Research Article

# **Superstability for Generalized Module Left Derivations and Generalized Module Derivations on a Banach Module (I)**

## Huai-Xin Cao,<sup>1</sup> Ji-Rong Lv,<sup>1</sup> and J. M. Rassias<sup>2</sup>

 <sup>1</sup> College of Mathematics and Information Science, Shaanxi Normal University, Xi'an 710062, China
 <sup>2</sup> Pedagogical Department, Section of Mathematics and Informatics, National and Capodistrian University of Athens, Athens 15342, Greece

Correspondence should be addressed to Huai-Xin Cao, caohx@snnu.edu.cn

Received 23 January 2009; Revised 2 March 2009; Accepted 3 July 2009

Recommended by Jozsef Szabados

We discuss the superstability of generalized module left derivations and generalized module derivations on a Banach module. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a Banach algebra and X a Banach  $\mathcal{A}$ -module,  $f : X \to X$  and  $g : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}$ . The mappings  $\Delta_{f,g}^1, \Delta_{f,g}^2, \Delta_{f,g}^3$ , and  $\Delta_{f,g}^4$  are defined and it is proved that if  $\|\Delta_{f,g}^1(x, y, z, w)\|$  (resp.,  $\|\Delta_{f,g}^3(x, y, z, w, \alpha, \beta)\|$ ) is dominated by  $\varphi(x, y, z, w)$ , then f is a generalized (resp., linear) module- $\mathcal{A}$  left derivation and g is a (resp., linear) module- $\mathcal{A}$  left derivation and g is a (resp., linear) module- $\mathcal{A}$  left derivation and g is a (resp., linear) module- $\mathcal{A}$  left derivation. It is also shown that if  $\|\Delta_{f,g}^2(x, y, z, w)\|$  (resp.,  $\|\Delta_{f,g}^4(x, y, z, w, \alpha, \beta)\|$ ) is dominated by  $\varphi(x, y, z, w)$ , then f is a generalized (resp., linear) module- $\mathcal{A}$  derivation and g is a (resp., linear) module- $\mathcal{A}$  derivation.

Copyright © 2009 Huai-Xin Cao et al. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

#### **1. Introduction**

The study of stability problems had been formulated by Ulam in [1] during a talk in 1940: under what condition does there exist a homomorphism near an approximate homomorphism? In the following year 1941, Hyers in [2] has answered affirmatively the question of Ulam for Banach spaces, which states that if  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $f : X \to Y$  is a map with X, a normed space, Y, a Banach space, such that

$$\left\|f(x+y) - f(x) - f(y)\right\| \le \varepsilon, \tag{1.1}$$

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

$$\left\| f(x) - T(x) \right\| \le \varepsilon, \tag{1.2}$$

for all x in X. In addition, if the mapping  $t \mapsto f(tx)$  is continuous in  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  for each fixed x in X, then the mapping T is real linear. This stability phenomenon is called the *Hyers-Ulam stability* of the additive functional equation f(x + y) = f(x) + f(y). A generalized version of the theorem of Hyers for approximately additive mappings was given by Aoki in [3] and for approximate linear mappings was presented by Rassias in [4] by considering the case when the left-hand side of (1.1) is controlled by a sum of powers of norms. The stability result concerning derivations between operator algebras was first obtained by Šemrl in [5], Badora in [6] gave a generalization of Bourgin's result [7]. He also discussed the Hyers-Ulam stability and the Bourgin-type superstability of derivations in [8].

