

Analysis Of A Coupled Quadratic Volterra-Stieltjes Integral Equation System

N. A. O. Buhalima - Y. M. Y. Omar

Faculty of Science, Omar Al-Mukhtar University, Libya

Abstract:

This paper aims to establish existence results for a coupled system of nonlinear quadratic integral equations of the Volterra-Stieltjes type in the space of continuous functions over a closed bounded interval. The existence of solutions is demonstrated using the Schauder fixed point principle. This approach enables us to derive existence theorems under broad and general conditions.

Key words: Coupled system, nonlinear quadratic integral equation, function of bounded variation, fractional order

1. Introduction

Integral equations play a crucial role in modeling various phenomena and events in applied sciences. This field has witnessed significant development through the use of functional analysis, topology, and fixed point theory (see [1, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15]). Among these advancements, Volterra-Stieltjes integral equations have attracted considerable attention, with several studies dedicated to their analysis (see [5, 7, 16, 17, 18, 19]).

The primary objective of this paper is to examine the solvability of a coupled system of quadratic Volterra-Stieltjes integral equations.

Give the importance of the Stieltjes integral in this context; we rely on the definitions and properties introduced by Banas` (see [2, 3]).

Additionally, interest in studying such coupled system has been sparked by previous research on related topics.

In this study, we establish some existence theorems for a coupled system of quadratic Volterra-Stieltjes integral equations, which encompass various types of Volterra integral equations as special cases. Our proof is based on the fixed-point principle, enabling us to derive existence results under broad and flexible assumptions.

Throughout this paper, let $I = [0, T]$ and X be the Banach space of all ordered pairs $(x, y) \in X = C(I) \times C(I)$, with the norm

$$\|(x, y)\|_X = \max \{\|x\|_C, \|y\|_C\},$$

where

$$\|x\|_C = \sup_{t \in I} |x|, \|y\|_C = \sup_{t \in I} |y|,$$

It is clear that $(X, \|(x, y)\|_X)$ is Banach space.

Now, we shall present some auxiliary properties of fractional calculus that will be need in this work.

Definition 1. The Riemann-Liouville of a fractional integral of the function $f \in L_1(I)$ of order $\alpha \in \mathbf{R}^+$ is defined by

$$I_a^\alpha f(t) = \int_0^t \frac{(t-s)^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} f(s) ds.$$

and when $h = 0$, we have $I^\alpha f(t) = I_a^\alpha f(t)$.

Definition 2. The (Caputo) fractional order derivative $D^\alpha, \alpha \in (0, 1]$ of the absolutely continuous function g is defined as

$$D_a^\alpha g(t) = I_a^{1-\alpha} \frac{d}{dt} g(t), \quad t \in [a, b].$$

For further properties of fractional calculus operator (See [20], [21], [22] and [23]).

2. Preliminaries

In this section, we study the solvability of the coupled system of nonlinear quadratic integral equations of Volterra-Stieltjes type having the form

$$x(t) = h_1(t) + f_1(t, y(\omega_1(t))) \int_0^t u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s), \quad t \in I$$

(1)

$$y(t) = h_2(t) + f_{12}(t, y(\omega_2(t))) \int_0^t u_2(t, s, y(\omega_2(s))) d_s g_2(t, s), \quad t \in I$$

Our goal is to show that system (1) has at least one solution in the space X . For our further purposes we denote by Δ the triangle $\Delta = \{(t, s): 0 \leq s \leq t \leq T\}$.

In our investigations, we give some assumptions which are needed throughout this paper.

(i) $h_i: I \rightarrow R, (i = 1, 2)$ are continuous on I . There are constants h_i , where $h_i = \sup_{t \in I} |h_i(t)|$.

(ii) $f_i: I \times R \rightarrow R, (i = 1, 2)$ are continuous functions and there exist continuous functions

$m_i(t): I \rightarrow I$ such that

$$|f_i(t, x) - f_i(t, y)| \leq m_i(t)|x - y|,$$

for all $x, y \in R$ and $t \in I$. Moreover, we put $m_i = \max\{m_i(t) \mid t \in I\}$.

(iii) $u_i(t, s, x): \Delta \times R \rightarrow R, (i = 1, 2)$ are continuous functions and there exist continuous functions $n_i(t, s): \Delta \rightarrow I$, and continuous and nondecreasing functions $\varphi_i: R+ \rightarrow R+$, such that

$$|u_i(t, s, x)| \leq n_i(t, s)\varphi_i(|x|),$$

for all $(t, s) \in \Delta$ and $x \in R$. Moreover, we put $n_i = \max\{n_i(t, s) \mid t, s \in I\}$.

