

# A Fixed Point Approach to Hyers-Ulam-Rassias Stability of Nonlinear Differential Equations

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**Abstract** In this paper we use the fixed point approach to obtain sufficient conditions for Hyers-Ulam-Rassias stability of nonlinear differential. Some illustrative examples are given.

**Keywords:** *hyers-ulam-rassias stability, fixed point, nonlinear differential equations*

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## 1. Introduction

The objective of this article is to investigate the Hyers-Ulam-Rassias Stability for the nonlinear differential equation

$$y''(t) + 2f(t)y' + y + g(t, y) = 0, \quad t \in R^+ \quad (1)$$

and the perturbed nonlinear differential equation of second order

$$y''(t) + 2f(t)y' + y + g(t, y) = h(t) \quad (2)$$

by fixed point method under assumptions:  $f(t) > 0$ ,  $g(t, y)$  are continuous, and that

$$\int_0^t |f(s)| ds \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty, \quad (3)$$

$$\int_0^t e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} (t-s) ds \leq \frac{\alpha}{2} \quad (4)$$

where  $\alpha < 1$ ,  $t \geq 0$ .

Suppose that there is  $L > 0$  such that if  $|x|, |y| \leq L$ , then

$$|g(t, x) - g(t, y)| \leq Ld(t)|x - y|, \quad t \geq 0, \quad (5)$$

where  $d(t) > 0$ ,  $d(t) \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , and  $g(t, 0) = 0$ .

Furthermore, we assume that there is a positive constant  $A$  such that  $A < L$ , and  $h(t) : [0, \infty) \rightarrow R$  with

$$\int_0^t (t-s)e^{-\int_s^t f(u)du} |h(s)| ds \leq A, \quad t \geq 0 \quad (6)$$

In 1940, Ulam [1] posed the stability problem of functional equations. In the talk, Ulam discussed a

problem concerning the stability of homomorphisms. A significant breakthrough came in 1941, when Hyers [2] gave a partial solution to Ulam's problem. During the last two decades very important contributions to the stability problems of functional equations were given by many mathematicians (see [3-11]). More than twenty years ago, a generalization of Ulam's problem was proposed by replacing functional equations with differential equations:

The differential equation  $F(t, y(t), y'(t), \dots, y^{(n)}(t)) = 0$  has the Hyers-Ulam stability if for given  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $y$  a function such that

$$\left| F(t, y(t), y'(t), \dots, y^{(n)}(t)) \right| \leq \varepsilon$$

there exists a solution  $y_0$  of the differential equation such that

$$|y(t) - y_0(t)| \leq K(\varepsilon)$$

and  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} K(\varepsilon) = 0$ .

The first step in the direction of investigating the Hyers-Ulam stability of differential equations was taken by Obloza (see [12,13]). Thereafter, Alsina and Ger [14] have studied the Hyers-Ulam stability of the linear differential equation  $y'(t) = y(t)$ . The Hyers-Ulam stability problems of linear differential equations of first order and second order with constant coefficients were studied in the papers ([15,16]) by using the method of integral factors. The results given in [17,18,19] have been generalized by Popa and Rasa [20,21] for the linear differential equations of  $n$ th order with constant coefficients. In addition to above-mentioned studies, several authors have studied the Hyers-Ulam stability for differential equations of first and second order (see 22-26). The Hyers-Ulam-Rassias Stability by Fixed Point Technique for Half-linear Differential Equations with Unbounded Delay has been established by Qarawani [27]. Burton in [28] has used fixed point theory to establish Liapunov stability for

functional differential equations. Some researchers have used the fixed point approach to investigate the Hyers-Ulam stability for differential equations [e.g. [29,30]].

Definition 1 Let

$$S = \{ \phi : R^+ \rightarrow R \mid \phi(0) = y_0, \|\phi\| \leq L \}$$

on  $R^+, \phi \in C$ , where  $R^+ = [0, \infty)$ . We say that equation (1.2) ( or (1.1) with  $h(t) \equiv 0$ ) has the Hyers-Ulam-Rassias (HUR) stability with respect to  $\varphi$  if there exists a positive constant  $k > 0$  with the following property: For each  $y(t) \in S$ , if

$$\left| \begin{matrix} y''(t) + 2f(t)y' \\ + y + g(t, y) - h(t) \end{matrix} \right| \leq \varphi(t), \tag{7}$$

then there exists some  $y_0(t)$  of the equation (4) such that  $|y(t) - y_0(t)| \leq k\varphi(t)$ .

