M-rigid) if  $\omega_q$  is compatible (resp., rigid) for any  $g \in M$ .

**Lemma 2.4** ([11, Lemma 2.11]) Let R be a ring, M a monoid and  $\omega : M \to \text{End}(R)$  a monoid homomorphism. If R is M-compatible, then  $\omega_g(a) = a$  for each idempotent  $a \in R$  and  $g \in M$ .

**Corollary 2.5** Let R be an M-compatible ring and M a monoid with  $\omega : M \to \text{End}(R)$  a monoid homomorphism. Then R is a skew strongly M-reversible if and only if aR and (1-a)R are skew strongly M-reversible.

A monoid M is called a u.p.-monoid (unique product monoid) if for any two nonempty finite subsets  $A, B \in M$ , there exists an element  $g \in M$  uniquely in the form of ab with  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ . The class of u.p.-monoid is quite large and important [12, 13, 14]. For example, this class includes the right or left ordered monoids, submonoids of a free group, and torsion-free nilpotent groups. Every u.p.-monoid M has no nonunity element of finite order.

Lemma 2.6 Let M be a u.p.-monoid and R an M-rigid ring. Then R \* M is reduced.

**Proof** Suppose  $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i g_i$  in R \* M such that  $\alpha^2 = a_1 \omega_{g_1}(a_1) g_1 g_1 + \cdots + a_n \omega_{g_n}(a_n) g_n g_n = 0$ , where  $a_i \in R$ ,  $g_i \in M$  for all i. Then R is skew M-Armendariz by [11, Proposition 3.3]. Thus  $a_i \omega_{g_i}(a_j) = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ . Since R is M-rigid, we have that  $a_i a_j = 0$ . In particular  $a_i^2 = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Since R is M-rigid, then R is reduced. It follows that  $a_i = 0$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and therefore R \* M is reduced.  $\Box$ 

**Proposition 2.7** Let M be a u.p.-monoid and R an M-rigid ring. Then R is skew strongly

M-reversible.

**Proof** Let  $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i g_i$ ,  $\beta = \sum_{j=1}^{m} b_j h_j \in \mathbb{R} * M$  such that  $\alpha\beta = a_1\omega_{g_1}(b_1)(g_1h_1) + \cdots + a_n\omega_{g_n}(b_m)(g_nh_m) = 0$ . So  $(\beta\alpha)^2 = (\beta\alpha)(\beta\alpha) = \beta(\alpha\beta)\alpha = 0$ . Since  $\mathbb{R}$  is M-rigid, we have  $\beta\alpha = 0$  by Lemma 2.6. Hence  $\mathbb{R}$  is a skew strongly M-reversible ring.  $\Box$ 

Lemma 2.8 Direct products of skew strongly M-reversible rings are skew strongly M-reversible.

**Proposition 2.9** Let R be a ring, M a commutative cancellative monoid with  $\omega : M \to \text{End}(R)$ a monoid homomorphism. Suppose N is an ideal of M such that  $\omega_g = id_R$  for every  $g \in N$ . If R is skew strongly N-reversible, then R is skew strongly M-reversible.

**Proof** Let  $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i g_i$ ,  $\beta = \sum_{j=1}^{m} b_j h_j$  be elements of R \* M with

$$\alpha\beta = a_1\omega_{g_1}(b_1)(g_1h_1) + \dots + a_n\omega_{g_n}(b_m)(g_nh_m) = 0$$

Take  $g \in N$ . Note that  $gg_1, \ldots, gg_n$ ,  $h_1g, \ldots, h_mg \in N$  and  $gg_i \neq gg_j$ ,  $h_ig \neq h_jg$  for  $i \neq j$ , respectively. Put  $\alpha_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i gg_i$ ,  $\beta_1 = \sum_{j=1}^m b_j h_j g$ ,  $\alpha_1, \beta_1 \in R * N$  and we have

$$\alpha_1 \beta_1 = a_1 \omega_{gg_1} (b_1) (gg_1 h_1 g) + \dots + a_n \omega_{gg_n} (b_m) (gg_n h_m g)$$
  
=  $a_1 \omega_{g_1} (b_1) (gg_1 h_1 g) + \dots + a_n \omega_{g_n} (b_m) (gg_n h_m g) = \alpha \beta (g^2) = 0.$ 

