

## ON HYERS-ULAM STABILITY OF WILSON'S FUNCTIONAL EQUATION ON $P_3$ -GROUPS

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ABSTRACT. The purposes of paper is to obtain the Hyers-Ulam stability of Wilson's equation  $\varphi(xy) + \varphi(xy^{-1}) = 2\varphi(x)\phi(y)$  for  $\varphi, \phi : G \rightarrow K$ , where  $G$  is a  $P_3$ - group and  $K$  a field with  $\text{char}K \neq 2$ .

### 1. INTRODUCTION

In 1989, Aczél, Chung and Ng have solved Wilson's equation,

$$\varphi(xy) + \varphi(xy^{-1}) = 2\varphi(x)\phi(y) \quad (1.1)$$

assuming that the function  $\phi$  satisfies Kannappan's condition  $\phi(xyz) = \phi(xzy)$  and  $\varphi(xy) = \varphi(yx)$  for all  $x, y, z \in G$ .

Let  $(G; +)$  be a topological abelian group and let  $K$  be a compact subgroup of automorphisms of  $G$  with the normalized Haar measure  $\mu$ . Assume that the topologies on  $K$  and  $G$  are related in such a way that the map  $k \mapsto ky \in G, k \in K$  is continuous for each fixed  $y \in G$ , where  $ky$  denotes the action of  $k \in K$  on  $y \in G$ . We say that a continuous function  $\varphi : G \rightarrow C$  is  $K$ -spherical if and only if there exists a non-zero continuous function  $\phi : G \rightarrow C$  such that

$$\int_K \varphi(x + ky) d\mu(k) = \varphi(x)\phi(y) \quad (1.2)$$

for all  $x, y \in G$ . Equivalently, a non-zero continuous function  $\varphi : G \rightarrow C$  is  $K$ -spherical if it satisfies the integral equation  $\int_K \varphi(x + ky) d\mu(k) = \varphi(x)\phi(y)$  for all  $x, y \in G$ . R. Badora[4] has studied the Hyers-Ulam stability of Wilson's functional equation for spherical functions.

Classical examples of (1.1) are d'Alembert's functional equation  $\varphi(x + y) + \varphi(x - y) = 2\varphi(x)\varphi(y)$ , where  $K = \{Id, -Id\}$  and Cauchy's equation  $\varphi(x + y) = \varphi(x)\varphi(y)$  with  $K = \{Id\}$ . The generalization for (1.2) of Wilson's functional equation (1.1) was considered discussed by W. Chojnacki [6], R.

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Badora [3, 4] and H. Stetkaer [17, 18]. For (1.2) with  $K$  finite this problem was solved by W. Förg-Rob and J. Schwaiger in [12], R. Badora in [3], and for d'Alembert's functional equation by J. Baker in [5].

Several papers deal with Wilson's functional equation, see e.g. the monograph [1] by Aczél and Dhombres for references and results. Aczél, Chung and Ng [2], where  $K$  is a quadratically closed field of  $\text{char}K \neq 2$ , assuming that the function  $g$  satisfies Kannappan's condition,  $\phi(xyz) = \phi(xzy)$  for all  $x, y, z \in G$  and  $\varphi(xy) = \varphi(yx)$ . Penney and Rukhin [15] found square integrable solutions of a version of the equation (1.1). Sinopoulos [16] has determined the general solution of (1.1) where  $G$  is a 2-divisible abelian group,  $\varphi$  is a vector-valued function and  $\phi$  is a matrix-valued function. Also, Wilson's equation was investigated in the context of spherical functions on groups by Stetkaer [18]. In this paper we study the problem of the Hyers-Ulam stability of equation (1.1) for  $K$  a  $P_3$ -Group, if the commutator subgroup  $K_0$  of  $K$ , which is generated by all commutators  $[x, y] := x^{-1}y^{-1}xy$ , has order one or two.

## 2. MAIN RESULTS ON STABILITY

The main results on stability are contained in the following

**Theorem 1.** *Let  $\varphi, \phi; G \rightarrow K$  be continuous functions, where  $G$  is a  $P_3$ -group and  $K$  is a quadratically closed field with  $\text{char}K \neq 2$ ; also  $K$  is Abelian under multiplication. Assume that there exists a  $c \geq 0$  such that*

$$\|\varphi(xy) + \varphi(xy^{-1}) - 2\varphi(x)\phi(y)\| \leq c, \quad x, y \in K \quad (2.1)$$

Then either

- (i)  $\varphi, \phi$  are bounded or
- (ii)  $\varphi$  is unbounded and

$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(u_n)^{-1}(\varphi(u_n x) + \varphi(u_n x^{-1})), \quad (2.2)$$

satisfies

$$\phi(y) = \phi(y^{-1}), \quad \varphi(xy) + \varphi(xy^{-1}) = 2\varphi(x)\phi(y), \quad (2.3)$$

or

- (iii)  $\phi$  is unbounded,

$$\varphi(x) = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\varphi(xu_n) + \varphi(xu_n^{-1}))\phi(u_n)^{-1}, \quad (2.4)$$

and  $\varphi, \phi$  satisfies (1.1).

