

New existence and uniqueness results for a nonlinear fractional order boundary value problem

Sachin Kumar Verma¹, Ramesh Kumar Vats², Charu³

^{1,2}Department of Mathematics, NIT Hamirpur, HP-177005, India.

³Department of Mathematics, R.K.S.D(P.G) College Kaithal, Haryana, India.

ABSTRACT

In this article, we consider a nonlinear fractional order threepoint boundary value problem. Some new existence and uniqueness results are obtained by using Kannan's fixed point theorem and one another fixed point theorem by Reich.

Keywords :Banach space, Boundary Value Problem, Caputo Derivative,Fixed Point Theorem, Riemann Liouville Integral.

INTRODUCTION

Fractional differential equations are being used in various fields of science and engineering such as control system, electrochemistry, electromagnetics, viscoelasticity, physics, biophysics, porous media, blood flow phenomena, electrical circuits, biology, fitting of experimental data etc. [1-3]. Due to these features, models of fractional order become more practical and realistic than the models of integer-order. Existence of solutions to differential equations of fractional order have received considerable interest in recent years. There are several papers dealing with the existence and uniqueness of solution to initial and boundary value problem of differential equation of fractional order. For some recent development on the topic, see [4-15] and the references therein.

This paper deals with the existence and uniqueness of solutions for the following three-point fractional integral boundary value problem:

$$\begin{cases} D^k z(\xi) = h(\xi, z(\xi)), & \xi \in [0,1] \\ z(\tau) = z'(0) = z''(0) = \dots = z^{n-2}(0) = 0, I^\alpha z(1) = 0, & 0 < \tau < 1 \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

where $n - 1 < k \leq n, n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 3$ and D^k denotes the caputo fractional derivative of order k, I^α is the Riemann-Liouville fractional integral of order $\alpha, h: [0,1] \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a continuous function and

$\tau^{n-1} \neq \frac{\Gamma(n)}{(\alpha+n-1)(\alpha+n-2)\dots(\alpha+1)}$. By $C([0,1], \mathbb{R})$, we denote the Banach space of all continuous functions from $[0,1]$ into \mathbb{R} with the norm $\|z\| = \sup\{|z(\xi)|: \xi \in [0,1]\}$.

II. PRELIMINARIES

Definition 2.1. For a continuous function $h : [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, the Caputo derivative of fractional order k is defined as:

$$D^k h(\xi) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(n-k)} \int_0^\xi (\xi-s)^{n-k-1} h^{(n)}(s) ds, \quad n = [k] + 1$$

provided that $h^{(n)}(\xi)$ exists, where $[k]$ denotes the integer part of the real number k .

Definition 2.2. The Riemann-Liouville fractional integral of order α for a continuous function $h(\xi)$ is defined as:

$$I^\alpha h(\xi) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\xi (\xi-s)^{\alpha-1} h(s) ds, \quad \alpha > 0$$

provided that such integral exists.

Lemma 2.3. ([16]) Let $k > 0$, then

$$I^k D^k z(\xi) = z(\xi) + c_0 + c_1 \xi + c_2 \xi^2 + \dots + c_{n-1} \xi^{n-1},$$

for some $c_i \in \mathbb{R}, i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$, where n is the smallest integer greater than or equal to k .

Lemma 2.4. Let $\tau^{n-1} \neq \frac{\Gamma(n)}{(\alpha+n-1)(\alpha+n-2)\dots(\alpha+1)}, n-1 < k \leq n, 0 < \tau < 1$. Then for $w \in C([0,1], \mathbb{R})$, the problem

$$\begin{cases} D^k z(\xi) = w(\xi), & \xi \in [0,1] \\ z(\tau) = z'(0) = z''(0) = \dots = z^{n-2}(0) = 0, I^\alpha z(1) = 0, & 0 < \tau < 1 \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

has a unique solution

$$\begin{aligned} z(\xi) = & \frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\xi (\xi-s)^{k-1} w(s) ds - \frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\tau (\tau-s)^{k-1} w(s) ds \\ & + \frac{(\tau^{n-1} - \xi^{n-1})\Gamma(\alpha+n)}{\Gamma(\alpha+k)[\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha+n-1)(\alpha+n-2)\dots(\alpha+1)]} \int_0^1 (1-s)^{\alpha+k-1} w(s) ds \\ & - \frac{(\tau^{n-1} - \xi^{n-1})\Gamma(\alpha+n)}{\Gamma(\alpha+1)\Gamma(k)[\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha+n-1)(\alpha+n-2)\dots(\alpha+1)]} \int_0^\tau (\tau-s)^{k-1} w(s) ds \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

Proof.By applying Lemma 2.3, we may reduce (2.1) to an equivalent integral equation

$$z(\xi) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\xi (\xi - s)^{k-1} w(s) ds - c_0 - c_1 \xi + c_2 \xi^2 - \dots - c_{n-1} \xi^{n-1} \tag{2.3}$$

for some $c_i \in \mathbb{R}, i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$.

