

## ON THE GENERALIZED HYERS-ULAM STABILITY OF THE QUADRATIC FUNCTIONAL EQUATION WITH A GENERAL INVOLUTION

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**Abstract.** In this paper we prove the generalized Hyers-Ulam stability of the quadratic functional equation

$$f(x+y) + f(x+\sigma(y)) = 2f(x) + 2f(y), \quad x, y \in G,$$

where  $\sigma$  is an involution of the normed space  $G$ .

### 1. INTRODUCTION

In [16] Ulam proposed the following stability problem: Under what conditions does there exist an additive mapping near an approximately additive mapping?

The first partial solution to Ulam's problem was given by Hyers in [4]: If  $f : E_1 \longrightarrow E_2$  is a mapping satisfying

$$\|f(x+y) - f(x) - f(y)\| \leq \delta,$$

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for all  $x, y \in E_1$ , where  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are Banach spaces and  $\delta$  is a given positive number, then there exists a unique additive mapping  $T : E_1 \longrightarrow E_2$  such that

$$\|f(x) - T(x)\| \leq \delta,$$

for all  $x \in E_1$ . The proof of this result follows the same spirit if  $E_1$  is an abelian semigroup.

In 1978, a generalization of Hyers' Theorem was formulated and proved by Rassias [9] in the setting when  $E_1$  is a normed space,  $E_2$  is a Banach space and the Cauchy difference is allowed to be unbounded.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $f : E_1 \longrightarrow E_2$  be a mapping such that  $f(tx)$  is continuous in  $t$  for each fixed  $x$ . Assume that there exist  $\theta \geq 0$  and  $p < 1$  such that*

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

*for all  $x, y \in E_1$  (for all  $x, y \in E_1 \setminus \{0\}$  if  $p < 0$ ). Then there exists a unique linear mapping  $T : E_1 \longrightarrow E_2$  such that*

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

*for all  $x \in E_1$  (for all  $x \in E_1 \setminus \{0\}$  if  $p < 0$ ).*

Rassias during the 27th International Symposium on Functional Equations asked the question whether such a theorem can also be proved for  $p \geq 1$ . Gajda [3] following the same approach as in Rassias [9], gave an affirmative solution to Rassias' question for  $p > 1$ . It was showed by Gajda [3] as well as by Rassias and Semrl [12] that a similar Theorem in the spirit of Theorem 1.1 for the case  $p = 1$  cannot be proved.

Stability problems of various functional equations have been extensively investigated by a number of authors. The terminology Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability originates from these historical backgrounds. For more detailed definitions and further developments of stability concepts one is referred to [2], [6], [8], [11], [13], [14].

In this paper we prove the stability of the quadratic functional equation

$$f(x+y) + f(x+\sigma(y)) = 2f(x) + 2f(y), \quad x, y \in G, \quad (1.1)$$

where  $\sigma : G \longrightarrow G$  is an involution of  $G$ , i.e.,  $\sigma(x+y) = \sigma(x) + \sigma(y)$  and  $\sigma(\sigma(x)) = x$  for all  $x, y \in G$ .

The functional equation

$$f(x+y) = f(x) + f(y), \quad x, y \in G, \quad (1.2)$$

corresponds to  $\sigma = I$ , and the functional equation

$$f(x+y) + f(x-y) = 2f(x) + 2f(y), \quad x, y \in G, \quad (1.3)$$

corresponds to  $\sigma = -I$ . Reflection in a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  provides a third example. Some other examples are the transpose involution and the symmetric involution in the additive group of  $2 \times 2$  matrices.

The quadratic equation (1.1) has been solved by Stetkær [15].

The stability problem for the quadratic equation (1.3) was proved firstly by Skof in [14]. In [1] Cholewa extended the Skof's result in the following way, where  $G$  is an abelian group and  $E$  is a Banach space.

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $\eta > 0$  be a real number and  $f : G \longrightarrow E$  satisfies the inequality*

$$\|f(x+y) + f(x-y) - 2f(x) - 2f(y)\| \leq \eta \text{ for all } x, y \in G. \quad (1.4)$$

*Then for every  $x \in G$  the limit  $q(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{f(2^n x)}{2^{2n}}$  exists and  $q : G \longrightarrow E$  is the unique solution of (1.3) satisfying*

$$\|f(x) - q(x)\| \leq \frac{\eta}{2}, \quad x \in G. \quad (1.5)$$

In [2] Czerwik obtained a generalization of the Skof-Cholewa's result.

