International Journal of Applied Mathematical Research, 1 (4) (2012) 422-432 ©Science Publishing Corporation www.sciencepubco.com/index.php/IJAMR

# Hyers-Ulam Stability of Linear and Nonlinear Differential Equations of Second Order

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#### Abstract

In this paper we established the Hyers-Ulam stability of a nonlinear differential equation of second order with initial condition. We also proved the Hyers -Ulam stability of a linear differential equation of second order with initial condition.

**Keywords:** Differential equation, Hyers -Ulam Stability, Linear, Nonlinear, Second-order.

#### 1 Introduction

In [1], Ulam posed the basic problem of the stability of functional equations: Give conditions in order for a linear mapping near an approximately linear mapping to exist . This problem was partially solved by Hyers in 1941, for approximately additive mappings on Banach spaces [2]. In 1978 Rassias in his work [3], has generalized that result obtained by Hyers.

After then, many mathematicians have extensively investigated the stability problems of functional equations (see [4, 5, 6]).

Alsina and Ger [7] were the first mathematicians who investigated the Hyers-Ulam stability of the differential equation g' = g. They proved that if a differentiable function  $y : I \to R$  satisfies  $|y' - y| \leq \varepsilon$  for all  $t \in I$ , then there exists a differentiable function  $g : I \to R$  satisfying g'(t) = g(t) for any  $t \in I$  such that  $|g - y| \leq 3\varepsilon$ , for all  $t \in I$ . This result of Alsina and Ger has been generalized by Takahasi et al. [8] to the case of the complex Banach space valued differential equation  $y' = \lambda y$ .

Furthermore, the results of Hyers-Ulam stability of differential equations of first order were also generalized by Miura et al. [9], Wang et al. [10], and Jung [11]. In the paper [12] Jung proved the Hyers-Ulam stability for Legendre's differential equation  $(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy + p(p + 1)y = 0$  when the function y(x) has a power series form. In his paper Li [13] has established the Hyers-Ulam stability of the equation  $y'' = \lambda^2 y$ , while Gavruta et al. [14] proved the Hyers-Ulam stability of the equation  $y'' + \beta(x)y = 0$  with boundary and initial conditions. Li and Shen [15] proved the stability of the nonhomogeneous linear differential equation of second order y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y + r(x) = 0 in the sense of the Hyers and Ulam. In the paper [16] Javadian et al. have proved the Hyers and Ulam stability of the nonhomogeneous linear differential equation of second order y'' + p(x)y = f(x) in a complex Banach space with the condition that there exists a solution of the corresponding homogeneous equation.

In this paper we investigate the Hyers-Ulam stability of the following nonlinear differential equation of second order

$$z'' + p(x)z' + q(x)z = h(x) |z|^{\beta} e^{\left(\frac{\beta-1}{2}\right) \int p(x)dx} sgnz \quad , \ \beta \in (0,1)$$
(1)

with the initial conditions

$$z(x_0) = 0 = z'(x_0) \tag{2}$$

where  $q \in C^0(I)$ ,  $h, p \in C^1(I)$ ,  $I = [x_0, x] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ ,  $x_0 > 0$ , p(x) > 0, and h(x) is a bounded for all sufficiently large x in R. Moreover we proved the Hyers-Ulam stability of the linear differential equation of second order

$$z'' + p(x)z' + (q(x) - \alpha(x)) \ z = 0$$
(3)

with the initial conditions

$$z(x_0) = 0 = z'(x_0) \tag{4}$$

where  $\alpha(x)$  is a bounded function for all sufficiently large x in R.

It should be note here that we may assume that z > 0 in equation (1) because if z < 0 we set z = -u, u > 0. So we will consider in future the equation

$$z'' + p(x)z' + q(x)z = h(x)z^{\beta}e^{\left(\frac{\beta-1}{2}\right)\int p(x)dx} \quad ,\beta \in (0,1)$$
(5)

#### 2 Preliminaries and Auxiliary Results

**Definition 2.1:** We will say that the equation (3) has the Hyers -Ulam stability with the initial conditions (4) if there exists a positive constant K > 0 with the following property:

For every  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $z \in C^2(I)$  where x is sufficiently large in  $\mathbb{R}$ , if

$$|z'' + p(x)z' + (q(x) - \alpha(x)) z| \le \varepsilon$$
(6)

then there exists some solution  $w \in C^2(I)$  of the equation (5), such that  $|z(x) - w(x)| \leq K\varepsilon$  and satisfies the initial conditions

$$w(x_0) = 0 = w'(x_0) \tag{7}$$

**Definition 2.2:** We say that equation (5) has the Hyers -Ulam stability with initial conditions (4) if there exists a positive constant K > 0 with the following property:

For every  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $z \in C^2(I)$  where x is sufficiently large in  $\mathbb{R}$ , if

$$|z'' + p(x)z' + q(x)z - h(x)z^{\beta}e^{\left(\frac{\beta-1}{2}\right)\int p(x)dx} | \leq \varepsilon$$
(8)

then there exists some solution  $w \in C^2(I)$  of the equation (5) and

$$w(x_0) = w'(x_0) = 0 \tag{9}$$

such that  $|z(x) - w(x)| \le K\varepsilon$ .

**Definition 2.3:** We will say that the equations (3),(5) have the Hyers -Ulam asymptotic stability with the initial conditions (4) if the equation is stable in the sense of Hyers and Ulam and  $\lim_{x\to\infty} (z(x) - w(x)) = 0$ .

The author in his work [17] has proved the following Lemma and Theorem.

**Lemma 2.1:** (see [17]) A substitution  $z(x) = y(x) \exp(-\frac{1}{2} \int p(x) dx)$  reduces the equations (3) and (5) to the equations (10) and (11), respectively

$$y'' + y = \alpha(x)y \tag{10}$$

$$y'' + y = h(x)y^{\beta} , \beta \in (-1,1) \setminus \{0\}$$
 (11)

where

$$q(x) - \frac{1}{4}p^2(x) - \frac{1}{2}p'(x) = 1.$$
(12)

**Theorem 2.1**(see [17]) Suppose that h(x) is a continuously differentiable function, bounded for all sufficiently large  $x \in R$ , and that the integral  $\int_{x_0}^{\infty} |h'(x)| dx$  is convergent then any solution of the equation (11) is bounded as  $x \to \infty$ .

**Proof.** Multiplying both sides of the equation (11) by y' and integrate the result we get

$$y^{\prime 2}(x) + y^{\prime 2}(x) = y^{\prime 2}(x_0) + y^2(x_0) - \frac{2h(x_0)y^{\beta+1}(x_0)}{\beta+1} + \frac{2h(x)y^{\beta+1}(x)}{\beta+1} - \frac{2}{\beta+1}\int_{x_0}^x h'(t).y^{\beta+1}(t)dt$$

Hence

$$y^{2}(x) \leq y'^{2}(x) + y^{2}(x) \leq A_{x_{0}} + \frac{2|h(x)||y(x)|^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} + \frac{2}{\beta+1} \int_{x_{0}}^{x} |h'(t)| \cdot |y(t)|^{\beta+1} dt$$

where  $A_{x_0} \ge 0$  is an expression dependent only on  $x_0$ .

Let  $M = \max_{x_0 \le t \le x} |y(t)|$ , and without loss of generality we may assume that  $M \ge a_0 > 0$ , otherwise the theorem is proved. Since h(x) is bounded we get

$$M^{1-\beta} \leq \frac{A_{x_0}}{M^{\beta+1}} + \frac{2B_0}{\beta+1} + \frac{2}{\beta+1} \int_{x_0}^x |h'(t)| \, dt \leq \frac{A_{x_0}}{a_0} + \frac{2B_0}{\beta+1} + \frac{2}{\beta+1} \int_{x_0}^\infty |h'(t)|$$

Since the integral  $\int_{x_0}^{\infty} |h'(x)| dx$  converges, we obtain

$$|y(x)| \leq M \leq C^{\frac{1}{1-\beta}}, \ \beta \in (-1,1) \setminus \{0\}$$

Therefore y(x) is bounded for  $x \to \infty$ .

In the following theorem the author has established sufficient conditions for boundedness of the solutions of the equation (10) which are similar to those obtained in [18].

**Theorem 2.2** Suppose that  $|\alpha(x)| \leq L$  for all  $x \geq x_0$ . If L < 1 then any solution of the equation (10) is bounded as  $x \to \infty$ .

