

# Global Asymptotic Stability of Two Families of Nonlinear Difference Equations\*

## 两类非线性差分方程的全局渐近稳定性

XI Hong-jian<sup>1</sup>, SUN Tai-xiang<sup>2</sup>, ZHAO Jin-feng<sup>2</sup>

席鸿建<sup>1</sup>, 孙太祥<sup>2</sup>, 赵金凤<sup>2</sup>

(1. Department of Mathematics, Guangxi College of Finance and Economics, Nanning, Guangxi, 530003, China; 2. College of Mathematics and Information Science, Guangxi University, Nanning, Guangxi, 530004, China)

(1. 广西财经学院数学系, 广西南宁 530003; 2. 广西大学数学与信息科学学院, 广西南宁 530004)

**Abstract:** Two families of difference equations are discussed. They are the form

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{\sum_{i \in Z_k - \{j, s, t\}} x_{n-i} + x_{n-t}^r + x_{n-j} x_{n-s}^m + A}{\sum_{i \in Z_k - \{j, s, t\}} x_{n-i} + x_{n-s}^m + x_{n-j} x_{n-t}^r + A}, n=0, 1, \dots,$$

where  $k \in \{2, 3, \dots\}$ ,  $j, s, t \in Z_k \equiv \{0, 1, \dots, k\}$  with  $s \neq t$  and  $j \notin \{s, t\}$ ,  $A, r, m \in [0, +\infty)$  and the initial values  $x_{-k}, x_{-k+1}, \dots, x_0 \in (0, +\infty)$ , and the form

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{\sum_{i \in Z_k - \{j_0, j_1, \dots, j_s\}} x_{n-i} + x_{n-j_0} x_{n-j_1} \dots x_{n-j_s} + 1}{\sum_{i \in Z_k - \{j_0, j_1, \dots, j_{s-1}\}} x_{n-i} + x_{n-j_0} x_{n-j_1} \dots x_{n-j_{s-1}}}, n=0, 1, \dots,$$

where  $k \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq k$ ,  $\{j_0, \dots, j_s\} \subset Z_k$  with  $j_i \neq j_l$  for  $i \neq l$  and the initial values  $x_{-k}, x_{-k+1}, \dots, x_0 \in (0, +\infty)$ . For these difference equations, it is proved that the unique equilibrium  $\bar{x} = 1$  is globally asymptotically stable, which includes the corresponding results of the references [3~5, 7].

**Key words:** difference equation, equilibrium, global asymptotic stability

**摘要:** 利用泛函分析方法证明差分方程

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{\sum_{i \in Z_k - \{j, s, t\}} x_{n-i} + x_{n-t}^r + x_{n-j} x_{n-s}^m + A}{\sum_{i \in Z_k - \{j, s, t\}} x_{n-i} + x_{n-s}^m + x_{n-j} x_{n-t}^r + A}, n=0, 1, \dots,$$

其中  $k \in \{2, 3, \dots\}$ ,  $j, s, t \in Z_k \equiv \{0, 1, \dots, k\}$  ( $s \neq t$ ,  $j \notin \{s, t\}$ ),  $A, r, m \in [0, +\infty)$  且初始条件  $x_{-k}, x_{-k+1}, \dots, x_0 \in (0, +\infty)$ , 和差分方程

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{\sum_{i \in Z_k - \{j_0, j_1, \dots, j_s\}} x_{n-i} + x_{n-j_0} x_{n-j_1} \dots x_{n-j_s} + 1}{\sum_{i \in Z_k - \{j_0, j_1, \dots, j_{s-1}\}} x_{n-i} + x_{n-j_0} x_{n-j_1} \dots x_{n-j_{s-1}}}, n=0, 1, \dots,$$

其中  $k \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq k$ ,  $\{j_0, \dots, j_s\} \subset Z_k$  ( $j_i \neq j_l$  对  $i \neq l$ ) 且初始条件  $x_{-k}, x_{-k+1}, \dots, x_0 \in (0, +\infty)$  的唯一平衡点  $\bar{x} = 1$  是全局渐近稳定的. 该结果推广了文献[3~5, 7]中相应的结果.

