Park Journal of Inequalities and Applications 2013, 2013:447 http://www.journalofinequalitiesandapplications.com/content/2013/1/447  Journal of Inequalities and Applications a SpringerOpen Journal

# RESEARCH

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# Additive functional inequalities in 2-Banach spaces

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## Abstract

We prove the Hyers-Ulam stability of the Cauchy functional inequality and the Cauchy-Jensen functional inequality in 2-Banach spaces.

Moreover, we prove the superstability of the Cauchy functional inequality and the Cauchy-Jensen functional inequality in 2-Banach spaces under some conditions. **MSC:** 39B82; 39B52; 39B62; 46B99; 46A19

**Keywords:** Hyers-Ulam stability; linear 2-normed space; additive mapping; additive functional inequality; superstability

# 1 Introduction and preliminaries

In 1940, Ulam [1] suggested the stability problem of functional equations concerning the stability of group homomorphisms as follows: Let  $(\mathcal{G}, \circ)$  be a group and let  $(\mathcal{H}, \star, d)$  be a metric group with the metric  $d(\cdot, \cdot)$ . Given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , does there exist a  $\delta = \delta(\varepsilon) > 0$  such that if a mapping  $f : \mathcal{G} \to \mathcal{H}$  satisfies the inequality

 $d(f(x \circ y), f(x) \star f(y)) < \delta$ 

for all  $x, y \in G$ , then a homomorphism  $F : G \to H$  exists with

 $d\big(f(x),F(x)\big)<\varepsilon$ 

for all  $x \in G$ ?

In 1941, Hyers [2] gave a first (partial) affirmative answer to the question of Ulam for Banach spaces. Thereafter, we call that type the Hyers-Ulam stability.

Hyers' theorem was generalized by Aoki [3] for additive mappings and by Rassias [4] for linear mappings by considering an unbounded Cauchy difference. A generalization of the Rassias theorem was obtained by Gǎvruta [5] by replacing the unbounded Cauchy difference by a general control function.

Gähler [6, 7] introduced the concept of linear 2-normed spaces.

**Definition 1.1** Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a real linear space with dim  $\mathcal{X} > 1$ , and let  $\|\cdot, \cdot\| : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  be a function satisfying the following properties:

- (a) ||x, y|| = 0 if and only if x and y are linearly dependent,
- (b) ||x,y|| = ||y,x||,

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(c)  $\|\alpha x, y\| = |\alpha| \|x, y\|$ ,

(d) 
$$||x, y + z|| \le ||x, y|| + ||x, z||$$

for all  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then the function  $\|\cdot, \cdot\|$  is called 2-*norm* on  $\mathcal{X}$  and the pair  $(\mathcal{X}, \|\cdot, \cdot\|)$  is called a *linear* 2-*normed space*. Sometimes condition (d) is called the *triangle inequality*.

See [8] for examples and properties of linear 2-normed spaces.

White [9, 10] introduced the concept of 2-Banach spaces. In order to define completeness, the concepts of Cauchy sequences and convergence are required.

**Definition 1.2** A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in a linear 2-normed space  $\mathcal{X}$  is called a *Cauchy sequence* if

$$\lim_{m,n\to\infty}\|x_n-x_m,y\|=0$$

for all  $y \in \mathcal{X}$ .

**Definition 1.3** A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in a linear 2-normed space  $\mathcal{X}$  is called a *convergent sequence* if there is an  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  such that

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\|x_n-x,y\|=0$$

for all  $y \in \mathcal{X}$ . If  $\{x_n\}$  converges to x, write  $x_n \to x$  as  $n \to \infty$  and call x the limit of  $\{x_n\}$ . In this case, we also write  $\lim_{n\to\infty} x_n = x$ .

The triangle inequality implies the following lemma.

**Lemma 1.4** [11] For a convergent sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in a linear 2-normed space  $\mathcal{X}$ ,

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\|x_n,y\|=\left\|\lim_{n\to\infty}x_n,y\right\|$$

for all  $y \in \mathcal{X}$ .

