

## A perturbation of $m$ -order derivations on Banach algebras

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### Abstract

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a unital Banach algebra and let  $m$ ,  $1 \leq m \leq 4$ , be an integer. If  $f : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is an approximate  $m$ -order derivation in the sense of Hyers-Ulam-Rassias, then  $f : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is an exact  $m$ -order derivation.

**Key Words:**  $m$ -order derivation, approximate  $m$ -order derivation, stability.

### 1. Introduction

The study of stability problems in the case of homomorphisms between metric groups originated from a famous talk given by S.M. Ulam [24] in 1940: *Under what condition does there exist a homomorphism near an approximate homomorphism?* In 1941, D.H. Hyers [8] answered affirmatively the question of Ulam for Banach spaces, which states that if  $\delta > 0$  is real number and  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  is a mapping with  $\mathcal{X}$  a normed space,  $\mathcal{Y}$  a Banach space such that

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

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$ , then there exists a unique additive mapping  $T : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  such that

$$\|f(x) - T(x)\| \leq \delta$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ . This stability phenomenon is called the *Hyers-Ulam stability* of the additive functional equation  $f(x+y) = f(x) + f(y)$ .

A generalized version of the theorem of Hyers for approximately additive mappings was given by T. Aoki [2] in 1950 and by Th.M. Rassias [17] in 1978 for linear mappings, respectively and the result is as follows:

If  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  is a mapping and there exist real numbers  $\theta \geq 0$  and  $0 \leq p < 1$  such that

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

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$ , then there exists a unique additive mapping  $T : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  such that

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

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

On this fact, some authors say that the additive functional equation  $f(x + y) = f(x) + f(y)$  has the Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability property [5, 9, 11, 19, 20]. In 1991, Z. Gajda [6] answered the question for the case  $p > 1$ , which was raised by Th.M. Rassias [18]. Z. Gajda [6] gave an example to prove that it is not possible to prove a Th.M. Rassias's stability Theorem for the case when  $p = 1$ . Independently, a different new example was given by Th.M. Rassias and P. Semrl [21].

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an algebra over the real or complex field  $\mathbb{F}$ . An additive map  $d : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is said to be a *ring derivation* if the functional equation  $d(xy) = xd(y) + d(x)y$  holds for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{A}$ .

Recently, T. Miura *et al.* [15] examined the stability of ring derivations on Banach algebras:

Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a Banach algebra. Let  $p \geq 0$  and  $\varepsilon \geq 0$  be real numbers. If  $p \neq 1$  and  $f : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is a mapping such that

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

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{A}$ , and

$$\|f(xy) - xf(y) - f(x)y\| \leq \varepsilon\|x\|^p\|y\|^p$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{A}$ , then there exists a unique ring derivation  $d : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  such that

$$\|f(x) - d(x)\| \leq \frac{2\varepsilon}{|2 - 2^p|}\|x\|^p$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$ . In particular, if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a Banach algebra without order, then  $f$  is an ring derivation.

The stability result concerning derivations was first obtained by P. Šemrl [22] in operator algebras and various results for the stability of derivations have been obtained by many authors (for instances, [3, 4, 12, 13]).

Let  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  be a mapping with  $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}$  two vector spaces and let

$$D^m f(x, y) := \begin{cases} f(x + y) - f(x) - f(y), & \text{if } m = 1 \\ f(x + y) + f(x - y) - 2f(x) - 2f(y), & \text{if } m = 2 \\ f(2x + y) + f(2x - y) - 2f(x + y) - 2f(x - y) - 12f(x), & \text{if } m = 3 \\ f(2x + y) + f(2x - y) - 4f(x + y) - 4f(x - y) - 24f(x) + 6f(y), & \text{if } m = 4 \end{cases}$$

For each integer  $m$ ,  $1 \leq m \leq 4$ , the functional equation  $D^m f(x, y) = 0$  is said to be *additive*, *quadratic*, *cubic* [10] and *quartic* [14], respectively. For convenience' sake, a solution of the functional equation  $D^m f(x, y) = 0$  will be called an *m-order mapping*.

