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# ALMOST HOMOMORPHISMS BETWEEN BANACH ALGEBRAS

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ABSTRACT. It is shown that for an almost algebra homomorphism between Banach algebras, there exists a unique algebra homomorphism near the almost algebra homomorphism.

Moreover, we prove that for an almost algebra \*-homomorphism between  $C^*$ -algebras, there exists a unique algebra \*-homomorphism near the almost algebra \*-homomorphism, and that for an almost algebra \*-homomorphism between  $JB^*$ -algebras, there exists a unique algebra \*-homomorphism near the almost algebra \*-homomorphism

### 1. Introduction

Let  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  be Banach spaces with norms  $||\cdot||$  and  $||\cdot||$ , respectively. Consider  $f: E_1 \to E_2$  to be a mapping such that f(tx) is continuous in  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  for each fixed  $x \in E_1$ . Assume that there exist constants  $\theta \ge 0$  and  $p \in [0, 1)$  such that

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

for all  $x, y \in E_1$ . Rassias [5] showed that there exists a unique  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear mapping  $T: E_1 \to E_2$  such that

$$||f(x) - T(x)|| \le \frac{2\theta}{2 - 2^p} ||x||^p$$

for all  $x \in E_1$ . Găvruta [1] generalized the Rassias' result, and Park [4] applied the Găvruta's result to linear functional equations in Banach

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modules over a C<sup>\*</sup>-algebra. In [2], the authors proved the stability of the functional equation f(x + y + xy) = f(x) + f(y) + xf(y) + yf(x).

Throughout this paper, let  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  be complex Banach algebras with norms  $\|\cdot\|$  and  $\|\cdot\|$ , respectively.

In this paper, we prove that for an almost algebra homomorphism  $f: \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$ , there exists a unique algebra homomorphism  $h: \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  near the almost algebra homomorphism. This result is applied to  $C^*$ -algebras and  $JB^*$ -algebras.

## 2. Stability of algebra homomorphisms between Banach algebras

We are going to show the generalized Hyers-Ulam stability of algebra homomorphisms between Banach algebras.

THEOREM 2.1. Let  $f : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  be a mapping with f(0) = 0 for which there exists a function  $\varphi : \mathcal{B}^4 \to [0, \infty)$  such that

(i) 
$$\widetilde{\varphi}(x,y,z,w) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} 2^{-j} \varphi(2^j x, 2^j y, 2^j z, 2^j w) < \infty,$$

$$||T_{\mu}f(x, y, z, w)|| := ||f(\mu x + \mu y + zw) - \mu f(x) - \mu f(y) - f(z)f(w)||$$
  
(ii)  $\leq \varphi(x, y, z, w)$ 

for all  $\mu \in \mathbb{T}^1 := \{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} | |\lambda| = 1\}$  and all  $x, y, z, w \in \mathcal{B}$ . Then there exists a unique algebra homomorphism  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  such that

(iii) 
$$||f(x) - h(x)|| \le \frac{1}{2}\widetilde{\varphi}(x, x, 0, 0)$$

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

*Proof.* Put z = w = 0 and  $\mu = 1 \in \mathbb{T}^1$  in (ii). Replacing y by x in (ii), we get

$$||f(2x) - 2f(x)|| \le \varphi(x, x, 0, 0)$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . So one can obtain that

$$||f(x) - \frac{1}{2}f(2x)|| \le \frac{1}{2}\varphi(x, x, 0, 0),$$

and hence

$$\left\|\frac{1}{2^n}f(2^nx) - \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}f(2^{n+1}x)\right\| \le \frac{1}{2^{n+1}}\varphi(2^nx, 2^nx, 0, 0)$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . So we get

(1) 
$$||f(x) - \frac{1}{2^n}f(2^nx)|| \le \frac{1}{2}\sum_{l=0}^{n-1}\frac{1}{2^l}\varphi(2^lx, 2^lx, 0, 0)$$

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

Let x be an element in  $\mathcal{B}$ . For positive integers n and m with n > m,

$$\left\|\frac{1}{2^n}f(2^nx) - \frac{1}{2^m}f(2^mx)\right\| \le \frac{1}{2}\sum_{l=m}^{n-1}\frac{1}{2^l}\varphi(2^lx, 2^lx, 0, 0),$$

which tends to zero as  $m \to \infty$  by (i). So  $\{\frac{1}{2^n}f(2^nx)\}$  is a Cauchy sequence for all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . Since  $\mathcal{C}$  is complete, the sequence  $\{\frac{1}{2^n}f(2^nx)\}$ converges for all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . We can define a mapping  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{B}$  by