**关键词:** 差分方程 平衡点 全局渐近稳定性

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作者简介: 席鸿建(1955-), 男, 河南人, 教授, 主要从事差分方程及动力系统研究.

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### 1 Introduction

For some difference equations, although their forms (or expressions) look very simple, it is extremely difficult to understand the global behaviors of their solutions thoroughly. Some previous investigations on the qualitative behaviors of difference

equations have been seen in references [1~5]).

In reference [3] Ladas put forward to investigate the global asymptotic stability of the following rational difference equation:

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{x_n + x_{n-1}x_{n-2}}{x_n x_{n-1} + x_{n-2}}, n = 0, 1, \dots \quad (E1)$$

where the initial values  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0 \in R_+ \equiv (0, +\infty)$ .

In reference [4] Neesemann utilized the strong negative feedback property of reference [6] to study the following difference equation:

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{x_{n-1} + x_n x_{n-2}}{x_n x_{n-1} + x_{n-2}}, n = 0, 1, \dots \quad (E2)$$

where the initial values  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0 \in R_+$ .

In reference [5] Li and Zhu studied the global asymptotic stability of the following nonlinear difference equation:

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{x_n x_{n-1}^r + x_{n-2}^r + A}{x_{n-1}^r + x_n x_{n-2}^r + A}, n = 0, 1, \dots \quad (E3)$$

where  $A, r \in [0, +\infty)$  and the initial values  $x_{-2}, x_{-1}, x_0 \in R_+$ .

Recently, Papaschinopoulos and Schinas<sup>[7]</sup> have investigated the global asymptotic stability of the following nonlinear difference equation:

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{\sum_{i \in Z_k - (j-1, j)} x_{n-i} + x_{n-j} x_{n-j+1} + 1}{\sum_{i \in Z_k} x_{n-i}}, n = 0, 1, \dots \quad (E4)$$

where  $k \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ ,  $\{j, j-1\} \subset Z_k \equiv \{0, 1, \dots, k\}$  and the initial values  $x_{-k}, x_{-k+1}, \dots, x_0 \in R_+$ .

In this note, we consider the family of difference equations of the form

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{\sum_{i \in Z_k - (j, s, t)} x_{n-i} + x_{n-t}^r + x_{n-j} x_{n-s}^m + A}{\sum_{i \in Z_k - (j, s, t)} x_{n-i} + x_{n-s}^m + x_{n-j} x_{n-t}^r + A}, n = 0, 1, \dots \quad (1)$$

where  $k \in \{2, 3, \dots\}$ ,  $j, s, t \in Z_k$  with  $s \neq t$  and  $j \notin \{s, t\}$ ,  $A, r, m \in [0, +\infty)$  and the initial values  $x_{-k}, x_{-k+1}, \dots, x_0 \in R_+$ , and the family of difference equations of the form

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{(\sum_{i \in Z_k - (j_0, j_1, \dots, j_s)} x_{n-i} + x_{n-j_0} x_{n-j_1} \dots x_{n-j_s} + 1) / (\sum_{i \in Z_k - (j_0, j_1, \dots, j_{s-1})} x_{n-i} + x_{n-j_0} x_{n-j_1} \dots x_{n-j_{s-1}}), n = 0, 1, \dots \quad (2)$$

where  $k \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq k$ ,  $\{j_0, \dots, j_s\} \subset Z_k$  with  $j_i \neq j_l$  for  $i \neq l$  and the initial values  $x_{-k}, x_{-k+1}, \dots, x_0 \in R_+$ .

It is easy to see that the positive equilibrium  $\bar{x}$  of Equation (1) satisfies

$$\bar{x} = \frac{(k-2)\bar{x} + \bar{x}^r + \bar{x}^{m+1} + A}{(k-2)\bar{x} + \bar{x}^m + \bar{x}^{r+1} + A}$$

and the positive equilibrium  $\bar{x}$  of Equation (2) satisfies

$$\bar{x} = \frac{\bar{x}^{r+1} + (k-s)\bar{x} + 1}{\bar{x}^s + (k-s+1)\bar{x}},$$

from which it can be seen that Equations (1) and (2) have the unique positive equilibrium  $\bar{x} = 1$ .

