Research Article Nearly Derivations on Banach Algebras

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Let *n* be a fixed integer greater than 3 and let λ be a real number with $\lambda \neq (n^2 - n + 4)/2$. We investigate the Hyers-Ulam stability of derivations on Banach algebras related to the following generalized Cauchy functional inequality $\|\sum_{\substack{1 \le i < j \le n \\ 1 \le k_l \neq i, j \le n}} f((x_i + x_j)/2 + \sum_{l=1}^{n-2} x_{k_l}) + f(\sum_{i=2}^{n} x_i) + \sum_{\substack{1 \le k_l \neq i, j \le n \\ 1 \le k_l \neq i, j \le n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{l=1}^{n-2} x_{k_l} + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x_l)/2 + \sum_{\substack{n < k_l \neq k_l \\ n < n}} f(x_l + x$

 $f(x_1) \| \le \|\lambda f(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i)\|.$

1. Introduction and Preliminaries

Let \mathcal{A} ba a Banach algebra and let X be a Banach \mathcal{A} -bimodule. Then X^* , the dual space of X, is also a Banach \mathcal{A} -bimodule with module multiplications defined by

$$\langle x, a \cdot x^* \rangle = \langle x \cdot a, x^* \rangle, \qquad \langle x, x^* \cdot a \rangle = \langle a \cdot x, x^* \rangle, \quad (a \in \mathcal{A}, x \in X, x^* \in X^*).$$
(1.1)

A bounded linear operator $D : \mathcal{A} \to X$ is called a *derivation* if

$$D(ab) = a \cdot D(b) + D(a) \cdot b \quad (a, b \in \mathcal{A}).$$
(1.2)

Let $x \in X$. We define $\delta_x(a) = a \cdot x - x \cdot a$ for all $a \in \mathcal{A}$. δ_x is a derivation from \mathcal{A} into X, which is called *inner derivation*. A Banach algebra \mathcal{A} is *amenable* if every derivation from \mathcal{A} into every dual \mathcal{A} -bimodule X^* is inner. This definition was introduced by Johnson in [1]. A Banach algebra \mathcal{A} is *weakly amenable* if every derivation from \mathcal{A} into \mathcal{A}^* is inner. Bade et al. [2] have introduced the concept of weak amenability for commutative Banach algebras.

The stability problem of functional equations originated from a question of Ulam [3, 4] concerning the stability of group homomorphisms.

A famous talk presented by Ulam in 1940 triggered the study of stability problems for various functional equations.

We are given a group G_1 and a metric group G_2 with metric $\rho(\cdot, \cdot)$. Given $\epsilon > 0$, does there exist a $\delta > 0$ such that if $f : G_1 \to G_2$ satisfies $\rho(f(xy), f(x)f(y)) < \delta$ for all $x, y \in G_1$, then a homomorphism $h : G_1 \to G_2$ exists with $\rho(f(x), h(x)) < \epsilon$ for all $x \in G_1$?

In the following year, Hyers was able to give a partial solution to Ulam's question that was the first significant breakthrough and step toward more solutions in this area (see [5]). Since then, a large number of papers have been published in connection with various generalizations of Ulam's problem and Hyers' theorem.

Let *n* be a fixed integer greater than 3 and let λ be a real number with $|\lambda| \neq (n^2 - n + 4)/2$. We investigate the Hyers-Ulam stability of derivations on Banach algebras related to the following generalized Cauchy functional inequality:

$$\left| \sum_{\substack{1 \le i < j \le n \\ 1 \le k_l \ne i, j \le n}} f\left(\frac{x_i + x_j}{2} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-2} x_{k_l}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=2}^n x_i\right) + f(x_1) \right| \le \left\|\lambda f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i\right)\right\|.$$
(1.3)

2. Main Results

Let *A* be a Banach algebra and let *X* be a Banach *A*-module. From now on, the sum of f(x) and f(-x) will be denoted by $\tilde{f}(x)$. Also, f(ab) - f(a)b - af(b) will be denoted by $\Delta f(a, b)$. In the following, we will use the Pascal formula:

$$C(r,k) = C(r-1,k) + C(r-1,k-1)$$
(2.1)

