



# Mixed Type Reverse Order Law for the Core Inverse in $C^*$ -Algebras

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**Abstract.** In this paper, several equivalent conditions related to the reverse order law for the core inverse in  $C^*$ -algebras has been determined.

**Keywords.** Moore-Penrose inverse; Reverse order law;  $C^*$ -algebra; Core inverse

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## 1. Introduction

The core inverse for a complex matrix were introduced by Baksalary and Trenkler [1]. Let  $\mathcal{A} \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ , where  $M_n(\mathbb{C})$  denotes the ring of all  $n \times n$  complex matrices. A matrix  $X \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  is called core inverse of  $A$ , if it satisfies  $AX = P_A$  and  $R(X) \subseteq R(A)$ , where  $R(A)$  denotes the column space of  $A$ , and  $P_A$  is the orthogonal projector onto  $R(A)$ , and if such a matrix exists, then it is unique and denoted by  $A^\oplus$ .

Many author have studied the necessary and sufficient conditions for the reverse order law  $(ab)^\oplus = b^\oplus a^\oplus$  to hold in setting of matrices, operators,  $C^*$ -algebra. This formula cannot trivially be extended to the other generalized inverse of the product  $ab$ . Since the reverse order law  $(ab)^\oplus = b^\oplus a^\oplus$  does not always holds, it is not easy to simplify various expressions that involve the core inverse of a product. In addition to  $(ab)^\oplus = b^\oplus a^\oplus$ ,  $(ab)^\oplus$  may be expressed as  $(ab)^\oplus = b^\oplus (a^\oplus a b b^\oplus)^\oplus a^\oplus$ ,  $(ab)^\oplus = b^*(a^* a b b^*)^\oplus a^*$ , etc. These equalities are called mixed-type

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reverse order laws for the core inverse of a product and some of them are in fact equivalent (see [4], [15], [20]).

The reverse order law  $(ab)^\oplus = b^\oplus(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus a^\oplus$  was first studied by Galperin and Waksman [8]. A Hilbert space version of their result was studied by Isumino [10]. Many results investigated the reverse order law  $(ab)^\oplus = b^\oplus(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus a^\oplus$  for complex matrices appeared in Tian’s papers [20] and [22], where the author used mostly properties of the rank of a complex matrices. In [15], a set of equivalent condition for this reverse order rule for the Moore-Penrose inverse in the setting of  $C^*$ -algebra is studied.

Xiong and Qin [24] concerning the following mixed-type reverse order laws for the Moore-Penrose inverse of a product of Hilbert space operators:  $(ab)^\oplus = b^\oplus(abb^\oplus)^\oplus$ ,  $(ab)^\oplus = (a^\oplus ab)^\oplus a^\oplus$ ,  $(ab)^\oplus = b^\oplus(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus a^\oplus$ . They used the technique of block operator matrices. We extend the results from [24] to more general form.

## 2. Preliminaries

**Definition 2.1** ([14]). An element  $a$  is Hermitian if  $a^* = a$ , and  $a$  is called an idempotent if  $a^2 = a$ . A Hermitian idempotent is said to be a projection.

**Definition 2.2** ([1]). Let  $A \in M_{n \times n}$ . A matrix  $A^\oplus \in M_{n \times n}$  satisfying: (i)  $AA^\oplus = P_A$ , and (ii)  $R(A^\oplus) \subseteq R(A)$  is called core inverse of  $A$ .

**Definition 2.3** ([1]). The core inverse of  $a \in \mathcal{R}$  is the element  $x \in \mathcal{R}$  which satisfies:

$$(1) \ axa = a \quad (2) \ xax = x \quad (3) \ (ax)^* = ax \quad (6) \ xa^2 = a \quad (7) \ ax^2 = x.$$

The element  $x$  is unique if it exist and is denoted by  $a^\oplus$ .

**Definition 2.4** ([13]). Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be unital  $C^*$ -algebra. The element  $a \in \mathcal{A}$  has the core inverse if there exists  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  such that

$$axa = a, \quad x\mathcal{A} = a\mathcal{A} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{A}x = \mathcal{A}a^*.$$

The unique core inverse will be denoted by  $a^\oplus$ .

**Definition 2.5** ([14]). Let  $\mathcal{R}$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra. An elements  $a \in \mathcal{R}$  is regular if there exists some  $x \in \mathcal{R}$  satisfying  $axa = a$ . The set all regular elements of  $\mathcal{R}$  will be denoted by  $\mathcal{R}^\oplus$ .