**Theorem 1.3.** *Let  $p \neq 2$ ,  $\theta > 0$ ,  $\delta > 0$  be real numbers. Suppose that the function  $f : E_1 \longrightarrow E_2$  satisfies the inequality*

$$\|f(x+y) + f(x-y) - 2f(x) - 2f(y)\| \leq \delta + \theta(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p) \text{ for all } x, y \in E_1.$$

*Then there exists exactly one quadratic function  $q : E_1 \longrightarrow E_2$  such that*

$$\|f(x) - q(x)\| \leq c + k\theta\|x\|^p$$

*for all  $x \in E_1$  if  $p \geq 0$  and for all  $x \in E_1 \setminus \{0\}$  if  $p < 0$ , where*

$$c = \frac{\|f(0)\|}{3}, \quad k = \frac{2}{4-2^p} \text{ and } q(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{f(2^n x)}{4^n}, \text{ for } p < 2 \text{ as well as,}$$

$$c = 0, \quad k = \frac{2}{2^p-4} \text{ and } q(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} 4^n f(2^{-n}x), \text{ for } p > 2.$$

In dealing with a general involution  $\sigma$  of  $G$  one provides first of all a unified study for the stability of equations (1.2) and (1.3) and secondly a generalization of both of these equations. In particular, one wants to see how the involution  $\sigma$  enter into the approximative solutions formulas.

## 2. HYERS-ULAM STABILITY OF EQUATION(1.1)

In this section we investigate the Hyers-Ulam stability for the equation (1.1). This generalizes the result obtained for  $\sigma = I$  and  $\sigma = -I$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $G$  be an abelian group,  $E$  a Banach space and  $f : G \longrightarrow E$  a mapping which satisfies the inequality*

$$\|f(x+y) + f(x+\sigma(y)) - 2f(x) - 2f(y)\| \leq \delta \text{ for all } x, y \in G \quad (2.1)$$

for some  $\delta > 0$ . Then there exists a unique mapping  $q: G \longrightarrow E$  such that

$$q(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{2^{2n}} \{f(2^n x) + (2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))\}$$

is a solution of the quadratic functional equation (1.1) satisfying

$$\|f(x) - q(x)\| \leq \frac{\delta}{2} \text{ for all } x \in G. \quad (2.2)$$

*Proof.* By letting  $x = y = u$ , respectively  $x = y = u + \sigma(u)$  in (2.1) we obtain

$$\|f(2u) + f(u + \sigma(u)) - 4f(u)\| \leq \delta \quad (2.3)$$

and

$$\|2f(2u + 2\sigma(u)) - 4f(u + \sigma(u))\| \leq \delta. \quad (2.4)$$

Setting  $x = y$  in (2.1) yields

$$\|f(x) - \frac{1}{4}\{f(2x) + f(x + \sigma(x))\}\| \leq \frac{\delta}{4} \text{ for all } x \in G. \quad (2.5)$$

Applying the inductive assumption we obtain

$$\|f(x) - \frac{1}{2^{2n}}\{f(2^n x) + (2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))\}\| \leq \frac{\delta}{2}(1 - \frac{1}{2^n}) \quad (2.6)$$

for some positive integer  $n$ .

From (2.5) it follows that (2.6) is true for  $n = 1$ . The inductive step must now be demonstrated to hold true for the integer  $n + 1$ , that is

$$\begin{aligned} & \|f(x) - \frac{1}{2^{2(n+1)}}\{f(2^{n+1}x) + (2^{n+1} - 1)f(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(x))\}\| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2^{2(n+1)}}\|f(2^{n+1}x) + f(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(x)) - 4f(2^n x)\| \\ & + \frac{1}{2^{2(n+1)}}\|2(2^n - 1)f(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(x)) - 4(2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))\| \\ & + \frac{1}{2^{2(n+1)}}\|4f(2^n x) + 4(2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x)) - 2^{2(n+1)}f(x)\| \\ & \leq \frac{\delta}{2^{2(n+1)}} + \frac{(2^n - 1)\delta}{2^{2(n+1)}} + \frac{\delta}{2}(1 - \frac{1}{2^n}) = \frac{\delta}{2}(1 - \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}). \end{aligned}$$

This proves the validity of the inequality (2.6).

Let us define

$$q_n(x) = \frac{1}{2^{2n}}\{f(2^n x) + (2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))\} \quad (2.7)$$

for any positive integer  $n$  and  $x \in G$ . Then  $\{q_n(x)\}$  is a Cauchy sequence for every  $x \in G$ . In fact by using (2.6), (2.7), (2.4) and (2.3), we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \|q_{n+1}(x) - q_n(x)\| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2^{2(n+1)}} \|f(2^{n+1}x) + f(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(x)) - 4f(2^n x)\| \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{2^{2(n+1)}} \|2(2^n - 1)f(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(x)) - 4(2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))\| \\ & \leq \frac{\delta}{2^{2(n+1)}} + \frac{(2^n - 1)\delta}{2^{2(n+1)}} = \frac{\delta}{4} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n. \end{aligned}$$

