

Stability of Volterra difference delay equations

ERNEST YANKSON

Abstract

We study the asymptotic stability of the zero solution of the Volterra difference delay equation

$$x(n+1) = a(n)x(n) + c(n)\Delta x(n-g(n)) + \sum_{s=n-g(n)}^{n-1} k(n,s)h(x(s)).$$

A Krasnoselskii fixed point theorem is used in the analysis.

1 Introduction

Fixed point theorems have been used extensively in recent times to study some of the qualitative properties of solutions of difference and differential equations. In the current paper we use Krasnoselskii's fixed point theorem to study the asymptotic stability of the zero solution of the difference equation,

$$x(n+1) = a(n)x(n) + c(n)\Delta x(n-g(n)) + \sum_{s=n-g(n)}^{n-1} k(n,s)h(x(s)) \quad (1.1)$$

where $a(n), c(n) : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $k : \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $h : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and $g(n) : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^+$. The operator Δ is defined as

$$\Delta x(n) = x(n+1) - x(n).$$

We assume that $a(n)$ and $c(n)$ are bounded discrete functions whereas $0 \leq g(n) \leq g_0$ for some integer g_0 . We also assume that $h(0) = 0$ and

$$|h(x) - h(z)| \leq L|x - z| \quad (1.2)$$

for some positive constant L .

We refer to [1],[12] and [17] for some of the reasons why fixed point theorems are used to study stability. Equation (1.1) is the discrete version of one of the differential equations studied in [17].

Continuous versions of (1.1) are generally known as neutral Volterra differential equations.

For more on stability of ordinary and functional differential equations we refer to [1],[2],[7],[9],[11],[18], and for difference equations we refer to [4],[5],[6],[7],[10],[13], and [16].

For any integer $n_0 \geq 0$, we define \mathbb{Z}_0 to be the set of integers in $[-g_0, n_0]$.

Let $\psi(n) : \mathbb{Z}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be an initial discrete bounded function.

Definition 1.1. We say $x(n) := x(n, n_0, \psi)$ is a solution of (1.1) if $x(n) = \psi(n)$ on \mathbb{Z}_0 and satisfies (1.1) for $n \geq n_0$.

Definition 1.2. The zero solution of (1.1) is Liapunov stable if for any $\epsilon > 0$ and any integer $n_0 \geq 0$ there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that $|\psi(n)| \leq \delta$ on \mathbb{Z}_0 imply $|x(n, n_0, \psi)| \leq \epsilon$ for $n \geq n_0$.

Definition 1.3. The zero solution of (1.1) is asymptotically stable if it is Liapunov stable and if for any integer $n_0 \geq 0$ there exists $r(n_0) > 0$ such that $|\psi(n)| \leq r(n_0)$ on \mathbb{Z}_0 implies $|x(n, n_0, \psi)| \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

2 Asymptotic Stability

Lemma 2.1. Suppose that $a(n) \neq 0$ for all $n \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then $x(n)$ is a solution of equation (1.1) if and only if

$$x(n) = \left[x(n_0) - c(n_0 - 1)x(n_0 - g(n_0)) \right] \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) + c(n - 1)x(n - g(n)) \\ + \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left[-x(r - g(r))\Phi(r) + \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r, u)h(x(u)) \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s), \quad n \geq n_0$$

where $\Phi(r) = c(r) - c(r - 1)a(r)$.

Proof. Rewrite (1.1) as

$$[\Delta x(n) \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a^{-1}(s)] = \left[c(n)\Delta x(n - g(n)) + \sum_{u=n-g(n)}^{n-1} k(n, u)h(x(u)) \right] \prod_{s=n_0}^n a^{-1}(s) \quad (2.1)$$

Summing equation (2.1) from n_0 to $n-1$ gives

$$\sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} [\Delta x(r) \prod_{s=n_0}^{r-1} a^{-1}(s)] = \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} [c(r)\Delta x(r - g(r)) + \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r, u)h(x(u))] \prod_{s=n_0}^r a^{-1}(s)$$

which gives,

$$|x(r) \prod_{s=n_0}^{r-1} a^{-1}(s)|_{n_0}^n = \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left[\sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r, u)h(x(u)) + c(r)\Delta x(r - g(r)) \right] \prod_{s=n_0}^r a^{-1}(s)$$

Thus,

$$x(n) = x(n_0) \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) + \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left[\sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r, u)h(x(u)) + c(r)\Delta x(r - g(r)) \right] \prod_{s=n_0}^r a^{-1}(s) \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s)$$