Singer and Wermer in [9] obtained a fundamental result which started investigation into the ranges of linear derivations on Banach algebras. The result, which is called the Singer-Wermer theorem, states that any continuous linear derivation on a commutative Banach algebra maps into the Jacobson radical. They also made a very insightful conjecture, namely, that the assumption of continuity is unnecessary. This was known as the Singer-Wermer conjecture and was proved in 1988 by Thomas in [10]. The Singer-Wermer conjecture implies that any linear derivation on a commutative semisimple Banach algebra is identically zero [11]. After then, Hatori and Wada in [12] proved that the zero operator is the only derivation on a commutative semisimple Banach algebra with the maximal ideal space without isolated points. Based on these facts and a private communication with Watanabe [13], Miura et al. proved the Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability and Bourgin-type superstability of derivations on Banach algebras in [13]. Various stability results on derivations and left derivations can be found in [14–20]. More results on stability and superstability of homomorphisms, special functionals, and equations can be found in [21–30].

Recently, Kang and Chang in [31] discussed the superstability of generalized left derivations and generalized derivations. Indeed, these superstabilities are the so-called "Hyers-Ulam superstabilities." In the present paper, we will discuss the superstability of generalized module left derivations and generalized module derivations on a Banach module.

To give our results, let us give some notations. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an algebra over the real or complex field  $\mathbb{F}$  and X an  $\mathcal{A}$ -bimodule.

*Definition 1.1.* A mapping  $d : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}$  is said to be *module-Xadditive* if

$$xd(a+b) = xd(a) + xd(b), \quad \forall a, b \in \mathcal{A}, \ x \in X.$$

$$(1.3)$$

A module-X additive mapping  $d : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}$  is said to be a *module-X left derivation* (resp., *module-X derivation*) if the functional equation

$$xd(ab) = axd(b) + bxd(a), \quad \forall a, b \in \mathcal{A}, \ x \in X$$

$$(1.4)$$

respectively,

$$xd(ab) = axd(b) + d(a)xb, \quad \forall a, b \in \mathcal{A}, \ x \in X.$$

$$(1.5)$$

holds.

*Definition 1.2.* A mapping  $f : X \to X$  is said to be *module-A* additive if

$$af(x_1 + x_2) = af(x_1) + af(x_2), \quad \forall x_1, x_2 \in X, \ a \in \mathcal{A}.$$
(1.6)

A module- $\mathcal{A}$  additive mapping  $f : X \to X$  is called a *generalized module-\mathcal{A} left derivation* (resp., *generalized module-\mathcal{A} derivation*) if there exists a module-X left derivation (resp., module-X derivation)  $\delta : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}$  such that

$$af(bx) = abf(x) + ax\delta(b), \quad \forall x \in X, \ a, b \in \mathcal{A}$$
 (1.7)

respectively,

$$af(bx) = abf(x) + a\delta(b)x, \quad \forall x \in X, \ a, b \in \mathcal{A}.$$
 (1.8)

In addition, if the mappings f and  $\delta$  are all linear, then the mapping f is called a *linear* generalized module- $\mathcal{A}$  left derivation (resp., *linear generalized module-\mathcal{A} derivation*).

*Remark* 1.3. Let  $\mathcal{A} = X$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  be one of the following cases: (a) a unital algebra; (b) a Banach algebra with an approximate unit; (c) a *C*\*-algebra. Then module- $\mathcal{A}$  left derivations, module- $\mathcal{A}$  derivations, generalized module- $\mathcal{A}$  left derivations, and generalized module- $\mathcal{A}$  derivations on  $\mathcal{A}$  become left derivations, derivations, generalized left derivations, and generalized derivations on  $\mathcal{A}$  discussed in [31].

### 2. Main Results

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a Banach algebra, X a Banach  $\mathcal{A}$ -bimodule, k and l integers greater than 1, and  $\varphi : X \times X \times \mathcal{A} \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  satisfy the following conditions:

- (a)  $\lim_{n\to\infty} k^{-n} [\varphi(k^n x, k^n y, 0, 0) + \varphi(0, 0, k^n z, w)] = 0$ , for all  $x, y, w \in X, z \in \mathcal{A}$ ,
- (b)  $\lim_{n\to\infty} k^{-2n}\varphi(0,0,k^nz,k^nw) = 0$ , for all  $z \in \mathcal{A}, w \in X$ ,
- (c)  $\tilde{\varphi}(x) := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} k^{-n+1} \varphi(k^n x, 0, 0, 0) < \infty \ (\forall x \in X).$