**Definition 2.6** ([14]). An elements  $a$  is said to be normal if  $aa^\oplus = a^\oplus a$ .

**Definition 2.7** ([7]). An elements  $a$  is said to be invertible if  $ab = ba = e$ .

**Theorem 2.8** ([14]). For any  $a \in \mathcal{R}^\oplus$ , the following is satisfied:

- (i)  $(a^\oplus)^\oplus = a$ ;
- (ii)  $(a^*)^\oplus = (a^\oplus)^*$ ;
- (iii)  $(a^*a)^\oplus = a^\oplus(a^\oplus)^*$ ;
- (iv)  $(aa^*)^\oplus = (a^\oplus)^*a^\oplus$ ;
- (v)  $a^* = a^\oplus aa^* = a^* a a^\oplus$ ;

(vi)  $a^\oplus = (a^*a)^\oplus a^* = a^*(aa^*)^\oplus$ ;

(vii)  $(a^*)^\oplus = a(a^*a)^\oplus = (aa^*)^\oplus a$ .

**Lemma 2.9.** *If  $a, b \in R$  such that  $a$  is regular, then  $b \in a\{1, 3, 6, 7\} \iff a^*ab = a^*$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $b \in a\{1, 3, 6, 7\}$ , then we get

$$a^*ab = a^*(ab)^* = (aba)^* = a^*, \quad (\text{by using } (ax)^* = ax).$$

Conversely, the equality  $a^*ab = a^*$  implies

$$a = aba = aab = a^2b = a$$

$$b = bab = abb = ab^2 = b$$

$$(ab)^* = b^*a^* = b^*a^*ab = (ab)^*ab \text{ is selfadjoint}$$

and

$$aba = (ab)^*a = (a^*ab)^* = (a^*)^* = a$$

$$ab^2 = abb = (abb)^* = (b)^*(ab)^* = bab = b$$

$$ba^2 = baa = (baa)^* = (a)^*(ba)^* = aba = a$$

Hence  $b \in a\{1, 3, 6, 7\}$ . □

**3. Reverse Order Laws  $(a^\oplus ab)^\oplus a^\oplus = (ab)^\oplus, b^\oplus (abb^\oplus)^\oplus = (ab)^\oplus$  and  $b^\oplus (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus a^\oplus = (ab)^\oplus$  for Core Inverse**

In this section, we have given the equivalent conditions related to reverse order laws  $(a^\oplus ab)^\oplus a^\oplus = (ab)^\oplus, b^\oplus (abb^\oplus)^\oplus = (ab)^\oplus$  and  $b^\oplus (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus a^\oplus = (ab)^\oplus$  for core inverse in  $C^*$  algebra.

**Theorem 3.1.** *If  $a, b, a^\oplus ab \in \mathcal{R}^\oplus$ , then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $a^*ab\mathcal{R} \subseteq a^\oplus ab\mathcal{R}$ ;
- (2)  $(a^\oplus ab)^\oplus a^\oplus \in (ab)\{3, 6, 7\}$ ;
- (3)  $(a^\oplus ab)^\oplus a^\oplus = (ab)^\oplus$ ;
- (4)  $(a^\oplus ab)\{3, 6, 7\}a\{3, 6, 7\} \subseteq (ab)\{3, 6, 7\}$ .

*Proof.* (2)  $\implies$  (1): Let  $x = (a^\oplus ab)^\oplus a^\oplus$ , Since  $(a^\oplus ab)^\oplus a^\oplus \in (ab)\{3, 6, 7\}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} (ab)x(ab) &= ab((a^\oplus ab)^\oplus a^\oplus)ab \\ &= abb^\oplus(a^\oplus aa^\oplus)ab \quad (\text{since } a^\oplus aa^\oplus = a^\oplus) \\ &= abb^\oplus a^\oplus ab \\ &= ab(ab)^\oplus ab \\ &= ab \\ (ab)x &= ab(a^\oplus ab)^\oplus a^\oplus \\ ((ab)x)^* &= (ab(a^\oplus ab)^\oplus a^\oplus)^* \\ &= (abb^\oplus a^\oplus aa^\oplus)^* \quad (a^\oplus aa^\oplus = a^\oplus) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus})^* \\
 &= (ab(ab)^{\oplus})^* \\
 &= ab(ab)^{\oplus} \\
 &= abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus} \\
 &= abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus} \\
 &= ab(a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus} \\
 x(ab)^2 &= (a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(ab)^2 \\
 &= (a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}abab \\
 &= b^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus})abab \quad (\text{since } a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus} = a^{\oplus}) \\
 &= b^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(ab)(ab) \\
 &= (ab)^{\oplus}(ab)(ab) \\
 &= ab \\
 (ab)x^2 &= ab((a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus})^2 \\
 &= ab(a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus} \\
 &= abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus} \\
 &= abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus} \\
 &= ab(ab)^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus} \\
 &= ab(ab)^{\oplus}b^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus} \\
 &= ab(ab)^{\oplus}(ab)^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus} \\
 &= (ab)^{\oplus}(ab)(ab)^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus} \quad (\text{using definition for core invertible}) \\
 &= (ab)^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus} \\
 &= b^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus} \\
 &= (a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

which gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 a^*ab &= a^*(ab(a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus})ab \\
 &= a^*(a^{\oplus})^*a^{\oplus}ab(a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}ab \quad (\text{using 3-inverse}) \\
 &= (a^{\oplus}a)^*a^{\oplus}ab(a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}ab \\
 &= a^{\oplus}(aa^{\oplus})b(a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}ab \quad (\text{since } aa^{\oplus}a = a) \\
 &= a^{\oplus}ab(a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}ab.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$a^*ab\mathcal{R} = a^{\oplus}ab(a^{\oplus}ab)^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}ab\mathcal{R} \subseteq a^{\oplus}ab\mathcal{R}.$$

(1)  $\implies$  (4): The assumption  $a^*ab \subseteq a^{\oplus}ab\mathcal{R}$  implies that

$$a^*ab = a^{\oplus}abx, \quad \text{for some } x \in \mathcal{R}.$$

Now, for any  $(a^{\oplus}ab)^{(1,3)} \in (a^{\oplus}ab)\{1,3\}$  and  $a^{(1,3)} \in a\{1,3\}$ .

Let  $x = (a^\oplus ab)^\oplus$ ,  $a = (a^\oplus ab)$ , then now

$$\begin{aligned}
 a^* ab &= a^\oplus abx \\
 &= (a^\oplus ab)(a^\oplus ab)^{(1,3)}(a^\oplus abx) \\
 &= (a^\oplus ab)(a^\oplus ab)^{(1,3)}a^* ab. \tag{3.2} \\
 xa^2 &= (a^\oplus ab)^\oplus(a^\oplus ab)^2 \\
 &= (a^\oplus ab)^\oplus(a^\oplus ab)(a^\oplus ab) \\
 &= (a^\oplus ab)(a^\oplus ab)^\oplus(a^\oplus ab) \quad (\text{using definition for core invertible}) \\
 &= (a^\oplus ab) \\
 ax^2 &= (a^\oplus ab)((a^\oplus ab)^\oplus)^2 \\
 &= (a^\oplus ab)(a^\oplus ab)^\oplus(a^\oplus ab)^\oplus \\
 &= (a^\oplus ab)^\oplus(a^\oplus ab)(a^\oplus ab)^\oplus \quad (\text{using definition for core invertible}) \\
 &= (a^\oplus ab)^\oplus
 \end{aligned}$$

Applying the involution to (3.2), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 (a^* ab)^* &= (a^\oplus ab(a^\oplus ab)^{(1,3)}a^* ab)^* \\
 b^* a^* a &= b^* a^* a[(a^\oplus ab)(a^\oplus ab)^{(1,3)}]^* \\
 &= b^* a^* aa^\oplus ab(a^\oplus ab)^{(1,3)} \quad (\text{since } aa^\oplus a = a) \\
 b^* a^* a &= b^* a^* ab(a^\oplus ab)^{(1,3)}. \tag{3.3}
 \end{aligned}$$

Post multiplying the equality (3.3) by  $a^{(1,3)}$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 b^* a^* aa^{(1,3)} &= b^* a^* ab(a^\oplus ab)^{(1,3)}a^{(1,3)} \\
 b^* a^* (aa^{(1,3)})^* &= b^* a^* ab(a^\oplus ab)^{(1,3)}a^{(1,3)} \\
 b^* (aa^{(1,3)}a)^* &= b^* a^* ab(a^\oplus ab)^{(1,3)}a^{(1,3)} \\
 b^* a^* &= b^* a^* ab(a^\oplus ab)^{(1,3)}a^{(1,3)}. \tag{3.4}
 \end{aligned}$$

From the equality (3.4) and Lemma 2.9, we deduce that  $(a^\oplus ab)^{(1,3)}a^{(1,3)} \in (ab)\{1, 3\}$ , for any  $(a^\oplus ab)^{(1,3)} \in (a^\oplus ab)\{1, 3\}$  and  $a^{(1,3)} \in a\{1, 3\}$ . So,  $(a^\oplus ab)^{(1,3)}.a^{(1,3)} \subseteq ab\{1, 3\}$ .

(4)  $\implies$  (2): Obviously, because  $(a^\oplus ab)^\oplus \in (a^\oplus ab)\{1, 3\}$  and  $a^\oplus \in a\{1, 3\}$ .

