

ON THE STABILITY OF SOLUTIONS OF DIFFERENTIAL
EQUATIONS IN BANACH SPACES

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We shall investigate the asymptotic behaviour of solutions of differential equations in Banach spaces, comparing the norm of solutions with the power functions t^α (α real) as $t \rightarrow \infty$. All the operators, appearing in these equations are everywhere defined and bounded.

1. Consider in a Banach space \mathcal{B} the linear differential equation

$$(1) \quad \dot{x} = \frac{dx}{dt} = A(t)x, \quad (x \in \mathcal{B})$$

where the operator $A(t): \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ is linear for all $t \in [0, \infty)$ and A is a locally Bochner integrable function of t on $[0, \infty)$. It is known (see [1]) that the solution $x(t)$ of the equation (1) and the initial condition $x(0) = x_0 \in \mathcal{B}$ can be obtained by the formula $x(t) = U(t)x_0$, where $U(t): \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ is the Cauchy operator of (1).

Let $x(t) = U(t)x_0$ ($x_0 \neq 0$) be a non-trivial solution of (1). The first characteristic number of $x(t)$ characterizes the exponential behaviour of $\|x(t)\|$, as $t \rightarrow +\infty$, which was introduced by A.M. Lyapunov:

$$\kappa[x] = \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\ln \|x(t)\|}{t}.$$

We shall denote by $\kappa_s = \sup_{x \neq 0} \kappa[x]$, where $x(t)$ is a nontrivial solution of (1). The following relations are valid for the first characteristic numbers ([1]):

1., if $\sup_{t \geq 0} \int_t^{t+1} \|A(s)\| ds < \infty$, then κ_s is finite;

2., for all equations (1) is valid, that $\kappa_s = \overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln \|U(t)\|}{t}$;

3., if the operator A is not depending on t, that is $A(t) \equiv A = \text{const.}$, then $U(t) = e^{At}$ and

$$(2) \quad \kappa_s = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln \|e^{At}\|}{t} = \inf_{t > 0} \frac{\ln \|e^{At}\|}{t} = \max \operatorname{Re} \sigma(A),$$

where $\sigma(A)$ is the spectrum of the operator A.

2. We can find some equations for which it is not sufficient to know the exponential behaviour of $\|x(t)\|$ as $t \rightarrow +\infty$, however we have to compare $\|x(t)\|$ with other functions of t as $t \rightarrow +\infty$, for example the power functions t^β (β real). The second characteristic number $\lambda[x]$ of $x(t)$ characterizes this growth property of $\|x(t)\|$ by the following way

$$\lambda[x] := \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(\|x(t)\| e^{-\kappa[x]t})}{\ln t},$$

where $\kappa[x] \neq \pm \infty$ is the first characteristic number of $x(t)$.

Let be the $\lambda_s = \sup_{x \neq 0} \lambda[x]$ and $\mu = \lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\ln(\|U(t)\| e^{-\kappa_s t})}{\ln t}$

We can derive the following relations between the numbers

$$\lambda_s \quad \text{and} \quad \mu.$$

Lemma 1. i) $\mu \leq \lambda_s$;

ii) If $A(t) \equiv A = \text{const.}$, then $\mu \geq 0$ and if the equality

$$(3) \quad \lim_{h \rightarrow 0+} \frac{\|I+hA\| - 1}{h} = \kappa_s$$

is valid, then $\mu=0$.

Proof. i) If we assume that $\lambda_s < \mu$, then we can choose a ρ such that $\lambda[x] \leq \lambda_s < \rho < \mu$. By the definition of $\lambda[x]$ there exist $N_{\rho, x_0} > 0$ such that

$$\|x(t)\| = \|U(t)x_0\| \leq N_{\rho, x_0} e^{\kappa[x]t} t^\rho \leq N_{\rho, x_0} e^{\kappa_s t} t^\rho. (t \geq 1)$$

Thus the operator family $\{U(t)e^{-\kappa_s t} t^{-\rho} : t \in [1, \infty)\}$ is bounded for all $x_0 \in \mathcal{B}$ and from the Banach-Steinhaus theorem we obtain, that

$$\|U(t)\| \leq N_{\rho} e^{\kappa_s t} t^\rho.$$

It contradicts the definition of μ and inequality $\rho < \mu$.

ii) From the equality (2) we obtain

$$\inf_{t>0} \frac{\ln \|e^{(A-\kappa_s I)t}\|}{t} = \max \operatorname{Re} \sigma(A-\kappa_s I) = 0,$$

where I is the identity operator on \mathcal{B} . Thus $\|e^{(A-\kappa_s I)t}\| \geq 1$

and from this follows that $\mu = \overline{\lim}_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\ln(\|e^{At}\|)}{\ln t} \geq 0$.

We remark that the limit in the left hand side of the equation (3) exists for all operator A ([2]). Consider the derivative of $\|e^{At}\|$ with respect to t

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^+ \|e^{At}\|}{dt} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\|e^{A(t+h)}\| - \|e^{At}\|}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\|e^{At}(I+hA)\| - \|e^{At}\|}{h} \\ &\leq \|e^{At}\| \kappa_s \end{aligned}$$

Integrating this from 0 to t we obtain, that $\|e^{At}\| \leq e^{\kappa_s t}$.

and thus $\mu \leq 0$. From this follows with $\mu \geq 0$, that $\mu = 0$.