**Definition 1.5** A linear 2-normed space, in which every Cauchy sequence is a convergent sequence, is called a 2-*Banach space*.

Eskandani and Găvruta [12] proved the Hyers-Ulam stability of a functional equation in 2-Banach spaces.

In [13], Gilányi showed that if f satisfies the functional inequality

$$\left\|2f(x) + 2f(y) - f(xy^{-1})\right\| \le \left\|f(xy)\right\|,\tag{1.1}$$

then f satisfies the Jordan-von Neumann functional equation

 $2f(x) + 2f(y) = f(xy) + f(xy^{-1}).$ 

See also [14]. Gilányi [15] and Fechner [16] proved the Hyers-Ulam stability of functional inequality (1.1).

Park et al. [17] proved the Hyers-Ulam stability of the following functional inequalities:

$$\|f(x) + f(y) + f(z)\| \le \|f(x + y + z)\|,$$
(1.2)

$$\|f(x) + f(y) + 2f(z)\| \le \|2f\left(\frac{x+y}{2} + z\right)\|.$$
 (1.3)

In this paper, we prove the Hyers-Ulam stability of Cauchy functional inequality (1.2) and Cauchy-Jensen functional inequality (1.3) in 2-Banach spaces.

Moreover, we prove the superstability of Cauchy functional inequality (1.2) and Cauchy-Jensen functional inequality (1.3) in 2-Banach spaces under some conditions.

Throughout this paper, let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a normed linear space, and let  $\mathcal{Y}$  be a 2-Banach space.

# **2** Hyers-Ulam stability of Cauchy functional inequality (1.2) in 2-Banach spaces In this section, we prove the Hyers-Ulam stability of Cauchy functional inequality (1.2) in 2-Banach spaces.

**Proposition 2.1** Let  $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  be a mapping satisfying

$$\|f(x) + f(y) + f(z), w\| \le \|f(x + y + z), w\|$$
(2.1)

for all  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Then the mapping  $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  is additive.

*Proof* Letting x = y = z = 0 in (2.1), we get  $3||f(0), w|| \le ||f(0), w||$  and so ||f(0), w|| = 0 for all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Hence f(0) = 0.

Letting y = -x and z = 0 in (2.1), we get  $||f(x) + f(-x), w|| \le ||f(0), w|| = 0$  and so ||f(x) + f(-x), w|| = 0 for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Hence f(x) + f(-x) = 0 for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ . Letting z = -x - y in (2.1), we get

$$||f(x) + f(y) + f(-x - y), w|| \le ||f(0), w|| = 0$$

and so

$$||f(x) + f(y) + f(-x - y), w|| = 0$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Hence

$$0 = f(x) + f(y) + f(-x - y) = f(x) + f(y) - f(x + y)$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$ . So,  $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  is additive.

**Theorem 2.2** Let  $\theta \in [0, \infty)$ ,  $p, q, r \in (0, \infty)$  with p + q + r < 1, and let  $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  be a mapping satisfying

$$\|f(x) + f(y) + f(z), w\| \le \|f(x + y + z), w\| + \theta \|x\|^p \|y\|^q \|z\|^r \|w\|$$
(2.2)

for all  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Then there is a unique additive mapping  $A : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  such that

$$\|f(x) - A(x), w\| \le \frac{2^r \theta}{2 - 2^{p+q+r}} \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\|$$
 (2.3)

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

*Proof* Letting x = y = z = 0 in (2.2), we get  $3||f(0), w|| \le ||f(0), w||$  and so ||f(0), w|| = 0 for all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Hence f(0) = 0.

