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*Archivum Mathematicum*, Vol. 46 (2010), No. 2, 145--155

Persistent URL: <http://dml.cz/dmlcz/140310>

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## APPROXIMATION OF SOLUTIONS OF A DIFFERENCE-DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION

B. G. PACHPATTE

ABSTRACT. In the present paper we study the approximate solutions of a certain difference-differential equation under the given initial conditions. The well known Gronwall-Bellman integral inequality is used to establish the results. Applications to a Volterra type difference-integral equation are also given.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $R^n$  denote the real  $n$ -dimensional Euclidean space with the corresponding norm  $|\cdot|$ . Let  $R_+ = [0, \infty)$  be a subset of real numbers. Consider the difference-differential equation

$$(1.1) \quad x'(t) = f(t, x(t), x(t-1)),$$

for  $t \in R_+$  under the initial conditions

$$(1.2) \quad x(t-1) = \phi(t) \quad (0 \leq t < 1), \quad x(0) = x_0,$$

where  $f \in C(R_+ \times R^n \times R^n, R^n)$  and  $\phi(t)$  is a continuous function for which  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 1-0} \phi(t)$  exists. Recently, in [6, 7] (see also [1]–[4], [9]–[10]) the problems of existence, uniqueness and continuous dependence of solutions of equation (1.1) are dealt under the conditions (1.2). In dealing with the equation (1.1) with (1.2), one of the basic question to be answered is: how can we find the solutions or closely approximate them? The study of this question is interesting and need a fresh outlook for handling the equation of the form (1.1), see [6, 7]. In the present paper, we continue our investigation in [6, 7] and offer the conditions for the error evolution of approximate solutions of equation (1.1) with (1.2) by establishing some new bounds on solutions of approximate problems. The basic integral inequality with explicit estimate due to Gronwall-Bellman (see [5, p. 12]) is used to establish the results. The applications to study a Volterra type difference-integral equation are also given.

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2000 *Mathematics Subject Classification*: primary 34K10; secondary 34K40.

*Key words and phrases*: approximation of solutions, difference-differential equation, Gronwall-Bellman, integral inequality, Volterra type, difference-integral equation, estimate, closeness of solutions.

Received September 20, 2009, revised December 2009. Editor O. Došlý.

2. MAIN RESULTS

We need the following integral inequality, known in the literature as the Gronwall-Bellman inequality (see [5, p. 12]).

**Lemma.** *Let  $u(t), n(t), e(t) \in C(R_+, R_+)$  and  $n(t)$  be nondecreasing on  $R_+$ . If*

$$(2.1) \quad u(t) \leq n(t) + \int_0^t e(s) u(s) ds,$$

for  $t \in R_+$ , then

$$(2.2) \quad u(t) \leq n(t) \exp \left( \int_0^t e(s) ds \right),$$

for  $t \in R_+$ .

Let  $x_i(t)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) be functions which are continuous on  $R_+$ , differentiable in  $0 < t < \infty$  and satisfy the inequalities

$$(2.3) \quad |x'_i(t) - f(t, x_i(t), x_i(t - 1))| \leq \varepsilon_i,$$

for given constants  $\varepsilon_i \geq 0$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ), where it is supposed that the initial conditions

$$(2.4) \quad x_i(t - 1) = \phi_i(t) \quad (0 \leq t < 1), \quad x_i(0) = x_i,$$

for  $i = 1, 2$  are fulfilled and  $\phi_i(t)$  are continuous functions for which  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 1-0} \phi_i(t)$  exist. Then we call  $x_i(t)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) the  $\varepsilon_i$ -approximate solutions with respect to the equation (1.1) with the initial conditions (2.4).

The following theorem deals with the estimate on the difference between the two approximate solutions of equation (1.1) with (2.4).

