

## STABILITY OF CERTAIN FUNCTIONAL EQUATIONS VIA A FIXED POINT OF ČIRIĆ

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### Abstract

Let  $S$  be a non empty set. We prove the stability (in the sense of Ulam) of the functional equation:  $f(t) = F(t, f(\phi(t)))$ , where  $\phi$  is a given function of  $S$  into itself and  $F$  is a function satisfying a contraction of Čirić type ([5]). Our analysis is based on the use of a fixed point theorem of Čirić (see [5] and [4]). In particular our result provides a generalization and a natural continuation of a paper of Baker (see [3]).

## 1 Introduction and preliminaries

Problems of stability for functional equations have been considered by S.M. Ulam in 1940 ([20]) and by Hyers ([9], [10]). One of the first results established in this direction is the following result, due to Hyers ([9], [10]), that answered a question of Ulam ([20]).

**Theorem 1.1.** *Suppose that  $S$  is an additive semigroup,  $E$  is a Banach space,  $f : S \rightarrow E$ ,  $\delta > 0$  and*

$$\|f(x+y) - f(x) - f(y)\| \leq \delta \quad \text{for all } x, y \in S. \quad (1.1)$$

*Then there is a unique function  $a : S \rightarrow E$  such that*

$$a(x+y) = a(x) + a(y) \quad \text{for all } x, y \in S, \quad (1.2)$$

*and*

$$\|f(x) - a(x)\| \leq \delta \quad \text{for all } x \in S, \quad (1.3)$$

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This theorem says that the Cauchy functional equation is stable in the sense of Heyers-Ulam.

Since the paper of Heyers, a large amount of papers and books were published offering many kind of extensions and generalizations. Now, the research in the topic is very extensive and a very rich background of results is build. (See the references).

In 1991, J. A. Baker ([3]) has studied the stability of the functional equation

$$f(t) = \alpha(t) + \beta(t)f(\phi(t)), \quad \text{for all } t \in S, \quad (1.4)$$

where  $S$  is a non empty set,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are given complex valued functions defined on  $S$  such that  $\sup_{t \in S} |\beta(t)| < 1$  and  $\phi$  is a given mapping of  $S$  into itself.

Based on a variant of Banach fixed point theorem, Baker has proved the following theorem.

**Theorem 1.2.** (Baker [3]) Suppose that  $S$  is a nonempty set;  $E$  is a real (or complex) Banach space,  $\phi : S \rightarrow S$ ,  $\alpha : S \rightarrow E$ ,  $\beta : S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (or  $\mathbb{C}$ ),  $0 \leq \lambda < 1$ , and  $|\beta(t)| \leq \lambda$  for all  $t \in S$ . Also suppose that  $g : S \rightarrow E$ ,  $\delta > 0$ , and

$$\|g(t) - [\alpha(t) + \beta(t)g(\phi(t))]\| \leq \delta \quad \text{for all } t \in S. \quad (1.5)$$

Then there is a unique function  $f : S \rightarrow E$  such that

$$f(t) = \alpha(t) + \beta(t)f(\phi(t)) \quad (1.6)$$

and

$$\|f(t) - g(t)\| \leq \frac{\delta}{1 - \lambda} \quad \text{for all } t \in S, \quad (1.7)$$

The aim of this paper is to extend the above result by proving a stability result (in the sense of Heyers-Ulam) for the general functional equation

$$f(t) = F(t, f(\phi(t))), \quad \forall t \in S,$$

where  $S$  is a nonempty set. This equation is extensively studied in [13].

Our study will be based on a fixed point result of Ćirić (see [5] and [4]). Let us recall this result

**Theorem 1.3.** (Ćirić [5]) Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete metric space,  $T : X \rightarrow X$  a mapping satisfying the condition

$$\begin{aligned} d(T(x), T(y)) \leq & \alpha_1(x, y)d(x, y) + \alpha_2(x, y)d(x, T(x)) + \alpha_3(x, y)d(y, T(y)) + \\ & + \alpha_4(x, y)d(x, T(y)) + \alpha_5(x, y)d(y, T(x)), \end{aligned} \quad (1.8)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ , where  $\alpha_i : X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 5$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^5 \alpha_i(x, y) \leq \lambda$  for each  $x, y \in X$  and some  $\lambda \in [0, 1)$ .

Then  $T$  has a unique fixed point in  $X$ .

This theorem was established in [5]. A new proof of this theorem is given by M. Balaj and S. Mureşan in [4].

## 2 Results

To establish our results, we need two lemmas. The first lemma is proved in [4].

