

## Research Article

# Stability and Boundedness of Solutions to a Certain Second-Order Nonautonomous Stochastic Differential Equation

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This paper focuses on stability and boundedness of certain nonlinear nonautonomous second-order stochastic differential equations. Lyapunov's second method is employed by constructing a suitable complete Lyapunov function and is used to obtain criteria, on the nonlinear functions, that guarantee stability and boundedness of solutions. Our results are new; in fact, according to our observations from the relevant literature, this is the first attempt on stability and boundedness of solutions of second-order nonlinear nonautonomous stochastic differential equations. Finally, examples together with their numerical simulations are given to authenticate and affirm the correctness of the obtained results.

## 1. Introduction

Differential equations of second-order have generated a great deal of applications in various fields of science and technology such as biology, chemistry, physics, mechanics, control technology, communication network, automatic regulation, economy, and ecology to mention few. In addition, the study of problems that involve the behaviour of solutions of ordinary differential equations (ODE), delay or functional differential equations (DDE), and stochastic differential equations (SDE) has been dealt with by many outstanding authors; see, for instance, Arnold [1], Burton [2, 3], Hale [4], Oksendal [5], Shaikhet [6], and Yoshizawa [7, 8], which contain the background to the study and the expository papers of Abou-El-Ela et al. [9, 10], Ademola et al. [11, 12], Alaba and Ogundare [13], Burton and Hatvani [14], Cahlon and Schmidt [15], Caraballo et al. [16], Domoshnitsky [17], Gikhman and Skorokhod [18, 19], Grigoryan [20], Ivanov et al. [21], Jędrzejewski and Brochard [22], Jin and Zengrong [23], Kolarova [24], Kolmanovskii and Shaikhet [25, 26], Kroopnick [27], Liu and Raffoul [28], Mao [29], Ogundare et al. [30–32], Raffoul [33], Rezaeyan and Farnoosh [34], Tunç [35–43], Wang and Zhu [44], Xianfeng and Wei [45],

Yeniçerioglu [46, 47], Yoshizawa [48], Zhu et al. [49], and the references cited therein.

The authors in [18, 19] investigated the second-order linear scalar equations of the form

$$Y_t'' + (a(t) + b(t)\eta_t)\dot{Y}_t = 0, \quad t \geq t_0, \quad (1)$$

where  $\dot{\eta}_t$  is a general disturbance process (the derivative of a martingale). In [11, 12] the authors discussed stability, boundedness, and periodic solutions to the following second-order ordinary and delay differential equations:

$$\begin{aligned} &[\phi(x(t))x'(t)]' + g(t, x(t), x'(t))x'(t) \\ &+ \varphi(t)h(x(t)) = p(t, x(t), x'(t)), \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &x''(t) \\ &+ \phi(t)f(x(t), x(t-\tau(t)), x'(t), x'(t-\tau(t))) \\ &+ g(x(t-\tau(t))) = p(t, x(t), x'(t)), \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

respectively, where  $f, g, p, h, \phi,$  and  $\varphi$  are continuous functions in their respective arguments. In their contributions, the authors in [9, 10] investigated asymptotic stability and boundedness of solutions of the following second-order stochastic delay differential equations:

$$x''(t) + ax'(t) + bx(t-h) + \sigma x(t)\omega'(t) = 0, \tag{4}$$

$$x''(t) + ax'(t) + f(x(t-h)) + \sigma x(t-\tau)\omega'(t) = 0, \tag{5}$$

$$x''(t) + g(x'(t)) + bx(t-h) + \sigma x(t)\omega'(t) = p(t, x(t), x'(t), x'(t-h)), \tag{6}$$

respectively, where  $a, b,$  and  $\sigma$  are positive constants;  $h, \tau$  are delay constants;  $f, g,$  and  $p$  are continuous functions in their respective arguments and  $w(t) \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is an  $m$ -dimensional standard Brownian motion defined on the probability space (also called Wiener process). Recently, in 2016 the authors in [43] discussed global existence and boundedness of solutions of a certain nonlinear integrodifferential equation of second-order with multiple deviating arguments

$$\begin{aligned} & [p(x(t))x'(t)]' + a(t)f(t, x(t), x'(t))x'(t) \\ & + b(t)g(t, x'(t)) + \sum_{i=1}^n c_i(t)h_i(x(t-\tau_i)) \\ & = \int_0^t c(t,s)x'(s)ds, \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

where  $\tau_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ) are positive constants,  $a, b,$  and  $c$  are defined on  $\mathbb{R}^+$ , and  $f, g, h,$  and  $p$  are continuous functions defined in their respective arguments.

Although second-order stochastic delay differential equations have started receiving attention of authors, according to our observation from relevant literature, there is no previous literature available on the stability and boundedness of solutions of second-order nonlinear nonautonomous stochastic differential equation. The aim of this paper is to bridge this gap. Consider the following second-order nonlinear nonautonomous stochastic differential equation:

$$\begin{aligned} & x''(t) + g(x(t), x'(t))x'(t) + f(x(t)) \\ & + \sigma x(t)\omega'(t) = p(t, x(t), x'(t)), \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

where  $\sigma$  is a positive constant, the functions  $g, f,$  and  $p$  are continuous in their respective arguments on  $\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R},$  and  $\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^2,$  respectively, with  $\mathbb{R} := (-\infty, \infty), \mathbb{R}^+ := [0, \infty),$  and  $\omega$  (a standard Wiener process, representing the noise) is defined on  $\mathbb{R}.$  Furthermore, it is assumed that the continuity of the functions  $g, f,$  and  $p$  is sufficient for the existence of solutions and the local Lipschitz condition for (8) to have a unique continuous solution denoted by  $(x(t), y(t)).$  The primes denote differentiation with respect to the independent

variable  $t \in \mathbb{R}^+.$  If  $x'(t) = y(t),$  then (8) is equivalent to the system:

$$\begin{aligned} & x'(t) = y(t), \\ & y'(t) = p(t, x(t), y(t)) - f(x) - g(x(t), y(t))y(t) \\ & \quad - \sigma x(t)\omega'(t), \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

where the derivative of the function  $f$  (i.e.,  $f'$ ) exists and is continuous for all  $x.$  Despite the applicability of these classes of equations, there is no previous result on nonautonomous second-order nonlinear stochastic differential equation (8). The motivation for this investigation comes from the works in [9–12, 18, 19]. If  $\sigma = 0$  in (8), then we have a general second-order nonlinear ordinary differential equation which has been discussed extensively in relevant literature. The remaining parts of this paper are organized as follows. In Section 2, we give the preliminary results on stochastic differential equations. Main results and their proofs are presented in Section 3 while examples and simulation of solutions are given in Section 4 to validate our results.