**Proof.** Multiplying both sides of the equation (10) by y' and integrating the result, we obtain

$$\int_{x_0}^x y'(t).y''(t)dt + \int_{x_0}^x y(t).y'(t)dt = 2\int_{x_0}^x \alpha(t).y(t)y'(t)dt$$

dt

Since  $\alpha(x)$  is bounded we get

$$y^{2}(x) \leq y'^{2}(x) + y^{2}(x) \leq A_{x_{0}} + 2\int_{x_{0}}^{x} \alpha(t) \cdot y(t)y'(t)dt$$
$$\leq A_{x_{0}} + Ly^{2}(x)$$

It follows that

$$y^2 \le \frac{A_{x_0}}{(1-L)}$$

Therefore y(x) is bounded for  $x \to \infty$ .

### 3 Main Results on Hyers-Ulam stability

**Theorem 3.1** Suppose  $|\alpha(x)| \leq L < 1$  for all  $x \geq x_0$ , and that  $y \in C^2(I)$ , such that satisfies the inequality

$$|y'' + y - \alpha(x) y| \le \varepsilon \tag{13}$$

with the initial condition

$$y(x_0) = 0 = y'(x_0) \tag{14}$$

Then the equation (10) has the Hyers-Ulam stability with initial condition (14).

**Proof.** suppose that  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $y \in C^2(I)$  satisfies the inequation (13) with the initial conditions (14) and  $M = \max_{x \ge x_0} |y(x)|$ .

We will show that there exists a function  $w(x) \in c^2(I)$  satisfying the equation (10) and the initial condition (7) such that  $|z(x) - w(x)| \leq k\varepsilon$ .

From the inequality (13) we have

$$-\varepsilon \le y'' + y - \alpha(x) \ y \le \varepsilon \tag{15}$$

Multiply the inequality (15) by y' and then integrate we obtain

$$-2\varepsilon y \le y'^2(x) + y^2(x) - 2\int_{x_0}^x \alpha(t) \ yy'dt \le 2\varepsilon y$$

From which we get that

$$\begin{split} y^2(x) &\leq 2\varepsilon y + 2\int\limits_{x_0}^x \alpha(t) \ yy'dt = 2\varepsilon y + \alpha(x^*) \ y^2 \leq 2\varepsilon y + \alpha(x^*) \ y^2 \\ &\leq 2\varepsilon M + L \ M^2 \end{split}$$

Therefore

$$M \le \frac{2\varepsilon}{1-L}$$

Hence  $|y(x)| \leq k\varepsilon$ , for all  $x \geq x_0$ . Obviously,  $w_0(x) = 0$  satisfies the equation (10) and the zero initial condition (14) such that

$$|y(x) - w_0(x)| \le k\varepsilon$$

Hence the equation (10) has the Hyers-Ulam stability with initial condition (14).

**Corollary 3.1:** Suppose  $|\alpha(x)| \leq L < 1$  for all  $x \geq x_0, z \in C^2(I)$  and satisfies the inequality (6) with the initial condition (4). If the integral  $\int_{x_0}^{\infty} p(x) dx$  converges then the equation (3) has the Hyers-Ulam stability with initial condition (4).

**Proof.** Suppose that  $z \in C^2(I)$  satisfies the inequality

$$|z'' + p(x)z' + (q(x) - \alpha(x)) z| \le \varepsilon$$

From the Theorem 3.1 it follows that the equation (10) has the Hyers-Ulam stability with initial condition (14) and according to the substitution in Lemma 2.1 it follows that the equation (3) has the Hyers-Ulam stability with initial condition (4).

**Corollary 3.2** Suppose  $|\alpha(x)| \leq L < 1$  for all  $x \geq x_0, z \in C^2(I)$  and satisfies the inequality (6) with the initial condition (4) and  $\int_{x_0}^{\infty} p(x)dx = \infty$ , then the equation (3) has the Hyers-Ulam asymptotic stability with initial condition (4).

**Proof.** From the Corollary 3.1 it follows that the equation (3) has the Hyers-Ulam stability with initial condition (4). Since  $\int_{x_0}^{\infty} p(x)dx = \infty$  then according to the substitution in Lemma 2.1 it follows that the equation (3) has the Hyers-Ulam asymptotic stability with initial condition (4).

