

Hyers Ulam Stability of First Order Difference Equations

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Abstract— In this paper we have investigate the Hyers Ulam stability of first order difference equation of the form $\Delta y(n) - y(n) = 0$.

1. INTRODUCTION

The study of stability problems for various functional equations originated from a talk given by S.M. Ulam in 1940 [17], Ulam discussed a number of important unsolved problems. Among such problems, a problem concerning the stability of functional equations, “Give conditions in order for a linear mapping nearly an approximately linear mapping to exist” is one of them.

In 1941, Hyer [2] gave an answer to the problem as follows:

Let E_1 and E_2 be two real Banach spaces and $f : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ be a mapping. If there exists an $\epsilon > 0$ such that

$$\|f(x+y) - f(x) - f(y)\| < \epsilon, (x, y \in E_1)$$

Then there exists a unique additive mapping $T : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ such that $\|f(x) - T(x)\| < \epsilon, x \in E_1$

Furthermore, the results of the Hyers has been generalized by Rassias [14]. After that researchers has extended, the Ulams stability problems to functional equations and generalized Hyer’s result in various directions (see[3, 8, 9, 15]). Thereafter, Ulam’s stability problem for functional equations was replaced by stability of differential/difference equations.

The differential equation,

$$a_n(t)y^n(t) + a_{n-1}(t)y^{n-1}(t) + \dots + a_1(t)y^1(t) + a_0(t)y(t) + h(t) = 0$$

has Hyper’s Ulam stability, if for given $\epsilon > 0$, I be an open interval and for any function f satisfying the differential inequality,

$$\left| \begin{aligned} &a_n(t)y^{(n)}(t) + a_{n-1}(t)y^{(n-1)}(t) + \dots + a_1(t)y^1(t) \\ &+ a_0(t)y(t) + h(t) \end{aligned} \right| \leq \epsilon,$$

then there exists a function f(t) of the above equation such that $|f(t) - f_0(t)| \leq K(\epsilon)$ and $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} K(\epsilon) = 0, t \in I$.

If the proceeding statements is also true when we replace ϵ and $K(\epsilon)$ by $\phi(t)$ and $\psi(t)$ respectively, where $\phi, \psi : I \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ are functions independent of f and f_0 explicitly, then we say that the corresponding differential equation has the generalized Hyers-Ulam stability or Hyer’s Ulam Rassias stability.

Definition 1: The difference equation

$$\begin{aligned} &a_k(n)y(n+k) + a_{k-1}(n)y(n+k-1) + \dots \\ &+ a_1(n)y(n+1) + a_0(n)y(n) + h(n) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

has the Hyer’s Ulam stability, if for given $\epsilon > 0$, I be an open interval and for any function f satisfying the inequality,

$$\left| \begin{aligned} &a_k(n)y(n+k) + a_{k-1}(n)y(n+k-1) + \dots \\ &+ a_1(n)y(n+1) + a_0(n)y(n) + h(n) \end{aligned} \right| \leq \epsilon$$

then there exists a solution f_0 of the above difference equation such that $|f(n) - f_0(n)| \leq K(\epsilon)$ and $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} K(\epsilon) = 0$ for $n \in I$.

On Hyer’s Ulam stability, several works have been done in the field of differential equation. Obloza seems to be the 1st author

who has investigated the Hyers-Ulam stability of linear differential equation (see for e.g. ([12, 15])). After that Alison and Ger published their work in [1], where they have proved that Hyers-Ulam stability of the differential equation $y'(t) = y(t)$. On this direction we refer some of the work [4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 17, 13, 16] to the readers and the references cited therein.

The objective of this work is to investigate the Hyers-Ulam stability of the difference equation,

$$\Delta y(n) - y(n) = 0 \quad (1)$$

where Δ is the forward difference operation, which is defined as $\Delta f(x) = f(x+h) - f(x)$, h is the spacing between two consecutive arguments.

By a solution of (1) we mean a real valued function $y(n)$ which satisfies (1).

2. HYERS-ULAM STABILITY OF (1)

This section deals with some useful Lemmas and Hyers-Ulam stability result of (1).

