



# On Stability of a Second Order Integro-Differential Equation

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**Abstract:** There exists a well-developed stability theory for integro-differential equations of the first order and only a few results on integro-differential equations of the second order. The aim of this paper is to fill up this gap. Explicit tests for uniform exponential stability of linear scalar delay integro-differential equations of the second order

$$\ddot{x}(t) + \int_{g(t)}^t G(t, s)\dot{x}(s)ds + \int_{h(t)}^t H(t, s)x(s)ds = 0$$

are obtained.

**Keywords:** exponential stability; second order delay integro-differential equations; a priori estimation; Bohl-Perron theorem.

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## 1 Introduction

Beginning with the classical book of Volterra [1] integro-differential equations and, more generally, functional differential equations have many applications in biology, physics, mechanics (see, for example, [2, 4–7, 22, 26]). In particular, second order integro-differential equations appear in stability problems of viscoelastic shells [3]. There are many papers devoted to stability of the first order integro-differential equations [8–11, 18] and only few papers on stability for the second order equations [12–14]. Oscillation conditions for the first and the second order functional differential equations can be found in papers [15–17].

The aim of the present paper is to fill up this gap and obtain new explicit exponential stability conditions for the equation

$$\ddot{x}(t) + \int_{g(t)}^t G(t, s)\dot{x}(s)ds + \int_{h(t)}^t H(t, s)x(s)ds = 0. \quad (1)$$

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Papers [12–14] are devoted to some asymptotic properties of partial cases of (1). In [12] an asymptotic behavior of solutions is studied using analysis of a generalized characteristic equation. In [14] the authors obtain stability results by an application of the Lyapunov functional method. In [13] the authors use a connection between asymptotic properties of (1) (for some special kernels  $G(t, s)$ ,  $H(t, s)$ ) and a system of infinite number of ordinary differential equations.

To obtain new stability tests, we apply the method based on the Bohl-Perron theorem together with a priori estimations of solutions, integral inequalities for fundamental functions of linear delay equations and various transformations of a given equation. We consider equation (1) in more general assumptions than in the above mentioned papers: all kernels and delays are measurable functions, derivative of a solution is an absolutely continuous function.

## 2 Preliminaries

Denote

$$a(t) = \int_{g(t)}^t G(t, s)ds, \quad b(t) = \int_{h(t)}^t H(t, s)ds,$$

$$a_1(t) = \int_{g(t)}^t G(t, s)(t-s)ds, \quad b_1(t) = \int_{h(t)}^t H(t, s)(t-s)ds.$$

We consider scalar delay differential equation (1) under the following conditions:

- (a1)  $G(t, s) \geq 0, H(t, s) \geq 0$  are Lebesgue measurable on  $t \geq s \geq 0$ ,  $h, g$  are measurable on  $[0, \infty)$  functions,  $a, b, a_1, b_1$  are essentially bounded on  $[0, \infty)$  functions;
- (a2)  $0 < a_0 \leq a(t) \leq A_0, 0 < b_0 \leq b(t) \leq B_0$  for all  $t \geq t_0 \geq 0$  and some fixed  $t_0 \geq 0$ ;
- (a3)  $0 \leq t - g(t) \leq \sigma, 0 \leq t - h(t) \leq \tau$  for  $t \geq t_0$  and some  $\sigma > 0, \tau > 0$  and  $t_0 \geq 0$ .

Along with (1), we consider for each  $t_0 \geq 0$  an initial value problem

$$\ddot{x}(t) + \int_{g(t)}^t G(t, s)\dot{x}(s)ds + \int_{h(t)}^t H(t, s)x(s)ds = f(t), \quad (2)$$

$$x(t) = \varphi(t), \quad \dot{x}(t) = \psi(t), \quad t \leq t_0, \quad (3)$$

where  $f : [t_0, \infty) \rightarrow R$  is a Lebesgue measurable locally essentially bounded function,  $\varphi : (-\infty, t_0] \rightarrow R$ ,  $\psi : (-\infty, t_0) \rightarrow R$  are Borel measurable bounded functions.

Further, we assume that the above conditions hold without mentioning it.

A function  $x$  with a locally absolutely continuous on  $[t_0, \infty)$  derivative  $x' : R \rightarrow R$  is called a **solution of problem (2)** if it satisfies the equation (2) for almost all  $t \in [t_0, \infty)$  and the equalities in (3) for  $t \leq t_0$ .

There exists a unique solution of problem (2)-(3), see [6, 21].

