

# New Asymptotical Stability and Uniformly Asymptotical Stability Theorems for Nonautonomous Difference Equations

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## Abstract

New theorems of asymptotical stability and uniformly asymptotical stability for nonautonomous difference equations are given in this paper. The classical Liapunov asymptotical stability theorem of nonautonomous difference equations relies on the existence of a positive definite Liapunov function that has an indefinitely small upper bound and whose variation along a given nonautonomous difference equations is negative definite. In this paper, we consider the case that the Liapunov function is only positive definite and its variation is semi-negative definite. At these weaker conditions, we put forward a new asymptotical stability theorem of nonautonomous difference equations by adding to extra conditions on the variation. After that, in addition to the hypotheses of our new asymptotical stability theorem, we obtain a new uniformly asymptotical stability theorem of nonautonomous difference equations provided that the Liapunov function has an indefinitely small upper bound. Example is given to verify our results in the last.

## Keywords

Nonautonomous Difference Equations, New Asymptotical Stability Theorem, New Uniformly Asymptotical Stability Theorem, Liapunovs Direct Method

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## 1. Introduction

Difference equations usually describe the evolution of certain phenomena over the course of time. These equations occur in biology, economics, psychology, sociology, and other fields. In addition, difference equations also

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appear in the study of discretization methods for differential equations. Realizing that most of the problems that arise in practice are nonlinear and mostly unsolvable, the qualitative behaviors of solutions without actually computing them are of vital importance in application process. The stability property of an equilibrium is the very important qualitative behavior for difference equations. The most powerful method for studying the stability property is Liapunov's second method or Liapunov's direct method. The main advantage of this method is that the stability can be obtained without any prior knowledge of the solutions. In 1892, the Russian mathematician A.M. Liapunov introduced the method for investigating the stability of nonlinear differential equations. According to the method, he put forward Liapunov stability theorem, Liapunov asymptotical stability theorem and Liapunov unstable theorem, which have been known as the fundamental theorems of stability. Utilizing these fundamental theorems of stability, many authors have investigated the stability of some specific differential systems [1]-[9].

We know that several results in the theory of difference equations have been obtained as more or less natural discrete analogues of corresponding results of differential equations, so Liapunov's direct method is much more useful for difference equations. Actually, some authors have utilized the methods for difference equations successfully [10]-[20]. Using the method, S. Elaydi [10] and J.P. Lasalle [11] gave the classical Liapunov stability theorem for autonomous difference equations. In [12] [13], the authors extended the technique to generalized nonautonomous difference equations and put forward the classical Liapunov stability theorem for nonautonomous difference equations. In [14]-[17], the direct approach was extended to some special delay difference systems to investigate the stability properties. In [18]-[20], how to construct Liapunov function for difference system or hybrid time-varying system was exploited.

Consider the following nonautonomous difference system

$$x_{n+1} = f(n, x_n) \tag{1.1}$$

where  $f : \mathbb{N} \times B_H \rightarrow B_H, f(n, o) = 0, f(n, x)$  is continuous in  $x$  and  $x \in B_H = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^k \mid \|x\| \leq H\}$ . As shown in [12] [13], using Liapunov's direct method to study the asymptotical stability of the zero solution of system (1.1) relies on the existence of a positive definite Liapunov function  $V(n, x_n)$  which has indefinitely small upper bound and whose variation  $\Delta V(n, x_n)$  along the solution of system (1.1) is negative definite.

Sometimes it is not easy to determine the positive definite Liapunov function for a given equations in applications. If we further require that the function has indefinitely small upper bound besides its negative definite variation, the work would become more difficult to do. In this paper, we weaken the Liapunov function to positive definite and also weaken the negative definite variation to semi-negative definite on orbits of Equations (1.1), then we put forward a new Liapunov asymptotical stability theorem for difference Equations (1.1) by adding to extra conditions on the variation. Subsequently, provided that all the conditions of our new asymptotical stability theorem are satisfied, we obtain a new uniformly asymptotical stability theorem of nonautonomous difference equations if the Liapunov function has an indefinitely small upper bound.

## 2. Some Lemmas

In this section, we introduce the following lemmas, which play a key role in obtaining our results.

**Lemma 1** Suppose that there exists a function  $g(n, x_n)$  satisfying the following conditions:

- (i)  $g : \mathbb{N} \times B_H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, g(n, o) = 0, g(n, x_n)$  is  $C^1$  with respect to the second argument  $x$ ,
- (ii) the sequence  $\{x_n\} \subseteq B_H$ , and
- (iii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} g(n, x_n)$  exists.

