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Research Article

Nearly Quadratic Mappings over *p***-Adic Fields**

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We establish some stability results over p-adic fields for the generalized quadratic functional equation $\sum_{k=2}^n \sum_{i_1=2}^k \sum_{i_2=i_1+1}^{k+1} \cdots \sum_{i_{n-k+1}=i_{n-k}+1}^n f(\sum_{i=1,i\neq i_1,\dots,i_{n-k+1}}^n x_i - \sum_{r=1}^{n-k+1} x_{i_r}) + f(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i) = 2^{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i)$, where $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n \geq 2$.

1. Introduction and Preliminaries

In 1899, Hensel [1] discovered the p-adic numbers as a number of theoretical analogue of power series in complex analysis. Fix a prime number p. For any nonzero rational number x, there exists a unique integer n_x such that $x=(a/b)p^{n_x}$, where a and b are integers not divisible by p. Then, p-adic absolute value $|x|_p:=p^{-n_x}$ defines a non-Archimedean norm on \mathbb{Q} . The completion of \mathbb{Q} with respect to the metric $d(x,y)=|x-y|_p$ is denoted by \mathbb{Q}_p , and it is called the p-adic number field. In fact, \mathbb{Q}_p is the set of all formal series $x=\sum_{k\geq n_x}^{\infty}a_kp^k$, where $|a_k|\leq p-1$ are integers (see, e.g., [2, 3]). Note that if p>2, then $|2^n|_p=1$ for each integer n.

During the last three decades, p-adic numbers have gained the interest of physicists for their research, in particular, in problems coming from quantum physics, p-adic strings, and superstrings [4, 5]. A key property of p-adic numbers is that they do not satisfy the Archimedean axiom: For x, y > 0, there exists $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that x < ny.

Let \mathbb{K} denote a field and function (valuation absolute) $|\cdot|$ from \mathbb{K} into $[0,\infty)$. A non-Archimedean valuation is a function $|\cdot|$ that satisfies the strong triangle inequality; namely, $|x+y| \leq \max\{|x|,|y|\} \leq |x|+|y|$ for all $x,y \in \mathbb{K}$. The associated field \mathbb{K} is referred to as a non-Archimedean field. Clearly, |1|=|-1|=1 and $|n|\leq 1$ for all $n\geq 1$. A trivial example of a non-Archimedean valuation is the function $|\cdot|$ taking everything except 0 into 1 and |0|=0. We always assume in addition that $|\cdot|$ is nontrivial, that is, there is a $z\in \mathbb{K}$ such that $|z|\neq 0,1$.

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Let X be a linear space over a field $\mathbb K$ with a non-Archimedean nontrivial valuation $|\cdot|$. A function $\|\cdot\|: X \to [0,\infty)$ is said to be a non-Archimedean norm if it is a norm over $\mathbb K$ with the strong triangle inequality (ultrametric); namely, $\|x+y\| \leq \max\{\|x\|,\|y\|\}$ for all $x,y \in X$. Then, $(X,\|\cdot\|)$ is called a non-Archimedean space. In any such a space, a sequence $\{x_n\}_{n\in\mathbb N}$ is Cauchy if and only if $\{x_{n+1}-x_n\}_{n\in\mathbb N}$ converges to zero. By a complete non-Archimedean space, we mean one in which every Cauchy sequence is convergent.