**Theorem 1.** *Suppose that the function  $f$  in equation (1.1) satisfies the condition*

$$(2.5) \quad |f(t, x, y) - f(t, \bar{x}, \bar{y})| \leq h(t)[|x - \bar{x}| + |y - \bar{y}|],$$

where  $h \in C(R_+, R_+)$ . Let  $x_i(t)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) be respectively  $\varepsilon_i$ -approximate solutions of equation (1.1) on  $R_+$  with (2.4) such that

$$(2.6) \quad |x_1 - x_2| \leq \delta,$$

where  $\delta \geq 0$  is a constant. Then

$$(2.7) \quad |x_1(t) - x_2(t)| \leq c(t) \exp \left( \int_0^t h(s) ds \right),$$

for  $0 \leq t < 1$  and

$$(2.8) \quad |x_1(t) - x_2(t)| \leq c(t) \exp \left( \int_0^t [h(s) + h(s + 1)] ds \right),$$

for  $1 \leq t < \infty$ , where

$$(2.9) \quad c(t) = ((\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2)t + \delta) + \int_0^1 h(s)|\phi_1(s) - \phi_2(s)| ds.$$

**Proof.** Since  $x_i(t)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) for  $t \in R_+$  are respectively  $\varepsilon_i$ -approximate solutions of equation (1.1) with (2.4), we have (2.3). By taking  $t = s$  in (2.3) and integrating both sides over  $s$  from 0 to  $t$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 \varepsilon_i t &\geq \int_0^t |x'_i(s) - f(s, x_i(s), x_i(s-1))| ds \\
 &\geq \left| \int_0^t \{x'_i(s) - f(s, x_i(s), x_i(s-1))\} ds \right| \\
 (2.10) \quad &= \left| \left\{ x_i(t) - x_i(0) - \int_0^t f(s, x_i(s), x_i(s-1)) ds \right\} \right|,
 \end{aligned}$$

for  $i = 1, 2$ . From (2.10) and using the elementary inequalities  $|v - z| \leq |v| + |z|$ ,  $|v| - |z| \leq |v - z|$ , we observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2)t &\geq \left| \left\{ x_1(t) - x_1(0) - \int_0^t f(s, x_1(s), x_1(s-1)) ds \right\} \right| \\
 &\quad + \left| \left\{ x_2(t) - x_2(0) - \int_0^t f(s, x_2(s), x_2(s-1)) ds \right\} \right| \\
 &\geq \left| \left\{ x_1(t) - x_1(0) - \int_0^t f(s, x_1(s), x_1(s-1)) ds \right\} \right| \\
 &\quad - \left| \left\{ x_2(t) - x_2(0) - \int_0^t f(s, x_2(s), x_2(s-1)) ds \right\} \right| \\
 &\geq |x_1(t) - x_2(t)| - |x_1(0) - x_2(0)| \\
 (2.11) \quad &- \left| \int_0^t f(s, x_1(s), x_1(s-1)) ds - \int_0^t f(s, x_2(s), x_2(s-1)) ds \right|.
 \end{aligned}$$

Let  $u(t) = |x_1(t) - x_2(t)|$ ,  $t \in R_+$ . From (2.11), we observe that

$$(2.12) \quad u(t) \leq (\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2)t + u(0) + \int_0^t |f(s, x_1(s), x_1(s-1)) - f(s, x_2(s), x_2(s-1))| ds.$$

We consider the following two cases (see [6, 7]).

Case I:  $0 \leq t < 1$ . From (2.12) and hypotheses, we observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(t) &\leq ((\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2)t + \delta) + \int_0^t |f(s, x_1(s), \phi_1(s)) - f(s, x_2(s), \phi_2(s))| ds \\
 &\leq ((\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2)t + \delta) + \int_0^t h(s) [|x_1(s) - x_2(s)| + |\phi_1(s) - \phi_2(s)|] ds \\
 (2.13) \quad &\leq c(t) + \int_0^t h(s)u(s) ds.
 \end{aligned}$$

Clearly  $c(t)$  is nondecreasing in  $t \in R_+$ . Now an application of Lemma to (2.13) yields (2.7).

Case II:  $1 \leq t < \infty$ . From (2.12) and hypotheses, we observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(t) &\leq ((\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2)t + \delta) + \int_0^1 |f(s, x_1(s), \phi_1(s)) - f(s, x_2(s), \phi_2(s))| ds \\
 &\quad + \int_1^t |f(s, x_1(s), x_1(s-1)) - f(s, x_2(s), x_2(s-1))| ds \\
 &\leq ((\varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2)t + \delta) + \int_0^1 h(s)[|x_1(s) - x_2(s)| + |\phi_1(s) - \phi_2(s)|] ds \\
 &\quad + \int_1^t h(s)[|x_1(s) - x_2(s)| + |x_1(s-1) - x_2(s-1)|] ds \\
 (2.14) \quad &= c(t) + \int_0^t h(s)u(s) ds + I_1,
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(2.15) \quad I_1 = \int_1^t h(s)|x_1(s-1) - x_2(s-1)| ds.$$

