

Positive Solutions for Systems of Fourth Order Two-Point Boundary Value Problems with Parameter

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Abstract

This paper deals with the existence of positive solutions for a system of nonlinear singular fourth-order differential equations with a parameter λ subject two-point boundary conditions. Our analysis relies on the Krasnoselskii fixed point theorem and under suitable conditions, we derive explicit eigenvalue intervals of λ for the existence of at least one positive solution for the system.

1. Introduction

We are concerned with determining intervals of the parameter λ for which there exist positive solutions for the following boundary value problem of nonlinear differential system BVPs

$$\begin{cases} u^{(4)}(t) + \lambda a(t)f(v(t)) = 0, & 0 < t < 1, \\ v^{(4)}(t) + \lambda b(t)g(u(t)) = 0, & 0 < t < 1, \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

subject to two-point boundary conditions.

$$\begin{cases} u(0) = 0, u'(0) = 0, u''(1) = 0, u'''(1) = 0, \\ v(0) = 0, v'(0) = 0, v''(1) = 0, v'''(1) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (1.2)$$

The theory of multi-point boundary value problems for ordinary differential equations arises in different areas of applied mathematics and physics. For example, the vibrations of a guy wire of uniform cross-section and composed of N parts of different densities that can be set up as a multi-point boundary value problem. Many problems in the theory of elastic stability can be handled as multi-point boundary value problems too. Higher-order boundary value problems occur in the study of fluid dynamics, astrophysics, hydrodynamic, hydromagnetic stability and astronomy, be a mandlong wave theory, induction motors, engineering and applied physics. The boundary value problems of higher-order have been examined due to their mathematical importance and applications in different areas of applied sciences. In particular, third-order, fourth-order and n th order were considered, see [1] - [14] and the references therein.

Fourth-order ordinary differential equations are models for bending or deformation of elastic beams, and therefore have important applications in mechanics, engineering and physical sciences; see [15] - [19]. Many authors have studied the beam equation under various boundary conditions and by different approaches. For example, Bouteraa et al. [20, 21], studied the existence and nonexistence of positive solutions of two types boundary value problem for a nonlinear fourth-order differential equation

$$\begin{cases} u^{(4)}(t) = \lambda f(t, u(t)), & t \in (0, 1), \\ u(0) = u'(0) = u'(1) = u'''(1) + \psi(u(1)) = 0, \end{cases}$$

and

$$\begin{cases} u^{(4)}(t) - \rho^4 u(t) = f(t, u(t)), & t \in [0, \omega], \\ u^{(i)}(0) = u^{(i)}(\omega), & i \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}, \end{cases}$$

where $\lambda > 0$, $\rho \in \mathbb{R}^+$, $f \in C([0, \omega] \times \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ and $\psi \in C([0, \infty), [0, \infty))$.

By applying iterative method, Djourdem et al. [22] obtained the existence of monotone positive solution of the following nonlinear BVP

$$u^{(4)}(t) = f(t, u(t)), \quad t \in [0, 1],$$

$$u'(0) = u''(0) = u(1) = 0, \quad u'''(\eta) + \alpha u(0) = 0,$$

where $f \in C([0, 1] \times [0, +\infty), [0, +\infty))$, $\alpha \in [0, 6)$ and $\eta \in [\frac{2}{3}, 1)$.

However, there are few works that deal with multi-point boundary value problem for a coupled systems of nonlinear differential equations, see [23] - [25]. Motivated by the above mentioned works and works of coupled systems of nonlinear differential equations, we discuss the existence of positive solutions of BVPs (1.1)-(1.2). Our analysis relies on the Guo-Krasnoselskii's fixed point theorem for operators leaving a Banach space cone invariant [26]. A Green function play a fundamental role in defining an appropriate operator on a suitable cone. The aim of this paper is to establish some simple criteria for the existence of single positive solutions of the BVPs (1.1)-(1.2) in explicit intervals for λ . This paper is organized as follows. In section 2, we present some preliminaries and lemmas that will be used to prove our main results. In section 3, we discuss the existence of single positive solution of BVPs (1.1)-(1.2), and an example explain our conditions are applicable.

