

**DIRECT METHOD AND  
RN-APPROXIMATELY FUNCTIONAL EQUATIONS**

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**Abstract:** In this paper, we prove the generalized Hyers-Ulam stability of an additive functional equation in random normed spaces.

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**1. Introduction**

A classical question in the theory of functional equations is the following: “When is it true that a function which approximately satisfies a functional equation must be close to an exact solution of the equation?”. If the problem accepts a solution, we say that the equation is *stable*. The first stability problem concerning group homomorphisms was raised by Ulam [4] in 1940. In the next year, Hyers [1] gave a positive answer to the above question for additive groups

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under the assumption that the groups are Banach spaces. In 1978, Rassias [2] proved a generalization of Hyers's theorem for additive mappings. The result of Rassias has provided a lot of influence during the last three decades in the development of a generalization of the Hyers-Ulam stability concept. This new concept is known as generalized Hyers-Ulam stability or Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability of functional equations.

## 2. Preliminaries

In the sequel, we adopt the usual terminology, notions and conventions of the theory of random normed spaces as in [3].

Throughout this paper, let  $\Gamma^+$  denote the set of all probability distribution functions  $F : \mathbb{R} \cup [-\infty, +\infty] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that  $F$  is left-continuous and nondecreasing on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $F(0) = 0, F(+\infty) = 1$ . It is clear that the set  $D^+ = \{F \in \Gamma^+ : l^-F(-\infty) = 1\}$ , where  $l^-f(x) = \lim_{t \rightarrow x^-} f(t)$ , is a subset of  $\Gamma^+$ .

The set  $\Gamma^+$  is partially ordered by the usual point-wise ordering of functions, that is,  $F \leq G$  if and only if  $F(t) \leq G(t)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . For any  $a \geq 0$ , the element  $H_a(t)$  of  $D^+$  is defined by

$$H_a(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t \leq a, \\ 1 & \text{if } t > a. \end{cases}$$

We can easily show that the maximal element in  $\Gamma^+$  is the distribution function  $H_0(t)$ .

**Definition 2.1.** A function  $T : [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a *continuous triangular norm* (briefly, a *t-norm*) if  $T$  satisfies the following conditions:

- (a)  $T$  is commutative and associative;
- (b)  $T$  is continuous;
- (c)  $T(x, 1) = x$  for all  $x \in [0, 1]$ ;
- (d)  $T(x, y) \leq T(z, w)$  whenever  $x \leq z$  and  $y \leq w$  for all  $x, y, z, w \in [0, 1]$ .

Three typical examples of continuous *t-norms* are as follows:  $T(x, y) = xy$ ,  $T(x, y) = \max\{a + b - 1, 0\}$ ,  $T(x, y) = \min(a, b)$ . Recall that, if  $T$  is a *t-norm* and  $\{x_n\}$  is a sequence in  $[0, 1]$ , then  $T_{i=1}^n x_i$  is defined recursively by  $T_{i=1}^1 x_1 = x_1$  and  $T_{i=1}^n x_i = T(T_{i=1}^{n-1} x_i, x_n)$  for all  $n \geq 2$ .  $T_{i=n}^\infty x_i$  is defined by  $T_{i=1}^\infty x_{n+i}$ .

**Definition 2.2.** A *random normed space* (briefly, *RN-space*) is a triple  $(X, \mu, T)$ , where  $X$  is a vector space,  $T$  is a continuous  $t$ -norm and  $\mu : X \rightarrow D^+$  is a mapping such that the following conditions hold:

- (a)  $\mu_x(t) = H_0(t)$  for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$  if and only if  $x = 0$ ;
- (b)  $\mu_{\alpha x}(t) = \mu_x(\frac{t}{|\alpha|})$  for all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $\alpha \neq 0$ ,  $x \in X$  and  $t \geq 0$ ;
- (c)  $\mu_{x+y}(t+s) \geq T(\mu_x(t), \mu_y(s))$  for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $t, s \geq 0$ .

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $(X, \mu, T)$  be an RN-space.

(1) A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  is said to be *convergent* to a point  $x \in X$  (write  $x_n \rightarrow x$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ) if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu_{x_n-x}(t) = 1$  for all  $t > 0$ .