By making the change of variable, from (2.15), we obtain

$$(2.16) \quad I_1 \leq \int_0^t h(s+1)u(s) ds.$$

Using (2.16) in (2.14), we get

$$(2.17) \quad u(t) \leq c(t) + \int_0^t [h(s) + h(s+1)]u(s) ds.$$

Now an application of Lemma to (2.17) yields (2.8). □

**Remark 1.** In case if  $x_1(t)$  is a solution of equation (1.1) with  $x_1(t-1) = \phi_1(t)$  ( $0 \leq t < 1$ ),  $x_1(0) = x_1$ , then we have  $\varepsilon_1 = 0$  and from (2.7) and (2.8) we see that  $x_2(t) \rightarrow x_1(t)$  as  $\varepsilon_2 \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\delta \rightarrow 0$  and  $\phi_2(t) \rightarrow \phi_1(t)$  for  $0 \leq t < 1$ . Furthermore, if we put  $\varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon_2 = 0$ ,  $\delta = 0$ ,  $\phi_2(t) = \phi_1(t)$  ( $0 \leq t < 1$ ) in (2.7) and (2.8), then the uniqueness of solutions of equation (1.1) with (1.2) is established.

As noted above, the estimate obtained in Theorem 1 by the approximation method is useful in studying the uniqueness of solutions of (1.1) with (1.2). In [9], it is pointed that if  $f$  in (1.1) is continuous, it does not always guarantee the uniqueness of solutions of (1.1)–(1.2). To illustrate this fact, we shall give the following example in [9].

**Example 1.** Consider the difference-differential equation

$$(D) \quad x'(t) = 2x(t-1)\sqrt{x(t)},$$

for  $t \in R_+$  under the initial conditions

$$x(t-1) = 1 \quad (0 \leq t < 1), \quad \phi(1-0) = 1, \quad x(0) = 0.$$

It is apparent that the function  $y\sqrt{x}$  is continuous for  $x \geq 0$ ,  $y \geq 0$ . Then, we define the following functions:

$$x_1(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } -1 \leq t < 1, \\ t^2 & \text{for } 0 \leq t < 1, \end{cases} \quad x_1(-0) = 1,$$

and

$$x_2(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } -1 \leq t < 1, \\ 0 & \text{for } 0 \leq t < \infty, \end{cases} \quad x_2(-0) = 1.$$

We can easily continue the function  $x_1(t)$  so that it is continuous and satisfies (D) on  $0 \leq t < \infty$ . Hence, we obtain two solutions with the same initial conditions.

The continuity of derivatives of solutions can not always be guaranteed at  $t = 1$ . It will easily be expected that discontinuity of derivatives at  $t = 1$  is caused by the discontinuity of the initial conditions, that is  $\phi(-0) \neq x(0)$ . The next example shows that the solutions and their derivatives are continuous for  $0 \leq t < \infty$  (see [9]).

**Example 2.** Consider the difference-differential equation

$$x'(t) = 2[x(t-1) + 1]\sqrt{x(t)},$$

for  $t \in R_+$ , under the initial conditions

$$x(t-1) = 0 \quad (-1 \leq t < 0), \quad x(-0) = 0, \quad x(0) = 0.$$

Next, we consider the equation (1.1) with (1.2) together with the following difference-differential equation

$$(2.18) \quad y'(t) = \bar{f}(t, y(t), y(t-1)),$$

for  $t \in R_+$  under the initial conditions

$$(2.19) \quad y(t-1) = \psi(t) \quad (0 \leq t < 1), \quad y(0) = y_0,$$

where  $\bar{f} \in C(R_+ \times R^n \times R^n, R^n)$  and  $\psi(t)$  is a continuous function for which  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 1-0} \psi(t)$  exists.

The next theorem deals with the closeness of the solutions of equations (1.1)–(1.2) and (2.18)–(2.19).

