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On the implicit function theorem in metric spaces

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Equazioni funzionali. — *On the implicit function theorem in metric spaces.* Nota di FRANCESCO S. DE BLASI, presentata (*) dal Socio G. SANSONE.

RIASSUNTO. — Si dimostra un teorema sulle funzioni implicite negli spazi metrici usando una generalizzazione, dovuta a Browder, del metodo di Picard delle approssimazioni successive. Tale teorema contiene propriamente risultati ottenuti da altri Autori, come risulta da un esempio.

1. The implicit function theorem for equations

$$(1) \quad y = f(x, y)$$

in metric (in particular in Banach) spaces has been proved, under different hypotheses, by many Authors by means of the Picard method of the successive approximations (see [1], [2], [3], [4], [6]). This same method will be used in the present Note as well. Actually we shall adapt for our aim an extension of Picard's method, which is due to Browder [5]. In this way, the existence of a unique continuous function $y(x)$ satisfying (1) is shown (see Theorem 1) under less restrictive conditions on f ; moreover an explicit estimate to the deviation of an approximating solution of (1), from the real one, is given. An example shows that Theorem 1 contains properly similar results obtained by other Authors.

2. DEFINITION 1. We denote by χ the class of all non-decreasing functions $\varphi: R^+ \rightarrow R^+$, $R^+ = [0, \infty)$, such that: (i) there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi^n(\delta) = 0$, where $\varphi^1(\delta) = \varphi(\delta)$, $\varphi^{n+1}(\delta) = \varphi(\varphi^n(\delta))$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$; (ii) $\varphi(0) = 0$ and $\varphi(r) < r$, if $0 < r \leq \delta$.

It is obvious that, if $\varphi \in \chi$ and for some $\delta > 0$ $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi^n(\delta) = 0$ then, for any $0 \leq r < \delta$, we have $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi^n(r) = 0$.

We denote by $B_1(x_0, r)$, $B_2(y_0, r)$ closed balls (of radius $r > 0$) in M_1, M_2 ($M_i, i = 1, 2$, a complete metric space).

DEFINITION 2. Let M_1, M_2 be complete metric spaces and denote by d the distance in M_2 . The function $f: M_1 \times M_2 \rightarrow M_2$ is called a φ -contraction on $B_1(x_0, r_1) \times B_2(y_0, r_2) \subset M_1 \times M_2$ if

$$d(f(x, y_1), f(x, y_2)) \leq \varphi(d(y_1, y_2)),$$

for all $(x, y_1), (x, y_2) \in B_1(x_0, r_1) \times B_2(y_0, r_2)$, where the function φ is in χ and satisfies condition (i) of Definition 1 with $\delta \geq 2r_2$.

(*) Nella seduta del 19 giugno 1973.

THEOREM 1. Suppose that the continuous function $f: B_1 \times B_2 \rightarrow M_2$, where $B_1 = B_1(x_0, k) \subset M_1$, $B_2 = B_2(y_0, k) \subset M_2$ and M_1, M_2 are complete metric spaces, satisfies the hypotheses:

- (i) f is a φ -contraction on $B_1 \times B_2$;
- (ii) $d(f(x_0, y_0), y_0) < k - \varphi(k)$.

Then there exist $0 < h \leq k$ and a unique continuous function $y: B \rightarrow B_2$, $B = B_1(x_0, h)$, satisfying

$$(2) \quad f(x, y(x)) = y(x), \quad \text{for all } x \in B.$$

Proof. By hypothesis f is continuous, so there exists $0 < h \leq k$ such that

$$d(f(x, y_0), y_0) < k - \varphi(k), \quad \text{for all } x \in B = B_1(x_0, h).$$

Define $y_1(x) = f(x, y_0)$, $x \in B$. For all $x \in B$, we have $d(y_1(x), y_0) = d(f(x, y_0), y_0) < k - \varphi(k) \leq k$. Suppose that $y_p(x) = f(x, y_{p-1}(x))$, $x \in B$, satisfies $d(y_p(x), y_0) < k$, for all $x \in B$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} d(y_{p+1}(x), y_0) &\leq d(f(x, y_p(x)), f(x, y_0)) + d(f(x, y_0), y_0) < \\ &< \varphi(d(y_p(x), y_0)) + k - \varphi(k) \end{aligned}$$

