

**ON THE STABILITY OF TRIBONACCI AND  
 $k$ -TRIBONACCI FUNCTIONAL EQUATIONS  
IN MODULAR SPACE**

Roji Lather<sup>1</sup>, Ashish<sup>2</sup>§, Manoj Kumar<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1,3</sup>Department of Mathematics  
Maharshi Dayanand University  
Rohtak, 124001, INDIA

<sup>2</sup>Central University of Haryana  
Jant-Pali, Mahendergarh, INDIA

**Abstract:** The purpose of this paper is to establish the Hyers-Ulam stability of the following Tribonacci and  $k$ -Tribonacci functional equations

$$\begin{aligned}f(x) &= f(x-1) + f(x-2) + f(x-3), \\f(k, x) &= kf(k, x-1) + f(k, x-2) + f(k, x-3)\end{aligned}$$

in modular space.

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**Key Words:** Hyers-Ulam stability, modular space, Tribonacci functional equation,  $k$ -Tribonacci functional equation

## 1. Introduction

Stability is investigated when one is asking whether a small error of parameters in one problem causes a large deviation of its solution. Give an approximate homomorphism, is it possible to approximate it by a true homomorphism? In other words, we are looking for the situations when the homo-

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§Correspondence author

morphisms are stable, that is, if a mapping is almost a homomorphism, then there exists a true homomorphism near it with small error as much as possible. This problem was posed by Ulam in 1940 [34] and is called the stability of functional equations. For Banach spaces, the problem was solved by Hyers [5] in the case of approximately additive mappings. Later, Hyers' result was generalized by Aoki [35] for additive mappings and by Rassias [36] for linear mappings by allowing the Cauchy difference to be unbounded. During the last few decades, a number of papers and research monographs have been published on various generalizations and applications of generalized Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability to a number of functional equations and mappings (see [2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 15, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 33]).

In 2009, S. M. Jung [32] investigated the Hyers-Ulam stability of Fibonacci functional equation. In 2011, Alvaro H. Salas [1] investigated about the  $k$ -Fibonacci number and their associated number. After that, M. Bidkhan and M. Hossini [16] proved the stability of  $k$ -Fibonacci functional equation. Later on, M. Bidkhan et al. [17] succeeded to prove the Hyers-Ulam stability of  $(k, s)$ -Fibonacci functional equation. Furthermore, in 2012, M. Gordji, M. Naderi and Th. M. Rassias [22] et al. proved the stability of Tribonacci functional equation in non-Archimedean space and in 2014, M. E. Gordji, Ali Divandi, M. Rostannian, C. Park and D. Y. Sin [21] also proved the stability of Tribonacci functional equation in 2-normed space.

Recently, In 2014, M. N. Parizi et al. [23] and in 2015, Iz. El-Fassi and S. Kabbaj [12] proved the stability of Fibonacci functional equation and orthogonal quadratic functional equation in Modular space respectively. In the first section of this paper, we denote by  $T_n$  the  $n$ th Tribonacci number where

$$T_n = T_{n-1} + T_{n-2} + T_{n-3} \quad \text{for } n = 3$$

with initial conditions  $T_0 = 0$ ,  $T_1 = 1$ ,  $T_2 = 1$ . From this, we may derive a functional equation

$$f(x) = f(x-1) + f(x-2) + f(x-3) \quad (1)$$

which is called the Tribonacci functional equation if a function  $f : N \times R \rightarrow X$  satisfies the above equation for all  $x \in R$ . We denote the roots of equation  $x^3 - x^2 - x - 1 = 0$  by  $p$ ,  $q$  and  $r$  where  $q$ ,  $r$  are complex,  $|q| = |r|$  and  $p$  is greater than one. We obtain

$$p + q + r = 1, \quad pq + qr + pr = -1, \quad pqr = 1.$$

And in the second section, we denote by  $F_{k,n}$  the  $n$ th  $k$ -Tribonacci number where

$$F_{k,n} = kF_{k,n-1} + F_{k,n-2} + F_{k,n-3} \quad \text{for } n = 3$$

with initial conditions  $F_{k,0} = 0, F_{k,1} = 1, F_{k,2} = 1$ . From this, we may derive a functional equation

$$f(k, x) = kf(k, x - 1) + f(k, x - 2) + f(k, x - 3) \tag{2}$$

which is called the  $k$ -Tribonacci function equation if a function  $f : N \times R \rightarrow X$  satisfies the above equation for all  $x \in R, K \in N$ , characteristic equation of the  $k$ -Tribonacci sequence is  $x^3 - kx^2 - x - 1 = 0$ , and  $p, q, r$  denote the roots of characteristic equation where  $p$  is greater than one and  $q, r \in C$  and  $|q| = |r|$ . We know that  $p + q + r = k, pq + qr + pr = -1, pqr = 1$ . For each  $x \in R, [x]$  stands for the largest integer that does not exceed  $x$ . Finally, we prove the Hyers-Ulam stability of functional equations (3.1) and (3.2) respectively in modular space.

### 2. Preliminaries

In this section, we recall some definitions, basic notions and facts about Modular space. As, we know  $p + q + r = 1, pq + qr + pr = -1$  and  $pqr = 1$ .