Lemma 1(a): Assume that $Z: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a real valued function. The inequality $z(n) \leq \Delta z(n)$ is true for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, if and only if there exists a real function $\alpha: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $2^{n+1} \Delta \alpha(n) \geq 0$ and $z(n) = 2^n \alpha(n)$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof: Assume that the inequality $z(n) \leq \Delta z(n)$ hold for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Let us define a function $\alpha: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ to be

$$\alpha(n) = \left[2^{-n} \right] z(n) \quad (2)$$

Taking difference operator both sides, we get

$$\Delta \alpha(n) = 2^{-(n+1)} z(n+1) - \left[2^{-n} \right] z(n)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2^{n+1} \Delta \alpha(n) = z(n+1) - 2z(n)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2^{n+1} \Delta \alpha(n) = \Delta z(n) - z(n)$$

As $\Delta z(n) - z(n) \geq 0$.

So, $2^{n+1} \Delta \alpha(n) \geq 0$.

Also from (2), $z(n) = 2^n \alpha(n)$

Conversely assume that there exists a real function $\alpha: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $2^{n+1} \Delta \alpha(n) \geq 0$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and

$z(n): \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by $z(n) = 2^n \alpha(n)$. we have to prove that $z(n) \leq \Delta z(n)$.

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta z(n) &= \Delta(2^n \alpha(n)) \\ &= \alpha(n+1) \Delta(n) + 2^n \Delta \alpha(n) \\ &= \alpha(n+1) [2^{n+1} - 2^n] + 2^n \Delta \alpha(n) \\ &= \alpha(n+1) [2 - 1] + 2^n \Delta \alpha(n) \\ &= 2^n \alpha(n+1) - 2^n \alpha(n) + 2^n \alpha(n) + 2^n \Delta \alpha(n) \\ &= 2^n \alpha(n) + 2^n \Delta \alpha(n) + 2^n \alpha(n) \\ &= 2^{n+1} \Delta \alpha(n) + 2^n \alpha(n) \\ &= 2^{n+1} \Delta \alpha(n) + z(n) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta z(n) - z(n) = 2^{n+1} \Delta \alpha(n) \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta z(n) \geq z(n)$$

$\Rightarrow z(n) \leq \Delta z(n)$ (Hence the Lemma)

Lemma 1(b): Assume that $Z: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a real valued function. The inequality $z(n) \geq \Delta z(n)$ holds true for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$ if and only if there exists a real function $\beta: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $2^{n+1} \Delta \beta(n) \leq 0$ and $z(n) = 2^n \beta(n)$.

The proof of the lemma is similar to Lemma 1(a), hence omitted.

Theorem 2: Given $\epsilon > 0$. A function $y: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies inequality

$$|\Delta y(n) - y(n)| \leq \epsilon \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad (3)$$

If and only if there exists a function $\alpha: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$y(n) = \epsilon + 2^n \alpha(n) \quad (4)$$

and $0 \leq \Delta \alpha(n) \leq 2^{-n} \in \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ (5)

Proof: Assume that $y(n)$ is a real function such that $y: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is solution of the inequality (3) so

$$|\Delta y(n) - y(n)| \leq \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow y(n) - \epsilon \leq \Delta y(n) \leq y(n) + \epsilon, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \quad (6)$$

Define $z(n) = y(n) - \epsilon$. So from inequality (6), $z(n) \leq \Delta y(n)$ holds for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Then by applying Lemma 1(a) there exists a real function $\alpha : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$2^{n+1} \Delta \alpha(n) \geq 0 \quad (7)$$

and $z(n) = 2^n \alpha(n)$.

$$\Rightarrow y(n) - \epsilon = 2^n \alpha(n)$$

$$\Rightarrow y(n) = \epsilon + 2^n \alpha(n)$$

Similarly by defining $z(n) = y(n) + \epsilon$ and using the Hyers of (6) we have $z(n) \geq \Delta y(n) \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$. So according to Lemma 1(b) there exists a real function $\beta : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$2^{n+1} \Delta \beta(n) \leq 0 \quad (8)$$

and $z(n) = 2^n \beta(n)$

$$\Rightarrow y(n) + \epsilon = 2^n \beta(n) \quad (9)$$

$$\Rightarrow y(n) = -\epsilon + 2^n \beta(n)$$

Applying difference operator for both the equations (4) and (9) we get,

$$\Delta y(n) = \Delta(\epsilon + 2^n \alpha(n))$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta y(n) = \alpha(n+1)2^{n+1} - \alpha(n)2^n$$

