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ON THE EXISTENCE OF PERIODIC BOUNDARY
CONDITIONS FOR CERTAIN NONLINEAR VECTOR
DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

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In [5], B. MEHRI uses a special case of a theorem about contractions given in [3] (which, due to the finiteness of distance functions considered in [5], is in fact the usual theorem about contractions; see, e.g. [6]), and a result reported by ĀURIKOVIČ [1], to establish the existence and uniqueness of solution of the nonlinear differential equation $x'' + Kx = f(t, x, x')$, satisfying the periodic boundary conditions $x(0) - x(\omega) = x'(0) - x'(\omega) = 0$. Although Mehri's Theorem 1 covers both cases $K > 0$ and $K < 0$, his Theorems 2 and 3 are restricted only to the case $K > 0$.

In this note, we first extend all the results in [5] to a system of nonlinear second order differential equations. Then we establish two theorems whose scalar cases give analogues of Theorems 2 and 3 of [5] for the case $K < 0$.

Consider the vector boundary value problem

$$(1) \quad x'' + Ax = f(t, x, x'),$$

$$(2) \quad x(0) - x(\omega) = x'(0) - x'(\omega) = 0,$$

where $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is an n -dimensional vector; A is a constant diagonal $n \times n$ matrix; and $f(t, x, y) = (f_1(t, x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n), \dots, f_n(t, x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n))$ is a vector valued function, defined for $(t, x, y) \in E = [0, \omega] \times R^n \times R^n$.

Throughout this paper, we take $\|x\| = \text{Max}_i |x_i|$ and $\|A\| = \text{Max}_{i,k} |a_{ik}|$ respectively as the norm of $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ and of $A = (a_{ik})$.

Theorem 1. *Suppose that the matrix $A = (a_i \delta_{ik})_1^n$ (δ_{ik} is the Kronecker delta) is such that all the a_i are nonzero and have the same sign. Suppose further that the vector function $f(t, x, y)$ is continuous, bounded in E and satisfies the inequality*

$$(3) \quad \|f(t, x_1, y_1) - f(t, x_2, y_2)\| \leq C\{\|x_1 - x_2\| + 1/b\|y_1 - y_2\|\},$$

where $b = \text{Min}_i \sqrt{|a_i|}$, $C > 0$ is a constant such that

$$(4) \quad \frac{2C}{b^2} < 1.$$

Then in $[0, \omega] \subseteq [0, \pi/a]$, where $a = \text{Max}_i \sqrt{a_i}$ if

$$(5) \quad a_i > 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n,$$

and in $[0, \omega] \subseteq [0, +\infty)$, if

$$(6) \quad a_i < 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, n,$$

the problem (1) (2) has a unique solution. Moreover, Picard's sequence of successive approximations defined by

$$(7) \quad x_n(t) = \int_0^\omega G(t, s) f(s, x_{n-1}(s), x'_{n-1}(s)) ds, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

(where $G(t, s)$ is Green's matrix for the problem (1), (2)) for any vector function $x_0(t)$ specified below, converges in distance to this unique solution.

Proof. If (5) holds, then problem (1), (2) is equivalent to the integral equation

$$(8) \quad x(t) = \int_0^\omega G(t, s) f(t, x(s), x'(s)) ds,$$

where $G(t, s)$ is Green's matrix for the problem (1), (2),

$$(9) \quad G(t, s) = \begin{cases} 2^{-1}(\sqrt{A})^{-1} \left[\text{Sin } \sqrt{(A)} \frac{\omega}{2} \right]^{-1} \text{Cos } \sqrt{(A)} \left(\frac{\omega}{2} + s - t \right) & \text{for} \\ 0 \leq s \leq t \leq \omega \\ 2^{-1}(\sqrt{A})^{-1} \left[\text{Sin } \sqrt{(A)} \frac{\omega}{2} \right]^{-1} \text{Cos } \sqrt{(A)} \left(\frac{\omega}{2} + t - s \right) & \text{for} \\ 0 \leq t \leq s \leq \omega, \end{cases}$$

and the matrix functions $\text{Sin } \sqrt{(A)} t$ and $\text{Cos } \sqrt{(A)} t$ are defined by the matrix series ([2], p. 118),

$$\text{Sin } \sqrt{(A)} t = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} (-1)^p \frac{(\sqrt{A})^{2p+1}}{(2p+1)!} t^{2p+1},$$

$$\text{Cos } \sqrt{(A)} t = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} (-1)^p \frac{(\sqrt{A})^{2p}}{(2p)!} t^{2p}.$$

