Stability of additive functional equation on discrete quantum semigroups

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Abstract. We construct a non-commutative analog of additive functional equations on discrete quantum semigroups and show that this non-commutative functional equation has Hyers-Ulam stability on amenable discrete quantum semigroups. The discrete quantum semigroups that we consider in this paper, are in the sense of van Daele, and the amenability is in the sense of Bédos-Murphy-Tuset. Our main result generalizes a famous and old result due to Forti on the Hyers-Ulam stability of additive functional equations on amenable classical discrete semigroups.

1. Introduction

Let $G$ be a (semi)group. Consider the additive functional equation,

\[(\text{AFE}) \quad F(xy) = F(x) + F(y),\]

for functions $F$ from $G$ to the complex field $\mathbb{C}$. The AFE is said to have Hyers-Ulam stability (HUS) on $G$ if the following property holds.

Given $r > 0$, there is $r' > 0$ such that if a function $f$ on $G$ satisfies

$$|f(xy) - f(x) - f(y)| < r',$$

then there exists a function $F$ on $G$ satisfying

$$F(xy) = F(x) + F(y) \quad \text{and} \quad |F(x) - f(x)| < r.$$

The study of the above property goes back to a famous question of Ulam [11] for characterization of pairs $(G, H)$, where $H$ is a metric group, satisfying the above property with $\mathbb{C}$ replaced by $H$. In 1941, Hyers


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showed that if $G$ is the underlying additive group of a Banach space then the AFE has HUS on $G$. Four decades later, Forti [5] extended the result of Hyers for amenable semigroups by a very simple method. Since the appearance of [6], the Ulam stability problem and its generalizations not only for the AFE but also for other types of functional equations has been considered and developed by many mathematicians. See [7] for the history of developments. See also [2, 9, 10]. Nowadays, this field of mathematics is called “Hyers-Ulam stability”.

The goal of this short note is to extend Forti’s result [5] to amenable discrete quantum semigroups. The details is as follows. (For exact definitions of discrete quantum semigroups and amenability see Section 3). Let $G$ be a discrete quantum semigroup with comultiplication $\Delta$. Denote by $F(G)$ the function algebra on $G$ and by $F_b(G)$ the von Neumann subalgebra of bounded functions on $G$. Let the “supremum norm” on $F_b(G)$ be denoted by $\| \cdot \|$. Then the non-commutative analog of the AFE becomes

$$\Delta(F) = 1 \otimes F + F \otimes 1,$$

for functions $F$ in $F(G)$.

**Definition 1.1.** We say that non-commutative AFE has HUS on $G$ if the following condition holds. For every $r > 0$ there is $r' > 0$ such that if a function $f \in F(G)$ satisfies the inequality

$$\| \Delta(f) - 1 \otimes f - f \otimes 1 \| < r',$$

then there exists a function $F \in F(G)$ for which

$$\Delta(F) = 1 \otimes F + F \otimes 1, \quad \| F - f \| < r.$$

The main result of this note may be considered as an extension of [5, Theorem 7] to discrete quantum semigroups.

**The Main Result.** If $G$ is a left or right amenable discrete quantum semigroup, then the non-commutative AFE has HUS on $G$.

Our proof of the main result that will be given in Section 4 is the same as the proof of Forti [3, Theorem 7] but translated to the dual language of Hopf algebras. As it would be clear for the reader, by taking a quick look at Forti’s proof, for this dualization we need to work with unbounded ‘functions’ of two variables which are bounded by fixing one of the variables. Moreover, we must have a machinery to apply bounded operators to spaces of such functions. In Section 2, following some ideas from [3], we introduce somewhat a new way for tensoring linear maps which is specially designated to overcome the mentioned difficulties. In Section 3, we consider definition of discrete quantum semigroups and amenability. Our definition is the same as the ones of Van Daele [12] for discrete quantum groups but with weaker conditions. Also these can
be considered as Hopf-von Neumann algebras of discrete type \[3\] except that their coproducts need not to be injective. We end this section with three remarks.