### 2. Preliminary Results

Let  $(\Omega, \mathfrak{F}, \{\mathfrak{F}_t\}_{t>0}, \mathbb{P})$  be a complete probability space with a filtration  $\{\mathfrak{F}_t\}_{t>0}$  satisfying the usual conditions (i.e., it is right continuous and  $\{\mathfrak{F}_0\}$  contains all  $\mathbb{P}$ -null sets). Let  $B(t) = (B_1(t), \dots, B_m(t))^T$  be an  $m$ -dimensional Brownian motion defined on the probability space. Let  $|\cdot|$  denotes the Euclidean norm in  $\mathbb{R}^n.$  If  $A$  is a vector or matrix, its transpose is denoted by  $A^T.$  If  $A$  is a matrix, its trace norm is denoted by

$$|A| = \sqrt{\text{trace}(A^T A)}. \tag{10}$$

For more exposition in this regard, see Mao [29] and Arnold [1]. Now let us consider a nonautonomous  $n$ -dimensional stochastic differential equation

$$dX(t) = F(t, X(t))dt + G(t, X(t))dB(t) \tag{11}$$

on  $t > 0$  with initial value  $X(0) = X_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n.$  Here  $F : \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $G : \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$  are measurable functions. Suppose that both  $F$  and  $G$  are sufficiently smooth for (11) to have a unique continuous solution on  $t \geq 0$  which is denoted by  $X(t, X_0),$  if  $X(0) = 0.$  Assume further that

$$F(t, 0) = G(t, 0) = 0 \tag{12}$$

for all  $t \geq 0.$  Then, the stochastic differential equation (11) admits zero solution  $X(t, 0) \equiv 0.$

*Definition 1* (see [1]). The zero solution of the stochastic differential equation (11) is said to be *stochastically stable* or *stable in probability*, if for every pair of  $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$  and  $r > 0,$  there exists a  $\delta_0 = \delta_0(\epsilon, r) > 0$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \Pr \{|X(t; X_0)| < r \forall t \geq 0\} \geq 1 - \epsilon \\ & \text{whenever } |X_0| < \delta_0. \end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

Otherwise, it is said to be *stochastically unstable*.

**Definition 2** (see [1]). The zero solution of the stochastic differential equation (11) is said to be *stochastically asymptotically stable* if it is stochastically stable and in addition if for every  $\epsilon \in (0, 1)$  and  $r > 0$ , there exists a  $\delta = \delta(\epsilon) > 0$  such that

$$\Pr \left\{ \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} X(t; X_0) = 0 \right\} \geq 1 - \epsilon \quad \text{whenever } |X_0| < \delta. \quad (14)$$

**Definition 3.** A solution  $X(t_0, X_0)$  of the stochastic differential equation (11) is said to be *stochastically bounded* or *bounded in probability*, if it satisfies

$$E^{X_0} \|X(t, X_0)\| \leq C(t_0, \|X_0\|), \quad \forall t \geq t_0, \quad (15)$$

where  $E^{X_0}$  denotes the expectation operator with respect to the probability law associated with  $X_0$ ,  $C : \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\mathbb{R}^+$  is a constant depending on  $t_0$  and  $X_0$ .

**Definition 4.** The solutions  $X(t_0, X_0)$  of the stochastic differential equation (11) are said to be *uniformly stochastically bounded* if  $C$  in inequality (15) is independent of  $t_0$ .

For  $h > 0$ , let  $U_h = \{X \in \mathfrak{R}^n : |X| < h\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  and let  $C^{1,2}(U_h \times \mathbb{R}^+, \mathbb{R}^+)$  denote the family of all nonnegative functions  $V(t, X(t))$  (Lyapunov function) defined on  $\mathbb{R}^+ \times U_h$  which are twice continuously differentiable in  $X$  and once in  $t$ . By Itô's formula we have

$$dV(t, X(t)) = LV(t, X(t)) dt + V_x(t, X(t)) G(t, X(t)) dB(t), \quad (16)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} LV(t, X(t)) &= \frac{\partial V(t, X(t))}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial V(t, X(t))}{\partial x_i} F(t, X(t)) \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \text{trace} \left[ G^T(t, X(t)) V_{xx}(t, X(t)) G(t, X(t)) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

Furthermore,

$$V_{xx}(t, X(t)) = \left( \frac{\partial^2 V(t, X(t))}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right)_{n \times n}, \quad i, j = 1, \dots, n. \quad (18)$$

In this study we will use the diffusion operator  $LV(t, X(t))$  defined in (17) to replace  $V'(t, X(t)) = (d/dt)V(t, X(t))$ . We now present the basic results that will be used in the proofs of the main results.

**Lemma 5** (see [1]). Assume that there exist  $V \in C^{1,2}(\mathbb{R}^+ \times U_h, \mathbb{R}^+)$  and  $\phi \in \mathbb{K}$  such that

- (i)  $V(t, 0) = 0$ ;
- (ii)  $V(t, X(t)) > \phi(\|X(t)\|)$ ;
- (iii)  $LV(t, X(t)) \leq 0$  for all  $(t, X) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times U_h$ .

Then the zero solution of stochastic differential equation (11) is stochastically stable.

**Lemma 6** (see [1]). Suppose that there exist  $V \in C^{1,2}(\mathbb{R}^+ \times U_h, \mathbb{R}^+)$  and  $\phi_0, \phi_1, \phi_2 \in \mathbb{K}$  such that

- (i)  $V(t, 0) = 0$ ;
- (ii)  $\phi_0(\|X(t)\|) \leq V(t, X(t)) \leq \phi_1(\|X(t)\|)$ ,  $\phi_0(r) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ ;
- (iii)  $LV(t, X(t)) \leq -\phi_2(\|X(t)\|)$  for all  $(t, X) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times U_h$ .

Then the zero solution of stochastic differential equation (11) is uniformly stochastically asymptotically stable in the large.