2. Preliminaries

Let $B = C([0, 1], \mathbb{R})$ be a Banach space endowed with usual supremum norm, and $B^+ = C([0, 1], \mathbb{R}^+)$.

Lemma 2.1. *Let $y(\cdot) \in C[0, 1]$. If $u \in C^4[0, 1]$, then the BVP*

$$\begin{cases} u^{(4)}(t) = y(t), & 0 \leq t \leq 1 \\ u(0) = u'(0) = u''(1) = u'''(1) = 0 \end{cases}$$

has a unique solution

$$u(t) = \int_0^1 H(t, s) y(s) ds,$$

where

$$H(t, s) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{6}t^2(3s-t), & 0 \leq t \leq s \leq 1, \\ \frac{1}{6}s^2(3t-s), & 0 \leq s \leq t \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

Proof. The derivatives of the function H with respect to t is

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} H(t, s) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}s^2 - \frac{1}{2}(s-t)^2, & 0 \leq t \leq s \leq 1 \\ \frac{1}{2}s^2, & 0 \leq s \leq t \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

Since the derivative of the function H with respect to t is nonnegative for all $t \in [0, 1]$, H is nondecreasing function of t that attains its maximum when $t = 1$. Then

$$\max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} H(t, s) = H(1, s) = \frac{1}{2}s^2 - \frac{1}{6}s^3 = \psi(s) \tag{2.1}$$

□

Lemma 2.2. *Let $y(\cdot) \in B^+$. Then, the unique solution $u(t)$ of BVPs (1.1) – (1.2) is nonnegative and satisfies*

$$\min_{t \in [\theta, 1]} u(t) \geq \frac{2\theta^3}{3} \|u\|,$$

where $\theta \in (0, 1)$.

Proof. Let $y(\cdot) \in B^+$, then from $H(t, s) \geq 0$, we know $u \in B^+$. Set $u(t_0) = \|u\|$, $t_0 \in (0, 1)$. we first prove that

$$\frac{H(t, s)}{H(t_0, s)} \geq \frac{2}{3}t^3, \quad t, t_0, s \in (0, 1].$$

In fact, we can consider four cases:

(1) if $0 < t, t_0 \leq s \leq 1$, then

$$\frac{H(t, s)}{H(t_0, s)} = \frac{t^2(3s-t)}{t_0^2(3s-t_0)} \geq \frac{t^2(2s)}{3t_0-t_0} \geq \frac{t^2(2s)}{3} \geq \frac{t^2(2t)}{3} = \frac{2t^3}{3},$$

(2) if $0 \leq t \leq s \leq t_0 \leq 1$, then

$$\frac{H(t,s)}{H(t_0,s)} = \frac{t^2(3s-t)}{s^2(3t_0-s)} \geq \frac{t^2(3s-t)}{3t_0-s} \geq \frac{t^2(3s-s)}{3t_0} \geq \frac{t^2(2s)}{3} \geq \frac{t^2(2t)}{3} \geq \frac{2t^3}{3},$$

(3) if $0 < s \leq t, t_0 \leq 1$, then

$$\frac{H(t,s)}{H(t_0,s)} = \frac{s^2(3t-s)}{s^2(3t_0-s)} = \frac{3t-s}{3t_0-s} \geq \frac{3t-s}{3t_0} \geq \frac{3t-s}{3} \geq \frac{2t+t-s}{3} \geq \frac{2t}{3} \geq \frac{2t^3}{3},$$

(4) if $0 \leq t_0 \leq s \leq t \leq 1$, then

$$\frac{H(t,s)}{H(t_0,s)} = \frac{s^2(3t-s)}{t_0^2(3s-t_0)} \geq \frac{t_0^2(3t-s)}{t_0^2(3s-t_0)} \geq \frac{3t-s}{3t} \geq \frac{3t-t}{3t} \geq \frac{2t}{3} \geq \frac{2t^3}{3}$$

Therefore, for $t \in [\theta, 1]$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} u(t) &= \int_0^1 H(t,s)y(s) ds \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{H(t,s)}{H(t_0,s)} H(t_0,s)y(s) ds \\ &\geq \int_0^1 \frac{2t^3}{3} H(t_0,s)y(s) ds = \frac{2t^3}{3} u(t_0) \geq \frac{2\theta^3}{3} \|u\|. \end{aligned}$$

The proof is complete. □

If we let

$$K = \left\{ u \in B : u(t) \geq 0 \text{ on } [0, 1] \text{ and } \min_{t \in [\theta, 1]} u(t) \geq \frac{2\theta^3}{3} \|u\| \right\},$$

then it is easy to see that K a cone in B .