Since

$$\prod_{s=n_0}^r a^{-1}(s) \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) = \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s),$$

we obtain,

$$x(n) = x(n_0) \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) + \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left[\sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r, u)h(x(u)) \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) + \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left[c(r)\Delta x(r - g(r)) \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right] \quad (2.2)$$

But,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left[c(r) \Delta x(r-g(r)) \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right] &= \left| c(r-1)x(r-g(r)) \prod_{s=r}^{n-1} a(s) \right|_{n_0}^n \\
 &\quad - \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} x(r-g(r)) \Delta [c(r-1) \prod_{s=r}^{n-1} a(s)] \\
 &= c(n-1)x(n-g(n)) \prod_{s=n}^{n-1} a(s) - c(n_0-1)x(n_0-g(n_0)) \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) \\
 &\quad - \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} x(r-g(r)) \Delta [c(r-1) \prod_{s=r}^{n-1} a(s)]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left[c(r) \Delta x(r-g(r)) \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right] &= c(n-1)x(n-g(n)) - c(n_0-1)x(n_0-g(n_0)) \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) \\
 &\quad - \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} x(r-g(r)) \Delta [c(r-1) \prod_{s=r}^{n-1} a(s)]
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus equation (2.2) becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
 x(n) &= x(n_0) \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) + \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left[\sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r,u)h(x(u)) \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) + c(n-1)x(n-g(n)) \\
 &\quad - c(n_0-1)x(n_0-g(n_0)) \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) - \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} x(r-g(r)) \Delta [c(r-1) \prod_{s=r}^{n-1} a(s)] \\
 &= [x(n_0) - c(n_0-1)x(n_0-g(n_0))] \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) + c(n-1)x(n-g(n)) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left(-x(r-g(r)) \Delta [c(r-1) \prod_{s=r}^{n-1} a(s)] + \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r,u)h(x(u)) \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore we have,

$$\begin{aligned}
 x(n) &= [x(n_0) - c(n_0 - 1)x(n_0 - g(n_0))] \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) + c(n - 1)x(n - g(n)) \\
 &+ \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} [-x(r - g(r))\Phi(r) + \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r, u)h(x(u))] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \\
 &= [x(n_0) - c(n_0 - 1)x(n_0 - g(n_0))] \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) + c(n - 1)x(n - g(n)) \\
 &+ \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left[-x(r - g(r))\Phi(r) + \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r, u)h(x(u)) \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s), \quad n \geq n_0
 \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of lemma 2.1.

Define

$$S = \left\{ \varphi : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \|\varphi\| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty \right\}, \quad (2.3)$$

where

$$\|\varphi\| = \max_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} |\varphi(n)|.$$

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

Define mapping $H : S \rightarrow S$ by

$$(H\varphi)(n) = \psi(n) \text{ on } \mathbb{Z}_0,$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 (H\varphi)(n) &= \left[\psi(n_0) - c(n_0 - 1)\psi(n_0 - g(n_0)) \right] \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) + c(n - 1)\varphi(n - g(n)) \\
 &+ \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left[-\varphi(r - g(r))\Phi(r) + \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r, u)h(x(u)) \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s), \quad n \geq n_0
 \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

Lemma 2.2. Suppose (1.2) hold. Also, suppose that

$$\prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty, \quad (2.5)$$

$$n - g(n) \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty, \quad (2.6)$$

and there exist $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ such that,

$$\sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left[|\Phi(r)| + L \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r, u) \right] \left| \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right| \leq \alpha, \quad n \geq n_0. \quad (2.7)$$

Then the mapping H defined by (2.4) $\rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Proof. The first term on the right of (2.4) goes to zero because of condition (2.5). The second term on the right goes to zero because of condition (2.6) and the fact that $\varphi \in S$.

Finally we show that the last term

$$\sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left[-\Phi(r)\varphi(r - g(r)) + \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r, u)h(\varphi(u)) \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s)$$

on the right of (2.4) goes to zero as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Let $m > 0$ such that for $\varphi \in S$, $|\varphi(n - g(n))| < \sigma$ for $\sigma > 0$. Also, since $\varphi(n - g(n)) \rightarrow 0$ as $n - g(n) \rightarrow \infty$, there exists a $n_2 > m$ such that for $n > n_2$, $|\varphi(n - g(n))| < \epsilon_2$ for $\epsilon_2 > 0$. Due to condition (2.5) there exists a $n_3 > n_2$ such that for $n > n_3$ implies that