**Assumption 7** (see [28, 33]). Let  $V \in C^{1,2}(\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n; \mathbb{R}^+)$ , and suppose that for any solutions  $X(t_0, X_0)$  of stochastic differential equation (11) and for any fixed  $0 \leq t_0 \leq T < \infty$ , we have

$$E^{X_0} \left\{ \int_{t_0}^T V_{x_i}^2(t, X(t)) G_{ik}^2(t, X(t)) dt \right\} < \infty, \quad (19)$$

$$1 \leq i \leq n, \quad 1 \leq k \leq m.$$

**Assumption 8** (see [28, 33]). A special case of the general condition (19) is the following condition. Assume that there exists a function  $\sigma(t)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} |V_{x_i}(t, X(t)) G_{ik}(t, X(t))| &< \sigma(t), \\ X \in \mathbb{R}^n \quad 1 \leq i \leq n, \quad 1 \leq k \leq m, \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

and for any fixed  $0 \leq t_0 \leq T < \infty$ ,

$$\int_{t_0}^T \sigma^2(t) dt < \infty. \quad (21)$$

**Lemma 9** (see [28, 33]). Assume there exists a Lyapunov function  $V(t, X(t)) \in C^{1,2}(\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n; \mathbb{R}^+)$ , satisfying Assumption 7, such that, for all  $(t, X) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

- (i)  $\|X(t)\|^p \leq V(t, X(t)) \leq \|X(t)\|^q$ ,
- (ii)  $LV(t, X(t)) \leq -\alpha(t)\|X(t)\|^r + \beta(t)$ ,
- (iii)  $V(t, X(t)) - V^{r/q}(t, X(t)) \leq \gamma$ ,

where  $\alpha, \beta \in C(\mathbb{R}^+; \mathbb{R}^+)$ ,  $p, q$ , and  $r$  are positive constants,  $p \geq 1$ , and  $\gamma$  is a nonnegative constant. Then all solutions of the stochastic differential equation (11) satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} E^{X_0} \|X(t, X_0)\| &\leq \left\{ V(t_0, X_0) e^{-\int_{t_0}^t \alpha(s) ds} \right. \\ &\left. + \int_{t_0}^t (\gamma \alpha(u) + \beta(u)) e^{-\int_u^t \alpha(s) ds} du \right\}^{1/p}, \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

for all  $t \geq t_0$ .

**Lemma 10** (see [28, 33]). Assume there exists a Lyapunov function  $V(t, X(t)) \in C^{1,2}(\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n; \mathbb{R}^+)$ , satisfying Assumption 7, such that, for all  $(t, X) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

- (i)  $\|X(t)\|^p \leq V(t, X(t))$ ,
- (ii)  $LV(t, X(t)) \leq -\alpha(t)V^q(t, X(t)) + \beta(t)$ ,
- (iii)  $V(t, X(t)) - V^q(t, X(t)) \leq \gamma$ ,

where  $\alpha, \beta \in C(\mathbb{R}^+; \mathbb{R}^+)$ ,  $p, q$  are positive constants,  $p \geq 1$ , and  $\gamma$  is a nonnegative constant. Then all solutions of the stochastic differential equation (11) satisfy (22) for all  $t \geq t_0$ .

**Corollary 11** (see [28, 33]). (i) Assume that hypotheses (i) to (iii) of Lemma 9 hold. In addition,

$$\int_{t_0}^t (\gamma\alpha(u) + \beta(u)) e^{-\int_u^t \alpha(s) ds} du \leq M, \quad \forall t \geq t_0 \geq 0, \quad (23)$$

for some positive constant  $M$ ; then all solutions of stochastic differential equation (11) are uniformly stochastically bounded.

(ii) Assume that hypotheses (i) to (iii) of Lemma 10 hold. If condition (23) is satisfied, then all solutions of the stochastic differential equation (11) are stochastically bounded.

### 3. Main Results

Let  $(x(t), y(t))$  be any solution of the stochastic differential equation (9); the main tool employed in the proofs of our results is the continuously differentiable function  $V = V(t, x(t), y(t))$  defined as

$$2V = b^2x^2 + by^2 + 2xf(x) + (ax + y)^2, \quad (24)$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are positive constants and the function  $f$  is as defined in Section 1.

**Theorem 12.** Suppose that  $a, b, \sigma$ , and  $M_0$  are positive constants such that

- (i)  $a \leq g(x, y)$  for all  $x$  and  $y$ ,
- (ii)  $bx \leq f(x) \leq Bx$  for all  $x \neq 0$  and  $\sigma^2 < 2ab(b + 1)^{-1}$ ,
- (iii)  $|p(t, x, y)| \leq M_0$  for all  $t \geq 0, x$  and  $y$ .

Then solution  $(x(t), y(t))$  of the stochastic differential equation (9) is uniformly stochastically bounded.

*Remark 13.* We note the following:

- (i) Whenever the functions  $g(x, x') = a, f(x) = bx$  and  $\omega' = p(t, x, x') = 0$ , then the stochastic differential equation (8) becomes a second-order linear ordinary differential equation

$$x'' + ax' + bx = 0, \quad (25)$$

and conditions (i) to (iii) of Theorem 12 reduce to Routh Hurwitz criteria  $a > 0$  and  $b > 0$  for the asymptotic stability of the second-order linear differential equation (25).

- (ii) The term  $\sigma x(t)\omega'(t)$  in the stochastic differential equation (8) is an extension of the ordinary case discussed recently by authors in [11, 18, 23, 31, 32, 35–37, 40].

We shall now state and prove a result that will be used in the proofs of our results.

