

## A CLASS OF GENERALIZED FUNCTIONAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

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**In this paper, the equation  $y' = Ay$  is solved, where  $A$  is a self-mapping of a certain set of functions. Also, a continuous dependence theorem is proven, and  $n$ th-order differential equations are considered.**

1. **Definitions.** If  $p$  is a real number and  $I = \{I_1, I_2, \dots\}$  is a collection of intervals so that  $p \in I_1$  and  $I_n \subseteq I_{n+1}$  for each positive integer  $n$ , then  $I$  is said to be a nest of intervals about  $p$ . Let  $I_0 = \{p\}$  and  $[a_n, b_n] = I_n$  for each nonnegative integer  $n$ . Let  $I^*$  denote the union of all the elements of  $I$ .

In general,  $B$  denotes a Banach space; and if  $D$  is a real number set, let  $C[D, B]$  denote the set of continuous functions from  $D$  into  $B$ . Whenever  $D$  is an interval,  $C[D, B]$  is considered a Banach space with supremum norm  $|\cdot|$ .

Let  $C(I, B)$  denote the set of continuous functions whose domain is either  $I_0, I^*$ , or an element of  $I$ ; and whose range is a subset of  $B$ .

Suppose  $A$  is a mapping from  $C(I, B)$  into  $C(I, B)$  so that

- (i) domain  $f =$  domain  $Af$ , for all  $f \in C(I, B)$ ,
- (ii)  $(Af)|_{I_k} = A(f|_{I_k})$ , for all  $f \in C(I, B)$  and  $I_k \subseteq$  domain  $f$ , for positive  $k$ , [Note:  $f|_{I_k}$  is the restriction of  $f$  to  $I_k$ .] and

(iii) there is a function  $M$  from  $I^*$  into the nonnegative reals that is Lebesgue integrable on any interval contained in  $I$ , so that  $\|Af(x) - Ag(x)\| \leq M(x) \cdot |f - g|$ , for all  $f, g \in C[I_i, B]$  so that  $f|_{I_{i-1}} = g|_{I_{i-1}}$  and  $x \in I_i$ , for each positive integer  $i$ .

Then,  $A$  is said to be an  $I$ -map with function  $M$ . Furthermore, if the phrase " $f|_{I_{i-1}} = g|_{I_{i-1}}$ " is removed from part (iii) of the previous definition,  $A$  is said to be an  $I$ -map with strong function  $M$ .

### 2. Main results.

**THEOREM A.** *Suppose  $A$  is an  $I$ -map with function  $M$ ; and  $\max \left\{ \int_{a_i}^{a_{i-1}} M, \int_{b_{i-1}}^{b_i} M \right\} < 1$ , for all positive integers  $i$ . Then if  $q \in B$ , there is a unique  $y \in C[I^*, B]$  so that  $y' = Ay$  and  $y(p) = q$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\{(p, q)\} = y_0$ . Then  $y_0$  is the unique function in  $C[I_0, B]$  so that  $y_0(x) = q + \int_p^x Ay_0$  for all  $x \in I_0$ . Now, suppose  $n$  is a non-negative integer so that  $y_n$  has been defined in  $C[I_n, B]$  to be the unique function so that  $y_n(x) = q + \int_p^x Ay_n$  for all  $x \in I_n$ . Then,  $D =$

$\{f \in C[I_{n+1}, B] / f|_{I_n} = y_n\}$  is a complete metric space. If  $f \in D$ , let  $Tf(x) = q + \int_p^x Af$ , for all  $x \in I_{n+1}$ . Now if  $x \in I_n$  and  $f \in D$ , then  $T_f(x) = q + \int_p^x Af = q + \int_p^x (Af)|_{I_n} = q + \int_p^x A(f|_{I_n}) = q + \int_p^x Ay_n = y_n(x)$ . Thus  $(Tf)|_{I_n} = y_n$ , and thus  $Tf \in D$ .

Suppose  $f, g \in D$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} |Tf - Tg| &= \max \{ \|Tf(x) - Tg(x)\| / x \in I_{n+1} \} \\ &= \max \left\{ \left\| \int_p^x (Af - Ag) \right\| \right\} \\ &\leq \max \left\{ \left\| \int_p^x \|Af(s) - Ag(s)\| ds \right\| \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $f|_{I_n} = g|_{I_n}$  and this implies that  $A(f|_{I_n}) = A(g|_{I_n})$ . Thus,  $(Af)|_{I_n} = (Ag)|_{I_n}$ ; that is,  $Af(s) = Ag(s)$  for all  $s$  in  $I_n$ . So