Now it follows from that

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) - p(f(x - 1) - rf(x - 2)) - rf(x - 1) \\ = q[f(x - 1) - (r + p)f(x - 2) + prf(x - 3)] \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x = 0$ . By mathematical induction, we verify that for all  $x = 0$  and all  $m$  belonging to the set  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ , we obtain,

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) - p(f(x - 1) - rf(x - 2)) - rf(x - 1) \\ = q^m[f(x - m) - rf(x - m - 1) + prf(x - m - 2) - pf(x - m - 1)] \\ f(x) - r[f(x - 1) - qf(x - 2)] - qf(x - 1) \\ = p^m[f(x - m) - rf(x - m - 1) + qrf(x - m - 2) - qf(x - m - 1)] \\ f(x) - q[f(x - 1) - pf(x - 2)] - pf(x - 1) \\ = r^m[f(x - m) - pf(x - m - 1) + qpf(x - m - 2) - qf(x - m - 1)] \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x = 0$  and all  $m \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ .

And in the similar way we can define for equation .

**Definition 2.1** ([12]). Let  $X$  be an arbitrary vector space.

(a) A functional  $\rho : X \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  is called a modular if for arbitrary  $x, y \in X$ ,

(i)  $\rho(x) = 0$  if and only if  $x = 0$ ,

(ii)  $\rho(\alpha x) = \rho(x)$  for every scalar  $\alpha$  with  $|\alpha| = 1$ ,

(iii)  $\rho(\alpha x + \beta y) = \rho(x) + \rho(y)$  if and only if  $\alpha + \beta = 1$  and  $\alpha, \beta = 0$ ,

(b) if (iii) is replaced by

(iii)  $\rho(\alpha x + \beta y) = \alpha\rho(x) + \beta\rho(y)$  if and only if  $\alpha + \beta = 1$  and  $\alpha, \beta = 0$ ,

then we say that  $\rho$  is a convex modular.

(c) A modular  $\rho$  defines a corresponding modular space, i.e., the vector space  $X_\rho$  given by

$$X_\rho = \{x \in X : \rho(\lambda x) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \lambda \rightarrow 0\}$$

**Definition 2.2** ([14]). Let  $\rho$  be a convex modular, the modular space  $X_\rho$  can be equipped with a norm called the Luxemburg norm, defined by

$$\|x\|_\rho = \inf \left\{ \lambda > 0 : \rho \frac{x}{\lambda} \leq 1 \right\}$$

A function modular is said to be satisfy the  $\Delta_2$ -condition if there exit  $k > 0$  such that  $\rho(2x) \leq k\rho(x)$  for all  $x \in X_\rho$ .

**Example 2.3** ([23]). Let  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$  be a norm space, then  $\|\cdot\|$  is a convex modular on  $X$ . But converse is not true.

In general the modular  $\rho$  does not behave as a norm or as a distance because it is not sub-additive. But one can associate to a modular the F-norm (see [4]).

**Definition 2.4** ([12]). Let  $\{x_n\}$  and  $x$  be in  $X_\rho$ . Then

(i) we say  $\{x_n\}$  is a  $\rho$ -convegent to  $x$  and write  $x_n \rho x$  if and only if  $\rho(x_n - x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

(ii) the sequence  $\{x_n\}$ , with  $x_n \rightarrow X_\rho$ , is called  $\rho$ -Cauchy if  $\rho(x_n - x_m) \rightarrow 0$  as  $m, n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

(iii) a subset  $S$  of  $X_\rho$  is called  $\rho$ -complete if and only if any  $\rho$ -Cauchy sequence is  $\rho$ -convergent to an element of  $S$ .

The modular  $\rho$  has the Fatou property if and only if any  $\rho(x) \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \rho(x_n)$  whenever the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is  $\rho$ -convergent to  $x$ . For further details and proofs, we refer the reader to [14].

**Remark 2.5** ([12]). If  $x \in X_\rho$  then  $\rho(ax)$  is a nondecreasing function of  $a \geq 0$ . Suppose that  $0ab$ , then property (iii) of Definition 2.1 with  $y = 0$  shows that

$$\rho(ax) = \rho\left(\frac{a}{b}bx\right) \leq \rho(bx).$$

Moreover, if  $\rho$  is convex modular on  $X$  and  $|\alpha| \leq 1$  then,  $\rho(\alpha x) \leq |\alpha|\rho(x)$  and also  $\rho(x) \leq \frac{1}{2}\rho(2x) \leq \frac{k}{2}\rho(x)$  if  $\rho$  satisfy the  $\Delta_2$ -condition for all  $x \in X$ .

### 3. Main Results

#### 3.1. Stability of Tribonacci Functional Equation in Modular Space

In the following theorem, we prove the Hyers-Ulam stability of the Tribonacci functional equation .

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $(X, \rho)$  be a Banach Modular space. If a function  $f : R \rightarrow X$  satisfies the inequality*

$$\rho(f(x) - f(x - 1) - f(x - 2) - f(x - 2)) = \epsilon \tag{3}$$

for all  $x \in R$ , and for some  $\epsilon > 0$ , then there exist a Tribonacci function  $H : N \times R \rightarrow X$  such that

$$\rho(f(x) - H(x)) \leq \frac{2(1+|q|)+|q|^2}{||q^2(r-p)+r^2(p-q)+p^2(q-r)} \times \frac{\epsilon}{1-|q|^2}. \tag{4}$$

*Proof.* It follows from that

$$\begin{aligned} &\rho(f(x) - p\{f(x - 1) - rf(x - 2)\} - rf(x - 1) \\ &\quad - q[f(x - 1) - (r + p)f(x - 2) + prf(x - 3)]) \leq \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

If we replace  $x$  by  $x - \alpha$  in the last inequality, then we get

$$\begin{aligned} &\rho(f(x - \alpha) - p\{f(x - \alpha - 1) - rf(x - \alpha - 2)\} - rf(x - \alpha - 1) \\ &\quad - qp f(x - \alpha - 1) - (r + p)f(x - \alpha - 2) + prf(x - \alpha - 3)) \leq \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in R$ .