**Lemma 14.** Under the hypotheses of Theorem 12, there exist positive constants  $D_0 = D_0(a, b)$  and  $D_1 = D_1(a, b, B)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} D_0(x^2(t) + y^2(t)) &\leq V(t, x(t), y(t)) \\ &\leq D_1(x^2(t) + y^2(t)), \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

for all  $t \geq 0, x$ , and  $y$ . In addition, there exist positive constants  $D_2 = D_2(a, b, \sigma)$  and  $D_3 = D_3(a, b)$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} LV(t, x(t), y(t)) &\leq -D_2(x^2(t) + y^2(t)) \\ &\quad + D_3(|x(t)| + |y(t)|) |p(t, x(t), y(t))|, \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

for all  $t \geq 0, x$ , and  $y$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(x(t), y(t))$  be any solution of the stochastic differential equation (9); since  $X = (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , it follows from (24) that

$$V(t, 0, 0) = 0, \quad (28)$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ . Moreover, from (24) and the fact that  $f(x) \geq ax$  for all  $x \neq 0$ , there exists a positive constant  $\delta_0$  such that

$$V(t, X) \geq \delta_0(x^2 + y^2), \quad (29)$$

for all  $t \geq 0, x$ , and  $y$ , where

$$\delta_0 := \min \{b^2 + 2b + \min \{a, 1\}, b + \min \{a, 1\}\}. \quad (30)$$

It is clear from inequality (29) that

$$V(t, X) = 0 \iff x^2 + y^2 = 0, \quad (31)$$

$$V(t, X) > 0 \iff x^2 + y^2 \neq 0,$$

$$V(t, X) \longrightarrow +\infty \text{ as } x^2 + y^2 \longrightarrow \infty. \quad (32)$$

Furthermore, since  $f(x) \leq Bx$  for all  $x \neq 0$ , it follows from (24) that there exists a positive constant  $\delta_1$  such that

$$V(t, X) \leq \delta_1(x^2 + y^2), \quad (33)$$

for all  $t \geq 0, x$ , and  $y$ , where

$$\delta_1 := \max \{b^2 + 2B + \max \{a, 1\}, b + \max \{a, 1\}\}. \quad (34)$$

From inequalities (29) and (33), we have

$$\delta_0(x^2 + y^2) \leq V(t, X) \leq \delta_1(x^2 + y^2), \quad (35)$$

for all  $t \geq 0, x$ , and  $y$ . It is not difficult to see that estimates (35) satisfy inequalities (26) of Lemma 14 with  $\delta_0$  and  $\delta_1$  equivalent to  $D_0$  and  $D_1$ , respectively.

Moreover, applying Itô's formula in (24) using system (9), we find that

$$\begin{aligned}
 LV(t, X) &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ a \frac{f(x)}{x} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 (b+1) \right] x^2 \\
 &\quad - \frac{1}{2} [(b+1)g(x, y) - a] y^2 - W_i \\
 &\quad + [ax + (b+1)y] p(t, x, y), \tag{36} \\
 &\hspace{15em} (i = 1, 2),
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 W_1 &:= \frac{1}{4} \left\{ \left[ a \frac{f(x)}{x} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 (b+1) \right] x^2 \right. \\
 &\quad + 4 [ag(x, y) - (a^2 + b^2)] xy \\
 &\quad \left. + [(b+1)g(x, y) - a] y^2 \right\}, \\
 W_2 &:= \frac{1}{4} \left\{ \left[ a \frac{f(x)}{x} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 (b+1) \right] x^2 \right. \\
 &\quad + 4 \left[ a \frac{f(x)}{x} - f'(x) \right] xy \\
 &\quad \left. + [(b+1)g(x, y) - a] y^2 \right\}. \tag{37}
 \end{aligned}$$

It is clear from the inequalities

$$\begin{aligned}
 &4 [ag(x, y) - (a^2 + b^2)]^2 \\
 &< \left[ a \frac{f(x)}{x} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 (b+1) \right] [(b+1)g(x, y) - a], \\
 &4 \left[ a \frac{f(x)}{x} - f'(x) \right] \\
 &< \left[ a \frac{f(x)}{x} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 (b+1) \right] [(b+1)g(x, y) - a] \tag{38}
 \end{aligned}$$

that

$$\begin{aligned}
 W_1 = W_2 &\geq \left[ \sqrt{a \frac{f(x)}{x} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 (b+1)} |x| \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - \sqrt{(b+1)g(x, y) - a} |y| \right]^2 \geq 0, \tag{39}
 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x$  and  $y$ . Using inequality (39) and hypotheses (i) and (ii) of Theorem 12 in (36), there exist positive constants  $\delta_2$  and  $\delta_3$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}
 LV(t, X) &\leq -\delta_2 (x^2 + y^2) \\
 &\quad + \delta_3 (|x| + |y|) |p(t, x, y)|, \tag{40}
 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ ,  $x$ , and  $y$ , where

$$\begin{aligned}
 \delta_2 &:= \frac{1}{2} \min \left\{ ab - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 (b+1), ab \right\}, \\
 \delta_3 &:= \max \{a, b + 1\}. \tag{41}
 \end{aligned}$$

Inequality (40) satisfies inequality (27) with  $\delta_2$  and  $\delta_3$  equivalent to  $D_2$  and  $D_3$ , respectively. This completes the proof of Lemma 14.  $\square$

*Proof of Theorem 12.* Let  $(x(t), y(t))$  be any solution of system (9). From inequality (40) and assumption (iii) of Theorem 12, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 LV(t, X) &\leq -\frac{1}{2} \delta_2 (x^2 + y^2) \\
 &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \delta_2 M_0 \left[ (|x| - \delta_2^{-1} \delta_3)^2 + (|y| - \delta_2^{-1} \delta_3)^2 \right] \\
 &\quad + M_0 \delta_2^{-1} \delta_3^2, \tag{42}
 \end{aligned}$$

for  $t \geq 0$ ,  $x$ , and  $y$ . Since  $\delta_2, \delta_3$ , and  $M_0$  are positives and

$$(|x| - \delta_2^{-1} \delta_3)^2 + (|y| - \delta_2^{-1} \delta_3)^2 \geq 0, \tag{43}$$

for all  $x$  and  $y$ , there exist positive constants  $\delta_4$  and  $\delta_5$  such that

$$LV(t, X) \leq -\delta_4 (x^2 + y^2) + \delta_5, \tag{44}$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ ,  $x, y$ , where  $\delta_4 := (1/2)\delta_2$  and  $\delta_5 := M_0 \delta_2^{-1} \delta_3^2$ . Hence, condition (ii) of Lemma 9 is satisfied with  $\alpha(t) := \delta_4$ ,  $r := 2$  and  $\beta(t) := \delta_5$ . Also from inequality (35), hypotheses (i) and (iii) of Lemma 9 hold with  $p = q = 2$  so that  $\gamma = 0$ .