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here, C(r, k) denotes r!/k!(r-k)! Moreover, we assume that $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ is a positive integer and suppose that $\mathbb{T}^1_{1/n_o} := \{e^{i\theta}; 0 \le \theta \le 2\pi/n_o\}.$

Lemma 2.1. Let $f : A \to X$ be a mapping such that

$$\left| \sum_{\substack{1 \le i < j \le n \\ 1 \le k_l \ne i, j \le n}} f\left(\frac{x_i + x_j}{2} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-2} x_{k_l}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=2}^n x_i\right) + f(x_1) \right\| \le \left\|\lambda f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i\right)\right\|$$
(2.2)

for all $x_1, \ldots, x_n \in A$. Then f is Cauchy additive.

Proof. Substituting $x_1, \ldots, x_n = 0$ in the functional inequality (2.2), we get

$$\|(C(n,2)+2)f(0)\| \le \|\lambda f(0)\|.$$
(2.3)

Discrete Dynamics in Nature and Society

Since $n \ge 3$ and $|\lambda| \ne (n^2 - n + 4)/2$, f(0) = 0. Letting $x_1 = x$, $x_2 = -x$ and $x_3 = \cdots = x_n = 0$ in (2.2) and using Pascal formula, we get

$$\left\| (n-2)\tilde{f}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + (C(n-2,2)+1)f(0) + \tilde{f}(x) \right\| \le \left\| \lambda f(0) \right\|,$$
(2.4)

for all $x \in A$. Hence

$$(n-2)\widetilde{f}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + \widetilde{f}(x) = 0 \tag{2.5}$$

for all $x \in A$. Letting $x_1 = 2x$, $x_2 = -x$, $x_3 = -x$ and $x_4 = \cdots = x_n = 0$ in (2.2), we get

$$\left\|2f\left(\frac{-x}{2}\right) + (n-3)f(-x) + f(x) + 2(n-3)f\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + C(n-3,2)f(0) + \tilde{f}(2x)\right\| \le \left\|\lambda f(0)\right\|$$
(2.6)

for all $x \in A$. Hence

$$2f\left(\frac{-x}{2}\right) + (n-3)f(-x) + f(x) + 2(n-3)f\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + \tilde{f}(2x) = 0,$$

$$2f\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + (n-3)f(x) + f(-x) + 2(n-3)f\left(\frac{-x}{2}\right) + \tilde{f}(-2x) = 0$$
(2.7)

for all $x \in A$. Since $\tilde{f}(-x) = \tilde{f}(x)$, we obtain from (2.7) and (2.4) that

$$2(n-2)\tilde{f}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + (n-2)\tilde{f}(x) + 2\tilde{f}(2x) = 0$$
(2.8)

for all $x \in A$. It follows from (2.5) and (2.8) that

$$2\tilde{f}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) - \tilde{f}(x) = 0 \tag{2.9}$$

for all $x \in A$. By using (2.5) and (2.9), we get $n\tilde{f}(x/2) = 0$ and so f(-x) = -f(x) for all $x \in A$. Hence, we obtain from (2.7) that f(x/2) = (1/2)f(x) for all $x \in A$. Letting $x_1 = x + y$, $x_2 = -x$, $x_3 = -y$ and $x_4 = \cdots = x_n = 0$ in (2.2), we get

$$\left\| f\left(\frac{-y}{2}\right) + f\left(\frac{-x}{2}\right) + (n-3)f\left(\frac{-x-y}{2}\right) + f\left(\frac{x+y}{2}\right) + (n-3)f\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + (n-3)f\left(\frac{y}{2}\right) + C(n-3,2)f(0) + \tilde{f}(x+y) \right\| \le \left\|\lambda f(0)\right\|$$

$$(2.10)$$

for all $x, y \in A$. Next, notice that, using oddness of f and f(x/2) = (1/2)f(x), we have

$$f(x+y) = f(x) + f(y)$$
 (2.11)

for all $x, y \in A$, as desired.