It easily follows that  $\{q_n(x)\}$  is a Cauchy sequence for all  $x \in G$ . Since  $E$  is complete, we can define  $q(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} q_n(x)$  for any  $x \in G$  and one can verify that  $q$  is a solution of (1.1). For all  $x, y \in G$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \|q_n(x + y) + q_n(x + \sigma(y)) - 2q_n(x) - 2q_n(y)\| \\ & = \frac{1}{2^{2n}} \|f(2^n x + 2^n y) + (2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}y + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x) + 2^{n-1}\sigma(y)) \\ & \quad + f(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(y)) + (2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}y + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x) + 2^{n-1}\sigma(y)) \\ & \quad - 2[f(2^n x) + (2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))] \\ & \quad - 2[f(2^n y) + (2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}y + 2^{n-1}\sigma(y))]\| \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2^{2n}} \|f(2^n x + 2^n y) + f(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(y)) - 2f(2^n x) - 2f(2^n y)\| \\ & \quad + \frac{(2^n - 1)}{2^{2n}} \|f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}y + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x) + 2^{n-1}\sigma(y)) \\ & \quad + f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}y + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x) + 2^{n-1}\sigma(y)) - 2f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x)) \\ & \quad - 2f(2^{n-1}y + 2^{n-1}\sigma(y))\| \\ & \leq \frac{\delta}{2^{2n}} + \frac{(2^n - 1)\delta}{2^{2n}} \\ & = \frac{\delta}{2^n}. \end{aligned}$$

By letting  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ , we get the desired result.

To prove that (2.2) holds true, we take the limit as  $n \rightarrow +\infty$  in (2.6) and, similarly as above, we derive the result.

Assume now that there exist two functions  $q_i : G \rightarrow E$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) that are solutions of (1.1) with  $\|f(x) - q_i(x)\| \leq \frac{\delta}{2}$  for all  $x \in G$ .

First, we will prove by mathematical induction that

$$q_i(2^n x) + (2^n - 1)q_i(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x)) = 2^{2n}q_i(x). \quad (2.8)$$

Setting  $y = x$  in relation (1.1), we obtain (2.8) for  $n = 1$ . Suppose (2.8) is true for  $n$  and we will prove it for  $n + 1$ . Hence, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& q_i(2^{n+1}x) + (2^{n+1} - 1)q_i(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(x)) \\
&= q_i(2^{n+1}x) + q_i(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(x)) - 4q_i(2^n x) \\
&\quad + 2(2^n - 1)q_i(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(x)) - 4(2^n - 1)q_i(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x)) \\
&\quad + 4q_i(2^n x) + 4(2^n - 1)q_i(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x)) \\
&= q_i(2^n x + 2^n x) + q_i(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(x)) - 4q_i(2^n x) \\
&\quad + (2^n - 1)[q_i(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x) + 2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x)) \\
&\quad + q_i(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x) + 2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x)) \\
&\quad - 4q_i(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))] \\
&\quad + 4[q_i(2^n x) + (2^n - 1)q_i(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))] \\
&= 0 + 0 + 2^{2(n+1)}q_i(x) \\
&= 2^{2(n+1)}q_i(x).
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, relation (2.8) is true for any natural number  $n$ . We will prove the uniqueness of the mapping  $q$ . For all  $x \in G$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \|q_1(x) - q_2(x)\| \\
&= \frac{1}{2^{2n}} \|q_1(2^n x) + (2^n - 1)q_1(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x)) - q_2(2^n x) \\
&\quad - (2^n - 1)q_2(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))\| \\
&\leq \frac{1}{2^{2n}} [\|q_1(2^n x) - f(2^n x)\| + (2^n - 1)\|q_1(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x)) \\
&\quad - f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))\|] \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2^{2n}} [\|q_2(2^n x) - f(2^n x)\| + (2^n - 1)\|q_2(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x)) \\
&\quad - f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))\|] \\
&\leq \frac{1}{2^{2n}} \left[ \frac{\delta}{2} + \frac{\delta}{2} + \frac{\delta(2^n - 1)}{2} + \frac{\delta(2^n - 1)}{2} \right] \\
&= \frac{\delta}{2^n}.
\end{aligned}$$

If we let  $n \rightarrow +\infty$ , we get  $q_1(x) = q_2(x)$  for all  $x \in G$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

### 3. STABILITY OF EQUATION (1.1) WITH $(p < 1)$

In the present section, we give a generalization of Skof's, Czerwik's and Rassias's results for the functional equation (1.1).