$$\begin{aligned} |Tf - Tg| &\leq \max \left\{ \sup \left\{ \int_{b_n}^x \|Af(s) - Ag(s)\| ds / x \in [b_n, b_{n+1}] \right\}, \right. \\ &\quad \left. \sup \left\{ \int_x^{a_n} \|Af(s) - Ag(s)\| ds / x \in [a_{n+1}, a_n] \right\} \right\} \\ &\leq \max \left\{ \sup \left\{ \int_{b_n}^x M(s) \cdot |f - g| ds / x \in [b_n, b_{n+1}] \right\}, \right. \\ &\quad \left. \sup \left\{ \int_x^{a_n} M(s) \cdot |f - g| ds / x \in [a_{n+1}, a_n] \right\} \right\} \\ &\leq \max \left\{ \int_{a_{n+1}}^{a_n} M, \int_{b_n}^{b_{n+1}} M \right\} \cdot |f - g|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $T$  is a contraction map from the complete metric space  $D$  into  $D$ , and thus  $T$  has a unique fixed point  $y_{n+1}$ . So  $y_{n+1}$  is the unique function in  $C[I_{n+1}, B]$  so that  $y_{n+1}(x) = q + \int_p^x Ay_{n+1}$  for all  $x$  in  $I_{n+1}$ . So by induction  $y_k$  is defined for each positive integer  $k$ . Define  $y(x) = y_m(x)$  whenever  $x \in I_m \setminus I_{m-1}$ . Then  $y$  is the desired function.

The following corollary (See [6].) shows that Theorem A guarantees the existence of solutions to some functional differential equations. Suppose  $g$  is a function from  $I^*$  to  $I^*$  so that  $g(I_n) \subseteq I_n$  for each positive integer  $n$ . Such a function is said to be an  $I$ -function. Let  $A_k = \{x \in [a_k, a_{k-1}] / g(x) \notin I_{k-1}\}$  and let  $B_k = \{x \in [b_{k-1}, b_k] / g(x) \notin I_{k-1}\}$ , for each positive integer  $k$ . Also, suppose  $\|F(x, y) - F(x, z)\| \leq M(x) \cdot \|y - z\|$  for all  $x \in I^*$ ,  $y, z \in B$ ; and  $M$  is Lebesgue integrable on intervals.

**COROLLARY.** *If  $q \in B$ , and  $\max \left\{ \int_{A_k} M, \int_{B_k} M \right\} < 1$ , for all  $k$ ; then there is a unique  $y \in C[I^*, B]$  so that  $y(p) = q$  and  $y'(x) = F(x, y(g(x)))$  for all  $x \in I^*$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $(Af)(x) = F(x, f(g(x)))$ . Then  $A$  is an  $I$ -map with function  $T$ , where

$$T(x) = \begin{cases} M(x), & x \in A_n \cup B_n \\ 0, & x \notin A_n \cup B_n \end{cases}, \text{ for } x \in I_n \setminus I_{n-1}.$$

The proof of the following is straightforward.

**PROPOSITION.** *Suppose  $I$  is a nest of intervals about  $p$ , and each of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  is an  $I$ -function. Then*

(i) *Suppose  $P$  is of bounded variation on each interval contained in  $I^*$ , and let  $Af(x) = \int_{\alpha(x)}^{\beta(x)} dF \cdot f$ , for  $f \in C(I, B)$  and  $x \in \text{domain } f$ . Then  $A$  is an  $I$ -map with function  $M$ , where  $M(x)$  is the variation of  $F$  over  $[\alpha(x), \beta(x)] \setminus I_{k-1}$  where  $x \in I_k \setminus I_{k-1}$ .*

(ii) *Suppose  $K: I^* \times I^*$  to the scalars which is continuous, and  $Af(x) = \int_{\alpha(x)}^{\beta(x)} K(x, t)f(t)dt$ , for  $f \in C(I, B)$  and  $x \in \text{domain } f$ . Then  $A$  is an  $I$ -map with function  $M$ , where  $M(x) = \left| \int_{[\alpha(x), \beta(x)] \setminus I_{k-1}} |K(x, t)| dt \right|$  for  $x \in I_k \setminus I_{k-1}$ .*

It is easy to show that the set of  $I$ -maps, for a fixed nest of intervals  $I$ , is a near-ring under composition and addition. Thus, there are many types of differential equations that may be solved by combining  $I$ -maps of the types given in the corollary and the proposition.

### 3. Continuous dependence.

**THEOREM B.** *Suppose  $A(z, \cdot)$  is an  $I$ -map with strong function  $M$  for each  $z$  in the topological space  $K, q \in B$ , and  $M_k = \max \left\{ \int_{a_k}^{a_{k-1}} M, \int_{b_{k-1}}^{b_k} M \right\} < 1$ , for all positive integers  $k$ . Let  $y(z, \cdot)$  be the unique function, guaranteed by Theorem A, so that  $y_2(z, \cdot) = A(z, y(z, \cdot))$  and  $y(z, p) = q$ . Then, there exists a sequence  $\{L_i\}$  so that for  $z, z_0 \in K$ ,  $|y(z, \cdot) - y(z_0, \cdot)|_{I_i} \leq L_i \cdot |A(z, y(z_0, \cdot)) - A(z_0, y(z_0, \cdot))|_{I_i}$ , for each  $i$ . [In the previous inequality the norm is the supremum norm over  $I_i$ .]*

*Indication of proof.* Define  $\{L_i\}$  as follows: Let  $L_1 = \max(p - a_1, b_1 - p)/(1 - M_1)$ . For  $i \geq 1$ , let  $L_{i+1} = \{L_i + \max(a_i - a_{i+1}, b_{i+1} - b_i)\}/(1 - M_{i+1})$ .