If (6) holds, then problem (1), (2) is equivalent to (8) where

$$(10) \quad G(t, s) = \begin{cases} 2^{-1}(\sqrt{|A|})^{-1} [E - \exp \sqrt{|A|} \omega]^{-1} \{ \exp [-\sqrt{|A|} (t - s)] \exp (\sqrt{|A|} \omega) \\ \quad + \exp [\sqrt{|A|} (t - s)] \} & \text{for } s \leq t \\ 2^{-1}(\sqrt{|A|})^{-1} [E - \exp \sqrt{|A|} \omega]^{-1} \{ \exp [-\sqrt{|A|} (s - t)] \exp (\sqrt{|A|} \omega) \\ \quad + \exp [\sqrt{|A|} (s - t)] \} & \text{for } t \leq s, \end{cases}$$

and the matrix functions $\exp [\sqrt{|A|} t]$ and $\exp [-\sqrt{|A|} t]$ are defined by the matrix series

$$\exp [\sqrt{|A|} t] = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\sqrt{|A|})^p}{p!} t^p, \quad \exp [-\sqrt{|A|} t] = \sum_{p=0}^{\infty} (-1)^p \frac{(\sqrt{|A|})^p}{p!} t^p.$$

Let S be the set of all continuous vector functions $x(t) = (x_1(t), \dots, x_n(t))$ with continuous first derivatives $x'(t) = (x'_1(t), \dots, x'_n(t))$ on $[0, \omega]$, and define the distance

$$(11) \quad d(x_1, x_2) = \text{Max}_{t \in [0, \omega]} \left\{ \|x_1(t) - x_2(t)\| + \frac{1}{b} \|x'_1(t) - x'_2(t)\| \right\},$$

for an arbitrary pair of elements $x_1(t), x_2(t)$ of S . Then $X = (S, d)$ is a complete metric space. We define an operator U on X by

$$(12) \quad Ux(t) = \int_0^{\omega} G(t, s) f(s, x(s), x'(s)) ds.$$

The operator U maps the space X into itself.

Let $x_1(t), x_2(t)$ be any two elements from X , then

$$\|Ux_1(t) - Ux_2(t)\| \leq C d(x_1, x_2) \text{Max}_i \frac{1}{|a_i|} \leq \frac{C}{b^2} d(x_1, x_2),$$

and

$$\frac{1}{b} \left\| \frac{d}{dt} Ux_1(t) - \frac{d}{dt} Ux_2(t) \right\| \leq \frac{C}{b} d(x_1, x_2) \text{Max}_i \frac{1}{\sqrt{|a_i|}} \leq \frac{C}{b^2} d(x_1, x_2).$$

Hence

$$d(Ux_1, Ux_2) \leq \frac{2C}{b^2} d(x_1, x_2).$$

Now (4) and the fact that any two elements of X have a finite distance, complete the proof of the theorem.

In the following two theorems we shall assume that (5) holds. Since $\omega \in [0, \pi/a]$, it follows that $\sqrt{(a_i)}(\omega/2) \in [0, \pi/2]$ for each i , and hence $\text{Sin } \sqrt{(a_i)}(\omega/2) \cong \cong (2/\pi) \sqrt{(a_i)}(\omega/2)$ for each i involving

$$\|G(t, s)\| \leq \frac{\pi}{2b^2\omega}, \quad \|G_t(t, s)\| \leq \frac{\pi}{2b\omega}.$$

Let S and U be as before, then $US \subseteq S$. Let (S^*, d) be the completion of (US, d) where d is given by (11).

Theorem 2. Let $f(t, x, y)$ be a vector function defined and continuous on E , and satisfying the following conditions

$$(13) \quad \|f(t, x, y)\| \leq \frac{b^2}{2\pi} t^p, \quad p \geq 0, \quad (t, x, y) \in E,$$

$$(14) \quad \|f(t, x_1, y_1) - f(t, x_2, y_2)\| \leq \frac{b^2}{\pi t^r} \left\{ \|x_1 - x_2\|^q + \left[\frac{1}{b} \|y_1 - y_2\| \right]^q \right\},$$

for $(t, x_i, y_i) \in E, i = 1, 2$, where $q \geq 1, 0 < r < 1, r = p(q - 1)$ and

$$\frac{1}{(1-r)} \left(\frac{1}{p+1} \right)^{q-1} < 1.$$

Then problem (1), (2) has a unique solution $x(t) \in S^*$, and the successive approximations defined by (7) for any $x_0(t) \in S$, converge in distance to this unique solution.