If $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{H}$ is a Hilbert space, then

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{\|I+hA\| - 1}{h} = \sup \operatorname{Re} W(A), \text{ where } W(A) = \{(Ax, x) : \|x\| = 1\}$$

is the numerical range of A . Thus from the statement ii) of lemma 1. we obtain, that if the operator A is convexoid in \mathcal{H} , then $\mu = 0$. (A is convexoid if the relation $\operatorname{Conv} \sigma(A) = \overline{W(A)}$ is valid, $\operatorname{conv} D$ denotes the convex hull of D , and \overline{D} the closure of D). For example the normal operators, Toeplitz operators are convexoid (see [3]).

3. When $B=R^n$ the n dimensional Euclidian space, then μ , λ_s , $\lambda[x]$ are always non-negative integers. In infinite dimensional spaces these are not true in general, these are illustrated by the following:

Examples

1. If we consider in the Hilbert space ℓ^2

$$(4) \quad \dot{x} = Ax, \quad (x \in \ell^2)$$

where A is a unilateral weighted shift in ℓ^2 with positive α_n weights and $\alpha_n \rightarrow 0$ ($n \rightarrow \infty$), then for the equation (4)

$$\lambda_s = \mu = +\infty.$$

2. If the operator A in (4) is the unilateral shift S in ℓ^2 , then there exists a subset H of ℓ^2 , which is dense in ℓ^2 and if $x_0 \in H$, then $\lambda[x] = -1/4$, where $x(t) = e^{St} x_0$.

Proof.

1. It is well known [3], that the operator A is quasy-nilpotent i.e. $\sigma(A) = \{0\}$. Thus we obtain from (2), that $\kappa_s = 0$. Let $e_1 = (1, 0, 0, \dots)$ and we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n \frac{t^n}{n!} &\leq \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_k)^2 \frac{t^{2k}}{(k!)^2} \right)^{1/2} = \\ &= \| e^{At} e_1 \| \leq \| e^{At} \|, \end{aligned}$$

thus

$$\lambda[e_1] = \lambda_s = \mu = +\infty.$$

2. If we denote $e_n = (0, \dots, 0, \overset{n}{1}, 0, \dots)$, then

$$e^{St} e_n = (0, \dots, 0, \overset{n}{1}, \frac{t}{1!}, \frac{t^2}{2!}, \dots),$$

thus we obtain

$$\| e^{St} e_n \|^2 = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^{2k}}{(k!)^2} = J_0^2(2it) \quad (n=1,2,3,\dots)$$

where $J_0(x)$ is the zero order Bessel function ($i=\sqrt{-1}$). From the asymptotic behaviour of $J_0(2it)$ ([4])

$$J_0(2it) \sim K \frac{e^{2t}}{\sqrt{t}} \quad (t \rightarrow +\infty, K > 0)$$

follows that

$$\lambda[e_n] = -1/4 \quad (n=1,2,\dots).$$

It is evident that the subset $H = \{x \in \ell^2 : x = (x_1, \dots, x_n, 0, \dots)\}$ is dense in ℓ^2 ($n = 1, 2, \dots$). We know, that $\kappa[x] = 1$ for every $x(t) = e^{St} x_0$ ($x_0 \in \ell^2$) ([5]) and from inequality

$$\| x(t) \| = \| e^{St} x_0 \| \leq \sum_{j=1}^n |x_j| \| e^{St} e_j \| = \left(\sum_{j=1}^n |x_j| \right) J_0(2it)$$

follows

$$\lambda[x] = -1/4 \text{ if } x_0 = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, 0, 0, \dots) \in H.$$

We can derive easily from this the following

Lemma 2. The zero solution of the equation

$$(5) \quad \dot{x} = (S-I)x \quad (x \in \ell^2)$$

is asymptotically stable, but not exponentially.

Remark. This case in R^n can not be occur.

Proof. The stability of zero solution (5) we can derive from inequality

$$\| x(t) \| = \| e^{(S-I)t} x_0 \| \leq e^{\|S\|t} e^{-t} \| x_0 \| = \| x_0 \| \quad (x_0 \in \ell^2)$$

When $x_0 \in H$, then $\kappa[x] = 0$ and $\lambda[x] = -1/4$, thus $\| x(t) \| \rightarrow 0$, in the same way as $t^{-1/4}$, when $t \rightarrow \infty$. If $x \in \ell^2$, then there exists an

$x_0 \in H$ such that $\|x - x_0\| \leq \epsilon/2$ and

$$\|e^{(S-I)t} x\| \leq \|e^{(S-I)t} x_0\| + \|e^{(S-I)t} (x - x_0)\| \leq \epsilon/2 + \epsilon/2 = \epsilon,$$

if t is sufficiently large.

Consider the following non-linear equation in ℓ^2

$$(6) \quad \dot{x} = (S-I)x + F(t, x) \quad (F(t, 0) \equiv 0).$$

Theorem. If $F(t, x)$ satisfies the conditions

$$\|F(t, x)\| \leq f(t) \|x\|$$

and $\int_0^\infty f(s) ds \leq K < \infty$, then the solution $x=0$ of (6) is asymptotically stable.

Proof. We obtain the solution $x(t)$ of (6) for which $x(0) = x_0$ by the integral equation

$$x(t) = e^{(S-I)t} x_0 + \int_0^t e^{(S-I)(t-\tau)} F(\tau, x(\tau)) d\tau.$$

It follows from lemma 2., that

$$\|x(t)\| \leq \epsilon' + \int_0^t f(\tau) \|x(\tau)\| d\tau$$

valid if t is sufficiently large. Applying the Bellman lemma ([1]) we can derive

$$\|x(t)\| \leq \epsilon' e^{\int_0^t f(\tau) d\tau} \leq \epsilon' e^K < \epsilon.$$

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