and, since φ is non-decreasing,

$$d(y_{p+1}(x), y_0) < \varphi(k) + k - \varphi(k) = k.$$

This shows that the sequence of functions $\{y_p(x)\}$, $x \in B$, is well defined. Clearly all $y_p(x)$ are continuous. Let us prove that $\{y_p(x)\}$ is a Cauchy sequence. For this purpose we shall adapt an argument of Browder [5]. For $n = 2, 3, \dots$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} c_n(x) &= \sup_{p, q \geq n} d(y_p(x), y_q(x)) = \sup_{p, q \geq n} d(f(x, y_{p-1}(x)), f(x, y_{q-1}(x))) \leq \\ &\leq \sup_{p, q \geq n-1} \varphi(d(y_p(x), y_q(x))) \leq \\ &\leq \varphi\left(\sup_{p, q \geq n-1} d(y_p(x), y_q(x))\right) = \varphi(c_{n-1}(x)). \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand, since for any $x \in B$ $y_p(x)$ and $y_q(x)$ are in B_2 , we have

$$c_1(x) = \sup_{p, q \geq 1} d(y_p(x), y_q(x)) \leq 2k.$$

From $c_n(x) \leq \varphi(c_{n-1}(x))$ and the above inequality we obtain

$$c_{n+1}(x) \leq \varphi^n(2k), \quad x \in B, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

But $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi^n(2k) = 0$. So, by virtue of the definition of $c_n(x)$, $\{y_p(x)\}$ is a Cauchy sequence and there exists a unique continuous function $y: B \rightarrow B_2$

satisfying

$$\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} y_p(x) = y(x).$$

From $y_{p+1}(x) = f(x, y_p(x))$, letting $p \rightarrow \infty$, we obtain $y(x) = f(x, y(x))$, which completes the proof of the existence part of the theorem. Let $y_1: B \rightarrow B_2$ be another continuous function satisfying (2). If, for some $x \in B$, $y(x) \neq y_1(x)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} d(y(x), y_1(x)) &= d(f(x, y(x)), f(x, y_1(x))) \leq \\ &\leq \varphi(d(y(x), y_1(x))) < d(y(x), y_1(x)). \end{aligned}$$

From the contradiction the uniqueness follows and the proof of the theorem is complete.

COROLLARY 1. *Under the hypotheses of Theorem I, the deviation $\rho_p = \sup_{x \in B} d(y_p(x), y(x))$ of an approximating solution $y_p(x)$ of (2) from the real one $y(x)$, satisfies the inequality*

$$(3) \quad \rho_p \leq \varphi^p(k) \quad p = 1, 2, \dots,$$

where $\varphi^p(k) \rightarrow 0$, as $p \rightarrow \infty$.

Proof. Since φ is non-decreasing, we have

$$d(y_p(x), y(x)) \leq \varphi(d(y_{p-1}(x), y(x))) \leq \varphi(\rho_{p-1}).$$

Hence $\rho_p \leq \varphi(\rho_{p-1})$ from which (3) follows, for $\rho_1 \leq \varphi(k)$.

Remark 1. In [5] Browder has proved a fixed point theorem for φ -contractions $f: M_2 \rightarrow M_2$ where: (a) the function $\varphi: R^+ \rightarrow R^+$ is non-decreasing, continuous on the right and such that $\varphi(r) < r$, if $r > 0$. In [6] Santoro has proved Theorem I using a particular class of φ -contractions, namely supposing that: (b) $\varphi: R^+ \rightarrow R^+$, $\varphi(0) = 0$, is a non-decreasing function such that, for some $\delta > 0$, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varphi^n(\delta)$ converges. It is clear that if φ satisfies (a) or (b), then $\varphi \in \chi$. If we define $\varphi: R^+ \rightarrow R^+$ by $\varphi(x) = 1/(n+1)$, if $x \in (1/(n+1), 1/n]$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$, $\varphi(0) = 0$, $\varphi(x) = x$, if $x > 1$, then φ is in χ and satisfies neither (a) nor (b). When in Theorem I $\varphi(r) = \alpha r$, $0 \leq \alpha < 1$, we obtain a result due to Dieudonné (see [4], p. 256).

3. In this section we shall assume that M_1, M_2, M_3 are Banach spaces. The norm in any of the spaces M_i ($i = 1, 2, 3$) will be denoted by $|\cdot|$.

