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# SET STABILITY FOR A FUNCTIONAL EQUATION OF ITERATIVE TYPE

1. G.A. Shanholt has proved in [1] stability theorems for a difference equation. It is the aim of this paper to prove similar results for the equation of iterative type

$$(1) \quad \varphi(f(x)) = g(x, \varphi(x)).$$

Throughout the paper we will assume the hypothesis

(H<sub>1</sub>)  $\varphi : I \rightarrow H$ ,  $f : I \rightarrow I$ ,  $g : I \times X \rightarrow H$ ,  $I = (0, b)$ ,  $H$  is an open connected subset of Banach space  $B$  and  $f$ ,  $g$  are continuous functions. Moreover  $f$  is strictly increasing in  $(0, b)$  and  $0 < f(x) < b$  for  $x \in I$ .

In this paper we adopt the following notation

$$N(A, \varepsilon) = \{x : d(x, A) < \varepsilon\};$$

$K = \{\Phi : \Phi : R_+ \cup \{0\} \rightarrow R_+ \cup \{0\}, \Phi \text{ is strictly increasing, continuous function and } \Phi(0) = 0\}$ ; for a function  $\varphi : I \rightarrow H$ , a set  $G \subset H$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  the relation  $d(\varphi, G) < \varepsilon$  denotes that for every  $x \in I$  we have  $d(\varphi(x), G) < \varepsilon$ ;

$$I_0 = [f(x_0), x_0] \text{ for } x_0 \in I;$$

$\varphi_0 : I_0 \rightarrow H$  will denote a continuous function such that  $\varphi_0(f(x_0)) = g(x_0, y_0)$ , where  $y_0$  is an arbitrary point of the set  $H$  and  $\varphi_0(x_0) = y_0$ ;

$\varphi(x, x_0, y_0, \varphi_0)$  will denote a continuous solution of equation (1) defined on  $(0, x_0]$  and such that  $\varphi|_{I_0} = \varphi_0$ .

**Remark 1.** Observe that under the hypothesis  $(H_1)$  for given  $x_0 \in I$ ,  $y_0 \in H$  a solution  $\varphi(x, x_0, y_0, \varphi_0)$  exists, because  $H$  as an open and connected subset of Banach space is arc-connected, then there exists an arc from the point  $(x_0, y_0)$  to the point  $(y_0, g(x_0, y_0))$  which may be extended "by equation (1)" to the interval  $(0, x_0]$ .

In the sequel we will assume the hypothesis:

$(H_2)$  There exist a closed and connected set  $G$  and  $\alpha > 0$  such that  $N(G, \alpha) \subset H$  for which there exists a  $k > 0$  such that for  $\varepsilon \in (0, \alpha)$  the inequality  $d(y_0, G) < \varepsilon$  implies  $d(g(x, y_0), G) < k\varepsilon$ .

**Remark 2.** If hypothesis  $(H_2)$  is satisfied and  $G$  is a connected set, then for any  $x_0$ , taking  $y_0$  such that  $d(y_0, G) < r$ ,  $r := \min(\frac{1}{k}\varepsilon, \varepsilon)$ , we have  $d(g(x_0, y_0), G) < \varepsilon$ . It implies, as  $N(G, \varepsilon)$  is arc-connected set, that we may take  $\varphi_0$  in  $N(G, \varepsilon)$  and for such a  $\varphi_0$  there exists  $\varphi(x, x_0, y_0, \varphi_0)$  (see Remark 1).

2. We will adopt following definitions, which are in the spirit of definitions given by G.A. Shanholt in [1], with necessary and natural modifications.

**Definition 1.** Let  $G \subset H$  be a closed subset of  $H$ . We say

(i)  $G$  is stable if for every  $x_0 \in I$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a  $\delta = \delta(x_0, \varepsilon) > 0$  such that  $d(\varphi_0, G) < \delta$  implies that  $\varphi(x, x_0, y_0, \varphi_0)$  exists and  $d(\varphi(x, x_0, y_0, \varphi_0), G) < \varepsilon$ ;

(ii)  $G$  is uniformly stable if it is stable and  $\delta$  in (i) is independent of  $x_0$ ;

(iii)  $G$  is asymptotically stable if it is stable and if for every  $x_0 \in I$  there exists  $\eta = \eta(x_0) > 0$  such that  $d(\varphi_0, G) < \eta$  implies  $d(\varphi(x, x_0, y_0, \varphi_0), G) \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow 0$ ;

(iv)  $G$  is uniformly asymptotically stable if it is uniformly stable, and  $\eta$  in (iii) is independent of  $x_0$  and limit is uniform in  $x_0, y_0, \varphi_0(t)$  ( $t \in I_0$ ), for  $(x_0, y_0, \varphi_0(t)) \in I \times N(G, \eta) \times N(G, \eta)$ .