(2)  $\implies$  (3): It is easy to check this equivalence. □

**Theorem 3.2.** *If  $a, b, a^\oplus abb^\oplus \in \mathcal{R}^\oplus$ , then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $a^* ab\mathcal{R} \subseteq a^\oplus ab\mathcal{R}$  and  $bb^* a^* \mathcal{R} \subseteq bb^\oplus a^* \mathcal{R}$ ;
- (2)  $b^\oplus(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus a^\oplus \in (ab)\{3, 6, 7\}$ ;
- (3)  $b^\oplus(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus a^\oplus = (ab)^\oplus$ ;
- (4)  $b\{3, 6, 7\}.(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)\{3, 6, 7\}.a\{3, 6, 7\} \subseteq (ab)\{3, 6, 7\}$ .

*Proof.* (2)  $\implies$  (1): Let  $x = b^\oplus(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus a^\oplus$ .

Since  $b^\oplus(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus a^\oplus \in (ab)\{3, 6, 7\}$  then

$$(ab)x(ab) = ab(b^\oplus(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus a^\oplus)ab$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= abb^{\oplus}bb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus}ab \\
 &= abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}ab \quad (\text{since } a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus} = a^{\oplus}) \\
 &= ab(ab)^{\oplus}ab \\
 &= ab \\
 (ab)x &= abb^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus} \\
 ((ab)x)^* &= (abb^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus})^* \\
 &= (abb^{\oplus}bb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus})^* \\
 &= (abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus})^* \quad (\text{since } a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus} = a^{\oplus}) \\
 &= (ab(ab)^{\oplus})^* \\
 &= ab(ab)^{\oplus} \\
 &= abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus} \\
 &= abb^{\oplus}bb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus} \\
 &= abb^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus} \\
 x(ab)^2 &= b^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(ab)^2 \\
 &= b^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}abab \\
 &= (b^{\oplus}bb^{\oplus})(a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus})(ab)(ab) \quad (\text{since } a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus} = a^{\oplus}) \\
 &= b^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(ab)(ab) \\
 &= (ab)^{\oplus}(ab)(ab) \\
 &= ab \\
 (ab)x^2 &= ab(b^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus})^2 \\
 &= abb^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}b^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus} \\
 &= ab(b^{\oplus}bb^{\oplus})(a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus})(b^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}) \quad (\text{since } a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus} = a^{\oplus}) \\
 &= abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(b^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}) \\
 &= (ab)(ab)^{\oplus}(b^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}) \\
 &= b^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}
 \end{aligned} \tag{3.5}$$

which gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 a^*ab &= a^*(abb^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus})ab \\
 &= a^*(a^{\oplus})^*a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}ab \quad (\text{using (3.5)}) \\
 &= (aa^{\oplus})^*a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}ab \\
 &= a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}ab \quad (\text{since } a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus} = a^{\oplus}) \\
 &= a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}ab
 \end{aligned}$$

which yields  $a^*ab\mathcal{R} \subseteq a^{\oplus}ab\mathcal{R}$ .

(1)  $\implies$  (4): From  $a^*ab\mathcal{R} \subseteq a^{\oplus}ab\mathcal{R}$ , by  $b\mathcal{R} = bb^{\oplus}\mathcal{R}$ , we get  $a^*abb^{\oplus}\mathcal{R} \subseteq a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus}$ . Thus,  $a^*abb^{\oplus} = a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus}x$ , for some  $x \in \mathcal{R}$ . Then, for any  $(a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})^{(1,3)} \in (a^{\oplus}abb^{\oplus})\{1,3\}$ ,  $a^{(1,3)} \in a\{1,3\}$  and  $b^{(1,3)} \in b\{1,3\}$ .

Let  $x = (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus, a = (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 a^*abb^\oplus &= a^\oplus abb^\oplus x \\
 &= ((a^\oplus abb^\oplus)(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^{(1,3)}(a^\oplus abb^\oplus))x \\
 &= (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^{(1,3)}(a^\oplus abb^\oplus x) \\
 &= (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^{(1,3)}a^*aba^\oplus. \tag{3.6} \\
 xa^2 &= (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus \\
 &= (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus \\
 &= (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus \text{ (using definition for core invertible)} \\
 &= a^\oplus abb^\oplus \\
 ax^2 &= (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)((a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus)^2 \\
 &= (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus \\
 &= (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus \text{ (using definition for core invertible)} \\
 &= (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^\oplus.
 \end{aligned}$$