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $G$  be a normed space and  $E$  a Banach space. If a function  $f : G \longrightarrow E$  satisfies the inequality*

$$\|f(x+y) + f(x+\sigma(y)) - 2f(x) - 2f(y)\| \leq \theta(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p) \quad (3.1)$$

*for some  $\theta \geq 0$ ,  $p < 1$  and for all  $x, y \in G$ , then there exists a unique mapping  $q : G \longrightarrow E$ , defined by*

$$q(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{f(2^n x) + (2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))}{2^{2n}}$$

*that is a solution of the quadratic functional equation (1.1) and*

$$\|f(x) - q(x)\| \leq \frac{\theta}{2-2^p} \left\{ \|x\|^p + \frac{1}{2} \|x + \sigma(x)\|^p \right\}, \quad x \in G. \quad (3.2)$$

*Proof.* Letting  $x = y$  in (3.1) yields

$$\|f(2x) + f(x + \sigma(x)) - 4f(x)\| \leq 2\theta\|x\|^p. \quad (3.3)$$

Replacing now  $x$  and  $y$  by  $2x$ , respectively by  $x + \sigma(x)$  in (3.1), we get

$$\|f(4x) + f(2x + 2\sigma(x)) - 4f(2x)\| \leq 2^{p+1}\theta\|x\|^p, \quad (3.4)$$

respectively

$$\|2f(2x + 2\sigma(x)) - 4f(x + \sigma(x))\| \leq 2\theta\|x + \sigma(x)\|^p. \quad (3.5)$$

Now, by applying the inductive argument, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \left\| f(x) - \frac{1}{2^{2n}} \{f(2^n x) + (2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))\} \right\| \\ & \leq \frac{\theta}{2} \|x\|^p [1 + 2^{p-2} + 2^{2(p-2)} + \dots + 2^{(n-1)(p-2)}] \\ & \quad + \frac{\theta}{2^{p+1}} \|x + \sigma(x)\|^p [2^{p-2} + (3)2^{2(p-2)} + (7)2^{3(p-2)} + \dots \\ & \quad + (2^{n-1} - 1)2^{(n-1)(p-2)}]. \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

The property for  $n = 1$  follows from that inequality (3.3). For  $n = 2$ , we get from (3.3), (3.4) and (3.5) that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \|f(x) - \frac{1}{16}\{f(4x) + 3f(2x + 2\sigma(x))\}\| \\
& \leq \frac{1}{16}\|f(4x) + f(2x + 2\sigma(x)) - 4f(2x)\| + \frac{1}{16}\|2f(2x + 2\sigma(x)) - 4f(x + \sigma(x))\| \\
& \quad + \frac{1}{16}\|4f(2x) + 4f(x + \sigma(x)) - 16f(x)\| \\
& \leq \frac{2^{p+1}\theta}{16}\|x\|^p + \frac{2\theta}{16}\|x + \sigma(x)\|^p + \frac{4(2\theta)}{16}\|x\|^p \\
& = \frac{\theta}{2}\|x\|^p(1 + 2^{p-2}) + \frac{\theta}{2^{p+1}}\|x + \sigma(x)\|^p 2^{p-2}.
\end{aligned}$$

Assume now that (3.6) holds for  $n$  and we shall prove it for the case  $n + 1$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \|f(x) - \frac{1}{2^{2(n+1)}}\{f(2^{n+1}x) + (2^{n+1} - 1)f(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(x))\}\| \\
& \leq \frac{1}{2^{2(n+1)}}\|f(2^{n+1}x) + f(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(x)) - 4f(2^n x)\| \\
& \quad + \frac{1}{2^{2(n+1)}}\|4f(2^n x) + 4(2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x)) - 2^{2(n+1)}f(x)\| \\
& \quad + \frac{1}{2^{2(n+1)}}\|2(2^n - 1)f(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(x)) - 4(2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))\| \\
& \leq \frac{1}{2^{2(n+1)}}2\theta\|2^n x\|^p \\
& \quad + \frac{\theta}{2}\|x\|^p(1 + 2^{p-2} + 2^{2(p-2)} + \dots + 2^{(n-1)(p-2)}) \\
& \quad + \frac{\theta}{2^{p+1}}\|x + \sigma(x)\|^p(2^{p-2} + (3)2^{2(p-2)} + (7)2^{3(p-2)} + \dots \\
& \quad + (2^{n-1} - 1)2^{(n-1)(p-2)}) + \frac{2^n - 1}{2^{2(n+1)}}2\theta\|2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x)\|^p \\
& = \frac{\theta}{2}\|x\|^p(1 + 2^{p-2} + 2^{2(p-2)} + \dots + 2^{(n)(p-2)}) \\
& \quad + \frac{\theta}{2^{p+1}}\|x + \sigma(x)\|^p(2^{p-2} + (3)2^{2(p-2)} + (7)2^{3(p-2)} + \dots + (2^n - 1)2^{(n)(p-2)}),
\end{aligned}$$

which proves the validity of inequality (3.6).

