



# The Generalized Stability of an $n$ -Dimensional Jensen Type Functional Equation

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**Abstract :** In this paper, we will investigate the generalized Hyer-Ulam-Rassias stability of an  $n$ -dimensional functional equation,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n p_i f(x_i) = f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right),$$

where  $n > 1$  is an integer, and  $p_1, \dots, p_n$  are positive real number with

$$\sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1.$$

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## 1 Introduction and preliminaries

In 1940 S.M. Ulam[6] proposed the famous stability problem of linear functions. In 1941 D.H. Hyers[1] considered the case of an approximately additive function  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  where  $E$  and  $E'$  are Banach spaces and  $f$  satisfies the inequality

$$\|f(x+y) - f(x) - f(y)\| \leq \varepsilon$$

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for all  $x, y \in E$  and for some  $\varepsilon > 0$ . It was shown that the limit

$$L(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} 2^{-n} f(2^n x)$$

exists for all  $x \in E$  and that  $L : E \rightarrow E'$  is the unique additive function satisfying

$$\|f(x) - L(x)\| \leq \varepsilon.$$

Hyers' theorem was generalized by Aoki[7] and Bourgin[2] for additive mappings by considering bounded Cauchy differences. In 1978 Th.M. Rassias[8] considered an approximately additive function  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  satisfying

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

for all  $x, y \in E$  where  $\theta \geq 0$  and  $0 \leq p < 1$  are constants. Since then, the stability problem has been widely investigated for different types of functional equations. The Jensen functional equation given by

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

has close connection[3, 4] with the Cauchy functional equation

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

Stability of Jensen equation has been studied at first by Kominek[?]. In 1998, S.M. Jung[5] investigated the Hyers-Ulam stability for Jensen's equation on a restricted domain.

In this paper, we will extend the Jensen functional equation to an  $n$ -dimensional version,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n p_i f(x_i) = f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right), \quad (1.1)$$

where  $n > 1$  is an integer, and  $p_1, \dots, p_n$  are positive rational numbers with

$$\sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1, \quad (1.2)$$

will study a general solution and investigate its generalized stability. We will also discuss Hyers-Ulam stability and Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability.

For our convenience, we let  $n > 1$  be an integer,  $p_1, \dots, p_n$  be positive rational numbers with (1.2),  $X$  be a real vector space and  $Y$  be a Banach spaces.

## 2 Main Results

In this section, we will study the general solution and generalized stability of (1.1). The results are as follows.

## 2.1 General Solution

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be real vector spaces. A mapping  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  satisfies the functional equation (1.1) where  $n > 1$  is an integer, and  $p_1, \dots, p_n$  are positive rational numbers with  $\sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1$  for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ , if and only if  $f(x) = A(x) - f(0)$  for all  $x \in X$  where  $A : X \rightarrow Y$  is additive function and  $f(0)$  is a constant.*

*Proof.* (Necessity) Suppose  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  satisfies the functional equation (1.1). Define a function  $g : X \rightarrow y$  by

$$g(x) = f(x) - f(0)$$

for all  $x \in X$ . Note that  $g(0) = 0$ . Consider

$$\begin{aligned} g\left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right) &= f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right) - f(0) = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i f(x_i) - f(0) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n p_i g(x_i). \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

Thus  $g$  is satisfies (1.1). Let  $s \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . Then set  $x_s = x$  and  $x_1 = \dots = x_{s-1} = x_{s+1} = \dots = x_n = 0$ , then (2.1) becomes

$$g(p_s x) = p_s g(x) \quad \text{for all } s \in \{1, \dots, n\} \quad \text{for all } x \in X. \quad (2.2)$$

Next, we put  $x_s = x, x_{s+1} = y$  and  $x_1 = \dots = x_{s-1} = x_{s+2} = \dots = x_n = 0$  in (2.1) and using (2.2), we will have

$$g(p_s x + p_{s+1} y) = p_s g(x) + p_{s+1} g(y)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ . Therefore  $g$  is additive function, by definition of  $g$  we get  $f(x) = A(x) - f(0)$  for all  $x \in X$ .