We note that the BVPs (1.1) – (1.2) has a solution $(u(t), v(t))$ if, and only if

$$u(t) = \lambda \int_0^1 H(t,s)a(s) f \left(\lambda \int_0^1 H(s,v)b(v)g(u(v)) dv \right) ds, \quad t \in [0, 1],$$

and

$$v(t) = \lambda \int_0^1 H(t,s)b(s)g(u(s)) ds, \quad t \in [0, 1]. \quad (2.2)$$

Now, we define an integral operator $Q_\lambda : B^+ \rightarrow B$ by

$$(Q_\lambda u)(t) = \lambda \int_0^1 H(t,s)a(s) f \left(\lambda \int_0^1 H(s,v)b(v)g(u(v)) dv \right) ds, \quad u \in K. \quad (2.3)$$

We adopt the following hypotheses:

(H₁) $a, b \in C((0, 1), [0, \infty))$ and each does not vanish identically on any subinterval.

(H₂) $f, g \in C([0, \infty), [0, \infty))$.

(H₃) All of $f_0 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(x)}{x}$, $g_0 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{g(x)}{x}$, $f_\infty = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{x}$, $g_\infty = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{g(x)}{x}$ exist as real numbers.

(H₄) $g(0) = 0$ and f is increasing function.

Lemma 2.3. Let $\lambda > 0$ and K be the cone defined above.

(i) If $u \in B^+$ and $v : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is defined by (2.2), then $v \in K$.

(ii) If Q_λ is the integral operator defined by (2.3), then $Q_\lambda(K) \subset K$.

(iii) Suppose (H₁) and (H₂) hold. Then $Q_\lambda : K \rightarrow B$ is completely continuous.

Proof. Let $u \in B^+$ and v be defined by (2.2).

(i) By the nonnegativity of H , b and g it follows that $v(t) \geq 0$, $t \in [0, 1]$. In view of (H_1) , (H_2) , we obtain

$$\int_0^1 H(s, v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv \geq \int_0^1 \min_{s \in [\theta, 1]} H(s, v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv$$

from which, we take

$$\min_{s \in [\theta, 1]} \int_0^1 H(s, v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv \geq \int_0^1 \min_{s \in [\theta, 1]} H(s, v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv$$

Consequently, employing (2.2), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 H(s, v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv &\geq \int_0^1 \min_{s \in [\theta, 1]} H(s, v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv \\ &\geq \frac{2\theta^3}{3} \int_0^1 H(s_0, v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv \\ &\geq \frac{2\theta^3}{3} v(s_0), s_0 \in (0, 1] \\ &\geq \frac{2\theta^3}{3} \|v\|. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore

$$\min_{0 < s < 1} v(s) \geq \frac{2\theta^3}{3} \|v\|.$$

Which give that $v \in K$.

(ii) Obviously, for $v \in K$, $Q_\lambda(u) \in B^+$. For $t \in [0, 1]$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|Q_\lambda u(t)\| &= \max_{0 \leq t \leq 1} \lambda \int_0^1 H(t, s) a(s) f(v(s)) ds \\ &\leq \lambda \int_0^1 H(1, s) a(s) f(v(s)) ds \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} Q_\lambda u(t) &= \lambda \int_0^1 H(t, s) a(s) f(v(s)) ds \\ &= \lambda \int_0^1 \frac{H(t, s)}{H(1, s)} H(1, s) a(s) f(v(s)) ds \\ &\geq \frac{2\theta^3}{3} \lambda \int_0^1 H(1, s) a(s) f(v(s)) ds \\ &\geq \frac{2}{3} \theta^3 \|Q_\lambda u(t)\|. \end{aligned}$$

Which give that $Q_\lambda u \in K$. Therefore $Q_\lambda : K \rightarrow K$.