(2) A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  is called a *Cauchy sequence* in  $X$  if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu_{x_n-x_m}(t) = 1$  for all  $t > 0$ .

(3) The RN-space  $(X, \mu, T)$  is said to be *complete* if every Cauchy sequence in  $X$  is convergent.

**Theorem 2.1.** ([3]) *If  $(X, \mu, T)$  is an RN-space and  $\{x_n\}$  is a sequence such that  $x_n \rightarrow x$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu_{x_n}(t) = \mu_x(t)$ .*

Throughout this paper, using direct method we proved the generalized Hyers-Ulam stability of the following functional equation:

$$f(mx + ny) = mf(x) + nf(y) \tag{2.1}$$

for all  $x, y \in X$  in random normed spaces.

### 3. Random Stability of Functional Equation (2.1)

In this section, using the fixed point alternative approach, we prove the Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability of functional equation (2.1) in random normed spaces.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete generalized metric space and  $J : X \rightarrow X$  be a strictly contractive mapping with Lipschitz constant  $L < 1$ . Then, for all  $x \in X$ , either*

$$d(J^n x, J^{n+1} x) = \infty \tag{3.1}$$

for all nonnegative integers  $n$  or there exists a positive integer  $n_0$  such that

- (a)  $d(J^n x, J^{n+1} x) < \infty$  for all  $n_0 \geq n_0$ ;
- (b) the sequence  $\{J^n x\}$  converges to a fixed point  $y^*$  of  $J$ ;

(c)  $y^*$  is the unique fixed point of  $J$  in the set  $Y = \{y \in X : d(J^{n_0}x, y) < \infty\}$ ;

(d)  $d(y, y^*) \leq \frac{1}{1-L}d(y, Jy)$  for all  $y \in Y$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $X$  be a linear space,  $(Y, \mu, T_M)$  be a complete RN-space and  $\Phi$  be a mapping from  $X^2$  to  $D^+$  ( $\Phi(x, y)$  is denoted by  $\Phi_{x,y}$ ) such that there exists  $0 < \alpha < \frac{1}{m+n}$  such that*

$$\Phi_{(m+n)x, (m+n)y}(t) \leq \Phi_{x,y}(\alpha t) \quad (3.2)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a mapping satisfying

$$\mu_{f(mx+ny)-mf(x)-nf(y)}(t) \geq \Phi_{x,y}(t) \quad (3.3)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . Then, for all  $x \in X$ ,  $A(x) := \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (m+n)^p f\left(\frac{x}{(m+n)^p}\right)$  exists and  $A : X \rightarrow Y$  is a unique additive mapping such that

$$\mu_{f(x)-A(x)}(t) \geq \Phi_{x,0}\left(\frac{(1-(m+n)\alpha)t}{\alpha}\right) \quad (3.4)$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ .

*Proof.* Putting  $y = x$  and replacing  $x$  by  $\frac{x}{m+n}$  in (3.3), we have

$$\mu_{(m+n)f\left(\frac{x}{m+n}\right)-f(x)}(t) \geq \Phi_{\frac{x}{m+n}, \frac{x}{m+n}}(t) \geq \Phi_{x,x}\left(\frac{t}{\alpha}\right) \quad (3.5)$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . Consider the set  $S := \{g : X \rightarrow Y\}$  and the generalized metric  $d$  in  $S$  defined by  $d(f, g) = \inf\{u \in \mathbb{R}^+ : \mu_{g(x)-h(x)}(ut) \geq \Phi_{x,x}(t), \forall x \in X, t > 0\}$ , where  $\inf \emptyset = +\infty$ . It is easy to show that  $(S, d)$  is complete. Now, we consider a linear mapping  $J : S \rightarrow S$  such that  $Jh(x) := (m+n)h\left(\frac{x}{m+n}\right)$  for all  $x \in X$ .

