

Research Article

Weak Solutions of a Coupled System of Urysohn-Stieltjes Functional (Delayed) Integral Equations

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We study the existence of weak solutions for the coupled system of functional integral equations of Urysohn-Stieltjes type in the reflexive Banach space E . As an application, the coupled system of Hammerstien-Stieltjes functional integral equations is also studied.

1. Introduction and Preliminaries

Consider the Urysohn-Stieltjes integral equation:

$$x(t) = p(t) + \int_0^1 f(t, s, x(s)) d_s g(t, s), \quad t \in I = [0, 1], \quad (1)$$

where $g : I \times I \rightarrow R$ is nondecreasing in the second argument (see [1]) and the symbol d_s indicates the integration with respect to s . Equations of type (1) and some of their generalizations were considered in the paper (see [2]). We remark here that when $E = R$, these types of equations have been studied by Banaś (see [1–5]) and also by some other authors, for example (see [6–10] and for coupled systems [11]). For the solutions in a reflexive Banach space (see [12, 13]).

In this paper, let $\psi_i(t) \leq t$ be continuous functions on $[0, 1]$. We generalize these results to study the existence of weak solutions $(x, y) \in C[I, E] \times C[I, E]$ for the coupled system of Urysohn-Stieltjes functional (delayed) integral equations:

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= a_1(t) + \int_0^1 f_1(t, s, y(\psi_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s), \quad t \in I, \\ y(t) &= a_2(t) + \int_0^1 f_2(t, s, x(\psi_2(s))) d_s g_2(t, s), \quad t \in I, \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

in the reflexive Banach space E under the weak-weak continuity assumption imposed on $f_i : I \times I \times E \rightarrow E, i = 1, 2$.

As an application, we study the existence of weak solutions $x, y \in C[I, E]$ for the coupled system of Hammerstien-Stieltjes functional integral equations:

$$\begin{aligned} x(t) &= a_1(t) + \int_0^1 k_1(t, s) h_1(s, y(\psi_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s), \quad t \in I, \\ y(t) &= a_2(t) + \int_0^1 k_2(t, s) h_2(s, x(\psi_2(s))) d_s g_2(t, s), \quad t \in I. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

For the definition, background, and properties of the Stieltjes integral, we refer to Banaś [1]. However, the coupled system of integral equations has been studied, recently, by some authors (see [14, 15]).

Throughout this paper, otherwise stated, E denotes a reflexive Banach space with norm $\|\cdot\|$ and dual E^* . Denote by $C[I, E]$ the Banach space of strongly continuous functions $x : I \rightarrow E$ with sup-norm.

Let $X = C[I, E] \times C[I, E] = \{u(t) = (x(t), y(t)) : x \in C[I, E], y \in C[I, E], t \in I\}$ be a Banach space with the norm defined as

$$\|(x, y)\|_X = \|x\|_{C[I, E]} + \|y\|_{C[I, E]}, \quad \forall (x, y) \in X. \quad (4)$$

Now, we shall present some auxiliary results that will be needed in this work. Let E be a Banach space (need not be reflexive) and let $x : [a, b] \rightarrow E$; then

- (1) $x(\cdot)$ is said to be weakly continuous (measurable) on $[a, b]$ if for every $\phi \in E^*$, $\phi(x(\cdot))$ is continuous (measurable) on $[a, b]$.
- (2) A function $h : E \rightarrow E$ is said to be weakly sequentially continuous if h maps weakly convergent sequences in E to weakly convergent sequences in E .

If x is weakly continuous on I , then x is strongly measurable and hence weakly measurable (see [16, 17]). It is evident that in reflexive Banach spaces, if x is weakly continuous function on $[a, b]$, then x is weakly Riemann integrable (see [17]). Since the space of all weakly Riemann-Stieltjes integrable functions is not complete, we will restrict our attention to the existence of weak solutions of the coupled system (2) in the space $C[I, E] \times C[I, E]$.

Definition 1. Let $f : I \times E \rightarrow E$. Then $f(t, u)$ is said to be weakly-weakly continuous at (t_0, u_0) ; if given $\epsilon > 0, \phi \in E^*$; there exists $\delta > 0$ and a weakly open set U containing u_0 such that

$$|\phi(f(t, u) - f(t_0, u_0))| < \epsilon, \quad (5)$$

whenever

$$\begin{aligned} |t - t_0| < \delta, \\ u \in U. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Now, we have the following fixed point theorem, due to O'Regan, in the Banach space (see [18]).