**Theorem 1 The Contraction Mapping Principle.**

Let  $(S, \rho)$  be a complete metric space and let  $P : S \rightarrow S$ . If there is a constant  $\alpha < 1$  such that for each pair  $\phi_1, \phi_2 \in S$  we have  $\rho(P\phi_1, P\phi_2) \leq \alpha\rho(\phi_1, \phi_2)$ , then there is one and only one point  $\phi \in S$  with  $P\phi = \phi$ .

**2. Main Results On Hyers-Ulam-Rassias Stability**

Theorem 2 Suppose that  $y(t) \in S$  satisfies the inequality (1) with small initial condition  $y(0) = y_0$ . Let  $\varphi(t) : [0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  be a continuous function such that

$$\int_0^t \int_0^s e^{-\int_s^t f(u)du} (t-s)ds \leq C\varphi(t), \tag{8}$$

$\forall t \geq 0$ .

If (3)-(6) hold, then the solution of (1) is stable in the sense of Hyers-Ulam-Rassias.

Proof. Let  $C$  be the space of all continuous functions from  $R^+ \rightarrow R$  and define the set  $S$  by

$$S = \left\{ \phi : R^+ \rightarrow R \mid \begin{matrix} \phi(0) = y_0, \\ \|\phi\| \leq L, \text{ on } R^+, \phi \in C \end{matrix} \right\}$$

Then, equipped with the supremum metric  $(\|\cdot\|, S)$ , is a complete metric space. Now suppose that (3) holds. For  $L$  and  $\alpha$ , find appropriate constants  $\delta, a$  and  $B$  such that

$$(1+a)\delta + \frac{L\alpha}{2} + \frac{LB\alpha}{2} \leq L.$$

Multiplying both sides of (1) by  $e^{-\int_0^t f(s)ds}$ , and then integrating once with respect to  $t$  yields

$$y' = y'(0) - \int_0^t y(s)e^{-\int_0^s f(s)ds} ds + \int_0^t 2 \int_0^s f(u)du e^{-\int_0^s f(s)ds} ds \tag{9}$$

Now, we multiply Eq. (9) by  $e^{-\int_0^t f(s)ds}$ , and integrate with respect to  $t$  to obtain

$$y(t) = y(0) + y'(0) \int_0^t e^{-\int_0^s f(u)du} ds - \int_0^t (t-s)y(s)e^{-\int_0^s f(u)du} ds - \int_0^t (t-s)g(s, y(s))e^{-\int_0^s f(u)du} ds.$$

Define  $P : S \rightarrow S$  by

$$(P\phi)(t) = y(0) + y'(0) \int_0^t e^{-\int_0^s f(u)du} ds - \int_0^t (t-s)\phi(s)e^{-\int_0^s f(u)du} ds - \int_0^t (t-s)g(s, \phi(s))e^{-\int_0^s f(u)du} ds \tag{10}$$

It is clear that for  $\phi \in S$ ,  $P\phi$  is continuous. Let  $\phi(t) \in S$  with  $\|\phi\| \leq L$ , for some positive constant  $L$ . Then there is a  $\delta > 0$  with  $|\phi(0)| \leq \delta$ . Since  $\int_0^t |f(s)|ds \rightarrow \infty$ , as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , then we can find a constant  $a > 0$  such that

$$\left| y'(0) \int_0^t e^{-\int_0^s f(u)du} ds \right| < a\delta.$$

Then using (3),(4) in the definition of  $(P\phi)(t)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|P\phi\| &\leq |y(0)| + \left| \int_0^t y'(0) e^{-2\int_0^s f(u)du} ds \right| \\ &+ \int_0^t |(t-s)y(s)| e^{-2\int_0^s f(u)du} ds \\ &+ \left| \int_0^t (t-s)g(s, y(s)) e^{-2\int_0^s f(u)du} ds \right| \\ &\leq (1+a)\delta + L \int_0^t (t-s) e^{-2\int_0^s f(u)du} ds \\ &+ LB \int_0^t (t-s) e^{-2\int_0^s f(u)du} d(s) ds \end{aligned}$$

Since  $d(t) \rightarrow 0$ , as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , we can choose a number  $B$  sufficiently small such that  $0 < d(t) \leq B$ , on  $R^+$  and with

$$LB < 1 \tag{11}$$

Then from (4) we obtain

$$\|P\phi\| \leq (1+a)\delta + \frac{L\alpha}{2} + \frac{LB\alpha}{2}$$

which implies that  $\|P\phi\| \leq L$ .