(iii) It is not difficult to show that the operator $Q_\lambda : K \rightarrow B$ is completely continuous. □

Our analysis relies on the following Krasnoselskii's fixed point theorem of cone expansion-compression type.

Theorem 2.4. (See [26]) Let E be a Banach space and $K \subset E$ be a cone in E . Assume Ω_1 and Ω_2 are open subset of E with $0 \in \Omega_1$ and $\overline{\Omega_1} \subset \Omega_2$, $Q : K \cap (\overline{\Omega_2} \setminus \Omega_1) \rightarrow K$ be a completely continuous operator such that

- (i) $\|Qu\| \leq \|u\|$, for all $u \in K \cap \partial\Omega_1$ and $\|Qu\| \geq \|u\|$, $\forall u \in K \cap \partial\Omega_2$, or
- (ii) $\|Qu\| \geq \|u\|$, $\forall u \in K \cap \partial\Omega_1$ and $\|Qu\| \leq \|u\|$, $\forall u \in K \cap \partial\Omega_2$

Then Q has a fixed point in $K \cap (\overline{\Omega_2} \setminus \Omega_1)$.

Throughout this paper, we shall use the following notations:

$$L_1 = \max \left\{ \left[\left(\frac{2\theta^3}{3} \right)^2 \int_{\theta}^1 \psi(v) a(v) f_{\infty} dv \right]^{-1}, \left[\left(\frac{2\theta^3}{3} \right)^2 \int_{\theta}^1 \psi(v) a(v) g_{\infty} dv \right]^{-1} \right\},$$

$$L_2 = \min \left\{ \left[\int_0^1 \psi(v) a(v) f_0 dv \right]^{-1}, \left[\int_0^1 \psi(v) b(v) g_0 dv \right]^{-1} \right\},$$

$$L_3 = \max \left\{ \left[\left(\frac{2\theta^3}{3} \right)^2 \int_{\theta}^1 \psi(v) a(v) f_0 dv \right]^{-1}, \left[\left(\frac{2\theta^3}{3} \right)^2 \int_{\theta}^1 \psi(v) a(v) g_0 dv \right]^{-1} \right\}$$

and

$$L_4 = \min \left\{ \left[\int_0^1 \psi(v) a(v) f_{\infty} dv \right]^{-1}, \left[\int_0^1 \psi(v) b(v) g_{\infty} dv \right]^{-1} \right\}.$$

3. Main results

This section deals with the existence of at least one positive solution for BVPs (1.1)-(1.2). Our analysis relies on the Krasnoselskii fixed point theorem Theorem 2.4.

Theorem 3.1. *Under assumptions (H_1) , (H_2) and (H_3) , the BVPs (1.1)-(1.2) has a non-negative solution (u, v) for any λ satisfying $L_1 < \lambda < L_2$.*

Proof. Let $L_1 < \lambda < L_2$ and choose $\varepsilon > 0$ such that

$$\max \left\{ \left[\left(\frac{2\theta^3}{3} \right)^2 \int_{\theta}^1 \psi(v) a(v) (f_{\infty} - \varepsilon) dv \right]^{-1}, \left[\left(\frac{2\theta^3}{3} \right)^2 \int_{\theta}^1 \psi(v) a(v) (g_{\infty} - \varepsilon) dv \right]^{-1} \right\} \leq \lambda,$$

and

$$\lambda \leq \min \left\{ \left[\int_0^1 \psi(v) a(v) (f_0 + \varepsilon) dv \right]^{-1}, \left[\int_0^1 \psi(v) b(v) (g_0 + \varepsilon) dv \right]^{-1} \right\}.$$