Furthermore, from inequality (23) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\int_{t_0}^t \left[ (\gamma \alpha(u) + \beta(u)) e^{-\delta_4 \int_u^t \alpha(s) ds} \right] du \\
 &= \int_{t_0}^t \delta_5 e^{-\delta_4 \int_u^t ds} du = \delta_4^{-1} \delta_5 \left[ 1 - e^{-\delta_4 (t-t_0)} \right] \\
 &\leq \delta_4^{-1} \delta_5, \tag{45}
 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $t \geq t_0 \geq 0$ . Inequality (45) satisfies estimate (23) with  $M := \delta_4^{-1} \delta_5 = 2M_0 \delta_2^{-2} \delta_3^2 > 0$ . Moreover, from (9) and (24) there exists a positive constant  $\delta_6$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}
 &|V_{x_i}(t, X) G_{ik}(t, X)| \\
 &\leq \frac{1}{2} \sigma \left[ (2a + b + 1) x^2 + (b + 1) y^2 \right] \\
 &\leq \delta_6 (x^2 + y^2) := \lambda(t), \tag{46}
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\delta_6 := \frac{1}{2} \sigma \max \{2a + b + 1, b + 1\}. \tag{47}$$

Also,

$$\int_{t_0}^T \delta_6^2 (x^2(t) + y^2(t))^2 dt < \infty, \tag{48}$$

for any fixed  $0 \leq t_0 \leq T < \infty$ . Thus, from inequalities (46) and (48) estimates (20) and (21) hold, respectively. Finally, from inequalities (33) and (45), we have

$$E^{X_0} \|X(t, X_0)\| \leq (\delta_1 X_0^2 + 2M_0 \delta_2^{-2} \delta_3^2)^{1/2}, \tag{49}$$

for all  $t \geq t_0 \geq 0$ , where  $X_0 := (x_0^2 + y_0^2)$  and  $C := \delta_1$ . Thus, the solutions  $(x(t), y(t))$  of the stochastic differential equation (9) are uniformly stochastically bounded.  $\square$

**Theorem 15.** *If assumptions of Theorem 12 hold, then the solution  $(x(t), y(t))$  of the stochastic differential equation (9) is stochastically bounded.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $(x(t), y(t))$  is any solution of the stochastic differential equation (9). From inequalities (33) and (44) there exists a positive constant  $\delta_7$  such that

$$LV(t, X) \leq -\delta_7 V(t, X) + \delta_5 \tag{50}$$

for all  $t \geq 0, x, \text{ and } y$ , where  $\delta_7 := \delta_1^{-1} \delta_4$ . Hence, from inequalities (29) and (50) hypotheses of Lemma 10 hold. Moreover, from inequalities (45), (46), (48), and (49) assumption (ii) of Corollary 11 holds. Thus, by Corollary 11, all solutions of the stochastic differential equation (9) are stochastically bounded. This completes the proof of Theorem 15.  $\square$

Next, we shall discuss the stability of the trivial solution of the stochastic differential equation (8). Suppose that  $p(t, x, x') = 0$ , (8) specializes to

$$\begin{aligned} x''(t) + g(x(t), x'(t))x'(t) + f(x(t)) \\ + \sigma x(t)\omega'(t) = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{51}$$

Equation (51) has the following equivalent system:

$$\begin{aligned} x'(t) &= y(t), \\ y'(t) &= -f(x) - g(x(t), y(t))y(t) - \sigma x(t)\omega'(t), \end{aligned} \tag{52}$$

where the functions  $f, g$ , and  $\omega$  are defined in Section 1.

**Theorem 16.** *If assumptions (i) and (ii) of Theorem 12 hold, then the trivial solution of the stochastic differential equation (52) is stochastically stable.*

*Proof.* Let  $(x(t), y(t))$  be any solution of the stochastic differential equation (52). From equation (28) and estimate (29) assumptions (i) and (ii) of Lemma 5 hold so that the function  $V(t, X)$  is positive definite. Furthermore, using Itô's formula along the solution path of (52), we obtain

$$LV(t, X) \leq -\delta_2 (x^2(t) + y^2(t)) \leq 0, \tag{53}$$

for all  $t \geq 0, x, \text{ and } y$ , where  $\delta_2$  is defined in (40). Inequality (53) satisfies hypothesis (iii) of Lemma 5; hence, by Lemma 5 the trivial solution of the stochastic differential equation (52) is stochastically stable. This completes the proof of Theorem 16.  $\square$

**Theorem 17.** *If assumptions (i) and (ii) of Theorem 12 hold, then the trivial solution of the stochastic differential equation (52) is not only uniformly stochastically asymptotically stable, but also uniformly stochastically asymptotically stable in the large.*

*Proof.* Let  $(x(t), y(t))$  be any solution of the stochastic differential equation (52). In view of (28) and estimate (29), the function  $V(t, X)$  is positive definite. Furthermore, estimate (32) and inequality (33) show that the function  $V(t, X)$  is radially unbounded and decrescent, respectively. It follows from (28), estimate (32), inequality (35), and the first inequality in (53) that all assumptions of Lemma 6 hold. Thus, by Lemma 6 the trivial solution of the stochastic differential equation (52) is uniformly stochastically asymptotically stable in the large. If estimate (32) is omitted then the trivial solution of the stochastic differential equation (52) is uniformly stochastically asymptotically stable. This completes the proof of Theorem 17.  $\square$

Next, if the function  $p(t, x, x')$  is replaced by  $p(t) \in C(\mathbb{R}^+, \mathbb{R}^+)$ , we have the following special case:

$$\begin{aligned} x''(t) + g(x(t), x'(t))x'(t) + f(x(t)) \\ + \sigma x(t)\omega'(t) = p(t), \end{aligned} \tag{54}$$

of (8). Equation (54) has the following equivalent system:

$$\begin{aligned} x'(t) &= y(t), \\ y'(t) &= p(t) - f(x) - g(x(t), y(t))y(t) \\ &\quad - \sigma x(t)\omega'(t), \end{aligned} \tag{55}$$

with the following result.

**Corollary 18.** *If assumptions (i) and (ii) of Theorem 12 hold and hypothesis (iii) is replaced by the boundedness of the function  $p(t)$ , then the solutions  $(x(t), y(t))$  of the stochastic differential equation (55) are not only stochastically bounded but also uniformly stochastically bounded.*

*Proof.* The proof of Corollary 18 is similar to the proof of Theorems 12 and 15. This completes the proof of Corollary 18.  $\square$

### 4. Examples

In this section we shall present two examples to illustrate the applications of the results we obtained in the previous section.