(iv) $\omega_i: I \rightarrow I$ are continuous, $(i = 1, 2)$.

(v) Functions $s \rightarrow g_i(t, s)$ are of bounded variation on $[0, t]$ for each $t \in I, i = 1, 2$.

(vi) Functions g_i are continuous on the triangle Δ and $g_i(t, 0) = 0$ for $i = 1, 2$.

(vii) $g_i(t, s) = g_i: \Delta_i \rightarrow R, i = 1, 2$ and for all $t_1, t_2 \in I$ with $t_1 < t_2$, the functions $s \rightarrow g_i(t_2, s) - g_i(t_1, s)$ are nondecreasing on I .

(viii) For any $\epsilon > 0$ there exists $\delta > 0$ such that, for all $t_1, t_2 \in I$ such that $t_1 < t_2$ and $t_2 - t_1 \leq \delta$

the following inequality holds

$$\bigvee_{s=0}^t [g_i(t_2, s) - g_i(t_1, s)] \leq \epsilon, \quad i = 1, 2.$$

Obviously, we will assume that $g_i, (i = 1, 2)$ satisfy assumptions (iv) – (vii). For our purposes, we will need the following lemmas.

Lemma 1. [6] Under assumptions (v)-(viii), The functions $z \rightarrow \bigvee_{s=0}^z g_i(t, s)$ are continuous on $[0, t]$ for any $t \in I$ ($i = 1, 2$).

Lemma 2. [6] Let assumptions (v)-(viii) be satisfied. Then, for arbitrary fixed number $0 < t_2 \in I$ and for any $\epsilon > 0$, there exists $\delta > 0$ such that if $t_1 \in I; t_1 < t_2$ and $t_2 - t_1 \leq \delta$ then $\bigvee_{s=t_1}^{t_2} g_i(t_2, s) \leq \epsilon$. ($i = 1, 2$).

Further, let us observe that based on Lemma 1 we infer that there exists finite positive constants K_i , such that

$$K_i = \sup \left\{ \bigvee_{s=0}^t g_i(t, s) : t \in [0, T] \right\}.$$

where $T > 0$ is arbitrarily fixed ($i = 1, 2$).

We now introduce some functions that will be useful in our further studies:

$$W_i = \sup \left\{ \bigvee_{s=0}^{t_2} (g_i(t_2, s) - g_i(t_1, s)) : t_1, t_1 \in I, t_1 < t_2 \leq \epsilon, i = 1, 2 \right\}.$$

In what follows let us denote by F_i the constant defined by the formula:

$$F_i = \sup \{|f_i(t, 0)| : t \in I, i = 1, 2\}.$$

Now, we are in position to present the main result of the paper.

3. Main Result

Defined the operator by

$$T(x, y)(t) = (T_1 y(t), T_2 x(t)),$$

where

$$T_1 x(t) = h_1(t) + f_1(t, y(\omega_1(t))) \int_0^t u_1(s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s), \quad t \in I \quad (2)$$

$$T_2 y(t) = h_2(t) + f_{12}(t, y(\omega_2(t))) \int_0^t u_2(s, y(\omega_2(s))) d_s g_2(t, s), \quad t \in I$$

Theorem 1. Let assumptions (i)-(vii) be satisfied. Then the coupled system of quadratic Volterra-Stieltjes integral equations (1) has at least one solution (x, y) belonging to the space X .

Proof. We prove a few results concerning the continuity and compactness of these operators in the space of continuous functions.

Define

$$V = \{v = (x(t), y(t)) : (x(t), y(t)) \in X : \| (x, y) \|_X \leq r\}.$$

For $(x, y) \in V$, and define the operator T map V into V , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |T_1 y(t)| &\leq |h_1| + |f_1(t, y(\omega_1(t)))| \int_0^t |u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(s)))| |d_s g_1(t, s)| \\ &\leq \|h_1\| + [m_i |y(t)| + |f_1(t, 0)|] \int_0^t n_1(t, s) \varphi_1(|y(s)|) d_s (V_{p=0}^t g_1(t, P)), \\ &\leq \|h_1\| + [\|y\| m_1 + F_1] n_1 \varphi_1(\|y\|) (V_{p=0}^t g_1(t, p)), \\ \|T_1 y\| &\leq \|h_1\| + [r_1 m_1 + F_1] n_1 \varphi_1(r_1) \sup_{t \in I} (V_{p=0}^t g_1(t, p)). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we get

$$\|T_1 y\| \leq \|h_1\| + K_1 [m_1 r_1 + F_1] n_1 \varphi_1(r_1).$$

From the last estimate we deduce that $r_1 = \frac{\|h_1\| + F_1 K_1 n_1 \varphi_1(r_1)}{1 - m_1 n_1 K_1 \varphi_1(r_1)}$.

