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REMARK ON THE FREDHOLM ALTERNATIVE FOR NONLINEAR OPERATORS  
WITH APPLICATION TO NONLINEAR INTEGRAL EQUATIONS OF  
GENERALIZED HAMMERSTEIN TYPE

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§ 1. Introduction. Let  $B$  be a reflexive Banach space and  $T$  a bounded, demicontinuous mapping from  $B$  to its dual  $B^*$ . Define  $T_t(\mu) = T(\mu) - tT(-\mu)$  and suppose that  $T_t$  satisfies for every  $0 \leq t \leq 1$  the condition (S):

(1.1) If  $\mu_m \rightharpoonup \mu$  (weak convergence) and  $(T_t \mu_m - T_t \mu, \mu_m - \mu) \rightarrow 0$ , then  $\mu_m \rightarrow \mu$  (strong convergence, where  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  denotes the natural pairing between  $B^*$  and  $B$ ); if, for some  $f$  in  $B$ , we have also

(1.2)  $T_t \mu - (1-t)f \neq 0$  for  $\|\mu\| = R > 0$  and  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ , then there exists  $\mu$  in  $B$  such that  $\|\mu\| < R$  and  $T\mu = f$ .

Suppose  $T$  is an odd mapping and  $\alpha$ -homogeneous ( $T(t\mu) = t^\alpha T(\mu)$ ,  $t > 0$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ ) satisfying (1.1). The consequence of the above statement is the following alternative: if  $S$  is a completely continuous mapping from

$B$  to  $B^*$  such that

$$(1.3) \quad \lim_{\|u\| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|Su\|}{\|u\|^{2\alpha}} = 0$$

and if  $Tu = 0$  implies  $u = 0$ , then  $(T+S)(B) = B^*$ . Furthermore, every solution of  $(T+S)u = f$  satisfies the inequality

$$(1.4) \quad \|u\| \leq c(1 + \|f\|^{1/2\alpha}) .$$

Conversely, if (1.4) is true for every solution of  $(T+S)u = f$ , then  $Tu = 0$  implies  $u = 0$ .

The first statement is a generalization of a result of D.G. de Figueiredo, Ch.P. Gupta [4] and the alternative is a generalization of a result of S.I. Pochožajev [10] and F. E. Browder [2], and it is another version of the author's Fredholm alternative [9]; see also M. Kučera [7] and the forthcoming papers of S. Fučík [5] and M. Kučera [8]. For  $T$  linear, we obtain a generalization of a result of M.A. Krasnoselskij [6].

Application: Let  $M$  be a measurable set in  $R_m$  with  $mev(M) < \infty$  and  $l$  an odd positive integer. For  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ , let  $K_i(x, y)$  be kernels on  $M \times M_l$ , with  $M_l = M \times M \times \dots \times M$   $l$ -times, such that

$$(1.5) \quad \int_M \int_{M_l} |K_i(x, y)|^{l+1} dx dy < \infty .$$

Let  $f_i(y, u)$  be functions defined on  $M_l \times R_l$ ,

satisfying the Caratheodory condition and the growth condition

$$(1.6) \quad |f_i(\eta, \mu)| \leq c |\mu|^l + d_i(\eta) \text{ where } d_i \in L_{1+1/l}(M_\ell).$$

The generalized Hammerstein's type integral equation is:

$$(1.7) \quad \mu^\ell(x) - \lambda \sum_{i=1}^m \int_{M_\ell} K_i(x, \eta) f_i(\eta, \mu(\eta)) d\eta = g(x),$$

where  $\mu(\eta) = (\mu(\eta_1), \mu(\eta_2), \dots, \mu(\eta_\ell))$  and the solution is supposed to be in  $L_{\ell+1}(M)$ . If the asymptotic condition: for  $t \rightarrow \infty$

$$(1.8) \quad |t^{-\ell} f_i(\eta, t\mu) - \sum_{|\alpha|=\ell} a_\alpha^i(\eta) \mu^\alpha| \leq c_i(t) |\mu|^l + d_i(\eta, t)$$

with  $c_i(t) \rightarrow 0$  and  $d_i(t) \rightarrow 0$  in  $L_{1+1/l}(M_\ell)$

for  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $\mu^\alpha = \mu_1^{\alpha_1} \dots \mu_\ell^{\alpha_\ell}$  and

$a_\alpha^i \in L_\infty(M_\ell)$ , then the equation (1.7) has a solution if  $\lambda$  is not an eigenvalue for the asymptotic homogeneous equation

$$(1.9) \quad \mu^\ell(x) - \lambda \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{|\alpha|=\ell} \int_{M_\ell} K_i(x, \eta) a_\alpha^i(\eta) \cdot \mu^\alpha(\eta) d\eta = 0.$$

Every solution of (1.7) satisfies

$$(1.10) \quad \|\mu\|_{L_{\ell+1}(M)} \leq c (1 + \|g\|_{L_{1+1/l}(M)}^{1/l}).$$

and, conversely, if (1.10) is satisfied for every solution, then  $\lambda$  is not an eigenvalue of (1.9).

