

**Zeitschrift:** L'Enseignement Mathématique  
**Herausgeber:** Commission Internationale de l'Enseignement Mathématique  
**Band:** 9 (1963)  
**Heft:** 1-2: L'ENSEIGNEMENT MATHÉMATIQUE

**Artikel:** ON IMPLICIT FUNCTION THEOREMS AND THE EXISTENCE OF SOLUTIONS OF NON-LINEAR EQUATIONS  
**Autor:** Ehrmann, Hans H.  
**Kapitel:** 11. COMPLETELY CONTINUOUS OPERATORS, GLOBAL EXISTENCE THEOREMS USING THE SCHAUDER FIXED POINT THEOREM.  
**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-38780>

### **Nutzungsbedingungen**

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

### **Conditions d'utilisation**

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

### **Terms of use**

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

**Download PDF:** 27.04.2026

**ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>**

*Proof of Theorem 10.3.*  $\alpha$ . Let  $u_0 \in B_1$  and  $Tu_0 = (I - V)u_0 = \omega_0$ . Then from Theorem 3.1 with  $K = I - L$  it follows that an open neighborhood of  $\omega_0$ ,  $\|\omega - \omega_0\| < a$ , exists such that (10.3) is solvable for these  $\omega$ .

$\beta$ . Let  $\tilde{w}$  be an arbitrary point of  $B_1$  and let  $u_0, \omega_0$  be as above. Then the set  $A$  of all  $\lambda$ , for which

$$Tu = \lambda \tilde{w} + (1 - \lambda) \omega_0, \quad 0 \leq \lambda \leq 1,$$

is solvable, is non-void and open with respect to  $[0, 1]$  according to  $\alpha$ .

$\lambda$ . We show that  $A$  is also closed. Let  $\lambda_n \in A, n = 1, 2, \dots$ , be a sequence which converges to  $\lambda^*$ . According to condition  $c$  the solutions  $u_n$  of  $u = Vu + \omega_n, \omega_n = \lambda_n \tilde{w} + (1 - \lambda_n) \omega_0$ , are bounded. Because of the complete continuity of  $V$  there exists a subsequence  $u_{n_i}$  such that  $Vu_{n_i}$  converges to some element  $s$  of the Banach space  $B_1$ .

Let  $\omega^* = \lambda^* \tilde{w} + (1 - \lambda^*) \omega_0$ . Then the sequence  $u_{n_i}$  converges to  $u^* = s + \omega^*$  in norm. The element  $u^*$  is a solution of the equation  $u = Vu + \omega^*$  since

$$\|u_{n_i} - Vu_{n_i} - \omega_{n_i}\| = 0 \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3, \dots,$$

and because of the continuity of the norm. Hence  $\lambda^* \in A$  and, therefore,  $A = [0, 1]$ .

#### 11. COMPLETELY CONTINUOUS OPERATORS, GLOBAL EXISTENCE THEOREMS USING THE SCHAUDER FIXED POINT THEOREM.

The previous theorems, even the global ones, are derived, roughly speaking, by applying neighborhood theorems and exhausting a domain on the boundary of which the assumptions fail to hold. Here the question suggests itself whether or not corresponding conditions in a shell near the boundary suffice for existence. This indeed is possible for equations

$$u = Vu, \tag{11.1}$$

with a completely continuous operator  $V$ . The proof of this statement uses Schauder's fixed point theorem.

**THEOREM 11.1.** Let  $V$  be a completely continuous operator mapping a domain  $D \subset B_1$  into  $B_1$  and having the following property.

There exist a point  $u_0 \in D$  and non-negative numbers  $R$  and  $C$  such that

$$\|Vu - u_0\| \leq C \quad \text{for } u \in \bar{S}(u_0, R) \subset D. \quad (11.2)$$

If  $R < C$  let the additional condition be satisfied:

There is a number  $l < 1$  such that

$$\|Vu - Vv\| \leq l \|u - v\|, \quad (11.3)$$

holds for all  $u, v$  in the shell

$$R \leq \|u - u_0\| \leq \frac{C - lR}{1 - l} = R_1 \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{S}_1 = \bar{S}(u_0, R_1) \subset D. \quad (11.4)$$

Then the equation (11.1) has at least one solution in  $\|u - u_0\| \leq R^*$  where  $R^* = R$  in the case  $C \leq R$  and  $R^* = R_1$  for  $C > R$ .

*Proof.*  $\alpha$ ) If  $C \leq R$  then  $V\bar{S} \subset \bar{S}$  and the fixed point theorem by Schauder [see 2 d] yields the existence of at least one solution  $u \in \bar{S}$ .