Since R is skew strongly N-reversible, we obtain

$$\beta_1 \alpha_1 = b_1 \omega_{h_1 g} (a_1) (h_1 g g g_1) + \dots + b_m \omega_{h_m g} (a_n) (h_m g g g_n)$$
$$= b_1 \omega_{h_1} (a_1) (h_1 g g g_1) + \dots + b_m \omega_{h_m} (a_n) (h_m g g g_n) = \beta \alpha (g^2) = 0.$$

Thus

$$\beta \alpha = b_1 \omega_{h_1} \left( a_1 \right) \left( h_1 g_1 \right) + \dots + b_m \omega_{h_m} \left( a_n \right) \left( h_m g_n \right) = 0.$$

This implies that R is skew strongly M-reversible.  $\Box$ 

**Lemma 2.10** Let M be a cyclic group of order  $n \ge 2$  and R a ring with unity. Then R is not skew strongly M-reversible.

**Proof** Suppose that  $M = \{e, g, g^2, \dots, g^{n-1}\}$ . Let  $\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} e + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} g + \dots + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} g^{n-1}, \beta = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} e + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} g \in R * M$ , and define  $\omega : M \to \operatorname{End}(R)$  by  $\omega_h \left( \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} a & -b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$  for all  $e \neq h \in M$ . Then  $\alpha\beta = 0$ . But  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \omega_g \left( \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \neq 0,$ 

so  $\beta \alpha \neq 0$ . Thus R is not skew strongly M-reversible.  $\Box$ 

Lemma 2.11 Let M be a monoid and N a submonoid of M. If R is a skew strongly M-reversible

ring, then R is skew strongly N-reversible.

**Lemma 2.12** ([7, Lemma 1.13]) If M and N are u.p.-monoids, then so is  $M \times N$ .

Let T(G) be set of elements of finite order in an Abelian group G. Then T(G) is a fully invariant subgroup of G. G is said to be torsion-free if  $T(G) = \{e\}$ .

**Theorem 2.13** Let G be a finitely generated Abelian group. Then the following conditions on G are equivalent:

- (1) G is torsion-free.
- (2) There exists a ring R with  $|R| \ge 2$  such that R is a skew strongly G-reversible ring.

**Proof** (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (1). If  $g \in T(G)$  and  $g \neq e$ , then  $N = \langle g \rangle$  is cyclic group of finite order. If a ring  $R \neq \{0\}$  is skew strongly *G*-reversible. Then *R* is skew strongly *N*-reversible by Lemma 2.11, a contradiction by Lemma 2.10. Thus every ring  $R \neq \{0\}$  is not skew strongly *G*-reversible.

 $(1) \Rightarrow (2)$ . Let G be a finitely generated Abelian group with  $T(G) = \{e\}$ . Then  $G = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{Z}$  is a finite direct product of group Z. Clearly, G is u.p.-monoid by Lemma 2.12. Now it is immediate that if R is a commutative M-rigid ring, then R is a skew strongly G-reversible ring. This completes the proof.  $\Box$ 

Let *I* be an *M*-invariant ideal of *R*, *M* a monoid and  $\omega : M \to \text{End}(R)$  a monoid homomorphism. We can define  $\bar{\omega} : M \to \text{End}(R/I)$  with  $\overline{\omega_g}(r+I) = \omega_g(r) + I$ . One can easily check that  $\bar{\omega}$  is a monoid homomorphism. Also for any  $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i g_i$  in R \* M, we denote  $\bar{\alpha} = \sum_{i=1}^n \overline{a_i} g_i$  in (R/I) \* M, where  $\overline{a_i} = a_i + I$ , for each  $1 \le i \le n$ . It is easy to see that the mapping  $\phi : R * M \to (R/I) * M$  defined by  $\phi(\alpha) = \bar{\alpha}$  is a ring homomorphism.

The following example shows that there exists a ring R such that R/I is skew strongly M-reversible for a non-zero skew strongly M-reversible proper ideal I (as a ring without identity), but R is not skew strongly M-reversible.