**Remark 1.2.**

(i) Suppose that \( F \in \mathbf{F}(G) \) as above satisfies in the non-commutative \textbf{AFE}. Since \( F \) as a function takes values in finite dimensional matrix algebras, we may consider \( E = \exp(F) \) as a member of \( \mathbf{F}(G) \). Then it is straightforward to check that \( \Delta(E) = E \otimes E \). Such elements in the language of Hopf-algebras are called group-like.

(ii) One can consider Definition 2 for any locally compact quantum group \( G \) where \( f \) and \( F \) are unbounded affiliated operators to the underlying von Neumann algebra of \( G \). But the proof of Theorem 2 does not longer work in this more general case.

2. A TYPE OF TENSOR PRODUCTS

Throughout \( \iota \) denotes the identity map and the C*-algebra of \( n \times n \) matrices is denoted by \( M_n \). By an index system, we mean a set \( I \) together with a positive integer valued function \( n_I \) on \( I \). If \( \gamma \in I \), then for simplicity we write \( M_\gamma \) for \( M_{n_I(\gamma)} \). In the following, \( I, I', J, J' \) denote index systems. We denote by \( \mathbf{F}(I) \) the *-algebra of all functions \( f : I \to \cup_{\gamma \in I} M_\gamma \) for which \( f(\gamma) \in M_\gamma \), with pointwise operations (In [3], \( \mathbf{F}(I) \) is called multimatrix algebra). The *-subalgebra of all functions with finite support is denoted by \( \mathbf{F}_b(I) \). So in the standard notation \( \mathbf{F}(I) = \prod_{\gamma \in I} M_\gamma \) and \( \mathbf{F}_b(I) = \bigoplus_{\gamma \in I} M_\gamma \). It is also simply verified that \( \mathbf{F}(I) \) is identified with the multiplier algebra of \( \mathbf{F}_t(I) \). We denote the unit of \( \mathbf{F}(I) \) by 1 and hence \( 1(\gamma) = 1_\gamma \) is the identity matrix in \( M_\gamma \). \( \mathbf{F}_b(I) \) is the *-subalgebra of \( \mathbf{F}(I) \) containing bounded functions i.e. those functions \( f \) for which \( \|f\| = \sup_{\alpha \in I} \|f(\alpha)\| < \infty \). This is a C*-algebra with the sup-norm and is the dual space of absolutely summable functions. So \( \mathbf{F}_b(I) \) is a von Neumann algebra. Let \( I_i \) be an index system for \( i = 1, \ldots, k \). We consider the cartesian product set \( I_1 \times \cdots \times I_k \) as an index system with \( n_{I_1 \times \cdots \times I_k}(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_k) = n_1(\alpha_1) \cdots n_k(\alpha_k) \). Let \( A = \{i_1, \ldots, i_l\} \) be a subset of \( \{1, \ldots, k\} \). Then we let \( \mathbf{F}_{b_{i_1 \cdots i_l}}(I_1 \times \cdots \times I_k) \) be the subspace of those functions \( f \) in \( \mathbf{F}(I_1 \times \cdots \times I_k) \) such that for every fixed family \( \{\alpha_i \in I_i\}_{i \in \{1, \ldots, k\} \setminus A} \) the condition \( \sup_{\alpha_i \in I_i, i \in A} \|f(\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_k)\| < \infty \) holds.

