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# STABILITY OF STOCHASTIC LINEAR DIFFERENCE EQUATIONS WITH VARYING DELAY

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## Abstract

Many processes in automatic regulation, physics, mechanics, biology, economy, ecology etc. can be modelled by hereditary systems (see, e.g. [1-3]). One of the main problems for the theory of such systems and their applications is connected with stability [1,2]. Many stability results were obtained by the construction of appropriate Lyapunov functionals. In [4-8] the method is proposed allowing, in some sense, to formalize the procedure of the corresponding Lyapunov functionals construction for investigation of stochastic difference equations stability. Here by virtue of proposed procedure the sufficient conditions of asymptotic mean square stability for stochastic linear difference equations with varying delays are obtained.

Keywords: Asymptotic mean square stability, stochastic linear difference equations, varying delay.

1. Consider the stochastic difference equation

$$\begin{aligned} x_{i+1} &= F(i, x_{-h}, \dots, x_i) + G(i, x_{-h}, \dots, x_i)\xi_i, & i \in Z, \\ x_i &= \varphi_i, & i \in Z_0. \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Here  $i$  is the discrete time,  $Z = \{0, 1, \dots\}$ ,  $Z_0 = \{-h, \dots, 0\}$ ,  $h \geq 0$ ,  $x_i \in R^n$ , the functions  $F$  and  $G$  are defined on  $Z * S$ , where  $S$  is a space of sequences with elements from  $R^n$ . It is assumed that  $F(i, \dots)$  and  $G(i, \dots)$  does not depend on  $x_j$  for  $j > i$ ,  $F(i, 0, \dots, 0) = 0$ ,  $G(i, 0, \dots, 0) = 0$ .

Let  $\{\Omega, \sigma, \mathbf{P}\}$  be a probability space,  $\{f_i \in \sigma\}$ ,  $i \in Z$ , be a sequence of  $\sigma$ -algebras,  $\xi_0, \xi_1, \dots$  be mutually independent random variables,  $\xi_i$  be  $f_{i+1}$ -adapted and independent on  $f_i$ ,  $\mathbf{E}$  be mathematical expectation,  $\mathbf{E}\xi_i = 0$ ,  $\mathbf{E}\xi_i^2 = 1$ .

*Definition.* Zero solution of the equation (1) is called mean square stable if for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists a  $\delta > 0$  such that  $\mathbf{E}x_i^2 < \epsilon$ ,  $i \in Z$ , if  $\|\varphi\|^2 = \sup_{i \in Z_0} \mathbf{E}\varphi_i^2 < \delta$ . If, besides,  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{E}x_i^2 = 0$ , then the equation (1) zero solution is called asymptotically mean square stable.

**Theorem 1.** [4]. Let there exists the nonnegative functional  $V_i = V(i, x_{-h}, \dots, x_i)$ ,  $i \in Z$ , for which the conditions

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}V(0, x_{-h}, \dots, x_0) &\leq c_1 \|\varphi\|^2, \\ \mathbf{E}\Delta V_i &\leq -c_2 \mathbf{E}x_i^2, & i \in Z, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\Delta V_i = V_{i+1} - V_i$ ,  $c_1 > 0$ ,  $c_2 > 0$ , hold. Then the equation (1) zero solution is asymptotically mean square stable.

Consider the scalar stochastic linear difference equation

$$x_{i+1} = ax_i + bx_{i-k(i)} + \sigma x_{i-m(i)}\xi_i. \quad (2)$$

The delays  $k(i)$  and  $m(i)$  satisfy the conditions

$$k(i) \geq k(i+1) \geq 0, \quad m(i) \geq m(i+1) \geq 0. \quad (3)$$

Following the general method of Lyapunov functionals construction we will construct the Lyapunov functional for the equation (2) in the form  $V = V_1 + V_2$ , where  $V_1 = x_i^2$ . Calculating  $\mathbf{E}\Delta V_1$  we get

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{E}\Delta V_1 &= \mathbf{E}(x_{i+1}^2 - x_i^2) = \mathbf{E}[(ax_i + bx_{i-k(i)} + \sigma x_{i-m(i)}\xi_i)^2 - x_i^2] = \\ &= \mathbf{E}[(a^2 - 1)x_i^2 + b^2x_{i-k(i)}^2 + \sigma^2x_{i-m(i)}^2 + 2abx_ix_{i-k(i)}] \leq \\ &\leq (a^2 - 1 + |ab|)\mathbf{E}x_i^2 + (b^2 + |ab|)\mathbf{E}x_{i-k(i)}^2 + \sigma^2\mathbf{E}x_{i-m(i)}^2.\end{aligned}$$