Suppose that  $f : X \to X$  and  $g : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}$  are mappings such that f(0) = 0,  $\delta(z) := \lim_{n \to \infty} (1/k^n)g(k^n z)$  exists for all  $z \in \mathcal{A}$  and

$$\left\|\Delta_{f,g}^{1}(x,y,z,w)\right\| \leq \varphi(x,y,z,w)$$
(2.1)

for all  $x, y, w \in X$  and  $z \in \mathcal{A}$ , where

$$\Delta_{f,g}^{1}(x,y,z,w) = f\left(\frac{x}{k} + \frac{y}{l} + zw\right) + f\left(\frac{x}{k} - \frac{y}{l} + zw\right) - \frac{2f(x)}{k} - 2zf(w) - 2wg(z).$$
(2.2)

Then f is a generalized module- $\mathcal{A}$  left derivation and g is a module-X left derivation.

*Proof.* By taking w = z = 0, we see from (2.1) that

$$\left\| f\left(\frac{x}{k} + \frac{y}{l}\right) + f\left(\frac{x}{k} - \frac{y}{l}\right) - \frac{2f(x)}{k} \right\| \le \varphi(x, y, 0, 0)$$
(2.3)

for all  $x, y \in X$ . Letting y = 0 and replacing x by kx in (2.3) yield that

$$\left\| f(x) - \frac{f(kx)}{k} \right\| \le \frac{1}{2}\varphi(kx, 0, 0, 0)$$
(2.4)

for all  $x \in X$ . From [32, Theorem 1] (analogously as in [33, the proof of Theorem 1] or [34]), one can easily deduce that the limit  $d(x) = \lim_{n \to \infty} f(k^n x)/k^n$  exists for every  $x \in X$ , f(0) = d(0) = 0 and

$$\left\|f(x) - d(x)\right\| \le \frac{1}{2}\widetilde{\varphi}(x), \quad \forall x \in X.$$
(2.5)

Next, we show that the mapping *d* is additive. To do this, let us replace x, y by  $k^n x, k^n y$  in (2.3), respectively. Then

$$\left\|\frac{1}{k^{n}}f\left(\frac{k^{n}x}{k} + \frac{k^{n}y}{l}\right) + \frac{1}{k^{n}}f\left(\frac{k^{n}x}{k} - \frac{k^{n}y}{l}\right) - \frac{1}{k} \cdot \frac{2f(k^{n}x)}{k^{n}}\right\| \le k^{-n}\varphi(k^{n}x, k^{n}y, 0, 0)$$
(2.6)

for all  $x, y \in X$ . If we let  $n \to \infty$  in the above inequality, then the condition (a) yields that

$$d\left(\frac{x}{k} + \frac{y}{l}\right) + d\left(\frac{x}{k} - \frac{y}{l}\right) = \frac{2}{k}d(x)$$
(2.7)

for all  $x, y \in X$ . Since d(0) = 0, taking y = 0 and y = (l/k)x, respectively, we see that d(x/k) = d(x)/k and d(2x) = 2d(x) for all  $x \in X$ . Now, for all  $u, v \in X$ , put x = (k/2)(u + v), y = (l/2)(u - v). Then by (2.7), we get that

$$d(u) + d(v) = d\left(\frac{x}{k} + \frac{y}{l}\right) + d\left(\frac{x}{k} - \frac{y}{l}\right) = \frac{2}{k}d(x) = \frac{2}{k}d\left(\frac{k}{2}(u+v)\right) = d(u+v).$$
(2.8)

This shows that *d* is additive.