The study of stability problems for functional equations is related to a question of Ulam [6] concerning the stability of group homomorphisms, which was affirmatively answered for Banach spaces by Hyers [7]. Subsequently, the result of Hyers was generalized by Aoki [8] for additive mappings and by Rassias [9] for linear mappings by considering an unbounded Cauchy difference. The paper by Rassias has provided a lot of influences in the development of what we now call the generalized Hyers-Ulam stability or Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability of functional equations. Rassias [10] considered the Cauchy difference controlled by a product of different powers of norm. The above results have been generalized by Forti [11] and Găvruţa [12] who permitted the Cauchy difference to become arbitrary unbounded (see also [13–22]). Arriola and Beyer [23] investigated stability of approximate additive functions $f: \mathbb{Q}_p \to \mathbb{R}$. They showed that if $f: \mathbb{Q}_p \to \mathbb{R}$ is a continuous function for which there exists a fixed ε such that $|f(x+y)-f(y)| \le \varepsilon$ for all $x,y \in Q_p$, then there exists a unique additive function $T: \mathbb{Q}_p \to \mathbb{R}$ such that $|f(x)-T(x)| \le \varepsilon$ for all $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p$. For more details about the results concerning such problems, the reader is referred to [24–45].

Recently, Khodaei and Rassias [46] introduced the generalized additive functional equation

$$\sum_{k=2}^{n} \left(\sum_{i_{1}=2}^{k} \sum_{i_{2}=i_{1}+1}^{k+1} \cdots \sum_{i_{n-k+1}=i_{n-k}+1}^{n} \right) f\left(\sum_{i=1, i \neq i_{1}, \dots, i_{n-k+1}}^{n} a_{i} x_{i} - \sum_{r=1}^{n-k+1} a_{i_{r}} x_{i_{r}} \right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_{i} x_{i} \right) = 2^{n-1} a_{1} f(x_{1})$$

$$(1.1)$$

and proved the generalized Hyers-Ulam stability of the above functional equation. The functional equation

$$f(x_1 + x_2) + f(x_1 - x_2) = 2f(x_1) + 2f(x_2)$$
(1.2)

is related to symmetric biadditive function and is called a quadratic functional equation [47, 48]. Every solution of the quadratic equation (1.2) is said to be a quadratic function.

Now, we introduce the generalized quadratic functional equation in *n*-variables as follows:

$$\sum_{k=2}^{n} \left(\sum_{i_{1}=2}^{k} \sum_{i_{2}=i_{1}+1}^{k+1} \cdots \sum_{i_{n-k+1}=i_{n-k}+1}^{n} \right) f\left(\sum_{i=1, i \neq i_{1}, \dots, i_{n-k+1}}^{n} x_{i} - \sum_{r=1}^{n-k+1} x_{i_{r}} \right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{i} \right) = 2^{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} f(x_{i}),$$

$$(1.3)$$

where $n \ge 2$. Moreover, we investigate the generalized Hyers-Ulam stability of functional equation (1.3) over the *p*-adic field \mathbb{Q}_p .

As a special case, if n = 2 in (1.3), then we have the functional equation (1.2). Also, if n = 3 in (1.3), we obtain

$$\sum_{i_1=2}^{2} \sum_{i_2=i_1+1}^{3} f\left(\sum_{i=1, i\neq i_1, i_2}^{3} x_i - \sum_{r=1}^{2} x_{i_r}\right) + \sum_{i_1=2}^{3} f\left(\sum_{i=1, i\neq i_1}^{3} x_i - x_{i_1}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{3} x_i\right) = 2^2 \sum_{i=1}^{3} f(x_i), \quad (1.4)$$

that is,

$$f(x_1 - x_2 - x_3) + f(x_1 - x_2 + x_3) + f(x_1 + x_2 - x_3) + f(x_1 + x_2 + x_3) = 4f(x_1) + 4f(x_2) + 4f(x_3).$$
(1.5)

2. Stability of Quadratic Functional Equation (1.3) over p-Adic Fields

We will use the following lemma.

Lemma 2.1. Let X and Y be real vector spaces. A function $f: X \to Y$ satisfies the functional equation (1.3) if and only if the function f is quadratic.