**Theorem 2.** *Suppose that the function  $f$  in equation (1.1) satisfies the condition (2.5) and there exist constants  $\bar{\varepsilon} \geq 0$ ,  $\bar{\delta} \geq 0$  such that*

$$(2.20) \quad |f(t, x, y) - \bar{f}(t, x, y)| \leq \bar{\varepsilon},$$

$$(2.21) \quad |x_0 - y_0| \leq \bar{\delta},$$

where  $f$ ,  $x_0$  and  $\bar{f}$ ,  $y_0$  are as in equations (1.1)–(1.2) and (2.18)–(2.19). Let  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  be respectively, solutions of equations (1.1)–(1.2) and (2.18)–(2.19) on  $R_+$ . Then

$$(2.22) \quad |x(t) - y(t)| \leq d(t) \exp\left(\int_0^t h(s) ds\right),$$

for  $0 \leq t < 1$  and

$$(2.23) \quad |x(t) - y(t)| \leq d(t) \exp \left( \int_0^t [h(s) + h(s+1)] ds \right),$$

for  $1 \leq t < \infty$ , where

$$(2.24) \quad d(t) = \bar{\varepsilon}t + \bar{\delta} + \int_0^1 h(s)|\phi(s) - \psi(s)| ds.$$

**Proof.** Let  $v(t) = |x(t) - y(t)|$ ,  $t \in R_+$ . Using the facts that  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  are the solutions of equations (1.1)–(1.2) and (2.18)–(2.19), we observe the following two cases.

Case I:  $0 \leq t < 1$ . From the hypotheses, we have

$$(2.25) \quad \begin{aligned} v(t) &\leq |x_0 - y_0| + \int_0^t |f(s, x(s), \phi(s)) - f(s, y(s), \psi(s))| ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^t |f(s, y(s), \psi(s)) - \bar{f}(s, y(s), \psi(s))| ds \\ &\leq \bar{\delta} + \bar{\varepsilon}t + \int_0^t h(s)[|x(s) - y(s)| + |\phi(s) - \psi(s)|] ds \\ &\leq d(t) + \int_0^t h(s)v(s) ds. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly  $d(t)$  is nondecreasing in  $t \in R_+$ . Now an application of Lemma to (2.25) yields (2.22).

Case II:  $1 \leq t < \infty$ . From the hypotheses, we have

$$(2.26) \quad \begin{aligned} v(t) &\leq |x_0 - y_0| + \int_0^1 |f(s, x(s), \phi(s)) - f(s, y(s), \psi(s))| ds \\ &\quad + \int_0^1 |f(s, y(s), \psi(s)) - \bar{f}(s, y(s), \psi(s))| ds \\ &\quad + \int_1^t |f(s, x(s), x(s-1)) - f(s, y(s), y(s-1))| ds \\ &\quad + \int_1^t |f(s, y(s), y(s-1)) - \bar{f}(s, y(s), y(s-1))| ds \\ &\leq \bar{\delta} + \bar{\varepsilon}t + \int_0^1 h(s)|\phi(s) - \psi(s)| ds + \int_0^t h(s)|x(s) - y(s)| ds + I_2, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(2.27) \quad I_2 = \int_1^t h(s)|x(s-1) - y(s-1)| ds.$$

From (2.26) and (2.27), it is easy to observe that (see [6, 7])

$$(2.28) \quad v(t) \leq d(t) + \int_0^t [h(s) + h(s + 1)] v(s) ds.$$

Now an application of Lemma to (2.28) yields (2.23). □

A slight variant of Theorem 2 is embodied in the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.** *Suppose that the functions  $f$  and  $\bar{f}$  in equations (1.1) and (2.18) satisfies the condition*

$$(2.29) \quad |f(t, x, y) - \bar{f}(t, \bar{x}, \bar{y})| \leq p(t)[|x - \bar{x}| + |y - \bar{y}|],$$

where  $p \in C(R_+, R_+)$  and the condition (2.21) holds. Let  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  be respectively, solutions of equations (1.1)–(1.2) and (2.18)–(2.19) on  $R_+$ . Then

$$(2.30) \quad |x(t) - y(t)| \leq d_0 \exp\left(\int_0^t p(s) ds\right),$$

for  $0 \leq t < 1$  and

$$(2.31) \quad |x(t) - y(t)| \leq d_0 \exp\left(\int_0^t [p(s) + p(s + 1)] ds\right),$$

for  $1 \leq t < \infty$ , where

$$(2.32) \quad d_0 = \bar{\delta} + \int_0^1 p(s)|\phi(s) - \psi(s)| ds.$$

**Proof.** Let  $w(t) = |x(t) - y(t)|$ ,  $t \in R_+$ . Using the facts that  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  are respectively, solutions of equations (1.1)–(1.2) and (2.18)–(2.19), we have

$$(2.33) \quad w(t) \leq |x_0 - y_0| + \int_0^t |f(s, x(s), x(s - 1)) - \bar{f}(s, y(s), y(s - 1))| ds.$$