Then, there exists a positive integer sequence  $\{n_i\}$  with  $n_i \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $i \rightarrow +\infty$  such that  $\lim_{i \rightarrow +\infty} \Delta g(n_i, x_{n_i}) = 0$ .

**Proof.** We first prove that for arbitrary constant  $a > 0$  there exists a sufficient large integer  $N_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  for every positive integer  $\tilde{n} > N_1$  such that

$$|\Delta g(\tilde{n}, x_{\tilde{n}})| < a. \tag{2.1}$$

Suppose that this conclusion of inequality (2.1) does not hold, then there exist  $\tilde{a} > 0$  such that for arbitrary  $N' \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists a positive integer  $m > N'$  such that

$$|\Delta g(m, x_m)| \geq \tilde{a}. \tag{2.2}$$

By the continuity of  $\Delta g$ , we obtain that either  $\Delta g(m, x_m) \geq \tilde{a}$  or  $\Delta g(m, x_m) \leq -\tilde{a}$ . Without loss of generality, we only consider the first case. For the above  $\tilde{a}$ , there exists a positive integer increasing sequence  $\{N'_i\}$  such that  $\Delta g(m_i, x_{m_i}) \geq \tilde{a}$  for arbitrary  $m_i > N'_i$ . Let  $P \in \mathbb{N}^+$  denote a constant. By the discrete analogue fundamental theorem of calculus [10], we get

$$g(m_i + P, x_{m_i+P}) - g(m_i, x_{m_i}) = \sum_{j=0}^{P-1} \Delta g(m_i + j, x_{m_i+j}) \geq P\tilde{a}.$$

Note that  $\{N'_i\}$  is a positive integer increasing sequence and  $\tilde{n}_i > N'_i$ , then the above inequality contradicts to the exists of  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} g(n, x_n)$ . Therefore, the conclusion of (2.1) is proved.

Denote  $a_i = \frac{1}{2^i}$  with  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ . By the conclusion of (2.1), for each  $i$ , there exists a sufficiently large  $N_i \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$|\Delta g(n_i, x_{n_i})| < \frac{1}{2^i}, \tag{2.3}$$

for each positive integer  $n_i > N_i$ . Then we can select special  $n_i < n_{i+1}$  and construct an increase sequence  $\{n_i\}$ . This implies  $n_i \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $i \rightarrow +\infty$  and  $\lim_{i \rightarrow +\infty} \Delta g(n_i, x_{n_i}) = 0$ .

**Lemma 2** Assume that there exists a function  $g(n, x_n)$  satisfying the following conditions:

- (i)  $g : \mathbb{N} \times B_H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, g(n, o) = 0, g(n, x_n)$  is  $C^k (k \geq 2)$  with respect to the second argument,
- (ii) the sequence  $\{x_n\} \subseteq B_H$ , and
- (iii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} g(n, x_n)$  exists.

Then, for each fixed  $r (1 \leq r \leq k)$ , there exists a positive integer sequence  $\{n_i^{(r)}\}$  with  $n_i^{(r)} \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $i \rightarrow +\infty$  such that

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow +\infty} \Delta^r g(n_i^{(r)}, x_{n_i^{(r)}}) = 0.$$

**Proof.** We first prove that for arbitrary constants  $a > 0$  there exists a sufficient large integer  $N_2 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for every  $\tilde{n} > N_2$  there exists

$$|\Delta^r g(\tilde{n}, x_{\tilde{n}})| < a. \tag{2.4}$$

The case of  $r = 1$  is proved by (2.1) in the proof of Lemma 2.1. Suppose that inequality (2.4) holds in the case of  $r - 1 (2 \leq r \leq k)$  but is not true in the case of  $r$ . Then there exist constants  $\tilde{a} > 0$  such that for arbitrary  $N' \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists a positive integer  $\tilde{n}^{(r)} > N'$  such that  $|\Delta^r g(\tilde{n}^{(r)}, x_{\tilde{n}^{(r)}})| \geq \tilde{a}$ . Similarly to the statement below inequality (2.2), there exists a positive integer sequence  $\{\tilde{n}_i^{(r)}\}$  such that  $\tilde{n}_{i+1}^{(r)} > \tilde{n}_i^{(r)}$ .