The following theorem is our main result, which includes the corresponding results of references [3~5, 7].

**Theorem** (i) Assume that  $A, r, m \in [0, +\infty)$ .

Then the unique equilibrium  $\bar{x} = 1$  of Equation (1) is globally asymptotically stable.

(ii) The unique equilibrium  $\bar{x} = 1$  of Equation (2) is globally asymptotically stable.

## 2 Proof of the theorem

To prove the Theorem, we need the following lemmas.

**Lemma 1** Let  $k \in \{2, 3, \dots\}$  and  $A, r, m \in [0, +\infty)$ . If  $(a, b, c, u_1, \dots, u_{k-2}) \in R_+^{k+1} - \{(1, 1, \dots, 1, 1)\}$  and  $\alpha = \max\{a, b, c, u_1, \dots, u_{k-2}, a^{-1}, b^{-1}, c^{-1}, u_1^{-1}, \dots, u_{k-2}^{-1}\}$ , then

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} < \frac{ab^m + c^r + u_1 + \dots + u_{k-2} + A}{ac^r + b^m + u_1 + \dots + u_{k-2} + A} < \alpha.$$

**Proof** Since  $(a, b, c, u_1, \dots, u_{k-2}) \in R_+^{k+1} - \{(1, 1, \dots, 1, 1)\}$  and  $\alpha = \max\{a, b, c, u_1, \dots, u_{k-2}, a^{-1}, b^{-1}, c^{-1}, u_1^{-1}, \dots, u_{k-2}^{-1}\}$ , we have  $\alpha > 1$  and either  $\alpha \geq a > \frac{1}{\alpha}$  or  $\alpha > a \geq \frac{1}{\alpha}$ . Then

$$\begin{cases} ab^m + c^r < ab^m + aac^r, \\ ac^r + b^m < ac^r + aab^m. \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

It follows from Formula (3) that

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} < \frac{ab^m + c^r + u_1 + \dots + u_{k-2} + A}{ac^r + b^m + u_1 + \dots + u_{k-2} + A} < \alpha.$$

Lemma 1 is proven.

**Lemma 2** Let  $k \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  and  $s \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ . If  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_s, b_0, \dots, b_{k-s}) \in R_+^{k+1} - \{(1, 1, \dots, 1, 1)\}$  and  $\alpha = \max\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_s, b_0, \dots, b_{k-s}, a_1^{-1}, a_2^{-1}, \dots, a_s^{-1}, b_0^{-1}, \dots, b_{k-s}^{-1}\}$ , then

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} < \frac{a_1 a_2 \dots a_s + b_0 + \dots + b_{k-s} + 1}{a_1 a_2 \dots a_{s-1} + a_s + b_0 + \dots + b_{k-s}} < \alpha.$$

**Proof** Since  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_s, b_0, \dots, b_{k-s}) \in R_+^{k+1} - \{(1, 1, \dots, 1, 1)\}$  and  $\alpha = \max\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_s, b_0, \dots, b_{k-s}, a_1^{-1}, a_2^{-1}, \dots, a_s^{-1}, b_0^{-1}, \dots, b_{k-s}^{-1}\}$ , we have  $\alpha > 1$  and

either  $\alpha \geq a_s > \frac{1}{\alpha}$  or  $\alpha > a_s \geq \frac{1}{\alpha}$ . Then

$$\begin{cases} a_1 a_2 \cdots a_s + 1 < a_1 a_2 \cdots a_{s-1} \alpha + a_s \alpha, \\ a_1 a_2 \cdots a_{s-1} + a_s < a_1 a_2 \cdots a_s \alpha + \alpha. \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

It follows from Formula(4) that

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} < \frac{a_1 a_2 \cdots a_s + b_0 + \cdots + b_{k-s} + 1}{a_1 a_2 \cdots a_{s-1} + a_s + b_0 + \cdots + b_{k-s}} < \alpha.$$

Lemma 2 is proven.