Proof. Let f satisfy the functional equation (1.3). Setting $x_i = 0$ (i = 1, ..., n) in (1.3), we have

$$\sum_{k=2}^{n} \left(\sum_{i_1=2}^{k} \sum_{i_2=i_1+1}^{k+1} \cdots \sum_{i_{n-k+1}=i_{n-k}+1}^{n} \right) f(0) + f(0) = 2^{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} f(0), \tag{2.1}$$

that is,

$$\sum_{i_1=2}^{2} \sum_{i_2=i_1+1}^{3} \cdots \sum_{i_{n-1}=i_{n-2}+1}^{n} f(0) + \sum_{i_1=2}^{3} \sum_{i_2=i_1+1}^{4} \cdots \sum_{i_{n-2}=i_{n-3}+1}^{n} f(0) + \cdots + \sum_{i_1=2}^{n} f(0) + f(0) = 2^{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} f(0),$$
(2.2)

or

$$\left(\binom{n-1}{n-1} + \binom{n-1}{n-2} + \dots + \binom{n-1}{1} + 1\right) f(0) = 2^{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} f(0), \tag{2.3}$$

but $1 + \sum_{j=1}^{n-j} {n-j \choose j} = \sum_{j=0}^{n-j} {n-j \choose j} = 2^{n-j}$, and also $n > j \ge 1$ so $2^{n-1}(n-1)f(0) = 0$. Putting $x_i = 0$ (i = 2, ..., n-1) in (1.3) and then using f(0) = 0, we get

$$f(x_{1}-x_{n}) + {\binom{n-2}{1}} f(x_{1}-x_{n}) + {\binom{n-2}{n-2}} f(x_{1}+x_{n}) + \cdots$$
$$+ {\binom{n-2}{n-3}} f(x_{1}-x_{n}) + {\binom{n-2}{2}} f(x_{1}+x_{n})$$

$$+\left(\binom{n-2}{n-2}f(x_1-x_n) + \binom{n-2}{1}f(x_1+x_n)\right) + f(x_1+x_n)$$

$$= 2^{n-1}f(x_1) + 2^{n-1}f(x_n),$$
(2.4)

that is,

$$\left(1 + \sum_{j=1}^{n-2} {n-2 \choose j}\right) \left(f(x_1 + x_n) + f(x_1 - x_n)\right) = 2^{n-1} f(x_1) + 2^{n-1} f(x_n), \tag{2.5}$$

for all $x_1, x_n \in X$, this shows that f satisfies the functional equation (1.2). So the function f is quadratic.

Conversely, suppose that f is quadratic, thus f satisfies the functional equation (1.2). Hence, we have f(0) = 0 and f is even.

We are going to prove our assumption by induction on $n \ge 2$. It holds on n = 2. Assume that it holds on the case where n = t; that is, we have

$$\sum_{k=2}^{t} \left(\sum_{i_1=2}^{k} \sum_{i_2=i_1+1}^{k+1} \cdots \sum_{i_{t-k+1}=i_{t-k}+1}^{t} \right) f\left(\sum_{i=1, i \neq i_1, \dots, i_{t-k+1}}^{t} x_i - \sum_{r=1}^{t-k+1} x_{i_r} \right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t} x_i \right) = 2^{t-1} \sum_{i=1}^{t} f(x_i) \quad (2.6)$$

for all $x_1, \ldots, x_t \in X$. It follows from (1.2) that

$$f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t} x_i + x_{t+1}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t} x_i - x_{t+1}\right) = 2f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t} x_i\right) + 2f(x_{t+1})$$
(2.7)

for all $x_1, ..., x_{t+1} \in X$. Replacing x_t by $-x_t$ in (2.7), we obtain

$$f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} x_i - x_t + x_{t+1}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} x_i - x_t - x_{t+1}\right) = 2f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} x_i - x_t\right) + 2f(x_{t+1})$$
(2.8)

for all $x_1, ..., x_{t+1} \in X$. Adding (2.7) to (2.8), we have

$$f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} x_{i} - x_{t} - x_{t+1}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} x_{i} - x_{t} + x_{t+1}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} x_{i} + x_{t} - x_{t+1}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} x_{i} + x_{t} + x_{t+1}\right)$$

$$= 2\left[f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} x_{i} - x_{t}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} x_{i} + x_{t}\right)\right] + 4f(x_{t+1})$$
(2.9)