**Corollary 1.** *Let  $\varphi : G \rightarrow K$  is continuous, if there exists a  $c \geq 0$ , then  $\varphi$  is bounded or satisfied (1.1).*

Consider the signed Wilson's functional equation

$$\varphi(xy\Lambda(xy)) + \varphi(xy^{-1}\Lambda(xy^{-1})) = 2\varphi(x)\phi(y), \tag{2.5}$$

where  $\Lambda : G_0 \rightarrow T = \{a : |a| = e\}$  and  $G_0$  is the commutator subgroup of group  $G$ , which is generated by all commutators  $[x, y] := x^{-1}y^{-1}xy$ , has order one or two.

If we set  $\Lambda \equiv e$  with  $e$  is unit of  $K$ , we can obtain (1.1).

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $\varphi, \phi, G \rightarrow K$  be continuous functions and  $\Lambda$  be  $G$ -even, where  $G$  is a  $P_3$ -group and  $K$  is a quadratically closed field with  $\text{char}K \neq 2$ , also  $K$  is Abelian under multiplication. Assume that there exists a  $c \geq 0$  such that*

$$\|\varphi(xy\Lambda(xy)) + \varphi(xy^{-1}\Lambda(xy^{-1})) - 2\varphi(x)\phi(y)\| \leq c, \quad x, y \in K \tag{2.6}$$

Then either

- (i)  $\varphi, \phi$  are bounded or
- (ii)  $\varphi$  is unbounded and

$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(u_n)^{-1} (\varphi(u_n x \Lambda(u_n x)) + \varphi(u_n x^{-1} \Lambda(u_n x^{-1}))). \tag{2.7}$$

satisfies

$$\phi(x) = \phi(x^{-1}), \quad \phi(xy\Lambda(xy)) + \phi(xy^{-1}\Lambda(xy^{-1})) = 2\phi(x)\phi(y), \tag{2.8}$$

or

- (iii)  $\phi$  is unbounded,

$$\varphi(x) = \frac{1}{2} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\varphi(xu_n\Lambda(xu_n)) + \varphi(xu_n^{-1}\Lambda(xu_n^{-1})))\phi(u_n)^{-1}, \tag{2.9}$$

and  $\varphi, \phi$  satisfies (2.6).

### 3. PROOFS OF THEOREMS

*Proof of Theorem 1.* Let

$$f(x, y) = \varphi(xy) + \varphi(xy^{-1}) - 2\varphi(x)\phi(y), \quad x, y \in G,$$

then we obtain

$$\|f(x, y)\| \leq c, \quad x, y \in G. \tag{3.10}$$

Furthermore, we get identities

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) - f(x, y^{-1}) &= \varphi(xy) + \varphi(xy^{-1}) - 2\varphi(x)\phi(y) \\ &\quad - [\varphi(xy^{-1}) + \varphi(xy) - 2\varphi(x)\phi(y)] \\ &= 2\varphi(x)(\phi(y^{-1}) - \phi(y)). \end{aligned} \tag{3.11}$$

If  $\varphi = 0$ ,  $\varphi$  is solution of (1.1).

If  $\varphi$  is unbounded, from (3.11) we get  $\phi(y) = \phi(y^{-1})$ , i.e.,  $\phi$  is even. We now prove (ii) and (iii). Assuming (ii), there exists a sequence  $\{u_n\}, m \in N$  in  $K$  such that

$$\varphi(u_n) \neq 0, \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\varphi(u_n)\| = +\infty. \quad (3.12)$$

Let  $x = u_n, y = x$  in (2.1), we get

$$\|\varphi(u_n x) + \varphi(u_n x^{-1}) - 2\varphi(u_n)\phi(x)\| \leq c, \quad x, y \in K. \quad (3.13)$$

Then we obtain

$$\|\varphi(u_n)^{-1}(\varphi(u_n x) + \varphi(u_n x^{-1})) - 2\phi(x)\| \leq \frac{c}{\|\varphi(u_n)\|}, \quad x, y \in K.$$