Now multiplying both sides by  $q^\alpha$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \rho(q^\alpha\{f(x-\alpha)-p[f(x-\alpha-1)-rf(x-\alpha-2)]-rf(x-\alpha-1)\} \\ & -q^{\alpha+1}\{f(x-\alpha-1)-(r+p)f(x-\alpha-2)+prf(x-\alpha-3)\}) \\ & \leq |q^\alpha|\rho(\{f(x-\alpha)-p[f(x-\alpha-1)-rf(x-\alpha-2)]-rf(x-\alpha-1)\} \\ & \quad -q^{\alpha+1}\{f(x-\alpha-1)-(r+p)f(x-\alpha-2)+prf(x-\alpha-3)\}) \\ & \leq |q^\alpha|\epsilon \end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

for all  $x \in R$  and  $\alpha \in N$ . Furthermore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \rho(\{f(x) - p[f(x - 1) - rf(x - 2)] - rf(x - 1)\} \\ & - q^m[f(x - m) - (r + p)f(x - m - 1) + prf(x - m - 2)]) \\ & \leq \rho\left(\sum_{\alpha=0}^{m-1} (q^\alpha[f(x-\alpha)-p\{f(x-\alpha-1)-rf(x-\alpha-2)\}-rf(x-\alpha-1)] \right. \\ & \quad \left. - q^{\alpha+1}[f(x-\alpha-1) - (r+p)f(x-\alpha-2) + prf(x-\alpha-3)])\right) \\ & \leq \sum_{\alpha=0}^{m-1} |q|^\alpha (\rho([f(x-\alpha)-p\{f(x-\alpha-1)-rf(x-\alpha-2)\}-rf(x-\alpha-1)] \\ & \quad - q[f(x-\alpha-1) - (r+p)f(x-\alpha-2) + prf(x-\alpha-3)])) \\ & \leq \sum_{\alpha=0}^{m-1} |q|^\alpha \\ & \leq \frac{\epsilon}{1 - |q|} \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

for all  $x \in R, m \in N$ .

Let  $x \in R$  be fixed, than implies that  $\{q^m[f(x - m) - p(f(x - m - 1) - rf(x - m - 2)) - rf(x - m - 1)]\}$  is a cauchy sequence ( $|q| < 1$ ). So by the completeness of  $X$ , we may define a function  $H_1 : R \rightarrow X$  such that

$$H_1(x) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} q^m[f(x-m)-(p+r)f(x-m-1)+prf(x-m-2)]$$

for all  $x \in R$ .

Applying the definition of  $H_1$ , we introduce the Tribonacci function

$$H_1(x-1)+H_1(x-2)+H_1(x-3)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= q^{-1} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} q^{m+1} [f(x-(m+1)) - (p+r)f(x-(m+1)-1) + prf(x-(m+1)-2)] \\
 &\quad + q^{-2} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} q^{m+2} [f(x-(m+2)) - (p+r)f(x-(m+2)-1) + prf(x-(m+2)-2)] \\
 &\quad + q^{-3} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} q^{m+3} [f(x-(m+3)) - (p+r)f(x-(m+3)-1) + prf(x-(m+3)-2)] \\
 &= q^{-1}H_1(x) + q^{-2}H_1(x) + q^{-3}H_1(x) \\
 &= H_1(x) \quad \text{for all } x \in R.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $H_1$  is a Tribonacci function.

If  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , then from , we obtain

$$\rho(f(x) - (p+r)f(x-1) + prf(x-2) - H_1) = \frac{1}{1-|q|} \epsilon. \tag{7}$$

for all  $x \in R$ . Furthermore, it follows from that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\rho([f(x) - q\{f(x-1) - pf(x-2)\} - pf(x-1)] \\
 &\quad - r[f(x-1) - pf(x-2) + pqf(x-3) - qf(x-2)]) = \epsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in R$ . Now, we replace  $x$  by  $x - \alpha$  in above inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\rho([f(x-\alpha) - q\{f(x-\alpha-1) - pf(x-\alpha-2)\} - pf(x-\alpha-1)] \\
 &\quad - r[f(x-\alpha-1) - pf(x-\alpha-2) + pqf(x-\alpha-3) - qf(x-\alpha-2)]) = \epsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

and now multiplying by  $r^\alpha$  on both sides.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\rho(r^\alpha [f(x-\alpha) - q\{f(x-\alpha-1) - pf(x-\alpha-2)\} - pf(x-\alpha-1)] \\
 &\quad - r^{\alpha+1} [f(x-\alpha-1) - pf(x-\alpha-2) + pqf(x-\alpha-3) - qf(x-\alpha-2)]) \\
 &\leq |r^\alpha| (\rho([f(x-\alpha) - q\{f(x-\alpha-1) - pf(x-\alpha-2)\} - pf(x-\alpha-1)] \\
 &\quad - r^{\alpha+1} [f(x-\alpha-1) - pf(x-\alpha-2) + pqf(x-\alpha-3) - qf(x-\alpha-2)])) \\
 &\leq |r^\alpha| \epsilon
 \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