From the definitions of f_0 and g_0 there exists an $R_1 > 0$ such that

$$f(u) \leq (f_0 + \varepsilon)u, \quad 0 < u \leq R_1,$$

and

$$g(u) \leq (g_0 + \varepsilon)u, \quad 0 < u \leq R_1.$$

Let $u \in K$ with $\|u\| = R_1$. From (2.1) and choice of ε , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda \int_0^1 H(t, s) b(v) g(u(v)) &\leq \lambda \int_0^1 \psi(v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv \\ &\leq \lambda \int_0^1 \psi(v) b(v) (g_0 + \varepsilon) u(v) dv \\ &\leq \|u\| \lambda \int_0^1 \psi(v) b(v) (g_0 + \varepsilon) dv \\ &\leq R_1 = \|u\|. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, from (2.1) and choice of ε , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} Q_\lambda u(t) &= \lambda \int_0^1 H(t,s) a(s) f \left(\lambda \int_0^1 H(s,v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv \right) ds \\ &\leq \lambda \int_0^1 \psi(s) a(s) f \left(\lambda \int_0^1 H(s,v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv \right) ds \\ &\leq \lambda \int_0^1 \psi(s) a(s) (f_0 + \varepsilon) \left[\lambda \int_0^1 H(s,v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv \right] ds \\ &\leq \lambda \int_0^1 \psi(s) a(s) (f_0 + \varepsilon) R_1 ds \\ &\leq R_1 = \|u\|. \end{aligned}$$

So, $\|Tu\| \leq \|u\|$. If we set $\Omega_1 = \{u \in B : \|u\| < R_1\}$, then

$$\|Q_\lambda u\| \leq \|u\|, \text{ for } u \in K \cap \partial\Omega_1.$$

Considering the definitions of f_∞ and g_∞ there exists an $\bar{R}_2 > 0$ such that

$$f(u) \geq (f_\infty - \varepsilon)u, \quad u \geq \bar{R}_2,$$

and

$$g(u) \geq (g_\infty - \varepsilon)u, \quad u \geq \bar{R}_2.$$

Let $u \in K$ and $R_2 = \max \left\{ 2R_1, \frac{3\bar{R}_2}{2\theta^3} \right\}$ with $\|u\| = R_2$, then

$$\min_{s \in [\theta, 1]} u(s) \geq \frac{2}{3} \theta^3 \|u\| \geq \bar{R}_2$$

Therefore, from (2.2) and choice of ε , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda \int_0^1 H(t,s) b(v) g(u(v)) dv &\geq \frac{2\theta^3}{3} \lambda \int_0^1 H(1,v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv \\ &\geq \frac{2\theta^3}{3} \lambda \int_\theta^1 \psi(v) b(v) (g_\infty - \varepsilon) u(v) dv \\ &\geq \|u\| \left(\frac{2\theta^3}{3} \right)^2 \lambda \int_\theta^1 \psi(v) b(v) (g_\infty - \varepsilon) dv \\ &\geq R_2 = \|u\|. \end{aligned}$$

Consequently, from (2.2), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} Q_\lambda u(t) &\geq \frac{2\theta}{3} \lambda \int_\theta^1 \psi(s) a(s) f \left(\lambda \int_\theta^1 H(s,v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv \right) ds \\ &\geq \frac{2\theta^3}{3} \lambda \int_\theta^1 \psi(s) a(s) (f_\infty - \varepsilon) \left[\lambda \int_\theta^1 H(s,v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv \right] ds \\ &\geq \lambda \gamma \int_\theta^1 \psi(s) a(s) (f_\infty - \varepsilon) R_2 ds \end{aligned}$$

$$\geq \lambda \gamma^2 \int_{\theta}^1 \psi(s) a(s) (f_{\infty} - \varepsilon) R_2 ds$$

$$\geq R_2 = \|u\|.$$

So, $\|Q_{\lambda} u\| \geq \|u\|$. If we set $\Omega_2 = \{u \in B : \|u\| < R_2\}$, then

$$\|Q_{\lambda} u\| \geq \|u\|, \text{ for } u \in K \cap \partial\Omega_2.$$

From of part (ii) of Theorem 2.4 to (3.1) and (3.1), the operator Q_{λ} has a fixed point $u^* \in K \cap (\bar{\Omega}_2/\Omega_1)$. As such and with v defined by

$$v(t) = \lambda \int_0^1 H(t, s) b(s) g(u(s)) ds.$$

This means that the BVPs (1.1)-(1.2) has a nonnegative solution (u, v) for the given λ . The proof is complete. \square

Theorem 3.2. Under assumptions $(H_1), (H_2), (H_3)$ and (H_4) , the BVPs (1.1)-(1.2) has a non-negative solution (u, v) for any λ satisfying $L_3 < \lambda < L_4$.