Let us define

$$q_n(x) = \frac{f(2^n x) + (2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))}{2^{2n}}$$



for any positive integer  $n$  and  $x \in G$ . Then  $\{q_n(x)\}$  is a Cauchy sequence for every  $x \in G$ . In fact, by using (3.3), (3.4), (3.5) and (3.6) one has

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|q_{n+1}(x) - q_n(x)\| \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{2^{2(n+1)}} \|f(2^{n+1}x) + f(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(x)) - 4f(2^n x)\| \\
 & \quad + \frac{1}{2^{2(n+1)}} \|2(2^n - 1)f(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(x)) - 4(2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))\| \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{2^{2(n+1)}} 2\theta \|2^n x\|^p + \frac{2^n - 1}{2^{2(n+1)}} 2\theta \|2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x)\|^p \\
 & = \frac{\theta}{2} 2^{n(p-2)} (\|x\|^p + \frac{1}{2^p} (2^n - 1) \|x + \sigma(x)\|^p) \\
 & = \frac{\theta}{2} 2^{n(p-1)} (\frac{1}{2^n} \|x\|^p + \frac{1}{2^p} \frac{(2^n - 1)}{2^n} \|x + \sigma(x)\|^p) \\
 & \leq \frac{\theta}{2} 2^{n(p-1)} (\|x\|^p + \frac{1}{2^p} \|x + \sigma(x)\|^p).
 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $2^{p-1} < 1$ , it follows that  $\{q_n(x)\}$  is a Cauchy sequence for every  $x \in G$ . However,  $E$  is a complete normed space, thus there exists the limit function

$$q(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} q_n(x)$$

for any  $x \in G$ .

Let  $x, y$  be any two points of  $G$ . From (3.1) it follows that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|q_n(x + y) + q_n(x + \sigma(y)) - 2q_n(x) - 2q_n(y)\| \\
 & = \frac{1}{2^{2n}} \|f(2^n x + 2^n y) + (2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}y + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x) + 2^{n-1}\sigma(y)) \\
 & \quad + f(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(y)) + (2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}y + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x) + 2^{n-1}\sigma(y)) \\
 & \quad - 2[f(2^n x) + (2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))] \\
 & \quad - 2[f(2^n y) + (2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}y + 2^{n-1}\sigma(y))]\| \\
 & \leq \frac{1}{2^{2n}} \|f(2^n x + 2^n y) + f(2^n x + 2^n \sigma(y)) - 2f(2^n x) - 2f(2^n y)\| \\
 & \quad + \frac{(2^n - 1)}{2^{2n}} \|f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}y + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x) + 2^{n-1}\sigma(y)) \\
 & \quad + f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}y + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x) + 2^{n-1}\sigma(y)) - 2f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x)) \\
 & \quad - 2f(2^{n-1}y + 2^{n-1}\sigma(y))\|
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq \frac{1}{2^{2n}}\theta(\|2^n x\|^p + \|2^n y\|^p) \\
&\quad + \frac{(2^n - 1)}{2^{2n}}\theta(\|2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x)\|^p + \|2^{n-1}y + 2^{n-1}\sigma(y)\|^p) \\
&= 2^{n(p-1)}\theta\left\{\frac{1}{2^n}(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p) + \frac{2^n - 1}{2^p 2^n}(\|x + \sigma(x)\|^p + \|y + \sigma(y)\|^p)\right\} \\
&\leq 2^{n(p-1)}\theta\left\{\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p + \frac{1}{2^p}(\|x + \sigma(x)\|^p + \|y + \sigma(y)\|^p)\right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