**Definition 2.** Let  $V : I \times N(G, \alpha) \rightarrow R_+ \cup \{0\}$ .  
We say:

(i)  $V$  is positive definite with respect to the set  $G$  if there exists a  $\Phi \in K$  such that  $\Phi(d(y, G)) \leq V(x, y)$  for  $(x, y) \in I \times N(G, \alpha)$ ;

(ii)  $V$  is decreascent with respect to the set  $G$  if there exists a  $\Psi \in K$  such that  $\Psi(d(y, G)) \geq V(x, y)$  for  $(x, y) \in I \times N(G, \alpha)$ ;

(iii)  $V$  satisfies property (B) with respect to the set  $G$  if for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $x_0 \in I$  there exists  $\delta = \delta(x_0, \varepsilon) \in (0, \alpha)$  such that  $d(y, G) < \delta \Rightarrow V(x_0, y) < \varepsilon$ ;

(iv)  $V$  is Lapunov function for (1) on  $I \times N(G, \alpha)$  if it satisfies property (B) with respect to  $G$  and  $\Delta V(x, y) \leq 0$ , where  $\Delta V(x, y) := V(f(x), g(x, y)) - V(x, y)$  for  $(x, y) \in I \times N(G, \alpha_0)$ ,  $\alpha_0 = \min\{\alpha, \frac{\alpha}{k}\}$ .

**Definition 3.** A Lapunov function  $V$  for (1) on  $N(G, \alpha)$  has a strongly negative difference along solutions of (1) if there exists a  $\beta > 0$  such that  $\Delta V(x, y) \leq -\beta |g(x, y) - y|$  for  $(x, y) \in I \times N(G, \alpha_0)$ ,  $\alpha_0 = \min\{\alpha, \frac{\alpha}{k}\}$ .

**Theorem 1.** If hypothesis  $(H_1)$  and  $(H_2)$  are satisfied and if there exists a Lapunov function  $V$  for (1) on  $N(G, \alpha)$  and it has strongly negative difference along solutions of (1), then  $G$  is stable. Moreover, for each  $x_0 \in I$  there exists a  $\gamma > 0$  such that for an  $y_0 \in N(G, \gamma)$  the solution  $\varphi(x, x_0, y_0, \varphi_0)$ , where  $d(\varphi_0, G) < \gamma$ , is bounded.

**Proof.** Suppose that  $G$  is not stable. Then there exist a  $\varepsilon_0 \in (0, \alpha_0)$  and  $x_0 \in I$  such that for any  $\gamma \in (0, \varepsilon_0)$  there exist  $y_0 \in N(G, \gamma)$  and  $\bar{x} < x_0$  such that  $d(\varphi(\bar{x}, x_0, y_0, \varphi_0), G) \geq \varepsilon_0$  with  $d(\varphi_0, G) < \gamma$  (by virtue of Remarks 1 and 2 suitable  $\varphi_0$  and  $\varphi$  exist). As  $V$  has property (B), then for  $\frac{\beta \varepsilon_0}{2}$  there exists  $\delta(\frac{\beta \varepsilon_0}{2}, x_0) \in (0, \frac{\varepsilon_0}{2})$  such that  $d(y, G) < \delta$  implies  $V(x_0, y) < \frac{\beta \varepsilon_0}{2}$ . Let us take  $\gamma < \min(-\frac{\varepsilon_0}{2}, \delta)$ . Then  $d(\varphi_0, G) < \gamma$  and  $d(\varphi(\bar{x}), G) \geq \varepsilon_0$ .

Let  $\bar{x} = f^{\bar{n}}(t_0)$  for a  $t_0 \in I_0$ ,  $\bar{n}$  a positive integer (it follows from hypothesis  $(H_1)$  that  $x_0$  and  $t_0$  exist) and let  $d(\varphi(f^{\bar{n}}(t_0)), G) < \varepsilon_0$  for  $\bar{n} > n \geq 0$ . It implies that  $V(\bar{x}, \varphi(\bar{x}))$  exists.