Let  $\lceil x \rceil$  denote the maximum integer not exceeding  $x$  and  $\tilde{P} \in \mathbb{N}^+$  denote a constant. Same as above, without loss of generality, we only consider the case  $\Delta^r g(\tilde{n}^{(r)}, x_{\tilde{n}^{(r)}}) \geq \tilde{a}$ . By the discrete analogue fundamental theorem of calculus [10], we get

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^{(r-1)} g\left(\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + t, x_{\tilde{n}_i^{(r)}+t}\right) &= \Delta^{(r-1)} g\left(\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + \left\lceil \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rceil, x_{\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + \left\lceil \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rceil}\right) - \sum_{j=t}^{\left\lceil \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rceil - 1} \Delta^{(r)} g\left(\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + j, x_{\tilde{n}_i^{(r)}+j}\right) \\ &\leq \Delta^{(r-1)} g\left(\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + \left\lceil \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rceil, x_{\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + \left\lceil \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rceil}\right) - \tilde{a} \left( \left\lceil \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rceil - t \right), \end{aligned} \tag{2.5}$$

where  $t \in \left\{0, 1, 2, \dots, \left\lceil \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rceil - 1\right\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^{(r-1)} g\left(\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + t, x_{\tilde{n}_i^{(r)}+t}\right) &= \Delta^{(r-1)} g\left(\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + \left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rfloor, x_{\tilde{n}_i^{(r)}+\left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rfloor}\right) + \sum_{j=\left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rfloor}^{t-1} \Delta^{(r)} g\left(\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + j, x_{\tilde{n}_i^{(r)}+j}\right) \\ &\geq \Delta^{(r-1)} g\left(\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + \left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rfloor, x_{\tilde{n}_i^{(r)}+\left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rfloor}\right) + \tilde{a}\left(t - \left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rfloor\right), \end{aligned} \tag{2.6}$$

where  $t \in \left\{ \left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rfloor, \left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rfloor + 1, \left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rfloor + 2, \dots, \tilde{P} \right\}$ .

If  $\Delta^{(r-1)} g\left(\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + \left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rfloor, x_{\tilde{n}_i^{(r)}+\left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rfloor}\right) \leq 0$  and  $t \in \left\{ 0, 1, 2, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{4} \right\rfloor \right\}$ , from inequality (2.5), we obtain

$$\Delta^{(r-1)} g\left(\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + t, x_{\tilde{n}_i^{(r)}+t}\right) \leq -\tilde{a} \left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{4} \right\rfloor. \tag{2.7}$$

If  $\Delta^{(r-1)} g\left(\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + \left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rfloor, x_{\tilde{n}_i^{(r)}+\left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{2} \right\rfloor}\right) \geq 0$  and  $t \in \left\{ \left\lfloor \frac{3\tilde{P}}{4} \right\rfloor, \left\lfloor \frac{3\tilde{P}}{4} \right\rfloor + 1, \left\lfloor \frac{3\tilde{P}}{4} \right\rfloor + 2, \dots, \tilde{P} \right\}$ , from inequality (2.6), we

obtain

$$\Delta^{(r-1)} g\left(\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + t, x_{\tilde{n}_i^{(r)}+t}\right) \geq \tilde{a} \left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{4} \right\rfloor. \tag{2.8}$$

Inequalities (2.7) and (2.8) imply that

$$\left| \Delta^{r-1} g\left(\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + t, x_{\tilde{n}_i^{(r)}+t}\right) \right| \geq \tilde{a} \left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{4} \right\rfloor, \quad \forall t \in \left\{ 0, 1, \dots, \left\lfloor \frac{\tilde{P}}{4} \right\rfloor, \left\lfloor \frac{3\tilde{P}}{4} \right\rfloor, \left\lfloor \frac{3\tilde{P}}{4} \right\rfloor + 1, \dots, \tilde{P} \right\}. \tag{2.9}$$

Since  $\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $i \rightarrow +\infty$ , we select  $\tilde{n}_i^{(r)} + t > N_2$ . This leads to a contradiction because of the inductive assumption for (2.4) in the case of  $r - 1$ . Therefore, the conclusion of (2.4) is proved.

Similarly to the second part of the proof of Lemma 2.1, for each  $r$  ( $1 \leq r \leq k$ ), we can construct a sequence  $\{n_i^{(r)}\}$  with  $n_i^{(r)} \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $i \rightarrow +\infty$  such that  $\lim_{i \rightarrow +\infty} \Delta^r g\left(n_i^{(r)}, x_{n_i^{(r)}}\right) = 0$ . This completes the proof of Lemma 2.2.