By letting  $n \longrightarrow +\infty$  we get the equality

$$q(x + y) + q(x + \sigma(y)) = 2q(x) + 2q(y) \text{ for all } x, y \in G.$$

It remains to show that  $q$  and  $f$  satisfy the inequality (3.2). By using (3.6), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
&\|f(x) - \frac{1}{4^n}\{f(2^n x) + (2^n - 1)f(2^{n-1}x + 2^{n-1}\sigma(x))\}\| \\
&\leq \frac{\theta}{2}\|x\|^p(1 + 2^{p-2} + 2^{2(p-2)} + \dots + 2^{(n-1)(p-2)}) \\
&\quad + \frac{\theta}{2^{p+1}}\|x + \sigma(x)\|^p(2^{p-2} + (3)2^{2(p-2)} + (7)2^{3(p-2)} + \dots \\
&\quad + (2^{n-1} - 1)2^{(n-1)(p-2)}) \\
&= \frac{\theta}{2}\|x\|^p(1 + \frac{1}{2}2^{p-1} + \frac{1}{2^2}2^{2(p-1)} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}2^{(n-1)(p-1)}) \\
&\quad + \frac{\theta}{2^{p+1}}\|x + \sigma(x)\|^p((\frac{1}{2})2^{p-1} + (\frac{3}{4})2^{2(p-1)} + (\frac{7}{8})2^{3(p-1)} + \dots \\
&\quad + (\frac{2^{n-1} - 1}{2^{n-1}})2^{(n-1)(p-1)}) \\
&\leq \frac{\theta}{2}\|x\|^p(1 + 2^{p-1} + 2^{2(p-1)} + \dots + 2^{(n-1)(p-1)}) \\
&\quad + \frac{\theta}{2^{p+1}}\|x + \sigma(x)\|^p(2^{p-1} + 2^{2(p-1)} + 2^{3(p-1)} + \dots + 2^{(n-1)(p-1)}) \\
&\leq \frac{\theta}{2 - 2^p}\{\|x\|^p + \frac{1}{2}\|x + \sigma(x)\|^p\}.
\end{aligned}$$

Consequently, we obtain inequality (3.2). The uniqueness of the mapping  $q$  can be proved by using a similar argument as in the precedent paragraph. This completes the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

If we replace in Theorem 3.1 the mapping  $\sigma$  by  $I$ , (resp. by  $-I$ ), we obtain immediately the following corollaries.

**Corollary 3.2.** *Let  $G$  be a normed space and  $E$  a Banach space. If a function  $f : G \longrightarrow E$  satisfies the inequality*

$$\|f(x+y) - f(x) - f(y)\| \leq \theta(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p) \quad (3.7)$$

*for some  $\theta \geq 0$ ,  $p < 1$  and for all  $x, y \in G$ , then there exists a unique mapping  $q : G \longrightarrow E$ , given by*

$$q(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{f(2^n x)}{2^n},$$

*that is a solution of the additive functional equation (1.2) satisfying the inequality*

$$\|f(x) - q(x)\| \leq \frac{\theta\|x\|^p(2+2^p)}{2-2^p}, \quad x \in G. \quad (3.8)$$

**Corollary 3.3.** *Let  $G$  be a normed space and  $E$  a Banach space. If a function  $f : G \longrightarrow E$  satisfies the inequality*

$$\|f(x+y) + f(x-y) - 2f(x) - 2f(y)\| \leq \theta(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p) \quad (3.9)$$

*for some  $\theta \geq 0$ ,  $0 < p < 1$  and for all  $x, y \in G$ , then there exists a unique mapping  $q : G \longrightarrow E$ , given by*

$$q(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{f(2^n x)}{2^{2n}},$$

*that is a solution of the quadratic functional equation (1.3) satisfying the inequality*

$$\|f(x) - q(x)\| \leq \frac{\theta\|x\|^p}{2-2^p}, \quad (3.10)$$

*for all  $x \in G$ .*

#### 4. STABILITY OF EQUATION (1.1) WITH ( $p > 2$ )

In this section, we prove the generalized Hyers-Ulam stability of the functional equation (1.1) with  $p > 2$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $G$  be a normed space and  $E$  a Banach space. Assume that  $f : G \longrightarrow E$  satisfies the inequality*

$$\|f(x+y) + f(x+\sigma(y)) - 2f(x) - 2f(y)\| \leq \theta(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p) \quad (4.1)$$

*for some  $\theta \geq 0$ ,  $p > 2$  and for all  $x, y \in G$ . Then there exists a unique mapping  $q : G \longrightarrow E$ , given by*

$$q(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} 2^{2n} \left\{ f\left(\frac{x}{2^n}\right) + \left(\frac{1}{2^n} - 1\right) f\left(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}}\right) \right\},$$

that is a solution of the quadratic functional equation (1.1) such that

$$\|f(x) - q(x)\| \leq \frac{2\theta}{2^p - 4} \{ \|x\|^p + \frac{1}{2^p} \|x + \sigma(x)\|^p \}, \quad x \in G. \quad (4.2)$$

*Proof.* Suppose that  $f$  satisfies inequality (4.1). Replacing  $x, y$  by  $\frac{x}{2^{n+1}}$ , (resp. by  $\frac{x}{2^{n+2}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+2}}$ ), we easily obtain

$$\|f(\frac{x}{2^n}) + f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}}) - 4f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}})\| \leq \frac{2\theta}{2^{(n+1)p}} \|x\|^p, \quad (4.3)$$

$$\|2f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}}) - 4f(\frac{x}{2^{n+2}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+2}})\| \leq \frac{2\theta}{2^{(n+2)p}} \|x + \sigma(x)\|^p, \quad (4.4)$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ .

Now, we will show by induction that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|f(x) - 2^{2n} \{f(\frac{x}{2^n}) + (\frac{1}{2^n} - 1)f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}})\}\| \\ & \leq \frac{2\theta}{2^p} \|x\|^p [1 + 2^{2-p} + 2^{2(2-p)} + \dots + 2^{(n-1)(2-p)}] \\ & \quad + \frac{2\theta}{2^{2p}} \|x + \sigma(x)\|^p [(1 - \frac{1}{2}) + (1 - \frac{1}{2^2})2^{2-p} + (1 - \frac{1}{2^3})2^{2(2-p)} \\ & \quad + \dots + (1 - \frac{1}{2^n})2^{(n-1)(2-p)}]. \end{aligned} \quad (4.5)$$

For  $n = 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \|f(x) - 4[f(\frac{x}{2}) + (\frac{1}{2} - 1)f(\frac{x}{4} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{4})]\| \\ & \leq \|f(x) + f(\frac{x}{2} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2}) - 4f(\frac{x}{2})\| \\ & \quad + \|2f(\frac{x}{4} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{4}) - f(\frac{x}{2} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2})\| \\ & \leq \frac{2\theta}{2^p} \|x\|^p + \frac{\theta}{2^{2p}} \|x + \sigma(x)\|^p \\ & = \frac{2\theta}{2^p} \|x\|^p + (1 - \frac{1}{2}) \frac{2\theta}{2^{2p}} \|x + \sigma(x)\|^p \end{aligned}$$

which proves (4.5) for  $n = 1$ . Assume that (4.5) holds for  $n$  and  $x \in G$ , and we will prove it for  $n + 1$ . We obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \| f(x) - 2^{2(n+1)} \{ f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}}) + (\frac{1}{2^{n+1}} - 1) f(\frac{x}{2^{n+2}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+2}}) \} \| \\
 & \leq \| f(x) - 2^{2n} \{ f(\frac{x}{2^n}) + (\frac{1}{2^n} - 1) f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}}) \} \| \\
 & \quad + 2^{2n} \| f(\frac{x}{2^n}) + (\frac{1}{2^n} - 1) f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}}) \\
 & \quad - 4 [f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}}) + (\frac{1}{2^{n+1}} - 1) f(\frac{x}{2^{n+2}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+2}})] \| \\
 & \leq \| f(x) - 2^{2n} \{ f(\frac{x}{2^n}) + (\frac{1}{2^n} - 1) f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}}) \} \| \\
 & \quad + 2^{2n} \| f(\frac{x}{2^n}) + f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}}) - 4 f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}}) \| \\
 & \quad + 2^{2n} \| (\frac{1}{2^{n+1}} - 1) 2 f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}}) - 4 (\frac{1}{2^{n+1}} - 1) f(\frac{x}{2^{n+2}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+2}}) \| \\
 & \leq \frac{2\theta}{2^p} \| x \|^p [1 + 2^{2-p} + 2^{2(2-p)} + \dots + 2^{(n-1)(2-p)}] \\
 & \quad + \frac{2\theta}{2^{2p}} \| x + \sigma(x) \|^p [(1 - \frac{1}{2}) + (1 - \frac{1}{2^2}) 2^{2-p} + (1 - \frac{1}{2^3}) 2^{2(2-p)} + \dots \\
 & \quad + (1 - \frac{1}{2^n}) 2^{(n-1)(2-p)}] \\
 & \quad + 2^{2n} \frac{2\theta}{2^{(n+1)p}} \| x \|^p + 2^{2n} (1 - \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}) \frac{2\theta}{2^{(n+2)p}} [\| x + \sigma(x) \|^p] \\
 & = \frac{2\theta}{2^p} \| x \|^p [1 + 2^{2-p} + 2^{2(2-p)} + \dots + 2^{n(2-p)}] \\
 & \quad + \frac{2\theta}{2^{2p}} \| x + \sigma(x) \|^p [(1 - \frac{1}{2}) + (1 - \frac{1}{2^2}) 2^{2-p} + (1 - \frac{1}{2^3}) 2^{2(2-p)} + \dots \\
 & \quad + (1 - \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}) 2^{n(2-p)}],
 \end{aligned}$$

which proves the validity of the inequality (4.5).

Let us denote by  $q_n(x)$  the sequence of functions defined by

$$q_n(x) = 2^{2n} \{ f(\frac{x}{2^n}) + (\frac{1}{2^n} - 1) f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}}) \}, \quad (4.6)$$

for  $x \in G$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . We will show that  $\{q_n(x)\}$  is a Cauchy sequence for every  $x \in G$ .