Let  $\rho$  denote the part-metric on  $R_+^{k+1}$  (see reference [8]) which is defined by

$$\rho(x, y) = -\log \min \left\{ \frac{x_i}{y_i}, \frac{y_i}{x_i} \mid 0 \leq i \leq k \right\} \text{ for } x = (x_0, \dots, x_k), y = (y_0, \dots, y_k) \in R_+^{k+1}.$$

It was shown by Thompson<sup>[8]</sup> that  $(R_+^{k+1}, \rho)$  is a complete metric space. In reference [9] Krause and Nussbaum proved that the distances indicated by the part-metric and by the Euclidean norm were equivalent on  $R_+^{k+1}$ .

**Lemma 3**<sup>[10]</sup> Let  $T: R_+^{k+1} \rightarrow R_+^{k+1}$  be a continuous mapping with unique fixed point  $x^* \in R_+^{k+1}$ . Suppose that there exists some  $l \geq 1$  such that for the part-metric  $\rho$ ,

$$\rho(T^l x, x^*) < \rho(x, x^*) \text{ for all } x \neq x^*.$$

Then  $x^*$  is globally asymptotically stable.

**Proof of theorem** Let  $\{x_n\}_{n=-k}^\infty$  be a solution of Equation (1) (or Equation (2)) with initial conditions  $x_0, x_{-1}, \dots, x_{-k} \in R_+$  such that  $\{x_n\}_{n=-k}^\infty$  is not eventually equal to 1 since otherwise there is nothing to show. Denoted by  $T: R_+^{k+1} \rightarrow R_+^{k+1}$  the mapping

$$T(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_k) = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k, f(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_k)),$$

where

$$f(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_k) =$$

$$\frac{\sum_{i \in Z_k - \{j, s, t\}} \alpha_{k-i} + a_{k-t}^r + a_{k-j} a_{k-s}^m + A}{\sum_{i \in Z_k - \{j, s, t\}} \alpha_{k-i} + a_{k-s}^m + a_{k-j} a_{k-t}^r + A} \quad (\text{or})$$

$$f(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_k) =$$

$$\frac{\sum_{i \in Z_k - \{j_0, j_1, \dots, j_s\}} \alpha_{k-i} + a_{k-j_0} a_{k-j_1} \cdots a_{k-j_s} + 1}{\sum_{i \in Z_k - \{j_0, j_1, \dots, j_{s-1}\}} \alpha_{k-i} + a_{k-j_0} a_{k-j_1} \cdots a_{k-j_{s-1}}}.$$

Then solution  $\{x_n\}_{n=-k}^\infty$  of Equation (1) (or Equation (2)) is represented by the first component of the solution  $\{y_n\}_{n=0}^\infty$  of the system  $y_{n+1} = T y_n$  with initial condition  $y_0 = (x_{-k}, \dots, x_{-1}, x_0)$ . It follows from Lemma 1 (or Lemma 2) that for all  $n \geq 0$  the following inequalities hold:

$$x_{n+1} > \min \left\{ x_n, x_{n-1}, \dots, x_{n-k}, \frac{1}{x_n}, \frac{1}{x_{n-1}}, \dots, \right.$$

$$\left. \frac{1}{x_{n-k}} \right\},$$

$$x_{n+1} < \max \left\{ x_n, x_{n-1}, \dots, x_{n-k}, \frac{1}{x_n}, \frac{1}{x_{n-1}}, \dots, \right.$$

$$\left. \frac{1}{x_{n-k}} \right\}.$$

Thus, for  $x^* = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$  and the part-metric  $\rho$  we have  $\rho(T^{k+1}(y_n), x^*) < \rho(y_n, x^*)$  for all  $n \geq 0$ . It follows from Lemma 3 that the positive equilibrium  $\bar{x} = 1$  of Equation (1) (or Equation (2)) is globally asymptotically stable.

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