Consequently

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(u_n)^{-1}(\varphi(u_n x) + \varphi(u_n x^{-1})) = 2\phi(x). \quad (3.14)$$

Now for each  $x, y, z \in K$  and  $n \in N$ , by setting  $x = u_n, y = xz$  in (2.1) we obtain

$$\|\varphi(u_n xz) + \varphi(u_n (xz)^{-1}) - 2\varphi(u_n)\phi(xz)\| \leq c, \quad x, y \in K. \quad (3.15)$$

then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(u_n)^{-1}(\varphi(u_n xz) + \varphi(u_n (xz)^{-1})) = 2\phi(xz). \quad (3.16)$$

By the arbitrariness of  $z$ , (3.14) converges to a unique function  $\phi$  which satisfies (2.3). In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\varphi^{-1}(u_n)(\varphi(u_n xy) + \varphi(u_n (xy)^{-1})) + \varphi^{-1}(u_n)(\varphi(u_n xy^{-1}) \\ & \quad + \varphi(u_n (xy^{-1})^{-1})) - 2\varphi^{-1}(u_n)(\varphi(u_n x) + \varphi(u_n x^{-1}))\phi(y)\| \\ & \leq \|\varphi^{-1}(u_n)(\varphi(u_n xy) + \varphi(u_n xy^{-1}) - 2\varphi(u_n x)\phi(y))\| \\ & \quad + \|(\varphi(u_n (xy)^{-1}) + \varphi(u_n (xy^{-1})^{-1}) - 2\varphi(u_n x^{-1})\phi(y))\| \\ & \leq 2c\|\varphi^{-1}(u_n)\|, \end{aligned} \quad (3.17)$$

here we have used Kannappan's condition on  $\varphi$  to get (3.17). Then taking limits in (3.17) we get that  $\phi$  satisfies (2.3). Hence (ii) is proved.

If  $\phi$  is unbounded, there exists a sequence  $\{u_n\}, m \in N$  in  $K$  such that

$$\phi(u_n) \neq 0, \quad u_n \neq 0, \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\phi(u_n)\| = +\infty. \quad (3.18)$$

By setting  $y = u_n$  in (2.1) we obtain

$$\|\varphi(xu_n) + \varphi(xu_n^{-1}) - 2\varphi(x)\phi(u_n)\| \leq c, \quad x, y \in K. \quad (3.19)$$

Then we obtain

$$\|(\varphi(xu_n) + \varphi(xu_n^{-1}))\phi(u_n)^{-1} - 2\varphi(x)\| \leq \frac{c}{\|\phi(u_n)\|}, \quad x, y \in K.$$

Consequently

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\varphi(xu_n) + \varphi(xu_n^{-1}))\phi(u_n)^{-1} = 2\varphi(x). \tag{3.20}$$

Now for each  $x, y, z \in K$  and  $n \in N$ , by setting  $x = xz, y = u_n$ , in (2.1) we obtain

$$\|\varphi(xzu_n) + \varphi((xz)u_n^{-1}) - 2\varphi(xz)\phi(u_n)\| \leq c, \quad x, y \in K. \tag{3.21}$$

Hence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\varphi(xzu_n) + \varphi((xz)u_n^{-1}))\phi(u_n)^{-1} = 2\varphi(xz). \tag{3.22}$$

By the arbitrariness of  $z$ , (3.20) converges to a unique function  $\varphi$  which satisfies (1.1). In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} & \| (f(u_nxy) + f(u_n(xy)^{-1}))\phi^{-1}(u_n) + (f(u_nxy^{-1}) + f(u_n(xy^{-1})^{-1}))\phi^{-1}(u_n) \\ & \quad - 2\phi(y)(\varphi(u_nx) + \varphi(u_nx^{-1}))\phi^{-1}(u_n) \| \\ & \leq \| (\varphi(u_nxy) + \varphi(u_nxy^{-1}))\phi^{-1}(u_n) - 2\phi(y)\varphi(u_nx)\phi^{-1}(u_n) \| \\ & \quad + \| (\varphi(u_n(xy)^{-1}) + \varphi(u_n(xy^{-1})^{-1}))\phi^{-1}(u_n) - 2\phi(y)\varphi(u_nx^{-1})\phi^{-1}(u_n) \| \\ & \leq 2c\|\varphi^{-1}(u_n)\|, \end{aligned} \tag{3.23}$$

here we have used Kannappan's condition on  $\varphi$  to get (3.23). Then taking limits in (3.23) we get that  $\phi$  satisfies (2.4), and  $\varphi, \phi$  satisfy (1.1). Then (iii) is proved. Then case (i) is also proved.  $\square$

