



On the solvability of a Volterra integral equation of quadratic form in the class of continuous function

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Abstract. The goal of this paper is to prove an existence theorem for the solutions of a Volterra integral equation of quadratic form in the class of continuous function defined on the interval $[0, a]$, $a < \infty$ with the aid of the Hausdorff measure of noncompactness.

0. Introduction

The theory of integral equations plays an important part in the theory of nonlinear analysis; this due to the various applications of integral equations in many branches of mathematical physics such as neutron transportation, radiation and gases kinetic theory (*c.f.* [5, 8]). There are some treatments for solvability such kind of integral equation in [3, 4, 7]. This paper discusses the solvability of the integral equation

$$x(t) = 1 + T x(t) \int_0^t k(t, s) \phi(s) x(s) ds, \quad t \in [0, a] \quad (1)$$

in the class of bounded continuous functions, where $\phi(t)$ is a given bounded continuous function on the bounded closed interval $[0, a]$, $k(t, s)$ is the kernel of our integral equation and T is a bounded continuous operator of the space $C = C[0, a]$ of all continuous real functions on $[0, a]$ into C .

The integral equation (1) is the general form of that in [3], where the authors investigated the existence theorem of the integral equation

$$x(t) = 1 + T x(t) \int_0^1 k(t, s) \phi(s) x(s) ds, \quad (2)$$

in the class $C[0, 1]$ of continuous function on $[0, 1]$. The space C is a Banach space, with the norm

$$\|x\| = \sup \{ |x(t)| : t \in [0, a], x \in C \}. \quad (3)$$

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1. Preliminaries

Let m_E be the class of all nonempty, bounded subsets of a Banach space E and $B(x, r)$ a closed ball centered at x and with radius r . If θ is the zero vector of E , then we denote $B_r = B(\theta, r)$. For any $X \in m_E$ we define the Hausdorff measure $\chi(X)$ of noncompactness as [2].

$$\chi(X) = \inf \{r > 0 : \text{there exists a finite subset } Y \subset E \text{ such that } X \subset Y + B_r\}.$$

This measure has many properties and applications [1, 2]. Also, the modulus of continuity $\omega(x, \varepsilon)$ of a function $x \in X, X \in m_E, \varepsilon > 0$ is defined as [4],

$$\omega(x, \varepsilon) = \sup \{ |x(t) - x(s)| : t, s \in [0, a], |t - s| \leq \varepsilon \}. \tag{4}$$

If

$$\omega_0(X) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \{ \sup \{ \omega(x, \varepsilon) : x \in X \} \} \tag{5}$$

then, we have as in [4]

$$\chi(X) = \frac{1}{2} \omega_0(X). \tag{6}$$

In the sequel of this section, we will recall Darbo condition and Darbo fixed point theorem,

Definition 1. (Darbo condition) [2] Let M be a nonempty subset of a Banach space E and $T : M \rightarrow E$ a continuous operator that transforms bounded sets onto bounded ones ;

T is said to satisfy Darbo condition with a constant $\alpha \geq 0$ (with respect to χ) if for any subset $X \subset M$ we have

$$\chi(TX) \leq \alpha \chi(X). \tag{7}$$

Note that if $0 \leq \alpha < 1$, then the operator T is said to be a contraction with respect to χ .

Theorem 1. [6] Let Q be a nonempty bounded closed convex subset of a Banach space E and let $T : Q \rightarrow Q$ be a contraction with respect to χ . Then T has at least one fixed point in Q .

2. Main result

In this section, we will discuss the solvability of our integral equation (1) in the space $C[0, a]$ under the following assumptions;

(i) The kernel

$$k : [0, a] \times [0, a] \rightarrow R$$

is continuous with respect to t and s and for each $t \in [0, a]$, the integral

$$\int_0^t |k(t, s)| ds \text{ exists;}$$

(ii) ϕ is continuous function defined on the closed interval $[0, a]$;

(iii) $T : C \rightarrow C$ is a bounded continuous operator satisfying Darbo condition with a constant α and there a nonnegative constant b such that

$$\|Tx\| \leq b \|x\|, \text{ for each } x \in C.$$

(iv) There exists a bounded function

$$u ; [0, a] \rightarrow R_+$$

such that

$$u(0) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} u(t) = 0$$

and

$$\int_0^t |k(t_2, s) - k(t_1, s)| ds \leq u (|t_2 - t_1|) ,$$

for all $t, t_1, t_2 \in [0, a]$.

Notice that, by using (i) and (iv), we deduce for $t \in [0, a]$ that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t |k(t, s)| ds &\leq \int_0^t |k(t, s) - k(0, s)| ds + \int_0^t |k(0, s)| ds \\ &\leq u(t) + \int_0^t |k(0, s)| ds . \end{aligned}$$

If $q = \sup \left\{ \int_0^t |k(t, s)| ds : t \in [0, a] \right\}$, then $q < \infty$.