We can prove the following lemma by the same reasoning as in the proof of Theorem 2.2 of [6].

Lemma 2.2. Let $f : A \to X$ be an additive mapping such that $f(\mu x) = \mu f(x)$ for all $\mu \in T^1_{1/n_o}$ and all $x \in A$. Then the mapping f is \mathbb{C} -linear.

Theorem 2.3. Let $f : A \to X$ be a mapping satisfying f(0) = 0 and the inequality

$$\left\|\sum_{\substack{1\leq i< j\leq n\\1\leq k_l\neq i, j\leq n}} f\left(\frac{\mu x_i + \mu x_j}{2} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-2} \mu x_{k_l}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=2}^n \mu x_i\right) + \mu f(x_1) + \Delta f(a,b)\right\| \leq \left\|\lambda f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \mu x_i\right)\right\| + \delta f(a,b)\right\|$$

$$(2.12)$$

for some $\delta > 0$, for all $\mu \in T^1_{1/n_0}$ and all $a, b, x_1, \ldots, x_n \in A$. Then there exists a unique derivation $\mathfrak{D}: A \to X$ such that

$$\|f(x) - \mathfrak{D}(x)\| \le \frac{13n - 24}{n(n-4)}\delta$$
 (2.13)

for all $x \in A$.

Proof. Letting a = b = 0, $x_1 = 2x$, $x_2 = -2x$, $x_3 = \cdots = x_n = 0$ and $\mu = 1$ in (2.12), we get

$$\left\| (n-2)\widetilde{f}(x) + \widetilde{f}(2x) \right\| \le \delta \tag{2.14}$$

for all $x \in X$. Letting a = b = 0, $x_1 = 2x$, $x_2 = -x$, $x_3 = -x$, $x_4 = \cdots = x_n = 0$ and $\mu = 1$ in (2.12), we get

$$\left\|2f\left(\frac{-x}{2}\right) + (n-3)f(-x) + f(x) + 2(n-3)f\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + \tilde{f}(2x)\right\| \le \delta$$
(2.15)

for all $x \in X$. Letting a = b = 0, $x_1 = -2x$, $x_2 = x$, $x_3 = x$, $x_4 = \cdots = x_n = 0$ and $\mu = 1$ in (2.12), we get

$$\left\|2f\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + (n-3)f(x) + f(-x) + 2(n-3)f\left(\frac{-x}{2}\right) + \tilde{f}(-2x)\right\| \le \delta$$
(2.16)

for all $x \in X$. It follows from (2.15) and (2.16) that

$$\left\| (n-2)\widetilde{f}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + \frac{(n-2)}{2}\widetilde{f}(x) + \widetilde{f}(2x) \right\| \le \delta$$
(2.17)

for all $x \in X$. It follows from (2.14) and (2.17) that

$$\left\|\tilde{f}(x)\right\| \le \frac{6}{n}\delta\tag{2.18}$$

Discrete Dynamics in Nature and Society

for all $x \in X$. It follows from (2.15) and (2.18) that

$$\left\|2\widetilde{f}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + \widetilde{f}(x) + (n-4)f(-x) + 2(n-4)f\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)\right\| \le \frac{n+6}{n}\delta\tag{2.19}$$

for all $x \in X$. From the last two inequalities, we have

$$\|f(2x) + 2f(-x)\| \le \frac{n+24}{n(n-4)}\delta$$
(2.20)

for all $x \in X$. It follows from (2.18) and (2.20) that

$$\left\| f(x) - \frac{1}{2}f(2x) \right\| \le \frac{13n - 24}{2n(n-4)}\delta$$
(2.21)

for all $x \in X$. Hence

$$\left\|\frac{1}{2^{r}}f(2^{r}x) - \frac{1}{2^{m}}f(2^{m}x)\right\| \le \frac{13n - 24}{2n(n-4)}\sum_{k=r}^{m-1}\frac{\delta}{2^{k}}$$
(2.22)