Equation (1) is **(uniformly) exponentially stable** if there exist positive numbers  $M$  and  $\gamma$  such that the solution of problem (3) with  $f \equiv 0$  satisfies the estimate

$$\max\{|x(t)|, |\dot{x}(t)|\} \leq Me^{-\gamma(t-t_0)} \sup_{t \in (-\infty, t_0]} \max\{|\psi(t)|, |\varphi(t)|\}, \quad t \geq t_0, \quad (4)$$

where  $M$  and  $\gamma$  do not depend on  $t_0 \geq 0$  and functions  $\psi, \varphi$ .

Next, we present the Bohl-Perron theorem [6, 19].

**Lemma 2.1** *Assume that the solution  $x$  of the problem (2) with the initial conditions  $x(t) = \dot{x}(t) = 0, t \leq t_0$ , and its derivative  $\dot{x}$  are bounded on  $[t_0, +\infty)$  for any essentially bounded function  $f$  on  $[t_0, +\infty)$ . Then equation (1) is exponentially stable.*

Consider now an ordinary differential equation

$$\ddot{x}(t) + a(t)\dot{x}(t) + b(t)x(t) = 0 \tag{5}$$

and denote by  $X(t, s)$  the fundamental function of (5).

**Lemma 2.2** [20] *If  $A_0 \geq a(t) \geq a_0 > 0, B_0 \geq b(t) \geq b_0 > 0, t \geq t_0$  and  $a_0^2 \geq 4B_0$ , then  $X(t, s) \geq 0$ , equation (5) is exponentially stable and*

$$\int_{t_0}^t X(t, s)b(s)ds < 1.$$

For a fixed bounded interval  $I = [t_0, t_1]$ , consider the space  $L_\infty[t_0, t_1]$  of all essentially bounded on  $I$  functions with the norm  $\|y\|_{[t_0, t_1]} = \text{esssup}_{t \in I} |y(t)|$ , denote

$$\|f\|_{[t_0, +\infty)} = \text{esssup}_{t \geq t_0} |f(t)|$$

for an unbounded interval,  $E$  is the identity operator.

In the sequel, we use the concept of a non-singular  $M$ -matrix. For convenience, we recall this notion.

**Definition 2.1** [ [24]] *An  $m \times m$  matrix  $A = (a_{ij})_{i,j=1}^m$  is called a non-singular  $M$ -matrix if  $a_{ij} \leq 0, i, j = 1, \dots, m, i \neq j$  and one of the following equivalent conditions holds:*

1. There exists a positive inverse matrix  $A^{-1}$ .
2. All the principal minors of matrix  $A$  are positive.

### 3 Explicit Stability Conditions

**Theorem 3.1** *Assume that for some  $t_0 \geq 0$  and  $t \geq t_0$   $a_0^2 \geq 4B_0$  and the following condition holds*

$$\begin{aligned} & \|a\|_{[t_0, \infty)} \left\| \frac{a_1}{a} \right\|_{[t_0, \infty)} + \left\| \frac{b_1}{b} \right\|_{[t_0, \infty)} \left( \left\| \frac{b}{a} \right\|_{[t_0, \infty)} + \|b\|_{[t_0, \infty)} \left\| \frac{a_1}{a} \right\|_{[t_0, \infty)} \right) \\ & + \left\| \frac{a_1}{b} \right\|_{[t_0, \infty)} \left( \|b\|_{[t_0, \infty)} + \|a\|_{[t_0, \infty)} \left\| \frac{b}{a} \right\|_{[t_0, \infty)} \right) < 1. \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

Then equation (1) is exponentially stable.

**Proof.** For simplicity we omit the index in the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{[t_0, +\infty)}$  of functions.

Consider problem (2) with  $\|f\| < \infty$ , where  $x(t) = \dot{x}(t) = 0, t \leq t_0$ . We will prove that the solution  $x$  and its derivative are bounded functions on  $[t_0, +\infty)$ . First we have to obtain estimates for  $x, \dot{x}, \ddot{x}, t \in I = [t_0, t_1], t_1 > t_0$ . Rewrite equation (2)

$$\ddot{x}(t) + a(t)\dot{x}(t) + b(t)x(t) = \int_{g(t)}^t G(t, s)(\dot{x}(t) - \dot{x}(s))ds + \int_{h(t)}^t H(t, s)(x(t) - x(s))ds + f(t)$$