Theorem 1. *Let E be a Banach space, let Q be a nonempty, bounded, closed, and convex subset of $C[I, E]$, and let $F : Q \rightarrow Q$ be weakly sequentially continuous and assume that $FQ(t)$ is relatively weakly compact in E for each $t \in I$. Then F has a fixed point in set Q .*

Recall [19] that a subset of a reflexive Banach space is weakly compact if and only if it is closed in the weak topology and bounded in the norm topology. Thus, putting in mind that $TQ(t)$ is a bounded subset of E , then the condition $TQ(t)$ is weakly relatively compact and is automatically satisfied. Accordingly, we immediately have the following theorem.

Theorem 2. *Let E be a reflexive Banach space with Q a nonempty, closed, convex, and equicontinuous subset of $C[I, E]$. Assume that $T : Q \rightarrow Q$ is weakly sequentially continuous. Then T has a fixed point in Q .*

Proposition 1. *In the reflexive Banach space, the subset is weakly relatively compact if and only if it is bounded in the norm topology.*

Proposition 2. *Let E be a normed space with $y \in E$ and $y \neq 0$. Then there exists a $\phi \in E^*$ with $\|\phi\| = 1$ and $\|\phi\| = \phi(y)$.*

2. Main Results

In this section, we present our main result by proving the existence of weak solutions for the coupled system of Urysohn-Stieltjes integral equation (2) in the reflexive Banach space. Let us first state the following assumptions:

Assumption 1. $a_i \in C[I, E], i = 1, 2$.

Assumption 2. $\psi_i : I \rightarrow I$ is a continuous function such that $\psi_i(t) \leq t$.

Assumption 3. $f_i : I \times I \times E \rightarrow E, i = 1, 2$ satisfy the following conditions:

- (1) $f_i(\dots, s, x(\psi_i(s)))$ are continuous functions on I for every $x \in E$.
- (2) $f_i(t, \dots)$ are weakly-weakly continuous functions, $\forall t \in I$.
- (3) There exist two continuous functions $m_i(t), m_i : I \times I \rightarrow I$ and two positive constants b_i , such that $\|f_i(t, s, x)\| \leq m_i(t, s) + b_i\|x\|, i = 1, 2$.

Assumption 4. The functions $t \rightarrow g_i(t, 1)$ and $t \rightarrow g_i(t, 0)$ are continuous on I .

Assumption 5. For all $t_1, t_2 \in I$ such that $t_1 < t_2$, the functions $s \rightarrow g_i(t_2, s) - g_i(t_1, s)$ are nondecreasing on I .

Assumption 6. $g_i(0, s) = 0$, for any $s \in I$.

Remark 1. Observe that Assumptions 5 and 6 imply that the function $s \rightarrow g(t, s)$ is nondecreasing on the interval I , for any fixed $t \in I$ (Remark 1 in [5]). Indeed, putting $t_2 = t, t_1 = 0$ in Assumption 5 and keeping in mind Assumption 6, we obtain the desired conclusion. From this observation, it follows immediately that, for every $t \in I$, the function $s \rightarrow g(t, s)$ is of bounded variation on I .

Definition 2. By a weak solution for the coupled system (2), we mean the pair of functions $(x, y) \in C[I, E] \times C[I, E]$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(x(t)) &= \varphi(a_1(t)) + \int_0^1 \varphi(f_1(t, s, y(\psi_1(s)))) d_s g_1(t, s), \quad t \in I, \\ \varphi(y(t)) &= \varphi(a_2(t)) + \int_0^1 \varphi(f_2(t, s, x(\psi_2(s)))) d_s g_2(t, s), \quad t \in I, \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

for all $\varphi \in E^*$.

Now, let

$$\mu = \max \left\{ \sup_t |g_i(t, 1)| + \sup_t |g_i(t, 0)|, \quad t \in I \right\}, \quad i = 1, 2,$$

$$M = \max \{m_i(t, s): t, s \in I\}. \quad (8)$$

Then we have the following theorem.

Theorem 3. *Under the Assumptions 1–6, the coupled system of Urysohn-Stieltjes integral equation (2) has at least one weak solution $(x, y) \in C[I, E] \times C[I, E]$.*

Proof 1. Define an operator A by

$$A(x, y) = (A_1y, A_2y), \quad (9)$$

where

$$A_1y(t) = a_1(t) + \int_0^1 f_1(t, s, y(\psi_1(s))) d_s g_1(t, s), \quad t \in I,$$

$$A_2x(t) = a_2(t) + \int_0^1 f_2(t, s, x(\psi_2(s))) d_s g_2(t, s), \quad t \in I. \quad (10)$$

For every $x_i \in C[I, E]$, $f_i(\dots, s, x(\psi_i(s)))$ is continuous on I , and $f_i(t, \dots, x(\psi_i(\cdot)))$ are weakly continuous on I ; then $\varphi(f_i(t, \dots, x(\psi_i(\cdot))))$ are continuous for every $\varphi \in E^*$. Hence, in view of bounded variational of g_i it follows, $f_i(t, s, x(\psi_i(s)))$ is weakly Riemann-Stieltjes integrable on I with respect to $s \rightarrow g_i(t, s)$. Thus, A_i make sense.

