

## LINEAR FUNCTIONAL EQUATIONS IN A HILBERT MODULE

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**Abstract.** We prove the generalized Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability of the invertible mapping in a Banach module over a unital Banach algebra in the spirit of Gavruta, and prove the generalized Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability of linear functional equations in a Hilbert module over a unital  $C^*$ -algebra in the spirit of Gavruta.

### INTRODUCTION

In 1940, S.M. Ulam [9] raised the following question: Under what conditions does there exist an additive mapping near an approximately additive mapping?

Let  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  be Banach spaces. Consider  $f : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  to be a mapping such that  $f(tx)$  is continuous in  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  for each fixed  $x \in E_1$ . Assume that there exist constants  $\epsilon \geq 0$  and  $p \in [0, 1)$  such that

$$\|f(x+y) - f(x) - f(y)\| \leq \epsilon(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p)$$

for all  $x, y \in E_1$ . Th.M. Rassias [7] showed that there exists a unique  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear mapping  $T : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  such that

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

for all  $x \in E_1$ .

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Received September 5, 2001; revised February 18, 2002.

Communicated by S. Y. Shaw

2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification*: Primary 39B72, 47J25

*Key words and phrases*:  $A$ -linear, stability, Banach module over Banach algebra, Hilbert module over  $C^*$ -algebra

This work was supported by grant No. 1999-2-102-001-3 from the interdisciplinary Research program year of the KOSEF. The authors would also like to thank the referee for a number of valuable suggestions to a previous version of this paper.

In 1994, Gavruta showed in [3] that the following: Let  $G$  be an abelian group and  $X$  a Banach space. Denote by  $\varphi : G \times G \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  a function such that

$$\tilde{\varphi}(x, y) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} 2^{-j} \varphi(2^{j-1}x, 2^{j-1}y) < \infty$$

for all  $x, y \in G$ . If  $f : G \rightarrow X$  is a mapping satisfying

$$\|f(x+y) - f(x) - f(y)\| \cdot \varphi(x, y)$$

for all  $x, y \in G$ , then there exists a unique additive mapping  $T : G \rightarrow X$  such that

$$\|f(x) - T(x)\| \cdot \tilde{\varphi}(x, x)$$

for all  $x \in G$ .

In this paper, let  $A$  be a unital Banach algebra with norm  $|\cdot|$ ,  $A_1 = \{a \in A \mid |a| = 1\}$ , and  ${}_A\mathcal{H}$  a left Banach  $A$ -module with norm  $\|\cdot\|$ . Throughout this paper, assume that  $F, G : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  are mappings such that  $F(tx)$  and  $G(tx)$  are continuous in  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  for each fixed  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ .

We are going to prove the generalized Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability of the invertible mapping in a Banach module over a unital Banach algebra in the spirit of Gavruta.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $F : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  be a mapping for which there exists a function  $\varphi : {}_A\mathcal{H} \times {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  such that*

$$(i) \quad \tilde{\varphi}(x, y) := \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} 2^{-k} \varphi(2^k x, 2^k y) < \infty,$$

$$\|F(ax + ay) - aF(x) - aF(y)\| \cdot \varphi(x, y)$$

for all  $a \in A_1$  and all  $x, y \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Then there exists a unique  $A$ -linear mapping  $T : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  such that

$$(ii) \quad \|F(x) - T(x)\| \cdot \frac{1}{2} \tilde{\varphi}(x, x)$$

for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ .

*Proof.* Put  $a = 1 \in A_1$ . By the Gavruta result [3], there exists a unique additive mapping  $T : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  satisfying (ii). The mapping  $T : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  was given by  $T(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F(2^n x)}{2^n}$  for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . By the same reasoning as the proof of [7, Theorem], the additive mapping  $T : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  is  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear.