*Example 1.* Consider the second-order nonlinear nonautonomous stochastic differential equation

$$\begin{aligned} x'' + (3 + |\cos(xx')|)x' + x + \sin x + 0.1x\omega'(t) \\ = (1 + 2t + |xx'|)^{-1}. \end{aligned} \tag{56}$$

Equation (56) is equivalent to system

$$\begin{aligned} x' &= y, \\ y' &= (1 + 2t + |xy|)^{-1} - (x + \sin x) \\ &\quad - [3 + |\cos(xy)|] y - 0.1x\omega'(t). \end{aligned} \tag{57}$$

Now from systems (9) and (57) we have the following relations:

(i) The function

$$g(x, y) := 3 + |\cos(xy)|. \tag{58}$$

Noting that

$$|\cos(xy)| \geq 0 \tag{59}$$

for all  $x$  and  $y$ , it follows that

$$g(x, y) = 3 + |\cos(xy)| \geq a = 3, \tag{60}$$

for all  $x$  and  $y$ . The behaviour of the function  $g(x, y)$  is shown below in Figure 1.

(ii) The function

$$f(x) := x + \sin x. \tag{61}$$

Since

$$-0.2 \leq F(x) = \frac{\sin x}{x} \leq 1 \tag{62}$$

for all  $x \neq 0$ , then we have

$$1 = b \leq \frac{f(x)}{x} = 1 + \frac{\sin x}{x} \leq B = 2, \tag{63}$$

for all  $x \neq 0$  and since  $\sigma := 0.1$  it follows that  $\sigma^2 < 2ab(b + 1)^{-1}$  implies that  $0 < 2.99$ . The function  $f(x)/x$  and its bounds are shown in Figure 2.

(iii) The function

$$p(t, x, y) := \frac{1}{1 + 2t + |xy|}. \tag{64}$$

Clearly,

$$|p(t, x, y)| = \frac{1}{1 + 2t + |xy|} \leq 1 = M_0, \tag{65}$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ ,  $x$ , and  $y$ .

Now from items (i), (ii) above and (24), the continuously differentiable function  $V(t, X)$  used for system (57) is

$$2V(t, X) = 3x^2 + y^2 + (3x + y)^2. \tag{66}$$

Different views of the function  $V(t, X)$  are shown in Figure 3. From (66), it is not difficult to show that

$$(x^2 + y^2) \leq V(t, X) \leq 3(x^2 + y^2), \tag{67}$$

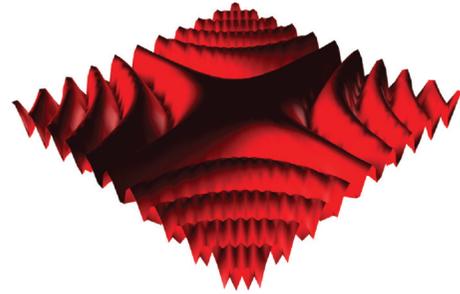


FIGURE 1: Behaviour of the function  $g(x, y)$ .

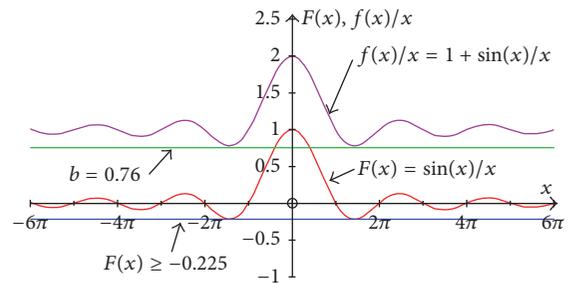


FIGURE 2: Bounds on the function  $f(x)/x$ .

for all  $t \geq 0$ ,  $x$ , and  $y$ . From (35) and (67) we have  $\delta_0 = 1$ ,  $\delta_1 = 3$ ,  $p = 2$ , and  $q = 2$ , and thus, inequalities (67) satisfy condition (i) of Lemma 9. Also, from the first inequality in (67), we have

$$V(t, X) \longrightarrow +\infty \text{ as } x^2 + y^2 \longrightarrow \infty. \tag{68}$$

Estimate (68) verifies (32) (i.e., the function  $V(t, X)$  defined by (66) is radially unbounded). Next, applying Itô's formula in (66) using system (57), we find that

$$\begin{aligned} LV(t, X) &= 12xy + 3y^2 - x(3x + 2y) \left(1 + \frac{\sin x}{x}\right) \\ &\quad - y(3x + 2y)(3 + |\cos(xy)|) + \frac{1}{100}x^2 \\ &\quad - \frac{x}{10}(3x + 2y) \\ &\quad + (3x + 2y)(1 + 2t + |xy|)^{-1}. \end{aligned} \tag{69}$$

Using the estimates in items (i) to (iii) of Example 1 and the inequality  $2x_1x_2 \leq x_1^2 + x_2^2$  in (69), we obtain

$$LV(t, X) \leq -2.9(x^2 + y^2) + 3(|x| + |y|), \tag{70}$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ ,  $x$ , and  $y$ . Inequality (70) satisfies inequality (40) where  $\delta_2 = 2.9$  and  $\delta_3 = 3$ . Since

$$(|x| - 1.05)^2 + (|y| - 1.05)^2 \geq 0, \tag{71}$$

for all  $x$  and  $y$ , it follows from inequality (70) that

$$LV(t, X) \leq -1.45(x^2 + y^2) + 3.2, \tag{72}$$

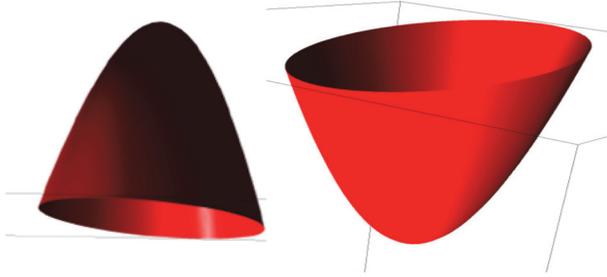


FIGURE 3: The behaviour of the function  $V(t, X)$ .