for all  $x \in R, \alpha \in Z$ . Now, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\rho([f(x) - q\{f(x-1) - pf(x-2)\} - pf(x-1)] \\
 &\quad - r^m [f(x-m) - (q+p)f(x-m-1) + pq(f(x-m-2))]) \\
 &\leq \rho\left(\sum_{k=1}^m (r^\alpha [f(x-\alpha) - q\{f(x-\alpha-1) - pf(x-\alpha-2)\} - pf(x-\alpha-1)])\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & -r^{\alpha+1}[f(x-\alpha-1)-(p+q)f(x-\alpha-2)+pqf(x-\alpha-3)]) \\
 \leq & \sum_{k=1}^m |r|^\alpha (\rho([f(x-\alpha)-q\{f(x-\alpha-1)-pf(x-\alpha-2)\}-pf(x-\alpha-1)] \\
 & -r[f(x-\alpha-1)-(p+q)f(x-\alpha-2)+pqf(x-\alpha-3)])) \\
 \leq & \sum_{k=1}^m |r|^\alpha \\
 \leq & \frac{\epsilon}{1-|r|} \tag{9}
 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in R$  and  $m \in N$ . We have

$$\{r^m[f(x-m)-(q+p)f(x-m-1)+pqf(x-m-2)]\}$$

is a cauchy sequence ( $|r| < 1$ ) for all  $x \in R$ . Hence, we can define a function  $H_2 : R \rightarrow X$  by

$$H_2(x) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} r^m[f(x-m)-(q+p)f(x-m-1)+pqf(x-m-2)]$$

for all  $x \in R$ . Using the above definition of  $H_2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & H_2(x-1)+H_2(x-2)+H_2(x-3) \\
 = & r^{-1} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} r^{m+1}[f(x)-(m+1)-(q+p)f(x-(m+1)-1)+pqf(x-(m+1)-2)] \\
 & +r^{-2} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} r^{m+2}[f(x-(m+2))-(q+p)f(x-(m+2)-1)+pqf(x-(m+2)-2)] \\
 & +r^{-3} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} r^{m+3}[f(x-(m+3))-(q+p)f(x-(m+3)-1)+pqf(x-(m+3)-2)] \\
 = & r^{-1}H_2(x)+r^{-2}H_2(x)+r^{-3}H_2(x) \\
 = & H_2(x) \quad \text{for all } x \in R.
 \end{aligned}$$

So, we can say that  $H_2$  is also a Tribonacci function. If  $m$  tends to  $\infty$ , then from , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho(f(x)-(q+p)f(x-1)+pqf(x-2)-H_2(x)) &= \frac{1}{1-|r|}\epsilon \\
 &= \frac{1}{1-|q|}\epsilon. \tag{10}
 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in R$ . Finally, analogous to , we obtain

$$\rho([f(x)-r\{f(x-1)-qf(x-2)\}-qf(x-1)])$$



$$- p[f(x - 1) - r f(x - 2) + q r f(x - 3) - q f(x - 2)]) \leq \epsilon$$

for all  $x \in R$ .

Now we replace  $x$  by  $x + \alpha$  in above inequality, that we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \rho(f(x + \alpha) - r\{f(x + \alpha - 1) - qf(x + \alpha - 2)\} - qf(x + \alpha - 1) \\ & - p[f(x + \alpha - 1) - (r + q)f(x - \alpha - 2) + q r f(x + \alpha - 3)]) \leq \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \rho(p^{-\alpha}[f(x + \alpha) - r\{f(x + \alpha - 1) - qf(x + \alpha - 2)\} - qf(x + \alpha - 1)] \\ & - p^{-\alpha+1}[f(x + \alpha - 1) - (r + q)f(x - \alpha - 2) + q r f(x + \alpha - 3)]) \\ & \leq |\alpha^{-1}|^k \epsilon \end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

for all  $x \in R$  and  $\alpha \in Z$ . Applying , we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} & \rho(p^{-m}[f(x+m) - r\{f(x+m-1) - qf(x+m-2)\} \\ & - qf(x+m-1)] - [f(x) - (r+q)f(x-1) + r q f(x-2)]) \\ & \leq \sum_{\alpha=1}^m \rho(p^{-\alpha}[f(x+\alpha) - r\{f(x+\alpha-1) - qf(x+\alpha-2)\} - qf(x+\alpha-1)] \\ & - p^{-\alpha+1}[f(x+\alpha-1) - (r+q)f(x+\alpha-2) + q r f(x+\alpha-3)]) \\ & \leq \sum_{\alpha=1}^m p^{-\alpha} (\rho([f(x+\alpha) - r\{f(x+\alpha-1) - qf(x+\alpha-2)\} - qf(x+\alpha-1)] \\ & - p[f(x+\alpha-1) - (r+q)f(x+\alpha-2) + q r f(x+\alpha-3)])) \\ & \leq \sum_{\alpha=1}^m p^{-\alpha} \epsilon \end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