**Example 2.14** ([5, Example 3.7]) Let S be a division ring. Consider the ring

$$R = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{ccc} a & b & c \\ 0 & a & d \\ 0 & 0 & a \end{array} \right) | a, b, c, d \in S \right\}.$$

Then R is not skew strongly M-reversible since it is not reversible. Let M be a monoid with  $|M| \ge 2$ . Take a non-zero proper ideal  $I = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & S \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , it is easy to see that I is a skew

strongly M-reversible ideal of R. If

$$\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \begin{pmatrix} a_i & b_i & 0\\ 0 & a_i & c_i\\ 0 & 0 & a_i \end{pmatrix} g_i, \quad \beta = \sum_{j=1}^{m} \begin{pmatrix} u_i & v_j & 0\\ 0 & u_j & w_j\\ 0 & 0 & u_j \end{pmatrix} h_j$$

are in (R/I) \* M satisfying  $\alpha \beta = 0$ . Then we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} \sum a_i g_i & \sum b_i g_i & 0\\ 0 & \sum a_i g_i & \sum c_i g_i\\ 0 & 0 & \sum a_i g_i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sum u_j h_j & \sum v_j h_j & 0\\ 0 & \sum u_j h_j & \sum w_j h_j\\ 0 & 0 & \sum u_j h_j \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

which implies  $(\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i g_i)(\sum_{j=1}^{m} u_j h_j) = 0$ , hence  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i g_i = 0$  or  $\sum_{j=1}^{m} u_j h_j = 0$  since S is a division ring, and it is easy to prove that  $\beta \alpha = 0$ .

However, we have the following affirmative answer to this situation as in the following.

**Proposition 2.15** Suppose that R/I is skew strongly *M*-reversible for some ideal *I* of a ring *R*. If *I* is *M*-rigid, then *R* is skew strongly *M*-reversible.

**Proof** Suppose  $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i g_i$ ,  $\beta = \sum_{j=1}^{m} b_j h_j$  are elements in R \* M with  $\alpha \beta = 0$ , where  $\bar{\alpha} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \overline{a_i} g_i$ ,  $\bar{\beta} = \sum_{j=1}^{m} \overline{b_j} h_j$  are elements in (R/I) \* M and  $\overline{a_i} = a_i + I$ ,  $\overline{b_j} = b_j + I$ . Then we have

$$\alpha\beta = (\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i g_i)(\sum_{j=1}^{m} b_j h_j) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{m} a_i \omega_{g_i}(b_j) g_i h_j = 0,$$
  
$$\overline{\alpha}\overline{\beta} = (\sum_{i=1}^{n} \overline{a_i} g_i)(\sum_{j=1}^{m} \overline{b_j} h_j) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{m} \overline{a_i} \ \overline{\omega_{g_i}}(\overline{b_j}) g_i h_j$$
  
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{m} (a_i + I) \overline{\omega_{g_i}}(b_j + I) g_i h_j = \overline{0},$$

Since R/I is skew strongly *M*-reversible, it follows that

$$\bar{\beta}\bar{\alpha} = (\sum_{j=1}^{m} \overline{b_j} h_j)(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \overline{a_i} g_i) = \bar{0},$$

then we have  $\beta \alpha \in I * M$ . Since I is M-rigid, I \* M is reduced by Lemma 2.5. Hence  $(\beta \alpha)^2 = (\beta \alpha)(\beta \alpha) = \beta(\alpha \beta)\alpha = 0$  implies that  $\beta \alpha = 0$ . Therefore, R is skew strongly M-reversible.  $\Box$ 

A ring R is called right Ore, if given  $a, b \in R$  with b regular, there exist  $a_1, b_1 \in R$  with  $b_1$  regular such that  $ab_1 = ba_1$ . It is a well-known fact that a ring R is right Ore if and only if the classical right quotient ring Q of R exists. It was shown in [15, Theorem 16] and [4, Theorem 2.6] that a ring R is reduced (resp., reversible) if and only if Q is reduced (resp., reversible).

More generally, suppose that the classical right quotient ring Q of R exists. Assume that M is a monoid with  $\omega : M \to \operatorname{End}(R)$  a monoid homomorphism, then the induced map  $\bar{\omega} : M \to \operatorname{End}(Q)$  defined by  $\bar{\omega}_g(ab^{-1}) = \omega_g(a) \cdot \omega_g(b)^{-1}$  extends  $\omega$  and is also a monoid homomorphism with  $ab^{-1} \in Q$ , where  $a, b \in R, g \in M$  and b is regular. In the following argument, we extend this result to skew strongly M-reversible rings.

**Theorem 2.16** Let M be a monoid and R a right Ore ring with classical right quotient ring Q of R. The ring R is skew strongly M-reversible if and only if Q is skew strongly M-reversible.

