

**RESEARCH NOTES**

**A NOTE ON THE UNIQUE SOLVABILITY OF A  
CLASS OF NONLINEAR EQUATIONS**

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**ABSTRACT.** The aim of the present note is to devise a simple criterion for the existence of the unique solution of a class of nonlinear equations whose solvability is taken for granted.

**KEY WORDS AND PHRASES.** Hammerstein equation, Monotonically Decomposable operators.

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1. INTRODUCTION.

In equations describing physical problems presence of more than one solution may sometimes create complications. One is often led to a solution that may differ from the desired solution and hence a lack of agreement of the solution with the experimental result occurs. We are therefore motivated in devising a simple criterion by which the uniqueness of the solution of a class of equations is guaranteed.

In what follows we take  $X$  to be a complete supermetric space [1] and  $f$  to be an element of  $X$ .

$A$  is a nonlinear mapping of  $X$  into  $X$  and we are interested in solving the equation

$$u = Au + f, \quad f \in X \quad (1.1)$$

by the iterates of the form

$$u_{n+1} = A u_n + f \quad (u_0 \text{ prechosen}) \quad (1.2)$$

Section 2 contains the convergence theorem and an example is appended in section 3. Earlier Sen [2], Sen and Mukherjee [3] proved the unique solvability of the nonlinear equation  $Au = Pu$  in the setting of a metric space.

## 2. CONVERGENCE.

THEOREM 2.1. Let the following conditions be fulfilled:

i) There exists a bounded linear operator  $L$  mapping  $X$  into  $X$  s.t.

$$a) \rho(Au, Av) \leq \rho(Lu, Lv), \forall u, v \in X$$

$$b) \rho(L^p Au, L^p Av) \leq \rho(L^{p+1} u, L^{p+1} v), p = 0, 1, \dots (m-1)$$

$$c) \rho(L^m u, L^m v) \leq q \rho(u, v), \forall u, v \in X, 0 < q < 1 \text{ and for fixed } m$$

ii)  $f$  belongs to the range of  $(I-A)$ .

Then the sequence  $u_n$  defined by (1.2) converges to the unique solution of (1.1).

PROOF. By condition (ii) there exists a

$$u^* \in X \text{ s.t. } u^* = Au^* + f \quad (2.1)$$

The space being supermetric and the use of the conditions a), b) and c) yields

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(u_{m+1}, u^*) &= \rho(Au_m, Au^*) \\ &\leq \rho(L^{(m-1)} u_0, L^{(m-1)} u^*) \\ &\leq q \rho(Lu_0, Lu^*) \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

$$\text{Hence } \rho(u_{nm}, u^*) \leq q^n \rho(u_0, u^*) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty \quad (0 < q < 1) \quad (2.3)$$

If  $v^*$  is another solution of the equation

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(u^*, v^*) &= \rho(Au^* + f, Av^* + f) \\ &\leq q \rho(u^*, v^*) \quad (0 < q < 1) \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

Hence,  $u^* = v^*$

Therefore  $\{u_n\}$  converges uniquely to the solution of (1.1) where  $f$  belongs to the range of  $(I-A)$ .

## 3. EXAMPLE.

In this section we consider the following Hammerstein equation

$$u(x) = 1 + \int_0^1 |x-t| [u(t) - \frac{1}{2} u^2(t)] dt \quad (3.1)$$

in the setting of  $C(0,1)$ .

By using the theory of Monotonically Decomposable Operator (MDO) [1] Collatz proved [4] the existence of a solution  $u(x)$  with

$$2(x - x^2) \leq u(x) \leq 2(1 - x - x^2) \quad (3.2)$$

$$\text{Let } X = \{u(x) / 2(x - x^2) \leq u(x) \leq 2(1 - x - x^2)\}$$

We would show that in  $X$  the equation (3.1) admits of a unique solution. Here

$$Au = \int_0^1 |x-t| [u(t) - \frac{1}{2} u^2(t)] dt \quad (3.3)$$

$$\text{Let us choose } Lu = \int_0^1 |x-t| u(t) dt \quad (3.4)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We take } \rho(u, v) &= ||u-v|| = \max_{0 \leq x \leq 1} |u(x) - v(x)| \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ &\forall u(x), v(x) \in C(0,1). \end{aligned} \quad (3.5)$$

Let us consider the metric in  $X$  induced by the metric in  $C(0,1)$  and Complete  $X$  w.r.t. the induced metric so that  $X$  is a complete supermetric space.

$$\begin{aligned} Au - Av &= \int_0^1 |x-t| (u(t) - v(t)) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (u(\xi) + v(\xi)) \int_0^1 |x-t| u(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (u(\eta) + v(\eta)) \int_0^1 |x-t| v(t) dt \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

$0 < \xi < 1$   
 $0 < \eta < 1$

$$\max_{0 \leq x \leq 1} \left| 1 - \frac{u(x) + v(x)}{2} \right| \leq 1, \quad \forall u(x), v(x) \in X \quad (3.7)$$

$$\rho(Lu, Lv) = \max_{0 \leq x \leq 1} |u(\xi) - v(\eta)| \int_0^1 |x-t| dt \quad (0 < \xi < 1, 0 < \eta < 1) \quad (3.8)$$

$$\int_0^1 |x-t| v(t) dt \leq \frac{v(\bar{\eta})}{|u(\bar{\xi}) - v(\bar{\eta})|} \rho(Lu, Lv) \quad (3.9)$$

Neglecting quantities of second order in  $\xi, \eta$

$$|Au - Av| \leq [1 - \frac{1}{2} (u(\xi) + v(\xi)) + v(\bar{\eta})] \rho(Lu, Lv)$$

$$\text{Now } 1 - \frac{1}{2} (u(\xi) + v(\xi) + v(\bar{\eta}))$$

$$1 - 2(\xi - \xi^2) + 2(1 - \bar{\eta} + \bar{\eta}^2) \approx 1 \quad (3.11)$$

$$\text{Therefore } \rho(Au, Av) \leq \rho(Lu, Lv), \quad \forall u, v \in X \quad (3.12)$$

Simple manipulation shows that

$$\rho(LAu, LAv) \leq \rho(L^2u, L^2v) \quad (3.13)$$

Using Schwartz inequality we have

$$\rho(L^2u, L^2v) \leq \frac{1}{3} \rho(u, v) \quad (3.14)$$

It may however be noted that both  $A$  and  $L$  map  $X$  into  $X$  where  $X$  is a complete metric space.

Hence by Theorem 2.1  $\{u_n\}$  defined by

$$u_{n+1} = 1 - \int_0^1 |x-t| [u_n(t) - \frac{1}{2} u_n^2(t)] dt \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Converges to the unique solution of equation (3.1) in  $X$ .

3.1. In many nonlinear equations it is possible to generate  $L$ 's which could be prototypes of the linearized versions of  $A$ .

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