Applying the involution to (3.6), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 (a^*abb^\oplus)^* &= ((a^\oplus abb^\oplus)(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^{(1,3)}a^*abb^\oplus)^* \\
 (bb^\oplus)^*(a^*a)^* &= (bb^\oplus)^*(a^*a)^*((a^\oplus abb^\oplus)(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^{(1,3)})^* \\
 bb^\oplus a^*a &= bb^\oplus a^*aa^\oplus abb^\oplus (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^{(1,3)} \text{ (since } aa^\oplus a = a) \\
 &= bb^\oplus a^*abb^\oplus (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^{(1,3)}. \tag{3.7}
 \end{aligned}$$

Permultiplying by  $b^*$  and postmultiplying by  $a^{(1,3)}$  in (3.7), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 b^*bb^\oplus a^*aa^{(1,3)} &= b^*bb^\oplus a^*abb^\oplus (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^{(1,3)}a^{(1,3)} \\
 b^*bb^{(1,3)} a^*aa^{(1,3)} &= b^*bb^{(1,3)} a^*abb^\oplus (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^{(1,3)}a^{(1,3)} \\
 b^*(bb^{(1,3)})^* a^*(aa^{(1,3)})^* &= b^*(bb^{(1,3)})^* a^*abb^\oplus (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^{(1,3)}a^{(1,3)} \\
 (bb^{(1,3)}b)^*(aa^{(1,3)}a)^* &= (bb^{(1,3)}b)^* a^*abb^\oplus (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^{(1,3)}a^{(1,3)} \\
 b^*a^* &= b^*a^*abb^\oplus (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^{(1,3)}a^{(1,3)}. \tag{3.8}
 \end{aligned}$$

By (3.8) and Lemma 2.9, we observe that  $b^{(1,3)}(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^{(1,3)}a^{(1,3)} \in (ab)\{1, 3\}$ , for any  $(a^\oplus abb^\oplus)^{(1,3)} \in (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)\{1, 3\}, a^{(1,3)} \in a\{1, 3\}$  and  $b^{(1,3)} \in b\{1, 3\}$ . Hence,  $b\{1, 3\} \cdot (a^\oplus abb^\oplus)\{1, 3\} \cdot a\{1, 3\} \subseteq (ab)\{1, 3\}$ .

(4)  $\implies$  (2)  $\implies$  (3): Obviously. □

**4. Reverse Order Laws  $(a^*ab)^\oplus a^* = (ab)^\oplus, b^*(abb^*)^\oplus = (ab)^\oplus$  and  $b^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^* = (ab)^\oplus$  for Core Inverse**

In this section, we consider necessary and sufficient conditions for reverse order law  $(a^*ab)^\oplus a^* = (ab)^\oplus, b^*(abb^*)^\oplus = (ab)^\oplus$  and  $b^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^* = (ab)^\oplus$  for core inverse in  $C^*$  algebra.

**Theorem 4.1.** *If  $a, b, a^*ab \in \mathcal{R}^\oplus$ , then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $a^\oplus ab\mathcal{R} \subseteq a^*ab\mathcal{R}$ ;
- (2)  $(a^*ab)^\oplus a^* \in (ab)\{1, 3\}$ ;

$$(3) (a^*ab)^{\oplus}a^*\{1,3\} = (ab)^{\oplus};$$

$$(4) (a^*ab)\{1,3\} \cdot (a^{\oplus})^*\{1,3\} \subseteq (ab)\{1,3\}.$$

*Proof.* (2)  $\implies$  (1): Let  $x = (a^*ab)^{\oplus}a^*$ .

Since  $(a^*ab)^{\oplus}a^* \in (ab)\{3,6,7\}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} (ab)x(ab) &= ab(a^*ab)^{\oplus}a^*ab \\ &= abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(a^*)^{\oplus}a^*ab \\ &= abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^*a^*ab \\ &= abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(aa^{\oplus})^*ab \\ &= abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus}ab \quad (\text{since } aa^{\oplus}a = a) \\ &= abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}ab \\ &= ab(ab)^{\oplus}ab \\ &= ab \end{aligned} \tag{4.1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (ab)x &= ab(a^*ab)^{\oplus}a^* \\ ((ab)x)^* &= (ab(a^*ab)^{\oplus}a^*)^* \\ &= (abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(a^*)^{\oplus}a^*)^* \\ &= (abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^*a^*)^* \\ &= (abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(aa^{\oplus})^*)^* \\ &= (abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus})^* \\ &= (abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus})^* \\ &= (ab(ab)^{\oplus})^* \\ &= ab(ab)^{\oplus} \end{aligned} \tag{4.2}$$