for all  $x \in R$ ,  $m \in N$ . We obviously have

$$\{p^{-m}[f(x + m) - (r + q)f(x + m - 1) + q r f(x + m - 2)]\}$$

is a cauchy sequence by definition of completeness for a fixed  $x \in R$ . Hence, we may define a function  $H_3 : R \rightarrow X$  by

$$H_3(x) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p^{-m}[f(x + m) - (r + q)f(x + m - 1) + q r f(x + m - 2)]$$

for all  $x \in R$ . In view of above definition of  $H_3$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &H_3(x-1)+H_3(x-2)+H_3(x-3) \\ &= p^{-1} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p^{-(m-1)} [f(x+m-1) - (r+q)f(x+(m-1)-1) + qrf(x+(m-1)-2)] \\ &\quad + p^{-2} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p^{-(m-2)} [f(x+m-2) - (r+q)f(x+(m-2)-1) + qrf(x+(m-2)-2)] \\ &\quad + p^{-3} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p^{-(m-3)} [f(x+m-3) - (r+q)f(x+(m-3)-1) + qrf(x+(m-3)-2)] \\ &= p^{-1}H_3(x)+p^{-2}H_3(x)+p^{-3}H_3(x) \\ &= H_3(x) \quad \text{for all } x \in R. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we can say that  $H_3$  is also a Tribonacci function. If we suppose,  $m$  tends to infinity in then we have

$$\rho(H_3(x) - f(x) + (r + q)f(x - 1) - qrf(x - 2)) = \frac{\alpha^{-1}}{1 - |\alpha^{-1}|} \epsilon \tag{13}$$

for all  $x \in R$ . From , and , we observe that

$$\begin{aligned} &\rho\left(f(x) - \left[\frac{q^2(r-p)H_1(x) + r^2(p-q)H_2(x) - p^2(q-r)H_3(x)}{q^2(r-p) + r^2(p-q) + p^2(q-r)}\right]\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{|q^2(r-p) + r^2(p-q) + p^2(q-r)|} \rho(\{q^2(r-p) + r^2(p-q) + p^2(q-r)\}) \\ &\quad \times f(x) - q^2(r-p)H_1(x) - r^2(p-q)H_2(x) + p^2(q-r)H_3(x) \end{aligned}$$

Now, we assume that

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{|q^2(r-p) + r^2(p-q) + p^2(q-r)|} = \frac{1}{|A|} \tag{14} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{|A|} \rho([q^2(r-p)f(x) - q^2(r^2-p^2)f(x-1) + q^2(r-p)prf(x-2) - q^2(r-p)H_1(x)] \\ &\quad + [r^2(p-q)f(x) - r^2(p^2-q^2)f(x-1) + r^2(p-q)qpf(x-2) - r^2(p-q)H_2(x)] \\ &\quad + [p^2(q-r)f(x) - p^2(q^2-r^2)f(x-1) + p^2(q-r)qrf(x-2) - p^2(q-r)H_3(x)]) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{|A|} \left[ \frac{1}{1-|q|} + \frac{1}{1-|q|} + \frac{|q^2|}{1-|q^2|} \right] \epsilon \\ &= \frac{1}{|A|} \left[ \frac{2}{1-|q|} + \frac{|q^2|}{1-|q^2|} \right] \epsilon \\ &= \frac{1}{|A|} \left[ \frac{2(1+|q|) + |q|^2}{1-|q^2|} \right] \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Putting the value of  $|A|$  from we get the required result.

Hence,

$$H(x) = \frac{q^2(r-p)H_1(x) + r^2(p-q)H_2(x) - p^2(q-r)H_3(x)}{q^2(r-p) + r^2(p-q) + p^2(q-r)}$$

for all  $x \in R$ . It is not difficult to show that  $H$  is a Tribonacci function satisfying

### 3.2. Stability of $k$ -Tribonacci Functional Equation in Modular Space

Throughout the following theorem, we prove the Hyers-Ulam stability of the  $k$ -Tribonacci functional equation .

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $(X, \rho)$  be a Banach modular space. If a function  $f : R \rightarrow X$  satisfies the inequality*

$$\rho(f(k, x) - kf(k, x - 1) - f(k, x - 2) - f(k, x - 2)) = \epsilon \tag{15}$$

for all  $x \in R, k \in N$  and for some  $\epsilon > 0$ , then there exist a  $k$ -Tribonacci function  $H : N \times R \rightarrow X$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} &\rho(f(k, x) - H(k, x)) \\ &= \frac{2(1 + |q|) + |q|^2}{||q^2(r-p) + r^2(p-q) + p^2(q-r)} \times \frac{\epsilon}{1 - |q|^2}. \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

*Proof.* Since,  $p + q + r = k, pq + qr + pr = -1$  and  $pqr = 1$ . So from , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &\rho(f(k, x) - (p + q + r)f(k, x - 1) + (pq + qr + pr)f(k, x - 2) \\ &\quad - pqr f(k, x - 3)) = \epsilon. \end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

for all  $x \in R, k \in N$ . Now it follows from that

$$\begin{aligned} &f(k, x) - p(f(k, x - 1) - rf(k, x - 2)) - rf(k, x - 1) \\ &\quad - q[f(k, x - 1) - (r + p)f(k, x - 2) + prf(k, x - 3)] = \epsilon \end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

for all  $k \in N, x \geq 0$ .