Furthermore, let $Q = \sup \left\{ \int_0^t |k(t, s)| |\phi(s)| ds \right\}$, $t \in [0, a]$, then

$$Q \leq q \|\phi\| ,$$

which means that Q is bounded. Also, we assume that

(v) $bQ < \frac{1}{4}$,

(vi) $\alpha < 4b$.

Then, we can formulate the following existence theorem.

Theorem 2. If the above assumptions (i) – (vi) are satisfied, then there exists at least a continuous function x satisfying (1).

Proof. Let A be an operator defined as

$$(Ax)(t) = 1 + Tx(t) \int_0^t k(t, s) \phi(s) x(s) ds, \quad t \in [0, a] . \quad (8)$$

First, observe that due to the assumptions (i), (ii), (iii), the operator A transforms the space C into itself. Moreover, we have

$$\begin{aligned} (Ax)(t) &\leq 1 + |Tx(t)| \int_0^t |k(t, s)| |\phi(s)| |x(s)| ds, \\ &\leq 1 + bQ \|x\|^2 . \end{aligned}$$

Using (v), we see that the operator A transforms the ball B_r into itself for $r_0 \leq r \leq r_1$, where

$$r_0 = \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - 4bQ}}{2bQ}, \quad r_1 = \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 - 4bQ}}{2bQ} .$$

Since $0 < bQ < \frac{1}{4}$ then $r_0 < 1$, $r_1 > 1$, thus we will consider the case $r_0 = r$. Note that it is easy to see that B_r is nonempty, bounded closed and convex. In the sequel, we will show that the operator A is contraction with respect to the Hausdorff measure of noncompactness. For this, let X be a nonempty subset of B_r . Fix $x \in X$, then for arbitrary chosen $t_1, t_2 \in [0, a]$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &| (Ax)(t_2) - (Ax)(t_1) | = \\ &\left| (Tx)(t_2) \int_0^{t_2} k(t_2, s) \phi(s) x(s) ds - (Tx)(t_1) \int_0^{t_1} k(t_1, s) \phi(s) x(s) ds \right| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\leq |(Tx)(t_2)| \int_0^{t_2} |k(t_2, s) - k(t_1, s)| |\phi(s)| |x(s)| ds \\ &+ |(Tx)(t_2)| \int_{t_1}^{t_2} |k(t_2, s)| |\phi(s)| |x(s)| ds \\ &+ |(Tx)(t_2) - (Tx)(t_1)| \int_0^{t_1} |k(t_1, s)| |\phi(s)| |x(s)| ds \\ &\leq b \|x\|^2 \|\phi\| u(|t_2 - t_1|) + |(Tx)(t_2)| J + \omega(Tx, |t_2 - t_1|) Q \|x\|, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$J = \int_{t_1}^{t_2} |k(t_2, s)| |\phi(s)| |x(s)| ds.$$

Since, $x \in B_r$, then we have

$$|(Ax)(t_2) - (Ax)(t_1)| b r^2 \|\phi\| u(|t_2 - t_1|) + |(Tx)(t_2)| J + \omega(Tx, |t_2 - t_1|) Q r.$$

Taking the limit as $t_2 \rightarrow t_1$ and using (iv) we deduce that

$$\omega_0(Ax) \leq r Q \omega_0(Tx).$$

Consequently, we get

$$\chi(Ax) \leq r Q \chi(Tx) \leq \alpha r Q \chi(X).$$

Due to (v), (iv) and our case where we take $r = r_0$, $r_0 < 1$, we have

$$\alpha r Q = \alpha r_0 Q < 4b r_0 Q < r_0 < 1.$$

Hence, A is a contraction with respect χ on B_r . Apply *Theorem 1*, we deduce that the operator A has at least a fixed point x in C which is the solution of our integral equation (1). This completes the proof.

Example. Consider the integral equation

$$x(t) = 1 + \frac{tx(t)}{1+t} \int_0^t \frac{s e^{-(t^2+s^2)}}{s+4} x(s) ds, \quad t \in [0, a] \tag{9}$$

where

$$(Tx)(t) = \frac{tx(t)}{1+t} \text{ and } \phi(s) = \frac{s}{s+4}, \quad 0 \leq s < t, \quad t \in [0, a]$$

are continuous on $[0, a]$, and $k(t, s) = e^{-(t^2+s^2)}$ is continuous on $[0, a] \times [0, a]$.

Note that the operator T transforms the continuous functions into continuous functions and

$$\int_0^t |k(t, s)| ds \leq \int_0^\infty |k(t, s)| ds = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} e^{-t^2} < \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2}, \quad \text{for } t \in [0, a].$$

Also, T satisfies Darbo condition with constant $\alpha = 1$ and

$$\|Tx\| \leq \|x\|, \quad \text{i.e } b = 1.$$

The function u defined in (iv) can be taken as

$$u(|t_2 - t_1|) = |e^{-t_2^2} - e^{-t_1^2}| \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{as } t_2 \rightarrow t_1.$$

Finally, we can see that

$$\|\phi\| \leq 1, \quad q = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \text{ and } Q = \frac{1}{8}.$$

Then, using *Theorem 2*, the integral equation (9) is solvable in the space $C[0, a]$.

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