(2) 
$$h(x) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{2^n} f(2^n x)$$

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

By (i) and (2), we get

$$\|T_1h(x,y,0,0)\| = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{2^n} \|T_1f(2^n x, 2^n y, 0, 0)\| \le \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{1}{2^n} \varphi(2^n x, 2^n y, 0, 0) = 0$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{B}$ . Hence  $T_1h(x, y, 0, 0) = 0$  for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{B}$ . So one can obtain that h is additive. Moreover, by passing to the limit in (1) as  $n \to \infty$ , we get the inequality (iii).

Now let  $S : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  be another additive mapping satisfying

$$\|f(x) - S(x)\| \le \frac{1}{2}\widetilde{\varphi}(x, x, 0, 0)$$

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

$$\begin{split} \|h(x) - S(x)\| &= \frac{1}{2^{l}} \|h(2^{l}x) - S(2^{l}x)\| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2^{l}} \|h(2^{l}x) - f(2^{l}x)\| + \frac{1}{2^{l}} \|f(2^{l}x) - S(2^{l}x)\| \\ &\leq \frac{2}{2} \frac{1}{2^{l}} \widetilde{\varphi}(2^{l}x, 2^{l}x, 0, 0), \end{split}$$

which tends to zero as  $l \to \infty$  by (i). Thus h(x) = S(x) for all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . This proves the uniqueness of h.

By the assumption, for each  $\mu \in \mathbb{T}^1$ ,

$$||f(2^{n}\mu x) - 2\mu f(2^{n-1}x)|| \le \varphi(2^{n-1}x, 2^{n-1}x, 0, 0)$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . And one can show that

$$\|\mu f(2^n x) - 2\mu f(2^{n-1} x)\| \le \varphi(2^{n-1} x, 2^{n-1} x, 0, 0)$$

for all  $\mu \in \mathbb{T}^1$  and all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . So

$$\begin{aligned} \|f(2^{n}\mu x) - \mu f(2^{n}x)\| &\leq \|f(2^{n}\mu x) - 2\mu f(2^{n-1}x)\| + \|2\mu f(2^{n-1}x) - \mu f(2^{n}x)\| \\ &\leq 2\varphi(2^{n-1}x, 2^{n-1}x, 0, 0) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $\mu \in \mathbb{T}^1$  and all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . Thus  $2^{-n} \|f(2^n \mu x) - \mu f(2^n x)\| \to 0$  as  $n \to \infty$  for all  $\mu \in \mathbb{T}^1$  and all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . Hence

$$h(\mu x) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f(2^n \mu x)}{2^n} = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{\mu f(2^n x)}{2^n} = \mu h(x)$$

for all  $\mu \in \mathbb{T}^1$  and all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ .

Now let  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  ( $\lambda \neq 0$ ) and M an integer greater than  $4|\lambda|$ . Then  $|\frac{\lambda}{M}| < \frac{1}{4} < 1 - \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1}{3}$ . By [3, Theorem 1], there exist three elements  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \mu_3 \in \mathbb{T}^1$  such that  $3\frac{\lambda}{M} = \mu_1 + \mu_2 + \mu_3$ . And  $h(x) = h(3 \cdot \frac{1}{3}x) = 3h(\frac{1}{3}x)$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . So  $h(\frac{1}{3}x) = \frac{1}{3}h(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . Thus

$$h(\lambda x) = h(\frac{M}{3} \cdot 3\frac{\lambda}{M}x) = M \cdot h(\frac{1}{3} \cdot 3\frac{\lambda}{M}x) = \frac{M}{3}h(3\frac{\lambda}{M}x)$$
  
=  $\frac{M}{3}h(\mu_1 x + \mu_2 x + \mu_3 x) = \frac{M}{3}(h(\mu_1 x) + h(\mu_2 x) + h(\mu_3 x))$   
=  $\frac{M}{3}(\mu_1 + \mu_2 + \mu_3)h(x) = \frac{M}{3} \cdot 3\frac{\lambda}{M}h(x)$   
=  $\lambda h(x)$ 

for all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . Hence

$$h(\alpha x + \beta y) = h(\alpha x) + h(\beta y) = \alpha h(x) + \beta h(y)$$

for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}(\alpha, \beta \neq 0)$  and all  $x, y \in \mathcal{B}$ . And h(0x) = 0 = 0h(x) for all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . So the unique additive mapping  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear mapping.