$$= \int_{g(t)}^t G(t, s) \int_s^t \ddot{x}(\tau) d\tau ds + \int_{h(t)}^t H(t, s) \int_s^t \dot{x}(\tau) d\tau ds + f(t).$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) = & \int_{t_0}^t X(t, s) b(s) \left[ \frac{1}{b(s)} \int_{g(s)}^s G(s, \xi) \int_{\xi}^s \ddot{x}(\tau) d\tau d\xi \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{1}{b(s)} \int_{h(s)}^s H(s, \xi) \int_{\xi}^s \dot{x}(\tau) d\tau d\xi \right] ds + f_1(t), \end{aligned}$$

where  $X(t, s)$  is the fundamental function of equation (5) and  $f_1(t) = \int_{t_0}^t X(t, s) f(s) ds$ . Since  $X(t, s)$  has an exponential estimate,  $f_1$  is essentially bounded on  $[t_0, \infty)$ .

By Lemma 2.2 we have

$$\|x\|_{[t_0, t_1]} \leq \left\| \frac{a_1}{b} \right\| \|\ddot{x}\|_{[t_0, t_1]} + \left\| \frac{b_1}{b} \right\| \|\dot{x}\|_{[t_0, t_1]} + \|f_1\|. \quad (7)$$

Rewrite now (2) in another form:

$$\ddot{x}(t) + a(t)\dot{x}(t) = \int_{g(t)}^t G(t, s) \int_s^t \ddot{x}(\tau) d\tau ds - \int_{h(t)}^t H(t, s)x(s) ds + f(t).$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}(t) = & \int_{t_0}^t e^{-\int_s^t a(\xi) d\xi} a(s) \left[ \frac{1}{a(s)} \int_{g(s)}^s G(s, \xi) \int_{\xi}^s \ddot{x}(\tau) d\tau d\xi \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{1}{a(s)} \int_{h(s)}^s H(s, \xi)x(\xi) d\xi \right] ds + f_2(t), \end{aligned}$$

where  $f_2(t) = \int_{t_0}^t e^{-\int_s^t a(\xi) d\xi} f(s) ds$  is an essential bounded on  $[t_0, \infty)$  function.

Hence

$$\|\dot{x}\|_{[t_0, t_1]} \leq \left\| \frac{a_1}{a} \right\| \|\ddot{x}\|_{[t_0, t_1]} + \left\| \frac{b}{a} \right\| \|x\|_{[t_0, t_1]} + \|f_2\|. \quad (8)$$

From equation (2) we have

$$\|\ddot{x}\|_{[t_0, t_1]} \leq \|a\| \|\dot{x}\|_{[t_0, t_1]} + \|b\| \|x\|_{[t_0, t_1]} + \|f\|. \quad (9)$$

Denote  $Y = \{\|x\|_{[t_0, t_1]}, \|\dot{x}\|_{[t_0, t_1]}, \|\ddot{x}\|_{[t_0, t_1]}\}^T$ ,  $F = \{\|f_1\|, \|f_2\|, \|f\|\}^T$ . Inequalities (7)-(9) imply  $Y \leq BY + F$ , where

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \left\| \frac{b_1}{b} \right\| & \left\| \frac{a_1}{b} \right\| \\ \left\| \frac{b_1}{b} \right\| & 0 & \left\| \frac{a_1}{a} \right\| \\ \|b\| & \|a\| & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence  $AY \leq F$ , where  $A = E - B$ . Theorem conditions imply that  $A$  is an M-matrix then  $Y \leq A^{-1}F$ , where  $A^{-1}F$  is a constant vector which does not depend on the interval I. Hence the solution of (2) with its derivative are bounded functions on  $[t_0, \infty)$ , therefore by Lemma 2.1 equation (1) is exponentially stable.

**Corollary 3.1** Assume that for some  $t_0 \geq 0$  and  $t \geq t_0$ ,  $a_0^2 \geq 4B_0$  and the following condition holds

$$\sigma \|a\|_{[t_0, \infty)} + \tau \left( \left\| \frac{b}{a} \right\|_{[t_0, \infty)} + \sigma \|b\|_{[t_0, \infty)} \right) + \sigma \left\| \frac{a}{b} \right\|_{[t_0, \infty)} \left( \|a\|_{[t_0, \infty)} \left\| \frac{b}{a} \right\|_{[t_0, \infty)} + \|b\|_{[t_0, \infty)} \right) < 1. \tag{10}$$

Then equation (1) is exponentially stable.