First, we prove that  $J$  is a strictly contractive mapping with the Lipschitz constant  $(m+n)\alpha$ . In fact, let  $g, h \in S$  be such that  $d(g, h) < \epsilon$ . Then we have  $\mu_{g(x)-h(x)}(\epsilon t) \geq \Phi_{x,x}(t)$  for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$  and so

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{Jg(x)-Jh(x)}((m+n)\alpha t) &= \mu_{(m+n)g\left(\frac{x}{m+n}\right)-(m+n)h\left(\frac{x}{m+n}\right)}((m+n)\alpha t) \\ &= \mu_{g\left(\frac{x}{m+n}\right)-h\left(\frac{x}{m+n}\right)}(\alpha t) \geq \Phi_{\frac{x}{m+n}, \frac{x}{m+n}}(\alpha t) \geq \Phi_{x,x}(t) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . Thus  $d(g, h) < \epsilon$  implies that  $d(Jg, Jh) < (m+n)\alpha\epsilon$ . This means that  $d(Jg, Jh) \leq (m+n)\alpha d(g, h)$  for all  $g, h \in S$ . It follows from (3.5) that  $d(f, Jf) \leq \alpha$ .

By Theorem 3.1, there exists a mapping  $A : X \rightarrow Y$  satisfying the following:

(1)  $A$  is a fixed point of  $J$ , that is,

$$A\left(\frac{x}{m+n}\right) = \frac{1}{m+n}A(x) \quad (3.6)$$

for all  $x \in X$ . The mapping  $A$  is a unique fixed point of  $J$  in the set  $\Omega = \{h \in S : d(g, h) < \infty\}$ . This implies that  $A$  is a unique mapping satisfying (3.6) such that there exists  $u \in (0, \infty)$  satisfying  $\mu_{f(x)-A(x)}(ut) \geq \Phi_{x,x}(t)$  for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ .

(2)  $d(J^p f, A) \rightarrow 0$  as  $p \rightarrow \infty$ . This implies the equality

$$\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} (m+n)^p f\left(\frac{x}{(m+n)^p}\right) = A(x)$$

for all  $x \in X$ .

(3)  $d(f, A) \leq \frac{d(f, Jf)}{1-(m+n)\alpha} \leq \frac{\alpha}{1-(m+n)\alpha}$  with  $f \in \Omega$  and so

$$\mu_{f(x)-A(x)}\left(\frac{\alpha t}{1-(m+n)\alpha}\right) \geq \Phi_{x,x}(t)$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . This implies that the inequality (3.4) holds. On the other hand

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{(m+n)^p f\left(\frac{mx+ny}{(m+n)^p}\right) - m(m+n)^p f\left(\frac{x}{(m+n)^p}\right) - n(m+n)^p f\left(\frac{y}{(m+n)^p}\right)}(t) \\ \geq \Phi_{\frac{x}{(m+n)^p}, \frac{y}{(m+n)^p}}\left(\frac{t}{(m+n)^p}\right) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ ,  $t > 0$  and  $n \geq 1$  and so, from (3.2), it follows that

$$\Phi_{\frac{x}{(m+n)^p}, \frac{y}{(m+n)^p}}\left(\frac{t}{(m+n)^p}\right) \geq \Phi_{x,y}\left(\frac{t}{((m+n)\alpha)^p}\right)$$

. Since  $\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \Phi_{x,y}\left(\frac{t}{((m+n)\alpha)^p}\right) = 1$  for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $t > 0$ , we have  $\mu_{A(mx+ny)-mA(x)-nA(y)}(t) = 1$  for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.1.** *Let  $X$  be a real normed space,  $\theta \geq 0$  and  $p$  be a real number with  $p > 1$ . Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a mapping with  $f(0) = 0$  and satisfying*

$$\mu_{f(mx+ny)-mf(x)-nf(y)}(t) \geq t(t + \theta(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p))^{-1}$$

*for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . Then, for all  $x \in X$ ,  $A(x) = \lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} (m+n)^p f\left(\frac{x}{(m+n)^p}\right)$  exists and  $A : X \rightarrow Y$  is a unique additive mapping such that*

$$\mu_{f(x)-A(x)}(t) \geq (((m+n)^p - (m+n))t)((m+n)^p - (m+n))t + \theta\|x\|^p)^{-1}$$

*for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ .*

*Proof.* The proof follows from Theorem 3.2 if we take  $\Phi_{x,y}(t) = t(t + \theta(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p))^{-1}$  for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . In fact, if we choose  $\alpha = (m+n)^{-p}$ , then we get the desired result.  $\square$

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