By a similar way, we obtain

$$\|T_2 y\| \leq \|h_2\| + K_2[m_2 r_2 + F_2]n_2 \varphi_2(r_2) \cdot r_2 = \frac{\|h_2\| + F_2 K_2 n_2 \varphi_2(r_2)}{1 - m_2 n_2 K_2 \varphi_2(r_2)}.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \|Tv\|_X &= \|T(x, y)\|_X = \|T_1 y, T_2 x\|_X \\ &\leq \max_{t \in I} \{\|T_1 y\|_C, \|T_2 y\|_C\} = r. \end{aligned}$$

Thus for every $v = (x, y) \in V$, we have $Tv \in V$ and hence $TV \subset V$, (i.e. $T: V \rightarrow V$). This means that the functions of TU are uniformly bounded on I , it is clear that the set V is nonempty, bounded, closed and convex. Now, we need to show that the set TV is relatively compact.

For $v = (x, y) \in V$, for all $\epsilon > 0, \delta > 0$, and for each $t_1, t_2 \in I$ (without loss of generality assume that $t_1 < t_2$, such that $|t_2 - t_1| < \delta$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &|T_1 y(t_2) - T_1 y(t_1)| \\ &= |h_1(t_2) - h_1(t_1) + \\ &f_1(t_2, y(\omega_1(t_2))) \int_0^{t_2} u_1(t_2, s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t_2, s) \\ &- f_1(t_1, y(\omega_1(t_1))) \int_0^{t_1} u_1(t_1, s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t_1, s)| \\ &\leq |h_1(t_2) - h_1(t_1)| + |f_1(t_2, y(\omega_1(t_2))) - f_1(t_2, y(\omega_1(t_1)))| \\ &\cdot \left| \int_0^{t_2} u_1(t_2, s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t_2, s) \right| \\ &+ |f_1(t_2, y(\omega_1(t_1))) \int_0^{t_2} u_1(t_2, s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t_2, s)| \\ &- |f_1(t_1, y(\omega_1(t_1))) \int_0^{t_2} u_1(t_2, s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t_2, s)| \\ &+ |f_1(t_1, y(\omega_1(t_1))) \int_0^{t_2} u_1(t_2, s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t_2, s)| \\ &- |f_1(t_1, y(\omega_1(t_1))) \int_0^{t_2} u_1(t_2, s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t_1, s)| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + |f_1(t_1, y(\omega_1(t_1))) \int_0^{t_2} u_1(t_2, s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t_1, s)| \\
 & - |f_1(t_1, y(\omega_1(t_1))) \int_0^{t_2} u_1(t_1, s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t_1, s)| \\
 & + |f_1(t_1, y(\omega_1(t_1))) \int_0^{t_2} u_1(t_1, s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t_1, s)| \\
 & - |f_1(t_1, y(\omega_1(t_1))) \int_0^{t_1} u_1(t_1, s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t_1, s)| \\
 & \leq \aleph(h_1, \epsilon) + m_1(t_2) |y(t_2) - \\
 & y(t_1)| \int_0^{t_2} |u_1(t_2, s, y(\omega_1(s)))| d_s (V_{p=0}^s g_1(t_2, p)) \\
 & + |f_1(t_2, y(t_1)) - \\
 & f_1(t_1, y(t_1))| \int_0^{t_2} |u_1(t_2, s, y(\omega_1(s)))| d_s (V_{p=0}^s g_1(t_2, p)) \\
 & + |f_1(t_1, y(t_1))| \int_0^{t_2} |u_1(t_2, s, y(\omega_1(s)))| d_s (V_{p=0}^s [g_1(t_2, p) - \\
 & g_1(t_1, p)]) \\
 & + |f_1(t_1, y(t_1))| \int_0^{t_2} |u_1(t_2, s, y(\omega_1(s))) - \\
 & u_1(t_1, s, y(\omega_1(s)))| d_s (V_{p=0}^s g_1(t_1, p)) \\
 & + |f_1(t_1, y(t_1))| \int_{t_1}^{t_2} |u_1(t_1, s, y(\omega_1(s)))| d_s (V_{p=0}^s g_1(t_1, p)) \\
 & \leq \aleph(h_1, \epsilon) + m_1(t_2) \aleph(y, \epsilon) \int_0^{t_2} n_1(t_2, s) \varphi_1(|y(s)|) d_s (V_{p=0}^s g_1(t_2, p)) \\
 & + \aleph_{f_1}(\epsilon) \int_0^{t_2} n_1(t_2, s) \varphi_1(|y(s)|) d_s (V_{p=0}^s g_1(t_2, p)) \\
 & + [m_1(t_1) |y(t_1)| + \\
 & |f_1(t_1, 0)|] \int_0^{t_2} n_1(t_2, s) \varphi_1(|y(s)|) d_s (V_{p=0}^s [g_1(t_2, p) - g_1(t_1, p)]) \\
 & + [m_1(t_1) |y(t_1)| + |f_1(t_1, 0)|] \int_0^{t_2} \aleph_{u_1}(\epsilon) d_s (V_{p=0}^s g_1(t_1, p))
 \end{aligned}$$