To see that  $P$  is a contraction under the supremum metric, let  $\phi, \eta \in S$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} &\| (P\phi)(t) - (P\eta)(t) \| \\ &\leq \int_0^t (t-s) |\phi(s) - \eta(s)| e^{-2\int_0^s f(u)du} ds \\ &+ \int_0^t |g(s, \phi(s)) - g(s, \eta(s))| (t-s) e^{-2\int_0^s f(u)du} ds \\ &\leq \int_0^t (t-s) e^{-2\int_0^s f(u)du} \|\phi - \eta\| ds \\ &+ LB \int_0^t (t-s) e^{-2\int_0^s f(u)du} \|\phi - \eta\| ds \end{aligned}$$

From this and in view of (4) and (11) we get the estimate

$$\| (P\phi)(t) - (P\eta)(t) \| \leq \alpha \|\phi - \eta\|, \text{ with } \alpha < 1.$$

Thus, by the contraction mapping principle,  $P$  has a unique fixed point, say  $y_0$  in  $S$  which solves (1) and is bounded.

Next we show that the solution  $y_0$  is stable in Hyers-Ulam-Rassias. From the inequality (7) we get

$$-\varphi(t) \leq y''(t) + 2f(t)y' + y + g(t, y) \leq \varphi(t) \tag{12}$$

Multiplying the inequality (12) by  $e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du}$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} &-\varphi(t) e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} \\ &\leq e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} y''(t) + 2f(t)y'(t) e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} \\ &+ y(t) e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} + g(t, y(t)) e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} \\ &\leq \varphi(t) e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} \end{aligned}$$

Or equivalently, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &-\varphi(t) e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} \\ &\leq \left( e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} y'(t) \right)' + y(t) e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} \\ &+ g(t, y(t)) e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} \leq \varphi(t) e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} \end{aligned}$$

Integrate the last inequality from 0 to  $t$ , and then

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{multiply the obtained inequality by } e^{-2\int_0^t f(s)ds} \text{ to get} \\ &-\int_0^t \varphi(s) e^{-2\int_0^s f(u)du} ds \\ &\leq y' - y'(0) e^{-2\int_0^t f(s)ds} \\ &+ \int_0^t y(s) e^{-2\int_0^s f(u)du} ds + \int_0^t g(s, y(s)) e^{-2\int_0^s f(u)du} ds \\ &\leq \int_0^t \varphi(s) e^{-2\int_0^s f(u)du} ds \end{aligned}$$

Integrating again with respect to  $t$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & -\int_0^t (t-s)\varphi(s)e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds \\ & \leq y(t) - y(0) \\ & -y'(0)\int_0^t e^{-2\int_0^s f(u)du} ds + \int_0^t (t-s)y(s)e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds \\ & + \int_0^t (t-s)g(s, y(s))e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds \\ & \leq \int_0^t (t-s)\varphi(s)e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds \end{aligned}$$

Hence from (8), (20) we infer that  $\|Py - y\| \leq C\varphi$ . To show that  $y_0$  is stable we estimate the difference

$$\begin{aligned} \|y(t) - y_0(t)\| & \leq \|Py - y\| + \|Py - Py_0\| \\ & \leq C\varphi + \alpha \|y - y_0\| \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\|y(t) - y_0(t)\| \leq \frac{C\varphi}{1-\alpha}$$

which means that (7) holds true (with  $h(t) \equiv 0$ ) for all  $t \geq 0$ .