In particular, the quadratic functional equation is used to characterize inner product spaces [1]. The Hyers-Ulam stability of quadratic functional equations was first proved by F. Skof [23]. S. Czerwik [5], K. W. Jun and H. M. Kim [10], obtained the Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability result for the quadratic and cubic functional equation, respectively.

On the other hand, S.H. Lee *et al.* [14] proved the Hyers-Ulam stability of the quartic functional equation. Using the Hyers' direct method in as the proof of [14, Theorem 3.1], we obtain the Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability result for the quartic functional equation. Hence we have the following:

**Proposition 1.1** For each integer  $m$ ,  $1 \leq m \leq 4$ , let  $0 \leq p \neq m$  and  $\delta \geq 0$  be real numbers. If  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  is a mapping with  $\mathcal{X}$  a normed space,  $\mathcal{Y}$  a Banach space such that

$$\|D^m f(x, y)\| \leq \delta(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p),$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$ , then there exists a unique  $m$ -order mapping  $T : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  such that

$$\|f(x) - T(x)\| \leq k\delta\|x\|^p$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ , where: when  $m = 1$ ,  $k = \frac{2}{|2-2^p|}$  if  $p \neq 1$ , when  $m = 2, 3$ ,  $k = \frac{m}{|m^m - m^p|}$  if  $p \neq m$  and when  $m = 4$ ,  $k = \frac{1}{2|2^4 - 2^p|}$  if  $p \neq 4$ .

We here introduce the following mapping:

An  $m$ -order mapping  $\Delta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  will be called an  $m$ -order derivation if the equality  $\Delta(xy) = x^m \Delta(y) + \Delta(x)y^m$  is fulfilled for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{A}$ . As a simple example, let us consider the algebra of  $2 \times 2$  matrices

$$\mathcal{A} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} : a, b \in \mathbb{C} \right\},$$

where  $\mathbb{C}$  is a complex field. Then it is easy to see that the mapping  $\Delta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  defined by

$$\Delta\left(\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & b^m \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

is an  $m$ -order derivation, where  $m$ ,  $1 \leq m \leq 4$ , is an integer.

It is natural to ask that there exists an approximate  $m$ -order derivation which is not an exact  $m$ -order derivation. The following example is a slight modification of an example due to [15].

**Example 1.2** Let  $X$  be a compact Hausdorff space and let  $C(X)$  be the commutative Banach algebra of complex-valued continuous functions on  $X$  under pointwise operations and the supremum norm  $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ . We define  $f : C(X) \rightarrow C(X)$  by

$$f(a)(x) = \begin{cases} a(x)^m \log |a(x)| & \text{if } a(x) \neq 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } a(x) = 0 \end{cases}$$

for all  $a \in C(X)$  and all  $x \in X$ , where  $m$ ,  $1 \leq m \leq 4$ , is an integer. It is easy to see that

$$f(ab) = a^m f(b) + f(a)b^m$$

for all  $a, b \in C(X)$ .

Note that the following inequality holds for all  $a \in C(X)$  with  $a(x) \neq 0$ :

$$|f(a)(x)| = |a(x)|^m |\log |a(x)|| \leq (1 + |a(x)|)^{m+1} \leq (1 + \|a\|_\infty)^{m+1}.$$

Hence we have  $\|f(a)\|_\infty \leq (1 + \|a\|_\infty)^{m+1}$  for all  $a \in C(X)$ . Using this inequality and the triangle inequality, we deduce that

$$\|D^m f(a, b)\|_\infty \leq M(a, b)$$

for all  $a, b \in C(X)$ , where

$$M(a, b) = \begin{cases} 3(1 + \|a\|_\infty + \|b\|_\infty)^2 & \text{if } m = 1, \\ 6(1 + \|a\|_\infty + \|b\|_\infty)^3 & \text{if } m = 2, \\ 18(1 + 2\|a\|_\infty + \|b\|_\infty)^4 & \text{if } m = 3, \\ 40(1 + 2\|a\|_\infty + \|b\|_\infty)^5 & \text{if } m = 4. \end{cases}$$

Hence we may regard  $f$  as an approximate  $m$ -order derivation on  $C(X)$ .

