

## Stability of a conditional Cauchy equation implying the stability of the Jensen-Hosszú equation

Peter Volkmann

**Abstract.** For functions  $f$  taking values in a Banach space, the stability of the functional equation

$$f(x + y - xy) + f(xy) = f(x + y) \quad (x, y \in \mathbb{R})$$

will be shown. As a simple consequence we get the stability of the Jensen-Hosszú equation

$$f(x + y - xy) + f(xy) = 2f\left(\frac{x + y}{2}\right) \quad (x, y \in \mathbb{R}),$$

which is already known from Kominek [1]; the constant  $9/2$  occurring there can be diminished to 2.

In this paper  $E$  denotes a (real) Banach space. For  $\xi, \eta \in E$  the notation  $\xi \overset{\varepsilon}{\sim} \eta$  means that  $\|\xi - \eta\| \leq \varepsilon$  (cf. Przebieracz [4]). In the sequel we use the following result from [5]:

**Lemma.** *Suppose  $\varepsilon, \alpha \geq 0$  and let  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow E$  satisfy*

$$g(x) + g(y) \overset{\varepsilon}{\sim} g(x + y) \quad (x + y \geq \alpha).$$

*Then we have  $g(x) \overset{\varepsilon}{\sim} a(x)$  ( $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ), where  $a : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow E$  is additive.*

Now our main result will be the stability of the conditional Cauchy equation

$$f(x + y - xy) + f(xy) = f(x + y) \quad (x, y \in \mathbb{R}).$$

**Theorem.** *Suppose  $\varepsilon \geq 0$  and let  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow E$  satisfy*

$$(1) \quad g(x + y - xy) + g(xy) \overset{\varepsilon}{\sim} g(x + y) \quad (x, y \in \mathbb{R}).$$

*Then we have  $g(x) \overset{\varepsilon}{\sim} a(x)$  ( $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ), where  $a : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow E$  is additive.*

**Proof.** It is sufficient to show that

$$(2) \quad g(u) + g(v) \overset{\varepsilon}{\sim} g(u + v) \quad (u + v \geq 4),$$

then the case  $\alpha = 4$  of the Lemma can be applied. For  $u + v \geq 4$  we have  $u \geq 2$  or  $v \geq 2$ , without loss of generality let us assume

$$u \geq 2.$$

Then

$$(3) \quad \delta := (u + v)^2 - 4v > 0$$

holds. This is clear for  $v < 0$ ; for  $v \geq 0$  we get

$$\delta = u^2 + 2uv + v^2 - 4v > 2uv - 4v = 2v(u - 2) \geq 0.$$

Now (3) implies the existence of

$$x = \frac{u + v}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{(u + v)^2}{4} - v} (> 0).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 - (u + v)x + v &= 0, \\ x + v\frac{1}{x} - v &= u. \end{aligned}$$

When setting  $y = v/x$ , hence  $v = xy$ , we get

$$x + y - xy = u, \quad xy = v, \quad x + y = u + v,$$

thus (2) is a consequence of (1).

**Corollary.** *Suppose  $\varepsilon \geq 0$  and let  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow E$  satisfy*

$$(4) \quad g(x + y - xy) + g(xy) \overset{\varepsilon}{\approx} 2g\left(\frac{x + y}{2}\right) \quad (x, y \in \mathbb{R}).$$

*Then we have*

$$(5) \quad g(x) \overset{2\varepsilon}{\approx} a(x) + b \quad (x \in \mathbb{R}),$$

*where  $a : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow E$  is additive and  $b \in E$ .*

**Proof.** For  $h(x) = g(x) - g(0)$  ( $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ) we have  $h(0) = \theta$  (the zero-element of  $E$ ), and (4) leads to

$$(6) \quad h(x + y - xy) + h(xy) \overset{\varepsilon}{\approx} 2h\left(\frac{x + y}{2}\right) \quad (x, y \in \mathbb{R}).$$

Now  $y = 0$  gives

$$h(x) \overset{\varepsilon}{\approx} 2h\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) \quad (x \in \mathbb{R}).$$

Replacing here  $x$  by  $x + y$  and taking (6) into account, we get

$$h(x + y - xy) + h(xy) \overset{2\varepsilon}{\approx} h(x + y) \quad (x, y \in \mathbb{R}).$$

According to the Theorem we have  $h(x) \overset{2\varepsilon}{\approx} a(x)$  ( $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ), i.e.,  $g(x) - g(0) \overset{2\varepsilon}{\approx} a(x)$  ( $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ), hence  $g(x) \overset{2\varepsilon}{\approx} a(x) + b$  ( $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ), where  $a : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow E$  is additive and  $b = g(0) \in E$ .

**Remarks.** When taking  $\varepsilon = 0$  in the Corollary, we get the solutions  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow E$  of the Jensen-Hosszú equation

$$(7) \quad f(x + y - xy) + f(xy) = 2f\left(\frac{x + y}{2}\right) \quad (x, y \in \mathbb{R});$$

they are given by  $f(x) = a(x) + b$  ( $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ), where  $a : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow E$  is additive and  $b \in E$ .

The solutions of (7) are already known from Kominek [1]. From [1] also the stability of (7) is known; more precisely, Kominek obtains the result of the Corollary with  $\frac{9}{2}\varepsilon$  instead of  $2\varepsilon$  in (5). In a similar way the constant  $20\varepsilon$  occurring in the proof of Losonczi [3] for the stability of the Hosszú equation could be diminished in [5] to  $4\varepsilon$ . The question of best constants in these stability results is not settled by this.

Finally let us mention that Kominek and Sikorska [2] prove stability of the equation in (7) for functions  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow E$  and  $f : ]0, 1[ \rightarrow E$ , respectively. It would be of interest to have some concrete estimates of the constants occurring there.

## References

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*Typescript:* Marion Ewald.

*Author's addresses:*

Institut für Analysis, KIT, 76128 Karlsruhe, Germany; Instytut Matematyki, Uniwersytet Śląski, Bankowa 14, 40-007 Katowice, Poland.