The rest of the proof can be completed by closely looking at the proofs of Theorems 1 and 2 given above with suitable modifications. We omit the details. □

**Remark 2.** We note that the result given in Theorem 2 relates the solutions of equations (1.1)–(1.2) and (2.18)–(2.19) in the sense that if  $f$  is close to  $\bar{f}$ ,  $x_0$  is close to  $y_0$  and  $\phi(t)$  is close to  $\psi(t)$  for  $0 \leq t < 1$ , then the solutions of equations (1.1)–(1.2) and (2.18)–(2.19) are also close together. The result obtained in Theorem 3 provide conditions that yields the estimate on the difference between the solutions of equations (1.1)–(1.2) and (2.18)–(2.19).

### 3. APPLICATIONS

In this section we use the idea of approximation of solutions to study the Volterra type difference-integral equation of the form

$$(3.1) \quad y(t) = g(t) + \int_0^t F(t, s, y(s), y(s - 1)) ds,$$

for  $t \in R_+$  with the given condition

$$(3.2) \quad y(t - 1) = \phi(t) \quad (0 \leq t < 1),$$



where  $g \in C(R_+, R^n)$ , for  $s \leq t$ ,  $F \in C(R_+^2 \times R^n \times R^n, R^n)$  and  $\phi(t)$  is as in (1.2). The special version of equation (3.1) with (3.2) occur in a natural way while studying the perturbed difference-differential equations (see [1, 7, 8]). Here, we note that the problem of existence and uniqueness for the solutions of equation (3.1) with (3.2) can be dealt with, by modifying the ideas employed in [6, 7]. Below, we formulate in brief the results similar to those of given in Theorems 1–3 related to the equation (3.1) with (3.2).

We call a function  $y \in C(R_+, R^n)$  an  $\varepsilon$ -approximate solution of equation (3.1) with (3.2), if there exists a constant  $\varepsilon \geq 0$  such that

$$(3.3) \quad \left| y(t) - g(t) - \int_0^t F(t, s, y(s), y(s-1)) ds \right| \leq \varepsilon,$$

for  $t \in R_+$ .

The following result deals with the estimate on the difference between the two approximate solutions of equation (3.1) with given initial conditions.

**Theorem 4.** *Suppose that the function  $F$  in equation (3.1) satisfies the condition*

$$(3.4) \quad |F(t, s, u, v) - F(t, s, \bar{u}, \bar{v})| \leq Lq(s)[|u - \bar{u}| + |v - \bar{v}|],$$

where  $L \geq 0$  is a constant and  $q \in C(R_+, R_+)$ . For  $i = 1, 2$  let  $y_i(t)$  be respectively,  $\varepsilon_i$ -approximate solutions of equation (3.1) with

$$(3.5) \quad y_i(t-1) = \phi_i(t) \quad (0 \leq t < 1),$$

on  $R_+$ , where  $\phi_i(t)$  be as in (2.4). Then

$$(3.6) \quad |y_1(t) - y_2(t)| \leq \alpha \exp\left(\int_0^t Lq(s) ds\right),$$

for  $0 \leq t < 1$  and

$$(3.7) \quad |y_1(t) - y_2(t)| \leq \alpha \exp\left(\int_0^t L[q(s) + q(s+1)] ds\right),$$

for  $1 \leq t < \infty$ , where

$$(3.8) \quad \alpha = \varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2 + \int_0^1 Lq(s)|\phi_1(s) - \phi_2(s)| ds.$$

**Proof.** Since  $y_i(t)$  ( $i = 1, 2$ ) are respectively  $\varepsilon_i$ -approximate solutions of equation (3.1) with (3.5), we have

$$(3.9) \quad \left| y_i(t) - g(t) - \int_0^t F(t, s, y_i(s), y_i(s-1)) ds \right| \leq \varepsilon_i.$$

