

GLOBAL ATTRACTIVITY IN A HIGHER ORDER NONLINEAR DIFFERENCE EQUATION

Seshadev Padhi¹ and Chuanxi Qian²

¹Department of Applied Mathematics, Birla Institute of Technology,
Mesra, Ranch 835215, India

²Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Mississippi State University,
Mississippi State, MS 39762, USA

E-mail: qian@math.msstate.edu

Abstract. We establish a sufficient condition for the global attractivity of solutions of the following higher order difference equation

$$x_{n+1} - x_n = p_n(f(x_{n-k}) - g(x_{n+1})), \quad n = 0, 1, \dots,$$

where $k \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$, $f, g \in C[[0, \infty), [0, \infty)]$ with g nondecreasing, and $\{p_n\}$ is a nonnegative sequence. Several examples are also given to illustrate the applications of our main results.

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1 Introduction

Consider the higher order difference equation

$$x_{n+1} - x_n = p_n(f(x_{n-k}) - g(x_{n+1})), \quad n = 0, 1, \dots, \quad (1.1)$$

where $k \in \{0, 1, \dots\}$, $f, g \in C[[0, \infty), [0, \infty)]$ with g nondecreasing, and $\{p_n\}$ is a nonnegative sequence. Our aim in this paper is to study the global attractivity of positive solutions of Eq.(1.1).

With Eq.(1.1), we associate an initial condition of the form

$$x_{-k}, x_{-k+1}, \dots, x_0 \in (0, \infty). \quad (1.2)$$

Observe that Eq.(1.1) can be written as

$$x_{n+1} + p_n g(x_{n+1}) = x_n + p_n f(x_{n-k}). \quad (1.3)$$

By noting that g is nondecreasing, it is easy to see that for each pair of $x_n, x_{n-k} \in (0, \infty)$, there is a unique $x_{n+1} \in (0, \infty)$ satisfying (1.3). Hence, with any initial condition of the form (1.2), Eq.(1.1) has a unique positive solution.