According to Lemma 2.2 we prove the following result.

**Lemma 3** Assume that there exists a function  $g(n, x_n)$  satisfying the following conditions:

- (i)  $g : \mathbb{N} \times B_H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, g(n, o) = 0, g(n, x_n)$  is  $C^{k+1}$  ( $k \geq 1$ ) and  $\Delta^k g(n, x_n)$  is uniformly continuous with respect to the second argument  $x$ ,
- (ii) the sequence  $\{x_n\} \subseteq B_H$ , and
- (iii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} g(n, x_n)$  exists.

Then, there exists a positive integer sequence  $\{t_i\}$  with  $t_i \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $i \rightarrow +\infty$  such that

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow +\infty} \left\{ \left| \Delta g(t_i, x_{t_i}) \right| + \left| \Delta^2 g(t_i, x_{t_i}) \right| + \dots + \left| \Delta^k g(t_i, x_{t_i}) \right| + \left| \Delta^{k+1} g(t_i, x_{t_i}) \right| \right\} = 0. \tag{2.10}$$

**Proof.** Let us first prove

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \Delta^k g(n, x_n) = 0. \tag{2.11}$$

Suppose that this is not true. Then there exist a constant  $c > 0$  and a strictly increasing integer sequence  $\{n_i^*\}$  such that  $n_i^* \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $i \rightarrow +\infty$  and  $\left| \Delta^k g\left(n_i^*, x_{n_i^*}\right) \right| > c, i = 1, 2, \dots$ . By the uniform continuity of  $\Delta^k g(n, x_n)$ ,

there exists a constant  $\delta > 0$ , when  $\left| x_n - x_{n_i^*} \right| < \delta$  for any  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ , then  $\left| \Delta^k g\left(n_i^*, x_{n_i^*}\right) - \Delta^k g(n, x_n) \right| < \frac{c}{2}$ .

From the above inequalities, we get  $|\Delta^k g(n, x_n)| > \frac{c}{2}$ . This is a contradiction to (2.4). Then equation (2.11) is proved.

The result of (2.11) implies the boundedness of  $\Delta^k g(n, x_n)$  on  $\mathbb{N} \times B_H$ . It follows that  $\Delta^{k-1} g(n, x_n)$  is uniformly continuous on the same domain. And as shown above, we obtain  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \Delta^{k-1} g(n, x_n) = 0$ . Then we see recursively that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \Delta^r g(n, x_n) = 0, \quad 1 \leq r \leq k \tag{2.12}$$

On the other hand, by Lemma 2.2, there exists a sequence  $\{t_i\}$  with  $t_i \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $i \rightarrow +\infty$  such that

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow +\infty} \Delta^{k+1} g(t_i, x_{t_i}) = 0, \quad 1 \leq r \leq k \tag{2.13}$$

From (2.12) and (2.13) we easily get (2.10). The proof of Lemma 2.3 is complete.

### 3. New Asymptotical Stability and Uniformly Asymptotical Stability Theorems

In this section, we propose and prove the new asymptotical stability and uniformly asymptotical stability theorems of system (1.1). First of all, we introduce a special class of function and then give the definition of positive definite function. Subsequently, we introduce the various stability notions of the equilibrium point  $x^*$  of system (1.1). These definitions are very useful for obtaining our results besides the above Lemmas.

**Definition 1** A function  $\phi$  is said to be class of  $K$  if it is continuous in  $[0, H)$ , strictly increasing, and  $\phi(0) = 0$ .

**Definition 2** The function  $V(n, x_n)$  is positive definite if there exists a function  $\phi \in K$  such that

$$V(n, x_n) \geq \phi(\|x_n\|)$$

for all  $(n, x_n) \in \mathbb{N} \times B_H$ .

**Definition 3** Let  $x(n_0) = x_{n_0}$  be an initial condition of system (1.1) and  $x(n, n_0, x_{n_0})$  be a solution such that  $x(n_0, n_0, x_{n_0}) = x_{n_0}$ . The equilibrium point  $x^*$  of system (1.1) is said to be:

(i) **Stable** if given  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $n_0 \geq 0$  there exists  $\delta = \delta(\varepsilon, n_0)$  such that  $\|x_{n_0} - x^*\| < \delta$  implies  $\|x(n, n_0, x_{n_0}) - x^*\| < \varepsilon$  for all  $n \geq n_0$ , **uniformly stable** if  $\delta$  may be chosen independent of  $n_0$ .