## § 2. Abstract Theorems

**Theorem 1.** Let  $B$  be a real, reflexive Banach space and  $T$  a mapping from  $B$  to  $B^*$ , bounded and demi-continuous ( $u_n \rightarrow u \Rightarrow Tu_n \rightarrow Tu$ ). Let  $T$  satisfy the condition (1.1) and (1.2). Then there exists a solution  $u$ ,  $\|u\| < R$  of  $Tu = f$ .

**Proof:** Let  $F$  be a subspace of  $B$  and let  $\psi_F$  be the injection of  $F$  to  $B$  and  $\psi_F^*$  its duality mapping. Let  $T_F = \psi_F^* T \psi_F$ .

(1) There exists  $F$  with  $\dim F < \infty$  such that  $T_F(u) - tT_F(-u) - (1-t)\psi_F^* f \neq 0$  for  $\|u\| = R$ ,  $u \in F' \supset F$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ ,  $\dim F' < \infty$ ; we prove a little more: there exists  $\sigma > 0$  such that  $\|T_F(u) - tT_F(-u) - (1-t)\psi_F^* f\| \geq \sigma$  for the  $u$  in question. Of course, for  $w \in F^*$ ,  $\|w\| = \sup_{\substack{u \neq 0 \\ u \in F}} \frac{(w, u)}{\|u\|}$ .

Let us prove first this statement for  $t$  fixed. Let us suppose the contrary. Then, for every  $F$  with  $\dim F < \infty$ , there exists a sequence  $F_n$ ,  $F \subset F_1 \subset F_2 \subset \dots$   $\dots \dim F_n < \infty$  and  $u_n \in F_n$ ,  $\|u_n\| = R$ , such that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|T_{F_n}(u_n) - tT_{F_n}(-u_n) - (1-t)\psi_{F_n}^* f\| \geq \sigma_{t_0}$ .

Suppose  $u_n \rightarrow u$ ,  $u \in \overline{\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} F_n} \stackrel{d.f.}{=} B_F$ . We have  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (T(u_n) - T_t(u), u_n - u) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (T_t(u_n) - T_t(u), u_n - v_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (T_t(u_n) - (1-t)\psi_{F_n}^* f, u_n - v_n) = 0$ ,

where  $v_m \rightarrow \mu$ ,  $v_m \in F_m$ . Hence  $\mu_m \rightarrow \mu$  and for every  $v \in B_F$ :  $(T_t(\mu) - (1-t)f, v) = 0$ , hence  $\|T_t(\mu) - (1-t)f\|_{B_F^*} = 0$ . In this way, we constructed for every  $F \subset B$ , with  $\dim F < \infty$ , a separable subspace  $B_F \supset F$  such that there exists  $\mu \in B_F$ ,  $\|\mu\| = R$  for which  $\|T_t(\mu) - (1-t)f\|_{B_F^*} = 0$ .

Let  $M_F$  be the set of such  $\mu$  corresponding to  $F$ . The set of  $M_F$  has clearly the finite intersection property. Let  $\overline{M}_F$  be the closure of  $M_F$  in the weak topology. There exists  $\overline{\mu} \in \bigcap_F \overline{M}_F$ . Let  $F$  with  $\dim F < \infty$  be chosen such that  $\overline{\mu} \in F$ ,  $\overline{\mu} \in F$ . (Compare, for example, F.E. Browder [3].) There exists  $\mu_m \in M_F$  such that  $\mu_m \rightarrow \overline{\mu}$ ,  $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} (T_t(\mu_m) - T_t(\overline{\mu}))$ ,  $\mu_m - \overline{\mu}) = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} (T_t(\mu_m) - (1-t)f, \mu_m - \overline{\mu}) = 0$ , hence  $\mu_m \rightarrow \overline{\mu}$ . This implies  $(T_t(\overline{\mu}) - (1-t)f, \overline{\mu}) = 0$  and  $\|\overline{\mu}\| = R$  which is a contradiction to (1.2). It follows that there exists, for every  $t_0$  from the interval  $(0, 1)$ , a set  $F_{t_0}$  with  $\dim F_{t_0} < \infty$  and  $\delta_{t_0} > 0$ , such that if  $\|\mu\| = R$  and  $\mu \in F'$ ,  $\dim F_{t_0} < \infty$ ,  $F' \supset F_{t_0}$ , then  $\|T_{F'}(\mu) - t_0 T_{F'}(-\mu) - (1-t_0)\psi_{F'}^* f\| \geq \delta_{t_0}$ .