**Proof** Let  $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i g_i$ ,  $\beta = \sum_{j=1}^{m} b_j h_j$  be elements in Q \* M such that  $\alpha \beta = 0$ , where

 $a_i, b_j \in R$  and  $g_i, h_j \in M$  for each i, j. Since R is a right Ore ring with classical right quotient ring Q, we can assume that  $a_i = p_i \omega_{g_i}(u^{-1}), b_j = q_j \omega_{h_j}(v^{-1})$  with  $p_i, q_j \in R$  for all i, j, regular elements  $u, v \in R$  and  $g \in M$  such that  $\omega_g \in \text{End}(R)$  by [16, Proposition 2.1.16]. Also by [16, Proposition 2.1.16], for each j, there exist  $c_j \in R$  and a regular element  $s \in R$  such that  $u^{-1}q_j = c_j s^{-1}$ . Put  $\alpha_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i g_i, \beta_1 = \sum_{i=1}^m q_j h_j, \beta_2 = \sum_{i=1}^m c_j h_j$ , then we have

$$0 = \alpha\beta = (\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i g_i)(\sum_{j=1}^{m} b_j h_j) = (\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i \omega_{g_i}(u^{-1})g_i)(\sum_{j=1}^{m} q_j \omega_{h_j}(v^{-1})h_j)$$
  
$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{m} p_i \omega_{g_i}(u^{-1})\omega_{g_i}(q_j \omega_{h_j}(v^{-1}))g_i h_j = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{m} p_i \omega_{g_i}(u^{-1}q_j \omega_{h_j}(v^{-1}))g_i h_j$$
  
$$= (\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i g_i)(\sum_{j=1}^{m} u^{-1}q_j \omega_{h_j}(v^{-1})h_j) = (\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_i g_i)(\sum_{j=1}^{m} c_j s^{-1} \omega_{h_j}(v^{-1})h_j)$$
  
$$= \alpha_1 \beta_2(s^{-1} \omega_{h_i}(v^{-1})).$$

Hence  $\alpha_1\beta_2 = 0$ , and consequently  $\alpha_1\beta_1 = 0$  in R \* M. Again by [16, Proposition 2.1.16], for each *i* there exist  $d_i \in R$  and a regular element  $t \in R$  such that  $v^{-1}p_i = d_it^{-1}$ . Put  $\alpha_2 = \sum_{i=1}^n d_i g_i \in R * M$ . Then we have

$$0 = \alpha_1 t \beta_1 = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i g_i\right) t \left(\sum_{j=1}^m q_j h_j\right) = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (p_i t) g_i\right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^m q_j h_j\right)$$
$$= \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (v d_i) g_i\right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^m q_j h_j\right) = v \alpha_2 \beta_1,$$

thus  $\alpha_2\beta_1 = 0$ . Since R is skew strongly M-reversible, we have  $\beta_1\alpha_2 = 0$ . Then

$$\begin{split} \beta \alpha &= (\sum_{j=1}^{m} b_{j} h_{j}) (\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_{i} g_{i}) = (\sum_{j=1}^{m} q_{j} \omega_{h_{j}} (v^{-1}) h_{j}) (\sum_{i=1}^{n} p_{i} \omega_{g_{i}} (u^{-1}) g_{i}) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{m} \sum_{i=1}^{n} q_{j} \omega_{h_{j}} (v^{-1}) \omega_{h_{j}} (p_{i} \omega_{g_{i}} (u^{-1})) h_{j} g_{i} = \sum_{j=1}^{m} \sum_{i=1}^{n} q_{j} \omega_{h_{j}} (v^{-1} p_{i} \omega_{g_{i}} (u^{-1})) h_{j} g_{i} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{m} \sum_{i=1}^{n} q_{j} \omega_{h_{j}} (d_{j} t^{-1} \omega_{g_{i}} (u^{-1})) h_{j} g_{i} = (\sum_{j=1}^{m} q_{j} h_{j}) (\sum_{i=1}^{n} d_{j} t^{-1} \omega_{g_{i}} (u^{-1}) g_{i}) \\ &= \beta_{1} \alpha_{2} (t^{-1} \omega_{g_{i}} (u^{-1})) = 0. \end{split}$$

Thus Q is skew strongly M-reversible.

Conversely, if Q is skew strongly M-reversible, then the result follows from Lemma 2.8.  $\Box$ 

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