THEOREM 2. *Let $f: B_1 \times B_2 \rightarrow M_3$, where $B_1 = B_1(x_0, k) \subset M_1$, $B_2 = B_2(y_0, k) \subset M_2$ and M_1, M_2, M_3 are Banach spaces, be a continuous function. Define $g: B_1 \times B_2 \rightarrow M_2$ by $g(x, y) = y + Lf(x, y)$, where L is a linear homeomorphism from M_3 onto M_2 . If*

(i) g is a φ -contraction on $B_1 \times B_2$,

(ii) $(k - \varphi(k)) |L|^{-1} > |f(x_0, y_0)|$,

then there exist $0 < h \leq k$ and a unique continuous function $y: B \rightarrow B_2$, $B = B_1(x_0, h)$, satisfying

$$(4) \quad f(x, y(x)) = 0, \quad \text{for all } x \in B,$$

where 0 is the origin in M_3 .

Proof. By hypothesis g is a φ -contraction on $B_1 \times B_2$. Moreover

$$|g(x_0, y_0) - y_0| \leq |L| |f(x_0, y_0)| < k - \varphi(k).$$

Then Theorem 1 applies and there exists a unique continuous function $y: B \rightarrow B_2$ satisfying

$$y(x) + Lf(x, y(x)) = y(x).$$

From this, since L is invertible, (4) follows and the proof of the Theorem is complete.

If we define $y_1(x) = g(x, y_0)$, $y_p(x) = g(x, y_{p-1}(x))$, $x \in B$, from Corollary 1 and Theorem 2, we have

COROLLARY 2. Under the hypotheses of Theorem 2, the deviation $\rho_p = \sup_{x \in B} d(y_p(x), y(x))$ of an approximating solution $y_p(x)$ of (4) from the real one $y(x)$, satisfies the inequality (3), where $\varphi^p(k) \rightarrow 0$ as $p \rightarrow \infty$.

COROLLARY 3. Let $f: B_2 \rightarrow B_1$ be continuous and define $g: B_1 \times B_2 \rightarrow M_2$ by $g(x, y) = y + L(f(y) - x)$, where L is a linear homeomorphism from M_1 onto M_2 . If g is a φ -contraction on $B_1 \times B_2$ and if $(k - \varphi(k)) |L|^{-1} > |f(y_0) - x_0|$, then there exist $0 < h \leq k$ and a unique continuous function $y: B_1(x_0, h) \rightarrow B_2$ such that

$$f(y(x)) = x, \quad x \in B_1(x_0, h).$$

Remark 2. The above corollary on the local invertibility of a function has been proved, under stronger hypotheses, by Pulvirenti in [3] (see also Nevanlinna [2]).

Example. Denote by $C(I)$, $I = [0, 1]$, the Banach space of all continuous functions from I to $\mathbb{R}$ and let $B = B_1(0, 1) \subset C(I)$. Suppose that $a: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $b: I \times I \times [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ and $g: [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ are continuous and such that $\|a\| < 1/2$, $\|b\| \leq 1$ and $|g(y) - g(y_1)| \leq \varphi(|y - y_1|)$, for all $|y|, |y_1| \leq 1$, where $\varphi \in \chi$ is such that $\delta \geq 2$. For any fixed $x \in B$, consider the non-linear integral equation

$$y = f(x, y) \quad \text{where} \quad f(x, y) = a(\cdot) + \int_0^1 b(\cdot, s, x(s)) g(y(s)) ds.$$

Clearly f is a continuous φ -contraction on $B \times B$. If, in particular, $g(y) = \varphi(|y|)$, where $\varphi(0) = 0$, $\varphi(u) = 1/2$ if $u \geq 1$ and $\varphi(u/(n+1)) + (1-u)/n = u/(n+2) + (1-u)/(n+1)$, $u \in [0, 1]$, $n = 1, 2, \dots$, and if b is

such that $b(t, s, x) = (1 - |x|) c(t, s)$ where $c(0, s) = 1$, then we have $\|f(0, 1/n) - f(0, 0)\| = \varphi(1/n) = 1/(n+1)$ and so neither the theorem of Dieudonné nor that of Santoro applies. However, the hypotheses of Theorem 1 are satisfied (with $x_0 = y_0 = 0$ and $k = 1$). Thus, there exist $0 < h \leq 1$ and a unique continuous function $x \rightarrow y(x)$, $x \in B(0, h)$, satisfying $y(x) = f(x, y(x))$, for all $x \in B(0, h)$. In other words, for any $x \in B(0, h)$, the given non-linear integral equation has a unique solution which is a continuous function of x .

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