Now, we are going to prove that *f* is a generalized module- $\mathcal{A}$  left derivation. Letting x = y = 0 in (2.1) gives that

$$\|f(zw) + f(zw) - 2zf(w) - 2wg(z)\| \le \varphi(0, 0, z, w),$$
(2.9)

that is,

$$\|f(zw) - zf(w) - wg(z)\| \le \frac{1}{2}\varphi(0, 0, z, w)$$
(2.10)

Journal of Inequalities and Applications

for all  $z \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $w \in X$ . By replacing z, w with  $k^n z, k^n w$  in (2.10), respectively, we deduce that

$$\left\|\frac{1}{k^{2n}}f(k^{2n}zw) - z\frac{1}{k^n}f(k^nw) - w\frac{1}{k^n}g(k^nz)\right\| \le \frac{1}{2}k^{-2n}\varphi(0,0,k^nz,k^nw)$$
(2.11)

for all  $z \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $w \in X$ . Letting  $n \to \infty$ , the condition (b) yields that

$$d(zw) = zd(w) + w\delta(z) \tag{2.12}$$

for all  $z \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $w \in X$ . Since *d* is additive,  $\delta$  is module-X additive. Put  $\Delta(z, w) = f(zw) - zf(w) - wg(z)$ . Then by (2.10) we see from the condition (a) that

$$k^{-n} \|\Delta(k^{n}z, w)\| \le \frac{1}{2} k^{-n} \varphi(0, 0, k^{n}z, w) \longrightarrow 0 \quad (n \to \infty)$$
(2.13)

for all  $z \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $w \in X$ . Hence

$$d(zw) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f(k^n z \cdot w)}{k^n}$$
$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} \left( \frac{k^n z f(w) + w g(k^n z) + \Delta(k^n z, w)}{k^n} \right)$$
$$= z f(w) + w \delta(z)$$
(2.14)

for all  $z \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $w \in X$ . It follows from (2.12) that zf(w) = zd(w) for all  $z \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $w \in X$ , and then d(w) = f(w) for all  $w \in X$ . Since *d* is additive, *f* is module- $\mathcal{A}$  additive. So, for all  $a, b \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $x \in X$  by (2.12)

$$af(bx) = ad(bx) = abf(x) + ax\delta(b),$$
  

$$x\delta(ab) = d(abx) - abf(x)$$
  

$$= af(bx) + bx\delta(a) - abf(x)$$
  

$$= a(d(bx) - bf(x)) + bx\delta(a)$$
  

$$= ax\delta(b) + bx\delta(a).$$
  
(2.15)

This shows that  $\delta$  is a module-*X* left derivation on  $\mathcal{A}$  and then *f* is a generalized module- $\mathcal{A}$  left derivation on *X*.

Lastly, we prove that *g* is a module-*X* left derivation on  $\mathcal{A}$ . To do this, we compute from (2.10) that

$$\left\|\frac{f(k^{n}zw)}{k^{n}} - z\frac{f(k^{n}w)}{k^{n}} - wg(z)\right\| \le \frac{1}{2}k^{-n}\varphi(0,0,z,k^{n}w)$$
(2.16)

for all  $z \in \mathcal{A}, w \in X$ . By letting  $n \to \infty$ , we get from the condition (a) that

$$d(zw) = zd(w) + wg(z)$$
(2.17)

for all  $z \in \mathcal{A}, w \in X$ . Now, (2.12) implies that  $wg(z) = w\delta(z)$  for all  $z \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $w \in X$ . Hence, *g* is a module-X left derivation on  $\mathcal{A}$ . This completes the proof.

*Remark* 2.2. It is easy to check that the functional  $\varphi(x, y, z, w) = \varepsilon(||x||^p + ||y||^q + ||z||^s ||w||^t)$  satisfies the conditions (a), (b), and (c) in Theorem 2.1, where  $\varepsilon \ge 0$ ,  $p,q,s,t \in [0,1)$ . Especially, if  $\mathcal{A}$  has a unit and  $f,g : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}$  are mappings with f(0) = 0 such that  $||\Delta_{f,g}^1(x, y, z, w)|| \le \varepsilon$  for all  $x, y, w, z \in \mathcal{A}$ , then f is a generalized left derivation and g is a left derivation.