For  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we obtain by (4.3) and (4.4) that

$$\begin{aligned}
& \| q_{n+1}(x) - q_n(x) \| \\
&= 2^{2n} \| 4[f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}}) + (\frac{1}{2^{n+1}} - 1)f(\frac{x}{2^{n+2}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+2}})] \\
&\quad - [f(\frac{x}{2^n}) + (\frac{1}{2^n} - 1)f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}})] \| \\
&\leq 2^{2n} \| f(\frac{x}{2^n}) + f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}}) - 4f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}}) \| \\
&\quad + 2^{2n} \| (\frac{1}{2^{n+1}} - 1)2f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}}) - 4(\frac{1}{2^{n+1}} - 1)f(\frac{x}{2^{n+2}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+2}}) \| \\
&\leq 2^{n(2-p)} \frac{2\theta}{2^p} \| x \|^p + (1 - \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}) 2^{n(2-p)} \frac{2\theta}{2^{2p}} \| x + \sigma(x) \|^p \\
&\leq 2^{n(2-p)} \frac{2\theta}{2^p} [\| x \|^p + \frac{1}{2^p} \| x + \sigma(x) \|^p].
\end{aligned}$$

Since  $2^{(2-p)} < 1$ , the desired conclusion follows. However,  $E$  is a Banach space, thus we can define

$$q(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} q_n(x) \quad (4.7)$$

for any  $x \in G$ . We will show that  $q$  is a solution of equation (1.1). Let us consider  $x, y \in G$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
& \| q_n(x+y) + q_n(x+\sigma(y)) - 2q_n(x) - 2q_n(y) \| \\
&= 2^{2n} \| f(\frac{x}{2^n} + \frac{y}{2^n}) + (\frac{1}{2^n} - 1)f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{y}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(y)}{2^{n+1}}) \\
&\quad + f(\frac{x}{2^n} + \frac{\sigma(y)}{2^n}) + (\frac{1}{2^n} - 1)f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{y}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(y)}{2^{n+1}}) \\
&\quad - 2[f(\frac{x}{2^n}) + (\frac{1}{2^n} - 1)f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}})] \\
&\quad - 2[f(\frac{y}{2^n}) + (\frac{1}{2^n} - 1)f(\frac{y}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(y)}{2^{n+1}})] \| \\
&\leq 2^{2n} \| f(\frac{x}{2^n} + \frac{y}{2^n}) + f(\frac{x}{2^n} + \frac{\sigma(y)}{2^n}) - 2f(\frac{x}{2^n}) - 2f(\frac{y}{2^n}) \| \\
&\quad + 2^{2n}(1 - \frac{1}{2^n}) \| f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{y}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(y)}{2^{n+1}}) \\
&\quad + f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{y}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(y)}{2^{n+1}}) - 2f(\frac{x}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(x)}{2^{n+1}}) - 2f(\frac{y}{2^{n+1}} + \frac{\sigma(y)}{2^{n+1}}) \| \\
&\leq \theta 2^{n(2-p)} [\| x \|^p + \| y \|^p + \frac{1}{2^p} \| x + \sigma(x) \|^p + \frac{1}{2^p} \| y + \sigma(y) \|^p].
\end{aligned}$$

This implies that  $q$  is a solution of equation (1.1). The uniqueness of  $q$  can be derived by using some computations similar to the ones of the proof of Theorem 2.1. Some computations used in page 9 and inequality (4.5) imply (4.2). This ends the proof of Theorem 4.1.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.2.** *Let  $G$  be a normed space and  $E$  a Banach space. Assume that  $f : G \longrightarrow E$  satisfies the inequality*

$$\|f(x+y) - f(x) - f(y)\| \leq \theta(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p) \quad (4.8)$$

*for some  $\theta \geq 0$ ,  $p > 2$  and for all  $x, y \in G$ . Then there exists a unique mapping  $q : G \longrightarrow E$ , given by*

$$q(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} 2^n \{f(\frac{x}{2^n})\}$$

*that is a solution of the additive functional equation (1.2), such that*

$$\|f(x) - q(x)\| \leq \frac{8\theta}{2^p - 4} \|x\|^p, \quad x \in G. \quad (4.9)$$

**Corollary 4.3.** *Let  $G$  be a normed space and  $E$  a Banach space. Assume that  $f : G \longrightarrow E$  satisfies the inequality*

$$\|f(x+y) + f(x-y) - 2f(x) - 2f(y)\| \leq \theta(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p) \quad (4.10)$$

*for some  $\theta \geq 0$ ,  $p > 2$  and for all  $x, y \in G$ . Then there exists a unique mapping  $q : G \longrightarrow E$ , given by*

$$q(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} 2^{2n} f(\frac{x}{2^n})$$

*that is a solution of the quadratic functional equation (1.3) with*

$$\|f(x) - q(x)\| \leq \frac{2\theta}{2^p - 4} \|x\|^p, \quad x \in G. \quad (4.11)$$

It is a natural and interesting problem to study the stability of equation (1.1), when  $p \in ]1, 2[$ .

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