$$= abb^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x(ab)^2 &= (a^*ab)^{\oplus}a^*(ab)^2 \\ &= (a^*ab)^{\oplus}a^*(ab)(ab) \\ &= b^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus})^*a^*(ab)(ab) \\ &= b^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(aa^{\oplus})^*(ab)(ab) \\ &= b^{\oplus}(a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus})(ab)(ab) \quad (\text{since } a^{\oplus}aa^{\oplus} = a) \\ &= b^{\oplus}a^{\oplus}(ab)(ab) \\ &= (ab)^{\oplus}(ab)(ab) \\ &= ab \end{aligned} \tag{4.3}$$

$$(ab)x^2 = ab((a^*ab)^{\oplus}a^*)^2$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 &= ab(a^*ab)^{\oplus} a^* ((a^*ab)^{\oplus} a^*) \\
 &= abb^{\oplus} a^{\oplus} (a^{\oplus})^* a^* (a^*ab)^{\oplus} a^* \\
 &= abb^{\oplus} a^{\oplus} (aa^{\oplus})^* (a^*ab)^{\oplus} a^* \quad (\text{since } (ab)^* = ab) \tag{4.4}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= abb^{\oplus} a^{\oplus} aa^{\oplus} (a^*ab)^{\oplus} a^* \\
 &= abb^{\oplus} a^{\oplus} (a^*ab)^{\oplus} a^* \\
 &= ab(ab)^{\oplus} (a^*ab)^{\oplus} a^* \\
 &= (a^*ab)^{\oplus} a^* \tag{4.5}
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 a^{\oplus} ab &= a^{\oplus} (ab(a^*ab)^{\oplus} a^*) ab \\
 &= a^{\oplus} aa^* ab(a^*ab)^{\oplus} a^{\oplus} ab \\
 &= a^* ab(a^*ab)^{\oplus} a^{\oplus} ab.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the condition (3.1) is satisfied.

(1)  $\implies$  (4): First, by the inclusion  $a^{\oplus} ab\mathcal{R} \subseteq a^* ab\mathcal{R}$ , we conclude that  $a^{\oplus} ab = a^* aby$ , for some  $y \in \mathcal{R}$ . Further, for any  $(a^*ab)^{(1,3)} \in (a^*ab)\{1,3\}$  and  $a' \in (a^{\oplus})^*\{1,3\}$ .

Let  $x = (a^*ab)^{\oplus}, a = (a^*ab)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 a^{\oplus} ab &= a^* aby \\
 &= (a^*ab)(a^*ab)^{(1,3)}(a^*aby) \\
 &= a^* ab(a^*ab)^{(1,3)} a^{\oplus} ab \tag{4.6} \\
 xa^2 &= (a^*ab)^{\oplus} (a^*ab)^2 \\
 &= (a^*ab)^{\oplus} (a^*ab)(a^*ab) \\
 &= (a^*ab)(a^*ab)^{\oplus} (a^*ab) \\
 &= (a^*ab) \\
 ax^2 &= (a^*ab)((a^*ab)^{\oplus})^2 \\
 &= (a^*ab)(a^*ab)^{\oplus} (a^*ab)^{\oplus} \\
 &= (a^*ab)^{\oplus} (a^*ab)(a^*ab)^{\oplus} \\
 &= (a^*ab)^{\oplus}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Applying the involution to (4.6), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 (a^{\oplus} ab)^* &= ((a^*ab)(a^*ab)^{(1,3)} a^{\oplus} ab)^* \\
 b^* a^* (a^{\oplus})^* &= b^* a^* (a^{\oplus})^* ((a^*ab)(a^*ab)^{(1,3)})^* \\
 b^* (a^{\oplus} a)^* &= b^* (a^{\oplus} a)(a^*ab)(a^*ab)^{(1,3)} \\
 b^* a^{\oplus} a &= b^* a^{\oplus} aa^* ab(a^*ab)^{(1,3)} \\
 &= b^* a^* ab(a^*ab)^{(1,3)}. \tag{4.7}
 \end{aligned}$$

Postmultiply both side by  $a'$  in (4.7), we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 b^* a^{\oplus} aa' &= b^* a^* ab(a^*ab)^{(1,3)} a' \\
 b^* a^* (a^{\oplus} a') &= b^* a^* ab(a^*ab)^{(1,3)} a'
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 b^* a^* (a^\oplus)^* [(a^\oplus)^*]^\oplus &= b^* a^* ab(a^* ab)^{(1,3)} a' \\
 b^* a^* (a^\oplus)^* (a)^* &= b^* a^* ab(a^* ab)^{(1,3)} a' \\
 b^* (aa^\oplus a)^* &= b^* a^* ab(a^* ab)^{(1,3)} a' \\
 b^* a^* &= b^* a^* ab(a^* ab)^{(1,3)} a',
 \end{aligned}$$

which implies, by Lemma 2.9,  $(a^* ab)^{(1,3)} a' \in (ab)\{1, 3\}$ , for any  $(a^* ab)^{(1,3)} \in (a^* ab)\{1, 3\}$  and  $a' \in (a^\oplus)^* \{1, 3\}$ , that is, the condition (4.6) holds.