Choosing the functional  $V_2$  in the form

$$V_2 = (b^2 + |ab|) \sum_{j=i-k(i)}^{i-1} x_j^2 + \sigma^2 \sum_{j=i-m(i)}^{i-1} x_j^2,$$

and using (3) we get

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta V_2 &= (b^2 + |ab|)\left(\sum_{j=i+1-k(i+1)}^i x_j^2 - \sum_{j=i-k(i)}^{i-1} x_j^2\right) + \sigma^2\left(\sum_{j=i+1-m(i+1)}^i x_j^2 - \sum_{j=i-m(i)}^{i-1} x_j^2\right) = \\ &= (b^2 + |ab| + \sigma^2)x_i^2 - (b^2 + |ab|)x_{i-k(i)}^2 - \sigma^2x_{i-m(i)}^2 + \\ &+ (b^2 + |ab|)\left(\sum_{j=i+1-k(i+1)}^{i-1} x_j^2 - \sum_{j=i+1-k(i)}^{i-1} x_j^2\right) + \sigma^2\left(\sum_{j=i+1-m(i+1)}^{i-1} x_j^2 - \sum_{j=i+1-m(i)}^{i-1} x_j^2\right) \leq \\ &\leq (b^2 + |ab| + \sigma^2)x_i^2 - (b^2 + |ab|)x_{i-k(i)}^2 - \sigma^2x_{i-m(i)}^2.\end{aligned}$$

As a result for  $V = V_1 + V_2$  we have

$$\mathbf{E}\Delta V \leq ((|a| + |b|)^2 + \sigma^2 - 1)\mathbf{E}x_i^2.$$

From here and Theorem 1 it follows

**Theorem 2.** Let the conditions (3) and

$$(|a| + |b|)^2 + \sigma^2 < 1$$

hold. Then the zero solution of the equation (2) is asymptotically mean square stable.

2. Consider now another way of Lyapunov functional construction. Following the general method of Lyapunov functionals construction let us represent the equation (2) in the form

$$x_{i+1} = F_{1i} + F_{2i} + \Delta F_{3i} + \sigma x_{i-m(i)}\xi_i, \quad (4)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}F_{1i} &= (a + b)x_i, \quad F_{2i} = -b \sum_{j=i+1-k(i)}^{i-k(i+1)} x_j, \\ F_{3i} &= -b \sum_{j=i-k(i)}^{i-1} x_j, \quad \Delta F_{3i} = -b \left( x_i - \sum_{j=i-k(i)}^{i-k(i+1)} x_j \right).\end{aligned}$$

We will construct the Lyapunov functional  $V$  in the form  $V = V_1 + V_2$  again, but now let

$$V_1 = (x_i - F_{3i})^2 = \left( x_i + b \sum_{j=i-k(i)}^{i-1} x_j \right)^2.$$

Calculating  $\mathbf{E}\Delta V_1$  and using the representations for  $x_{i+1}$  and  $F_{1i}$  we get

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{E}\Delta V_1 &= \mathbf{E}[(x_{i+1} - F_{3(i+1)})^2 - (x_i - F_{3i})^2] = \\ &= \mathbf{E}(x_{i+1} - x_i - \Delta F_{3i})(x_{i+1} + x_i - F_{3(i+1)} - F_{3i}) = \\ &= \mathbf{E}((a+b-1)x_i + F_{2i} + \sigma x_{i-m(i)}\xi_i)((a+b+1)x_i + F_{2i} - 2F_{3i} + \sigma x_{i-m(i)}\xi_i) = \\ &= ((a+b)^2 - 1)\mathbf{E}x_i^2 + 2(a+b)\mathbf{E}x_i F_{2i} + \mathbf{E}F_{2i}^2 - \\ &\quad - 2(a+b-1)\mathbf{E}x_i F_{3i} - 2\mathbf{E}F_{2i} F_{3i} + \sigma^2 \mathbf{E}x_{i-m(i)}^2.\end{aligned}$$

Let

$$k_0 = \sup_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} (k(i) - k(i+1)), \quad k_m = \inf_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} k(i).$$

