

**SOME RESULTS ON EIGENVALUE PROBLEMS  
AND BEST APPROXIMATIONS**

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**ABSTRACT**

In this paper, using the Ky Fan best approximation theorem, a theorem on eigenvalue problem is proved. A few simple fixed point theorems are derived as corollaries. In the end, a random analogue of nonlinear eigenvalue problem is also given.

There are interesting results dealing with the eigenvalue problems. The well-known result on best approximation is due to Ky Fan and it has many applications in fixed point theory and approximation theory.

In this paper a solution of the nonlinear eigenvalue problem  $f(x) = \lambda gx$  is discussed. A few fixed point theorems are also derived. In the end, random fixed point theorems are used to deal with a random analogue of the nonlinear problem. We obtain a general and unifying result on best approximation and then derive a few fixed point theorems as corollaries.

We need the following preliminaries :

Let  $B_r$  denote a closed ball of radius  $r$  and centre  $0$  in a Banach space  $X$  and  $\partial B_r$  the boundary of  $B_r$ .

The following is a well-known result due to Ky Fan, known as the best approximation theorem [4].

**Theorem F :** *Let  $C$  be a nonempty compact convex subset of a Banach space  $X$  and  $f: C \rightarrow X$  a continuous function. Then there is a  $y \in C$  such that*

$$\|y - fy\| = d(fy, C) = \inf \{ \|fy - z\| : z \in C \}.$$

**Note :** In theorem *F* if  $f: C \rightarrow C$  then the well-known Schauder fixed point theorem is obtained. For further results see [9], [8], [3] and [5].

We prove the following and then derive nonlinear eigenvalue problem and fixed point theorems.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $B_r$  be a ball in a finite dimensional Banach space  $X$  and  $f, g : B_r \rightarrow X$  continuous functions. If  $hx = f(x) - \mu gx + Ix$ , where  $\mu$  is any constant and  $I$  is an identity function on  $X$  then there is  $y \in B_r$  such that

$$\|y - hy\| = d(hy, B_r).$$

**Proof :** Let  $R : X \rightarrow B_r$  be a radial retraction, that is

$$\begin{aligned} Rx &= x \text{ if } \|x\| \leq r \\ &= \frac{rx}{\|x\|} \text{ if } \|x\| \geq r. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $R$  is a continuous function.

Let  $h_1x = R.hx$ . Then  $h_1 : B_r \rightarrow B_r$  is a continuous function. By the Brouwer fixed point theorem  $h_1$  has a fixed point, say  $y \in B_r$  such that  $h_1y = y$ .

Now  $y = h_1y = R.hy = hy$  if  $\|hy\| \leq r$ , so  $y$  is a fixed point of  $h$ .

Also

$$y = h_1y = R.hy = \frac{rhy}{\|hy\|}, \text{ if } \|hy\| \geq r.$$

So

$$\|y - hy\| = 0, \text{ if } \|hy\| \leq r$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \|y - hy\| &= \left\| hy - \frac{rhy}{\|hy\|} \right\| \\ &= \|hy\| - r, \text{ if } \|hy\| \geq r. \end{aligned}$$

For any  $x \in B_r$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|y - hy\| &= \|hy\| - r \leq \|hy\| - \|x\| \\ &\leq \|x - hy\|, \end{aligned}$$

so  $\|y - hy\| \leq \|x - hy\|$  for all  $x \in B_r$ , that is,  $\|y - hy\| = d(hy, B_r)$ .

Now we give a few particular cases.

In case  $g = I$  and  $\mu = 1$  then we get the following known results in fixed point theory.

1. If in Theorem 1,  $g = I$  and  $\mu = 1$ , and  $f : B_r \rightarrow X$  a continuous function such that  $f(\partial B_r) \subset B_r$ , then  $f$  has a fixed point.

2. If in Theorem 1,  $g = I$  and  $\mu = 1$ , and  $f : B_r \rightarrow X$  is a continuous function satisfying the following :

In case  $y \neq fy$  then the line segment  $[y, fy]$  has at least two points of  $B_r$ ,

then  $f$  has a fixed point.

It is easy to see that  $f$  has a fixed point. Let  $y \neq fy$ . Then by Theorem 1 there is a  $y \in B_r$  such that  $\|y - fy\| = d(fy, B_r)$ .

Let  $z \in B_r$ . Then  $z = \lambda y + (1 - \lambda)fy$ ,  $0 < \lambda < 1$ .

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \|z - fy\| &= \|\lambda y + (1 - \lambda)fy - fy\| \\ &= \|\lambda(y - fy)\| = |\lambda| \|y - fy\| < \|y - fy\| = d(fy, B_r); \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction.