for all $x_1, \ldots, x_{t+1} \in X$. Replacing x_{t-1} by $-x_{t-1}$ in (2.9), we get

$$f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} - x_{t-1} - x_{t} - x_{t+1}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} - x_{t-1} - x_{t} + x_{t+1}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} - x_{t-1} + x_{t} - x_{t+1}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} - x_{t-1} + x_{t} - x_{t+1}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} - x_{t-1} + x_{t} + x_{t+1}\right) = 2\left[f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} - x_{t-1} - x_{t}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} - x_{t-1} + x_{t}\right)\right] + 4f(x_{t+1})$$

$$(2.10)$$

for all $x_1, ..., x_{t+1} \in X$. Adding (2.9) to (2.10), one gets

$$f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} - x_{t-1} - x_{t} - x_{t+1}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} - x_{t-1} - x_{t} + x_{t+1}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} - x_{t-1} + x_{t} - x_{t+1}\right)$$

$$+ f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} + x_{t-1} - x_{t} - x_{t+1}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} - x_{t-1} + x_{t} + x_{t+1}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} + x_{t-1} - x_{t} + x_{t+1}\right)$$

$$+ f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} + x_{t-1} + x_{t} - x_{t+1}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} x_{i}\right)$$

$$= 2\left[f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} - x_{t-1} - x_{t}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} - x_{t-1} + x_{t}\right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} + x_{t-1} - x_{t}\right)\right]$$

$$+ f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-2} x_{i} + x_{t-1} + x_{t}\right)\right] + 8f(x_{t+1})$$

$$(2.11)$$

for all $x_1, \ldots, x_{t+1} \in X$. By using the above method, for x_{t-2} until x_2 , we infer that

$$\sum_{k=2}^{t+1} \left(\sum_{i_1=2}^{k} \sum_{i_2=i_1+1}^{k+1} \cdots \sum_{i_{t-k+2}=i_{t-k+1}+1}^{t+1} \right) f \left(\sum_{i=1, i \neq i_1, \dots, i_{t-k+2}}^{t+1} x_i - \sum_{r=1}^{t-k+2} x_{i_r} \right) + f \left(\sum_{i=1}^{t+1} x_i \right) \\
= 2 \left[\sum_{k=2}^{t} \left(\sum_{i_1=2}^{k} \sum_{i_2=i_1+1}^{k+1} \cdots \sum_{i_{t-k+1}=i_{t-k}+1}^{t} \right) f \left(\sum_{i=1, i \neq i_1, \dots, i_{t-k+1}}^{t} x_i - \sum_{r=1}^{t-k+1} x_{i_r} \right) + f \left(\sum_{i=1}^{t} x_i \right) \right] + 2^t f(x_{t+1}) \right] (2.12)$$

for all $x_1, \ldots, x_{t+1} \in X$. Now, by the case n = t, we lead to

$$\sum_{k=2}^{t+1} \left(\sum_{i_1=2}^k \sum_{i_2=i_1+1}^{k+1} \cdots \sum_{i_{t-k+2}=i_{t-k+1}+1}^{t+1} \right) f \left(\sum_{i=1, i \neq i_1, \dots, i_{t-k+2}}^{t+1} x_i - \sum_{r=1}^{t-k+2} x_{i_r} \right) + f \left(\sum_{i=1}^{t+1} x_i \right) \\
= 2 \left[2^{t-1} \sum_{i=1}^t f(x_i) \right] + 2^t f(x_{t+1}) \tag{2.13}$$

for all $x_1, \ldots, x_{t+1} \in X$, so (1.3) holds for n = t + 1. This completes the proof of the lemma. \square

Corollary 2.2. A function $f: X \to Y$ satisfies the functional equation (1.3) if and only if there exists a symmetric biadditive function $B_1: X \times X \to Y$ such that $f(x) = B_1(x, x)$ for all $x \in X$.