Because of the boundedness of  $T$  the same is true

with  $F_{t_0}$  and  $\sigma_{t_0} / 2$  for  $|t - t_0| < \varepsilon_{t_0}$ .

Hence there exists  $t_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, m, \varepsilon_{t_i}, F_{t_i}, \sigma_{t_i}$

such that  $\bigcup_{i=1}^m \{ |t - t_i| < \varepsilon_{t_i} \} \supset \langle 0, 1 \rangle$ .

If  $\sigma = \min \left( \frac{\sigma_{t_i}}{2} \right)$  and  $F = \bigcup_{i=1}^m F_{t_i}$ , then for

$F' \supset F, \|u\| = R, u \in F': \|T_{F'}(u) - (1-t)\psi_F,$   
 $- (1-t)\psi_F, f\| \geq \sigma, 0 \leq t \leq 1,$

which is the assertion.

(ii)  $F$  chosen in (i), for  $F' \supset F, \dim F' < \infty,$   
 and  $t = 1$ , by virtue of the Borsuk-Ulam theorem, the  
 degree  $(T_{F'}(u) - T_{F'}(-u), B(0, R), 0)$  is  
 an odd integer. (Compare M.A. Krasnoselskij [6].) By homo-  
 topy, this is also true for  $t = 0$ ; hence, there exists  
 $u_{F'} \in F', \|u_{F'}\| < R,$  such that  $T_{F'}(u_{F'}) -$   
 $-\psi_{F'}^*, f = 0$ . Let  $M_{F'} = \{ u_{F''}, F'' \supset F' \}$ .

$M_{F'}$  has the finite intersection property, hence  $u \in$   
 $\in \bigcap_F \bar{M}_{F'},$  where  $\bar{M}_{F'}$  is the closure in the weak to-  
 pology.

Let  $w \in B, u, w \in F'$ . Then there exists  
 $u_n \in M_{F'}, u_n \rightarrow u. \lim (Tu_n - Tu, u_n - u) =$   
 $= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (Tu_n, u_n - u) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (f, u_n - u) = 0.$

Hence  $u_n \rightarrow u$  and  $0 = (Tu_n - f, v) \rightarrow (Tu - f, v)$ , q.e.d.

Theorem 2. Let  $S$  be a completely continuous mapping from  $B$  to  $B^*$  satisfying (1.3) and  $T$  an odd, bounded, demicontinuous and  $\alpha$ -homogeneous mapping from  $B$  to  $B^*$ . Let  $T$  satisfy the condition (1.1). Then there exists a solution of  $(T + S)u = f$  and every solution satisfies the inequality (1.4) if and only if  $Tu = 0 \Rightarrow u = 0$ .

Proof: (i) Let (1.4) be true. Let us suppose there exists  $u_0 \neq 0$  such that  $Tu_0 = 0$ . We have

$$\|u_0\| \leq c \left( \frac{1}{t} + \frac{1}{t} \|S(tu_0)\|^{1/\alpha} \right) \rightarrow 0 \text{ for } t \rightarrow \infty,$$

which is impossible.

(ii) If  $Tu = 0 \Rightarrow u = 0$ , then for every solution (1.4) is true. If not, then there exists

$$u_n \in B, u_n \rightarrow \infty \text{ such that } \frac{1}{n} + \frac{\|Su_n\|}{\|u_n\|} \geq \|T\left(\frac{u_n}{\|u_n\|^{1/\alpha}}\right)\|.$$

Putting  $v_n = \frac{u_n}{\|u_n\|^{1/\alpha}}$ , we can suppose  $v_n \rightarrow v$ . Because  $Tv_n \rightarrow 0$ , we obtain from the condition (1.1) that  $v_n \rightarrow v$  and, therefore,  $Tv = 0$  and  $\|v\| = 1$  which is contradictory.

(iii)  $(T + S)_t$  satisfies clearly the condition (1.1).



(iv) Replace  $T$  by  $T + S$  in Theorem 1. For  $R$  large enough and for every fixed  $f$ ,  $T + S$  satisfies the condition (1.2), q.e.d.