**Lemma 2.1.** ([4], Lemma 1). *Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete metric space,  $Y$  a nonempty closed bounded subset of  $X$  and  $T : Y \rightarrow Y$  a mapping. Put  $Y_0 := Y, Y_1 := T(Y_0), \dots, Y_n := T(Y_{n-1}), \dots$ . If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{diam}(Y_n) = 0$ , then  $T$  has a unique fixed point.*

Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space. For each  $a \in X$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ ,  $\overline{B}(a, \epsilon)$  means the closed ball of radius  $\epsilon$  and center  $a$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space,  $T : X \rightarrow X$  be a mapping satisfying the condition of Theorem 1.3. Let  $a \in X$  and let  $\rho$  be any number such that  $d(a, T(a)) \leq \rho$ . Put*

$$\theta(\rho) := \frac{(2 + \lambda)\rho}{2(1 - \lambda)}. \quad (2.1)$$

Then

$$T(\overline{B}(a, \theta(\rho))) \subset \overline{B}(a, \theta(\rho)). \quad (2.2)$$

*Proof.* Using the same technique of proofs as in Theorem 2 of Balaj and Mureşan [4], one can prove Lemma 2.2.  $\square$

To prove our main result, we need the following variant of Ćirić Theorem 1.3.

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete metric space and  $T : X \rightarrow X$  be as in Theorem 1.3. Let  $u \in X$  be arbitrary and let  $\delta > 0$  be any number such that*

$$d(u, T(u)) \leq \delta.$$

Then there exists a unique point  $p \in X$  such that  $p = T(p)$ . Moreover,

$$d(u, p) \leq \frac{(2 + \lambda)\delta}{2(1 - \lambda)}. \quad (2.3)$$

*Proof.* Let  $u \in X$  and  $\delta > 0$  are such that  $d(u, T(u)) \leq \delta$ . Let  $\theta(\delta)$  be defined by (2.1), that is,

$$\theta(\delta) := \frac{(2 + \lambda)\delta}{2(1 - \lambda)}.$$

Then by Lemma 2.2, we have

$$T(\overline{B}(u, \theta(\delta))) \subset \overline{B}(u, \theta(\delta)).$$

As in the proof of Theorem 2 in [4], we take  $Y_0 = \overline{B}(u, \theta(\delta))$ ,  $Y_n = \overline{T(Y_{n-1})}$ , for  $n \geq 1$ . From (1.8) we get  $\text{diam}(Y_n) \leq \lambda \text{diam}(Y_{n-1})$  and, since  $\lambda \in [0, 1)$ ,  $\text{diam}(Y_n) \rightarrow 0$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . By Lemma 2.1 the restriction of  $T$  to  $\overline{B}(u, \theta(\delta))$  has a fixed point  $p \in \overline{B}(u, \theta(\delta))$ . The uniqueness of the fixed point follows easily from (1.8). This ends the proof.  $\square$

**Remark 2.1.** From Theorem 2.1 it follows that the unique fixed point of  $T$ , say  $a$ , satisfies the following condition:

$$a \in \bigcap_{x \in X} \overline{B}(x, \theta(\rho(x))),$$

where  $\rho(x) := d(x, Tx)$  and  $\theta(t)$  is defined as in (2.1). As a consequence, for all  $x, y \in X$ , we have

$$d(x, y) \leq d(x, a) + d(a, y) \leq \theta(\rho(x)) + \theta(\rho(y)). \quad (2.4)$$

The main result of this paper reads is the following theorem.

**Theorem 2.2.** *Suppose  $S$  is a nonempty set,  $(X, d)$  is a complete metric space,  $\phi : S \rightarrow S$ ,  $F : S \times X \rightarrow X$  a function satisfying the condition*

$$\begin{aligned} d(F(t, x), F(t, y)) &\leq \alpha_1(x, y)d(x, y) + \alpha_2(x, y)d(x, F(t, x)) + \alpha_3(x, y)d(y, F(t, y)) \\ &\quad + \alpha_4(x, y)d(x, F(t, y)) + \alpha_5(x, y)d(y, F(t, x)), \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ , where  $\alpha_i : X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 5$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^5 \alpha_i(x, y) \leq \lambda$ .

Also suppose that for some  $g : S \rightarrow X$  and some  $\delta > 0$ , we have

$$d(g(t), F(t, g(\phi(t)))) \leq \delta \quad \forall t \in S. \quad (2.6)$$

Then there exists a unique function  $f : S \rightarrow X$  such that

$$f(t) = F(t, f(\phi(t))), \quad \forall t \in S \quad (2.7)$$

and

$$d(f(t), g(t)) \leq \frac{(2 + \lambda)\delta}{2(1 - \lambda)} \quad \forall t \in S. \quad (2.8)$$

*Proof.* Let  $Y := \{a : S \rightarrow X \mid \sup_{t \in S} d(a(t), g(t)) < \infty\}$ . Since  $g \in Y$ , then  $Y \neq \emptyset$ . For  $a, b \in Y$ , we set

$$d_\infty(a, b) := \sup_{t \in S} d(a(t), b(t)).$$

Then  $(Y, d_\infty)$  is a metric space. Since  $(X, d)$  is complete, then  $(Y, d_\infty)$  is also complete. The convergence in  $Y$  with respect to  $d_\infty$  is the uniform convergence on  $S$ .

Let  $Y_\delta := \{a \in Y \mid d_\infty(a, g) \leq \theta(\delta)\}$ . For  $a \in Y_\delta$  define  $Ta : S \rightarrow X$  by

$$(Ta)(t) := F(t, a(\phi(t))) \quad \forall t \in S.$$

Then, from computations similar to those of Lemma 2.2, and by using (2.4), one can see that  $T$  maps  $Y_\delta$  into  $Y_\delta$ .