**Remark 3.1.** If  $\varphi$  is bounded, then in (iii)  $\varphi = 0$ , moreover,  $\varphi, \phi$  satisfy (2.1).

*Proof of Theorem 2.* Let

$$f(x, y) = \varphi(xy\Lambda(xy)) + \varphi(xy^{-1}\Lambda(xy^{-1})) - 2\varphi(x)\phi(y), \quad x, y \in G,$$

then we obtain

$$\|f(x, y)\| \leq c, \quad x, y \in G. \tag{3.24}$$

Furthermore, we get identities

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) - f(x, y^{-1}) &= \varphi(xy\Lambda(xy)) + \varphi(xy^{-1}\Lambda(xy^{-1})) - 2\varphi(x)g(y) \\ & \quad - [\varphi(xy^{-1}\Lambda(xy^{-1})) + \varphi(xy\Lambda(xy)) - 2\varphi(x)\phi(y)] \\ &= 2\varphi(x)(\phi(y^{-1}) - \phi(y)). \end{aligned} \tag{3.25}$$

If  $\varphi = 0$ ,  $\varphi$  is solution of (2.5). If  $\varphi$  is unbounded, from (3.25) we get  $\phi(y) = \phi(y^{-1})$ , i.e.,  $\phi$  is even.

Also there exists a sequence  $\{u_n\}, m \in N$  in  $K$  such that

$$\varphi(u_n) \neq 0, \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\varphi(u_n)\| = +\infty. \tag{3.26}$$

Let  $x = u_n, y = x$  in (2.6), we get

$$\|\varphi(u_n x \Lambda(u_n x)) + \varphi(u_n x^{-1} \Lambda(u_n x^{-1})) - 2\varphi(u_n)g(x)\| \leq c, \quad x, y \in K. \quad (3.27)$$

Then we obtain

$$\|\varphi(u_n)^{-1}(\varphi(u_n x \Lambda(u_n x)) + \varphi(u_n x^{-1} \Lambda(u_n x^{-1}))) - 2g(x)\| \leq \frac{c}{\|\varphi(u_n)\|}, \quad x, y \in K.$$

Consequently

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(u_n)^{-1}(\varphi(u_n x \Lambda(u_n x)) + \varphi(u_n x^{-1} \Lambda(u_n x^{-1}))) = 2\phi(x). \quad (3.28)$$

Now for each  $x, y, z \in K$  and  $n \in N$ , by setting  $x = u_n, y = xz$  in (2.6) we obtain

$$\|\varphi(u_n x z \Lambda(u_n x z)) + \varphi(u_n (x z)^{-1} \Lambda(u_n (x z)^{-1})) - 2\varphi(u_n)\phi(xz)\| \leq c, \quad x, y \in K, \quad (3.29)$$

then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(u_n)^{-1}(\varphi(u_n x z \Lambda(u_n x z)) + \varphi(u_n (x z)^{-1} \Lambda(u_n (x z)^{-1}))) = 2\phi(xz). \quad (3.30)$$

By the arbitrariness of  $z$ , (3.28) converges to a unique function  $\phi$  which satisfies (2.6). In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\varphi^{-1}(u_n)(\varphi(u_n x y \Lambda(u_n x y)) + \varphi(u_n (x y)^{-1} \Lambda(u_n (x y)^{-1}))) \\ & \quad + \varphi^{-1}(u_n)(\varphi(u_n x y^{-1} \Lambda(u_n x y^{-1})) + \varphi(u_n (x y^{-1})^{-1} \Lambda(u_n (x y^{-1})^{-1}))) \\ & \quad - 2\varphi^{-1}(u_n)(\varphi(u_n x) + \varphi(u_n x^{-1}))\phi(y)\| \\ & \leq \|\varphi^{-1}(u_n)(\varphi(u_n x y \Lambda(u_n x y)) + \varphi(u_n (x y)^{-1} \Lambda(u_n (x y)^{-1})) - 2\varphi(u_n x)\phi(y)\| \\ & \quad + \|\varphi^{-1}(u_n)(\varphi(u_n x y^{-1} \Lambda(u_n x y^{-1})) + \varphi(u_n (x y^{-1})^{-1} \Lambda(u_n (x y^{-1})^{-1}))) \\ & \quad - 2\varphi(u_n x^{-1})\phi(y)\| \leq 2c\|\varphi^{-1}(u_n)\|, \end{aligned} \quad (3.31)$$

where we have used Kannappan's condition on  $\varphi$  and (2.6) to get (3.31). Then by taking limits in (3.31), we get that  $\phi$  satisfies (2.8). Then (ii) is proved.