Remark 2.3. In Theorem 2.1, if the condition (2.1) is replaced with

$$\left\|\Delta_{f,g}^2(x,y,z,w)\right\| \le \varphi(x,y,z,w) \tag{2.18}$$

for all  $x, y, w \in X$  and  $z \in \mathcal{A}$  where

$$\Delta_{f,g}^{2}(x,y,z,w) = f\left(\frac{x}{k} + \frac{y}{l} + zw\right) + f\left(\frac{x}{k} - \frac{y}{l} + zw\right) - \frac{2f(x)}{k} - 2zf(w) - 2g(z)w, \quad (2.19)$$

then *f* is a generalized module- $\mathcal{A}$  derivation and *g* is a module-X derivation. Especially, if  $\mathcal{A}$  has a unit and  $f, g : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}$  are mappings with f(0) = 0 such that  $\|\Delta_{f,g}^2(x, y, z, w)\| \leq \varepsilon(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^q + \|z\|^s \|w\|^t)$  for all  $x, y, w, z \in \mathcal{A}$  and some constants  $p, q, s, t \in [0, 1)$ , then *f* is a generalized derivation and *g* is a derivation.

**Lemma 2.4.** Let X, Y be complex vector spaces. Then a mapping  $f : X \to Y$  is linear if and only if

$$f(\alpha x + \beta y) = \alpha f(x) + \beta f(y)$$
(2.20)

for all  $x, y \in X$  and all  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{T} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\}.$ 

*Proof.* It suffices to prove the sufficiency. Suppose that  $f(\alpha x + \beta y) = \alpha f(x) + \beta f(y)$  for all  $x, y \in X$  and all  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{T} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\}$ . Then f is additive and  $f(\alpha x) = \alpha f(x)$  for all  $x \in X$  and all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{T}$ . Let  $\alpha$  be any nonzero complex number. Take a positive integer n such that  $|\alpha/n| < 2$ . Take a real number  $\theta$  such that  $0 \le a := e^{-i\theta}\alpha/n < 2$ . Put  $\beta = \arccos(a/2)$ . Then  $\alpha = n(e^{i(\beta+\theta)} + e^{-i(\beta-\theta)})$  and, therefore,

$$f(\alpha x) = nf\left(e^{i\left(\beta+\theta\right)}x\right) + nf\left(e^{-i\left(\beta-\theta\right)}x\right) = ne^{i\left(\beta+\theta\right)}f(x) + ne^{-i\left(\beta-\theta\right)}f(x) = \alpha f(x)$$
(2.21)

for all  $x \in X$ . This shows that *f* is linear. The proof is completed.

Journal of Inequalities and Applications

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a Banach algebra, X a Banach  $\mathcal{A}$ -bimodule, k and l integers greater than 1, and  $\varphi : X \times X \times \mathcal{A} \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  satisfy the following conditions:

Suppose that  $f : X \to X$  and  $g : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}$  are mappings such that f(0) = 0,  $\delta(z) := \lim_{n \to \infty} (1/k^n)g(k^nz)$  exists for all  $z \in \mathcal{A}$  and

$$\left\|\Delta_{f,g}^{3}(x,y,z,w,\alpha,\beta)\right\| \leq \varphi(x,y,z,w)$$
(2.22)

for all  $x, y, w \in X$ ,  $z \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{T} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\}$ , where  $\Delta^3_{f,g}(x, y, z, w, \alpha, \beta)$  stands for

$$f\left(\frac{\alpha x}{k} + \frac{\beta y}{l} + zw\right) + f\left(\frac{\alpha x}{k} - \frac{\beta y}{l} + zw\right) - \frac{2\alpha f(x)}{k} - 2zf(w) - 2wg(z).$$
(2.23)

Then *f* is a linear generalized module- $\mathcal{A}$  left derivation and *g* is a linear module-X left derivation.

