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# Fixed points and stability of functional equations in fuzzy ternary Banach algebras

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## Abstract

By using Diaz and Margolis fixed point theorem, we establish the generalized Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability of the ternary homomorphisms and ternary derivations between fuzzy ternary Banach algebras associated to the following  $(m, n)$ -Cauchy-Jensen additive functional equation:

$$\sum_{\substack{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_m \leq n \\ 1 \leq k_j \leq n \\ k_j \neq i_j, \forall j \in \{1, \dots, m\}}} f\left(\frac{\sum_{j=1}^m x_{i_j}}{m} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-m} x_{k_l}\right) = \frac{(n-m+1)}{n} \binom{n}{m} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i).$$

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## 1 Introduction

A classical question in the theory of functional equations is the following:

*When is it true that a function which approximately satisfies a functional equation  $\mathcal{E}$  must be close to an exact solution of  $\mathcal{E}$ ?*

If the problem admits a solution, we say that the equation  $\mathcal{E}$  is stable. Such a problem was formulated by Ulam [1] in 1940 and solved in the next year for the Cauchy functional equation by Hyers [2]. Since Hyers, many authors have studied the stability theory for functional equations. The result of Hyers was extended by Aoki [3] in 1950, by considering the unbounded Cauchy differences. Also, Hyers' theorem was generalized by Rassias [4] for linear mappings by considering an unbounded Cauchy difference.

**Theorem 1.1** (TM Rassias) *Let  $f : E \rightarrow E'$  be a mapping from a normed vector space  $E$  into a Banach space  $E'$  subject to the following inequality:*

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

*for all  $x, y \in E$ , where  $\epsilon$  and  $p$  are constants with  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $0 \leq p < 1$ . Then the limit  $L(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(2^n x)}{2^n}$  exists for all  $x \in E$ , and  $L : E \rightarrow E'$  is the unique additive mapping which*

satisfies

$$\|f(x) - L(x)\| \leq \frac{2\epsilon}{2 - 2^p} \|x\|^p$$

for all  $x \in E$ . Also, if for each  $x \in E$ , the function  $f(tx)$  is continuous in  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $L$  is linear.

Găvruta [5] generalized the Rassias' result. Beginning around the year 1980, the stability problems of several functional equations and approximate homomorphisms have been extensively investigated by a number of authors, and there are many interesting results concerning this problem (see [6–29]).

Katsaras [30] defined a fuzzy norm on a vector space to construct a fuzzy vector topological structure on the space. Some mathematicians have defined fuzzy norms on a vector space from various points of view (see [31, 32]). In particular, Bag and Samanta [33], following Cheng and Mordeson [34], gave an idea of a fuzzy norm in such a manner that the corresponding fuzzy metric is of Karmosil and Michalek type [35]. They established a decomposition theorem of a fuzzy norm into a family of crisp norms and investigated some properties of fuzzy normed spaces [36].

Now, we consider a mapping  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  satisfying the following functional equation, which is introduced by Rassias and Kim [37] (see also [38]):

$$\sum_{\substack{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_m \leq n \\ 1 \leq k_l \leq n \\ k_l \neq i_j, \forall j \in \{1, \dots, m\}}} f\left(\frac{\sum_{j=1}^m x_{i_j}}{m} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-m} x_{k_l}\right) = \frac{(n-m+1)}{n} \binom{n}{m} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i) \tag{1.1}$$

for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ , where  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  are fixed integers with  $n \geq 2$  and  $1 \leq m \leq n$ . Especially, we observe that, in the case  $m = 1$ , equation (1.1) yields the Cauchy additive equation

$$f\left(\sum_{l=1}^n x_{k_l}\right) = \sum_{l=1}^n f(x_l).$$

Also, we observe that, in the case  $m = n$ , equation (1.1) yields the Jensen additive equation

$$f\left(\frac{\sum_{j=1}^n x_j}{n}\right) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{l=1}^n f(x_l).$$

Therefore, equation (1.1) is a generalized form of the Cauchy-Jensen additive equation and thus every solution of equation (1.1) may be analogously called the general  $(m, n)$ -Cauchy-Jensen additive. For the case  $m = 2$ , the authors have established new theorems about the Ulam-Hyers-Rassias stability in quasi- $\beta$ -normed spaces [37].