If  $\phi$  is unbounded, there exists a sequence  $\{u_n\}, m \in N$  in  $K$  such that

$$\phi(u_n) \neq 0, \quad u_n \neq 0, \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\phi(u_n)\| = +\infty. \quad (3.32)$$

By setting  $y = u_n$  in (2.1) we obtain

$$\|\varphi(x u_n \Lambda(x u_n)) + \varphi(x u_n^{-1} \Lambda(x u_n^{-1})) - 2\varphi(x)\phi(u_n)\| \leq c, \quad x, y \in K. \quad (3.33)$$

Then we obtain

$$\|(\varphi(x u_n \Lambda(x u_n)) + \varphi(x u_n^{-1} \Lambda(x u_n^{-1})))\phi(u_n)^{-1} - 2\varphi(x)\| \leq \frac{c}{\|\phi(u_n)\|}, \quad x, y \in K.$$

Consequently

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\varphi(xu_n\Lambda(xu_n)) + \varphi(xu_n^{-1}\Lambda(xu_n^{-1})))\phi(u_n)^{-1} = 2\varphi(x). \tag{3.34}$$

Now for each  $x, y, z \in K$  and  $n \in N$ , by setting  $x = xy, y = u_n$ , in (2.6) we obtain

$$\|\varphi(xy u_n \Lambda(xy u_n)) + \varphi(xy u_n^{-1} \Lambda(xy u_n^{-1})) - 2\varphi(xy)\phi(u_n)\| \leq c, \quad x, y \in K. \tag{3.35}$$

then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (\varphi(xy u_n \Lambda(xy u_n)) + \varphi(xy u_n^{-1} \Lambda(xy u_n^{-1})))\phi(u_n)^{-1} = 2\varphi(xy). \tag{3.36}$$

By the arbitrariness of  $y$ , (3.34) converges to a unique function  $\varphi$  which satisfies (2.6). In fact,

$$\begin{aligned} & \|(\varphi(u_n xy \Lambda(u_n xy)) + \varphi(u_n(xy)^{-1} \Lambda(u_n(xy)^{-1})))\phi(u_n)^{-1} \\ & \quad + (\varphi(u_n xy^{-1} \Lambda(u_n xy^{-1})) + \varphi(u_n yx^{-1} \Lambda(\varphi(u_n yx^{-1})))\phi(u_n)^{-1} \\ & \quad - 2\phi(y)(\varphi(u_n x) + \varphi(u_n x^{-1}))\phi(u_n)^{-1}\| \\ & \leq \|(\varphi(u_n xy \Lambda(u_n xy)) + \varphi(u_n xy^{-1} \Lambda(u_n xy^{-1})) - 2\phi(y)\varphi(u_n x))\phi(u_n)^{-1}\| \\ & \quad + \|(\varphi(u_n x^{-1} y^{-1} \Lambda(u_n x^{-1} y^{-1})) + \varphi(u_n x^{-1} y \Lambda(u_n x^{-1} y)) \\ & \quad - 2\phi(y)\varphi(u_n x^{-1}))\phi(u_n)^{-1}\| \leq 2c\|\varphi^{-1}(u_n)\|, \end{aligned} \tag{3.37}$$

where we have used Kannappan's condition on  $\varphi, \Lambda$  and (2.6) to get (3.37). Then taking limits in (3.37), we get that  $\varphi$  satisfies (2.5). Therefore (iii) is proved. Then the case (i) is also proved.  $\square$

#### 4. EXAMPLE

**Example.** Let  $C$  the field of complex numbers with the complex unit  $i = \sqrt{-1}$ , and  $G$  be the quaternion group  $G = \{\pm 1, \pm i, \pm j, \pm k\}$ . The center of  $G$  is  $G_0 = \{\pm 1\}$  and  $G$  is a  $P_3$ -group. Take  $\Lambda = Id$  or  $-Id$ ,  $\varphi, \phi : G \rightarrow C$ ,  $\varphi \neq 0$ . If  $\phi$  is unbounded and  $\varphi, \phi$  satisfy (2.3) or (2.6), then  $\varphi$  as defined by (2.4) or (2.9) and  $\phi$  are solutions of (1.1) or (2.5) respectively.

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