Now, we can prove that $A_1 : C[I, E] \rightarrow C[I, E]$ and for $\epsilon > 0$, $t_1, t_2 \in I$, $t_1 < t_2$, and $t_2 - t_1 < \epsilon$ (without loss of generality, assume that $A_1y(t_2) - A_1y(t_1) \neq 0$), and there exists $\varphi \in E^*$, such that

$$\begin{aligned} & \|A_1y(t_2) - A_1y(t_1)\| \\ & \leq |\varphi(a_1(t_2) - a_1(t_1))| + \left| \int_0^1 \varphi(f_1(t_2, s, y(\psi_1(s)))) d_s g_1(t_2, s) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \int_0^1 \varphi(f_1(t_1, s, y(\psi_1(s)))) d_s g_1(t_1, s) \right| \\ & \leq \|a_1(t_2) - a_1(t_1)\| + \left| \int_0^1 \varphi(f_1(t_2, s, y(\psi_1(s)))) d_s g_1(t_2, s) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \int_0^1 \varphi(f_1(t_1, s, y(\psi_1(s)))) d_s g_1(t_2, s) \right| \\ & \quad + \left| \int_0^1 \varphi(f_1(t_1, s, y(\psi_1(s)))) d_s g_1(t_2, s) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \int_0^1 \varphi(f_1(t_1, s, y(\psi_1(s)))) d_s g_1(t_1, s) \right| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \leq \|a_1(t_2) - a_1(t_1)\| + \int_0^1 |\varphi(f_1(t_2, s, y(\psi_1(s))) \\ & \quad - f_1(t_1, s, y(\psi_1(s))))| d_s \left(\sum_{z=0}^s g_1(t_2, z) \right) \\ & \quad + \int_0^1 |\varphi(f_1(t_1, s, y(\psi_1(s))))| d_s \left(\sum_{z=0}^s [g_1(t_2, z) - g_1(t_1, z)] \right) \\ & \leq \|a_1(t_2) - a_1(t_1)\| + \|f_1(t_2, s, y) - f_1(t_1, s, y)\| \int_0^1 d_s g_1(t_2, s) \\ & \quad + \int_0^1 \|f_1(t_1, s, y)\| d_s [g_1(t_2, s) - g_1(t_1, s)] \\ & \leq \|a_1(t_2) - a_1(t_1)\| + \|f_1(t_2, s, y) - f_1(t_1, s, y)\| \\ & \quad \cdot [g_1(t_2, 1) - g_1(t_2, 0)] + \int_0^1 m_1(t, s) d_s [g_1(t_2, s) - g_1(t_1, s)] \\ & \quad + \int_0^1 b_1 \|y\| d_s [g_1(t_2, s) - g_1(t_1, s)] \\ & \leq \|a_1(t_2) - a_1(t_1)\| + \|f_1(t_2, s, y) - f_1(t_1, s, y)\| [g_1(t_2, 1) \\ & \quad - g_1(t_2, 0)] + M \int_0^1 d_s [g_1(t_2, s) - g_1(t_1, s)] \\ & \quad + b_1 r_1 \int_0^1 d_s [g_1(t_2, s) - g_1(t_1, s)] \\ & \leq \|a_1(t_2) - a_1(t_1)\| + \|f_1(t_2, s, y) - f_1(t_1, s, y)\| [g_1(t_2, 1) \\ & \quad - g_1(t_2, 0)] + (M + b_1 r_1) \\ & \quad \cdot [(g_1(t_2, 1) - g_1(t_1, 1)) - (g_1(t_2, 0) - g_1(t_1, 0))] \\ & \leq \|a_1(t_2) - a_1(t_1)\| + \|f_1(t_2, s, y) - f_1(t_1, s, y)\| \\ & \quad \cdot [g_1(t_2, 1) - g_1(t_2, 0)] + (M + b_1 r_1) [|g_1(t_2, 1) - g_1(t_1, 1)| \\ & \quad + |g_1(t_2, 0) - g_1(t_1, 0)|]. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \|A_1y(t_2) - A_1y(t_1)\| & \leq \|a_1(t_2) - a_1(t_1)\| + \|f_1(t_2, s, y) \\ & \quad - f_1(t_1, s, y)\| [g_1(t_2, 1) - g_1(t_2, 0)] \\ & \quad + (M + b_1 r_1) [|g_1(t_2, 1) - g_1(t_1, 1)| \\ & \quad + |g_1(t_2, 0) - g_1(t_1, 0)|]. \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