for all $x \in X$ and integers $m > r \ge 0$. Thus it follows that a sequence $\{(1/2^m)f(2^mx)\}$ is Cauchy in Y and so it converges. Therefore we can define a mapping $\mathfrak{D} : X \to Y$ by $\mathfrak{D}(x) := \lim_{m\to\infty} (1/2^m)f(2^mx)$ for all $x \in X$. In addition it is clear from (2.12) that the following inequality:

$$\left\| \sum_{\substack{1 \le i < j \le n \\ 1 \le k_l \ne i, j \le n}} \mathfrak{D}\left(\frac{\mu x_i + \mu x_j}{2} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-2} \mu x_{k_l}\right) + \mathfrak{D}\left(\sum_{i=2}^n \mu x_i\right) + \mu \mathfrak{D}(x_1) \right\|$$
$$= \lim_{m \to \infty} \frac{1}{2^m} \left\| \sum_{\substack{1 \le i < j \le n \\ 1 \le k_l \ne i, j \le n}} f\left(2^{m-1} \mu(x_i + x_j) + \sum_{l=1}^{n-2} 2^m \mu x_{k_l}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=2}^n 2^m \mu x_i\right) + \mu f(2^m x_1) \right\|$$
(2.23)
$$\leq \lim_{m \to \infty} \frac{1}{2^m} \left\| \lambda f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n 2^m \mu x_i\right) \right\| + \lim_{m \to \infty} \frac{\delta}{2^m}$$
$$= \left\| \lambda \mathfrak{D}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \mu x_i\right) \right\|$$

holds for all $\mu \in T_{1/n_0}^1$ and all $x_1, \ldots, x_n \in X$. If we put $\mu = 1$ in the last inequality, then \mathfrak{D} is additive by Lemma 2.1. Letting $x_1 = x$, $x_2 = -x$ and $x_3 = \cdots = x_n = 0$ in last inequality and using Lemma 2.1, we get

$$(n-2)\widetilde{\mathfrak{D}}\left(\frac{\mu x}{2}\right) + \mathfrak{D}\left(-\mu x\right) + \mu \mathfrak{D}(x) = \mu \mathfrak{D}(x) - \mathfrak{D}(\mu x).$$
(2.24)

So $\mathfrak{D}(\mu x) = \mu \mathfrak{D}(x)$ for all $x \in X$ and all $\mu \in T^1_{1/n_o}$. Now by using Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2, we infer that the mapping $\mathfrak{D} : X \to Y$ is \mathbb{C} -linear. Taking the limit as $m \to \infty$ in (2.22) with r = 0, we get (2.13).

To prove the afore-mentioned uniqueness, we assume now that there is another \mathbb{C} -linear mapping $\mathfrak{L} : A \to X$ which satisfies the inequality (2.13). Then we get

$$\left\|\frac{1}{2^m}f(2^mx) - \mathfrak{L}(x)\right\| = \frac{1}{2^m}\left\|f(2^mx) - \mathfrak{L}(2^mx)\right\| \le \frac{13n - 24}{2^mn(n-4)}\delta$$
(2.25)

for all $x \in A$ and integers $m \ge 1$. Thus from $m \to \infty$, one establishes

$$\mathfrak{D}(x) - \mathfrak{L}(x) = 0 \tag{2.26}$$

for all $x \in A$, completing the proof of uniqueness.

Now, we have to show that \mathfrak{D} is a derivation. To this end, let $x_1 = x_2 = \cdots = x_n = 0$ in (2.12), we get