Hence  $y = fy$ .

3. If in Theorem 1,  $g = I$ ,  $\mu = 1$  and  $f : B_r \rightarrow X$  continuous function satisfying the following :

if  $y \in \partial B_r$  and  $y \neq fy$  then there is a  $\lambda$  (real or complex depending on the field selected) such that  $z = \lambda y + (1 - \lambda)fy$  and  $|\lambda| < 1$ ,

then  $f$  has a fixed point.

Indeed, as in (2) we could easily show that  $f$  has a fixed point.

The following deals with the nonlinear eigenvalue problem (see also [1]).

**Theorem 2.** If  $f, g : B_r \rightarrow X$  are continuous functions and  $\mu$  is any constant satisfying the following condition :

if for  $y \in \partial B_r$  the equation  $fy = \alpha y + \mu gy$  holds then  $\alpha \leq 0$ ,

then there is a  $y_0 \in B_r$  such that  $fy_0 = \mu gy_0$ .

**Proof :** Let  $hy = fy - \mu gy + Iy$ .

Then by Theorem 1 we have

$$\|y - hy\| = d(hy, B_r).$$

If  $y \in \partial B_r$  and  $y \neq hy$  then  $\|hy\| > r$ .

But then

$$fy - \mu gy = \alpha y$$

$$\text{or } fy - \mu gy + Iy = (\alpha + 1)y$$

will give

$$\frac{\|fy - \mu gy + Iy\|}{\|y\|} = \alpha + 1 > 1,$$

(since  $\frac{\|hy\|}{\|y\|} > 1$ ), that is,  $\alpha > 0$  contradiction.

Hence  $y = hy$ , that is,  $fy = \mu gy$ .

In case  $g = I$  an identity function then we get the following :

**Corollary 1 :** If  $f : B_r \rightarrow X$  is a continuous function, and  $\mu$  is any constant, satisfying the following : if for  $y \in \partial B_r$ , the equation  $fy = (\mu + \alpha)y$  holds for  $\alpha \leq 0$ , then  $fy = \mu y$ .

This follows from Theorem 2 by taking  $g = I$ .

**Theorem 3.** If  $f_1$  and  $g : B_r \rightarrow X$  are continuous functions and  $\mu$  is any constant satisfying the following :

if for  $y \in \partial B_r$  the equation  $f_1 y = \mu g y + \alpha y$  holds then  $\alpha \geq 0$ ,

then  $f_1 y = \mu g y$ .

**Proof :** As in Theorem 2 we have  $fy = \mu g y$  we get the result by just putting  $f_1 = 2\mu g - f$ . In this way  $f_1$  and  $g$  of Theorem 3 satisfy conditions as  $f$  and  $g$  satisfy in Theorem 2. Hence the result.

**Definition :** If  $C$  is a subset of a Banach space  $X$  then the inward set of  $C$  at  $x \in C$ , denoted by  $I_C(x)$ , is defined by

$$I_C(x) = \{z \in X : z = x + r(y - x) \text{ for } y \in C \text{ and } r > 0\}.$$

$\overline{I_C(x)}$  stands for the closure of  $I_C(x)$ . A function  $f : C \rightarrow X$  is an inward map if  $fx \in I_C(x)$  for all  $x \in C$ .

$f$  is weakly inward if  $fx \in \overline{I_C(x)}$  for every  $x \in C$ .

The outward set  $O_C(x)$  is defined as follows :

$$O_C(x) = \{z \in X : z = x + r(y - x) \text{ for } y \in C \text{ and } r < 0\}$$

For details see Browder [3] and Halpern and Bergman [5].

**Theorem 4.** Let  $B_r$  be a ball in a finite dimensional Banach space  $X$  and  $f, g : B_r \rightarrow X$  continuous functions. Then there exists a  $y \in B_r$  such that

$$\|y - hy\| = d(hy, \overline{I_{B_r}(y)})$$

where  $hy = fy - \mu g y + Iy$  and  $\mu$  is any constant.

**Proof :** By Theorem 1 there is a  $y \in B_r$  such that

$$\|y - hy\| = d(hy, B_r).$$

If  $\|y - hy\| = 0$  then  $y = hy$ . Assume that  $\|y - hy\| > 0$ . We show that  $\|y - hy\| \leq \|hy - z\|$  for all  $z \in \overline{I_{B_r}(y)}$ . Let

$x \in \overline{I_{B_r}(y)} \setminus B_r$ . Then there is a  $u \in B_r$  and  $r > 1$  such that  $x = y + r(u - y)$ .