From $z'(0) = 0$, it follows $c_1 = 0$.

Also $z''(0) = 0 \Rightarrow c_2 = 0$

Continuing in this way we have $z^{(n-2)}(0) = 0 \Rightarrow c_{n-2} = 0$

Thus (2.3) becomes

$$z(\xi) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\xi (\xi - s)^{k-1} w(s) ds - c_0 - c_{n-1} \xi^{n-1} \tag{2.4}$$

$$z(\tau) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\tau (\tau - s)^{k-1} w(s) ds - c_0 - c_{n-1} \tau^{n-1} = 0 \tag{2.5}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} I^\alpha [z(\xi)] &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\xi (\xi - s)^{\alpha-1} [I^k w(s) - c_0 - c_{n-1} s^{n-1}] ds \\ &= I^\alpha I^k w(\xi) - \frac{c_0 \xi^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} - \frac{c_{n-1} \xi^{\alpha+n-1} \Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + n)} \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha + k)} \int_0^\xi (\xi - s)^{\alpha+k-1} w(s) ds - \frac{c_0 \xi^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} - \frac{c_{n-1} \xi^{\alpha+n-1} \Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + n)} \end{aligned}$$

$$I^\alpha [z(1)] = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha + k)} \int_0^1 (1 - s)^{\alpha+k-1} w(s) ds - \frac{c_0}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)} - \frac{c_{n-1} \Gamma(n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + n)} = 0 \tag{2.6}$$

solving (2.5) and (2.6) for c_0, c_{n-1} , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} c_{n-1} &= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + k) [\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1} (\alpha + n - 1) (\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)]} \int_0^1 (1 - s)^{\alpha+k-1} w(s) ds \\ &\quad - \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1) \Gamma(k) [\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1} (\alpha + n - 1) (\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)]} \int_0^\tau (\tau - s)^{k-1} w(s) ds \end{aligned}$$

and

$$c_0 = \frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\tau (\tau - s)^{k-1} w(s) ds$$

$$- \frac{\tau^{n-1} \Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + k) [\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)]} \int_0^1 (1 - s)^{\alpha+k-1} w(s) ds$$

$$+ \frac{\tau^{n-1} \Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1) \Gamma(k) [\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)]} \int_0^\tau (\tau - s)^{k-1} w(s) ds$$

putting the values of c_i in (2.3), we obtain the solution (2.2). ■

Transform the BVP (1.1) into a fixed point problem. In view of Lemma 2.4, we consider the operator $T: C([0,1], \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow C([0,1], \mathbb{R})$ defined by

$$T(z)(\xi) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\xi (\xi - s)^{k-1} h(s, z(s)) ds - \frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\tau (\tau - s)^{k-1} h(s, z(s)) ds$$

$$+ \frac{(\tau^{n-1} - \xi^{n-1}) \Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + k) [\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)]}$$

$$\times \int_0^1 (1 - s)^{\alpha+k-1} h(s, z(s)) ds$$

$$- \frac{(\tau^{n-1} - \xi^{n-1}) \Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1) \Gamma(k) [\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)]}$$

$$\times \int_0^\tau (\tau - s)^{k-1} h(s, z(s)) ds$$

For the sake of our convenience, let us set

$$\Omega = \frac{2}{\Gamma(k + 1)}$$

$$+ \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1) \Gamma(k + 1) |\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)|} \tag{2.7}$$

$$+ \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + k + 1) |\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)|} \tag{2.8}$$

Theorem 2.5. Kannan's fixed point theorem Let (X, d) be a complete metric space. If there exists $\alpha \in [0, \frac{1}{2})$ such that that $T : X \rightarrow X$ satisfies

$$d(Tx, Ty) \leq \alpha [d(Tx, x) + d(Ty, y)] \text{ for all } x, y \in X$$

Then T has a unique fixed point.

Theorem 2.6. ([17]) Let (X, d) be a complete metric space and let a, b, c be non-negative numbers with $a + b + c < 1$. Further suppose that $T : X \rightarrow X$ satisfies

$$d(Tx, Ty) \leq ad(x, y) + bd(Tx, x) + cd(Ty, y) \text{ for all } x, y \in X$$

Then T has a unique fixed point.