**EXAMPLE.** Let  $g$  be an  $I$ -function and let  $N > 0$ . Then let  $K$  be the metric space of all  $I$ -functions that are pointwise never more than  $N$  from  $g$ . Define  $A(h, y) = y(h|_{\text{dom } y})$  and  $d(h_1, h_2) = \sup \{|h_1(x) - h_2(x)|/x \in I^*\}$ ;  $d$  is the metric.

4. *N*th order equations.

**THEOREM C.** *Suppose  $A$  is an  $I$ -map with function  $M$ ,  $n$  is a positive integer, and  $q_0, q_1, \dots, q_{n-1} \in B$ . Let*

$$N_k = \max \left\{ \int_{a_k}^{a_{k-1}} \int_{s_1}^{a_{k-1}} \dots \int_{s_{n-1}}^{a_{k-1}} M(s_n) ds_n \dots ds_1, \right. \\ \left. \int_{b_{k-1}}^{b_k} \int_{b_{k-1}}^{s_1} \dots \int_{b_{k-1}}^{s_{n-1}} M(s_n) ds_n \dots ds_1 \right\}.$$

*Then, if  $N_k < 1$ , for all positive integers  $k$ , there is a unique  $y \in C[I^*, B]$  so that  $y^{(n)} = Ay$  and  $y(p) = q_0, \dots, y^{(n-1)}(p) = q_{n-1}$ .*

*Indication of proof.* Use induction, Theorem A, and the following lemma.

**LEMMA.** *Suppose  $H$  is an  $I$ -map with function  $S$ , and  $q \in B$ , then define  $Kf(x) = q + \int_p^x Hf$ , for all  $f \in C(I, B)$  and  $x \in \text{domain } f$ . Then  $K$  is an  $I$ -map with function  $T$ , where  $T(x) = \int_{a_k}^{a_{k-1}} S$ , whenever  $x \in (a_k, a_{k-1}]$ ; and  $T(x) = \int_{b_{k-1}}^x S$ , whenever  $x \in [b_{k-1}, b_k)$ .*

The proof of Theorem D is straightforward and Theorem E is a special case of Theorem D. Both of these theorems are imitations of standard theorems of ordinary differential equations.

**THEOREM D.** *(A generalized system of equations theorem.) Suppose  $B_i$  is a Banach space with norm  $\|\cdot\|_i$ , for each positive integer  $i$  between 1 and  $n$ . Let  $B' = \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) | x_i \in B_i\}$ . Also, let  $\|(x_1, \dots, x_n)\| = \max \{\|x_i\|_i / 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ , for all elements of  $B'$ . [Then  $B'$  is a Banach space.] Furthermore, suppose  $H_i: C(I, B')$  to  $C(I, B_i)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$  so that*

- (1) *if  $f \in C(I, B')$ , domain  $f = \text{domain } H_i f$ ,*
- (2) *if  $f \in C(I, B')$ , and  $I_k \subseteq \text{domain } f, k > 0$ , then  $(H_i f)|_{I_k} = H_i(f|_{I_k})$ , and*
- (3) *there is  $M_i: I^*$  to the reals which is Lebesgue integrable on intervals so that if  $f, g \in C[I_k, B']$ ,  $f|_{I_{k-1}} = g|_{I_{k-1}}$ , and  $x \in I_k$ , then  $\|H_i f(x) - H_i g(x)\| \leq M_i(x) \cdot |f - g|$ . Now, define  $A: C(I, B')$  to  $C(I, B')$  so that  $Af = (H_1 f, H_2 f, \dots, H_n f)$ , for all  $f \in C(I, B')$ .*

Then  $A$  is an  $I$ -map with function  $\max \{M_i / 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ .

**THEOREM E.** *Suppose  $B'$  is as in Theorem D, with  $B = B_i$ , for all  $i$ . Also, suppose  $H = H_n$  and  $M = M_n$ , where  $H_n$  and  $M_n$  are as in Theorem D. Suppose  $q_0, \dots, q_{n-1} \in B$  and*

$$\max \left\{ \int_{a_k}^{a_{k-1}} \max \{1, M\}, \int_{b_{k-1}}^{b_k} \max \{1, M\} \right\} < 1, \text{ for all } k > 0 .$$

Then, there is a unique  $y \in C[I^*, B]$  so that

$$y^{(n)} = H((y, y^{(1)}, \dots, y^{(n-1)})) \text{ and } y^{(i)} = q_i, \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq n - \iota .$$

EXAMPLE. Suppose each  $g_i$  is an  $I$ -function, then for appropriate functions  $F_i$ , Theorem E guarantees the existence of a solution to

$$y^{(n)}(x) = \sum_{k=1}^n F_k(x, y^{(n-k)}(g_k(x))), \text{ for all } x \in I^* .$$

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