for all  $t \geq 0, x,$  and  $y$ . Inequality (72) satisfies assumption (ii) of Lemma 9 and estimate (44) with  $\alpha(t) = \delta_4 = 1.45$  and  $\beta(t) = \delta_5 = 3.2$ . Since  $r = p = q = 2$ , it follows that  $\gamma = 0$ , so that assumption (iii) of Lemma 9 holds. In addition,

$$\int_{t_0}^t \left[ (\gamma\alpha(u) + \beta(u)) e^{-\int_u^t \alpha(s) ds} \right] du \leq 1.6, \quad (73)$$

for all  $t \geq t_0 \geq 0$ . Estimate (73) satisfies (23) and (45), with  $M = 2.6$ . Furthermore,

$$V_{x_i}(t, X) G_{ik}(t, X) = -\frac{1}{10} (3x^2 + 2xy), \quad (74)$$

and

$$\left| V_{x_i}(t, X) G_{ik}(t, X) \right| \leq \frac{2}{5} (x^2 + y^2), \quad (75)$$

for all  $t \geq 0, x,$  and  $y$ . Inequality (75) satisfies inequalities (20) and (21) with

$$\lambda(t) = \frac{2}{5} (x^2 + y^2). \quad (76)$$

Hence, by Corollary 11 (i), all solutions of stochastic differential equation (57) are uniformly stochastically bounded.

*Example 2.* If  $p(t, x, x') = p(t, x, y) = 0$  in (56) and system (57), we have the following stochastic differential equation:

$$\begin{aligned} x'' + (3 + |\cos(x x')|) x' + x + \sin x + 0.1x\omega'(t) \\ = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (77)$$

Equation (77) is equivalent to system

$$\begin{aligned} x' &= y, \\ y' &= -(x + \sin x) - [3 + |\cos(xy)|] y - 0.1x\omega'(t). \end{aligned} \quad (78)$$

Now from systems (52) and (78) items (i) and (ii) of Example 1 hold. Also, equations (66), (67) and estimate (68) hold: that is,

$$\begin{aligned} 2V(t, X) &= 3x^2 + y^2 + (3x + y)^2, \\ V(t, 0) &= 0, \quad \forall t \geq 0; \\ (x^2 + y^2) &\leq V(t, X) \leq 3(x^2 + y^2) \quad \forall t \geq 0, x, y, \end{aligned} \quad (79)$$

$$V(t, X) \rightarrow +\infty \quad \text{as } x^2 + y^2 \rightarrow \infty.$$

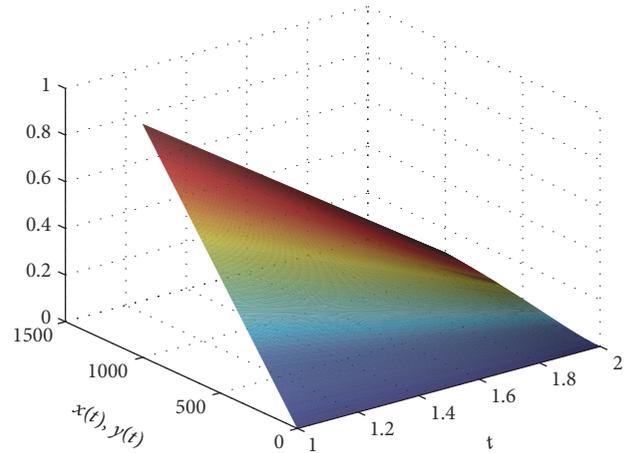
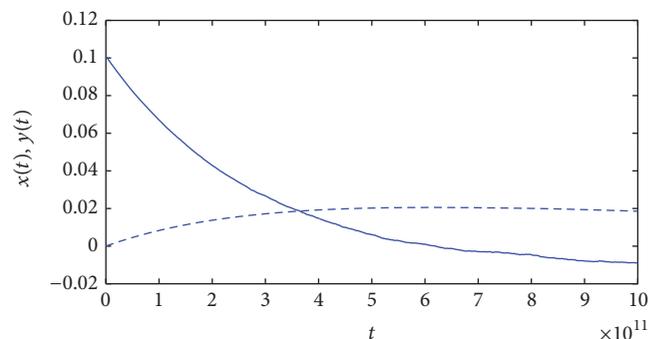
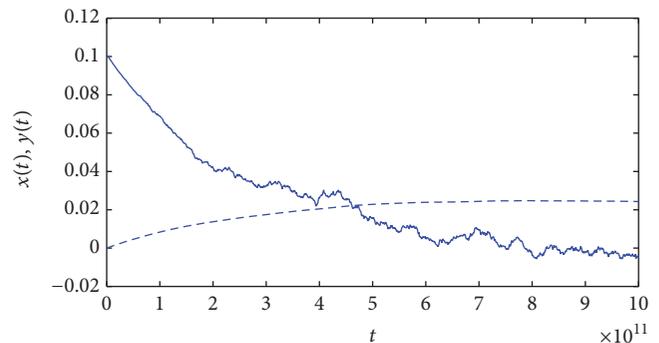


FIGURE 4: Graph of solutions of (56) in 3D.



---  $x(t)$   
—  $y(t)$

(a)



---  $x(t)$   
—  $y(t)$

(b)