III. MAIN RESULTS

First result is based on Kannan's fixed point theorem.

Theorem 3.1. Assume that

- (I) There exist $L > 0$ such that $|h(\xi, z_1) - h(\xi, z_2)| \leq L(|Tz_1 - z_1| + |Tz_2 - z_2|)$ for each $\xi \in [0, 1]$, and all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{R}$.
- (II) $L\Omega < \frac{1}{2}$, where Ω is defined by (2.8), then the BVP (1.1) has a unique solution on $[0, 1]$.

Proof. Obviously, the fixed points of the operator T defined by (2.7) are solution of the problem (1.1). We shall use Kannan's fixed point theorem to prove that T has a unique fixed point.

Let $z_1, z_2 \in C([0, 1], \mathbb{R})$, then for each $\xi \in [0, 1]$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |T(z_1)(\xi) - T(z_2)(\xi)| &\leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\xi (\xi - s)^{k-1} |h(s, z_1(s)) - h(s, z_2(s))| ds \\ &+ \frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\tau (\tau - s)^{k-1} |h(s, z_1(s)) - h(s, z_2(s))| ds \\ &+ \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + k) |\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)|} \\ &\quad \times \int_0^1 (1 - s)^{\alpha+k-1} |h(s, z_1(s)) - h(s, z_2(s))| ds \\ &+ \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1) \Gamma(k) |\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)|} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \times \int_0^\tau (\tau - s)^{k-1} |h(s, z_1(s)) - h(s, z_2(s))| ds \\ & \leq [L(\|Tz_1 - z_1\|) + \|Tz_2 - z_2\|] \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\xi (\xi - s)^{k-1} ds + \frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\tau (\tau - s)^{k-1} ds \right. \\ & + \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)\Gamma(k)|\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)|} \int_0^\tau (\tau - s)^{k-1} ds \\ & \left. + \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + k)|\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)|} \int_0^1 (1 - s)^{\alpha+k-1} ds \right] \\ & \leq [L(\|Tz_1 - z_1\|) + \|Tz_2 - z_2\|] \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(k+1)} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(k+1)} \right. \\ & + \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)\Gamma(k+1)|\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)|} \\ & \left. + \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + k+1)|\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)|} \right] \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\|Tz_1 - Tz_2\| \leq L\Omega \|Tz_1 - z_1\| + L\Omega \|Tz_2 - z_2\|$$

As $\Omega < \frac{1}{2}$, therefore, all the conditions of Kannan's fixed point theorem are satisfied. Hence, T has a unique fixed point which is a solution of the problem (1.1). ■

Theorem 3.2. Assume that

(III) there exist non-negative constants L_1, L_2, L_3 such that $|h(\xi, z_1) - h(\xi, z_2)| \leq L_1|z_1 - z_2| + L_2|Tz_1 - z_1| + L_3|Tz_2 - z_2|$ for each $\xi \in [0, 1]$, and all $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{R}$.

(IV) $L_1 + L_2 + L_3 < \frac{1}{\Omega}$, where Ω is defined by (2.8), then the BVP (1.1) has a unique solution on $[0, 1]$.

Proof. We shall use Theorem 2.6 to prove that T has a unique fixed point.

Let $z_1, z_2 \in C([0, 1], \mathbb{R})$, then for each $\xi \in [0, 1]$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |T(z_1)(\xi) - T(z_2)(\xi)| & \leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\xi (\xi - s)^{k-1} |h(s, z_1(s)) - h(s, z_2(s))| ds \\ & + \frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\tau (\tau - s)^{k-1} |h(s, z_1(s)) - h(s, z_2(s))| ds \\ & + \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + k)|\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)|} \\ & \times \int_0^1 (1 - s)^{\alpha+k-1} |h(s, z_1(s)) - h(s, z_2(s))| ds \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)\Gamma(k)|\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)|} \\
 & \quad \times \int_0^\tau (\tau - s)^{k-1} |h(s, z_1(s)) - h(s, z_2(s))| ds \\
 \leq & [L_1 \|z_1 - z_2\| + L_2 \|Tz_1 - z_1\| + L_3 \|Tz_2 - z_2\|] \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\xi (\xi - s)^{k-1} ds + \frac{1}{\Gamma(k)} \int_0^\tau (\tau - s)^{k-1} ds \right. \\
 & + \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)\Gamma(k)|\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)|} \int_0^\tau (\tau - s)^{k-1} ds \\
 & \left. + \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + k)|\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)|} \int_0^1 (1 - s)^{\alpha+k-1} ds \right] \\
 \leq & [L_1 \|z_1 - z_2\| + L_2 \|Tz_1 - z_1\| + L_3 \|Tz_2 - z_2\|] \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(k+1)} + \frac{1}{\Gamma(k+1)} \right. \\
 & + \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)\Gamma(k+1)|\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)|} \\
 & \left. + \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + n)}{\Gamma(\alpha + k+1)|\Gamma(n) - \tau^{n-1}(\alpha + n - 1)(\alpha + n - 2) \dots (\alpha + 1)|} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\|Tz_1 - Tz_2\| \leq L_1 \Omega \|z_1 - z_2\| + L_2 \Omega \|Tz_1 - z_1\| + L_3 \Omega \|Tz_2 - z_2\|$$