Similarly, we can show that

$$\begin{aligned} \|A_2x(t_2) - A_2x(t_1)\| & \leq \|a_2(t_2) - a_2(t_1)\| + \|f_2(t_2, s, y) \\ & \quad - f_2(t_1, s, y)\| [g_2(t_2, 1) - g_2(t_2, 0)] \\ & \quad + (M + b_2 r_2) [|g_2(t_2, 1) - g_2(t_1, 1)| \\ & \quad + |g_2(t_2, 0) - g_2(t_1, 0)|]. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} A(x, y)(t_2) - A(x, y)(t_1) & = (A_1y(t_2), A_2x(t_2)) - (A_1y(t_1), A_2x(t_1)) \\ & = ((A_1y(t_2) - A_1y(t_1)), (A_2x(t_2) - A_2x(t_1))), \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Since all conditions of Theorem 1 are satisfied, then the operator A has at least one fixed point $(x, y) = u \in Q$ and the coupled system of Urysohn-Stieltjes integral equation (2) has at least one weak solution.

3. Hammerstein-Stieltjes Coupled System

This section, as an application, deals with the existence of weak continuous solution for the coupled system of Hammerstein-Stieltjes functional integral equation (3). Consider the following assumption:

Assumption 7. Let $h_i : I \times E \rightarrow E$ and $k_i : I \times I \rightarrow R_+$ assume that h_i, k_i satisfy the following assumptions:

- (1) $h_i(s, x(\psi_i(s)))$ are weakly-weakly continuous functions.
- (2) There exist continuous functions $m_i^*(t)$ and constants $b_i > 0$ such that

$$\|h_i(t, x)\| \leq m_i^*(t) + b_i\|x\|, \quad (25)$$

for $t, s \in I, x \in E$. Moreover, we put $M^* = \max \{m_i^*(t) : t \in I\}, M^* > 0$.

- (3) $k_i(t, s)$ is a continuous function such that $K = \sup_t |k_i(t, s)|$, where K is a positive constant.

Definition 3. By a weak solution for the coupled system (3), we mean the pair of functions $(x, y) \in C[I, E] \times C[I, E]$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(x(t)) &= \varphi(a_1(t)) + \int_0^1 k_1(t, s) \varphi(h_1(s, y(\psi_1(s)))) d_s g_1(t, s), \quad t \in I, \\ \varphi(y(t)) &= \varphi(a_2(t)) + \int_0^1 k_2(t, s) \varphi(h_2(s, x(\psi_2(s)))) d_s g_2(t, s), \quad t \in I, \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

for all $\varphi \in E^*$.

Being new for the existence of weak solutions of (3), we have the following theorem.

Theorem 4: *Let Assumptions 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7 be satisfied. Then the coupled system of Hammerstein-Stieltjes functional integral equation (3) has at least one weak solution $(x, y) \in X$.*

Proof 2. Let

$$f_i(t, s, x(s)) = k_i(t, s) h_i(s, x(\psi_i(s))). \quad (27)$$

Then from Assumption 7, we find that the assumptions of Theorem 3 are satisfied and the result follows.

For example, consider the functions $g_i : I \times I \rightarrow R$ defined by the formula

$$\begin{aligned} g_1(t, s) &= \begin{cases} t \ln \frac{t+s}{t}, & \text{for } t \in (0, 1], s \in I, \\ 0, & \text{for } t = 0, s \in I, \end{cases} \quad (28) \\ g_2(t, s) &= t(t+s-1), \quad t \in I. \end{aligned}$$

It can be easily seen that the functions $g_1(t, s)$ and $g_2(t, s)$ satisfy assumptions (iv)-(vi) given in Theorem given in Theorem 3. In this case, the coupled system of Urysohn-Stieltjes integral equation (2) has the following form:

$$x(t) = a_1(t) + \int_0^1 \frac{t}{t+s} f_1(t, s, y(\psi_1(s))) ds, \quad t \in I, \quad (29)$$

$$y(t) = a_2(t) + \int_0^1 t f_2(t, s, x(\psi_2(s))) ds, \quad t \in I. \quad (30)$$

Therefore, the coupled system (29) has at least one weak solution $u = (x, y) \in X$, if the functions a_i, ψ_i , and f_i satisfy Assumptions 1-3.

Data Availability

There is no data availability.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this paper.

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