If  $u, v \in Y_\delta$  then for all  $t \in S$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(Tu(t), Tv(t)) &= d(F(t, u(\phi(t))), F(t, v(\phi(t)))) \\ &\leq \alpha_1 d(u(\phi(t)), v(\phi(t))) + \alpha_2 d(u(\phi(t)), F(t, u(\phi(t)))) + \alpha_3 d(v(\phi(t)), F(t, v(\phi(t)))) \\ &\quad + \alpha_4 d(u(\phi(t)), F(t, v(\phi(t)))) + \alpha_5 d(v(\phi(t)), F(t, u(\phi(t))))). \end{aligned} \quad (2.9)$$

From (2.9), we get

$$\begin{aligned} d_\infty(Tu, Tv) &\leq \gamma_1(u, v)d_\infty(u, v) + \gamma_2(u, v)d_\infty(u, Tu) + \gamma_3(u, v)d_\infty(v, Tv) \\ &\quad + \gamma_4(u, v)d_\infty(u, Tv) + \gamma_5(u, v)d_\infty(v, Tu), \end{aligned} \quad (2.10)$$

where

$$\gamma_i(u, v) := \sup_{t \in S} \alpha_i(u(\phi(t)), v(\phi(t)))$$

for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 5$ . We have still the condition  $\sum_{i=1}^5 \gamma_i(u, v) \leq \lambda < 1$ . So all the conditions of Theorem 2.1 are satisfied. Moreover, the condition (2.6) means that  $d_\infty(g, Tg) \leq \delta$ . Hence, according to Theorem 2.1, there exists a unique element  $f \in Y_\delta$  such that  $f = Tf$  and  $d_\infty(g, Tg) \leq \theta(\delta)$ . Therefore, the conditions (2.7) and (2.8) hold. This ends the proof.  $\square$

**Remark 2.2.** One can observe that the mapping  $\theta$  involved in Theorem 2.2, has the expression :

- (i)  $\theta(\delta) := \frac{\delta}{1-\lambda}$  for the Banach's contraction principle.
- (ii)  $\theta(\delta) := \frac{(1+\alpha)\delta}{1-2\alpha}$  for the Kannan's fixed point theorem ([12]) ( $\alpha_1 = \alpha_4 = \alpha_5 = 0$  and  $\alpha_2 = \alpha_3 = \alpha \in [0, \frac{1}{2})$ ).
- (iii)  $\theta(\delta) := \frac{(1+\beta)\delta}{1-\alpha-2\beta}$  for the Ćirić-Reich-Rus fixed point theorem ([18]) ( $\alpha_1 = \alpha$ ,  $\alpha_2 = \alpha_3 = \beta$ ,  $\alpha_4 = \alpha_5 = 0$ , and  $\alpha + 2\beta \in [0, 1)$ ).
- (iv)  $\theta(\delta) := \frac{(2+\alpha)\delta}{2-\alpha}$  for the Hardy and Rogers fixed point theorem ([8]) ( $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4, \alpha_5$  are nonnegative constants such that  $\alpha := \sum_{i=1}^5 \alpha_i \in [0, 1)$ ).

We have the following consequence.

**Theorem 2.3.** Suppose that  $S$  is a nonempty set;  $E$  is a real (or complex) Banach space,  $\phi : S \rightarrow S$ ,  $\alpha : S \rightarrow E$ ,  $B : S \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(E)$  ( $\mathcal{L}(E)$  is the Banach algebra of all bounded linear operators on  $E$ )  $0 \leq \lambda < 1$ , and  $\|B(t)\| \leq \lambda$  for all  $t \in S$ . Also suppose that  $g : S \rightarrow E$ ,  $\delta > 0$ , and

$$\|g(t) - [\alpha(t) + B(t)(g(\phi(t)))]\| \leq \delta \quad \text{for all } x, y \in S. \quad (2.11)$$

Then there is a unique function  $f : S \rightarrow E$  such that

$$f(t) = \alpha(t) + B(t)(f(\phi(t))) \quad (2.12)$$

and

$$\|f(t) - g(t)\| \leq \frac{\delta}{1-\lambda} \quad \text{for all } t \in S, \quad (2.13)$$

*Proof.* For all  $(t, x) \in S \times E$ , we set

$$F(t, x) = \alpha(t) + B(t)(x).$$

Then we have

$$\|F(t, x) - F(t, y)\| = \|B(t)(x - y)\| \leq \|B(t)\| \|x - y\| \leq \lambda \|x - y\|.$$

Thus,  $F$  satisfies the condition (2.5) of Theorem 2.2 with

$$\alpha_1(x, y) = \lambda, \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_j(x, y) = 0, \quad \text{for } j = 2, 3, 4, 5.$$

By Remark 2.2, we know that, in this case, the map  $\theta$  is given by  $\theta(\delta) = \frac{\delta}{1-\lambda}$ . By application of Theorem 2.2, we obtain the required conclusions expressed in (2.12) and (2.13). This ends the proof.  $\square$

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