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be linear spaces. For each  $m$  with  $1 \leq m \leq n$ , a mapping  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  satisfies equation (1.1) for all  $n \geq 2$  if and only if  $f(x) - f(0) = A(x)$  is Cauchy additive, where  $f(0) = 0$  if  $m < n$ . In particular, we have  $f((n - m + 1)x) = (n - m + 1)f(x)$  and  $f(mx) = mf(x)$  for all  $x \in X$ .

**Definition 1.1** Let  $X$  be a real vector space. A function  $N : X \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is called a fuzzy norm on  $X$  if for all  $x, y \in X$  and  $s, t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

- (N1)  $N(x, t) = 0$  for  $t \leq 0$ ;
- (N2)  $x = 0$  if and only if  $N(x, t) = 1$  for all  $t > 0$ ;
- (N3)  $N(cx, t) = N(x, \frac{t}{|c|})$  if  $c \neq 0$ ;
- (N4)  $N(x + y, s + t) \geq \min\{N(x, s), N(y, t)\}$ ;
- (N5)  $N(x, \cdot)$  is a non-decreasing function of  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} N(x, t) = 1$ ;
- (N6) for any  $x \neq 0$ ,  $N(x, \cdot)$  is continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**Example 1.1** Let  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$  be a normed linear space and  $\beta > 0$ . Then

$$N(x, t) = \begin{cases} \frac{t}{t + \beta\|x\|}, & t > 0, x \in X, \\ 0, & t \leq 0, x \in X \end{cases}$$

is a fuzzy norm on  $X$ .

**Definition 1.2** Let  $(X, N)$  be a fuzzy normed vector space. A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  is said to be convergent if there exists  $x \in X$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} N(x_n - x, t) = 1$$

for all  $t > 0$ . In this case,  $x$  is called the limit of the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$ , which is denoted by  $N - \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x_n = x$ .

**Definition 1.3** Let  $(X, N)$  be a fuzzy normed vector space. A sequence  $\{x_n\}$  in  $X$  is called a Cauchy sequence if for each  $\epsilon > 0$  and each  $t > 0$ , there exists  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that, for all  $n \geq n_0$  and  $p > 0$ ,

$$N(x_{n+p} - x_n, t) > 1 - \epsilon.$$

It is well known that every convergent sequence in a fuzzy normed vector space is a Cauchy sequence. If each Cauchy sequence is convergent, then the fuzzy norm is said to be complete and the fuzzy normed vector space is called a fuzzy Banach space.

We say that a mapping  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  between fuzzy normed vector spaces  $X$  and  $Y$  is continuous at a point  $x \in X$  if for each sequence  $\{x_n\}$  converging to  $x_0 \in X$ , the sequence  $\{f(x_n)\}$  converges to  $f(x_0)$ . If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is continuous at each  $x \in X$ , then  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is said to be continuous on  $X$  (see [36]).

Ternary algebraic operations were considered in the nineteenth century by several mathematicians such as Cayley [39] who introduced the notion of cubic matrix which in turn was generalized by Kapranov, Gelfand and Zelevinskii in 1990 [40]. The comments on physical applications of ternary structures can be found in [41–45].

**Definition 1.4** Let  $X$  be a ternary algebra and  $(X, N)$  be a fuzzy normed space.

- (1) The fuzzy normed space  $(X, N)$  is called a ternary fuzzy normed algebra if

$$N([xyz], stu) \geq N(x, s)N(y, t)N(z, u)$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$  and  $s, t, u > 0$ ;

(2) A complete ternary fuzzy normed algebra is called a ternary fuzzy Banach algebra.