By the assumption, for each  $a \in A_1$ ,

$$\|F(2^n ax) - 2aF(2^{n-1}x)\| \cdot \varphi(2^{n-1}x, 2^{n-1}x)$$

for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Using the fact that for each  $a \in A$  and each  $z \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$   $\|az\| \cdot K|a| \cdot \|z\|$  for some  $K > 0$ , one can show that

$$\|aF(2^n x) - 2aF(2^{n-1}x)\| \cdot K|a| \cdot \|F(2^n x) - 2F(2^{n-1}x)\| \cdot K\varphi(2^{n-1}x, 2^{n-1}x)$$

for all  $a \in A_1$  and all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . So

$$\begin{aligned} & \|F(2^n ax) - aF(2^n x)\| \cdot \|F(2^n ax) - 2aF(2^{n-1}x)\| + \|2aF(2^{n-1}x) - aF(2^n x)\| \\ & \cdot \varphi(2^{n-1}x, 2^{n-1}x) + K\varphi(2^{n-1}x, 2^{n-1}x) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $a \in A_1$  and all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Thus  $2^{-n}\|F(2^n ax) - aF(2^n x)\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for all  $a \in A_1$  and all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Hence

$$T(ax) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F(2^n ax)}{2^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{aF(2^n x)}{2^n} = aT(x)$$

for each  $a \in A_1$ . So

$$T(ax) = |a|T\left(\frac{a}{|a|}x\right) = |a|\frac{a}{|a|}T(x) = aT(x)$$

for all  $a \in A(a \neq 0)$  and all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Hence

$$T(ax + by) = T(ax) + T(by) = aT(x) + bT(y)$$

for all  $a, b \in A$  and all  $x, y \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . So the unique  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear mapping  $T : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  is an  $A$ -linear mapping, as desired. ■

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $F, G : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  be mappings for which there exists a function  $\varphi : {}_A\mathcal{H} \times {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  satisfying (i) such that*

$$\begin{aligned} & \|F(ax + ay) - aF(x) - aF(y)\| \cdot \varphi(x, y), \\ & \|G(ax + ay) - aG(x) - aG(y)\| \cdot \varphi(x, y) \end{aligned}$$

*for all  $a \in A_1$  and all  $x, y \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Assume that  $F(2^n x) = 2^n F(x)$  and  $G(2^n x) = 2^n G(x)$  for all positive integers  $n$  and all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Then the mappings  $F, G : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  are  $A$ -linear mappings. Furthermore, if the mappings  $F, G : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  satisfy the inequalities*

$$\begin{aligned} & \|F \circ G(x) - x\| \cdot \varphi(x, x), \\ & \|G \circ F(x) - x\| \cdot \varphi(x, x) \end{aligned}$$

*for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ , then the mapping  $G$  is the inverse of the mapping  $F$ .*

*Proof.* By the same method as the proof of Lemma 1, one can show that there exists a unique  $A$ -linear mapping  $L : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  such that

$$\|G(x) - L(x)\| \cdot \frac{1}{2}\tilde{\varphi}(x, x)$$

for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ .

By the assumption,

$$\begin{aligned} T(x) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F(2^n x)}{2^n} = F(x), \\ L(x) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{G(2^n x)}{2^n} = G(x) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ , where the mapping  $T : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  is given in the proof of Lemma 1. Hence the  $A$ -linear mappings  $T$  and  $L$  are the mappings  $F$  and  $G$ , respectively. So the mappings  $F, G : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  are  $A$ -linear mappings.

Now by the assumption,

$$\begin{aligned} \|F \circ G(2^n x) - 2^n x\| &\cdot \varphi(2^n x, 2^n x), \\ \|G \circ F(2^n x) - 2^n x\| &\cdot \varphi(2^n x, 2^n x) \end{aligned}$$

for all positive integers  $n$  and all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{-n} \|F \circ G(2^n x) - 2^n x\| &\rightarrow 0, \\ 2^{-n} \|G \circ F(2^n x) - 2^n x\| &\rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} F \circ G(x) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F \circ G(2^n x)}{2^n} = x, \\ G \circ F(x) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{G \circ F(2^n x)}{2^n} = x \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . So the mapping  $G$  is the inverse of the mapping  $F$ . ■

From now on, let  $A$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra with norm  $|\cdot|$ ,  $A_1^+$  the set of positive elements in  $A_1$ , and  ${}_A\mathcal{H}$  a left Hilbert  $A$ -module with norm  $\|\cdot\|$ .