$$+ [m_1(t_1)|y(t_1)| + |f_1(t_1, 0)|] \int_{t_1}^{t_2} n_1(t_1, s) \varphi_1(|y(s)|) d_s(\bigvee_{p=0}^s g_1(t_1, p))$$

Where

$$\aleph(h_i, \epsilon) = \sup \{|h_1(t_2) - h_1(t_1)| : t_1, t_2 \in I, |t_2 - t_1| < \epsilon, i = 1, 2\},$$

$$\aleph_{fi}(\epsilon) = \sup \{|f_i(t_2, v) - f_i(t_1, v)| : t_1, t_2 \in I, |t_2 - t_1| < \epsilon, v \in R, i = 1, 2\},$$

$$\aleph_{ui}(\epsilon) = \{|u_1(t_2, s, v(s)) - u_2(t_1, s, v(s))| : t_1, t_2 \in I, |t_2 - t_1| < \epsilon, v \in R, i = 1, 2\}.$$

Then, from estimate we get

$$|T_1 y(t_2) - T_1 y(t_1)| \leq \aleph(h_1, \epsilon) + [m_1(t_2) \aleph(y, \epsilon) \aleph_{fi}(\epsilon)] n_1 \varphi_1(\|y\|) + \int_0^{t_2} d_s(\bigvee_{p=0}^s g_1(t_2, p))$$

$$+ [m_1 \|y\| + F_1] \left[n_1 \varphi_1(\|y\|) \int_0^{t_2} d_s(\bigvee_{p=0}^s [g_1(t_2, p) - g_1(t_1, p)]) \right]$$

$$+ \aleph_{u1}(\epsilon) \int_0^{t_2} d_s(\bigvee_{p=0}^s g_1(t_2, p)) + n_1 \varphi_1(\|y\|) \int_{t_1}^{t_2} d_s(\bigvee_{p=0}^s g_1(t_1, p)) \Big]$$

$$\leq \aleph(h_1, \epsilon) + [m_1(t_2) \aleph(y, \epsilon) \aleph_{fi}(\epsilon)] n_1 \varphi_1(\|y\|) + \int_0^{t_2} d_s(\bigvee_{s=0}^t g_1(t_2, s))$$

$$+ [m_1 \|y\| + F_1] \left[n_1 \varphi_1(\|y\|) \int_0^{t_2} d_s(\bigvee_{s=0}^t [g_1(t_2, s) - g_1(t_1, s)]) \right]$$

$$+ \aleph_{u1}(\epsilon) \int_0^{t_2} d_s(\bigvee_{s=0}^s g_1(t_2, s)) + n_1 \varphi_1(\|y\|) \int_{t_1}^{t_2} d_s(\bigvee_{s=0}^t g_1(t_1, s)) \Big]$$

$$\leq \aleph(h_1, \epsilon) + K_1 [m_1 \aleph(y, \epsilon) + \aleph_{f1}(\epsilon)] n_1 \varphi_1(r)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + [m_1 r + F_1][n_1 \varphi_1(r)W_1(\epsilon) + \\
 & \aleph_{f1}(\epsilon)[g_1(t_1, t_2) - g_1(t_1, 0)] \\
 & + n_1 \varphi_1(r)[g_1(t_1, t_2) - g_1(t_1, t_1)]].
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, from the continuity of the functions g_1 assumption (vi), we deduce that T_1 maps $\mathcal{C}(I)$ into $\mathcal{C}(I)$. As done above we can obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 |T_2 y(t_2) - T_2 y(t_1)| & \leq \aleph(h_2, \epsilon) + K_2[m_2 \aleph(y, \epsilon) + \aleph_{f2}(\epsilon)]n_2 \varphi_2(r) \\
 & + [m_2 r + F_2][n_2 \varphi_2(r)W_2(\epsilon) + \\
 & \aleph_{f2}(\epsilon)[g_2(t_1, t_2) - g_2(t_1, 0)] \\
 & + n_2 \varphi_2(r)[g_2(t_1, t_2) - g_2(t_1, t_1)]].
 \end{aligned}$$