Using that  $k(0) \geq k(i)$  we get

$$\begin{aligned}2|x_i F_{2i}| &\leq |b| \sum_{j=i+1-k(i)}^{i-k(i+1)} (x_i^2 + x_j^2) \leq |b| \left( k_0 x_i^2 + \sum_{j=i+1-k(0)}^{i-k_m} x_j^2 \right), \\ F_{2i}^2 &\leq b^2 k_0 \sum_{j=i+1-k(i)}^{i-k(i+1)} x_j^2 \leq b^2 k_0 \sum_{j=i+1-k(0)}^{i-k_m} x_j^2, \\ 2|x_i F_{3i}| &\leq |b| \sum_{j=i-k(i)}^{i-1} (x_i^2 + x_j^2) \leq |b| \left( k(0) x_i^2 + \sum_{j=i-k(0)}^{i-1} x_j^2 \right), \\ 2|F_{2i} F_{3i}| &\leq b^2 \sum_{j=i+1-k(i)}^{i-k(i+1)} \sum_{l=i-k(i)}^{i-1} (x_l^2 + x_j^2) \leq b^2 \left( k_0 \sum_{l=i-k(0)}^{i-1} x_l^2 + k(0) \sum_{j=i+1-k(0)}^{i-k_m} x_j^2 \right).\end{aligned}$$

As a result we have

$$\mathbf{E}\Delta V_1 \leq (A-1)\mathbf{E}x_i^2 + B \sum_{j=i+1-k(0)}^{i-k_m} \mathbf{E}x_j^2 + C \sum_{j=i-k(0)}^{i-1} \mathbf{E}x_j^2 + \sigma^2 \mathbf{E}x_{i-m(i)}^2,$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}A &= (a+b)^2 + |b(a+b)|k_0 + |b(a+b-1)|k(0), \\ B &= |b(a+b)| + b^2(k_0 + k(0)), \quad C = |b(a+b-1)| + b^2 k_0.\end{aligned}$$

Let us choose the functional  $V_2$  in the form

$$\begin{aligned}V_2 &= B \left( \sum_{l=i}^{i+k_m-2} \sum_{j=l+1-k(0)}^{l-k_m} x_j^2 + \sum_{j=i-k(0)+k_m}^{i-1} (j-i+1+k(0)-k_m)x_j^2 \right) + \\ &\quad + C \sum_{j=i-k(0)}^{i-1} (j-i+1+k(0))x_j^2 + \sigma^2 \sum_{j=i-m(i)}^{i-1} x_j^2.\end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that

$$\sum_{l=i+1}^{i+k_m-1} \sum_{j=l+1-k(0)}^{l-k_m} x_j^2 - \sum_{l=i}^{i+k_m-2} \sum_{j=l+1-k(0)}^{l-k_m} x_j^2 = \sum_{j=i-k(0)+k_m}^{i-1} x_j^2 - \sum_{j=i+1-k(0)}^{i-k_m} x_j^2,$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{j=i+1-k(0)+k_m}^i (j-i+k(0)-k_m)x_j^2 - \sum_{j=i-k(0)+k_m}^{i-1} (j-i+1+k(0)-k_m)x_j^2 = (k(0)-k_m)x_i^2 - \sum_{j=i-k(0)+k_m}^{i-1} x_j^2, \\
& \sum_{j=i+1-k(0)}^i (j-i+k(0))x_j^2 - \sum_{j=i-k(0)}^{i-1} (j-i+1+k(0))x_j^2 = k(0)x_i^2 - \sum_{j=i-k(0)}^{i-1} x_j^2, \\
& \sum_{j=i+1-m(i+1)}^i x_j^2 - \sum_{j=i-m(i)}^{i-1} x_j^2 = x_i^2 - x_{i-m(i)}^2 - \sum_{j=i+1-m(i)}^{i-m(i+1)} x_j^2 \leq x_i^2 - x_{i-m(i)}^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore as a result for  $V = V_1 + V_2$  we have  $\mathbf{E}\Delta V \leq (A + B(k(0) - k_m) + Ck(0) + \sigma^2 - 1)\mathbf{E}x_i^2$ . From here and Theorem 1 by virtue of the representations for  $A, B, C$  it follows

**Theorem 3.** Let the conditions (3) and

$$\begin{aligned}
& (a+b)^2 + 2k(0)|b(a+b-1)| + |b(a+b)|(k_0+k(0)-k_m) + \\
& + b^2(k_0k(0) + (k_0+k(0))(k(0)-k_m)) + \sigma^2 < 1
\end{aligned}$$

hold. Then the zero solution of the equation (2) is asymptotically mean square stable.

*Remark 1.* If  $k(i) = k = \text{const}$  then asymptotic mean square stability condition has the form  $\sigma^2 < (1-a-b)(1+a+b-2k|b|)$ ,  $|a+b| < 1$ . [4].