It will be of interest to investigate the stability problem of  $m$ -order derivations on Banach algebras as in the case of ring derivations. That is, the purpose of this paper is to prove the Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability and the superstability of  $m$ -order derivations on Banach algebras.

## 2. Stability of $m$ -order derivations

In this section, let  $\mathbb{R}$  be the real field.  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{N}$  will denote the set of the rational, the natural numbers, respectively and  $m$ ,  $1 \leq m \leq 4$ , is an integer

**Lemma 2.1** *Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a Banach algebra. Let  $\delta, \varepsilon \geq 0$  be real numbers and let  $p, q \geq 0$  be real numbers with either  $p, q < m$  or  $p, q > m$ . If  $f : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is a mapping such that*

$$\|D^m f(x, y)\| \leq \delta(\|x\|^p + \|y\|^p) \tag{2.1}$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{A}$ , and

$$\|f(xy) - x^m f(y) - f(x)y^m\| \leq \varepsilon\|x\|^q\|y\|^q \tag{2.2}$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{A}$ , then there exists a unique  $m$ -order derivation  $\Delta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  such that

$$\|f(x) - \Delta(x)\| \leq k\delta\|x\|^p \tag{2.3}$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$ , where: when  $m = 1$ ,  $k = \frac{2}{|2-2^p|}$  if  $p \neq 1$ , when  $m = 2, 3$ ,  $k = \frac{m}{|m^m - m^p|}$  if  $p \neq m$  and when  $m = 4$ ,  $k = \frac{1}{2|2^4 - 2^p|}$  if  $p \neq 4$ .

**Proof.** Assume that either  $p, q < m$  or  $p, q > m$ . From Proposition 1.1, the inequality (2.1) guarantees that there exists a unique  $m$ -order mapping  $\Delta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  such that (2.3) holds for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$ , where: when  $m = 1$ ,  $k = \frac{2}{|2-2^p|}$  if  $p \neq 1$ , when  $m = 2, 3$ ,  $k = \frac{m}{|m^m - m^p|}$  if  $p \neq m$  and when  $m = 4$ ,  $k = \frac{1}{2|2^4 - 2^p|}$  if  $p \neq 4$ . We claim that

$$\Delta(xy) = x^m \Delta(y) + \Delta(x)y^m$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{A}$ .

Set  $\tau = 1$  if  $p, q < m$  and  $\tau = -1$  if  $p, q > m$ . Since  $\Delta$  is an  $m$ -order mapping, from [1, Proposition 1, p. 166], [10, Theorem 2.1] and [14, Theorem 2.1], we see that  $\Delta(x) = 2^{-\tau mn} \Delta(2^{\tau n} x)$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . First, it follows from (2.3) that

$$\begin{aligned} \|2^{-\tau mn} f(2^{\tau n} x) - \Delta(x)\| &= 2^{-\tau mn} \|f(2^{\tau n} x) - \Delta(2^{\tau n} x)\| \\ &\leq 2^{-\tau mn} k\delta \|2^{\tau n} x\|^p = 2^{\tau(p-m)n} k\delta \|x\|^p \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $\tau(p - m) < 0$ , we have

$$\|2^{-\tau mn} f(2^{\tau n} x) - \Delta(x)\| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty. \tag{2.4}$$

Following the similar argument as the above, we obtain

$$\|2^{-2\tau mn} f(2^{2\tau n} xy) - \Delta(xy)\| \leq 4^{\tau(p-m)n} k\delta \|xy\|^p$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and so

$$\|2^{-2\tau mn} f(2^{2\tau n} xy) - \Delta(xy)\| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty. \tag{2.5}$$