Also, by our assumption (iv), we see that T_2 maps $\mathcal{C}(I)$ into $\mathcal{C}(I)$.
Now, from the definition of the operator T we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 Tv(t_2) - Tv(t_1) & = T(x, y)(t_2) - T(x, y)(t_1) \\
 & = (T_1 y(t_2), T_2 x(t_2)) - (T_1 y(t_1), T_2 x(t_1)) \\
 & = (T_1 y(t_2) - T_1 y(t_1), T_2 x(t_2) - T_2 x(t_1)).
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 \|Tv(t_2) - Tv(t_1)\| & = \|(T_1 y(t_2) - T_1 y(t_1), T_2 x(t_2) - T_2 x(t_1))\| \\
 & = \max \{\|T_1 y(t_2) - T_1 y(t_1)\|, \|T_2 y(t_2) - \\
 & T_2 y(t_1)\|\} \\
 & \leq \max \{\aleph(h_1, \epsilon) + K_1[m_1 \aleph(y, \epsilon) + \\
 & \aleph_{f1}(\epsilon)]n_1 \varphi_1(r) \\
 & + [m_1 r + F_1][n_1 \varphi_1(r)W_1(\epsilon) + \\
 & \aleph_{u1}(\epsilon)[g_1(t_1, t_2) - g_1(t_1, 0)]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &+ n_1 \varphi_1(r)[g_1(t_1, t_2) - g_1(t_1, t_1)], \\
 &\aleph(h_2, \epsilon) + K_2[m_2 \aleph(y, \epsilon) + \aleph_{f_2}(\epsilon)]n_2 \varphi_2(r) \\
 &+ [m_2 r + F_2]\{n_2 \varphi_2(r)W_2(\epsilon) + \\
 &\aleph_{u_2}(\epsilon)[g_2(t_1, t_2) - g_2(t_1, 0)] \\
 &+ n_2 \varphi_2(r)[g_2(t_1, t_2) - g_2(t_1, t_1)]\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

This means that the class of $\{T\mathbf{v}(t)\}$ is equi-continuous on I , then by Arzela-Ascoil theorem $\{T\mathbf{v}(t)\}$ is relatively compact.

Now, we will show that the operator $T : V \rightarrow V$ is continuous.

Firstly, we prove that T_1 is continuous. Let $\epsilon^* > 0$, the continuity of $u_i, i = 1, 2$, yields, $\exists \delta = \delta(\epsilon^*)$ such that $|u_i(t, s, u(s)) - u_i(t, s, v(s))| < \epsilon^*$, whenever $\|u - v\| \leq \delta$, thus if $\|y - u\| \leq \delta$, we arrive at:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &|(T_1 y)(t) - (T_1 u)(t)| \\
 &\leq \left| f_1(t, y(\omega_1(t))) \int_0^t u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - f_1(t, u(\omega_1(t))) \int_0^t u_1(t, s, u(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s) \right| \\
 &\leq \left| f_1(t, y(\omega_1(t))) \int_0^t u_1(t, s, u(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - f_1(t, u(\omega_1(t))) \int_0^t u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s) \right| \\
 &\quad + \left| f_1(t, u(\omega_1(t))) \int_0^t u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s) \right. \\
 &\quad \left. - f_1(t, u(\omega_1(t))) \int_0^t u_1(t, s, u(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s) \right| \\
 &\leq |f_1(t, y(\omega_1(t))) - f_1(t, u(\omega_1(t)))| \int_0^t |u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(s)))| d_s g_1(t, s) \\
 &\quad + |f_1(t, u(\omega_1(t)))| \int_0^t |u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(s))) - u_1(t, s, u(\omega_1(s)))| d_s g_1(t, s)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\leq m_1(t)|y(t) - u(t)| \int_0^t n_1(t,s) \varphi_1(|y(s)|) d_s g_1(t,s) \\
 &\quad + [m_1(t)|u(t_1)| + |f_1(t_1, 0)|] \int_0^t |u_1(t,s, y(\omega_1(s)) - u_1(t,s, u(\omega_1(s)))| d_s g_1(t,s) \\
 &\leq (\delta m_1 n_1 \varphi_1(\|y\|) + [m_1 \|u\| + F_1] \epsilon^*) \int_0^t d_s \bigvee_{p=0}^s g_1(t,p) \\
 &\leq (\delta m_1 n_1 \varphi_1(\|y\|) + [m_1 \|u\| + F_1] \epsilon^*) \bigvee_{s=0}^t g_1(t,s), \\
 &\leq (\delta m_1 n_1 \varphi_1(\|y\|) + [m_1 \|u\| + F_1] \epsilon^*) K_1,
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\epsilon = (\delta m_1 n_1 \varphi_1(\|y\|) + [m_1 \|u\| + F_1] \epsilon^*) K_1.$$

Therefore

$$|(T_1 y)(t) - (T_1 u)(t)| \leq \epsilon.$$

This means that the operator T_1 is continuous.