From (3.9) and using the elementary inequalities  $|v - z| \leq |v| + |z|$ ,  $|v| - |z| \leq |v - z|$ , we observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \varepsilon_1 + \varepsilon_2 &\geq \left| y_1(t) - g(t) - \int_0^t F(t, s, y_1(s), y_1(s-1)) ds \right| \\
 &\quad + \left| y_2(t) - g(t) - \int_0^t F(t, s, y_2(s), y_2(s-1)) ds \right| \\
 &\geq \left| \left\{ y_1(t) - g(t) - \int_0^t F(t, s, y_1(s), y_1(s-1)) ds \right\} \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \left\{ y_2(t) - g(t) - \int_0^t F(t, s, y_2(s), y_2(s-1)) ds \right\} \right| \\
 &\geq |y_1(t) - y_2(t)| - \left| \int_0^t F(t, s, y_1(s), y_1(s-1)) ds \right. \\
 (3.10) \quad &\quad \left. - \int_0^t F(t, s, y_2(s), y_2(s-1)) ds \right|.
 \end{aligned}$$

The rest of the proof can be completed by following the proof of Theorem 1 with suitable modifications. We omit the details. □

Consider the equation (3.1) with (3.2) together with the corresponding Volterra type difference-integral equation

$$(3.11) \quad z(t) = \bar{g}(t) + \int_0^t \bar{F}(t, s, z(s), z(s-1)) ds,$$

for  $t \in R_+$ , with the given condition

$$(3.12) \quad z(t-1) = \psi(t) \quad (0 \leq t < 1),$$

where  $\bar{g} \in C(R_+, R^n)$ , for  $s \leq t$ ,  $\bar{F} \in C(R_+^2 \times R^n \times R^n, R^n)$  and  $\psi(t)$  is as in (2.19).

The following theorems that relates the solutions of equations (3.1)–(3.2) and (3.11)–(3.12) holds.

**Theorem 5.** *Suppose that the function  $F$  in equation (3.1) satisfies the condition (3.4) and there exist constants  $\varepsilon \geq 0$ ,  $\delta \geq 0$  such that*

$$(3.13) \quad |F(t, s, u, v) - \bar{F}(t, s, u, v)| \leq \varepsilon,$$

$$(3.14) \quad |g(t) - \bar{g}(t)| \leq \delta,$$

where  $g$ ,  $F$  and  $\bar{g}$ ,  $\bar{F}$  are as in equations (3.1) and (3.11). Let  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  be respectively, solutions of equations (3.1)–(3.2) and (3.11)–(3.12) on  $R_+$ . Then

$$(3.15) \quad |x(t) - y(t)| \leq m(t) \exp \left( \int_0^t Lq(s) ds \right),$$

for  $0 \leq t < 1$  and

$$(3.16) \quad |x(t) - y(t)| \leq m(t) \exp \left( \int_0^t L[q(s) + q(s+1)] ds \right),$$

for  $1 \leq t < \infty$ , where

$$(3.17) \quad m(t) = \varepsilon t + \delta + \int_0^1 Lq(s)|\phi(s) - \psi(s)| ds.$$

**Theorem 6.** Suppose that  $F$  and  $\bar{F}$  in equations (3.1) and (3.11) satisfies the condition

$$(3.18) \quad |F(t, s, u, v) - \bar{F}(t, s, \bar{u}, \bar{v})| \leq Mr(s)[|u - \bar{u}| + |v - \bar{v}|],$$

where  $M \geq 0$  is a constant and  $r \in C(R_+, R_+)$  and the condition (3.14) holds. Let  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  be respectively, solutions of equations (3.1)–(3.2) and (3.11)–(3.12) on  $R_+$ . Then

$$(3.19) \quad |x(t) - y(t)| \leq \beta \exp \left( \int_0^t Mr(s) ds \right),$$

for  $0 \leq t < 1$  and

$$(3.20) \quad |x(t) - y(t)| \leq \beta \exp \left( \int_0^t M[r(s) + r(s+1)] ds \right),$$

for  $1 \leq t < \infty$ , where

$$(3.21) \quad \beta = \delta + \int_0^1 Mr(s)|\phi(s) - \psi(s)| ds.$$

The proofs of Theorems 5, 6 are straightforward in view of the results given above. Here, we omit the details.

**Acknowledgement.** The author is grateful to the anonymous referee and Professor Ondřej Došlý whose suggestions helped to improve the text.

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