(ii) **Attracting** if there exists  $\mu = \mu(n_0)$  such that  $\|x_{n_0} - x^*\| < \mu$  implies  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} x(n, n_0, x_{n_0}) = x^*$ , **uniformly attracting** if the choice of  $\mu$  is independent of  $n_0$ .

(iii) **Asymptotically stable** if it is stable and attracting, and **uniformly asymptotically stable** if it is uniformly stable and uniformly attracting.

**Theorem 1** Consider nonautonomous difference Equations (1.1), where  $f: \mathbb{N} \times B_H \rightarrow B_H$  is  $C^k$  ( $k \geq 1$ ) with respect to the second argument  $x$  and satisfies  $f(n, o) = 0$ . Suppose that there exists a  $C^{k+1}$  positive definite function  $V(n, x_n): \mathbb{N} \times B_H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  such that

(i)  $V(n, o) \equiv 0$ ,

(ii)  $\Delta V(n, x_n) \leq 0$ , where  $\Delta V(n, x_n) = V(n+1, x_{n+1}) - V(n, x_n)$ ,

(iii)  $\Delta^{k+1} V(n, x_n)$  is bounded on the set  $\mathbb{N} \times B_H$ ,

(iv)  $U(n, x_n) := -(|\Delta V(n, x_n)| + |\Delta^2 V(n, x_n)| + \dots + |\Delta^k V(n, x_n)| + |\Delta^{k+1} V(n, x_n)|) \leq -\phi(\|x_n\|)$ , where the function  $\phi$  defined by Definition 1.

Then the zero solution of system (1.1) is asymptotically stable.

**Proof.** By conditions (i) and (ii), the origin of system (1.1) is stable according to the references [12] [13]. Therefore for any  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $h \in (0, H)$  there exists  $\delta = \delta(n_0, h) > 0$  such that a solution  $x_n = x(n, n_0, x_{n_0})$  of system (1.1) satisfies  $\|x_n\| \leq h$  for all  $n > n_0$  if  $\|x_{n_0}\| < \delta$ . In the following part, we prove that every solution  $x_n$  with  $\|x_{n_0}\| < \delta$  satisfies  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} x_n = 0$ .

By condition (ii) we know that  $V(n, x_n)$  is monotonically nonincreasing. Hence the  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} V(n, x_n)$  exists. From condition (iii) we know that  $\Delta^{k+1} V(n, x_n)$  is bounded, which implies that  $\Delta^k V(n, x_n)$  is uniformly con-

tinuous. According to Lemma 3, there exists a integer sequence  $\{n_i\}$  with  $n_i \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $i \rightarrow +\infty$  such that

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow +\infty} \left\{ \left| \Delta V(n_i, x_{n_i}) \right| + \left| \Delta^2 V(n_i, x_{n_i}) \right| + \dots + \left| \Delta^k V(n_i, x_{n_i}) \right| + \left| \Delta^{k+1} V(n_i, x_{n_i}) \right| \right\} = 0. \tag{3.1}$$

According to the definition of function  $U(n, x_n)$  and Equation (3.1), we get  $\lim_{i \rightarrow +\infty} U(n_i, x_{n_i}) = 0$ , which implies

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow +\infty} x_{n_i} = 0. \tag{3.2}$$

Now we prove

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} x_n = 0. \tag{3.3}$$

Suppose that (3.3) is not true. Then there exist a constant  $0 < c < h$  and an integer sequence  $\{m_l\}$  with  $m_l \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $l \rightarrow +\infty$  such that  $\|x_{m_l}\| \geq c \quad \forall l = 1, 2, \dots$ . Then, by the definition of positive definite  $V(n, x_n)$

$$v := \inf_l V(m_l, x_{m_l}) \geq \inf_l \phi(\|x_{m_l}\|) > 0 \tag{3.4}$$

On the other hand, by (3.2) there is an integer  $j$  such that  $V(n_j, x_{n_j}) < \frac{v}{2}$ . This is because  $V$  is continuous with respect to the second argument and  $V(n, 0) \equiv 0$ . Thus, by condition (ii),  $V(n, x_n) < \frac{v}{2}$  for all  $n > n_j$ .

