

# On the Solution of the Linear Set-valued Homogeneous Cauchy Problem with the Hukuhara Derivative

<https://doi.org/10.31713/MCIT.2025.077>

Andrej Plotnikov

Department of Information Technology and Applied Mathematics  
Odessa State Academy of Civil Engineering and Architecture

Odessa, Ukraine

[a-plotnikov@ukr.net](mailto:a-plotnikov@ukr.net)

**Abstract**—The paper considers a linear set-valued homogeneous Cauchy problem with the Hukuhara derivative and provides its analytical solution.

**Keywords**—linear; Cauchy problem; se-valued mapping; Hukuhara derivative

## I. INTRODUCTION

As is well established, the theory of set-valued differential equations finds extensive application in control theory, the theory of differential inclusions, and fuzzy systems (see [1–6] and references therein). At first sight, such equations resemble their classical counterparts; however, their analysis and solution inevitably require explicit consideration of their set-valued character. Consequently, classical methods and approaches developed for single-valued systems cannot, in general, be applied directly to the set-valued case, thereby necessitating the development of new or adapted methodologies. Moreover, the inherent set-valued structure of these equations gives rise to distinctive properties that warrant systematic investigation.

The report presents an analytical form of the solution for a linear homogeneous differential equation with the Hukuhara derivative.

## II. PRELIMINARIES

Let  $R$  be the set of real numbers and  $R^n$  be the  $n$ -dimensional Euclidean space ( $n \geq 2$ ). Denote by  $\text{conv}(R^n)$  the set of nonempty compact and convex subsets of  $R^n$ .

For two given sets  $X, Y \in \text{conv}(R^n)$  and  $\lambda \in R$ , the Minkowski sum and scalar multiple are defined by  $X + Y = \{x + y \mid x \in X, y \in Y\}$  and  $\lambda X = \{\lambda x \mid x \in X\}$ .

The following properties hold:

- 1)  $X + Y = Y + X \in \text{conv}(R^n)$ ,  $\lambda X \in \text{conv}(R^n)$ ;
- 2) If  $\alpha\beta \geq 0$ , then  $\alpha X + \beta X = (\alpha + \beta)X$ ;
- 3)  $\lambda X + \lambda Y = \lambda(X + Y)$ .

Also, let's add one more operation: the product of a matrix with a set  $AX = \bigcup_{x \in X} Ax$ , where  $A \in R^{n \times n}$  is real matrix of size  $n \times n$  and  $X \in \text{conv}(R^n)$ .

We will list some properties of this operation:

- 1) If  $A \in R^{n \times n}$  and  $X \in \text{conv}(R^n)$ , then  $AX \in \text{conv}(R^k)$ , where  $k = \text{rank}(A)$ ;
- 2) If  $A \in R^{n \times n}$  and  $X, Y \in \text{conv}(R^n)$ , then  $AX + AY = A(X + Y)$ ;
- 3) If  $A, B \in R^{n \times n}$  and  $X \in \text{conv}(R^n)$ , then  $(A + B)X \subseteq AX + BX$ ;
- 4) If  $A \in R^{n \times n}$ ,  $X, Y \in \text{conv}(R^n)$  and  $X \subseteq Y$ , then  $AX \subseteq AY$ .

Consider the Pompeiu-Hausdorff distance  $h(\cdot, \cdot)$  given by

$$h(X, Y) = \min \{r \geq 0 \mid X \subset Y + B_r(0), Y \subset X + B_r(0)\},$$

where  $B_r(0) = \{x \in R^n \mid \|x\| \leq r\}$  is the closed ball with radius  $r$  centered at the origin ( $\|x\|$  denotes the Euclidean norm).

It is known that  $(\text{conv}(R^n), h)$  is a complete metric space. However,  $\text{conv}(R^n)$  is not a linear space since it does not contain inverse elements for the addition, and therefore difference is not well defined, i.e. if  $A \in \text{conv}(R^n)$  and  $A \neq \{0\}$ , then  $A + (-1)A \neq \{0\}$ . As a consequence, alternative formulations for difference have been suggested. One of these alternatives is the Hukuhara difference [7].

Let  $X, Y \in \text{conv}(R^n)$ . A set  $Z \in \text{conv}(R^n)$  such that  $X = Y + Z$  is called a Hukuhara difference (H-

difference) of the sets  $X$  and  $Y$  and is denoted by  $X \stackrel{H}{\sim} Y$ .

In this case  $X \stackrel{H}{\sim} X = \{0\}$  and also  $(A+B) \stackrel{H}{\sim} B = A$  for any  $A, B \in \text{conv}(R^n)$ .

Simultaneously, M. Hukuhara introduced the concept of H-differentiability [7] for set-valued mappings by using the H-difference.