*Proof.* Clearly, the inequality (2.1) is satisfied. Hence, Theorem 2.1 and its proof show that f is a generalized left derivation and g is a left derivation on  $\mathcal{A}$  with

$$f(x) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f(k^n x)}{k^n}, \qquad g(x) = f(x) - xf(e)$$
 (2.24)

for every  $x \in X$ . Taking z = w = 0 in (2.22) yields that

$$\left\| f\left(\frac{\alpha x}{k} + \frac{\beta y}{l}\right) + f\left(\frac{\alpha x}{k} - \frac{\beta y}{l}\right) - \frac{2\alpha f(x)}{k} \right\| \le \varphi(x, y, 0, 0)$$
(2.25)

for all  $x, y \in X$  and all  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{T}$ . If we replace x and y with  $k^n x$  and  $k^n y$  in (2.25), respectively, then we see that

$$\left\|\frac{1}{k^{n}}f\left(\frac{\alpha k^{n}x}{k}+\frac{\beta k^{n}y}{l}\right)+\frac{1}{k^{n}}f\left(\frac{\alpha k^{n}x}{k}-\frac{\beta k^{n}y}{l}\right)-\frac{1}{k^{n}}\frac{2\alpha f(k^{n}x)}{k}\right\|$$

$$\leq k^{-n}\varphi(k^{n}x,k^{n}y,0,0)$$

$$\longrightarrow 0$$
(2.26)

as  $n \to \infty$  for all  $x, y \in X$  and all  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{T}$ . Hence,

$$f\left(\frac{\alpha x}{k} + \frac{\beta y}{l}\right) + f\left(\frac{\alpha x}{k} - \frac{\beta y}{l}\right) = \frac{2\alpha f(x)}{k}$$
(2.27)

for all  $x, y \in X$  and all  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{T}$ . Since *f* is additive, taking y = 0 in (2.27) implies that

$$f(\alpha x) = \alpha f(x) \tag{2.28}$$

for all  $x \in X$  and all  $\alpha \in \mathbb{T}$ . Lemma 2.4 yields that f is linear and so is g. This completes the proof.

*Remark* 2.6. It is easy to check that the functional  $\varphi(x, y, z, w) = \varepsilon(||x||^p + ||y||^q + ||z||^s ||w||^t)$  satisfies the conditions (a), (b), and (c) in Theorem 2.5, where  $\varepsilon \ge 0$ ,  $p, q, s, t \in [0, 1)$  are constants. Especially, if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a complex semiprime Banach algebra with unit and  $f, g : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}$  are mappings with f(0) = 0 such that

$$\left\|\Delta_{f,g}^{3}(x,y,z,w,\alpha,\beta)\right\| \leq \varepsilon \left(\left\|x\right\|^{p} + \left\|y\right\|^{q} + \left\|z\right\|^{s}\left\|w\right\|^{t}\right)$$

$$(2.29)$$

for all  $x, y, w, z \in \mathcal{A}, \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{T}$ . Then f is a linear generalized left derivation and g is a linear derivation which maps  $\mathcal{A}$  into the intersection of the center  $Z(\mathcal{A})$  and the Jacobson radical rad ( $\mathcal{A}$ ) of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Remark 2.7. In Theorem 2.5, if the condition (2.22) is replaced with

$$\left\|\Delta_{f,g}^4(x,y,z,w,\alpha,\beta)\right\| \le \varphi(x,y,z,w) \tag{2.30}$$

for all  $x, y, w \in X$ ,  $z \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{T}$  where  $\Delta_{f,g}^4(x, y, z, w, \alpha, \beta)$  stands for

$$f\left(\frac{\alpha x}{k} + \frac{\beta y}{l} + zw\right) + f\left(\frac{\alpha x}{k} - \frac{\beta y}{l} + zw\right) - \frac{2\alpha f(x)}{k} - 2zf(w) - 2g(z)w,$$
(2.31)