If we replace  $x$  by  $x - \alpha$  in inequality then we get

$$\begin{aligned} &\rho(f(k, x - \alpha) - p[f(k, x - \alpha - 1) - rf(k, x - \alpha - 2)] \\ &\quad - rf(k, x - \alpha - 1) - qp f(K, x - \alpha - 1) - (r + p)f(k, x - \alpha - 2)) \end{aligned}$$

$$+ prf(k, x - \alpha - 3)) = \epsilon$$

for all  $x \in R, k \in N$ .

Now multiplying both sides by  $q^\alpha$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & \rho(q^\alpha[f(k, x - \alpha) - p\{f(k, x - \alpha - 1) - rf(k, x - \alpha - 2)\} - rf(k, x - \alpha - 1)] \\ & - q^{\alpha+1}[f(k, x - \alpha - 1) - (r + p)f(k, x - \alpha - 2) + prf(k, x - \alpha - 3)]) \\ & \leq |q^\alpha| \rho([f(k, x - \alpha) - p\{f(k, x - \alpha - 1) - rf(k, x - \alpha - 2)\} - rf(k, x - \alpha - 1)] \\ & - q[f(k, x - \alpha - 1) - (r + p)f(k, x - \alpha - 2) + prf(k, x - \alpha - 3)]) \\ & \leq |q^\alpha| \epsilon \end{aligned} \tag{19}$$

for all  $x \in R, k \in N$ . Furthermore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \rho(f(k, x) - p\{f(k, x - 1) - rf(k, x - 2)\} - rf(k, x - 1) \\ & - q^m[f(k, x - m) - (r + p)f(k, x - m - 1) + prf(k, x - m - 2)]) \\ & \leq \rho\left(\sum_{\alpha=0}^{m-1} q^\alpha [f(k, x - \alpha) - p\{f(k, x - \alpha - 1) - rf(k, x - \alpha - 2)\} - rf(k, x - \alpha - 1)] \right. \\ & \quad \left. - q^{\alpha+1}[f(k, x - \alpha - 1) - (r + p)f(k, x - \alpha - 2) + prf(k, x - \alpha - 3)]\right) \\ & \leq \sum_{\alpha=0}^{m-1} |q|^\alpha \rho([f(k, x - \alpha) - p\{f(k, x - \alpha - 1) - rf(k, x - \alpha - 2)\} - rf(k, x - \alpha - 1)] \\ & \quad - q[f(k, x - \alpha - 1) - (r + p)f(k, x - \alpha - 2) + prf(k, x - \alpha - 3)]) \\ & \leq \sum_{\alpha=0}^{m-1} |q|^\alpha \epsilon \\ & \leq \frac{\epsilon}{1 - |q|} \end{aligned} \tag{20}$$

for all  $x \in R, m \in N, k \in N$ .

Let  $x \in R$  be fixed, then implies that  $\{q^m[f(k, x - m) - p(f(k, x - m - 1) - rf(k, x - m - 2)) - rf(k, x - m - 1)]\}$  is a cauchy sequence ( $|q| < 1$ ). So by the completeness of  $X$ , we may define a function  $H_1 : R \rightarrow X$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} H_1(k, x) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} & q^m [f(k, x - m) - (p + r)f(k, x - m - 1) \\ & + prf(k, x - m - 2)] \quad \text{for all } x \in R, k \in N. \end{aligned}$$

Applying the definition of  $H_1$ , we introduce the  $k$ -Tribonacci function

$$\begin{aligned}
 &kH_1(k, x-1) + H_1(k, x-2) + H_1(k, x-3) \\
 &= kq^{-1} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} q^{m+1} [f(k, x-(m+1)) \\
 &\quad - (p+r)f(k, x-(m+1)-1) + prf(k, x-(m+1)-2)] \\
 &\quad + q^{-2} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} q^{m+2} [f(k, x-(m+2)) \\
 &\quad - (p+r)f(k, x-(m+2)-1) + prf(k, x-(m+2)-2)] \\
 &\quad + q^{-3} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} q^{m+3} [f(k, x-(m+3)) \\
 &\quad - (p+r)f(k, x-(m+3)-1) + prf(k, x-(m+3)-2)] \\
 &= kq^{-1}H_1(k, x) + q^{-2}H_1(k, x) + q^{-3}H_1(k, x) \\
 &= H_1(k, x) \quad \text{for all } x \in R, k \in N.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $H_1$  is a  $k$ -Tribonacci function.

If  $m \rightarrow \infty$ , then from we obtain

$$\rho(f(k, x) - (p+r)f(k, x-1) + prf(k, x-2) - H_1(k, x)) \tag{21}$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{1-|q|} \epsilon \tag{22}$$

for all  $x \in R, k \in N$ . Furthermore, it follows from that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\rho(f(k, x) - q(f(k, x-1) - pf(k, x-2)) - pf(k, x-1) \\
 &\quad - r[f(k, x-1) - pf(k, x-2) + pqf(k, x-3) - qf(k, x-2)]) = \epsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in R, k \in N$ . Now, we replace  $x$  by  $x - \alpha$  in above inequality, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\rho(f(k, x-\alpha) - q(f(k, x-\alpha-1) - pf(k, x-\alpha-2)) - pf(k, x-\alpha-1) \\
 &\quad - r[f(k, x-\alpha-1) - pf(k, x-\alpha-2) + pqf(k, x-\alpha-3) - qf(k, x-\alpha-2)]) = \epsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