Letting y = -x and z = 0 in (2.2), we get  $||f(x) + f(-x), w|| \le ||f(0), w|| = 0$  and so ||f(x) + f(-x), w|| = 0 for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Hence f(x) + f(-x) = 0 for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ . Putting y = x and z = -2x in (2.2), we get

$$\left\| f(2x) - 2f(x), w \right\| \le \left\| f(0), w \right\| + 2^r \theta \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\| = 2^r \theta \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\|$$
(2.4)

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . So, we get

$$\left\| f(x) - \frac{1}{2} f(2x), w \right\| \le \frac{2^r \theta}{2} \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\|$$
(2.5)

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Replacing x by  $2^{j}x$  in (2.5) and dividing by  $2^{j}$ , we obtain

$$\left\|\frac{1}{2^{j}}f(2^{j}x) - \frac{1}{2^{j+1}}f(2^{j+1}x), w\right\| \le 2^{(p+q+r-1)j+r-1}\theta \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\|$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ , all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$  and all integers  $j \ge 0$ . For all integers l, m with  $0 \le l < m$ , we get

$$\left\|\frac{1}{2^{l}}f(2^{l}x) - \frac{1}{2^{m}}f(2^{m}x), w\right\| \le \sum_{j=l}^{m-1} 2^{(p+q+r-1)j+r-1}\theta \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\|$$
(2.6)

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . So, we get

$$\lim_{l\to\infty} \left\| \frac{1}{2^l} f(2^l x) - \frac{1}{2^m} f(2^m x), w \right\| = 0$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Thus the sequence  $\{\frac{1}{2^j}f(2^jx)\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathcal{Y}$  for each  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ . Since  $\mathcal{Y}$  is a 2-Banach space, the sequence  $\{\frac{1}{2^j}f(2^jx)\}$  converges for each  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ . So, one can define the mapping  $A : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  by

$$A(x) := \lim_{j \to \infty} \frac{1}{2^j} f(2^j x)$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ . That is,

$$\lim_{j\to\infty}\left\|\frac{1}{2^j}f(2^jx)-A(x),w\right\|=0$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

By (2.2), we get

$$\begin{split} \lim_{j \to \infty} \left\| \frac{1}{2^{j}} (f(2^{j}x) + f(2^{j}y) + f(2^{j}z)), w \right\| \\ &\leq \lim_{j \to \infty} \left( \frac{1}{2^{j}} \left\| f(2^{j}x + 2^{j}y + 2^{j}z), w \right\| + \frac{2^{(p+q+r)j}}{2^{j}} \theta \left\| x \right\|^{p} \left\| y \right\|^{q} \left\| z \right\|^{r} \left\| w \right\| \right) \\ &\leq \lim_{j \to \infty} \frac{1}{2^{j}} \left\| f(2^{j}x + 2^{j}y + 2^{j}z), w \right\| \end{split}$$

for all  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . So,

$$||A(x) + A(y) + A(z), w|| \le ||A(x + y + z), w||$$

for all  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . By Proposition 2.1,  $A : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  is additive.

By Lemma 1.4 and (2.6), we have

$$||f(x) - A(x), w|| = \lim_{m \to \infty} ||f(x) - \frac{1}{2^m} f(2^m x), w|| \le \frac{2^r \theta}{2 - 2^{p+q+r}} ||x||^{p+q+r} ||w||$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

Now, let  $B: \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  be another additive mapping satisfying (2.3). Then we have

$$\begin{split} \|A(x) - B(x), w\| &= \frac{1}{2^{j}} \|A(2^{j}x) - B(2^{j}x), w\| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2^{j}} [\|A(2^{j}x) - f(2^{j}x), w\| + \|f(2^{j}x) - B(2^{j}x), w\|] \\ &\leq \frac{2 \cdot 2^{r} \theta}{2 - 2^{p+q+r}} \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\| \cdot \frac{2^{(p+q+r)j}}{2^{j}}, \end{split}$$

which tends to zero as  $j \to \infty$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . By Definition 1.1, we can conclude that A(x) = B(x) for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ . This proves the uniqueness of A.