Again $\Delta y(n) = \beta(n+1)2^{n+1} - 2^n \beta(n)$
 $= 2^n (2\beta(n+1) - \beta(n))$

$$= 2^n [\Delta \beta(n) + \beta(n+1)] = 2^n \Delta \beta(n) + 2^n \beta(n+1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta \beta(n) = 2^{-n} \Delta y(n) - \beta(n+1)$$

$$= 2^n [y(n+1) - y(n)] - (y(n+1) + \epsilon) [2^{-(n+1)}]$$

$$\Rightarrow \Delta \beta(n) = \Delta \alpha(n) - 2 \epsilon \in 2^{-(n-1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2^{n+1} \Delta \beta(n+1) = 2^{n+1} \Delta \alpha(n) - 2 \epsilon$$

As $2^{n+1} \Delta \beta(n) \leq 0 \Rightarrow 2^{n+1} \Delta \alpha(n) - 2 \epsilon \leq 0$

$$\Rightarrow 2 \epsilon \geq 2^{n+1} \Delta \alpha(n),$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 \leq 2^{n+1} \Delta \alpha(n) \leq 2 \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 \leq \Delta \alpha(n) \leq 2^{-n} \epsilon, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Conversely,

Assume that a function $y : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is given by (4) $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$, where $\alpha : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a real function satisfies (5) for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Now, $\Delta y(n) - y(n) = y(n+1) - 2y(n)$

$$= \epsilon + \alpha(n+1)2^{n+1} - 2(\epsilon + \alpha(n)2^n)$$

$$= 2^{n+1} \Delta \alpha(n) - \epsilon$$

$$\leq 2 \epsilon - \epsilon = \epsilon$$

So $\Delta y(n) - y(n) \leq \epsilon \quad (10)$

Similarly from (9), $y(n) = -\epsilon + \beta(n)2^n$

Now, $\Delta y(n) - y(n)$

$$= y(n+1) - 2y(n)$$

$$= \epsilon + \beta(n+1)2^{n+1} + 2\epsilon - \beta(n)2^{n+1}$$

$$= 2^{n+1} \Delta \beta(n) + \epsilon$$

$$\geq -2 \epsilon \in \beta \epsilon = -\epsilon$$

So $\Delta y(n) - y(n) \geq -\epsilon \quad (11)$

Combining (10) & (11), we get

$$-\epsilon \leq \Delta y(n) - y(n) \leq \epsilon \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

$$\Rightarrow |\Delta y(n) - y(n)| \leq \epsilon$$

Hyer-Ulam Stability of difference equation (1) i.e., $\Delta y(n) - y(n) = 0$.

Theorem 3: If a function $y : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies equality (3) i.e.

$|\Delta y(n) - y(n)| \leq \epsilon$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$, then there exists a real no,

C such that $|y(n) - C2^n| \leq \epsilon \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Proof: Given $\epsilon > 0$. Since y satisfies (3) then by theorem 2, there exists a function $\alpha : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $y(n) = \epsilon + 2^n \alpha(n)$ and $0 \leq \Delta \alpha(n) \leq 2^{n-2} \epsilon, n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Define $C = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \alpha(k)$

$$0 \leq \Delta \alpha(n) \leq 2^{-n} \epsilon \Rightarrow -2^{-n} \epsilon \leq -\Delta \alpha(n) \leq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -\epsilon \sum_{j=n}^{k-1} 2^{-j} \leq -\sum_{j=n}^{k-1} \Delta\alpha(j) \leq 0, \quad k > n$$

$$\text{But } \sum_{j=n}^{k-1} \Delta\alpha(j) = \sum_{j=n}^{k-1} (\alpha(j+1) - \alpha(j)) = \alpha(k) - \alpha(n)$$

$$\text{and } \sum_{j=n}^{k-1} 2^{-j} = \frac{1}{2^n} + \frac{1}{2^{n+1}} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^{k-1}} = \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} - \frac{1}{2^{k-1}}$$

$$\text{Hence } -\epsilon \left(\frac{1}{2^{n-1}} - \frac{1}{2^{k-1}} \right) \leq \alpha(n) - \alpha(k) \leq 0$$

$$\text{Taking limit as } k \rightarrow \infty, \text{ we get } \frac{-\epsilon}{2^{n-1}} \leq \alpha(n) - \alpha(k) \leq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{-\epsilon 2^n}{2^{n-1}} \leq 2^n \alpha(n) - 2^n C \leq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -2\epsilon \leq 2^n \alpha(n) - 2^n C \leq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -\epsilon \leq \epsilon + 2^n \alpha(n) - 2^n C \leq \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow -\epsilon \leq y(n) - 2^n C \leq \epsilon \quad \Rightarrow |y(n) - C2^n| \leq \epsilon, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

(Hence the Theorem)

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