Now, we investigate the stability of the functional equation (1.3) from a Banach space B into p-adic field \mathbb{Q}_p . For convenience, we define the difference operator D_f for a given function f:

$$D_{f}(x_{1},...,x_{n}) := \sum_{k=2}^{n} \left(\sum_{i_{1}=2}^{k} \sum_{i_{2}=i_{1}+1}^{k+1} \cdots \sum_{i_{n-k+1}=i_{n-k}+1}^{n} \right) f\left(\sum_{i=1,i\neq i_{1},...,i_{n-k+1}}^{n} x_{i} - \sum_{r=1}^{n-k+1} x_{i_{r}} \right) + f\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_{i} \right) - 2^{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{n} f(x_{i}).$$

$$(2.14)$$

Theorem 2.3. Let B be a Banach space and let $\varepsilon > 0$, λ be real numbers. Suppose that a function $f: \mathbb{Q}_p \to B$ with f(0) = 0 satisfies the inequality

$$||D_f(x_1,\ldots,x_n)|| \le \varepsilon \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|_p^{\lambda}$$
(2.15)

for all $x_1, \ldots, x_n \in \mathbb{Q}_p$. Then there exists a unique quadratic function $Q : \mathbb{Q}_p \to B$ such that

$$||f(x) - Q(x)|| \le \begin{cases} \frac{\varepsilon}{2^{n-1} - 2^{n-\lambda - 3}} |x|_{p'}^{\lambda} & p = 2, \ \lambda > -2; \\ \frac{\varepsilon}{3 \ 2^{n-3}} |x|_{p'}^{\lambda} & p > 2; \end{cases}$$
(2.16)

for all nonzero $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p$.

Proof. Letting $x_1 = x_2 = x \neq 0$ and $x_i = 0$ (i = 3, ..., n) in (2.15), we obtain

$$\left\| f(x) - \frac{1}{4}f(2x) \right\| \le \frac{\varepsilon}{2^{n-1}} |x|_p^{\lambda} \tag{2.17}$$

for all $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p$. Hence,

$$\left\| \frac{1}{2^{2l}} f(2^l x) - \frac{1}{2^{2m}} f(2^m x) \right\| \le \frac{\varepsilon}{2^{n-1}} \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \frac{|2|_p^{\lambda_j}}{2^{2j}} |x|_p^{\lambda}$$
 (2.18)

for all nonnegative integers m and l with m > l and for all $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p$. It follows from (2.18) that the sequence $\{(1/2^{2m})f(2^mx)\}$ is a Cauchy sequence for all $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p$. Since B is complete, the sequence $\{(1/2^{2m})f(2^mx)\}$ converges. Therefore, one can define the function $Q: \mathbb{Q}_p \to B$ by

$$Q(x) := \lim_{m \to \infty} \frac{1}{2^{2m}} f(2^m x)$$
 (2.19)

for all $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p$. It follows from (2.15) and (2.19) that

$$||D_Q(x_1,\ldots,x_n)|| = \lim_{m\to\infty} \frac{1}{2^{2m}} ||D_f(2^m x_1,\ldots,2^m x_n)|| \le \lim_{m\to\infty} \frac{|2|_p^{\lambda m}}{2^{2m}} \sum_{i=1}^n \varepsilon |x_i|_p^{\lambda} = 0$$
 (2.20)

for all $x_1, ..., x_n \in \mathbb{Q}_p$. So $D_Q(x_1, ..., x_n) = 0$. By Lemma 2.1, the function $Q : \mathbb{Q}_p \to B$ is quadratic.

Taking the limit $m \to \infty$ in (2.18) with l = 0, we find that the function Q is quadratic function satisfying the inequality (2.16) near the approximate function $f : \mathbb{Q}_p \to B$ of (1.3).