FIGURE 5

Furthermore, application of Itô's formula in (66) and using system (78) yield

$$LV(t, X) \leq -2.9(x^2 + y^2), \quad (80)$$

for all  $t \geq 0, x, y$  and thus

$$LV(t, X) \leq 0, \quad (81)$$

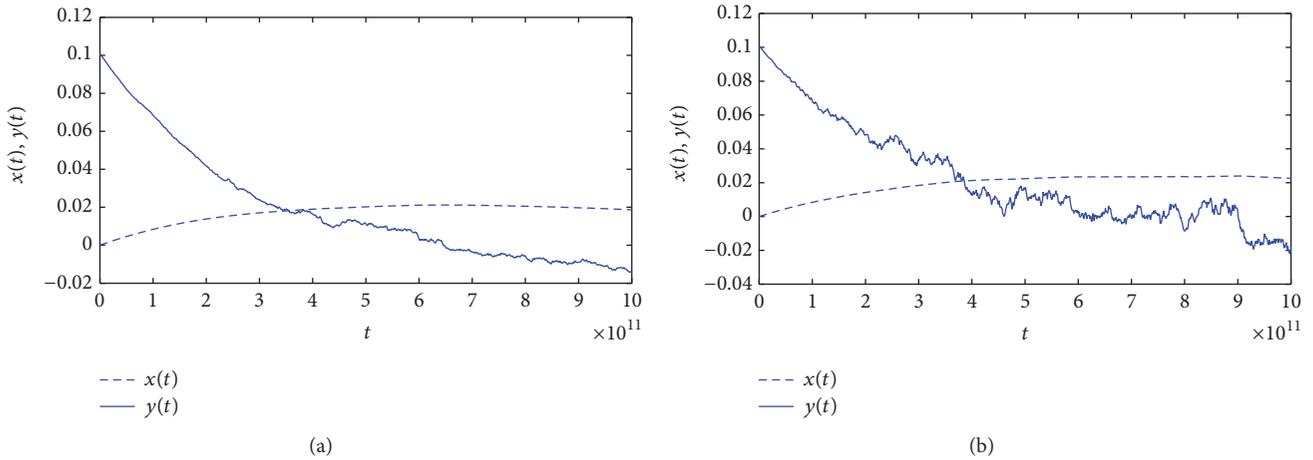


FIGURE 6

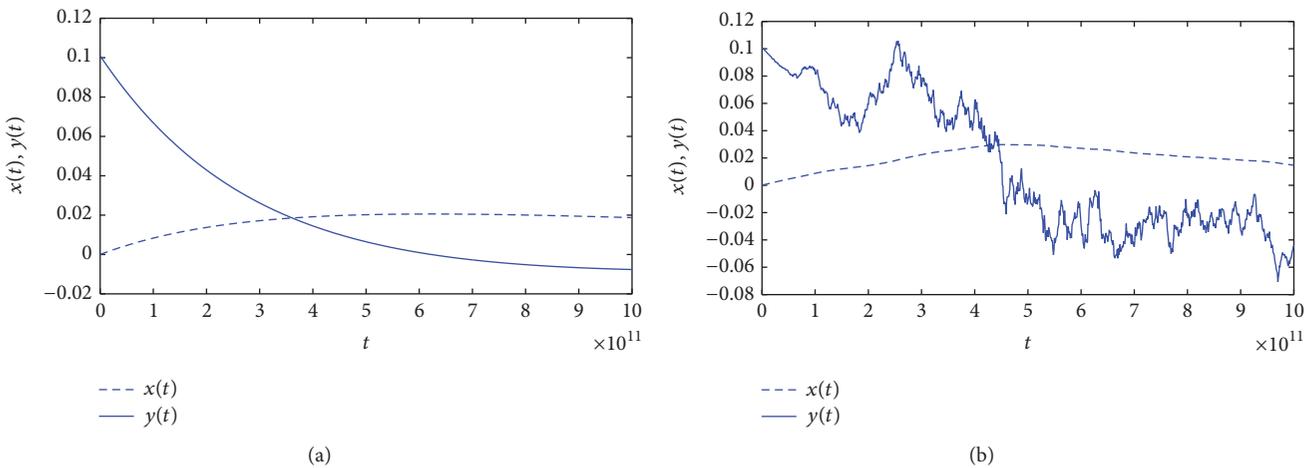


FIGURE 7

for all  $t \geq 0$ ,  $x$ , and  $y$ . Moreover, from (79) and (80) all assumptions of Theorem 17 and Lemma 6 are satisfied. Thus, by Lemma 6 the trivial solution of system (78) is not only uniformly stochastically asymptotically stable but also uniformly stochastically asymptotically stable in the large. Finally, from (79) and (81) the function  $V(t, X)$  is positive definite and

$$LV(t, X) \leq 0, \quad \forall (t, X) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^2. \quad (82)$$

Hence, assumptions of Theorem 17 and Lemma 5 hold; by Theorem 17 and Lemma 5 the trivial solution of system (78) is stochastically stable.

*Simulation of Solutions.* In what follows, we shall now simulate the solutions of (56) (resp., system (57)) and (78) (resp., system (79)). Our approach depends on the Euler-Maruyama method which enables us to get approximate numerical solution for the considered systems. It will be seen from our figures that the simulated solutions are bounded

which justifies our given results. For instance, when  $\sigma = 0.1$ , the numerical solutions of (56) in three-dimensional space are shown in Figure 4. If we vary the value of the noise in the numerical solution  $(x(t), y(t))$  of system (57), as  $\sigma = 0.1$  and  $\sigma = 1.0$ , we have Figures 5(a) and 5(b), respectively. It can be seen that, when the noise is increased, the stochasticity becomes more pronounced. The behaviour of the numerical solution  $(x(t), y(t))$  of system (57) when  $\sigma = 0.5$  and  $\sigma = 2.0$  is shown in Figures 6(a) and 6(b), respectively. The behaviour of the numerical solution  $(x(t), y(t))$  of system (57) for  $\sigma = 0$  and  $\sigma = 5.0$  is shown in Figures 7(a) and 7(b), respectively. For the case of (78), Figure 8 shows the closeness of the solution  $(x(t))$  and the perturbed solution  $(x_\epsilon(t))$  for a very large  $t$  which implies asymptotic stability in the large for the considered SDE.

### Competing Interests

The authors declare that there are no competing interests regarding the publication of this paper.

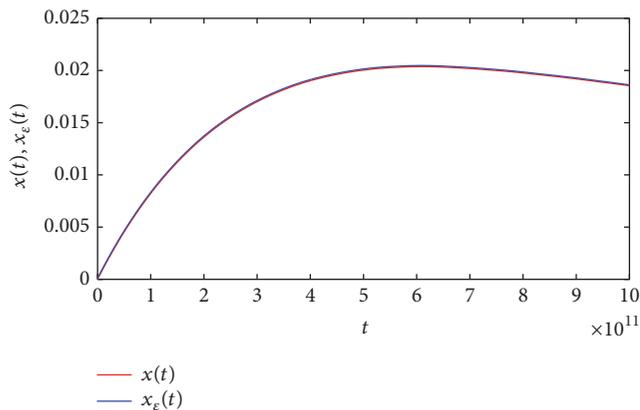


FIGURE 8: Graph of solutions of (78).

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