It follows from (2) that

(3) 
$$h(x) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f(2^{2n}x)}{2^{2n}}$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . Let x = y = 0 in (ii). Then we get

$$\|f(zw) - f(z)f(w)\| \le \varphi(0, 0, z, w)$$

for all  $z, w \in \mathcal{B}$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{2^{2n}}\varphi(0,0,2^nz,2^nw) &\leq \frac{1}{2^n}\varphi(0,0,2^nz,2^nw),\\ \frac{1}{2^{2n}}\|f(2^nz\cdot2^nw) - f(2^nz)f(2^nw)\| &\leq \frac{1}{2^{2n}}\varphi(0,0,2^nz,2^nw)\\ (4) &\leq \frac{1}{2^n}\varphi(0,0,2^nz,2^nw) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $z, w \in \mathcal{B}$ . By (i), (3), and (4),

$$h(zw) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f(2^{2n}zw)}{2^{2n}} = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f(2^n z \cdot 2^n w)}{2^n \cdot 2^n}$$
$$= \lim_{n \to \infty} \left(\frac{f(2^n z)}{2^n} \cdot \frac{f(2^n w)}{2^n}\right) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f(2^n z)}{2^n} \cdot \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f(2^n w)}{2^n}$$
$$= h(z)h(w)$$

for all  $z, w \in \mathcal{B}$ . Hence the additive mapping  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  is an algebra homomorphism satisfying the inequality (iii), as desired.

COROLLARY 2.2. Let  $f : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  be a mapping with f(0) = 0 for which there exist constants  $\theta \ge 0$  and  $p \in [0, 1)$  such that

 $||f(\mu x + \mu y + zw) - \mu f(x) - \mu f(y) - f(z)f(w)|| \le \theta(||x||^p + ||y||^p + ||z||^p + ||w||^p)$ for all  $\mu \in \mathbb{T}^1$  and all  $x, y, z, w \in \mathcal{B}$ . Then there exists a unique algebra homomorphism  $h: \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  such that

$$||f(x) - h(x)|| \le \frac{2\theta}{2 - 2^p} ||x||^p$$

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

*Proof.* Define  $\varphi(x, y, z, w) = \theta(||x||^p + ||y||^p + ||z||^p + ||w||^p)$ , and apply Theorem 2.1.

THEOREM 2.3. Let  $f : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  be a mapping with f(0) = 0 for which there exists a function  $\varphi : \mathcal{B}^4 \to [0, \infty)$  satisfying (i) such that

(iv) 
$$||f(\mu x + \mu y + zw) - \mu f(x) - \mu f(y) - f(z)f(w)|| \le \varphi(x, y, z, w)$$

for  $\mu = 1, i$ , and all  $x, y, z, w \in \mathcal{B}$ . If f(tx) is continuous in  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  for each fixed  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ , then there exists a unique algebra homomorphism  $h: \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  satisfying the inequality (iii). *Proof.* Put z = w = 0 and  $\mu = 1$  in (iv). By the same reasoning as the proof of Theorem 2.1, there exists a unique additive mapping  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  satisfying the inequality (iii). By the same reasoning as the proof of [5, Theorem], the additive mapping  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  is  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear.

Put z = w = 0 and  $\mu = i$  in (iv). By the same method as the proof of Theorem 2.1, one can obtain that

$$h(ix) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f(2^n ix)}{2^n} = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{if(2^n x)}{2^n} = ih(x)$$

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

For each element  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $\lambda = \eta + i\nu$ , where  $\eta, \nu \in \mathbb{R}$ . So

$$h(\lambda x) = h(\eta x + i\nu x) = \eta h(x) + \nu h(ix) = \eta h(x) + i\nu h(x)$$
$$= \lambda h(x)$$

for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  and all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . So

$$h(\alpha x + \beta y) = h(\alpha x) + h(\beta y) = \alpha h(x) + \beta h(y)$$

for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$ , and all  $x, y \in \mathcal{B}$ . Hence the additive mapping  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  is  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear.