**Theorem 2.3** Let  $\theta \in [0, \infty)$ ,  $p, q, r \in (0, \infty)$  with p + q + r > 1, and let  $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  be a mapping satisfying (2.2). Then there is a unique additive mapping  $A : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  such that

$$||f(x) - A(x), w|| \le \frac{2^r \theta}{2^{p+q+r} - 2} ||x||^{p+q+r} ||w||$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

Proof It follows from (2.4) that

$$\left\| f(x) - 2f\left(\frac{x}{2}\right), w \right\| \le \frac{\theta}{2^{p+q}} \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\|$$
 (2.7)

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Replacing x by  $\frac{x}{2^{j}}$  in (2.7) and multiplying by  $2^{j}$ , we obtain

$$\left\|2^{j}f\left(\frac{x}{2^{j}}\right) - 2^{j+1}f\left(\frac{x}{2^{j+1}}\right), w\right\| \leq \frac{2^{j}\theta}{2^{p+q} \cdot 2^{(p+q+r)j}} \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\|$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$  and all integers  $j \ge 0$ . For all integers l, m with  $0 \le l < m$ , we get

$$\left\|2^{l} f\left(\frac{x}{2^{l}}\right) - 2^{m} f\left(\frac{x}{2^{m}}\right), w\right\| \leq \sum_{j=l}^{m-1} \frac{2^{j} \theta}{2^{p+q} \cdot 2^{(p+q+r)j}} \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\|$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . So, we get

$$\lim_{l \to \infty} \left\| 2^l f\left(\frac{x}{2^l}\right) - 2^m f\left(\frac{x}{2^m}\right), w \right\| = 0$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Thus the sequence  $\{2^{j}f(\frac{x}{2^{j}})\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathcal{Y}$ . Since  $\mathcal{Y}$  is a 2-Banach space, the sequence  $\{2^{j}f(\frac{x}{2^{j}})\}$  converges. So, one can define the mapping  $A : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  by

$$A(x) := \lim_{j \to \infty} 2^j f\left(\frac{x}{2^j}\right)$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ . That is,

$$\lim_{j\to\infty}\left\|2^j f\left(\frac{x}{2^j}\right) - A(x), w\right\| = 0$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

The further part of the proof is similar to the proof of Theorem 2.2.

Now we prove the superstability of the Cauchy functional inequality in 2-Banach spaces.

**Theorem 2.4** Let  $\theta \in [0, \infty)$ ,  $p, q, r, t \in (0, \infty)$  with  $t \neq 1$ , and let  $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  be a mapping satisfying

$$\|f(x) + f(y) + f(z), w\| \le \|f(x + y + z), w\| + \theta \|x\|^p \|y\|^q \|z\|^r \|w\|^t$$
(2.8)

for all  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Then  $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  is an additive mapping.

*Proof* Replacing *w* by *sw* in (2.8) for  $s \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ , we get

$$\|f(x) + f(y) + f(z), sw\| \le \|f(x + y + z), sw\| + \theta \|x\|^p \|y\|^q \|z\|^r \|sw\|^t$$

and so

$$\left\|f(x) + f(y) + f(z), w\right\| \le \left\|f(x + y + z), w\right\| + \theta \|x\|^p \|y\|^q \|z\|^r \|w\|^t \frac{|s|^t}{|s|}$$
(2.9)

for all  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$ , all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$  and all  $s \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ .

If t > 1, then the right-hand side of (2.9) tends to ||f(x + y + z), w|| as  $s \to 0$ . If t < 1, then the right-hand side of (2.9) tends to ||f(x + y + z), w|| as  $s \to +\infty$ . Thus

$$||f(x) + f(y) + f(z), w|| \le ||f(x + y + z), w||$$

for all  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . By Proposition 2.1,  $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  is additive.

# 3 Hyers-Ulam stability of Cauchy-Jensen functional inequality (1.3) in 2-Banach spaces

In this section, we prove the Hyers-Ulam stability of Cauchy-Jensen functional inequality (1.3) in 2-Banach spaces.

**Proposition 3.1** Let  $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  be a mapping satisfying

$$\|f(x) + f(y) + 2f(z), w\| \le \|2f\left(\frac{x+y}{2} + z\right), w\|$$
(3.1)

for all  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Then the mapping  $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  is additive.