### § 3. Application to the integral equation (1.7)

We submit the functions  $f_i(\eta, \mu)$  to the asymptotic condition (1.8). We have for  $\|\mu\|_{L_{\ell+1}(M)} \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$\lim \|\mu\|_{L_{\ell+1}(M)}^{-\ell} \left\| \int_{M_\ell} K_i(x, \eta) [f_i(\eta, \mu(\eta)) - \sum_{|\alpha|=\ell} a_\alpha^i(\eta) \mu^\alpha(\eta)] d\eta \right\|_{L_{1+1/\ell}(M)} = 0.$$

Therefore, the condition (1.3) is fulfilled for

$$S(\mu) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_{M_\ell} \sum_{i=1}^m K_i(x, \eta) [f_i(\eta, \mu(\eta)) - \sum_{|\alpha|=\ell} a_\alpha^i(\eta) \mu^\alpha(\eta)] d\eta.$$

The complete continuity of  $S$  follows from the well-known fact that the operator  $f_i(\eta, \mu(\eta))$  is a continuous operator from  $L_{\ell+1}(M)$  to itself; compare, for example, M.M. Vajnsberg [11], and from the fact that the linear operator  $\int_{M_\ell} K_i(x, \eta) \mu^\alpha(\eta) d\eta$  is completely continuous from  $L_{1+1/\ell}(M)$  to itself. If we put

$$T(\mu)(x) = \mu^\ell(x) + \sum_{i=1}^m \int_{M_\ell} K_i(x, \eta) \sum_{|\alpha|=\ell} a_\alpha^i(\eta) \mu^\alpha(\eta) d\eta,$$

we obtain a bounded, continuous odd and  $\ell$ -homogeneous

operator from  $L_{\ell+1}(M) \rightarrow L_{1+1/\ell}(M)$ .

By virtue of the complete continuity of the mapping

$\sum_{i=1}^m \int_{M_\ell} K_i(x, y) \sum_{|\alpha|=\ell} a_\alpha^i(y) u^\alpha(y) dy$ , it is enough to verify the condition (S) for the duality mapping  $u(x) \rightarrow u(x)^\ell$ . But

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_M (u^\ell(x) - v^\ell(x)) (u(x) - v(x)) dx = \\ & = \ell \int_M \left( \int_0^1 (v(x) + t(u(x) - v(x)))^{\ell-1} dt \right) (u(x) - v(x))^2 dx \\ & \geq c \int_M (u(x) - v(x))^{\ell+1} dx, \end{aligned}$$

where we used the elementary fact that  $\int_0^1 |a + \tau b|^\sigma d\tau \geq c |b|^\sigma$  for

$\sigma \geq 0$ . Hence we can use Theorem 2, and we obtain the statement from § 1.

#### § 4. Hammerstein's equation

Using the result of the preceding paragraph, we obtain  $L_2(M)$  theory. By virtue of the linearity of the asymptotic equation and because of the form  $I + A$  of the considered operator, where  $I$  is the identity and  $A$  the completely continuous operator, we can base our consideration on the well-known fact; compare, for example, M.A. Krasnoselskij [6]:

Let  $B$  be a real Banach space and  $Tu - f = (I + A)u - f$ , where  $A$  is a completely continuous

mapping. Let, for  $\|u\| = R : \|Tu - f\| > 0$ . Then, if the degree  $(Tu - f, B(0, R), 0) \neq 0$ , there exists  $u$ ,  $\|u\| < R$  such that  $Tu = f$ . It is also known (see M.A. Krasnoselskij [6]) for  $K$  a linear completely continuous operator, that the existence of  $(I + K)^{-1}$  implies for  $R > \|f\| \|(I + K)^{-1}\|$  that the degree  $((I + K)u - f, B(R, 0), 0) = \pm 1$ . Hence, by the homotopy argument, the same is true for  $R$  large enough for the operator  $(I + K + S)u - f$ , where

$$\lim_{\|u\| \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\|Su\|}{\|u\|} = 0.$$

Let us consider the equation

$$(4.1) \quad u(x) - \lambda \int_M K(x, y) f(y, u(y)) dy = g(x)$$

with  $u \in L_p(M)$ .

$1 \leq p \leq \infty$  and with

$$\text{mes}(M) < \infty, \quad \int_M \int_M |K(x, y)|^{\max(p, \frac{p}{p-1})} dx dy < \infty,$$

$1 < p < \infty$ , which for  $p = 1$  or  $p = \infty$  would be replaced by continuity on  $M \times M$  of the kernel,  $M$  assumed to be a compact set.

For  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , we suppose:

$$(4.2) \quad \left| \frac{1}{t} f(y, tu) - a(y)u \right| \leq c(t)|u| + d(y, t)$$

with  $d(t) \rightarrow 0$  in  $L_n(M)$  and  $c(t) \rightarrow 0$  for  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

We have the following result (very near to the corresponding Krasnoselskij's result; compare his book [6]):

The integral equation (4.1) has a solution for every  $g \in L_n(M)$  and every solution satisfies the inequality

$$(4.3) \quad \|u\|_{L_n} \leq c(1 + \|g\|_{L_n}) \quad \text{if and only if}$$

$\lambda$  is not an eigenvalue of the linear equation:

$$v(x) - \lambda \int_M K(x, y) a(y) v(y) dy = 0.$$

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