$\beta$ ) Now let  $C > R$ . Then obviously  $R < C \leq R_1$ . Hence  $\bar{S} \subset \bar{S}_1$ . We prove  $V\bar{S}_1 \subset \bar{S}_1$ : Let  $u \in \bar{S}_1$ ; then either  $u \in \bar{S}$  or  $u \in \bar{S}_1 - \bar{S}$ . In the first case (11.2) implies  $V\bar{S} \subset \bar{S}_1$ . In the second case  $u$  lies in the shell (11.4). We set

$$v = tu_0 + (1-t)u \quad \text{with} \quad t = 1 - \frac{R}{\|u - u_0\|}.$$

It follows that  $\|v - u_0\| = R$ . Therefore, by (11.2) and (11.3) we have

$$\|Vu - u_0\| \leq \|Vu - Vv\| + \|Vv - u_0\| \leq l \|u - v\| + C. \quad (11.5)$$

Furthermore

$$\|u - v\| = \|t(u_0 - u)\| = \|u - u_0\| - R.$$

Hence by (11.4) and (11.5)

$$\|Vu - u_0\| \leq l \|u - u_0\| - lR + C \leq \frac{C - lR}{1 - l} = R_1,$$

i.e., again  $Vu \in \bar{S}_1$ . The fixed point theorem completes the proof.

In Theorem 11.1 the estimate  $\|u - u_0\| \leq R^*$  cannot be improved, and the number  $R_1$  must not be replaced by a smaller one. This can be easily shown.

The application of Theorem 11.1 is easiest if the completely continuous operator  $V$  is so constituted that (11.3) with  $l < 1$  holds for all  $u, v$  outside a certain sphere  $S(u_0, R)$ .

Theorem 11.1 can be applied to operators of the form

$$Vu = u - (I - K)^{-1}(I - W)u = (I - K)^{-1}(W - K)u.$$

First of all, equation (11.6) shows that along with  $W$  and  $K$  the operator  $V$  is also completely continuous if  $(I - K)^{-1}$  exists, i.e., if  $K$  has not the eigenvalue 1. From this and Theorem 11.1 there follows easily

**THEOREM 11.2.** The equation

$$u = Wu,$$

with a completely continuous operator  $W$  has at least one solution if the conditions of Theorem 11.1 for the operator  $V$  in (11.6) are satisfied with a completely continuous operator  $K$  which has not the eigenvalue 1.

For this the following conditions *a)* or *b)* are sufficient:

*a)* Let  $\|(I - K)^{-1}\| = k$ . There exist non-negative numbers  $c, m < k^{-1}$ , and  $R$  such that

$$\|(W - K)u - (I - K)u_0\| \leq c \quad \text{for} \quad \|u - u_0\| \leq R,$$

and either  $ck \leq R$  or, if  $ck > R$ , then

$$\|(W - K)v - (W - K)u\| \leq m \|v - u\|,$$

for all  $u, v$  in the shell

$$R \leq \|u - u_0\| \leq \frac{k(c - mR)}{1 - km}.$$

b) Let  $\|(I - K)^{-1}\| = k$ . There exist numbers  $R$  and  $m < k^{-1}$  such that

$$\|(W - K)v - (W - K)u\| \leq m \|u - v\| \text{ if } \|u\| > R \text{ and } \|v\| > R.$$

## 12. NON-LINEAR EQUATIONS CONTAINING A LINEAR COMPLETELY CONTINUOUS SYMMETRIC OPERATOR.

As we have seen in some previous theorems, under certain general conditions, the existence of a solution of an approximating equation or the existence of a solution at all, can fail only if there is no approximating linear operator with bounded inverse or if there is not everywhere such an operator. In the cases when the operators considered are differentiable this means that the derived linear operator does not have a bounded inverse or the derived linear equation fails to have a unique and bounded solution.<sup>1)</sup> It is, therefore, important to have conditions for the existence of a bounded inverse of a corresponding linear operator.

In the case of an operator  $I - A$ , where  $A$  is completely continuous, this is equivalent<sup>2)</sup> to the fact that  $u = Au$  has only the solution  $u = \theta$ , i.e. 1 is not an eigenvalue of  $A$ . Here we deal only with such cases and assume our non-linear equation to have the form

$$u = LVu, \tag{12.1}$$

where  $L$  is a completely continuous operator and  $V$  is an (in general non-linear) operator. This is, indeed, the most usual form of non-linear equations with a completely continuous operator.

Moreover, we now consider the equation (12.1) in a Hilbert space, that is, the operator  $LV$  has its domain and range in a

1) This is, of course, typical for the "regular case" of non-linear equations.

2) See footnote 2 on page 47.