By a similar way as done above we can prove that for any $x, u \in C[0, T]$ and $\|x - v\| < \delta$, we have

$$|(T_2 x)(t) - (T_2 v)(t)| \leq \epsilon.$$

Hence T_2 is continuous operator. The operators T_i ($i = 1, 2$) are continuous operator this imply that T is continuous operator. Since all conditions of Schauder fixed point theorem are satisfied, then T has at least one fixed point $v = (x, y) \in V$, which completes the proof

Corollary 1. Let assumptions of Theorem 1 be satisfied. Then quadratic Volterra-Stieltjes functional integral equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 &x(t) = h(t) + f(t, y(\omega(t)) \int_0^t u(t, s, y(\omega(s))) d_s g(t, s), \\
 &t \in I \quad (3)
 \end{aligned}$$

has at least one solution $x \in C(I)$.

Proof. Let the assumptions of Theorem 1 be satisfied. With $x = y$, $f_1 = f_2 = f$, $u_1 = u_2 = u$, and $h_1 = h_2 = h$. Then the coupled system (1) will be the Volterra-Stieltjes quadratic integral equation (3)

3. Existence of unique solution

Here, we study the uniqueness of the solution $(x, y) \in X$ of the coupled system of quadratic Volterra-Stieltjes integral equations (1). Assume that functions $\varphi_i : R+ \rightarrow R+$ have the form $\varphi_i(x) = 1 + |x|$, and the functions $n_i(t, s) \in C(I)$ denoted by $b_i = \|n_i\| = \max\{n_i(t, s) \mid t, s \in I, i = 1, 2\}$. Then

$$|u_i(t, s, x)| \leq n_i(t, s)(1 + |x|).$$

Notice that this assumption is a special case of assumption (iii). Consider now the assumptions (ii)*, (iii)* having the form

(ii)* $f_i : I \times R \rightarrow R$ are continuous functions and there exist constants numbers m_i such that

$$|f_i(t, x) - f_i(t, y)| \leq m_i|x - y|, \quad i = 1, 2.$$

From this assumption, we can deduce that

$$|u_i(t, s, x)| - |u_i(t, s, 0)| \leq |u_i(t, s, x) - u_i(t, s, 0)| \leq b_i|x|,$$

which implies that

$$|u_i(t, s, x)| \leq |u_i(t, s, 0)| + b_i|x| \leq n_i(t, s) + b_i|x|,$$

where $n_i(t, s) = \sup_{t \in I} |u_i(t, s, 0)|$.

Theorem 2. Let assumptions of Theorem 1 be satisfied with replace assumptions (ii), (iii) by (ii)*, (iii)*, if the following conditions hold

$$m(n + br) + (mr + F)K \leq 1.$$

Then the coupled system (1) has an unique solution $(x, y) \in X$.

Proof. Let $v_1 = (x_1, y_1)$ and $v_2 = (x_2, y_2)$ be two solutions of the coupled system (1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|(x_1, y_1) - (x_2, y_2)\|_X &= \|(x_1 - x_2, y_1 - y_2)\|_X \\ &= \max_{t \in I} \{\|x_1 - x_2\|, \|y_1 - y_2\|\}. \end{aligned}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} &|x_1(t) - x_2(t)| \\ &\leq \left| f_1(t, y_1(\omega_1(t))) \int_0^t u_1(t, s, y_1(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - f_1(t, y_2(\omega_1(t))) \int_0^t u_1(t, s, y_2(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s) \right| \\ &\leq \left| f_1(t, y_1(\omega_1(t))) \int_0^t u_1(t, s, y_1(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - f_1(t, y_2(\omega_1(t))) \int_0^t u_1(t, s, y_1(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s) \right| \\ &\quad + \left| f_1(t, y_2(\omega_1(t))) \int_0^t u_1(t, s, y_1(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - f_1(t, y_2(\omega_1(t))) \int_0^t u_1(t, s, y_2(\omega_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s) \right| \\ &\leq |f_1(t, y_1(\omega_1(t))) - f_1(t, y_2(\omega_1(t)))| \int_0^t |u_1(t, s, y_1(\omega_1(s)))| d_s g_1(t, s) \\ &\quad + |f_1(t, y_2(\omega_1(t)))| \int_0^t |u_1(t, s, y_1(\omega_1(s))) - u_1(t, s, y_2(\omega_1(s)))| d_s g_1(t, s) \\ &\leq m_1 |y_1(t) - y_2(t)| \int_0^t (n_1(t, s) + b_1 |y|) d_s g_1(t, s) \\ &\quad + [m_1 |y_2(t)| + |f_1(t, 0)|] b_i \int_0^t |y_1(t) - y_2(t)| d_s g_1(t, s) \\ &\leq [\|y_1 - y_2\| m_1 (n_1 - b_1 \|y_1\|) + [m_1 \|y_2\| + F_1] \|y_1 - y_2\| \int_0^t d_s (V_{p=0}^s g_1(t, p))] \\ &\leq m_1 (n_1 + b_1 \|y_1\|) + [m_1 \|y_2\| + F_1 \|y_1 - y_2\|] (V_{s=0}^t g_1(t, s)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq m_1(n_1 + b_1 r_1) + [m_1 r_1 + F_1] K_1 \|y_1 - y_2\|.$$