Suppose that \( T \) is a linear map from \( \mathbf{F}(I) \) (resp. \( \mathbf{F}_b(I) \)) to \( \mathbf{F}(I') \). We define a linear map \( T \circ \iota \) from \( \mathbf{F}(I \times J) \) (resp. \( \mathbf{F}_{b_1}(I \times J) \)) to \( \mathbf{F}(I' \times J) \) as follows. For \( \beta \in J \) let \( \iota_\beta \) denote the identity linear map on \( M_\beta \). Let \( f \) be in \( \mathbf{F}(I \times J) \) (resp. \( \mathbf{F}_{b_1}(I \times J) \)). Since \( M_\beta \) is finite dimensional the function \( \alpha \mapsto f(\alpha, \beta) \) determines a unique member of \( \mathbf{F}(I) \otimes M_\beta \), (resp. \( \mathbf{F}_b(I) \otimes M_\beta \)). So \( (T \circ \iota_\beta)(\alpha \mapsto f(\alpha, \beta)) \) is in \( \mathbf{F}(I') \otimes M_\beta \). Considering the latter space as a space of functions from \( I' \) to \( \cup_{\alpha' \in I'} M_{\alpha' \otimes M_\beta} \), we
If we have the following identities: for any \( f : \mathbb{F}(I) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}(J) \) and \( g : \mathbb{F}(J) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}(I') \), we let \( \tilde{T} \otimes t \) denote \( T \otimes t \otimes 1 \). For every linear map \( T : \mathbb{F}(I) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}(J) \), we let \( T^n_\beta = \mathbb{P}_\beta T \mathbb{J}_\alpha \). Now, suppose that \( T \) is a *-homomorphism from \( \mathbb{F}(I) \) to \( \mathbb{F}(J) \). Since the kernel of \( \mathbb{P}_\beta T \) is a two-sided ideal with finite codimension in \( \mathbb{F}(I) \), and since matrix algebras have no nontrivial two-sided ideals, there is a finite subset \( I_0 \) of \( I \) with \( \mathbb{P}_\beta T |_{\mathbb{F}(I \setminus I_0)} = 0 \). It follows that for every fixed \( \beta \in J \) there are only finitely many \( \alpha \) in \( I \) with \( T^n_\beta \neq 0 \) and \( T(f)(\beta) = \sum_\alpha T^n_\beta (f(\alpha)) \). Analogous statements are completely satisfied when the domain of \( T \) is the subalgebra \( \mathbb{F}_b(I) \).

(P3) If \( T \) is a *-homomorphism from \( \mathbb{F}(I) \) or \( \mathbb{F}_b(I) \) to \( \mathbb{F}(J) \) then

\[
(T \otimes t)(f)(\beta, \beta') = \sum_\alpha (T^n_\beta \otimes t_{\beta'}) (f(\alpha, \beta')) \quad (\beta' \in J').
\]

The analogous statements are satisfied for \( \tilde{T} \otimes t \) and \( \tilde{\tilde{T}} \otimes t \).
Let \( T : \mathbf{F}(I) \to \mathbf{F}(J) \) and \( T' : \mathbf{F}(I') \to \mathbf{F}(J') \) be linear maps such that either \( T \) or \( T' \) is *-homomorphism. Then

\[
(\iota \otimes T')(T \otimes \iota) = (T \otimes \iota)(\iota \otimes T'),
\]
as linear maps from \( \mathbf{F}(I \times I') \) to \( \mathbf{F}(J \times J') \).

**Proof.** We suppose that \( T \) is *-homomorphism. The other case is similar. Let \( f \) be in \( \mathbf{F}(I \times I') \) and let \( f^i_j \in \mathbf{F}(I') \) \((1 \leq i, j \leq n_I(\alpha))\) be such that

\[
f(\alpha, \alpha') = \sum_{ij} e^i_j \otimes f^i_j(\alpha').
\]

By (P3) we have

\[
[(T \otimes \iota)(f)](\beta, \alpha') = \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{ij} T^\alpha_{\beta}(e^i_j) \otimes f^i_j(\alpha').
\]

This implies that

\[
[(\iota \otimes T')(T \otimes \iota)(f)](\beta, \beta') = \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{ij} T^\alpha_{\beta}(e^i_j) \otimes [T'(f^i_j)](\beta').
\]

On the other hand

\[
[(\iota \otimes T')(f)](\alpha, \beta') = \sum_{ij} e^i_j \otimes [T'(f^i_j)](\beta'),
\]

and hence

\[
[(T \otimes \iota)(\iota \otimes T')(f)](\beta, \beta') = \sum_{\alpha} (T^\alpha_{\beta} \otimes \iota_{\beta'})(\sum_{ij} e^i_j \otimes [T'(f^i_j)](\beta'))
\]

\[
= \sum_{\alpha} \sum_{ij} T^\alpha_{\beta}(e^i_j) \otimes [T'(f^i_j)](\beta').
\]

\(\Box\)

(P5) Suppose that \( T : \mathbf{F}(I) \to \mathbf{F}(J) \) is a *-homomorphism. If \( f \) belongs to \( \mathbf{F}_{b:2}(I \times J') \) then \( (T \otimes \iota)(f) \in \mathbf{F}_{b:2}(J \times J') \).