then *f* is a linear generalized module- $\mathcal{A}$  derivation on *X* and *g* is a linear module-*X* derivation on  $\mathcal{A}$ . Especially, if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a unital commutative Banach algebra and  $f, g : \mathcal{A} \to \mathcal{A}$  are mappings with f(0) = 0 such that  $\|\Delta_{f,g}^4(x, y, z, w, \alpha, \beta)\| \le \varepsilon(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^q + \|z\|^s \|w\|^t)$  for all  $x, y, w, z \in \mathcal{A}$ , all  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{T}$  and some constants  $p, q, s, t \in [0, 1)$ , then *f* is a linear generalized derivation and *g* is a linear derivation which maps  $\mathcal{A}$  into the Jacobson radical rad( $\mathcal{A}$ ) of  $\mathcal{A}$ .

Remark 2.8. The controlling function

$$\varphi(x, y, z, w) = \varepsilon \left( \|x\|^p + \|y\|^q + \|z\|^s \|w\|^t \right)$$
(2.32)

consists of the "mixed sum-product of powers of norms," introduced by Rassias (in 2007) [28] and applied afterwards by Ravi et al. (2007-2008) . Moreover, it is easy to check that the functional

$$\varphi(x, y, z, w) = P \|x\|^{p} + Q \|y\|^{q} + S \|z\|^{s} + T \|w\|^{t}$$
(2.33)

satisfies the conditions (a), (b), and (c) in Theorems 2.1 and 2.5, where  $P, Q, T, S \in [0, \infty)$  and  $p, q, s, t \in [0, 1)$  are all constants.

#### Acknowledgment

This subject is supported by the NNSFs of China (no: 10571113,10871224).