*Proof* Letting x = y = z = 0 in (3.1), we get  $4||f(0), w|| \le 2||f(0), w||$  and so ||f(0), w|| = 0 for all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Hence f(0) = 0.

Letting y = -x and z = 0 in (3.1), we get  $||f(x) + f(-x), w|| \le 2||f(0), w|| = 0$  and so ||f(x) + f(-x), w|| = 0 for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Hence f(x) + f(-x) = 0 for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ .

Letting  $z = -\frac{x+y}{2}$  in (3.1), we get

$$\left\|f(x) + f(y) + 2f\left(-\frac{x+y}{2}\right), w\right\| \le 2\left\|f(0), w\right\| = 0$$

and so

$$\left\|f(x)+f(y)+2f\left(-\frac{x+y}{2}\right),w\right\|=0$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Hence

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

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$ . Since  $f(0) = 0, f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  is additive.

**Theorem 3.2** Let  $\theta \in [0,\infty)$ ,  $p,q,r \in (0,\infty)$  with p + q + r < 1, and let  $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  be a mapping satisfying

$$\left\| f(x) + f(y) + 2f(z), w \right\| \le \left\| 2f\left(\frac{x+y}{2} + z\right), w \right\| + \theta \|x\|^p \|y\|^q \|z\|^r \|w\|$$
(3.2)

for all  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Then there is a unique additive mapping  $A : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  such that

$$||f(x) - A(x), w|| \le \frac{\theta}{2 - 2^{p+q+r}} ||x||^{p+q+r} ||w||$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

*Proof* Letting x = y = z = 0 in (3.2), we get  $4||f(0), w|| \le 2||f(0), w||$  and so ||f(0), w|| = 0 for all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Hence f(0) = 0.

Letting y = -x and z = 0 in (3.2), we get  $||f(x) + f(-x), w|| \le 2||f(0), w|| = 0$  and so ||f(x) + f(-x), w|| = 0 for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Hence f(x) + f(-x) = 0 for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ .

Letting y = x and z = -x in (3.2), we get

$$\left\|2f(x) - f(2x), w\right\| \le \left\|2f(0), w\right\| + \theta \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\| = \theta \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\|$$
(3.3)

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Replacing x by  $2^{j}x$  in (3.3) and dividing by  $3^{j}$ , we obtain

$$\left\|\frac{1}{2^{j}}f(2^{j}x) - \frac{1}{2^{j+1}}f(2^{j+1}x), w\right\| \le \frac{2^{(p+q+r)j}}{2 \cdot 2^{j}}\theta \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\|$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$  and all integers  $j \ge 0$ . For all integers l, m with  $0 \le l < m$ , we get

$$\left\|\frac{1}{2^{l}}f(2^{l}x) - \frac{1}{2^{m}}f(2^{m}x), w\right\| \leq \sum_{j=l}^{m-1} \frac{2^{(p+q+r)j}}{2 \cdot 2^{j}} \theta \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\|$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . So, we get

$$\lim_{l\to\infty}\left\|\frac{1}{2^{t}}f(2^{t}x)-\frac{1}{2^{m}}f(2^{m}x),w\right\|=0$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Thus the sequence  $\{\frac{1}{2^j}f(2^jx)\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathcal{Y}$  for each  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ . Since  $\mathcal{Y}$  is a 2-Banach space, the sequence  $\{\frac{1}{2^j}f(2^jx)\}$  converges for each  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ . So, one can define the mapping  $A : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  by

$$A(x) := \lim_{j \to \infty} \frac{1}{2^j} f\left(2^j x\right) = \lim_{j \to \infty} \frac{1}{2^j} f\left(2^j x\right)$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ . That is,

$$\lim_{j\to\infty}\left\|\frac{1}{2^j}f(2^jx)-A(x),w\right\|=\lim_{j\to\infty}\left\|\frac{1}{2^j}f(2^jx)-A(x),w\right\|=0$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

The further part of the proof is similar to the proof of Theorem 2.2.