Suppose  $\|y - hy\| > \|hy - x\|$  and seek a contradiction. Now,  $\frac{1}{r}x = \frac{1}{r}y + u - y$ , that is  $u = \frac{1}{r}x + (1 - \frac{1}{r})y \in B_r$  so

$$\begin{aligned}\|hy - u\| &= \|hy - \frac{1}{r}x - (1 - \frac{1}{r})y\| \\ &= (1 - \frac{1}{r})\|hy - y\| + \frac{1}{r}\|hy - x\| \\ &< \|hy - y\|(1 - \frac{1}{r}) + \frac{1}{r}\|hy - y\| \\ &= \|hy - y\|, \text{ a contradiction.}\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\|y - hy\| \leq \|hy - x\|$  for  $x \in \overline{I_{B_r}(y)} \setminus B_r$ .

Since norm is continuous so

$$\|y - hy\| \leq \|hy - z\| \text{ for all } z \in \overline{I_{B_r}(y)}.$$

It is easy to derive fixed point theorems as corollaries for inward maps.

The following corollary is for the nonlinear eigenvalue problems.

**Corollary 2 :** If in Theorem 4, additionally  $f$  and  $g$  satisfy the following :

if for  $y \in \partial B_r$ , the equation

$$fy = \alpha y + \mu gy$$

holds then  $\alpha \leq 0$ ,

then there is a  $y \in \overline{I_{B_r}(y)}$  such that

$$fy = \mu gy.$$

**Proof :** If we write  $hy = fy - \mu gy + y$ , then by Theorem 4

$$\|y - hy\| = d(hy, \overline{I_{B_r}(y)}).$$

If  $y \in \partial B_r$  and  $y \neq hy$  then  $\|hy\| > r$  and  $fy = \alpha y + \mu gy$  for  $\alpha \leq 0$  will lead to a contradiction. Hence

$$y = hy, \text{ that is, } fy = \mu gy.$$

Here we give a random analogue of the nonlinear eigenvalue problem.

Let  $(\Omega, \beta)$  be a measurable space with  $\beta$  a  $\sigma$ -algebra of subsets of  $\Omega$ .

A mapping  $f: \Omega \times B_r \rightarrow X$  is continuous if for each fixed  $\omega \in \Omega$ ,  $f(\omega, \cdot): B_r \rightarrow X$  is continuous.

The following random fixed point theorem, due to Sehgal and Waters [6], extends results given in [2]. We will need this theorem

in our work.

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $C$  be a compact convex subset of a Banach space  $X$ . Then a continuous random operator  $f: \Omega \times C \rightarrow C$  has a random fixed point.*

First we give a random approximation result and then we give solution to the nonlinear eigenvalue problem.

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $f: \Omega \times B_r \rightarrow X$  be a continuous random operator and  $\mu(w)$  any random constant. ( $B_r$  is a closed ball in a finite dimensional Banach space  $X$ ). Then there exists an  $x(w) \in B_r$  such that*

$$\|x(w) - f(w)\| = d(f(w), B_r).$$

**Proof :** Let  $R: X \rightarrow B_r$  be a radial retraction. Then  $g = R \circ f: B_r \rightarrow B_r$  is a continuous random operator and has a fixed point by Theorem 5 say  $x(w) = R \circ f(w)$ . Then as in Theorem 1 we get that

$$\|x(w) - f(w)\| = d(f(w), B_r).$$

We derive the following result as a corollary.

Let  $B_r$  be a ball in a finite dimensional Banach space  $X$  and  $f: \Omega \times B_r \rightarrow B_r$ . Then  $f$  has a random fixed point. In this case

$$\|x(w) - f(w)\| = d(f(w), B_r) = 0,$$

since  $f(w) \in B_r$  for all  $x \in B_r$ . So  $f(w) = x(w)$ .

Now we give the following for nonlinear eigenvalue problem.