**Theorem 3.2** Suppose  $|h(x)| \leq A$  for all  $x \geq x_0$ , and that  $y \in C^2(I)$ , such that satisfies the inequality

$$|y'' + y - h(x) y^{\beta}| \le \varepsilon \qquad , \beta \in (0, 1)$$
(16)

with the initial condition

$$y(x_0) = 0 = y'(x_0) \tag{17}$$

If 
$$A < \frac{(\beta+1)}{2} \left( \max_{x \ge x_0} |y(x)| \right)^{-\beta}$$
, for  $x \ge x_0$ , then the equation  
 $y'' + y = h(x) y^{\beta}$ ,  $\beta \in (0, 1)$  (18)

has the Hyers-Ulam stability with initial condition (17).

**Proof.** suppose that  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $y \in C^2(I)$  satisfies the inequation (16) with the initial conditions (17) and that  $M = \max_{x \ge x_0} |y(x)|$ .

We will show that there exists a function  $w(x) \in c^2(I)$  satisfying the equation (18) and the initial condition (17) such that  $|z(x) - w(x)| \leq k\varepsilon$ .

From the inequality (16) we have

$$-\varepsilon \le y'' + y - h(x) \ y^{\beta} \le \varepsilon \tag{19}$$

Multiply the inequality (19) by y' and then integrate we obtain

$$-2\varepsilon y \le y'^2(x) + y^2(x) - 2\int_{x_0}^x h(x) \ y^\beta y' dt \le 2\varepsilon y$$

From which we get that

$$y^{2}(x) \leq 2\varepsilon y + 2\int_{x_{0}}^{x} h(t) \ y^{\beta} y' dt = 2\varepsilon y + \frac{2h(x^{*}) \ y^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1} \leq 2\varepsilon M + \frac{2A \ M^{\beta+1}}{\beta+1}$$

Therefore

$$M \le \frac{2\varepsilon}{1 - \frac{2AM^{\beta}}{\beta + 1}}$$

Hence  $|y(x)| \le k\varepsilon$ , for all  $x \ge x_0$ . Obviously,  $w_0(x) = 0$  satisfies the equation (18) and the zero initial condition (17) such that

$$|y(x) - w_0(x)| \le k\varepsilon$$

Thus the equation (18) has the Hyers-Ulam stability with initial condition (17).

**Corollary 3.3** Assume that h(x) and z(x) satisfy the conditions of Theorem 3.2, and the inequality (8) with the initial condition (2).

If  $A < \frac{(\beta+1)}{2} \left( \max_{x \ge x_0} |y(x)| \right)^{-\beta}$ , for  $x \ge x_0$  and the integral  $\int_{x_0}^{\infty} p(x) dx$  converges then the equation (5) has the Hyers-Ulam stability with initial con-

dition (2). Moreover, if the integral  $\int_{x_0}^{\infty} p(x)dx = \infty$  then the equation (5) has the Hyers-Ulam asymptotic stability with initial condition (2).

**Proof.** Suppose that  $z \in C^2(I)$  satisfies the inequality (8) with the initial condition (2).

Then from the Theorem 3.2 it follows that the equation (18) has the Hyers-Ulam stability with initial condition (17), and according to the substitution used in Lemma 2.1 it follows that the equation (5) has the Hyers-Ulam stability with initial condition (2). Now if  $\int_{x_0}^{\infty} p(x)dx = \infty$ , then the equation (5) has the Hyers-Ulam asymptotic stability with initial condition (2). Now we illustrate the Theorem by the following example.

**Example 3.1** Consider the equation

$$z'' + \frac{2}{x}z' + z = \frac{e^{-x/2}z^{1/2}}{\sqrt{x}}$$
(20)

with the initial condition

$$z(x_0) = 0 = z'(x_0) \tag{21}$$

If we set  $z(x) = \frac{y(x)}{x}$  in the the equation (20) we obtain

$$y''(x) + y(x) = e^{-x/2}y^{1l2}$$
(22)

We let  $y(x) = (x - x_0)^2 e^{-x}$  and estimate the difference

$$\left|y''(x) + y(x) - e^{-x/2}y^{1l_2}\right| = \left|\frac{2 - 5(x - x_0) + 2(x - x_0)^2}{e^x}\right| \le \varepsilon$$
(23)

Now we may choose the number  $x_0$  sufficiently large such that the inequality (23) will satisfy for any  $x \ge x_0$  and for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