Example 1 Consider the differential equation

$$y''(t) + (4 + 2\sin t)y' + y + \frac{\sin y}{(1+t)^2} = 0.$$

Let us estimate the integrals

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t |f(s)| ds & = \int_0^t (2 + \sin t) ds \geq \int_0^t ds \geq t \rightarrow \infty, \\ & \text{as } t \rightarrow \infty, \end{aligned}$$

and for all  $t > 0$  we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t e^{-s} \int_s^t f(u) du (t-s) ds \\ & = \int_0^t e^{-s} \int_s^t (4 + 2\sin u) du (t-s) ds \\ & \leq \int_0^t e^{-s} \int_s^t du (t-s) ds \\ & \leq \int_0^t -2(t-s)(t-s) ds \\ & = \frac{1}{4} (1 - e^{-2t} - 2te^{-2t}) < \frac{1}{4}, \end{aligned}$$

Since  $g(t, y(t)) = \frac{\sin y}{(1+t)^2}$ , then  $|g(t, x) - g(t, y)|$

$$= \left| \frac{\sin x}{(1+t)^2} - \frac{\sin y}{(1+t)^2} \right| \leq \frac{1}{(1+t)^2} |x - y|.$$

Therefore, we take  $d(t) = \frac{1}{(1+t)^2}$ , which tends to

zero as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

Now, if we set  $\varphi(t) = e^t$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^t (t-s)\varphi(s)e^{-\int_s^t a(u)du} ds \\ & = \int_0^t e^s e^{-\int_s^t (4+2\sin u)du} (t-s) ds \\ & \leq \frac{e^t}{9} (1 - e^{-3t} - 3te^{-3t}) < \frac{e^t}{9} \leq C\varphi(t), \\ & \text{with } C \geq \frac{1}{9}, \forall t \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Let us take  $L = 1, \alpha = \frac{1}{2}, B = 0.1$ . Then for the corresponding coefficients by (1.3), we can choose small positive constants  $a, \delta$  such that

$$(1+a)\delta + \frac{L\alpha}{2} + \frac{L\alpha B}{2} \leq L$$

and so

$$(1+a)\delta \leq \frac{29}{40}.$$

Thus, all the conditions of Theorem (3.1) are satisfied, hence the Eq. (3.6) is HUR stable for  $t \geq 0$ .

Theorem 3 Suppose that  $y(t) \in S$  satisfies the inequality (7) with small initial condition  $y(0) = y_0$ . Let  $\varphi(t) : [0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  be a continuous function such that

$$\int_0^t \varphi(s) e^{-\int_s^t f(u)du} (t-s) ds \leq C\varphi(t), \forall t \geq 0. \quad (13)$$

If (3)-(7) hold, then the solution of (2) is stable in the sense of Hyers-Ulam-Rassias.

Proof. Define  $S = \left\{ \phi : R^+ \rightarrow R \mid \phi(0) = y_0, \|\phi\| \leq L, \text{ on } R^+, \phi \in C \right\}$  where  $\|\cdot\|$  is the supremum metric.

Then  $(S, \|\cdot\|)$  is a complete metric space.

Now suppose that (3) holds. For  $L, A$  and  $\alpha$  we find constants  $\delta, a$  and  $B$  so that

$$(1+a)\delta + \frac{L\alpha}{2} + \frac{L\alpha B}{2} + A \leq L.$$

Applying the same approach used in Theorem 1 we define  $P : S \rightarrow S$  by

$$(P\phi)(t) = y(0) + y'(0) \int_0^t e^{-2\int_0^s f(u)du} ds - \int_0^t (t-s)y(s)e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds - \int_0^t (t-s)g(s, y(s))e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds + \int_0^t (t-s)h(s)e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds$$

Then from (4) we obtain

$$\|P\phi\| \leq (1+a)\delta + \frac{L\alpha}{2} + \frac{L\alpha B}{2} + A$$

which implies that  $\|P\phi\| \leq L$ .

To see that  $P$  is a contraction under the supremum metric, let  $\phi, \eta \in S$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} & \| (P\phi)(t) - (P\eta)(t) \| \\ & \leq \int_0^t (t-s) |\phi(s) - \eta(s)| e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds \\ & \quad + \int_0^t (t-s) |g(s, \phi(s)) - g(s, \eta(s))| e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds \\ & \leq \int_0^t (t-s) e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} \|\phi - \eta\| ds \\ & \quad + LB \int_0^t (t-s) e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} \|\phi - \eta\| ds \end{aligned}$$

From this and using (4) and (11) we get the estimate

$$\| (P\phi)(t) - (P\eta)(t) \| \leq \alpha \|\phi - \eta\|, \text{ with } \alpha < 1.$$

Thus, by the contraction mapping principle,  $P$  has a unique fixed point, say  $y_0$  in  $S$  which solves (1) and is bounded.