Therefore

$$\|x_1 - x_2\| \leq m(n + br) + [mr + F]K \|y_1 - y_2\|,$$

where

$$b = \max\{b_1, b_2\}, \quad m = \max\{m_1, m_2\}, \quad n = \max\{n_1, n_2\}, \quad F = \max\{F_1, F_2\} \text{ and } K = \max\{K_1, K_2\}.$$

Similarly

$$\|y_1 - y_2\| \leq m(n + br) + [mr + F]K \|x_1 - x_2\|.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \|(x_1, y_1) - (x_2, y_2)\|_X &= \|(x_1 - x_2, y_1 - y_2)\|_X \\ &= \max_{t \in I} \{\|x_1 - x_2\|_C, \|y_1 - y_2\|_C\} \\ &= \max_{t \in I} \{m(n + br) + [mr + F]K \|y_1 - y_2\|, m(n + br) + [mr + F]K \|x_1 - x_2\|\} \\ &= [m(n + br) + [mr + F]K] \max_{t \in I} \{\|x_1 - x_2\|_C, \|y_1 - y_2\|_C\} \\ &= m(n + br) + [mr + F]K \|(x_1, y_1) - (x_2, y_2)\|_X. \end{aligned}$$

Which implies that

$$[1 - m(n + br) + [mr + F]K] \|(x_1, y_1) - (x_2, y_2)\|_X \leq 0.$$

This means that

$$(x_1, y_1) = (x_2, y_2) \Rightarrow x_1 = x_2, \quad y_1 = y_2.$$

This proves the uniqueness of the solution of the coupled system (1).

4. SPECIAL CASES

In this section, we will consider a coupled system of quadratic Volterra integral equations of fractional order, which has form

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= h_1(t) + \\ f_1(t, y(\omega_1(t))) &\int_0^t \frac{(t-s)^{\alpha_1-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha_1)} u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(t))) ds, \quad t \in I \end{aligned}$$

(4)

$$y(t) = h_1(t) + f_2(t, x(\omega_2(t))) \int_0^t \frac{(t-s)^{\alpha_1-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha_1)} u_2(t, s, x(\omega_2(t))) ds, \quad t \in I$$

where $t \in I = [0, T]$ and $\alpha_i \in (0, 1)$, and $\Gamma(\alpha_i)$, $i = 1, 2$, refers to gamma functions. Let us mention that (4) represents the so-called a coupled systems of Volterra quadratic integral equations of fractional order. Recently, such a type this type has been widely investigated in some papers [1, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14]

Here, we show that a coupled systems of fractional orders (4) can be treated as a special case of a coupled systems of quadratic Volterra-Stieltjes integral equations (2) studied in Section 2.

In fact, we can consider functions $g_i(t, s) = g_i : \Delta \rightarrow R, i = 1, 2$, defined by the formula

$$g_i(t, s) = \frac{t^{\alpha_i} - (t-s)^{\alpha_i}}{\Gamma(\alpha_i + 1)}.$$

We can see that functions $g_i, i = 1, 2$, satisfy assumptions (vi)-(vii) in Theorem 1, see [6, 8].

Now, we state the following existence results for couple system of quadratic Volterra integral equations of fractional order (4).

Theorem 3. Let assumptions (i)-(viii) of Theorem 1 be satisfied. Then a coupled systems of fractional orders (4) has at least one solution $(x, y) \in X$.