**Proof.** Let \( f \in \mathbf{F}_{b:2}(I \times J') \). So for every \( \alpha \in I \), we have

\[
\sup_{\beta' \in J'} \|f(\alpha, \beta')\| < \infty.
\]

Let \( \beta \in J \) be fixed. By (P3) we have

\[
[(T \otimes \iota)(f)](\beta, \beta') = \sum_{\alpha} (T^\alpha_{\beta} \otimes \iota_{\beta'})(f(\alpha, \beta')).
\]

So,

\[
\sup_{\beta' \in J'} \|(T \otimes \iota)(f)](\beta, \beta')\| \leq \sum_{\alpha \in I, T^\alpha_{\beta} \neq 0} (\sup_{\beta' \in J'} \|f(\alpha, \beta')\|) < \infty.
\]

\(\Box\)
3. DISCRETE QUANTUM SEMIGROUPS

Let \( I \) be an index system. A comultiplication for \( I \) is a collection of \(*\)-homomorphisms \( \Delta^\alpha_{\beta, \gamma} : \mathcal{M}_\alpha \to \mathcal{M}_\beta \otimes \mathcal{M}_\gamma \) for each ordered triple \((\alpha, \beta, \gamma)\) of elements of \( I \), which satisfies the two conditions:

(i) \( \Delta^\alpha_{\beta, \gamma}(1_\alpha)\Delta^{\alpha'}_{\beta', \gamma}(1_{\alpha'}) = 0 \) for \( \alpha \neq \alpha' \),

(ii) the \(*\)-homomorphisms \( \sum_\omega (\Delta^\omega_{\alpha, \beta} \otimes \iota)\Delta^\lambda_{\omega, \gamma} \) and \( \sum_\omega (\iota \otimes \Delta^\omega_{\beta, \gamma})\Delta^\lambda_{\alpha, \omega} \) from \( \mathcal{M}_\lambda \) to \( \mathcal{M}_\alpha \otimes \mathcal{M}_\beta \otimes \mathcal{M}_\gamma \) are equal.

Note that (i) implies that for fixed \( \alpha \) and \( \beta \) there are only finitely many \( \gamma \) with \( \Delta^\alpha_{\beta, \gamma}(1_\alpha) \neq 0 \). Also (i) guarantees that the \(*\)-homomorphisms in (ii) are well defined. Now, we may, and hence do, define a \(*\)-homomorphism \( \Delta \) by

\[
[\Delta(f)](\beta, \gamma) = \sum_\alpha \Delta^\alpha_{\beta, \gamma}f(\alpha),
\]

from \( \mathcal{F}(I) \) to \( \mathcal{F}(I \times I) \). Then (ii) may be restated as \( (\Delta \otimes \iota)\Delta = (\iota \otimes \Delta)\Delta \).

Note that every \( \Delta^\alpha_{\beta, \gamma} \) may be recovered from \( \Delta \). So, from now on we do not distinguish between \( \Delta \) and the collection \( \{\Delta^\alpha_{\beta, \gamma}\} \).

**Definition 3.1.** A discrete quantum semigroup is a pair \( G = (I, \Delta) \) such that \( I \) is an index system and \( \Delta \) is a comultiplication for \( I \).

For a discrete quantum semigroup \( G = (I, \Delta) \), we denote the algebras \( \mathcal{F}_b(I) \) and \( \mathcal{F}(I) \), respectively, by \( \mathcal{F}_b(G) \) and \( \mathcal{F}(G) \). Analogously, we let \( \mathcal{F}(G \times G) = \mathcal{F}(I \times I) \) and \( \mathcal{F}_b(G \times G) = \mathcal{F}_b(I \times I) \). The comultiplication \( \Delta \) of \( G \) transforms bounded functions to bounded functions i.e. \( \Delta(\mathcal{F}_b(G)) \subseteq \mathcal{F}_b(G \times G) \). It follows from the fact that the map \( f \mapsto [\Delta(f)](\beta, \gamma) \) from \( \mathcal{F}_b(G) \) to \( \mathcal{M}_\beta \otimes \mathcal{M}_\gamma \) is a \(*\)-homomorphism between \( C^*\)-algebras and hence norm decreasing.