Proof. The space $X = (S^*, d)$ is a complete metric space, and U , defined by (12), maps X into itself. Let $z_1(t), z_2(t)$ be any two elements of X , then from (12) and (13)

$$\|z_1(t) - z_2(t)\| \leq \frac{b^2}{\pi} \int_0^\omega \|G(t, s)\| s^p ds \leq \frac{1}{2(p+1)} \omega^p$$

and

$$\frac{1}{b} \|z'_1(t) - z'_2(t)\| \leq \frac{b^2}{\pi b} \int_0^\omega \|G_t(t, s)\| s^p ds \leq \frac{1}{2(p+1)} \omega^p.$$

From (14) and (11) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|Uz_1(t) - Uz_2(t)\| &\leq \frac{b^2}{\pi} \left(\frac{\omega^p}{p+1} \right)^{q-1} \cdot \frac{\pi}{2b^2\omega} \cdot \frac{d(z_1, z_2)}{(1-r)} \omega^{1-r} \leq \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{(p+1)^{q-1}} \cdot \frac{d(z_1, z_2)}{(1-r)} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\frac{1}{b} \left\| \frac{d}{dt} Uz_1(t) - \frac{d}{dt} Uz_2(t) \right\| \leq \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{(p+1)^{q-1}} \cdot \frac{d(z_1, z_2)}{(1-r)}.$$

From the last two inequalities, it follows that

$$d(U_{z_1}, U_{z_2}) \leq \frac{1}{(p+1)^{q-1}} \cdot \frac{1}{1-r} d(z_1, z_2)$$

which completes the proof.

Remark. In Theorem 2 it is assumed that $f(t, x, y)$ is bounded on E . The following theorem (whose proof is similar to that of Theorem 2) shows that this assumption is not necessary.

Theorem 3. Let $f(t, x, y)$ be continuous on E and satisfy the following conditions

$$(15) \quad \|f(t, x, y)\| \leq \frac{b^2}{2\pi} t^{-p}, \quad 0 < p < 1, \quad (t, x, y) \in E,$$

$$(16) \quad \|f(t, x_1, y_1) - f(t, x_2, y_2)\| \leq \frac{b^2}{\pi} t^{p(q-1)} \left\{ \|x_1 - x_2\|^q + \left[\frac{1}{b} \|y_1 - y_2\| \right]^q \right\},$$

where $q \geq 1$ and

$$\left(\frac{1}{1-p} \right)^{q-1} \cdot \frac{1}{p(q-1)+1} < 1.$$

Then problem (1), (2) has a unique solution, and the successive approximations defined by (7) for any $x_0(t) \in S$, converge in distance to this unique solution.

In the following two theorems we shall assume that (6) holds. Then we have

$$\|G(t, s)\| \leq \frac{2+b\omega}{2b^2\omega}, \quad \|G_t(t, s)\| \leq \frac{2+b\omega}{2b\omega}.$$

Theorem 4. Let $f(t, x, y)$ be continuous on E , and let $C > 0$ be a constant such that

$$(17) \quad \|f(t, x, y)\| \leq \frac{b^2 C}{2} t^p, \quad p \geq 0, \quad (t, x, y) \in E,$$

$$(18) \quad \|f(t, x_1, y_1) - f(t, x_2, y_2)\| \leq \frac{b^2 C}{t^r} \left\{ \|x_1 - x_2\|^q + \left[\frac{1}{b} \|y_1 - y_2\| \right]^q \right\},$$

where $q \geq 1$, $0 < r < 1$, $r = p(q-1)$ and

$$(19) \quad 2C \left(\frac{1}{1-r} \right)^{1/q} \left(\frac{1}{p+1} \right)^{q-1/q} < 1.$$

Then there exists an $\omega_0 > 0$ such that for every ω , $0 < \omega \leq \omega_0$, (1), (2) has a unique solution $x(t) \in S^*$, and the successive approximations defined by (7) for any $x_0(t) \in S$, converge in distance to this unique solution.