Hence  $y(x) = (x - x_0)^2 e^{-x}$  is an approximate solution of the equation (20) satisfying the zero initial condition

$$y(x_0) = 0 = y'(x_0) \tag{24}$$

Now we have

$$h(x) = e^{-x/2} \le 1 < \frac{3e}{8} < \frac{3}{4} \left( \max_{x \ge x_0} |y(x)| \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{3e^{1+\frac{x_0}{2}}}{8}.$$

Therefore

$$M \le k\varepsilon$$
 , where  $\frac{6e^{(1+\frac{x_0}{2})}}{3e^{(1+\frac{x_0}{2})}-8} > 0$ 

It is clear that  $z_0 \equiv 0$  satisfies the zero initial condition and the inequality  $|y(x) - z_0(x)| \leq k\varepsilon$ . Thus the equation (20) has the Hyers-Ulam stability. Moreover, since  $\lim_{x\to\infty} |y(x) - z_0(x)| = 0$ , then it also is asymptotically stable in the sense of Hyers and Ulam as  $x\to\infty$ . Now since the integral  $\int_1^\infty p(x)dx = \int_1^\infty \frac{2}{x}dx = \infty$ , then by Lemma it follows that the equation (20) has the Hyers-Ulam stability with zero initial condition (21). Moreover the equation (20) is asymptotically stable in the sense of Hyers and Ulam as  $x\to\infty$ .

#### 4 Special Case of the equation (5)

Now consider a special case of the equation (5)

$$x^{2}z'' + 2\lambda xz' + [x^{2} + \lambda(\lambda - 1)]z = h(x)x^{2 + \lambda(\beta - 1)}z^{\beta}$$
(25)

where  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $\beta \in (0, 1)$ , and it satisfies the initial condition

$$z(x_0) = 0 = z'(x_0) \tag{26}$$

It should be note that the equation (25) is a special case of the equation (5) with  $p(x) = \frac{2\lambda}{x}$  and  $q(x) = \frac{x^2 + \lambda(\lambda - 1)}{x^2}$ . So if we let  $z(x) = \frac{y(x)}{x^{\lambda}}$ ,  $\lambda > 0$ , then the equation (25) is reduced to the equation (18) with  $y(x_0) = 0 = y'(x_0)$ .

**Theorem 4.1** Suppose that the conditions of the Theorem 3.2 hold, the integral  $\int_{x_0}^{\infty} p(x) dx$  converges and that  $z \in C^2(I)$  and satisfies the inequality

$$\left|x^{2}z''+2\lambda xz'+[x^{2}+\lambda(\lambda-1)]z-h(x)x^{2+\lambda(\beta-1)}z^{\beta}\right|\leq \epsilon$$

then the equation (25) has the Hyers-Ulam stability with initial condition (26). Moreover, if the integral  $\int_{x_0}^{\infty} p(x)dx = \infty$  then the equation (25) has the Hyers-Ulam asymptotic stability with the initial condition (26).

**Proof.** It follows from the Theorem 3.2 and Corollary 3.3

**Example 4.1** Consider the equation

$$x^{2}z'' + xz' + \left(x^{2} - \frac{1}{4}\right)z = x^{7/4}e^{-x/2}z^{1/2}$$
(27)

with the initial condition

$$z(x_0) = 0 = z'(x_0) \tag{28}$$

Setting  $z(x) = \frac{y(x)}{\sqrt{x}}$  in the equation (27) we get

$$y''(x) + y(x) = e^{-x/2}y^{1l2}$$
(29)

If we apply the same argument used in Example 3.1 for the function  $y(x) = (x - x_0)^2 e^{-x}$  we can show that it satisfies the inequality

$$|y''(x) + y(x) - e^{-x/2}y^{1/2}| < \varepsilon$$

with initial condition  $y(x_0) = 0 = y'(x_0)$ , and the inequality

$$M \le k\varepsilon$$
 , where  $k = \frac{6e^{(1+\frac{x_0}{2})}}{3e^{(1+\frac{x_0}{2})} - 8} > 0$ 

Therefore, we get the Hyers-Ulam stability and asymptotic stability for the equation (27).

### 5 Conclusion

In this paper we obtained sufficient criteria for Hyers-Ulam stability of linear and nonlinear differential equations of second Order with zero initial conditions.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author is deeply grateful to the editor professor Belal Batiha for useful comments.

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