$$\left| \prod_{s=n_2}^{n-1} a(s) \right| < \frac{\epsilon_2}{\alpha\sigma}.$$

Thus for $n > n_3$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left| \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left[-\varphi(r-g(r))\Phi(r) + \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r,u)h(\varphi(u)) \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right| \\
& \leq \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left| \left[-\varphi(r-g(r))\Phi(r) + \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r,u)h(\varphi(u)) \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right| \\
& \leq \sum_{r=n_0}^{n_2-1} \left| \left[\varphi(r-g(r))\Phi(r) + L \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r,u)\varphi(u) \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right| \\
& \quad + \sum_{r=n_2}^{n-1} \left| \left[\varphi(r-g(r))\Phi(r) + L \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r,u)\varphi(u) \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right| \\
& \leq \sigma \sum_{r=n_0}^{n_2-1} \left[|\Phi(r)| + L \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r,u) \right] \left| \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right| + \epsilon_2 \alpha \\
& \leq \sigma \sum_{r=n_0}^{n_2-1} \left[|\Phi(r)| + L \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r,u) \right] \left| \prod_{s=r+1}^{n_2-1} a(s) \prod_{s=n_2}^{n-1} a(s) \right| + \epsilon_2 \alpha \\
& \leq \sigma \alpha \left| \prod_{s=n_2}^{n-1} a(s) \right| + \epsilon_2 \alpha \\
& \leq \epsilon_2 + \epsilon_2 \alpha.
\end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof of lemma 2.2.

We state below Krasnoselskii's fixed point Theorem which is the main mathematical tool in this paper and we refer to [19] for the proof.

Theorem 2.3 (Krasnoselskii's) Let \mathbb{M} be a closed convex nonempty subset of a Banach space $(\mathbb{B}, \|\cdot\|)$. Suppose that A and Q map \mathbb{M} into \mathbb{B} such that

- (i) $x, y \in \mathbb{M}$, implies $Ax + Qy \in \mathbb{M}$,
- (ii) A is continuous and $A\mathbb{M}$ is contained in a compact set,
- (iii) Q is a contraction mapping.

Then there exists $z \in \mathbb{M}$ with $z = Az + Qz$.

The application of the above Theorem requires the construction of two mappings which we obtain by expressing (2.4) as

$$(H\varphi)(n) = (Q\varphi)(n) + (A\varphi)(n),$$

where $A, Q : S \rightarrow S$ are given by

$$(Q\varphi)(n) = \left[\psi(n_0) - c(n_0 - 1)\psi(n_0 - g(n_0)) \right] \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) + c(n-1)\varphi(n-g(n)) \quad (2.8)$$

$$(A\varphi)(n) = \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left[-\varphi(r-g(r))\Phi(r) + \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r,u)h(\varphi(u)) \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \quad (2.9)$$

Lemma 2.4 Suppose that (1.2) and (2.7) hold. Also suppose that there exist a constant γ such that,

$$\max_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} |a(n)| = \gamma. \quad (2.10)$$

Then the mapping A defined by (2.9) is continuous and compact.

Proof. Let $\varphi, \zeta \in S$. Given any $\epsilon_1 > 0$, choose $\delta = \frac{\epsilon_1}{\alpha}$ such that $\|\varphi - \zeta\| < \delta$.

$$\begin{aligned} \|(A\varphi) - (A\zeta)\| &\leq \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left| \Phi(r) \right| \left| \varphi(r-g(r)) - \zeta(r-g(r)) \right| \left| \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right| \\ &+ \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left| \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r,u)h(\varphi(u)) - \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r,u)h(\zeta(u)) \right| \left| \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left\{ \left[|\Phi(r)| + L \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r,u) \right] \left| \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right| \right\} \|\varphi - \zeta\| \\ &\leq \alpha \|\varphi - \zeta\| \\ &\leq \epsilon_1. \end{aligned}$$

We next show that A is compact. Let $\{\varphi_n\} \subset S$ denote a sequence of uniformly bounded functions with $\|\varphi_n\| \leq \lambda$, where n is a positive integer and $\lambda > 0$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \|(A\varphi_n)\| &\leq \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left| \left[\varphi(r-g(r))\Phi(r) + \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r,u)h(\varphi(u)) \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left| \left[\Phi(r) + L \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r,u) \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right| \|\varphi\| \\ &\leq \alpha \|\varphi\| \\ &\leq \alpha \lambda \end{aligned}$$

Thus showing that $\|(A\varphi_n)\| \leq \iota$ for some positive constant ι .