(4)  $\implies$  (2): By Theorem 2.8,  $a^* = [(a^\oplus)^\oplus]^* = [(a^\oplus)^*]^\oplus \in (a^\oplus)^* \{1, 3\}$  and this implication follows.

(2)  $\implies$  (3): Obviously. □

**Theorem 4.2.** *If  $a, b, a^* abb^* \in \mathcal{R}^\oplus$ , then the following statement are equivalent:*

- (1)  $a^\oplus ab\mathcal{R} \subseteq a^* ab\mathcal{R}; bb^\oplus a^* \mathcal{R} \subseteq bb^* a^* \mathcal{R};$
- (2)  $b^* (a^* abb^*)^\oplus a^* \in (ab)\{3, 6, 7\};$
- (3)  $b^* (a^* abb^*)^\oplus a^* = (ab)^\oplus;$
- (4)  $(b^\oplus)^* \{1, 3\}.(a^* abb^*)\{1, 3\}.(a^\oplus)^* \{1, 3\} \subseteq (ab)\{1, 3\}.$

*Proof.* (2)  $\implies$  (1): Let  $x = b^* (a^* abb^*)^\oplus a^*$ .

Since  $b^* (a^* abb^*)^\oplus a^* \in (ab)\{3, 6, 7\}$ . Then, now

$$\begin{aligned}
 (ab)x(ab) &= ab(b^* (a^* abb^*)^\oplus a^*)ab \\
 &= abb^* (b^*)^\oplus b^\oplus a^\oplus (a^*)^\oplus a^* ab \\
 &= abb^* (b^\oplus)^* b^\oplus a^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* a^* ab \\
 &= ab(b^\oplus b)^* b^\oplus a^\oplus (aa^\oplus)^* ab \\
 &= a(bb^\oplus b)b^\oplus a^\oplus (aa^\oplus a)b \\
 &= abb^\oplus a^\oplus ab \quad (\text{since } aa^\oplus = a) \\
 &= ab(ab)^\oplus ab \\
 &= ab
 \end{aligned}$$

$$(ab)x = abb^* (a^* abb^*)^\oplus a^*$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 ((ab)x)^* &= (abb^* (a^* abb^*)^\oplus a^*)^* \\
 &= (abb^* (b^*)^\oplus b^\oplus a^\oplus (a^*)^\oplus a^*)^* \\
 &= (abb^* (b^\oplus)^* b^\oplus a^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* a^*)^* \\
 &= (ab(b^\oplus b)^* b^\oplus a^\oplus (aa^\oplus)^*)^* \\
 &= (abb^\oplus bb^\oplus a^\oplus aa^\oplus)^* \\
 &= (abb^\oplus a^\oplus)^* \\
 &= (ab(ab)^\oplus)^* \\
 &= ab(ab)^\oplus \\
 &= abb^\oplus a^\oplus \\
 &= abb^\oplus bb^\oplus a^\oplus aa^\oplus
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= ab(b^\oplus b)^* b^\oplus a^\oplus (aa^\oplus)^* \\
 &= abb^*(b^\oplus)^* b^\oplus a^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* a^* \\
 &= abb^*(b^*)^\oplus a^\oplus (a^*)^\oplus a^* \\
 &= abb^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^* \\
 x(ab)^2 &= b^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^*(ab)^2 \\
 &= b^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^*(ab)(ab) \\
 &= b^*(b^\oplus)^* b^\oplus a^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* a^*(ab)(ab) \\
 &= (b^\oplus b)^* b^\oplus a^\oplus (aa^\oplus)^* abab \\
 &= b^\oplus bb^\oplus a^\oplus aa^\oplus abab \\
 &= b^\oplus a^\oplus (ab)(ab) \\
 &= (ab)^\oplus (ab)(ab) \\
 &= ab \\
 (ab)x^2 &= ab(b^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^*)^2 \\
 &= abb^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^*(b^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^*) \\
 &= abb^*(b^\oplus)^* b^\oplus a^\oplus (a^\oplus)^* a^* b^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^\oplus \\
 &= ab(b^\oplus b)^* b^\oplus a^\oplus (aa^\oplus)^* b^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^* \\
 &= abb^\oplus bb^\oplus a^\oplus aa^\oplus b^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^* \\
 &= abb^\oplus a^\oplus b^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^* \\
 &= ab(ab)^\oplus b^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^* \\
 &= b^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^*
 \end{aligned}$$

which gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 a^\oplus ab &= a^\oplus (abb^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^*)ab \\
 &= a^\oplus aa^*abb^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^\oplus ab \\
 &= a^*abb^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus a^\oplus ab
 \end{aligned}$$

implying

$$a^\oplus ab\mathcal{R} \subseteq a^*ab\mathcal{R}.$$

(1)  $\implies$  (4): If  $a^\oplus ab\mathcal{R} \subseteq a^*ab\mathcal{R}$ , by  $b\mathcal{R} = bb^*\mathcal{R}$ , we see  $a^\oplus abb^*\mathcal{R} \subseteq a^*abb^*\mathcal{R}$  and  $a^\oplus abb^* = a^*abb^*y$ , for some  $y \in \mathcal{R}$ . For any  $(a^*ab)^{(1,3)} \in (a^*ab)\{1,3\}$ ,  $a' \in (a^\oplus)^*\{1,3\}$  and  $b' \in (b^\oplus)^*\{1,3\}$ .

Let  $x = (a^*abb^*)^\oplus$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 a^\oplus abb^* &= a^*abb^*(a^*abb^*)^{(1,3)}(a^*abb^*y) \\
 &= a^*abb^*(a^*abb^*)^{(1,3)}a^\oplus abb^* \tag{4.8} \\
 xa^2 &= (a^*abb^*)^\oplus (a^*abb^*)^2 \\
 &= (a^*abb^*)^\oplus (a^*abb^*)(a^*abb^*) \\
 &= (a^*abb^*)(a^*abb^*)^\oplus (a^*abb^*) \\
 &= a^*abb^*
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} ax^2 &= a^*abb^*((a^*abb^*)^\oplus)^2 \\ &= a^*abb^*(a^*abb^*)^\oplus(a^*abb^*)^\oplus \\ &= (a^*abb^*)^\oplus(a^*abb^*)(a^*abb^*)^\oplus \\ &= (a^*abb^*)^\oplus. \end{aligned}$$

Applying the involution to (4.8), we get

$$\begin{aligned} (a^\oplus abb^*)^* &= ((a^*abb^*)(a^*abb^*)^{(1,3)}a^\oplus abb^*)^* \\ (bb^*)^*(a^\oplus a)^* &= (bb^*)^*(a^\oplus a)^*((a^*abb^*)(a^*abb^*)^{(1,3)})^* \\ bb^*a^\oplus a &= bb^*a^\oplus aa^*abb^*(a^*abb^*)^{(1,3)} \quad (\text{since } (ax)^* = ax) \\ &= bb^*a^*abb^*(a^*abb^*)^{(1,3)}. \end{aligned} \tag{4.9}$$

Multiplying (4.9) from the left side by  $b^\oplus$  and from the right side by  $a'$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} b^\oplus bb^*a^\oplus aa' &= b^\oplus bb^*a^*abb^*(a^*abb^*)^{(1,3)}a' \\ (b^\oplus b)^*b^*a^*(a^\oplus a') &= (b^\oplus b)^*b^*a^*abb^*(a^*abb^*)^{(1,3)}a' \\ (b^*)^*(b^\oplus)^*b^*a^*(a^\oplus)^*((a^\oplus)^*)^\oplus &= (bb^\oplus b)^*a^*abb^*(a^*abb^*)^{(1,3)}a' \\ (bb^\oplus b)^*a^*(aa^\oplus)^* &= b^*a^*abb^*(a^*abb^*)^{(1,3)}a' \\ (bb^\oplus b)^*(aa^\oplus a)^* &= b^*a^*abb^*(a^*abb^*)^{(1,3)}a' \\ b^*a^* &= b^*a^*abb^*(a^*abb^*)^{(1,3)}a'. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, by Lemma 2.9,  $b'(a^*abb^*)^{(1,3)} \in (ab)\{1, 3\}$ , for any  $(a^*ab)^{(1,3)} \in (a^*ab)\{1, 3\}$ ,  $a' \in (a^\oplus)\{1, 3\}$  and  $b' \in (b^\oplus)^*$ , which is equivalent to  $(b^\oplus)^*\{1, 3\}(a^*abb^*)\{1, 3\} \in (a^\oplus)^*\{1, 3\} \subseteq (ab)\{1, 3\}$ .

(4)  $\implies$  (2)  $\implies$  (3): These part can be check easy. □

### Competing Interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

### Authors' Contributions

All the authors contributed significantly in writing this article. The authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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