The rest of the proof is the same as in the proof of Theorem 2.1.  $\Box$ 

#### 3. Stability of algebra \*-homomorphisms between $C^*$ -algebras

In this section, let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra with unitary group  $\mathcal{U}(\mathcal{B})$ , and  $\mathcal{C}$  a  $C^*$ -algebra.

We are going to show the generalized Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability of algebra \*-homomorphisms between  $C^*$ -algebras.

THEOREM 3.1. Let  $f : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  be a mapping with f(0) = 0 for which there exists a function  $\varphi : \mathcal{B}^4 \to [0, \infty)$  satisfying (i) and (ii) such that

(v) 
$$||f(2^n u^*) - f(2^n u)^*|| \le \varphi(2^n u, 2^n u, 0, 0)$$

for all  $u \in \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{B})$  and  $n = 0, 1, \cdots$ . Then there exists a unique algebra \*-homomorphism  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  satisfying the inequality (iii).

*Proof.* By the same reasoning as in the proof of Theorem 2.1, there exists a unique algebra homomorphism  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  satisfying the inequality (iii).

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It follows from (i) and (v) that

$$h(u^*) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f(2^n u^*)}{2^n} = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f((2^n u)^*)}{2^n} = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f(2^n u)^*}{2^n} = (\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f(2^n u)}{2^n})^* = h(u)^*$$

for all  $u \in \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{B})$ .

Now let  $x \in \mathcal{B}$   $(x \neq 0)$  and M an integer greater than 4||x||. Then  $||\frac{x}{M}|| < \frac{1}{4} < 1 - \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1}{3}$ . By [3, Theorem 1], there exist three elements  $u_1, u_2, u_3 \in \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{B})$  such that  $3\frac{x}{M} = u_1 + u_2 + u_3$ . So

$$h(x^*) = h(\frac{M}{3}(u_1^* + u_2^* + u_3^*)) = \frac{M}{3}h(u_1^* + u_2^* + u_3^*)$$
  

$$= \frac{M}{3}(h(u_1^*) + h(u_2^*) + h(u_3^*))$$
  

$$= \frac{M}{3}(h(u_1)^* + h(u_2)^* + h(u_3)^*)$$
  

$$= \frac{M}{3}(h(u_1) + h(u_2) + h(u_3))^*$$
  

$$= \frac{M}{3}(h(u_1 + u_2 + u_3))^* = h(\frac{M}{3}(u_1 + u_2 + u_3))^*$$
  

$$= h(x)^*$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . Hence the algebra homomorphism  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  is involutive, as desired.

COROLLARY 3.2. Let  $f : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  be a mapping with f(0) = 0 for which there exist constants  $\theta \ge 0$  and  $p \in [0, 1)$  such that

$$\begin{split} \|f(\mu x + \mu y + zw) - \mu f(x) - \mu f(y) - f(z)f(w)\| \\ &\leq \theta(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p + \|z\|^p + \|w\|^p), \\ \|f(2^n u^*) - f(2^n u)^*\| &\leq 2 \cdot 2^{np} \theta \end{split}$$

for all  $\mu \in \mathbb{T}^1$ , all  $u \in \mathcal{U}(\mathcal{B})$ ,  $n = 0, 1, \cdots$ , and all  $x, y, z, w \in \mathcal{B}$ . Then there exists a unique algebra \*-homomorphism  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  such that

$$||f(x) - h(x)|| \le \frac{2\theta}{2 - 2^p} ||x||^p$$

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

*Proof.* Define  $\varphi(x, y, z, w) = \theta(||x||^p + ||y||^p + ||z||^p + ||w||^p)$ , and apply Theorem 3.1.

THEOREM 3.3. Let  $f : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  be a mapping with f(0) = 0 for which there exists a function  $\varphi : \mathcal{B}^4 \to [0, \infty)$  satisfying (i), (iv), and (v). If f(tx) is continuous in  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  for each fixed  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ , then there exists a unique algebra \*-homomorphism  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  satisfying the inequality (iii).

*Proof.* By the same reasoning as in the proofs of Theorems 2.1 and 2.3, there exists a unique algebra homomorphism  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  satisfying the inequality (iii).