Also,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\Delta(A\varphi)\| &\leq |a(n)| \left| -\varphi(n-g(n))\Phi(n) + \sum_{u=n-g(n)}^{n-1} k(r,u)h(x(u)) \right| \\ &\leq \gamma \left| \Phi(n) + L \sum_{u=n-g(n)}^{n-1} k(r,u) \right| \|\varphi\| \\ &\leq \gamma \alpha \lambda \\ &\leq \beta. \end{aligned}$$

For some positive constant β . Thus the sequence $(A\varphi_n)$ is uniformly bounded and equi-continuous. The Arzela-Ascoli theorem implies that $(A\varphi_{n_k})$ converges uniformly to a function φ^* . Thus A is compact.

Lemma 2.5 Let Q be defined by (2.8) and

$$|c(n-1)| \leq \eta < 1. \tag{2.11}$$

Then Q is a contraction.

Proof. Let $\varphi, \zeta \in S$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|(Q\varphi) - (Q\zeta)\| &\leq |c(n-1)| \|\varphi - \zeta\| \\ &\leq \eta \|\varphi - \zeta\|. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 2.6. Suppose the hypotheses of lemma 2.2, lemma 2.4, and lemma 2.5 hold. Also, suppose that there is a positive constant ρ such that

$$\left| \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) \right| \leq \rho, \quad (2.12)$$

and there exist an $\alpha \in (0, 1)$

$$\left| c(n-1) + \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left[|\Phi(r)| + L \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r, u) \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right| \leq \alpha, \quad n \geq n_0. \quad (2.13)$$

Then the zero solution of (1.1) is asymptotically stable.

Proof. Let $\epsilon > 0$ be given. Choose $\delta > 0$ such that

$$\left| 1 - c(n_0 - 1) \right| \delta \rho + \alpha \epsilon < \epsilon.$$

Let $\psi(n)$ be any given initial function such that $|\psi(n)| < \delta$.

Define $\mathbb{M} = \{\varphi \in S : \|\varphi\| < \epsilon\}$. Let $\varphi, \zeta \in \mathbb{M}$, then,

$$\begin{aligned} \|(Q\zeta) + (A\varphi)\| &\leq \left| \psi(n_0) - c(n_0 - 1)\psi(n_0 - g(n_0)) \right| \prod_{s=n_0}^{n-1} a(s) + \left| c(n-1)\zeta(n-g(n)) \right| \\ &\quad + \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left| \varphi(r-g(r))\Phi(r) + \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r, u)h(\varphi(u)) \right| \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \\ &\leq \left| 1 - c(n_0 - 1) \right| \delta \rho + |c(n-1)|\epsilon + \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left| \Phi(r) + L \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r, u) \right| \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \epsilon \\ &\leq \left| 1 - c(n_0 - 1) \right| \delta \rho + \left\{ |c(n-1)| + \sum_{r=n_0}^{n-1} \left| \Phi(r) + L \sum_{u=r-g(r)}^{r-1} k(r, u) \right| \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} a(s) \right\} \epsilon \\ &\leq \left| 1 - c(n_0 - 1) \right| \delta \rho + \alpha \epsilon \\ &< \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

It therefore follows from the above work that all the conditions of the Krasnosel'skii's Theorem are satisfied on \mathbb{M} . Thus there exists a fixed point z in \mathbb{M} such that $z = Az + Qz$. By lemma 2.1 this fixed point $x(n)$ is a solution of (1.1) and in particular, $\|x\| < \epsilon$.

Therefore showing that the zero solution of (1.1) is stable. In addition $\|x\| \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ by the fact that $x(n) \in S$. Therefore the zero solution of (1.1) is asymptotically stable.

Example. Consider the difference equation

$$x(n+1) = \frac{1}{1+n}x(n) + \frac{2^{n+1}}{16(n+1)!}\Delta x(n-2) + \sum_{s=n-2}^{n-1} \frac{2^n}{8(1-n)!(s+2)}x(s), \quad n \geq 0. \quad (2.14)$$

In this example we take $n_0 = 0$.