**Example 1.2** Let  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$  be a ternary normed (Banach) algebra. Let

$$N(x, t) = \begin{cases} \frac{t}{t + \|x\|}, & t > 0, x \in X, \\ 0, & t \leq 0, x \in X. \end{cases}$$

Then  $N(x, t)$  is a fuzzy norm on  $X$  and  $(X, N)$  is a ternary fuzzy normed (Banach) algebra.

**Definition 1.5** Let  $(X, N)$  and  $(Y, N')$  be two ternary fuzzy normed algebras.

(1) A  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear mapping  $H : (X, N) \rightarrow (Y, N')$  is called a ternary homomorphism if

$$H([xyz]) = [H(x)H(y)H(z)]$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ ;

(2) A  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear mapping  $D : (X, N) \rightarrow (X, N)$  is called a ternary fuzzy derivation if

$$D([xyz]) = [D(x)yz] + [xD(y)z] + [xyD(z)]$$

for all  $x, y, z \in X$ .

We apply the following theorem on weighted spaces (see [46–49]).

**Theorem 1.2** (The generalized fixed point theorem of Diaz and Margolis) *Let  $(X, d)$  be a complete metric space and  $T : X \rightarrow X$  be a contraction, i.e., there exists  $\alpha \in [0, 1)$  such that*

$$d(Tx, Ty) \leq \alpha d(x, y)$$

for all  $x, y \in X$ . Then there exists a unique  $a \in X$  such that  $Ta = a$ . Moreover,  $a = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} T^n x$  and

$$d(a, x) \leq \frac{1}{1 - \alpha} d(x, Tx)$$

for all  $x \in X$ .

Throughout this paper, we suppose that  $X$  is a ternary fuzzy normed algebra and  $Y$  is a ternary fuzzy Banach algebra. Moreover, we assume that  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  is a positive integer and  $\mathbb{T}_{\frac{1}{n_0}}^1 := \{e^{i\theta} : 0 \leq \theta \leq \frac{2\pi}{n_0}\}$ . For the convenience, we use the following abbreviation for a given mapping  $f : X \rightarrow Y$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \Delta f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ &= \sum_{\substack{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_m \leq n \\ 1 \leq k_l \leq n \\ k_l \neq i_j, \forall j \in \{1, \dots, m\}}} f\left(\frac{\sum_{j=1}^m \mu x_{i_j}}{m} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-m} \mu x_{k_l}\right) - \frac{(n-m+1) \binom{n}{m} \sum_{i=1}^n \mu f(x_i)}{n}. \end{aligned}$$

## 2 Main results

In this section, by using the idea of Gavruta and Gavruta [14], we prove the generalized Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability of ternary homomorphisms related to functional equation (1.1) on ternary fuzzy Banach algebras (see also [50]).

**Theorem 2.1** *Let  $n \geq 3$  and  $\varphi : X^n \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a mapping such that there exists  $L < \frac{1}{(n-m+1)^{n-2}}$  such that*

$$\varphi\left(\frac{x_1}{n-m+1}, \dots, \frac{x_n}{n-m+1}\right) \leq \frac{L\varphi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)}{n-m+1}$$

for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ . Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  with  $f(0) = 0$  be a mapping satisfying

$$N(\Delta f(x_1, \dots, x_n), t) \geq \frac{t}{t + \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n)} \tag{2.1}$$

and

$$N(f([abc]) - [f(a)f(b)f(c)], t) \geq \frac{t}{t + \varphi(a, b, c, 0, \dots, 0)} \tag{2.2}$$

for all  $\mu \in \mathbb{T}_{\frac{1}{n_0}}^1$ ,  $x_1, \dots, x_n, a, b, c \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . Then there exists a unique ternary homomorphism  $H : X \rightarrow Y$  such that

$$N(f(x) - H(x), t) \geq \frac{(n-m+1)\binom{n}{m}(1-L)t}{(n-m+1)\binom{n}{m}(1-L)t + L\varphi(x, \dots, x)} \tag{2.3}$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ .

*Proof* Letting  $\mu = 1$  and putting  $x_1 = x_2 = \dots = x_n = x$  in (2.1), we have

$$N\left(\binom{n}{m}f((n-m+1)x) - \binom{n}{m}(n-m+1)f(x), t\right) \geq \frac{t}{t + \varphi(x, \dots, x)} \tag{2.4}$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . Set  $S_0 := \{h : X \rightarrow Y : h(0) = 0\}$  and define a mapping  $d_0 : S_0 \times S_0 \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  by

$$d_0(f, g) = \inf\left\{\mu \in \mathbb{R}^+ : N(g(x) - h(x), \mu t) \geq \frac{t}{t + \varphi(x, \dots, x)}, \forall x \in X, t > 0\right\},$$

where  $\inf \emptyset = +\infty$ . Also, put  $S := \{h \in S_0 : d_0(h, f) < \infty\}$ . Suppose that  $d$  is the restriction of  $d_0$  on  $S \times S$ . By using the same technique in the proof of Theorem 3.2 [50], we can show that  $(S, d)$  is a complete metric space. Now, we define a mapping  $J : S \rightarrow S$  by

$$Jg(x) := (n-m+1)g\left(\frac{x}{n-m+1}\right)$$

for all  $x \in X$ . It is easy to see that  $d(Jg, Jh) \leq Ld(g, h)$  for all  $g, h \in S$ . This implies that

$$d(f, Jf) \leq \frac{L}{(n-m+1)\binom{n}{m}}.$$

Thus, by Banach's fixed point theorem (Theorem 1.2),  $J$  has a unique fixed point  $H : X \rightarrow Y$  in  $S$  satisfying

$$H\left(\frac{x}{n-m+1}\right) = \frac{H(x)}{n-m+1} \tag{2.5}$$

for all  $x \in X$ . This implies that  $H$  is a unique mapping with (2.5) such that there exists  $\mu \in (0, \infty)$  satisfying

$$N(f(x) - H(x), \mu t) \geq \frac{t}{t + \varphi(x, \dots, x)}$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ .

Moreover, we have  $d(J^p f, H) \rightarrow 0$  as  $p \rightarrow \infty$ , which implies

$$N\text{-}\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f\left(\frac{x}{(n-m+1)^p}\right)}{(n-m+1)^{-p}} = H(x) \tag{2.6}$$

for all  $x \in X$ . Thus it follows from (2.1) and (2.6) that

$$\sum_{\substack{1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_m \leq n \\ 1 \leq k_l \leq n \\ k_l \neq i_j, \forall j \in \{1, \dots, m\}}} H\left(\frac{\sum_{j=1}^m \mu x_{i_j}}{m} + \sum_{l=1}^{n-m} \mu x_{k_l}\right) = \frac{(n-m+1)}{n} \binom{n}{m} \sum_{i=1}^n \mu H(x_i)$$

for all  $\mu \in \mathbb{T}_{\frac{1}{n_0}}^1$  and  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ . This means that  $H : X \rightarrow Y$  is additive. By using the same technique as in the proof of Theorem 2.1 [51], we can show that  $H$  is  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear. On the other hand, by (2.2), we have

$$N(\alpha, \beta) \geq \frac{t}{t + \varphi\left(\frac{a}{(n-m+1)^p}, \frac{b}{(n-m+1)^p}, \frac{c}{(n-m+1)^p}, 0, 0, \dots, 0\right)}$$

for all  $a, b, c \in X$  and  $t > 0$ , where

$$\alpha = \frac{f\left(\frac{[abc]}{(n-m+1)^{(n-1)p}}\right)}{(n-m+1)^{-(n-1)p}} - \frac{[f\left(\frac{a}{(n-m+1)^p}\right)f\left(\frac{b}{(n-m+1)^p}\right)f\left(\frac{c}{(n-m+1)^p}\right)]}{(n-m+1)^{-(n-1)p}},$$