Proof. Let $L_3 < \lambda < L_4$ and choose $\varepsilon > 0$ such that

$$\max \left\{ \left[\left(\frac{2\theta^3}{3} \right)^2 \int_{\theta}^1 \psi(v) a(v) (f_0 - \varepsilon) dv \right]^{-1}, \left[\left(\frac{2\theta^3}{3} \right)^2 \int_{\theta}^1 \psi(v) a(v) (g_0 - \varepsilon) dv \right]^{-1} \right\} \leq \lambda,$$

and

$$\lambda \leq \min \left\{ \left[\int_0^1 \psi(v) a(v) (f_{\infty} + \varepsilon) dv \right]^{-1}, \left[\int_0^1 \psi(v) b(v) (g_{\infty} + \varepsilon) dv \right]^{-1} \right\}.$$

From the definitions of f_0 and g_0 there exists an $R_1 > 0$ such that

$$f(u) \geq (f_0 - \varepsilon)u, \quad 0 < u \leq R_1,$$

and

$$g(u) \geq (g_0 - \varepsilon)u, \quad 0 < u \leq R_1.$$

Now $g(0) = 0$ and so there exists $0 < R_2 < R_1$ such that

$$\lambda g(u) \leq \frac{R_1}{\int_0^1 \psi(v) b(v) dv}, \quad 0 \leq u \leq R_2.$$

Let $u \in K$ with $\|u\| = R_2$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda \int_0^1 H(t, s) b(v) g(u(v)) &\leq \lambda \int_0^1 \psi(v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv \\ &\leq \frac{\int_0^1 \psi(v) b(v) R_1 dv}{\int_0^1 \psi(v) b(v) dv} \\ &\leq R_1 = \|u\|. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by (2.2), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} Q_{\lambda} u(t) &= \lambda \int_0^1 H(t, s) a(s) f \left(\lambda \int_0^1 H(s, v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv \right) ds \\ &\geq \frac{2\theta^3}{3} \lambda \int_{\theta}^1 \psi(s) a(s) f \left(\frac{2\theta^3}{3} \lambda \int_{\theta}^1 \psi(v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv \right) ds \\ &\geq \frac{2\theta^3}{3} \lambda \int_{\theta}^1 \psi(s) a(s) (f_0 - \varepsilon) \left[\left(\frac{2\theta^3}{3} \right)^2 \lambda \int_{\theta}^1 \psi(v) b(v) (g_0 - \varepsilon) \|u\| dv \right] ds \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq \|u\| \frac{2\theta^3}{3} \lambda \int_{\theta}^1 \psi(v) a(v) (f_0 - \varepsilon) dv \\ &\geq \|u\| \left(\frac{2\theta^3}{3}\right)^2 \lambda \int_{\theta}^1 \psi(v) a(v) (f_0 - \varepsilon) dv \\ &\geq \|u\|. \end{aligned}$$

So, $\|Q_\lambda u\| \geq \|u\|$. If we set $\Omega_1 = \{u \in B : \|u\| < R_2\}$, then

$$\|Q_\lambda u\| \geq \|u\|, \quad u \in K \cap (\bar{\Omega}_2 \setminus \Omega_1).$$

Considering the definitions of f_∞ and g_∞ there exists $\bar{R}_1 > 0$ such that

$$f(u) \leq (f_\infty + \varepsilon)u, \quad u \geq \bar{R}_1,$$

and

$$g(u) \leq (g_\infty + \varepsilon)u, \quad u \geq \bar{R}_1.$$

We consider two cases: g is bounded or g is unbounded.