Clear,  $m_l > n_j$  for sufficiently large  $l$  such that  $V(m_l, x_{m_l}) < \frac{v}{2}$ , which contradicts to the definition of  $v$  given by (3.4). Therefore, (3.3) is proved. According to Definition 3, we obtain that the zero solution of system (1.1) is asymptotically stable.

In addition to the hypotheses of Theorem 1, we can obtain that the zero solution of system (1.1) is uniformly asymptotically stable if  $V(n, x_n)$  has an indefinitely small upper bound as in the classical Liapunov asymptotical stability theorem of nonautonomous difference equations.

**Theorem 2** *Provided that the hypotheses of Theorem 1 are satisfied, the zero solution of system (1.1) is uniformly asymptotically stable if positive definite function  $V(n, x_n)$  has an indefinitely small upper bound.*

**Proof.** Since  $V(n, x_n)$  is positive definite and has an indefinitely small upper bound, there exist functions  $\varphi, \psi \in K$  such that  $\varphi(\|x_n\|) \leq V(n, x_n) \leq \psi(\|x_n\|)$  for all  $(n, x_n) \in \mathbb{N} \times B_H$ . For each  $\varepsilon \in (0, H)$ , there exists a  $\delta = \delta(\varepsilon)$  such that  $\psi(\delta) < \varphi(\varepsilon)$ . Denote  $n_1 \geq n_0$  and  $\|x_{n_1}\| < \delta$ , then we have  $\|x_n\| < \varepsilon$  for all  $n \geq n_1$ . If this is not true, then there exists a  $n_2 > n_1$  such that  $n_1 \geq n_0$  and  $\|x_{n_1}\| < \delta$  imply  $\varepsilon \leq \|x_{n_2}\| < H$ . However,  $\Delta V(n, x_n) \leq 0$  implies that  $V(n, x_n) \leq V(n_1, x_{n_1})$  for  $n > n_1$ . Then we obtain that

$$\varphi(\varepsilon) \leq \varphi(\|x_{n_2}\|) \leq V(n_2, x_{n_2}) \leq V(n_1, x_{n_1}) \leq \psi(\|x_{n_1}\|) \leq \psi(\delta) < \varphi(\varepsilon).$$

This is a contradiction. Since all the conditions of Theorem 1 are satisfied, the zero solution of system (1.1) is asymptotically stable. Therefore, for the above  $\varepsilon$ ,  $\delta(\varepsilon)$ , there exists  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} x(n, n_0, x_0) = 0$  when  $\|x_{n_0}\| < \delta$ .

### 4. Example

In this section, we provide an example to illustrate the feasibility of our results.

**Example 4.1.** Consider the following difference equations

$$f : \begin{pmatrix} u_{n+1} \\ w_{n+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -w_n + 2h(n)w_n (u_n^2 + w_n^2)^{\frac{3}{2}} \\ u_n - 2h(n)u_n (u_n^2 + w_n^2)^{\frac{3}{2}} \end{pmatrix} \tag{4.1}$$

where  $h(n) = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 + \frac{2n \cdot \tanh(n) \cdot \arctan(n)}{\pi(n+1)} \right)$  and  $(u_n, w_n) \in B_H = \left\{ (u_n, w_n) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \sqrt{u_n^2 + w_n^2} \leq H \right\}$ . Obviously,

$f$  is  $C^1$  with respect to  $(u_n, w_n)$  on  $\mathbb{N} \times B_H$  and satisfies  $f(n, 0, 0) = 0$ . Denote  $V(n, u_n, w_n) = u_n^2 + w_n^2$  and  $W_n = (u_n, w_n)^T$ . This function which satisfies  $V(n, 0, 0) \equiv 0$  is clearly positive definite on  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and is  $C^2$  along the solutions of system (4.1), and

$$V(n, u_n, w_n) \leq 2\|W_n\|^2 \quad (4.2)$$

Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta V(n, u_n, w_n) &= u_{n+1}^2 + w_{n+1}^2 - u_n^2 - w_n^2 \\ &= \left(-w_n + 2h(n)w_n \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}\right)^2 + \left(u_n - 2h(n)u_n \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}\right)^2 - u_n^2 - w_n^2 \\ &= -4h(n) \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right)^{\frac{5}{2}} + 4h^2(n) \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right)^4 \\ &= -4h(n) \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right)^{\frac{5}{2}} \left(1 - h(n) \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}\right). \end{aligned}$$