**Theorem 7.** *Let  $f, g: \Omega \times B_r \rightarrow X$  be continuous operators and  $\mu(w)$  any random constant. Then there exists a random solution  $x(w) \in B_r$  of the equation*

$$f(w)x(w) = \mu(w)g(w)x(w)$$

provided  $f(w)$  and  $g(w)$  satisfy

(\*) if for some  $x \in \partial B_r$  the equation

$$f(w)x = \alpha x + \mu(w)g(w)x \text{ holds then } \alpha \leq 0.$$

**Proof :** Let  $h(w)x(w) = f(w)x(w) + x(w) - \mu(w)g(w)x(w)$ . Then by Theorem 4 there is an  $x(w) \in B_r$  such that

$$\|x(w) - h(w)x(w)\| = d(h(w), B_r).$$

If  $x(w) \neq h(w)x(w)$  and  $\|x(w)\| = r$  then  $\|h(w)x(w)\| \geq r$ . But then

$$f(w)x(w) - \mu(w)g(w)x(w) = (\alpha + 1)x(w),$$

that is,

$$\frac{\|f(w)x(w) - \mu(w)g(w)x(w)\|}{\|x(w)\|} = \alpha + 1 > 1,$$

a contradiction to the hypothesis that  $\alpha \leq 0$ . Hence,

$$x(w) = f(w)x(w) + x(w) - \mu(w)g(w)x(w),$$

$$\text{i.e. } f(w)x(w) = \mu(w)g(w)x(w).$$

In case  $g = I$ , an identity function, then we have the following.

**Corollary 3 :** Let  $f: \Omega \times B_r \rightarrow X$  be a continuous random operator and  $\mu(w)$  a random constant. Then there is a random solution  $x(w) \in B_r$  of the equation  $f(w)x(w) = \mu(w)x(w)$  provided the following holds : if for some  $x \in \partial B_r$  the equation

$$f(w)x(w) = \alpha x(w) + \mu(w)x(w) \text{ holds then } \alpha \leq 0.$$

**Proof :** By Theorem 4 we have

$$\|x(w) - h(w)x(w)\| = d(h(w), B_r)$$

where  $h(w)x(w) = f(w)x(w) - (\mu - 1)x(w)$ .

If  $x \in \partial B_r$  and  $f(w)x(w) \neq \mu(w)x(w)$  then  $\|x(w)\| = r$  and  $\|h(w)x(w)\| \geq r$ .

$$\text{So } h(w)x(w) = f(w)x(w) - (\mu - 1)x(w) = (\alpha + 1)x(w).$$

Hence,

$$\frac{\|h(w)x(w)\|}{\|x(w)\|} = \alpha + 1 > 1$$

contradicting the fact that  $\alpha \leq 0$  so  $f(w)x(w) = \mu(w)x(w)$ .

If  $f: X \rightarrow X$  is a continuous function and  $X$  is a Banach space. The function  $f$  is said to be densifying if  $\alpha(f(A)) < \alpha(A)$  for each bounded set  $A \subset X$  and  $\alpha(A) > 0$ . Here  $\alpha$  is the measure of noncompactness defined as

$$\alpha(A) = \inf \{ \epsilon > 0 \text{ such that } A \text{ is covered by a finite number of sets of diameter } \leq \epsilon \}.$$

If  $A$  is totally bounded then  $\alpha(A) = 0$ .

If  $\alpha(f(A)) \leq \alpha(A)$  then  $f$  is said to be 1-set contraction.

Recently Shan [8] gave the following.

**Theorem 8.** Let  $f: B_r \rightarrow X$  be a 1-set contraction map.

Suppose  $f$  satisfies the following :

\*if  $\{x_n\}$  is any sequence in  $B_r$  such that  $x_n - fx_n \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  then there exists a  $y \in B_r$  with  $y - fy = 0$ .

Then there is a  $y \in B_r$  such that

$$\|y - fy\| = d(fy, B_r).$$

This can be further extended to cover inward/outward map

and fixed points.

**Theorem 9.** Let  $f: B_r \rightarrow X$  be a 1-set contraction map satisfying the following :

if  $\{x_n\}$  is any sequence in  $B_r$  such that  $x_n - fx_n \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  then there exists a  $y \in B_r$  with  $y - fy = 0$ . Then either  $f$  has a fixed point or there exists a  $y \in B_r$  such that

$$0 < \|y - fy\| = d(fy, \overline{I_{B_r}(y)}).$$

**Proof :** By Theorem 8 we have that there is a  $y \in B_r$  such that  $\|y - fy\| = d(fy, B_r)$ .

If  $\|y - fy\| = 0$  then  $y$  is a fixed point.

Suppose  $0 < \|fy - y\|$ . Then

$$\|y - fy\| \leq \|fy - z\| \text{ for all } z \in I_{B_r}(y).$$

This follows on the same lines as of Theorem 4.

It is easy to derive fixed point theorems for inward maps and outward maps.

**Note :** If  $f: B_r \rightarrow X$  with the hypothesis of Theorem 9, an additional condition satisfies :

$$\text{if } x \in B_r, \text{ then } \|fx - x\|^2 \geq \|fx\|^2 - \|x\|^2,$$

then  $f$  has a fixed point.

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