To prove the aforementioned uniqueness, we assume now that there is another additive function $Q': \mathbb{Q}_p \to B$ which satisfies (1.3) and the inequality (2.16). So

$$\begin{aligned} \|Q(x) - Q'(x)\| &= \frac{1}{2^{2m}} \|Q(2^m x) - Q'(2^m x)\| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2^{2m}} (\|Q(2^m x) - f(2^m x)\| + \|f(2^m x) - Q'(2^m x)\|) \\ &\leq \begin{cases} \frac{\varepsilon}{2^{2m + \lambda m} (2^{n-2} - 2^{n-\lambda - 4})} |x|_{p}^{\lambda}, & p = 2, \ \lambda > -2; \\ \frac{\varepsilon}{3 \ 2^{2m + n - 4}} |x|_{p}^{\lambda}, & p > 2; \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$
(2.21)

which tends to zero as $m \to \infty$ for all nonzero $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p$. This proves the uniqueness of Q, completing the proof of uniqueness.

The following example shows that the above result is not valid over *p*-adic fields.

Example 2.4. Let p > 2 be a prime number and define $f : \mathbb{Q}_p \to \mathbb{Q}_p$ by $f(x) = x^2 - 2x$. Since $|2^n|_p = 1$,

$$|D_f(x_1,...,x_n)|_p = \left| 2^n \sum_{i=2}^n x_i \right|_p = \left| \sum_{i=2}^n x_i \right|_p \le \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|_p$$
 (2.22)

for all $x_1, ..., x_n \in \mathbb{Q}_p$. Hence, the conditions of Theorem 2.3 for $\varepsilon = 1$ and $\lambda = 1$ hold. However for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, we have

$$\left| \frac{1}{2^{2(m+1)}} f(2^{m+1}x) - \frac{1}{2^{2m}} f(2^m x) \right|_p = \frac{|x|_p}{|2^m|_p} = |x|_p$$
 (2.23)

for all $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p$. Hence $\{(1/2^{2m})f(2^mx)\}$ is not convergent for all nonzero $x \in \mathbb{Q}_p$.

In the next result, which can be compared with Theorem 2.3, we will show that the stability of the functional equation (1.3) in non-Archimedean spaces over *p*-adic fields.

Theorem 2.5. Let $\ell \in \{-1,1\}$ be fixed. Let \mathcal{U} be a non-Archimedean space and \mathcal{W} be a complete non-Archimedean space over \mathbb{Q}_p , where p > 2 is a prime number. Suppose that a function $f: \mathcal{U} \to \mathcal{W}$ satisfies the inequality

$$\|D_{f}(x_{1},...,x_{n})\|_{\mathcal{W}} \leq \begin{cases} \varepsilon \sum_{i=1}^{n} \|x_{i}\|_{U}^{\lambda_{i}}, & \lambda \ell > 2\ell; \\ \varepsilon \sum_{i=1}^{n} \|x_{1}\|_{U}^{\lambda_{1}} \|x_{i}\|_{U}^{\lambda_{i}}, & (\lambda_{1} + \lambda_{i})\ell > 2\ell; \\ \varepsilon \max\{\|x_{i}\|_{U}^{\lambda_{i}}; 1 \leq i \leq n\}, & \lambda \ell > 2\ell; \end{cases}$$

$$(2.24)$$

for all $x_1, \ldots, x_n \in \mathcal{U}$, where $\varepsilon, \lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n$ and λ are nonnegative real numbers. Then, the limit

$$Q(x) := \lim_{m \to \infty} \frac{1}{p^{2\ell m}} f\left(p^{\ell m} x\right)$$
 (2.25)

exists for all $x \in \mathcal{U}$ and $Q : \mathcal{U} \to \mathcal{W}$ is a unique quadratic function satisfying

$$||f(x) - Q(x)||_{\mathcal{W}} \le \begin{cases} 2p^{1+\ell+(1-\ell)\lambda/2} \varepsilon ||x||_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda}, \\ p^{1+\ell+((1-\ell)(\lambda_{1}+\lambda_{2})/2)} \varepsilon ||x||_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda_{1}+\lambda_{2}}, \\ p^{1+\ell+(1-\ell)\lambda/2} \varepsilon ||x||_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda}, \end{cases}$$
(2.26)

for all $x \in \mathcal{U}$.