$$\beta = \frac{t}{(n-m+1)^{-(n-1)p}}.$$

Then we have, as  $p \rightarrow +\infty$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} N\left(\frac{f\left(\frac{[abc]}{(n-m+1)^{(n-1)p}}\right)}{(n-m+1)^{-(n-1)p}} - \frac{[f\left(\frac{a}{(n-m+1)^p}\right)f\left(\frac{b}{(n-m+1)^p}\right)f\left(\frac{c}{(n-m+1)^p}\right)]}{(n-m+1)^{-(n-1)p}}, t\right) \\ \geq \frac{\frac{t}{(n-m+1)^{(n-1)p}}}{\frac{t}{(n-m+1)^{(n-1)p}} + \varphi\left(\frac{a}{(n-m+1)^p}, \frac{b}{(n-m+1)^p}, \frac{c}{(n-m+1)^p}, 0, 0, \dots, 0\right)} \\ \geq \frac{\frac{t}{(n-m+1)^{(n-1)p}}}{\frac{t}{(n-m+1)^{(n-1)p}} + \frac{L^p \varphi(a, b, c, 0, 0, \dots, 0)}{(n-m+1)^p}} \rightarrow 1 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $a, b, c \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . So, it follows that

$$N(H([abc]) - [H(a)H(b)H(c)], t) = 1$$

for all  $a, b, c \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . Hence we have  $H([abc]) = [H(a)H(b)H(c)]$  for all  $a, b, c \in X$ . This means that  $H$  is a ternary homomorphism. This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.2** Let  $\varphi : X^n \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a mapping such that there exists  $L < 1$  with

$$\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leq (n - m + 1)L\varphi\left(\frac{x_1}{n - m + 1}, \dots, \frac{x_n}{n - m + 1}\right)$$

for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in X$ . Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a mapping with  $f(0) = 0$  satisfying (2.1). Then the limit  $H(x) := N\text{-}\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f((n-m+1)^p x)}{(n-m+1)^p}$  exists for all  $x \in X$  and  $H : X \rightarrow Y$  is defined as a ternary homomorphism such that

$$N(f(x) - H(x), t) \geq \frac{(n - m + 1) \binom{n}{m} (1 - L)t}{(n - m + 1) \binom{n}{m} (1 - L)t + \varphi(x, \dots, x)} \tag{2.7}$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ .

*Proof* Let  $(S, d)$  be the metric space defined as in the proof of Theorem 2.1. Consider the mapping  $T : S \rightarrow S$  defined by  $Tg(x) := \frac{g((n-m+1)x)}{n-m+1}$  for all  $x \in X$ . One can show that  $d(g, h) = \epsilon$  implies that  $d(Tg, Th) \leq L\epsilon$  for all positive real numbers  $\epsilon$ . This means that  $T$  is a contraction on  $(S, d)$ . The mapping

$$H(x) := N\text{-}\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f((n - m + 1)^p x)}{(n - m + 1)^p}$$

is the unique fixed point of  $T$  in  $S$  and  $H$  has the following property:

$$(n - m + 1)H(x) = H((n - m + 1)x) \tag{2.8}$$

for all  $x \in X$ . This implies that  $H$  is a unique mapping satisfying (2.8) such that there exists  $\mu \in (0, \infty)$  satisfying  $N(f(x) - H(x), \mu t) \geq \frac{t}{t + \varphi(x, \dots, x)}$  for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ .

The rest of the proof is similar to the proof of Theorem 2.1. This completes the proof.  $\square$

Now, we investigate the Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability of ternary derivations in ternary fuzzy Banach algebras.

**Theorem 2.3** Let  $X$  be a fuzzy Banach algebra. Let  $\varphi : X^n \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a function such that there exists  $L < \frac{1}{(n-m+1)^{n-2}}$  with

$$\varphi\left(\frac{x_1}{n - m + 1}, \dots, \frac{x_n}{n - m + 1}\right) \leq \frac{L\varphi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)}{n - m + 1}$$

for all  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$ . Let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a mapping with  $f(0) = 0$  satisfying (2.1) and

$$N(f([abc]) - [f(a)bc] - [af(b)c] - [abf(c)], t) \geq \frac{t}{t + \varphi(a, b, c, 0, 0, \dots, 0)} \tag{2.9}$$

for all  $a, b, c \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . Then  $D(x) := N\text{-}\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(\frac{x}{(n-m+1)^p})}{(n-m+1)^{-p}}$  exists for all  $x \in X$  and  $D : X \rightarrow X$  is defined as a unique ternary derivation such that

$$N(f(x) - D(x), t) \geq \frac{(n-m+1) \binom{n}{m} (1-L)t}{(n-m+1) \binom{n}{m} (1-L)t + L\varphi(x, \dots, x)} \tag{2.10}$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ .

*Proof* By the same reasoning as that in the proof of Theorem 2.1, the mapping  $D : X \rightarrow X$  is a unique  $\mathbb{C}$ -linear mapping which satisfies (2.10).

Now, we show that  $D$  is a ternary derivation. By (2.9), we have

$$\begin{aligned} N\left(\frac{f(\frac{[abc]}{(n-m+1)^{(n-1)p}})}{(n-m+1)^{-(n-1)p}} - \frac{[f(\frac{a}{(n-m+1)^p})bc] - [af(\frac{b}{(n-m+1)^p})c] - [abf(\frac{c}{(n-m+1)^p})]}{(n-m+1)^{-(n-1)p}}, \right. \\ \left. \frac{t}{(n-m+1)^{-(n-1)p}}\right) \\ \geq \frac{t}{t + \varphi(\frac{a}{(n-m+1)^p}, \frac{b}{(n-m+1)^p}, \frac{c}{(n-m+1)^p}, 0, 0, \dots, 0)} \end{aligned} \tag{2.11}$$

for all  $a, b, c \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} N\left(\frac{f(\frac{[abc]}{(n-m+1)^{(n-1)p}})}{(n-m+1)^{-(n-1)p}} - \frac{[f(\frac{a}{(n-m+1)^p})bc] - [af(\frac{b}{(n-m+1)^p})c] - [abf(\frac{c}{(n-m+1)^p})]}{(n-m+1)^{-(n-1)p}}, t\right) \\ \geq \frac{\frac{t}{(n-m+1)^{(n-1)p}}}{\frac{t}{(n-m+1)^{(n-1)p}} + \varphi(\frac{a}{(n-m+1)^p}, \frac{b}{(n-m+1)^p}, \frac{c}{(n-m+1)^p}, 0, 0, \dots, 0)} \\ \geq \frac{\frac{t}{(n-m+1)^{(n-1)p}}}{\frac{t}{(n-m+1)^{(n-1)p}} + \frac{L^p \varphi(a, b, c, 0, 0, \dots, 0)}{(n-m+1)^p}} \rightarrow 1 \quad \text{when } p \rightarrow +\infty \end{aligned}$$

for all  $a, b, c \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . So, we have

$$N(D([abc]) - [D(a)bc] - [aD(b)c] - [abD(c)], t) = 1$$

for all  $a, b, c \in X$  and  $t > 0$ . Hence we have  $D([abc]) = [D(a)bc] + [aD(b)c] + [abD(c)]$  for all  $a, b, c \in X$ . This means that  $D$  is a ternary derivation. This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.4** Let  $X$  be a fuzzy Banach algebra. Let  $\varphi : X^n \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a function such that there exists  $L < 1$  with

$$\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leq (n-m+1)L\varphi\left(\frac{x_1}{n-m+1}, \dots, \frac{x_n}{n-m+1}\right)$$

for all  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in X$ . Let  $f : X \rightarrow X$  be a mapping with  $f(0) = 0$  satisfying (2.1) and (2.9). Then the limit  $D(x) := N\text{-}\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(\frac{(n-m+1)^p x}{(n-m+1)^p})}{(n-m+1)^p}$  exists for all  $x \in X$  and  $D : X \rightarrow X$  is defined as a ternary derivation such that

$$N(f(x) - D(x), t) \geq \frac{(n-m+1) \binom{n}{m} (1-L)t}{(n-m+1) \binom{n}{m} (1-L)t + \varphi(x, \dots, x)} \tag{2.12}$$

for all  $x \in X$  and  $t > 0$ .



#### Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

#### Authors' contributions

All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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