For  $(n, u_n, w_n) \in \mathbb{N} \times B_H$  and  $H = \left(\frac{5}{8}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}}$ , we obtain  $\Delta V(n, u_n, w_n) \leq 0$ , then the zero solution of system (1.1) is stable. At the same condition, we also get

$$\begin{aligned} u_{n+1}^2 + w_{n+1}^2 &= \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right) - 4h(n) \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right)^{\frac{5}{2}} + 4h^2(n) \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right)^4 \\ &\leq \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right) + 4h^2(n) \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right)^4 \\ &\leq 5 \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right), \quad \forall (u_n, w_n) \in B_1. \end{aligned}$$

Now, we calculate  $\Delta^2 V(n, u_n, w_n)$ . For  $(u_n, w_n) \in B_1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta^2 V(n, u_n, w_n) &= \Delta V(n+1, u_{n+1}, w_{n+1}) - \Delta V(n, u_n, w_n) \\ &= -4h(n+1) \left(u_{n+1}^2 + w_{n+1}^2\right)^{\frac{5}{2}} + 4h^2(n+1) \left(u_{n+1}^2 + w_{n+1}^2\right)^4 \\ &\quad + 4h(n) \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right)^{\frac{5}{2}} - 4h^2(n) \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right)^4. \end{aligned}$$

Then we get  $|\Delta^2 V(n, u_n, w_n)| \leq 8(u_{n+1}^2 + w_{n+1}^2) + 8(u_n^2 + w_n^2) \leq 48(u_n^2 + w_n^2)$ , which means that  $\Delta^2 V(n, u_n, w_n)$  is bounded on the set  $\mathbb{N} \times B_H$ . Now, we only need to verify the example whether satisfies condition (iv) of

Theorem (3.1). Denote  $\phi(r) = 2r^{\frac{5}{2}} \left(1 - r^{\frac{3}{2}}\right)$ ,  $r \in \left[0, \left(\frac{5}{8}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}}\right]$ . Then  $\phi(r)$  is a class of  $K$  function. From the

above analysis, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} |\Delta V(n, u_n, w_n)| &= 4h(n) \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right)^{\frac{5}{2}} \left(1 - h(n) \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}\right) \\ &\geq 2 \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right)^{\frac{5}{2}} \left(1 - \left(u_n^2 + w_n^2\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}\right) \geq \phi\left(\sqrt{u_n^2 + w_n^2}\right), \quad \forall (u_n, w_n) \in B_H. \end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} U(n, u_n, w_n) &= |\Delta V(n, u_n, w_n)| + |\Delta^2 V(n, u_n, w_n)| \\ &\geq |\Delta V(n, u_n, w_n)| \geq \phi\left(\sqrt{u_n^2 + w_n^2}\right), \quad \forall (u_n, w_n) \in B_H. \end{aligned}$$

Thus condition (iv) of Theorem (3.1) is fulfilled. The zero solution of Example 4.1 is asymptotical stable.



Inequation (4.2) implies that  $V(n, u_n, w_n)$  has an indefinitely small upper bound. Then the zero solution of Example 4.1 is also uniformly asymptotically stable.

We also can utilize Polar coordinate transformation to prove the above conclusion. Let  $u_n = r_n \cos \theta_n$  and  $w_n = r_n \sin \theta_n$ , then system (4.1) transforms the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} r_{n+1} \cos \theta_{n+1} &= -r_n \sin \theta_n + 2r_n^4 h(n) \sin \theta_n, \\ r_{n+1} \sin \theta_{n+1} &= r_n \cos \theta_n - 2r_n^4 h(n) \cos \theta_n. \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

The square of the first equation adding the square of the second equation in system (4.3) yields

$$r_{n+1}^2 = r_n^2 - 4h(n)r_n^5 + 4h^2(n)r_n^8.$$

Denote  $z_n = r_n^2$  and we get  $z_{n+1} = z_n - 4h(n)z_n^{\frac{5}{2}} + 4h^2(n)z_n^4$ . Under the conditions of  $0 \leq z_n \leq \left(\frac{5}{8}\right)^{\frac{4}{3}} < 1$

and  $\frac{1}{2} \leq h(n) \leq 1$ , we obtain  $z_{n+1} < z_n$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} z_n = 0$ . By Definition 3, we obtain the zero solution of the original system (4.1) is asymptotical stable and uniformly asymptotically stable. This confirm the correctness of utilizing Theorem 3.1 and Theorem 3.2 to judge Example 4.1.

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