**Theorem 3.3** Let  $\theta \in [0, \infty)$ ,  $p, q, r \in (0, \infty)$  with p + q + r > 1, and let  $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  be a mapping satisfying (3.2). Then there is a unique additive mapping  $A : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  such that

$$||f(x) - A(x), w|| \le \frac{\theta}{2^{p+q+r} - 2} ||x||^{p+q+r} ||w|$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

*Proof* It follows from (3.3) that

$$\left\| f(x) - 2f\left(\frac{x}{2}\right), w \right\| \le \frac{1}{2^{p+q+r}} \theta \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\|$$
 (3.4)

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Replacing x by  $\frac{x}{2^j}$  in (3.4) and multiplying by  $2^j$ , we obtain

$$\left\|2^{j}f\left(\frac{x}{2^{j}}\right) - 2^{j+1}f\left(\frac{x}{2^{j+1}}\right), w\right\| \le \frac{2^{j}}{2^{(p+q+r)(j+1)}}\theta \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\|$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$  and all integers  $j \ge 0$ . For all integers l, m with  $0 \le l < m$ , we get

$$\left\| 2^{l} f\left(\frac{x}{2^{l}}\right) - 2^{m} f\left(\frac{x}{2^{m}}\right), w \right\| \leq \sum_{j=l}^{m-1} \frac{2^{j}}{2^{(p+q+r)(j+1)}} \theta \|x\|^{p+q+r} \|w\|$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . So, we get

$$\lim_{l \to \infty} \left\| 2^l f\left(\frac{x}{2^l}\right) - 2^m f\left(\frac{x}{2^m}\right), w \right\| = 0$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Thus the sequence  $\{2^{j}f(\frac{x}{2^{j}})\}$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathcal{Y}$  for each  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ . Since  $\mathcal{Y}$  is a 2-Banach space, the sequence  $\{2^{j}f(\frac{x}{2^{j}})\}$  converges for each  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ . So, one can define the mapping  $A : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  by

$$A(x) \coloneqq \lim_{j \to \infty} 2^j f\left(\frac{x}{2^j}\right)$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ . That is,

$$\lim_{j\to\infty} \left\| 2^j f\left(\frac{x}{2^j}\right) - A(x), w \right\| = 0$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ .

The further part of the proof is similar to the proof of Theorem 2.2.

Now we prove the superstability of the Jensen functional equation in 2-Banach spaces.

**Theorem 3.4** Let  $\theta \in [0, \infty)$ ,  $p, q, r, t \in (0, \infty)$  with  $t \neq 1$ , and let  $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  be a mapping satisfying

$$\left\| f(x) + f(y) + 2f(z), w \right\| \le \left\| 2f\left(\frac{x+y}{2} + z\right), w \right\| + \theta \|x\|^p \|y\|^q \|z\|^r \|w\|^t$$
(3.5)

for all  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$  and all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$ . Then  $f : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  is an additive mapping.

*Proof* Replacing *w* by *sw* in (3.5) for  $s \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ , we get

$$||f(x) + f(y) + 2f(z), sw|| \le ||2f(\frac{x+y}{2}+z), sw|| + \theta ||x||^p ||y||^q ||z||^r ||sw||^t$$

and so

$$\left\| f(x) + f(y) + 2f(z), w \right\| \le \left\| 2f\left(\frac{x+y}{2} + z\right), w \right\| + \theta \|x\|^p \|y\|^q \|z\|^r \|w\|^t \frac{|s|^t}{|s|}$$

for all  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{X}$ , all  $w \in \mathcal{Y}$  and all  $s \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ .

The rest of the proof is similar to the proof of Theorem 2.4.

Competing interests

The author declares that they have no competing interests.

### Authors' contributions

CP conceived of the study, participated in its design and coordination, drafted the manuscript, participated in the sequence alignment, and read and approved the final manuscript.

### Received: 26 February 2013 Accepted: 30 August 2013 Published: 04 Nov 2013

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### 10.1186/1029-242X-2013-447

Cite this article as: Park: Additive functional inequalities in 2-Banach spaces. Journal of Inequalities and Applications 2013, 2013:447

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