Now let us compute

$$\begin{aligned}
 V(\bar{x}, \varphi(\bar{x})) &= V(f^{\bar{n}}(t_0), \varphi(f^{\bar{n}}(t_0))) = V(f(f^{\bar{n}-1}(t_0)), \varphi(f(f^{\bar{n}-1}(t_0)))) = \\
 &= V(f(f^{\bar{n}-1}(t_0)), g(f^{\bar{n}-1}(t_0), \varphi(f^{\bar{n}-1}(t_0)))) = \\
 &= V(f^{\bar{n}-1}(t_0), \varphi(f^{\bar{n}-1}(t_0))) + \Delta V(f^{\bar{n}-1}(t_0), \varphi(f^{\bar{n}-1}(t_0))) = \dots = \\
 &= V(t_0, \varphi(t_0)) + \sum_{i=0}^{\bar{n}-1} \Delta V(f^i(t_0), \varphi(f^i(t_0))) \leq \\
 &\leq V(t_0, \varphi(t_0)) - \beta \sum_{i=0}^{\bar{n}-1} |g(f^i(t_0), \varphi(f^i(t_0))) - \varphi(f^i(t_0))| \leq \\
 &\leq V(t_0, \varphi(t_0)) - \beta \left| \sum_{i=0}^{\bar{n}-1} g(f^i(t_0), \varphi(f^i(t_0))) - \varphi(f^i(t_0)) \right| \leq \\
 &\leq V(t_0, \varphi(t_0)) - \beta \left| \sum_{i=0}^{\bar{n}-1} \varphi(f^{i+1}(t_0)) - \varphi(f^i(t_0)) \right| = \\
 &= V(t_0, \varphi(t_0)) - \beta |\varphi(f^{\bar{n}}(t_0)) - \varphi(t_0)| < \\
 &< \frac{\beta \varepsilon_0}{2} + \beta (d(\varphi(t_0), G) - d(\varphi(\bar{x}), G)) \leq \frac{\beta \varepsilon_0}{2} + \beta (\gamma - \varepsilon_0) \leq \\
 &\leq \frac{\beta \varepsilon_0}{2} - \beta \varepsilon_0 + \beta \gamma = \beta \left( -\frac{\varepsilon_0}{2} + \gamma \right) < 0,
 \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts our supposition.

Now we prove the second part of the theorem.

For an  $x_0$  we chose  $\nu(x_0) < \min(\alpha, \delta)$  (where  $\delta$  satisfies the definition of stability of  $G$ ). For  $y \in N(G, \nu)$  the solution  $\varphi(x, x_0, y, \varphi_0)$  exists and it is in  $N(G, \alpha)$  for  $x \leq x_0$ . Suppose that for some  $y_0 \in N(G, \nu)$  the solution  $\varphi(x, x_0, y_0, \varphi_0)$  is unbounded i.e. for some  $x_k \rightarrow 0$  we have  $|\varphi(x_k)| \rightarrow \infty$ . Let us take a positive integer  $j$  such that  $V(t_0, \varphi(t_0)) - \beta|\varphi(x_j) - \varphi(t_0)| < 0$ , where  $t_0 \in I_0$ ,  $x_j = f^{n_j}(t_0)$  (this is possible because  $V$  is a Lapunov function). Computing as above we have

$$V(x_j, \varphi(x_j)) \leq V(t_0, \varphi(t_0)) - \beta|\varphi(x_j) - \varphi(t_0)| < 0,$$

because of this contradiction the proof is ended.

**Theorem 2.** Under assumptions of Theorem 1, if moreover  $V$  is decrescent with respect to the set  $G$ , then  $G$  is uniformly stable.

**Proof.** Suppose that  $G$  is not uniformly stable. Then there exists  $\varepsilon_0 \in (0, \alpha_0)$  such that for any  $\gamma \in (0, \varepsilon_0)$  there exist  $x_0 \in I$ ,  $y_0 \in N(G, \alpha)$  and  $\bar{x} < x_0$  such that

$$d(\varphi(\bar{x}, x_0, y_0, \varphi_0), G) \geq \varepsilon_0 \quad \text{with} \quad d(\varphi_0, G) < \gamma.$$

As  $V$  is decrescent with respect to the set  $G$ , then for  $\frac{\beta\varepsilon_0}{2}$  there exists  $\delta \left( \frac{\beta\varepsilon_0}{2} \right) \in \left( 0, \frac{\varepsilon_0}{2} \right)$  such that  $\psi(t) \leq \frac{\beta\varepsilon_0}{2}$  (here  $\psi$  is an element of  $K$  satisfying Definition 2, part (ii)). It is easy to verify that if  $V$  is decrescent with respect to the set  $G$ , then it also fulfils property (B). Then  $d(y, G) < \delta$  implies  $V(x_0, y) < \frac{\beta\varepsilon_0}{2}$ . Further argument does not differ from the one used to establish Theorem 1. This completes the proof.

We do not know under what assumptions the set  $G$  is asymptotically stable or uniformly asymptotically stable.

#### REFERENCE

- [1] G.A. S h a n h o l t : Set stability for difference equations, Internat. J. Control, 19 (1974) 309-314.

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