and now multiplying by  $r^\alpha$  on both sides.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\rho(r^\alpha [f(k, x-\alpha) - q(f(k, x-\alpha-1) - pf(k, x-\alpha-2)) - pf(k, x-\alpha-1) \\
 &\quad - r^{\alpha+1} [f(K, x-\alpha-1) - pf(K, x-\alpha-2) + pqf(k, x-\alpha-3) - qf(k, x-\alpha-2)]) \\
 &\leq |r^\alpha| \rho([f(k, x-\alpha) - q(f(k, x-\alpha-1) - pf(k, x-\alpha-2)) - pf(k, x-\alpha-1) \\
 &\quad - r[f(K, x-\alpha-1) - pf(K, x-\alpha-2) + pqf(k, x-\alpha-3) - qf(k, x-\alpha-2)]) \\
 &\leq |r^\alpha| \epsilon \tag{23}
 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in R$ ,  $\alpha \in Z$ . Now, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \rho(f(k, x) - q\{f(k, x-1) - pf(k, x-2)\} - pf(k, x-1) \\
 & \quad - r^m[f(k, x-m) - (q+p)f(k, x-m-1) + pqf(k, x-m-2)]) \\
 & \leq \rho\left(\sum_{\alpha=0}^{m-1} r^\alpha [f(k, x-\alpha) - q\{f(k, x-\alpha-1) - pf(k, x-\alpha-2)\} - pf(k, x-\alpha-1)] \right. \\
 & \quad \left. - r^{\alpha+1}[f(k, x-\alpha-1) - (p+q)f(k, x-\alpha-2) + pqf(k, x-\alpha-3)]\right) \\
 & \leq \sum_{\alpha=0}^{m-1} |r|^\alpha \rho([f(k, x-\alpha) - q\{f(k, x-\alpha-1) - pf(k, x-\alpha-2)\} - pf(k, x-\alpha-1)] \\
 & \quad - r[f(k, x-\alpha-1) - (p+q)f(k, x-\alpha-2) + pqf(k, x-\alpha-3)]) \\
 & \leq \sum_{\alpha=0}^{m-1} |r|^\alpha \epsilon \\
 & \leq \frac{\epsilon}{1-|r|} \tag{24}
 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in R$  and  $m \in N$ . We have

$$\{r^m[f(k, x-m) - (q+p)f(k, x-m-1) + pqf(k, x-m-2)]\}$$

is a cauchy sequence ( $|r| < 1$ ) for all  $x \in R$ . Hence, we can define a function  $H_2 : R \rightarrow X$  by

$$\begin{aligned}
 & H_2(k, x) \\
 & = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} r^m [f(k, x-m) - (q+p)f(k, x-m-1) + pqf(k, x-m-2)]
 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in R$ . Using the above definition of  $H_2$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & kH_2(k, x-1) + H_2(k, x-2) + H_2(k, x-3) \\
 & = kr^{-1} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} r^{m+1} [f(k, x-(m+1)) \\
 & \quad - (q+p)f(k, x-(m+1)-1) + pqf(k, x-(m+1)-2)] \\
 & + r^{-2} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} r^{m+2} [f(k, x-(m+2)) \\
 & \quad - (q+p)f(k, x-(m+2)-1) + pqf(k, x-(m+2)-2)] \\
 & + r^{-3} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} r^{m+3} [f(k, x-(m+3))
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & -(q+p)f(k, x-(m+3)-1)+pqf(k, x-(m+3)-2)] \\ & = kr^{-1}H_2(k, x)+r^{-2}H_2(k, x)+r^{-3}H_2(k, x) \\ & = H_2(k, x) \quad \text{for all } x \in R. \end{aligned}$$

So, we can say that  $H_2$  is also a  $k$ -Tribonacci function. If  $m$  tends to  $\infty$ , then from , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \rho(f(k, x) - (q + p)f(k, x - 1) + qpf(k, x - 2) - H_2(k, x)) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{1 - |r|}\epsilon \leq \frac{1}{1 - |q|}\epsilon. \end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

for all  $x \in R$ . Finally, analogous to , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \rho(f(k, x) - r\{f(k, x - 1) - qf(k, x - 2)\} - qf(k, x - 1) \\ & - p[f(k, x - 1) - rf(k, x - 2) + qrf(k, x - 3) - qf(k, x - 2)]) = \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in R$ . Now we replace  $x$  by  $x + \alpha$  in above inequality, that we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \rho(f(k, x + \alpha) - r\{f(k, x + \alpha - 1) - qf(k, x + \alpha - 2)\} - qf(k, x + \alpha - 1) \\ & - p[f(k, x + \alpha - 1) - (r + q)f(k, x - \alpha - 2) + qrf(k, x + \alpha - 3)]) \leq \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} & \rho(p^{-\alpha}[f(k, x + \alpha) - r(f(k, x + \alpha - 1) - qf(k, x + \alpha - 2)) - qf(k, x + \alpha - 1)] \\ & - p^{-\alpha+1}[f(k, x + \alpha - 1) - (r + q)f(k, x - \alpha - 2) + qrf(k, x + \alpha - 3)]) \\ & = |\alpha^{-1}|^k \epsilon \end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