We observe that

$$\prod_{s=0}^{n-1} \frac{1}{1+s} = \frac{1}{n!} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty,$$

thus condition (2.5) is satisfied. Condition (2.6) also satisfied since

$$n-2 \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Using (2.7) we obtain,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} \left[\frac{2^{r+1}}{16(r+1)!} - \frac{2^r}{16r!(r+1)} \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{1+s} \\ & + \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} \sum_{u=r-2}^{r-1} \frac{2^r}{8(1-r)!(u+2)} \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{1+s} \\ & = \frac{1}{8n!} \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} 2^r - \frac{1}{16n!} \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} 2^r + \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} \frac{2^r}{8n!} \\ & \leq \frac{1}{8n!} (2^n - 1) + \frac{1}{8n!} (2^n - 1) \\ & \leq \frac{1}{8n!} 2^n + \frac{1}{8n!} 2^n \\ & \leq \frac{1}{2} < 1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus condition (2.7) is satisfied.

Using (2.13) we obtain,

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \frac{2^n}{16n!} \right| + \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} \left[\frac{2^{r+1}}{16(r+1)!} - \frac{2^r}{16r!(r+1)} \right] \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{1+s} \\ & + \sum_{r=0}^{n-1} \sum_{u=r-2}^{r-1} \frac{2^r}{8(1-r)!(u+2)} \prod_{s=r+1}^{n-1} \frac{1}{1+s} \leq \frac{5}{8} < 1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus condition (2.13) is satisfied.

We also have,

$$\left| \frac{1}{1+n} \right| \leq 1,$$

$$\left| c(n-1) \right| = \left| \frac{2^n}{16n!} \right| \leq \frac{1}{8} < 1,$$

and,

$$\left| \prod_{s=0}^{n-1} \frac{1}{1+s} \right| \leq 1.$$

Thus conditions (2.10),(2.11) and (2.12) are satisfied respectively.

Therefore the zero solution of (2.14) is asymptotically stable.

References

1. T. Burton, *Volterra Integral and Differential Equations*, Academic Press, New York, 1983.
2. T. Burton, *Stability and Periodic Solutions of Ordinary and Functional Differential Equations*, Academic Press, New York, 1985.
3. T. Burton and T. Furumochi, *Fixed points and problems in stability theory*, Dynam. Systems Appl. 10(2001), 89-116.
4. S. Elaydi, *An Introduction to Difference Equations*, Springer, New York, 1999.

5. S. Elaydi, *Periodicity and stability of linear Volterra difference systems*, J. Math. Anal. Appl., 181(1994), 483-492.
6. S. Elaydi and S. Murakami, *Uniform asymptotic stability in linear Volterra difference equations*, J. Differ. Equations Appl., 3(1998), 203-218.
7. P. Eloe and M. Islam, *Stability properties and integrability of the resolvent of linear Volterra equations*, Tohoku Math. J., 47(1995), 263-269.
8. P. Eloe, M. Islam and Y. Raffoul, *Uniform asymptotic stability in nonlinear Volterra discrete systems*, Special Issue on Advances in Difference Equations IV, Computers Math. Appl., 45(2003), 1033-1039.
9. Y. Hino and S. Murakami, *Total stability and uniform asymptotic stability for linear Volterra equations*, J. London Math. Soc., 43(1991), 305-312.
10. M. Islam and Y. Raffoul, *Exponential stability in nonlinear difference equations*, J. Differ. Equations, 9(2003), 819-825.
11. M. Islam and Y. Raffoul, *Stability properties of linear Volterra integrodifferential equations with nonlinear perturbation*, Commun. Appl. Anal., 7(2003), 405-416.
12. M. Islam and E. Yankson, *Boundedness and Stability in nonlinear delay difference equations employing fixed point theory*, E. J. Qualitative Theory of Diff. Equ., No.26.(2005).
13. W. Kelley and A. Peterson, *Difference Equations: An Introduction with Applications*, Harcourt Academic Press, San Diego, 2001.
14. J. Liu, *A First Course In The Qualitative Theory of Differential Equations*, Pearson Education, Inc., Upper Saddle River, New Jersey 07458, 2003.
15. M. Maroun and Y. Raffoul, *Periodic solutions in nonlinear neutral difference equations with functional delay*, J. Korean Mathematical Society, 42(2005), 255-268.
16. R. Medina, *Asymptotic behavior of Volterra difference equations*, Computers Math. Appl., 41(2001), 679-687.

17. Y. Raffoul, *Stability in neutral nonlinear differential equations with functional delays using fixed point theory*, Mathematical and Computer Modelling, 40(2004), 691-700.
18. Y. Raffoul, *Periodic solutions for neutral nonlinear differential equations with functional delay*, Elec. J. Diff. Equ., 102(2003).
19. D. Smart, *Fixed Point Theorems*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1980.

(Received August 18, 2006)

Ernest Yankson

Department of Mathematical Sciences, Kent State University, Kent, OH

email: eyankson@math.kent.edu