**Proof.** For simplicity we omit the index in the norm on functions. We have  $t - s \leq t - g(t) \leq \sigma$  for  $g(t) \leq s \leq t$ . Similarly,  $t - s \leq t - h(t) \leq \tau$  for  $h(t) \leq s \leq t$ . Hence

$$a_1(t) = \int_{g(t)}^t G(t, s)(t - s)ds \leq \int_{g(t)}^t G(t, s)\sigma ds = \sigma a(t),$$

$$b_1(t) = \int_{h(t)}^t H(t, s)(t - s)ds \leq \int_{h(t)}^t H(t, s)\tau ds = \tau b(t).$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & \|a\| \left\| \frac{a_1}{a} \right\| + \left\| \frac{b_1}{b} \right\| \left( \left\| \frac{b}{a} \right\| + \|b\| \left\| \frac{a_1}{a} \right\| \right) + \left\| \frac{a_1}{b} \right\| \left( \|b\| + \|a\| \left\| \frac{b}{a} \right\| \right) \\ & \leq \sigma \|a\| + \tau \left( \left\| \frac{b}{a} \right\| + \sigma \|b\| \right) + \sigma \left\| \frac{a}{b} \right\| \left( \|a\| \left\| \frac{b}{a} \right\| + \|b\| \right) < 1. \end{aligned}$$

By Theorem 3.1 equation (1) is exponentially stable.

**Corollary 3.2** Assume there exist

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} a(t) = a > 0, \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} b(t) = b > 0, \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} a_1(t) = a_1 > 0, \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} b_1(t) = b_1 > 0.$$

If

$$a^2 \geq 4b, \quad 3a_1 + \frac{b_1(1 + a_1)}{a} < 1,$$

then the equation (1) is exponentially stable.

Limits in the corollary 3.2 exist, for example, for kernels of the form  $M(t-s)^n e^{-\gamma(t-s)}$  where  $n \geq 0$  is a natural number.

**Example 3.1** Consider the following equation

$$\ddot{x}(t) + M_1 \int_{t-\sigma}^t e^{-\alpha_1(t-s)} \dot{x}(s)ds + M_2 \int_{t-\tau}^t e^{-\alpha_2(t-s)} x(s)ds = 0, \tag{11}$$

where  $\alpha > 0, \beta > 0, \sigma > 0, \tau > 0$ .

We have

$$\begin{aligned} a(t) &= a = M_1 \int_{t-\sigma}^t e^{-\alpha_1(t-s)} ds = \frac{M_1}{\alpha_1} (1 - e^{-\alpha_1 \sigma}), \\ b(t) &= b = M_2 \int_{t-\tau}^t e^{-\alpha_2(t-s)} ds = \frac{M_2}{\alpha_2} (1 - e^{-\alpha_2 \tau}), \\ a_1(t) &= a_1 = M_1 \int_{t-\sigma}^t (t-s)e^{-\alpha_1(t-s)} ds = \frac{M_1}{\alpha_1} \left( \frac{1}{\alpha_1} - e^{-\alpha_1 \sigma} \left( \sigma + \frac{1}{\alpha_1} \right) \right), \\ b_1(t) &= b_1 = M_2 \int_{t-\tau}^t (t-s)e^{-\alpha_2(t-s)} ds = \frac{M_2}{\alpha_2} \left( \frac{1}{\alpha_2} - e^{-\alpha_2 \tau} \left( \tau + \frac{1}{\alpha_2} \right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, if  $a^2 \geq 4b, 3a_1 + \frac{b_1(1+a_1)}{a} < 1$ , then equation (11) is exponentially stable.

**Corollary 3.3** Assume for  $t \geq t_0$

$$0 < a_0 \leq a(t) \leq A_0, 0 < b_0 \leq b(t) \leq B_0, a_0^2 \geq 4B_0,$$

$$0 < \sigma_0 \leq t - g(t) \leq \sigma, 0 < \tau_0 \leq t - h(t) \leq \tau$$

and

$$\frac{A_0\sigma^3}{2a_0\sigma_0} + \frac{B_0^2\tau^3}{2a_0b_0\tau_0\sigma_0} \left(1 + \frac{A_0\sigma^2}{2}\right) + \frac{A_0B_0\tau\sigma_2}{2b_0\tau_0} \left(1 + \frac{A_0\sigma}{a_0\sigma_0}\right) < 1.$$

Then the equation (1) is exponentially stable.

**Proof.** The proof follows from the inequalities

$$a_0\sigma_0 \leq a(t) \leq A_0\sigma, b_0\tau_0 \leq b(t) \leq B_0\tau, a_1(t) \leq A_0\frac{\sigma^2}{2}, b_1(t) \leq B_0\frac{\tau^2}{2}$$

and Theorem 3.1.

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