Since  $f$  satisfies (2.2), we get

$$\begin{aligned} &\|2^{-2\tau mn} f(2^{2\tau n} xy) - 2^{-\tau mn} x^m f(2^{\tau n} y) - f(2^{\tau n} x) 2^{-\tau mn} y^m\| \\ &= 2^{-2\tau mn} \|f((2^{\tau n} x)(2^{\tau n} y)) - (2^{\tau n} x)^m f(2^{\tau n} y) - f(2^{\tau n} x)(2^{\tau n} y)^m\| \\ &\leq 2^{-2\tau mn} \varepsilon \|2^{\tau n} x\|^q \|2^{\tau n} y\|^q = 4^{\tau(q-m)n} \varepsilon \|x\|^q \|y\|^q \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Reminding that  $\tau(q - m) < 0$ , we obtain

$$\|2^{-2\tau mn} f(2^{2\tau n} xy) - 2^{-\tau mn} x^m f(2^{\tau n} y) - f(2^{\tau n} x) 2^{-\tau mn} y^m\| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty. \tag{2.6}$$

Using (2.4), (2.5) and (2.6), we now see that

$$\begin{aligned} &\|\Delta(xy) - x^m \Delta(y) - \Delta(x) y^m\| \\ &\leq \|\Delta(xy) - 2^{-2\tau mn} f(2^{2\tau n} xy)\| \\ &\quad + \|2^{-2\tau mn} f(2^{2\tau n} xy) - 2^{-\tau mn} x^m f(2^{\tau n} y) - 2^{-\tau mn} f(2^{\tau n} x) y^m\| \\ &\quad + \|2^{-\tau mn} x^m f(2^{\tau n} y) - x^m \Delta(y)\| + \|2^{-\tau mn} f(2^{\tau n} x) y^m - \Delta(x) y^m\| \\ &\leq \|\Delta(xy) - 2^{-2\tau mn} f(2^{2\tau n} xy)\| \\ &\quad + \|2^{-2\tau mn} f(2^{2\tau n} xy) - 2^{-\tau mn} x^m f(2^{\tau n} y) - 2^{-\tau mn} f(2^{\tau n} x) y^m\| \\ &\quad + \|x^m\| \|2^{-\tau mn} f(2^{\tau n} y) - \Delta(y)\| + \|2^{-\tau mn} f(2^{\tau n} x) - \Delta(x)\| \|y^m\| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\Delta(xy) = x^m \Delta(y) + \Delta(x) y^m$  for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{A}$ . That is,  $\Delta$  is an  $m$ -order derivation on  $\mathcal{A}$ , as claimed and the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.2** *Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a unital Banach algebra. Let  $\delta, \varepsilon \geq 0$  be real numbers and let  $p, q \geq 0$  be real numbers with either  $p, q < m$  or  $p, q > m$ . If  $f : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is a mapping satisfying (2.1) and (2.2), then we have*

$$f(rx) = r^m f(x)$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ .

**Proof.** In the case when  $r = 0$ , it is trivial since  $f(0) = 0$  by (2.1) or (2.2). Let  $e$  be a unit element of  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $r \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}$  arbitrarily. Put  $\tau = 1$  if  $p, q < m$  and  $\tau = -1$  if  $p, q > m$ . By Lemma 2.1, there exists a unique  $m$ -order derivation  $\Delta : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  such that (2.3) is true. Recall that  $\Delta$  is an  $m$ -order mapping, and hence it is easy to see that  $\Delta(rx) = r^m \Delta(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  in view of [1, Proposition 1, p. 166], [10, Theorem 2.1] and [14, Theorem 2.1]. Then we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\Delta((2^{\tau n}e)(rx)) - r^m 2^{\tau mn} e f(x) - f(2^{\tau n}e)r^m x^m\| \\ & \leq r^m \|\Delta(2^{\tau n}ex) - f(2^{\tau n}ex)\| + r^m \|f(2^{\tau n}ex) - 2^{\tau mn} e f(x) - f(2^{\tau n}e)x^m\| \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Now the inequalities (2.2), (2.3) and (2.7) yields that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|\Delta((2^{\tau n}e)(rx)) - r^m 2^{\tau mn} e f(x) - f(2^{\tau n}e)r^m x^m\| \\ & \leq r^m 2^{\tau np} k \delta \|x\|^p + r^m 2^{\tau nq} \varepsilon \|x\|^q \end{aligned} \quad (2.8)$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