By the same method as in the proof of Theorem 3.1, one can show that the algebra homomorphism  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  is involutive, as desired.  $\Box$ 

### 4. Stability of algebra \*-homomorphisms between JB\*-algebras

The original motivation to introduce the class of nonassociative algebras known as Jordan algebras came from quantum mechanics (see [6]). Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a complex Hilbert space, regarded as the "state space" of a quantum mechanical system. Let  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  be the real vector space of all bounded self-adjoint linear operators on  $\mathcal{H}$ , interpreted as the (bounded) observables of the system. In 1932, Jordan observed that  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{H})$  is a (nonassociative) algebra via the anticommutator product  $x \circ y := \frac{xy+yx}{2}$ . A commutative algebra X with product  $x \circ y$  (not necessarily given by an anticommutator) is called a Jordan algebra if  $x^2 \circ (x \circ y) = x \circ (x^2 \circ y)$  holds.

A complex Jordan algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  with product  $x \circ y$ , unit element e and involution  $x \mapsto x^*$  is called a  $JB^*$ -algebra if  $\mathcal{B}$  carries a Banach space norm  $\|\cdot\|$  satisfying  $\|x \circ y\| \leq \|x\| \cdot \|y\|$  and  $\|\{xx^*x\}\| = \|x\|^3$ . Here  $\{xy^*z\} := x \circ (y^* \circ z) - y^* \circ (z \circ x) + z \circ (x \circ y^*)$  denotes the Jordan triple product of  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{B}$ . Throughout this section, let  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{C}$  be  $JB^*$ -algebras.

We are going to show the generalized Hyers-Ulam stability of algebra \*-homomorphisms between  $JB^*$ -algebras.

THEOREM 4.1. Let  $f : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  be a mapping with f(0) = 0 for which there exists a function  $\varphi : \mathcal{B}^4 \to [0, \infty)$  satisfying (i) such that

$$\|f(\mu x + \mu y + z \circ w) - \mu f(x) - \mu f(y) - f(z) \circ f(w)\| \le \varphi(x, y, z, w),$$
(vi) 
$$\|f(x^*) - f(x)^*\| \le \varphi(x, x, 0, 0)$$

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for all  $\mu \in \mathbb{T}^1$  and all  $x, y, z, w \in \mathcal{B}$ . Then there exists a unique algebra \*-homomorphism  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  such that satisfying the inequality (iii).

*Proof.* By the same method as in the proof of Theorem 2.1, one can show that there exists a unique algebra homomorphism  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  satisfying the inequality (iii).

It follows from (i) and (vi) that

$$h(x^*) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f(2^n x^*)}{2^n} = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f((2^n x)^*)}{2^n} = \lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f(2^n x)^*}{2^n} = (\lim_{n \to \infty} \frac{f(2^n x)}{2^n})^*$$
$$= h(x)^*$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ . Hence the algebra homomorphism  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  is involutive, as desired.

COROLLARY 4.2. Let  $f : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  be a mapping with f(0) = 0 for which there exist constants  $\theta \ge 0$  and  $p \in [0, 1)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \|f(\mu x + \mu y + z \circ w) - \mu f(x) - \mu f(y) - f(z) \circ f(w)\| \\ &\leq \theta(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p + \|z\|^p + \|w\|^p), \\ \|f(x^*) - f(x)^*\| \leq 2\theta \|x\|^p \end{aligned}$$

for all  $\mu \in \mathbb{T}^1$  and all  $x, y, z, w \in \mathcal{B}$ . Then there exists a unique algebra \*-homomorphism  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  such that

$$||f(x) - h(x)|| \le \frac{2\theta}{2 - 2^p} ||x||^p$$

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

*Proof.* Define  $\varphi(x, y) = \theta(||x||^p + ||y||^p + ||z||^p + ||w||^p)$ , and apply Theorem 4.1.

THEOREM 4.3. Let  $f : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  be a mapping with f(0) = 0 for which there exists a function  $\varphi : \mathcal{B}^4 \to [0, \infty)$  satisfying (i) and (vi) such that

$$\|f(\mu x + \mu y + z \circ w) - \mu f(x) - \mu f(y) - f(z) \circ f(w)\| \le \varphi(x, y, z, w)$$

for  $\mu = 1, i$ , and all  $x, y, z, w \in \mathcal{B}$ . If f(tx) is continuous in  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  for each fixed  $x \in \mathcal{B}$ , then there exists a unique algebra \*-homomorphism  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  satisfying the inequality (iii).

*Proof.* By the same reasoning as in the proofs of Theorems 2.1 and 4.1, there exists a unique algebra \*-homomorphism  $h : \mathcal{B} \to \mathcal{C}$  satisfying the inequality (iii), as desired.

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