$$\left\| f(ab) - f(a)b - af(b) \right\| \le \delta \tag{2.27}$$

for all $a, b \in A$. It follows from linearity of \mathfrak{D} and (2.27) that

$$\begin{split} \|\mathfrak{D}(ab) - \mathfrak{D}(a)b - a\mathfrak{D}(b)\| &= \left\| \frac{1}{2^m} \mathfrak{D}(2^m ab) - \mathfrak{D}(a) \frac{1}{2^m} (2^m b) - \frac{1}{2^m} (2^m a) \mathfrak{D}(b) \right\| \\ &= \lim_{m \to \infty} \left\| \frac{1}{4^m} f(4^m ab) - f(2^m a) \frac{1}{4^m} (2^m b) - \frac{1}{4^m} (2^m a) f(2^m b) \right\| \\ &= \lim_{m \to \infty} \frac{1}{4^m} \left\| f(2^m a 2^m b) - f(2^m a) (2^m b) - (2^m a) f(2^m b) \right\| \\ &\leq \lim_{m \to \infty} \frac{1}{4^m} \delta \\ &= 0 \end{split}$$
(2.28)

for all $a, b \in A$. This means that \mathfrak{D} is a derivation from A into X. Therefore the mapping $\mathfrak{D} : A \to X$ is a unique derivation satisfying (2.13), as desired.

Theorem 2.4. Let A be an amenable Banach algebra and let $f : A \to X^*$ be a mapping such that f(0) = 0 and (2.12). If

$$\sup\{\|f(x)\|:\|x\|\le 1\}<\infty,$$
(2.29)

then there exists $x_0 \in X^*$ such that

$$\|f(a) - ax_0 - x_0a\| \le \frac{13n - 24}{n(n-4)}\delta$$
(2.30)

for all $a \in A$.

Discrete Dynamics in Nature and Society

Proof. Let $\sup\{||f(x)|| : ||x|| \le 1\} = M_f$. Then by (2.29), we have $M_f < \infty$. By Theorem 2.3, there exists a derivation $D : A \to X^*$ satisfying (2.13). Then we have

$$\sup\{\|D(x)\|:\|x\| \le 1\} \le M_f + \frac{13n - 24}{n(n-4)}\delta.$$
(2.31)

This means that *D* is bounded, and hence *D* is continuous. On the other hand, *A* is amenable. Then every continuous derivation from *A* into X^* is an inner derivation. It follows that *D* is and an inner derivation. In the other words, there exists $x_0 \in X^*$ such that $D(a) = ax_0 - x_0a$ for all $a \in A$. This completes the proof.

We know that every nuclear C^* -algebra is amenable (see [7]). Then we have the following result.

Corollary 2.5. Let A be a nuclear C*-algebra and let $f : A \to X^*$ be a mapping such that f(0) = 0, and (2.12) and (2.29). Then there exists $x_0 \in X^*$ such that

$$\|f(a) - ax_0 - x_0a\| \le \frac{13n - 24}{n(n-4)}\delta$$
(2.32)

for all $a \in A$.

Theorem 2.6. Let A be a C*-algebra and let $f : A \to A^*$ be a mapping such that f(0) = 0, and (2.12) and (2.29). Then there exists $a' \in A^*$ such that

$$\|f(a)(b) - a'(ba - ab)\| \le \frac{13n - 24}{n(n-4)}\delta\|b\|$$
(2.33)

for all $a, b \in A$.

Proof. We know that every *C**-algebra is weakly amenable (see, e.g., [7]). Then every continuous derivation from *A* into *A** is an inner derivation. By the same reasoning as in the proof of Theorem 2.4, there exists a $a' \in A^*$ such that D(a) = aa' - a'a for all $a \in A$, and

$$\|f(a) - aa' - a'a\| \le \frac{13n - 24}{n(n-4)}\delta$$
 (2.34)

for all $a \in A$. By definition of mudule actions of A on A^* , we have

$$\left\| f(a)(b) - a'(ba - ab) \right\| \le \frac{13n - 24}{n(n-4)} \delta \|b\|$$
(2.35)

for all $a, b \in A$.

Corollary 2.7. Let A be a commutative C*-algebra and let $f : A \rightarrow A^*$ be a mapping such that f(0) = 0, and (2.12) and (2.29). Then

$$\lim_{m \to \infty} \frac{1}{2^m} f(2^m a) = 0,$$

$$\|f(a)\| \le \frac{13n - 24}{n(n-4)} \delta$$
(2.36)

for all $a \in A$.

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