Now we are going to prove the generalized Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability of linear functional equations in a Hilbert module over a unital  $C^*$ -algebra in the spirit of Gavruta.

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $F : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  be a mapping for which there exists a function  $\varphi : {}_A\mathcal{H} \times {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  satisfying (i) such that*

$$\|F(ax + ay) - aF(x) - aF(y)\| \cdot \varphi(x, y)$$

for all  $a \in A_1^+ \cup \{i\}$  and all  $x, y \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Then there exists a unique  $A$ -linear operator  $T : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  satisfying (ii).

*Proof.* By the same reasoning as the proof of Lemma 1, there exists a unique  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear mapping  $T : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  satisfying (ii).

By the same method as the proof of Lemma 1, one can obtain that

$$T(ax) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F(2^n ax)}{2^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{aF(2^n x)}{2^n} = aT(x)$$

for each  $a \in A_1^+ \cup \{i\}$ . So

$$\begin{aligned} T(ax) &= |a|T\left(\frac{a}{|a|}x\right) = |a|\frac{a}{|a|}T(x) = aT(x), \quad \forall a \in A^+ (a \neq 0), \quad \forall x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}, \\ T(ix) &= iT(x), \quad \forall x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}. \end{aligned}$$

For any element  $a \in A$ ,  $a = \frac{a+a^*}{2} + i\frac{a-a^*}{2i}$ , and  $\frac{a+a^*}{2}$  and  $\frac{a-a^*}{2i}$  are self-adjoint elements, furthermore,  $a = (\frac{a+a^*}{2})^+ - (\frac{a+a^*}{2})^- + i(\frac{a-a^*}{2i})^+ - i(\frac{a-a^*}{2i})^-$ , where  $(\frac{a+a^*}{2})^+$ ,  $(\frac{a+a^*}{2})^-$ ,  $(\frac{a-a^*}{2i})^+$ , and  $(\frac{a-a^*}{2i})^-$  are positive elements (see [2, Lemma 38.8]). So

$$\begin{aligned} T(ax) &= T\left(\left(\frac{a+a^*}{2}\right)^+x - \left(\frac{a+a^*}{2}\right)^-x + i\left(\frac{a-a^*}{2i}\right)^+x - i\left(\frac{a-a^*}{2i}\right)^-x\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{a+a^*}{2}\right)^+T(x) + \left(\frac{a+a^*}{2}\right)^-T(-x) + i\left(\frac{a-a^*}{2i}\right)^+T(ix) + i\left(\frac{a-a^*}{2i}\right)^-T(-ix) \\ &= \left(\frac{a+a^*}{2}\right)^+T(x) - \left(\frac{a+a^*}{2}\right)^-T(x) + i\left(\frac{a-a^*}{2i}\right)^+T(x) - i\left(\frac{a-a^*}{2i}\right)^-T(x) \\ &= \left(\left(\frac{a+a^*}{2}\right)^+ - \left(\frac{a+a^*}{2}\right)^- + i\left(\frac{a-a^*}{2i}\right)^+ - i\left(\frac{a-a^*}{2i}\right)^-\right)T(x) = aT(x) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $a \in A$  and all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Hence

$$T(ax + by) = T(ax) + T(by) = aT(x) + bT(y)$$

for all  $a, b \in A$  and all  $x, y \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . So the unique  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear mapping  $T : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  is an  $A$ -linear operator, as desired. ■

**Theorem 4.** Let  $F : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  be a mapping for which there exists a function  $\varphi : {}_A\mathcal{H} \times {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  satisfying (i) such that

$$\|F(ax + ay) - aF(x) - aF(y)\| \cdot \varphi(x, y)$$

for all  $a \in A_1^+ \cup \{i\}$  and all  $x, y \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Assume that  $F(2^n x) = 2^n F(x)$  for all positive integers  $n$  and all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Then the mapping  $F : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  is an