(Sufficiency) Suppose  $f(x) = A(x) - f(0)$  for all  $x \in X$  where  $A : X \rightarrow Y$  is additive function and  $f(0)$  is a constant. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right) &= A\left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right) - f(0) = A\left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right) - \sum_{i=1}^n p_i f(0) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n p_i (A(x_i) - f(0)) = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i f(x_i). \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof.  $\square$

### 2.2 Generalied Stabilitiy

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $\phi : X^n \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a function. For each integer  $s = 1, \dots, n$ , let  $\phi_s : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a function such that*

$$\phi_s(x) = \phi(\underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_{s-1}, x, \underbrace{0, \dots, 0}_{n-s}) \tag{2.3}$$

and  $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_s^{-i} \phi(p_s^i x)$  converges and  $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p_s^{-m} \phi(p_s^m x_1, \dots, p_s^m x_n) = 0$  for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ . If a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  satisfies the inequality

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n p_i f(x_i) - f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right) \right\| \leq \phi(x_1, \dots, x_n) \tag{2.4}$$

for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ , then there exists a unique function  $L : X \rightarrow Y$  that satisfies functional equation (1.1) and the inequality

$$\|f(x) - L(x)\| \leq \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_s^{-i-1} \phi_s(p_s^i x) \tag{2.5}$$

for all  $x \in X$ . The function  $L$  is given by

$$L(x) = f(0) + \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p_s^{-m} (f(p_s^m x) - f(0)) \tag{2.6}$$

for all  $x \in X$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  satisfies the inequality (2.4). Define a function  $g : X \rightarrow Y$  by

$$g(x) = f(x) - f(0) \tag{2.7}$$

for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ . It should be noted that  $g(0) = 0$ . By (1.2), we get

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n p_i g(x_i) - g\left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right) \right\| \leq \phi(x_1, \dots, x_n) \tag{2.8}$$

for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ . Let  $s \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ . Set  $x_s = x$  and  $x_1 = \dots = x_{s-1} = x_{s+1} = \dots = x_n = 0$ , then (2.8) becomes

$$\|p_s g(x) - g(p_s x)\| \leq \phi_s(x) \tag{2.9}$$

for all  $x \in X$ . Rewrite the above equation to

$$\|g(x) - p_s^{-1} g(p_s x)\| \leq p_s^{-1} \phi_s(x) \tag{2.10}$$

for all  $x \in X$ . For each positive integer  $m$  and each  $x \in X$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|g(x) - p_s^{-m}g(p_s^m x)\| &= \left\| \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left( p_s^{-i}g(p_s^i x) - p_s^{-(i+1)}g(p_s^{i+1} x) \right) \right\| \\ &\leq \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \|p_s^{-i}g(p_s^i x) - p_s^{-(i+1)}g(p_s^{i+1} x)\| \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} p_s^{-i} \|g(p_s^i x) - p_s^{-1}g(p_s p_s^i x)\| \\ &\leq \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} p_s^{-i-1} \phi_s(p_s^i x). \end{aligned} \tag{2.11}$$

Consider the sequence  $\{p_s^{-m}g(p_s^m x)\}$ . For each positive integers  $k < l$  and each  $x \in X$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|p_s^{-k}g(p_s^k x) - p_s^{-l}g(p_s^l x)\| &= p_s^{-k} \|g(p_s^k x) - p_s^{-(l-k)}g(p_s^{l-k} p_s^k x)\| \\ &\leq p_s^{-k} \sum_{i=0}^{l-k-1} p_s^{-i-1} \phi_s(p_s^{i+k} x) \\ &\leq p_s^{-k-1} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_s^{-i} \phi_s(p_s^{i+k} x). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_s^{-i} \phi(p_s^i x)$  converges,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_s^{-k-1} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_s^{-i} \phi_s(p_s^{i+k} x) = 0$ ; therefore,

$$L(x) = f(0) + \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p_s^{-m}g(p_s^m x) \tag{2.12}$$

is well-defined in the Banach space  $Y$ . Moreover, as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , (2.11) becomes

$$\|g(x) + f(0) - L(x)\| \leq \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_s^{-i-1} \phi_s(p_s^i x).$$

Recalling the definition of  $g(x)$ , we see that inequality (2.5) is valid.

To show that  $L$  indeed satisfies (1.1), replace each  $x_i$  in (2.8) with  $p_s^m x_i$ ,

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n p_i g(p_s^m x_i) - g\left(p_s^m \sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right) \right\| \leq \phi(p_s^m x_1, \dots, p_s^m x_n). \tag{2.13}$$

If we multiply the above inequality by  $p_s^{-m}$  and take the limit as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , then by the definition of  $L$  in (2.12) and (1.2), we obtain

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n p_i L(x_i) - L\left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right) \right\| \leq \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p_s^{-m} \phi(p_s^m x_1, \dots, p_s^m x_n) = 0, \tag{2.14}$$

which implies that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n p_i L(x_i) = L\left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right) \tag{2.15}$$

for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ .

To prove the uniqueness, suppose there is another function  $L' : X \rightarrow Y$  satisfying (1.1) and (2.5). Observe that if we replace  $x_s$  by  $x$  and put  $x_1 = \dots = x_{s-1} = x_{s+1} = \dots = x_n = 0$  in (2.15), then

$$p_s L(x) + (1 - p_s)L(0) = L(p_s x) \tag{2.16}$$

for all  $x \in X$ , and

$$L(0) = f(0) + \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p_s^{-m} g(0) = f(0).$$

The function  $L'$  obviously possesses the same properties. Therefore,

$$p_s(L(x) - L'(x)) = L(p_s x) - L'(p_s x) \tag{2.17}$$

for all  $x \in X$ . We can prove by mathematical induction that for each positive integer  $m$ ,

$$p_s^m(L(x) - L'(x)) = L(p_s^m x) - L'(p_s^m x)$$

for all  $x \in X$ . Therefore, for each positive integer  $m$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|L(x) - L'(x)\| &= p_s^{-m} \|L(p_s^m x) - L'(p_s^m x)\| \\ &\leq p_s^{-m} (\|L(p_s^m x) - f(p_s^m x)\| + \|L'(p_s^m x) - f(p_s^m x)\|) \\ &\leq 2p_s^{-m} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_s^{-i-1} \phi_s(p_s^{i+m} x) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in X$ . Since  $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_s^{-i} \phi(p_s^i x)$  converges,  $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p_s^{-m} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_s^{-i-1} \phi(p_s^{i+m} x) = 0$ .

We conclude that  $L(x) = L'(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ . □

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $\phi : X^n \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a function. For each integer  $s = 1, \dots, n$ , let  $\phi_s : X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a function such that (2.3) and  $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_s^i \phi(p_s^{-i} x)$  converges and  $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p_s^m \phi(p_s^{-m} x_1, \dots, p_s^{-m} x_n) = 0$  for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ .*

*If a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  satisfies the inequality (2.4) then there exists a unique function  $L : X \rightarrow Y$  that satisfies functional equation (1.1) and the inequality*

$$\|f(x) - L(x)\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} p_s^{i-1} \phi_s(p_s^{-i} x) \tag{2.18}$$

for all  $x \in X$ . The function  $L$  is given by

$$L(x) = f(0) + \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p_s^m f(p_s^{-m}x) \tag{2.19}$$

for all  $x \in X$ .

*Proof.* Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  satisfy the inequality (2.4). Referring the process (2.7)-(2.10), we can replace inequality (2.10) with

$$\|g(x) - p_s g(p_s^{-1}x)\| \leq \phi_s(p_s^{-1}x)$$

for all  $x \in X$ . For each positive integer  $m$  and each  $x \in X$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \|g(x) - p_s^m g(p_s^{-m}x)\| &= \left\| \left( \sum_{i=1}^m p_s^{i-1} g(p_s^{-(i-1)}x) - p_s^i g(p_s^{-i}x) \right) \right\| \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^m \|p_s^{i-1} g(p_s^{-(i-1)}x) - p_s^i g(p_s^{-i}x)\| \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m p_s^{i-1} \|g(p_s^{-(i-1)}x) - p_s g(p_s^{-1}p_s^{-(i-1)}x)\| \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^m p_s^{i-1} \phi_s(p_s^{-i}x). \end{aligned} \tag{2.20}$$

We investigate the sequence  $\{p_s^m g(p_s^{-m}x)\}$ . For each positive integer  $k < l$  and each  $x \in X$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|p_s^k g(p_s^{-k}x) - p_s^l g(p_s^{-l}x)\| &= p_s^k \|g(p_s^{-k}x) - p_s^{l-k} g(p_s^{-(l-k)}p_s^{-k}x)\| \\ &\leq p_s^k \sum_{i=1}^{l-k} p_s^{i-1} \phi_s(p_s^{-i-k}x) \\ &\leq p_s^{k-1} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} p_s^i \phi_s(p_s^{-i-k}x). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_s^i \phi(p_s^{-i}x)$  converges,  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} p_s^{k-1} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_s^i \phi_s(p_s^{-i-k}x) = 0$ . Thus,

$$L(x) = f(0) + \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p_s^m g(p_s^{-m}x) \tag{2.21}$$

is well-defined in the Banach space  $Y$ . Furthermore, (2.20) becomes as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\|g(x) + f(0) - L(x)\| \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} p_s^{i-1} \phi_s(p_s^{-i}x).$$

By the definition of  $g(x)$ , inequality (2.18) is valid.

In order to show that  $L$  satisfies (1.1). We replace each  $x_i$  by  $p_s^{-m}x_i$  in (2.8) and multiply  $p_s^m$ , then take the limit as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , we have

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n p_i L(x_i) - L\left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right) \right\| \leq \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p_s^m \phi(p_s^{-m}x_1, \dots, p_s^{-m}x_n) = 0,$$

which implies (2.15).