It follows from (2.3) and (2.8) that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|f((2^{\tau n}e)(rx)) - r^m 2^{\tau mn} e f(x) - f(2^{\tau n}e)r^m x^m\| \\ & \leq \|f((2^{\tau n}e)(rx)) - \Delta((2^{\tau n}e)(rx))\| \\ & \quad + \|\Delta((2^{\tau n}e)(rx)) - r^m 2^{\tau mn} e f(x) - f(2^{\tau n}e)r^m x^m\| \\ & \leq 2^{\tau np} (r^p + r^m) k \delta \|x\|^p + r^m 2^{\tau nq} \varepsilon \|x\|^q \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . That is, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \|f((2^{\tau n}e)(rx)) - r^m 2^{\tau mn} e f(x) - f(2^{\tau n}e)r^m x^m\| \\ & \leq 2^{\tau np} (r^p + r^m) k \delta \|x\|^p + r^m 2^{\tau nq} \varepsilon \|x\|^q \end{aligned} \quad (2.9)$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . From (2.2) and (2.9), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \|2^{\tau mn} \{f(rx) - r^m f(x)\}\| \\ & = \|2^{\tau mn} e \{f(rx) - r^m f(x)\}\| \\ & \leq \|2^{\tau mn} e f(rx) + f(2^{\tau n}e)r^m x^m - f((2^{\tau n}e)(rx))\| \\ & \quad + \|f((2^{\tau n}e)(rx)) - r^m 2^{\tau mn} e f(x) - f(2^{\tau n}e)r^m x^m\| \\ & \leq \varepsilon \|2^{\tau n}e\|^q \|rx\|^q + 2^{\tau np} (r^p + r^m) k \delta \|x\|^p + r^m 2^{\tau nq} \varepsilon \|x\|^q \\ & = 2^{\tau np} (r^p + r^m) k \delta \|x\|^p + 2^{\tau nq} (r^q + r^m) \varepsilon \|x\|^q \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . This means that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|f(rx) - r^m f(x)\| \\ & \leq 2^{\tau(p-m)n} (r^p + r^m) k \delta \|x\|^p + 2^{\tau(q-m)n} (r^q + r^m) \varepsilon \|x\|^q \end{aligned} \tag{2.10}$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $\tau(p-m) < 0$  and  $\tau(q-m) < 0$ , if we take  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in (2.10), then we arrive at

$$f(rx) = r^m f(x)$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$ . This completes the proof, since  $r \in \mathbb{Q} \setminus \{0\}$  was arbitrary.  $\square$

**Remark.** In Lemma 2.2, if  $f$  is continuous, then it is easy to observe that  $f(tx) = t^m f(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Now we are ready to prove our main result.

**Theorem 2.3** *Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a unital Banach algebra. Let  $\delta, \varepsilon \geq 0$  be real numbers and let  $p, q \geq 0$  be real numbers with either  $p, q < m$  or  $p, q > m$ . If  $f : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is a mapping satisfying (2.1) and (2.2), then  $f : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is an  $m$ -order derivation.*

**Proof.** Let  $\Delta$  be a unique  $m$ -order derivation as in Lemma 2.2. Put  $\tau = 1$  if  $p, q < m$  and  $\tau = -1$  if  $p, q > m$ . Since  $f(2^{\tau n} x) = 2^{\tau mn} f(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  by Lemma 2.2, it follows from (2.3) that

$$\begin{aligned} \|f(x) - \Delta(x)\| &= \|2^{-\tau mn} f(2^{\tau n} x) - 2^{-\tau mn} \Delta(2^{\tau n} x)\| \\ &\leq 2^{-\tau mn} k \delta \|2^{\tau n} x\|^p \\ &= 2^{\tau(p-m)n} k \delta \|x\|^p \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Namely,

$$\|f(x) - \Delta(x)\| \leq 2^{\tau(p-m)n} k \delta \|x\|^p \tag{2.11}$$

for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  and all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $\tau(p-m) < 0$ , by letting  $n \rightarrow \infty$  in (2.11), we conclude that  $f(x) = \Delta(x)$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{A}$  which implies that  $f$  is an  $m$ -order derivation.  $\square$

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