*A*-linear operator. Furthermore, (1) if the mapping  $F : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  satisfies the inequality

$$\|F(x) - F^*(x)\| \cdot \varphi(x, x)$$

for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ , then the mapping  $F : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  is a self-adjoint operator, if the mapping  $F : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  satisfies the inequality

$$\|F \circ F^*(x) - F^* \circ F(x)\| \cdot \varphi(x, x)$$

for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ , then the mapping  $F : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  is a normal operator, if the mapping  $F : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  satisfies the inequalities

$$\begin{aligned} \|F \circ F^*(x) - x\| \cdot \varphi(x, x), \\ \|F^* \circ F(x) - x\| \cdot \varphi(x, x) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ , then the mapping  $F : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  is a unitary operator, and if the mapping  $F : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  satisfies the inequalities

$$\begin{aligned} \|F \circ F(x) - F(x)\| \cdot \varphi(x, x), \\ \|F^*(x) - F(x)\| \cdot \varphi(x, x) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ , then the mapping  $F : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  is a projection.

*Proof.* By the assumption,

$$T(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F(2^n x)}{2^n} = F(x)$$

for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ , where the operator  $T : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  is given in the proof of Lemma 3. So the *A*-linear operator  $T : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$  is the mapping  $F : {}_A\mathcal{H} \rightarrow {}_A\mathcal{H}$ .

(1) By the assumption,

$$\|F(2^n x) - F^*(2^n x)\| \cdot \varphi(2^n x, 2^n x)$$

for all positive integers  $n$  and all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Thus  $2^{-n} \|F(2^n x) - F^*(2^n x)\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Hence

$$F(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F(2^n x)}{2^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F^*(2^n x)}{2^n} = F^*(x)$$

for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . So the *A*-linear mapping  $F$  is a self-adjoint operator.

(2) By the assumption,

$$\|F \circ F^*(2^n x) - F^* \circ F(2^n x)\| \cdot \varphi(2^n x, 2^n x)$$

for all positive integers  $n$  and all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Thus  $2^{-n}\|F \circ F^*(2^n x) - F^* \circ F(2^n x)\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Hence

$$F \circ F^*(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F \circ F^*(2^n x)}{2^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F^* \circ F(2^n x)}{2^n} = F^* \circ F(x)$$

for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . So the  $A$ -linear mapping  $F$  is a normal operator.

(3) By the assumption,

$$\begin{aligned} \|F \circ F^*(2^n x) - 2^n x\| &\cdot \varphi(2^n x, 2^n x), \\ \|F^* \circ F(2^n x) - 2^n x\| &\cdot \varphi(2^n x, 2^n x) \end{aligned}$$

for all positive integers  $n$  and all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{-n}\|F \circ F^*(2^n x) - 2^n x\| &\rightarrow 0, \\ 2^{-n}\|F^* \circ F(2^n x) - 2^n x\| &\rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} F \circ F^*(x) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F \circ F^*(2^n x)}{2^n} = x, \\ F^* \circ F(x) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F^* \circ F(2^n x)}{2^n} = x \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . So the  $A$ -linear mapping  $F$  is a unitary operator.

(4) By the assumption,

$$\begin{aligned} \|F \circ F(2^n x) - F(2^n x)\| &\cdot \varphi(2^n x, 2^n x), \\ \|F^*(2^n x) - F(2^n x)\| &\cdot \varphi(2^n x, 2^n x) \end{aligned}$$

for all positive integers  $n$  and all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{-n}\|F \circ F(2^n x) - F(2^n x)\| &\rightarrow 0, \\ 2^{-n}\|F^*(2^n x) - F(2^n x)\| &\rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} F \circ F(x) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F \circ F(2^n x)}{2^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F(2^n x)}{2^n} = F(x), \\ F^*(x) &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F^*(2^n x)}{2^n} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{F(2^n x)}{2^n} = F(x) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in {}_A\mathcal{H}$ . So the  $A$ -linear mapping  $F$  is a projection. ■

**Remark.** When the inequalities

$$\|F(ax + ay) - aF(x) - aF(y)\| \cdot \varphi(x, y)$$

in the statements of the above results are replaced by the inequalities

$$\|aF(x + y) - F(ax) - F(ay)\| \cdot \varphi(x, y)$$

or the inequalities

$$\|F(x + y) - F(x) - F(y)\| \cdot \varphi(x, y),$$

$$\|F(ax) - aF(x)\| \cdot \varphi(x, x)$$

the results do also hold. The proofs are similar to the proofs of the results.

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