To prove the uniqueness, suppose there is another function  $L' : X \rightarrow Y$  satisfying (1.1) and (2.5). Replacing  $x$  by  $p_s^{-1}x$  and put  $x_1 = \dots = x_{s-1} = x_{s+1} = \dots = x_n = 0$  in (2.15); consequently, (2.17) becomes

$$p_s(L(p_s^{-1}x) - L'(p_s^{-1}x)) = L(x) - L'(x).$$

For each positive  $m$ , we can show by mathematical induction that

$$p_s^m(L(p_s^{-m}x) - L'(p_s^{-m}x)) = L(x) - L'(x)$$

for all  $x \in X$ . Therefore, for each positive integer  $m$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \|L(x) - L'(x)\| &= p_s^m \|L(p_s^{-m}x) - L'(p_s^{-m}x)\| \\ &\leq p_s^m (\|L(p_s^{-m}x) - f(p_s^{-m}x)\| + \|L'(p_s^{-m}x) - f(p_s^{-m}x)\|) \\ &\leq 2p_s^m \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} p_s^{i-1} \phi_s(p_s^{-i-m}x) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in X$ . Since  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} p_s^i \phi(p_s^{-i}x)$  converges,  $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p_s^m \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_s^{i-1} \phi(p_s^{-i-m}x) = 0$ . We obtain that  $L(x) = L'(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ . □

### 2.3 Stability

This section will give the stability of (1.1) in various case. The following theorem proves stability of (1.1).

**Theorem 2.4.** *Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be a real number. If a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  satisfies the inequality*

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n p_i f(x_i) - f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right) \right\| \leq \varepsilon \tag{2.22}$$

for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ , then there exists a unique function  $L : X \rightarrow Y$  that satisfies (1.1) and

$$\|f(x) - L(x)\| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{1 - p_{\min}}$$

for all  $x \in X$ , where  $p_{\min} = \min\{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$ .



*Proof.* Let

$$\phi(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \varepsilon$$

for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$  in Theorem 2.3. We can see that Theorem 2.3 holds for every  $s = 1, \dots, n$ . We choose  $s$  such that  $p_s = p_{\min} = \min\{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$ . Then (2.18) becomes

$$\|f(x) - L(x)\| \leq \varepsilon \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} p_s^{i-1} = \frac{\varepsilon}{1 - p_s} = \frac{\varepsilon}{1 - p_{\min}}$$

for all  $x \in X$  as desired. □

The following theorem proves the stability of (1.1).

**Theorem 2.5.** *Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $r > 0$  be real numbers with  $r \neq 1$ . If a function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  satisfies the inequality*

$$\left\| \sum_{i=1}^n p_i f(x_i) - f\left(\sum_{i=1}^n p_i x_i\right) \right\| \leq \varepsilon \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|^r \tag{2.23}$$

for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ , then there exists a unique function  $L : X \rightarrow Y$  that satisfies (1.1) and

$$\|f(x) - L(x)\| \leq \frac{\varepsilon}{M} \|x\|^r$$

for all  $x \in X$ , where  $M = \max_{i=1, \dots, n} |p_i - p_i^r|$ .

*Proof.* In the case  $0 < r < 1$ , let

$$\phi(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \varepsilon \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|^r$$

for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$  in Theorem 2.3. Then we can see that Theorem 2.3 holds for every  $s = 1, \dots, n$ . We choose  $s$  such that

$$|p_s - p_s^r| = M = \max_{i=1, \dots, n} |p_i - p_i^r|.$$

Thus, (2.5) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \|f(x) - L(x)\| &\leq \varepsilon \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} p_s^{i-1} \|p_s^{-i} x\|^r = \varepsilon \|x\|^r p_s^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} p_s^{i(1-r)} \\ &= \varepsilon p_s^{-1} \|x\|^r \left( \frac{p_s^{1-r}}{1 - p_s^{1-r}} \right) = \frac{\varepsilon}{p_s^r - p_s} \|x\|^r = \frac{\varepsilon}{M} \|x\|^r \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in X$ . In the case  $r > 1$ , let

$$\phi(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \varepsilon \sum_{i=1}^n \|x_i\|^r$$

for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$  in Theorem 2.1. Since Theorem 2.1 holds for every  $s = 1, \dots, n$ , (2.5) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \|f(x) - L(x)\| &\leq \varepsilon \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_s^{-i-1} \|p_s^i x\|^r = \varepsilon \|x\|^r p_s^{-1} \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} p_s^{i(r-1)} \\ &= \varepsilon \|x\|^r p_s^{-1} \left( \frac{1}{1 - p_s^{r-1}} \right) = \frac{\varepsilon}{p_s - p_s^r} \|x\|^r = \frac{\varepsilon}{M} \|x\|^r \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in X$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

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