for all  $x \in R$  and  $\alpha \in Z$ . Applying , we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} & \rho(p^{-m}[f(k, x + m) - r(f(k, x + m - 1) - qf(k, x + m - 2)) \\ & - qf(k, x + m - 1)] - [f(k, x) - (r + q)f(k, x - 1) + r q f(k, x - 2)]) \\ & \leq \sum_{\alpha=1}^m \rho(p^{-\alpha}[f(k, x + \alpha) - r(f(k, x + \alpha - 1) - qf(k, x + \alpha - 2)) - qf(k, x + \alpha - 1)] \\ & - p^{-\alpha+1}[f(k, x + \alpha - 1) - (r + q)f(k, x + \alpha - 2) + qrf(k, x + \alpha - 3)]) \\ & \leq \sum_{\alpha=1}^m p^{-\alpha} \rho([f(k, x + \alpha) - r(f(k, x + \alpha - 1) - qf(k, x + \alpha - 2)) - qf(k, x + \alpha - 1)] \\ & - p^{-\alpha+1}[f(k, x + \alpha - 1) - (r + q)f(k, x + \alpha - 2) + qrf(k, x + \alpha - 3)]) \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq \sum_{\alpha=1}^m p^{-\alpha} \epsilon \tag{27}$$

for all  $x \in R, m \in N$ . By using we see that

$$\{p^{-m}[f(k, x + m) - (r + q)f(k, x + m - 1) + qrf(k, x + m - 2)]\}$$

is a cauchy sequence by definition of completeness for a fixed  $x \in R$ . Hence, we may define a function  $H_3 : R \rightarrow X$  by

$$H_3(k, x) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p^{-m}[f(k, x + m) - (r + q)f(k, x + m - 1) + qrf(k, x + m - 2)]$$

for all  $x \in R$ . In view of above definition of  $H_3$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &kH_3(k, x-1) + H_3(k, x-2) + H_3(k, x-3) \\ &= kp^{-1} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p^{-(m-1)} [f(k, x+m-1) \\ &\quad - (r+q)f(k, x+(m-1)-1) + qrf(k, x+(m-1)-2)] \\ &\quad + p^{-2} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p^{-(m-2)} [f(k, x+m-2) \\ &\quad - (r+q)f(k, x+(m-2)-1) + qrf(k, x+(m-2)-2)] \\ &\quad + p^{-3} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} p^{-(m-3)} [f(k, x+m-3) \\ &\quad - (r+q)f(k, x+(m-3)-1) + qrf(k, x+(m-3)-2)] \\ &= kp^{-1}H_3(k, x) + p^{-2}H_3(k, x) + p^{-3}H_3(k, x) \\ &= H_3(k, x) \quad \text{for all } x \in R, k \in N. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we can say that  $H_3$  is also a  $k$ -Tribonacci function. If we suppose,  $m$  tends to infinity in then we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\rho(H_3(k, x) - f(k, x) + (r + q)f(k, x - 1) - qrf(k, x - 2)) \\ &\leq \frac{\alpha^{-1}}{1 - |\alpha^{-1}|} \epsilon \end{aligned} \tag{28}$$

for all  $x \in R$ . From (22), (25) and (28), we observe that

$$\begin{aligned} &\rho\left(f(k, x) - \left[\frac{q^2(r-p)H_1(k, x) + r^2(p-q)H_2(k, x) - p^2(q-r)H_3(k, x)}{q^2(r-p) + r^2(p-q) + p^2(q-r)}\right]\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{|q^2(r-p) + r^2(p-q) + p^2(q-r)|} \\ &\quad \times \rho((q^2(r-p) + r^2(p-q) + p^2(q-r))f(k, x) - q^2(r-p)H_1(k, x)) \end{aligned}$$



$$-r^2(p-q)H_2(k, x) + p^2(q-r)H_3(k, x))$$

For convince, we assume that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{|q^2(r-p) + r^2(p-q) + p^2(q-r)|} = \frac{1}{|A|} \quad (29) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{|A|} \rho[(q^2(r-p) f(k, x) - q^2(r^2 - p^2) f(k, x-1) \\ & \quad + q^2(r-p)pr f(k, x-2) - q^2(r-p)H_1(k, x)) \\ & \quad + (r^2(p-q) f(k, x) - r^2(p^2 - q^2) f(k, x-1) + r^2(p-q)qp f(k, x-2) \\ & \quad - r^2(p-q)H_2(k, x)) \\ & \quad + (p^2(q-r) f(k, x) - p^2(q^2 - r^2) f(k, x-1) + p^2(q-r)qr f(k, x-2) \\ & \quad - p^2(q-r)H_3(k, x))] \\ & \leq \frac{1}{|A|} \left[ \frac{1}{1-|q|} + \frac{1}{1-|q|} + \frac{|q^2|}{1-|q^2|} \right] \epsilon \\ & = \frac{1}{|A|} \left[ \frac{2}{1-|q|} + \frac{|q^2|}{1-|q^2|} \right] \epsilon \\ & = \frac{1}{|A|} \left[ \frac{2(1+|q|) + |q^2|}{1-|q^2|} \right] \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Putting the value of  $|A|$  from we get the required result.

Hence,

$$H(k, x) = \frac{q^2(r-p)H_1(k, x) + r^2(p-q)H_2(k, x) - p^2(q-r)H_3(k, x)}{q^2(r-p) + r^2(p-q) + p^2(q-r)}$$

for all  $x \in R$ . It is easy to show that  $H$  is a  $k$ -Tribonacci function satisfying .

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