Case(i). Assume that g is bounded, say $g(x) \leq N$, $N > 0$ for all $0 < x < \infty$. Then, for $u \in K$

$$\lambda \int_0^1 H(t,s) b(v) g(u(v)) \leq \lambda \int_0^1 \psi(v) b(v) g(u(v)) dv.$$

Let

$$M = \max \left\{ f(u) : 0 \leq u \leq N \lambda \int_0^1 \psi(v) b(v) dv \right\},$$

and let

$$R_3 > \max \left\{ 2R_2, M \lambda \int_0^1 \psi(s) a(s) ds \right\}.$$

Then, for $u \in K$ with $\|u\| = R_3$, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} Q_\lambda u(t) &\leq \lambda \int_0^1 \psi(s) a(s) M ds \\ &\leq R_3 = \|u\|, \end{aligned}$$

so that $\|Q_\lambda u\| \leq \|u\|$. If we set $\Omega_2 = \{u \in B : \|u\| \leq R_3\}$, then, for $u \in K \cap \partial\Omega_2$,

$$\|Q_\lambda u\| \leq \|u\|, \quad u \in K \cap \partial\Omega_2.$$

Case(ii). g is unbounded, there exists $R_3 > \max\{2R_2, \bar{R}_1\}$ such that $g(u) \leq g(R_3)$, for $0 < u \leq R_3$. Similarly, there exists $R_4 > \max\{R_3, \lambda \int_0^1 \psi(v) b(v) g(R_3) dv\}$ such that $f(u) \leq f(R_4)$, for $0 < u \leq R_4$.

Let $u \in K$ with $\|u\| = R_4$, from (H_4) , we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q_\lambda u(t) &\leq \lambda \int_0^1 \psi(s) a(s) f \left(\lambda \int_0^1 \psi(v) b(v) g(R_3) dv \right) ds \\ &\leq \lambda \int_0^1 \psi(v) a(v) f(R_4) dv \\ &\leq \lambda \int_0^1 \psi(v) a(v) (f_\infty + \varepsilon) R_4 dv \\ &\leq R_4 = \|u\|. \end{aligned}$$

So, $\|Q_\lambda u\| \leq \|u\|$. If we set $\Omega_2 = \{u \in C[0, 1] \mid \|u\| < R_4\}$, then

$$\|Q_\lambda u\| \leq \|u\|, \quad \text{for } u \in K \cap \partial\Omega_2.$$

Thus, in either of cases, From of part (ii) of Theorem 2.4, the operator Q_λ has a fixed point $u^* \in K \cap (\bar{\Omega}_2/\Omega_1)$. This means that the BVPs (1.1)-(1.2) has a nonnegative solution (u, v) for the chosen value of λ . The proof is complete. □

4. Examples

Consider the nonlinear differential equations with parameter λ ,

$$\begin{cases} u^{(4)}(t) = \lambda t v(t) \left(v(t) e^{-v(t)} + \frac{v(t)+K}{1+\eta v(t)} \right), & 0 < t < 1, \\ v^{(4)}(t) = \lambda t u(t) \left(u(t) e^{-u(t)} + \frac{u(t)+K}{1+\eta u(t)} \right), & 0 < t < 1, \end{cases} \quad (4.1)$$

subject to two-point boundary conditions

$$\begin{cases} u(0) = 0, u'(0) = 0, u''(1) = 0, u'''(1) = 0, \\ v(0) = 0, v'(0) = 0, v''(1) = 0, v'''(1) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (4.2)$$

Where $a(t) = b(t) = t$, $f(v) = v \left(v e^{-v} + \frac{v+K}{1+\eta v} \right)$, $g(u) = u \left(1 + \frac{u+K}{1+\eta u} \right)$. By simple calculations, we have $g(0) = 0$, $f_\infty = g_\infty = \frac{1}{\eta}$, $f_0 = g_0 = K$. Choosing $\theta = \frac{1}{3}$, $\eta = 100$, and $K = 10^4$, we obtain $L_3 \cong 1, 1817237$, $L_4 \cong 9, 1666667$.

By Theorem 3.2 it follows that for every λ such that $1, 1817237 < \lambda < 9, 1666667$, the BVPs (4.1)-(4.2) has a nonnegative solution (u, v) for given λ .

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