Next we show that the solution  $y_0$  is stable in Hyers-Ulam-Rassias. From the inequality (7) we get

$$-\varphi(t) \leq y''(t) + 2f(t)y'(t) + y + g(t, y) - h(t) \leq \varphi(t) \tag{14}$$

Multiplying the inequality (14) by  $e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du}$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & -\varphi(t)e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} \\ & \leq e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} y''(t) + 2f(t)y'(t)e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} \\ & \quad + y(s)e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} + g(s, y(s))e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} \\ & \quad - h(s)e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} \leq \varphi(t)e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} \end{aligned}$$

Or equivalently, we have

$$-\varphi(t)e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} \leq \left( e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} y'(t) \right)'$$

$$+ y(s)e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du}$$

$$-h(s)e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du} + g(s, y(s))e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du}$$

$$\leq \varphi(t)e^{2\int_0^t f(u)du}$$

Integrating the last inequality from 0 to  $t$ , and then

multiplying the obtained inequality by  $e^{-2\int_0^t f(s)ds}$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} & -\int_0^t \varphi(s) e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds \\ & \leq y' - y'(0) e^{-2\int_0^t f(s)ds} \end{aligned}$$

$$+ \int_0^t y(s) e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds + \int_0^t g(s, y(s)) e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds$$

$$- \int_0^t h(s) e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds \leq \int_0^t \varphi(s) e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds$$

Integrating again with respect to  $t$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & -\int_0^t (t-s)\varphi(s) e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds \\ & \leq y(t) - y(0) + \int_0^t (t-s)g(s, y(s)) e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds \end{aligned}$$

$$-\int_0^t h(s)e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds \leq \int_0^t (t-s)\varphi(s)e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} ds$$

From the definition of  $P_y$  and in view of (20), we infer that  $\|P_y - y\| \leq C\varphi$ . Now, to show that  $y_0$  is stable we estimate the difference

$$\begin{aligned} \|y(t) - y_0(t)\| &\leq \|P_y - y\| + \|P_y - P_{y_0}\| \\ &\leq C\varphi + \alpha \|y - y_0\| \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\|y(t) - y_0(t)\| \leq \frac{C\varphi}{1-\alpha}$$

which completes the proof.

Example 2 Consider the nonlinear differential equation

$$y''(t) + (4 + 2\sin t)y' + y + \frac{\sin y}{(1+t)^2} = \frac{e^{-2t} \cos^2 t}{1+t}$$

One can similarly, as in Example 1 establish the validity of conditions (1.3)-(1.6). So, to establish the stability of this equation, it remains to estimate the integral

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^t (t-s)e^{-2\int_s^t f(u)du} |h(s)| ds \\ &= \int_0^t (t-s)e^{-2\int_s^t (4+2\sin u)du} \frac{e^{-2s} \cos^2 s}{1+s} ds \\ &\leq \int_0^t (t-s)e^{-2(t-s)} e^{-2s} ds \\ &= \int_0^t (t-s)e^{-2t} ds \leq \frac{t^2 e^{-2t}}{2} \leq \frac{1}{2e^2}, \quad \forall t \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Let us take  $L=1$ ,  $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $A = \frac{1}{2e^2}$ , and  $B=0.1$ .

Then for these coefficients by (3), we can choose small positive constants  $a, \delta$  such that

$$(1+a)\delta + \frac{L\alpha}{2} + \frac{L\alpha B}{2} + A \leq L$$

From which it follows that

$$(1+a)\delta \leq \frac{29}{40} - \frac{1}{2e^2} < \frac{53}{80}$$

Hence the conditions of Theorem 2 are satisfied.

### 3. Conclusion

We have obtained two theorems which provide the sufficient conditions for the Hyers-Ulam-Rassias Stability of solutions of two nonlinear differential equations. To

illustrate the results we provided two examples satisfying the assumptions of the two proved theorems.

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