As $L_1 + L_2 + L_3 < \frac{1}{\Omega}$, therefore, all the conditions of Theorem 2.6 are satisfied. Hence, T has a unique fixed point which is a solution of the problem (1.1). ■

IV CONCLUSION

In this work we have presented a new type of three-point nonlinear fractional boundary value problem of arbitrary order and find its existence and uniqueness of solutions using some new fixed point theorems which have not been used in the Literature.

REFERENCES

- [1] S.G. Samko, A.A. Kilbas, O.I. Marichev, Fractional integrals and derivatives: theory and applications (Yverdon, Gordon and Breach, 1993).
- [2] I. Podlubny, Fractional differential equations (San Diego, Academic Press, 1999).
- [3] J. Sabatier, O.P. Agrawal, J.A.T. Machado (Eds.), Advances in fractional calculus: theoretical developments and applications in physics and engineering (Dordrecht, Springer, 2007).
- [4] X. Su, Boundary value problem for a coupled system of nonlinear fractional differential equations, *Appl. Math. Lett.* 22, 2009, 64-69.

- [5] M. Benchohra, S. Hamani and S. K. Ntouyas, Boundary value problems for differential equations with fractional order and nonlocal conditions, *Nonlinear Analysis: Theory, Methods & Applications*, vol. 71, 2009, 2391-2396.
- [6] B. Ahmad, Existence of solutions for irregular boundary value problems of nonlinear fractional differential equations, *Applied Mathematics Letters*, vol. 23, 2010, 390-394.
- [7] B. Ahmad and S. Sivasundaram, On four-point nonlocal boundary value problems of nonlinear integro-differential equations of fractional order, *Applied Mathematics and Computation*, vol. 217, 2010, 480-487.
- [8] M. U. Rehman and R. A. Khan, Existence and uniqueness of solutions for multi-point boundary value problems for fractional differential equations, *Applied Mathematics Letters*, 23, 2010, 1038-1044.
- [9] B. Ahmad, A. Alsaedi and A. Assolami, Existence results for Caputo type fractional differential equations with four-point nonlocal fractional integral boundary conditions. *Electronic Journal of Qualitative Theory of Differential Equations*. 93, 2012, 1-11.
- [10] A. Guezane-Lakoud and R. Khaldi, Solvability of a three-point fractional non-linear boundary value problem. *Differ. Equ. Dyn. Syst.* 20, 2012, 395-403.
- [11] S.K. Ntouyas, Existence results for nonlocal boundary value problems for fractional differential equations and inclusions with fractional integral boundary conditions. *Discuss. Math., Differ. Incl. Control Optim.* 33, 2013, 17-39.
- [12] Libo Wang and Guigui Xu, Existence results for nonlinear fractional differential equations with integral boundary value problems, *Theoretical Mathematics & Applications*, 3(3), 2013, 63-73.
- [13] SK Ntouyas, Boundary value problems for nonlinear fractional differential equations and inclusions with nonlocal and fractional integral boundary conditions. *Opusc. Math.* 33, 2013, 117-138.
- [14] M. Houas and Z. Dahmani, New results for a Caputo boundary value problem. *American Journal of Computational and Applied Mathematics*. 3(3), 2013, 143-161.
- [15] M. Houas and Z. Dahmani, New results for a coupled system of fractional differential equations. *Facta A Universitatis (NIS) Ser. Math. Inform. Vol.* 28, 2013, 133-150.
- [16] A. A. Kilbas, H. M. Srivastava and J. J. Trujillo, Theory and applications of fractional differential equations (Amsterdam, Elsevier, 2006).
- [17] S. Reich, Some remarks concerning contraction mappings, *Can. math. Bull.* 14, 1971, 121-124.