Corollary 2. Let assumptions of Theorem 3 be satisfied (with $y = y, u_1 = u_2 = u, f_1 = f_2 = f, h_1 = h_2 = h$ and $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \alpha$). Then the fractional-order quadratic integral equation

$$x(t) = h(t) + f(t, x(\omega(t))) \int_0^t \frac{(t-s)^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} u(t, s, x(\omega(t))) ds, \quad t \in I$$

has at least one solution in $x \in C(I)$.

Corollary 3. Let assumptions of Theorem 3 be satisfied, with $f_1(t, y(t)) = f_2(t, x(t)) = 1$. Then a coupled system of the fractional-order quadratic integral system

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= h_1(t) + \int_0^t \frac{(t-s)^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(t))) ds, \quad t \in I \\ y(t) &= h_1(t) + \int_0^t \frac{(t-s)^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\beta)} u_2(t, s, x(\omega_2(t))) ds, \quad t \in I \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

has at least one solution in $(x, y) \in X$.

Now, letting $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \rightarrow 1$, we obtain

Corollary 4. Let assumptions of Theorem 3 be satisfied. Then the coupled system of the initial value problems

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x(t)}{dt} &= u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(t))), \quad t \in I, \quad x(0) = x_0, \\ \frac{y(t)}{dt} &= u_1(t, s, x(\omega_2(t))), \quad t \in I, \quad y(0) = y_0, \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Proof. Let assumptions of Theorem 3 be satisfied (with $f_1(t, y(t)) = f_2(t, x(t)) = 1, h_1(t) = x_0, h_2(t) = y_0$ and letting $\alpha, \beta \rightarrow 1$. Then a coupled system of the fractional-order quadratic integral equations

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= x_0 + \int_0^t u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(t))) ds, \quad t \in I, \\ y(t) &= y_0 + \int_0^t u_1(t, s, x(\omega_2(t))) ds, \quad t \in I, \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

has at least one solution in X which is equivalent to the coupled system of the initial value problems (6).

Corollary 5. Let assumptions of Theorem 3 be satisfied. Then the coupled system of fractional order differential equations

$$D^{\alpha_1}x(t) = u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(t))), \quad t \in I \quad (8)$$

$$D^{\alpha_2}y(t) = u_2(t, s, x(\omega_2(t))), \quad t \in I,$$

with the initial conditions

$$I^{1-\alpha_1}x(t) \big|_{t=0} = I^{1-\alpha_2}y(t) \big|_{t=0} = 0, \quad \alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in (0, 1], \quad (9)$$

has at least one solution in $(x, y) \in X$.

Proof. let us proof the coupled system of the initial value problems (8) and (9) is equivalent to the coupled system of quadratic integral system

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= \int_0^t \frac{(t-s)^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(t))) ds, \quad t \in I \\ y(t) &= \int_0^t \frac{(t-s)^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\beta)} u_2(t, s, x(\omega_2(t))) ds, \quad t \in I \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

By operating $I^{1-\alpha_1}$ and $I^{1-\alpha_2}$ respectively on each equation of coupled system (10), and applying properties of fractional operator [23], we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} I^{1-\alpha_1}x(t) &= I^1 u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(t))), \quad I^{1-\alpha_1}x(t) \big|_{t=0} = 0 \\ I^{1-\alpha_2}y(t) &= I^1 u_2(t, s, y(\omega_2(t))), \quad I^{1-\alpha_2}y(t) \big|_{t=0} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Also,

$$\frac{d}{dt} I^{1-\alpha_1}x(t) = u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(t))), \quad t \in I, \quad \alpha_1 \in (0, 1)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} I^{1-\alpha_2} y(t) = u_2(t, s, y(\omega_2(t))), \quad t \in I, \quad \alpha_2 \in (0, 1).$$

Conversely, by integrating the coupled system of initial value problems (8) and (9), we have

$$I^{1-\alpha_1} x(t) - I^{1-\alpha_1} x(t) \big|_{t=0} = I^1 u_1(t, s, y(\omega_1(t)))$$

$$I^{1-\alpha_2} y(t) - I^{1-\alpha_2} y(t) \big|_{t=0} = I^1 u_2(t, s, y(\omega_2(t))).$$

Operating by I^{α_1} and I^{α_2} respectively on each equation and differentiating, we have (10). Thus, the equivalence hold.

Let assumptions of Theorem 3 be satisfied (with $f_1(t, y(\omega_1(t))) = f_2(t, x(\omega_2(t))) = 1, h_1(t) = h_2(t) = 0$). Then there exists at least one solution in X for the coupled system (8 and 9).

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