Proof. By (2.24),

$$\|D_f(x_1,...,x_n)\|_{\mathcal{W}} \le \varepsilon \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda}$$
 (2.27)

for all $x_1, ..., x_n \in \mathcal{U}$, where $\lambda \ell > 2\ell$. Putting $x_i = 0$ (i = 1, ..., n) in (2.27) to obtain f(0) = 0, setting $x_i = 0$ (i = 3, ..., n) in (2.27), we obtain

$$\left\| 2^{n-2} f(x_1 + x_2) + 2^{n-2} f(x_1 - x_2) - 2^{n-1} f(x_1) - 2^{n-1} f(x_2) \right\|_{\mathcal{U}} \le \varepsilon \left(\|x_1\|_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda} + \|x_2\|_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda} \right) \tag{2.28}$$

for all $x_1, x_2 \in \mathcal{U}$. So

$$||f(x_1 + x_2) + f(x_1 - x_2) - 2f(x_1) - 2f(x_2)||_{\mathcal{W}} \le \varepsilon (||x_1||_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda} + ||x_2||_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda})$$
(2.29)

for all $x_1, x_2 \in \mathcal{U}$. Letting $x_1 = x_2 = x$ in (2.29), we have

$$||f(2x) - 4f(x)||_{\mathcal{W}} \le 2\varepsilon ||x||_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda} \tag{2.30}$$

for all $x \in \mathcal{U}$. By induction on j, we will show that for each $j \ge 2$,

$$\left\| f(jx) - j^2 f(x) \right\|_{\mathcal{U}} \le 2\varepsilon \|x\|_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda} \tag{2.31}$$

for all $x \in \mathcal{U}$. It holds on j = 2; see (2.30). Let (2.31) hold for j = 2, ..., k. Replacing x_1 and x_2 by kx and x in (2.29), respectively, we get

$$||f((k+1)x) + f((k-1)x) - 2f(kx) - 2f(x)||_{\mathcal{W}} \le \varepsilon (1 + |k|_p^{\lambda}) ||x||_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda}$$
 (2.32)

for all $x \in \mathcal{U}$. It follows from (2.32) and our induction hypothesis that

$$\|f((k+1)x) - (k+1)^{2} f(x)\|_{\mathcal{W}} = \|f((k+1)x) + f((k-1)x) - 2f(kx) - 2f(x) - f((k-1)x) + (k-1)^{2} f(x) - 2(f(kx) - k^{2} f(x))\|_{\mathcal{W}}$$

$$\leq \max \left\{ 2\varepsilon \|x\|_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda}, \varepsilon \left(1 + |k|_{p}^{\lambda}\right) \|x\|_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda} \right\} = 2\varepsilon \|x\|_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda}$$

$$(2.33)$$

for all $x \in \mathcal{U}$. This proves (2.31) for each $1 \ge 2$. In particular,

$$\left\| f(px) - p^2 f(x) \right\|_{\mathcal{U}} \le 2\varepsilon \|x\|_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda} \tag{2.34}$$

for all $x \in \mathcal{U}$. So

$$\left\| f(x) - \frac{1}{p^2} f(px) \right\|_{\mathcal{W}} \le 2p^2 \varepsilon \|x\|_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda},$$

$$\left\| f(x) - p^2 f\left(\frac{x}{p}\right) \right\|_{\mathcal{W}} \le 2p^{\lambda} \varepsilon \|x\|_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda}$$
(2.35)

for all $x \in \mathcal{U}$. Hence,

$$\left\| \frac{1}{p^{2\ell j}} f\left(p^{\ell j} x\right) - \frac{1}{p^{2\ell (j+1)}} f\left(p^{\ell (j+1)} x\right) \right\|_{\mathcal{U}} \le \frac{2p^{2\ell j + (1-\ell)\lambda/2 + 1 + \ell}}{p^{\lambda \ell j}} \varepsilon \|x\|_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda} \tag{2.36}$$