Proof. Let $X = (S^*, d)$, and let $z_1(t), z_2(t)$ be any two elements of X , then from (12) and (17)

$$\|z_1(t) - z_2(t)\| \leq b^2 C \int_0^\omega \|G(t, s)\| s^p ds \leq \frac{C(2 + b\omega) \omega^p}{2(p + 1)}$$

and

$$\frac{1}{b} \|z'_1(t) - z'_2(t)\| \leq \frac{b^2 C}{b} \int_0^\omega \|G_t(t, s)\| s^p ds \leq \frac{C(2 + b\omega) \omega^p}{2(p + 1)}.$$

From (18) and (11), it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \|Uz_1(t) - Uz_2(t)\| &\leq b^2 C \cdot \left(\frac{C(2 + b\omega) \omega^p}{p + 1} \right)^{q-1} \cdot \frac{2 + b\omega}{2b^2\omega} \cdot \frac{d(z_1, z_2)}{1 - r} \omega^{1-r} \leq \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{(C(2 + b\omega))^q}{(p + 1)^{q-1}} \cdot \frac{1}{1 - r} d(z_1, z_2) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\frac{1}{b} \left\| \frac{d}{dt} Uz_1(t) - \frac{d}{dt} Uz_2(t) \right\| \leq \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{(C(2 + b\omega))^q}{(p + 1)^{q-1}} \cdot \frac{1}{1 - r} d(z_1, z_2).$$

From the last two inequalities we obtain

$$d(Uz_1, Uz_2) \leq \frac{(C(2 + b\omega))^q}{(p + 1)^{q-1}} \cdot \frac{1}{1 - r} d(z_1, z_2).$$

U is a contraction map provided that

$$(20) \quad \frac{(C(2 + b\omega))^q}{(p + 1)^{q-1}} \cdot \frac{1}{1 - r} < 1.$$

Clearly (20) is satisfied if

$$(21) \quad \omega < \frac{1}{b} \left\{ \frac{1}{C} (p + 1)^{q-1/q} (1 - r)^{1/q} - 2 \right\}.$$

Therefore, if $\omega > 0$ is chosen so that (21) is satisfied, then problem (1), (2) has a unique solution with the desired property.

Theorem 5. Let $f(t, x, y)$ be continuous on E , and let $C > 0$ be a constant such that

$$(22) \quad \|f(t, x, y)\| \leq \frac{b^2 C}{2} t^{-p}, \quad 0 < p < 1, \quad (t, x, y) \in E,$$

$$(23) \quad \|f(t, x_1, y_1) - f(t, x_2, y_2)\| \leq b^2 C t^{p(q-1)} \left\{ \|x_1 - x_2\|^q + \left[\frac{1}{b} \|y_1 - y_2\| \right]^q \right\}$$

where $q \geq 1$, and

$$(24) \quad 2C \left(\frac{1}{1-p} \right)^{q-1/q} \left(\frac{1}{p(q-1)+1} \right)^{1/q} < 1.$$

Then there exists an $\omega_0 > 0$ such that for every ω , $0 < \omega \leq \omega_0$, (1), (2) has a unique solution, and the successive approximations defined by (7) for any $x_0(t) \in S$, converge in distance to this unique solution.

Proof. Let $X = (S^*, d)$ and let $z_1(t)$ and $z_2(t)$ be any two elements in X , then

$$\|z_1(t) - z_2(t)\| \leq \frac{C(2+b\omega)\omega^{-p}}{2(1-p)},$$

$$\frac{1}{b} \|z_1'(t) - z_2'(t)\| \leq \frac{C(2+b\omega)\omega^{-p}}{2(1-p)}.$$

From (23) we obtain

$$d(Uz_1, Uz_2) \leq \frac{(C(2+b\omega))^q}{(1-p)^{q-1}} \cdot \frac{1}{p(q-1)+1} d(z_1, z_2).$$

Again U is a contraction map if

$$(25) \quad \omega < \frac{1}{b} \left\{ \frac{1}{C} (1-p)^{q-1/q} (p(q-1)+1)^{1/q} - 2 \right\}.$$

Therefore, if $\omega > 0$ is chosen so that (25) is satisfied, then problem (1), (2) has a unique solution with the desired property.

Remarks. (a) In case that equation (1) is a scalar equation, Theorems 4 and 5 are analogues of Theorems 2 and 3 of [5] for the case $K < 0$. (b) In [5], Mehri defines four distance functions which are equivalent in the sense that if S^* is complete with respect to one of them, it is also complete with respect to the three others, and the factors $1/|K|^p$, $1/\omega^p$ or $1/\omega^{-p}$ do not contribute anything as far as the proofs of theorems in [5] are concerned.

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