### References

- [1] S. M. Ulam, Problems in Modern Mathematics, chapter 6, John Wiley & Sons, New York, NY, USA, 1964.
- [2] D. H. Hyers, "On the stability of the linear functional equation," Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, vol. 27, pp. 222–224, 1941.
- [3] T. Aoki, "On the stability of the linear transformation in Banach spaces," *Journal of the Mathematical Society of Japan*, vol. 2, pp. 64–66, 1950.
- [4] T. M. Rassias, "On the stability of the linear mapping in Banach spaces," Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society, vol. 72, no. 2, pp. 297–300, 1978.
- [5] P. Šemrl, "The functional equation of multiplicative derivation is superstable on standard operator algebras," *Integral Equations and Operator Theory*, vol. 18, no. 1, pp. 118–122, 1994.
- [6] R. Badora, "On approximate ring homomorphisms," Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications, vol. 276, no. 2, pp. 589–597, 2002.
- [7] D. G. Bourgin, "Approximately isometric and multiplicative transformations on continuous function rings," *Duke Mathematical Journal*, vol. 16, pp. 385–397, 1949.
- [8] R. Badora, "On approximate derivations," Mathematical Inequalities & Applications, vol. 9, no. 1, pp. 167–173, 2006.
- [9] I. M. Singer and J. Wermer, "Derivations on commutative normed algebras," *Mathematische Annalen*, vol. 129, pp. 260–264, 1955.
- [10] M. P. Thomas, "The image of a derivation is contained in the radical," Annals of Mathematics, vol. 128, no. 3, pp. 435–460, 1988.
- [11] B. E. Johnson, "Continuity of derivations on commutative algebras," American Journal of Mathematics, vol. 91, pp. 1–10, 1969.
- [12] O. Hatori and J. Wada, "Ring derivations on semi-simple commutative Banach algebras," Tokyo Journal of Mathematics, vol. 15, no. 1, pp. 223–229, 1992.
- [13] T. Miura, G. Hirasawa, and S.-E. Takahasi, "A perturbation of ring derivations on Banach algebras," *Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications*, vol. 319, no. 2, pp. 522–530, 2006.
- [14] M. Amyari, C. Baak, and M. S. Moslehian, "Nearly ternary derivations," Taiwanese Journal of Mathematics, vol. 11, no. 5, pp. 1417–1424, 2007.
- [15] M. S. Moslehian, "Ternary derivations, stability and physical aspects," Acta Applicandae Mathematicae, vol. 100, no. 2, pp. 187–199, 2008.
- [16] M. S. Moslehian, "Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability of generalized derivations," International Journal of Mathematics and Mathematical Sciences, vol. 2006, Article ID 93942, 8 pages, 2006.
- [17] C.-G. Park, "Homomorphisms between C\*-algebras, linear\*-derivations on a C\*-algebra and the Cauchy-Rassias stability," *Nonlinear Functional Analysis and Applications*, vol. 10, no. 5, pp. 751–776, 2005.
- [18] C.-G. Park, "Linear derivations on Banach algebras," Nonlinear Functional Analysis and Applications, vol. 9, no. 3, pp. 359–368, 2004.
- [19] M. Amyari, F. Rahbarnia, and Gh. Sadeghi, "Some results on stability of extended derivations," *Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications*, vol. 329, no. 2, pp. 753–758, 2007.
- [20] M. Brešar and J. Vukman, "On left derivations and related mappings," Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society, vol. 110, no. 1, pp. 7–16, 1990.
- [21] P. Găvruţa, "A generalization of the Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability of approximately additive mappings," *Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications*, vol. 184, no. 3, pp. 431–436, 1994.
- [22] S. M. Ulam, *Problems in Modern Mathematics*, John Wiley & Sons, New York, NY, USA, 1960.
- [23] J. A. Baker, "The stability of the cosine equation," *Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society*, vol. 80, no. 3, pp. 411–416, 1980.
- [24] D. H. Hyers and T. M. Rassias, "Approximate homomorphisms," Aequationes Mathematicae, vol. 44, no. 2-3, pp. 125–153, 1992.
- [25] T. M. Rassias and J. Tabo, Eds., Stability of Mappings of Hyers-Ulam Type, Hadronic Press Collection of Original Articles, Hadronic Press, Palm Harbor, Fla, USA, 1994.
- [26] D. H. Hyers, G. Isac, and T. M. Rassias, *Stability of Functional Equations in Several Variables*, Progress in Nonlinear Differential Equations and Their Applications, 34, Birkhäuser, Boston, Mass, USA, 1998.

- [27] G. Isac and T. M. Rassias, "On the Hyers-Ulam stability of *ψ*-additive mappings," *Journal of Approximation Theory*, vol. 72, no. 2, pp. 131–137, 1993.
- [28] J. M. Rassias and M. J. Rassias, "Refined Ulam stability for Euler-Lagrange type mappings in Hilbert spaces," *International Journal of Applied Mathematics & Statistics*, vol. 7, pp. 126–132, 2007.
- [29] J. M. Rassias and M. J. Rassias, "The Ulam problem for 3-dimensional quadratic mappings," Tatra Mountains Mathematical Publications, vol. 34, part 2, pp. 333–337, 2006.
- [30] J. M. Rassias and M. J. Rassias, "On the Hyers-Ulam stability of quadratic mappings," The Journal of the Indian Mathematical Society, vol. 67, no. 1–4, pp. 133–136, 2000.
- [31] S.-Y. Kang and I.-S. Chang, "Approximation of generalized left derivations," *Abstract and Applied Analysis*, Article ID 915292, 8 pages, 2008.
- [32] G. L. Forti, "Comments on the core of the direct method for proving Hyers-Ulam stability of functional equations," *Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications*, vol. 295, no. 1, pp. 127–133, 2004.
- [33] J. Brzdęk and A. Pietrzyk, "A note on stability of the general linear equation," Aequationes Mathematicae, vol. 75, no. 3, pp. 267–270, 2008.
- [34] A. Pietrzyk, "Stability of the Euler-Lagrange-Rassias functional equation," Demonstratio Mathematica, vol. 39, no. 3, pp. 523–530, 2006.