for all $x \in \mathcal{U}$. Since the right side of the above inequality tends to zero as $j \to \infty$, $\{(1/p^{2\ell m})f(p^{\ell m}x)\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in complete non-Archimedean space \mathcal{W} , thus it

converges to some function $Q(x) = \lim_{m \to \infty} (1/p^{2\ell m}) f(p^{\ell m} x)$ for all $x \in \mathcal{U}$. Using (2.35) and induction, one can show that for any $m \in \mathbb{N}$, we have

$$\left\| f(x) - \frac{1}{p^{2\ell m}} f(p^{\ell m} x) \right\|_{\mathcal{W}} = \left\| \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \frac{1}{p^{2\ell j}} f(p^{\ell j} x) - \frac{1}{p^{2\ell (j+1)}} f(p^{\ell (j+1)} x) \right\|_{\mathcal{W}}$$

$$\leq \max \left\{ \left\| \frac{1}{p^{2\ell j}} f(p^{\ell j} x) - \frac{1}{p^{2\ell (j+1)}} f\left(p^{\ell (j+1)} x\right) \right\|_{\mathcal{W}}; 0 \leq j < m \right\}$$

$$\leq \max \left\{ 2p^{1+\ell+(1-\ell)\lambda/2+\ell j(2-\lambda)} \varepsilon \|x\|_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda}; 0 \leq j < m \right\}$$
(2.37)

for all $x \in \mathcal{U}$. Letting $m \to \infty$ in this inequality, we see that

$$||f(x) - Q(x)||_{\mathcal{W}} \le 2p^{1+\ell+(1-\ell)\lambda/2} \varepsilon ||x||_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda}$$
 (2.38)

for all $x \in \mathcal{U}$. Moreover,

$$||D_{Q}(x_{1},...,x_{n})||_{\mathcal{W}} = \lim_{m \to \infty} ||\frac{1}{p^{2\ell m}} D_{f}(p^{\ell m} x_{1},...,p^{\ell m} x_{n})||_{\mathcal{W}} \leq \lim_{m \to \infty} \frac{p^{2\ell m}}{p^{\lambda \ell m}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \varepsilon ||x_{i}||_{\mathcal{U}}^{\lambda} = 0$$
(2.39)

for all $x_1, ..., x_n \in \mathcal{U}$. So $D_Q(x_1, ..., x_n) = 0$. By Lemma 2.1, the function $Q: \mathcal{U} \to \mathcal{W}$ is quadratic.

Now, let $Q': \mathcal{U} \to \mathcal{W}$ be another quadratic function satisfying (1.3) and (2.38). So

$$\begin{aligned} \|Q(x) - Q'(x)\|_{\mathcal{W}} &\leq p^{2\ell m} \max \left\{ \|Q(p^{\ell m} x) - f(p^{\ell m} x)\|_{\mathcal{W}'} \|f(p^{\ell m} x) - Q'(p^{\ell m} x)\|_{\mathcal{W}} \right\} \\ &\leq \frac{2p^{2\ell m + (1-\ell)\lambda/2 + 1 + \ell}}{p^{\lambda \ell m}} \varepsilon \|x\|_{\mathcal{U}'}^{\lambda}, \end{aligned} \tag{2.40}$$

which tends to zero as $m \to \infty$ for all $x \in \mathcal{U}$. This proves the uniqueness of Q.

The rest of the proof is similar to the above proof, hence it is omitted.

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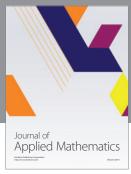
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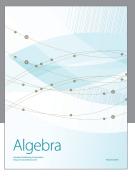
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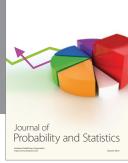
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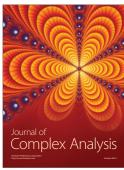




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