Let \( G = (I, \Delta) \) be a discrete quantum semigroup. Then \( G \) is called right amenable [1] if there is a state \( m \) on \( \mathcal{F}_b(G) \), called right invariant mean, which satisfies \( (m \otimes \iota)\Delta(f) = m(f)1 \) for every \( f \in \mathcal{F}_b(G) \). Left invariant means and left amenable discrete quantum semigroups are defined similarly.

**Example 3.2.** Let \( G \) be a discrete semigroup. Then \( G \) gives rise to a discrete quantum semigroup \( G = (I, \Delta) \) in which \( I = G \) and \( n_I = 1 \). The \(*\)-homomorphisms \( \Delta^\alpha_{\beta, \gamma} : \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{C} \otimes \mathbb{C} = \mathbb{C} \) are defined by

\[
\Delta^\alpha_{\beta, \gamma} = \begin{cases} 
\iota, & \alpha = \beta \gamma, \\
0, & \text{otherwise.}
\end{cases}
\]

In this case, \( G \) is right (resp. left) amenable iff \( G \) is right (resp. left) amenable as usual. Also, it is not so hard to see that every discrete
quantum semigroup \( \mathbb{G} = (I, \Delta) \) for which \( n_I = 1 \), is constructed from a discrete semigroup, as above.

Discrete quantum groups \([12]\) and Hopf-von Neumann algebras of discrete type \([4]\) are also discrete quantum semigroups in our sense. We will need the next lemmas in Section 4.

**Lemma 3.3.** Let \( \mathbb{G} = (I, \Delta) \) be a discrete quantum semigroup and \( m \) be a right invariant mean for \( \mathbb{G} \). Then for every \( f \in F_{b;1}(\mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{G}) \) the following holds:

\[
(m \triangleleft \nu \triangleright \iota)(\Delta \triangleright \nu)(f) = 1 \otimes [(m \triangleright \nu)(f)].
\]

**Proof.** First of all, note that by (P2) the left hand side is well-defined. Let \( f \) be in \( F_{b;1}(\mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{G}) \) and let \( f^{ij}_{\gamma} \in F_b(\mathbb{G}) \) be such that \( f(\omega, \gamma) = \sum_{ij} f^{ij}_{\gamma}(\omega) \otimes e^{ij}_{\gamma} \). Then we get

\[
[(\Delta \triangleright \nu)(f)](\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = \sum_{ij} [\Delta(f^{ij}_{\gamma})](\alpha, \beta) \otimes e^{ij}_{\gamma}
\]

and hence

\[
[(m \triangleleft \nu \triangleright \iota)(\Delta \triangleright \nu)(f)](\beta, \gamma) = [((m \triangleright \nu \triangleright \iota)(\Delta \triangleright \nu)(f)](\beta, \gamma)
\]

\[
= \sum_{ij} [(m \triangleright \nu)(\Delta(f^{ij}_{\gamma}))](\beta) \otimes e^{ij}_{\gamma}
\]

\[
= \sum_{ij} m(f^{ij}_{\gamma}) 1_\beta \otimes e^{ij}_{\gamma}
\]

\[
= \sum_{ij} 1_\beta \otimes m(f^{ij}_{\gamma}) e^{ij}_{\gamma}
\]

\[
= 1_\beta \otimes [(m \triangleright \nu)(f)](\gamma)
\]

\[
= (1 \otimes [(m \triangleright \nu)(f)])(\beta, \gamma).
\]

\( \square \)

**Lemma 3.4.** Let \( \mathbb{G} = (I, \Delta) \) be a discrete quantum semigroup, \( n \) be a linear functional on \( F_b(\mathbb{G}) \), and \( f \in F_{b;1}(\mathbb{G} \times \mathbb{G}) \). Then

\[
\Delta(n \triangleright \nu)(f) = (n \triangleleft \nu \triangleright \iota)(\nu \triangleright \Delta)(f).
\]