3. Consider the scalar stochastic linear difference equation

$$x_{i+1} = \sum_{j=0}^{k(i)} a_j x_{i-j} + \sum_{j=0}^{m(i)} \sigma_j x_{i-j} \xi_i, \quad (5)$$

It is supposed that

$$k(i+1) - k(i) \leq 1, \quad m(i+1) - m(i) \leq 1. \quad (6)$$

Let

$$\begin{aligned}
& \hat{k} = \sup_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} k(i) \leq \infty, \quad \hat{m} = \sup_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} m(i) \leq \infty, \\
& a = \sum_{l=0}^{\hat{k}} |a_l|, \quad \sigma = \sum_{l=0}^{\hat{m}} |\sigma_l|, \quad A_j = a|a_j|, \quad B_j = \sigma|\sigma_j|.
\end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

We will construct the Lyapunov functional for the equation (5) in the form  $V = V_1 + V_2$ , where  $V_1 = x_i^2$ . Calculating  $\mathbf{E}\Delta V_1$  we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{E}\Delta V_1 &= \mathbf{E}(x_{i+1}^2 - x_i^2) = \mathbf{E} \left[ \left( \sum_{j=0}^{k(i)} a_j x_{i-j} + \sum_{j=0}^{m(i)} \sigma_j x_{i-j} \xi_i \right)^2 - x_i^2 \right] = \\
&= \mathbf{E} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{k(i)} a_j x_{i-j} \right)^2 + \mathbf{E} \left( \sum_{j=0}^{m(i)} \sigma_j x_{i-j} \right)^2 - \mathbf{E}x_i^2 \leq \\
&\leq \sum_{l=0}^{k(i)} |a_l| \sum_{j=0}^{k(i)} |a_j| \mathbf{E}x_{i-j}^2 + \sum_{l=0}^{m(i)} |\sigma_l| \sum_{j=0}^{m(i)} |\sigma_j| \mathbf{E}x_{i-j}^2 - \mathbf{E}x_i^2 \leq \\
&\leq \sum_{j=0}^{k(i)} A_j \mathbf{E}x_{i-j}^2 + \sum_{j=0}^{m(i)} B_j \mathbf{E}x_{i-j}^2 - \mathbf{E}x_i^2 = (A_0 + B_0 - 1)\mathbf{E}x_i^2 + \sum_{j=1}^{k(i)} A_j \mathbf{E}x_{i-j}^2 + \sum_{j=1}^{m(i)} B_j \mathbf{E}x_{i-j}^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Choose the functional  $V_2$  in the form

$$V_2 = \sum_{j=1}^{k(i)} x_{i-j}^2 \sum_{l=j}^{\hat{k}} A_l + \sum_{j=1}^{m(i)} x_{i-j}^2 \sum_{l=j}^{\hat{m}} B_l.$$

Note that using (6) we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{j=1}^{k(i+1)} x_{i+1-j}^2 \sum_{l=j}^{\hat{k}} A_l - \sum_{j=1}^{k(i)} x_{i-j}^2 \sum_{l=j}^{\hat{k}} A_l = \\ & = x_i^2 \sum_{l=1}^{\hat{k}} A_l + \sum_{j=1}^{k(i+1)-1} x_{i-j}^2 \sum_{l=j+1}^{\hat{k}} A_l - \sum_{j=1}^{k(i)} x_{i-j}^2 \sum_{l=j+1}^{\hat{k}} A_l - \sum_{j=1}^{k(i)} A_j x_{i-j}^2 \leq \\ & \leq x_i^2 \sum_{l=1}^{\hat{k}} A_l - \sum_{j=1}^{k(i)} A_j x_{i-j}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Analogously

$$\sum_{j=1}^{m(i+1)} x_{i+1-j}^2 \sum_{l=j}^{\hat{m}} B_l - \sum_{j=1}^{m(i)} x_{i-j}^2 \sum_{l=j}^{\hat{m}} B_l \leq x_i^2 \sum_{l=1}^{\hat{m}} B_l - \sum_{j=1}^{m(i)} B_j x_{i-j}^2.$$

Therefore using (7) for functional  $V = V_1 + V_2$  we have

$$\mathbf{E}\Delta V \leq (a^2 + \sigma^2 - 1)\mathbf{E}x_i^2.$$

From here and Theorem 1 it follows

**Theorem 4.** Let the conditions (6) and

$$a^2 + \sigma^2 < 1$$

hold. Then the zero solution of the equation (5) is asymptotically mean square stable.

*Remark 2.* From (6) it follows that  $k(i) \leq k(0) + i$ ,  $m(i) \leq m(0) + i$ .

*Remark 3.* Using for the equation (5) the representation type of (4) we can get the stability condition depending on delays.

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