**Definition 1** [7]. Let  $X : [0, T] \rightarrow \text{conv}(R^n)$  and  $t \in [0, T]$ . We say that  $X(\cdot)$  has a H-derivative  $D_H X(t) \in \text{conv}(R^n)$  at  $t \in (0, T)$ , if for all  $\Delta > 0$  that are sufficiently close to 0, the H-differences and the limits exist

$$\lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \Delta^{-1} (X(t+\Delta) \stackrel{H}{\sim} X(t)) = \lim_{\Delta \rightarrow 0} \Delta^{-1} (X(t) \stackrel{H}{\sim} X(t-\Delta)) = D_H X(t).$$

**Theorem 1** [7]. If the mapping  $X : [0, T] \rightarrow \text{conv}(R^n)$  is H-differentiable on  $[0, T]$ , then  $X(t) = X(0) + \int_0^t D_H X(s) ds$ , where the integral is understood in the sense of [7].

**Corollary 1.** If the set-valued mapping  $X(\cdot)$  is H-differentiable on  $[0, T]$ , then  $\text{diam}(X(\cdot))$  is a non-decreasing function on  $[0, T]$ .

**Corollary 2.** If the function  $\text{diam}(X(\cdot))$  is a decreasing function on  $[0, T]$ , then the set-valued mapping  $X(\cdot)$  is not H-differentiable on  $[0, T]$ .

### III. LINEAR CAUCHY PROBLEM

Now, consider the Cauchy problem

$$D_H X(t) = A(t)X(t), \quad X(0) = X_0, \quad (1)$$

where  $X : [0, T] \rightarrow \text{conv}(R^n)$  is the unknown set-valued mapping,  $A : [0, T] \rightarrow R^{n \times n}$  is a continuous matrix function and  $\det(A(t)) \neq 0$  for all  $t \in [0, T]$ .

The set-valued mapping  $X(\cdot)$  will be called the solution of the system (1) on the interval  $[0, T]$  if it is continuously and satisfies system (1) on  $[0, T]$ .

**Theorem 2.** System (1) has a unique solution of the form

$$X(t) = X_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[ \int_0^t A(\tau_k) \int_0^{\tau_k} A(\tau_{k-1}) \dots \int_0^{\tau_2} A(\tau_1) X_0 d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_k \right]$$

for all  $t \in [0, T]$ .

**Remark.** For all  $k \geq 1$  and  $t \in [0, T]$

$$\int_0^t A(\tau_k) \int_0^{\tau_k} A(\tau_{k-1}) \dots \int_0^{\tau_2} A(\tau_1) d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_k X_0 \subseteq \int_0^t A(\tau_k) \int_0^{\tau_k} A(\tau_{k-1}) \dots \int_0^{\tau_2} A(\tau_1) X_0 d\tau_1 \dots d\tau_k.$$

**Remark.** If the matrices  $A(t)$  and  $A(s)$  are commutative matrices for all  $t, s \in [0, T]$ , i.e. the equality  $A(t)A(s) = A(s)A(t)$  holds for all  $t, s \in [0, T]$ , then

$$X(t) = X_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \int_0^t \frac{\left( \int_s^t A(\tau) d\tau \right)^{k-1}}{(k-1)!} A(s) X_0 ds$$

for all  $t \in [0, T]$ .

**Remark.** If the matrix  $A(t) \equiv A$ , then

$$X(t) = X_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{A^k t^k}{k!} X_0 \right]$$

for all  $t \in [0, T]$ .

**Remark.** If the singular values of the matrix  $A$  are such that  $\sigma_1 = \dots = \sigma_n = \sigma$  and  $AX_0 = \sigma X_0$ , then

$$X(t) = e^{\sigma t} X_0$$

for all  $t \in [0, T]$ .

### REFERENCES

- [1] V. Lakshmikantham, T. Granna Bhaskar, and J. Vasundhara Devi, "Theory of set differential equations in metric spaces," Cambridge Scientific Publishers, Cambridge, 2006.
- [2] N.A. Perestyuk, V.A. Plotnikov, A.M. Samoilenko, and N.V. Skripnik, "Differential equations with impulse effects: multivalued right-hand sides with discontinuities," de Gruyter Stud. Math., vol. 40, Berlin/Boston, Walter De Gruyter GmbH & Co, 2011.
- [3] V.A. Plotnikov, A.V. Plotnikov, and A.N. Vityuk, "Differential equations with a multivalued right-hand side. Asymptotic methods," AstroPrint, Odessa, 1999.
- [4] A.V. Plotnikov and N.V. Skripnik, "Differential equations with "clear" and fuzzy multivalued right-hand side. Asymptotics methods," AstroPrint, Odessa, 2009.
- [5] A.A. Martynyuk, "Qualitative analysis of set-valued differential equations," Springer Nature, 2019. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-07644-3>
- [6] A. Tolsonogov, "Differential inclusions in a Banach space," Kluwer Publishers, Dordrecht, 2000.
- [7] M. Hukuhara, "Integration des applications mesurables dont la valeur est un compact convexe," Funkc. Ekvacioj, Ser. Int., no. 10, 1967, pp. 205–223