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# Step method for a system of integral equations from biomathematics



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### ABSTRACT

Using the step method, we study the following system of integral equations from biomathematics

$$x(t) = g(t, x(t), x(t - \tau)) + \int_{t-\tau}^{t} f(s, x(s)) ds, \quad t \in [a, b], \tau > 0$$

and we prove the existence, uniqueness and the convergence of the successive approximation sequence using the Perov contraction principle and step method with a weaker Lipschitz condition. Also, we propose a new algorithm of successive approximation sequence generated by the step method and we give an example to illustrate the applications of the abstract results.

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#### 1. Introduction

We consider the system of nonlinear integral equations from biomathematics

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = g(t, \mathbf{x}(t), \mathbf{x}(t-\tau)) + \int_{t-\tau}^{t} \mathbf{f}(s, \mathbf{x}(s)) ds, \quad t \in [a, b],$$
(1.1)

$$\mathbf{x}(t) = \boldsymbol{\varphi}(t), \quad t \in [a - \tau, a] \tag{1.2}$$

where  $(\mathbb{B}, |\cdot|)$  is a Banach space,  $\mathbf{g} \in C([a, b] \times \mathbb{B}^m \times \mathbb{B}^m, \mathbb{B}^m), \mathbf{g} = (g_1, \dots, g_m), \mathbf{f} \in C([a, b] \times \mathbb{B}^m, \mathbb{B}^m), \mathbf{f} = (f_1, \dots, f_m), \mathbf{g} \in C([a - \tau, a], \mathbb{B}^m), \mathbf{g} = (\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_m)$  and  $\tau > 0$  is a parameter.

In the one-dimensional case, the equations of this type were studied by Cooke and Kaplan [3], Ambro [1], Dobriţoiu [4], Dobriţoiu et al. [5], Guo and Lakshmikantham [8], Kirr [10], Precup and Kirr [13], Torrejon [26], Rus [16,15]. Also, the systems of integral equations were studied by Cañada and Zertiti [2], Dobriţoiu [6], Dobriţoiu and Şerban [7].

In the present work we use the ideas of Rus [14] to obtain existence, uniqueness theorems and the convergence of a iterative algorithm using Perov contraction principle, fibre contraction principle and step method. Such kind of results have been proved in [21] and [9] in the case of integro-differential equations with lags.

## 2. Fibre weakly Picard operator

Let (X, d) be a metric space and  $A : X \to X$  an operator. In this paper we shall use the terminologies and notations from [18]. For the convenience of the reader we shall recall some of them.

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0096-3003/\$ - see front matter © 2013 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.amc.2013.11.038 Denote by  $A^0 := 1_X, A^1 := A, A^{n+1} := A \circ A^n, n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the iterate operators of the operator A. Also

 $P(X) := \{Y \subseteq X | Y \neq \emptyset\},\$   $F_A := \{x \in X | A(x) = x\},\$  $I(A) := \{Y \in P(X) | A(Y) \subseteq Y\}.$ 

**Definition 2.1.**  $A : X \rightarrow X$  is called a Picard operator (briefly PO) if:

(i)  $F_A = \{x^*\}$ ; (ii)  $A^n(x) \to x^*$  as  $n \to \infty$ , for all  $x \in X$ .

**Definition 2.2.**  $A : X \to X$  is said to be a weakly Picard operator (briefly WPO) if the sequence  $(A^n(x))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges for all  $x \in X$  and the limit (which may depend on x) is a fixed point of A.

If  $A : X \to X$  is a WPO, then we may define the operator  $A^{\infty} : X \to X$  by

 $A^{\infty}(x) := \lim_{n \to \infty} A^n(x).$ 

Obviously  $A^{\infty}(X) = F_A$ . Moreover, if A is a PO and we denote by  $x^*$  its unique fixed point, then  $A^{\infty}(x) = x^*$ , for each  $x \in X$ .

**Definition 2.3.** A matrix  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}_+$  is called a matrix convergent to zero iff  $Q^k \to 0$  as  $k \to +\infty$ .

**Theorem 2.1** (see [12,19,24]). Let  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}_+$ . The following statements are equivalent:

- (i) Q is a matrix convergent to zero;
- (ii)  $Q^k x \to 0$  as  $k \to +\infty, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ;
- (iii)  $I_m Q$  is non-singular and
- $(I_m Q)^{-1} = I_m + Q + Q^2 + \dots$

(iv)  $I_m - Q$  is non-singular and  $(I_m - Q)^{-1}$  has nonnegative elements;

(v)  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ , det  $(Q - \lambda I_m) = 0$  imply  $|\lambda| < 1$ ;

(vi) there exists at least one subordinate matrix norm such that  $\|Q\|<1.$ 

The matrices convergent to zero were used by Perov [11] to generalize the contraction principle in the case of generalized metric spaces with the metric taking values in the positive cone of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .

**Definition 2.4** (*see* [11,19,20]). Let (X, d) be a complete generalized metric space with  $d : X \times X \to \mathbb{R}^m_+$  and  $A : X \to X$ . The operator A is called a Q-contraction if there exists a matrix  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}_+$  such that:

(i) Q is a matrix convergent to zero; (ii)  $d(A(x), A(y)) \leq Qd(x, y)$ , for all  $x, y \in X$ .

**Theorem 2.2** (*Perov* (see [19,20])). Let (X, d) be a complete generalized metric space with  $d : X \times X \to \mathbb{R}^m_+$  and  $A : X \to X$  be a *Q*-contraction. Then:

(i) *A* is PO,  $F_A = F_{A^n} = \{x^*\}$ , for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$ ; (ii)  $d(A^n(x), x^*) \leq (I_m - Q)^{-1}Q^n d(x, A(x))$ , for all  $x \in X$ .

**Theorem 2.3** (*Rus* [17] (Generalized Fiber Contraction Theorem)). Let(*X*, *d*) be a metric space (generalized or not) and (*Y*,  $\rho$ ) be a complete generalized metric space ( $\rho(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ). Let  $A : X \times Y \longrightarrow X \times Y$ , A(x, y) = (B(x), C(x, y)), be a continuous operator, where  $B : X \longrightarrow X$  and  $C : X \times Y \longrightarrow Y$  be two operators. We suppose that:

(i) B is a WPO;

(ii) There exists a matrix  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}_+$ , converging to zero, such that

 $\rho(\mathsf{C}(\mathsf{x},\mathsf{y}_1),\mathsf{C}(\mathsf{x},\mathsf{y}_2)) \leqslant Q\rho(\mathsf{y}_1,\mathsf{y}_2),$ 

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