**Proof.** First of all, note that by (P5) the right hand side is well-defined. Let \( \tilde{n} \) be an arbitrary linear extension of \( n \) to \( F(\mathbb{G}) \). Then

\[
(n \triangleleft \nu \triangleright \iota)(\nu \triangleright \Delta)(f) = (n \triangleright \nu \triangleright \iota)(\nu \triangleright \Delta)(f)
\]

\[
= \Delta(n \triangleright \nu)(f) = \Delta(n \triangleright \nu)(f),
\]

where we have used (P4) to pass from the first equality to the second one. \( \square \)
4. The main result

**Theorem 4.1.** If $G$ is a left or right amenable discrete quantum semi-group then the non-commutative AFE has HUS on $G$.

**Proof.** Suppose that $G$ is right amenable. The proof of the other case is similar. Let $m$ be a right invariant mean for $G$ and let $r > 0$ be given. We show that the conditions of Definition 1.1 are satisfied for $r' = r$. Let $f \in F(G)$ be such that

$$\|\Delta(f) - 1 \otimes f - f \otimes 1\| < r,$$

that is $\sup_{\beta, \gamma} \|\Delta(f)(\beta, \gamma) - f(\beta) \otimes 1_{\gamma} - 1_{\beta} \otimes f(\gamma)\| < r$. It follows that

$$\|\Delta(f)(\beta, \gamma) - f(\beta) \otimes 1_{\gamma}\| < r + \|1_{\beta} \otimes f(\gamma)\| = r + \|f(\gamma)\|,$$

for every $\beta$ and $\gamma$. So $(\Delta(f) - f \otimes 1) \in F_{b,1}(G \times G)$. We define a function $F$ in $F(G)$ by

$$F = (m \tilde{\otimes} \nu)(\Delta f - f \otimes 1).$$

By (P0) and (P1) we get

$$F \otimes 1 = [(m \tilde{\otimes} \nu)(\Delta f - f \otimes 1)] \otimes \nu(1)$$

$$= (m \tilde{\otimes} \nu)(\Delta f \otimes 1 - f \otimes 1 \otimes 1).$$

(4.1)

It follows from Lemma 3.4 that $1 \otimes F = (m \tilde{\otimes} \nu)(\Delta \tilde{\otimes} \nu)(\Delta(f) - f \otimes 1)$ and hence by (P2) we get

$$1 \otimes F = (m \tilde{\otimes} \nu \tilde{\otimes} \nu)((\Delta \tilde{\otimes} \nu)\Delta(f) - \Delta(f) \otimes 1).$$

(4.2)

It follows from (4.1) and (4.2) that

$$F \otimes 1 + 1 \otimes F = (m \tilde{\otimes} \nu)(\Delta \tilde{\otimes} \nu)(\Delta(f) - f \otimes 1 \otimes 1)$$

$$= (m \tilde{\otimes} \nu)(\nu \otimes \Delta)(\Delta(f) - f \otimes 1 \otimes 1)$$

$$= (m \tilde{\otimes} \nu)(\nu \otimes \Delta)(\Delta(f) - f \otimes 1),$$

where we have used (P5) to pass from the second row to the third one. By Lemma 3.3, the third row is equal to $\Delta(m \tilde{\otimes} \nu)(\Delta f - f \otimes 1) = \Delta(F)$. So we have proved that $\Delta(F) = 1 \otimes F + F \otimes 1$. For the norm inequality we have

$$\|F - f\| = \|(m \tilde{\otimes} \nu)(\Delta(f) - f \otimes 1) - f\|$$

$$= \|(m \tilde{\otimes} \nu)(\Delta(f) - f \otimes 1) - (m \tilde{\otimes} \nu)(1 \otimes f)\|$$

$$= \|(m \tilde{\otimes} \nu)(\Delta(f) - f \otimes 1 - 1 \otimes f)\|$$

$$< r.$$

This completes the proof. \[\Box\]
References


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