

# Existence and uniqueness results for boundary value problems with Riemann-Liouville fractional derivatives



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## Abstract

The main objective in this work is to study Existence and uniqueness for boundary value problems with multiple orders of Riemann-Liouville fractional derivatives and integrals, by employing some fixed point theories.

**Keywords:** fractional integral, fractional derivative, Caputo derivative, Riemann-Liouville derivative, fixed point theorems.

## 1. Introduction

we study a boundary value problem which includes Riemann-Liouville fractional derivatives and integrals of multi-orders of the form

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{D}^{k^*}(u(t)) = \hat{\Upsilon}(t, u(t)), & t \in [0, 1], k^* \in (2, 3] \\ u(0) = 0, \mathcal{D}^{\gamma_1^*}u(1) = \delta_1^*, \mathcal{I}^{q_1^*}u(1) = \delta_2^*, \end{cases} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $k^* \in (2, 3]$ ,  $\mathcal{D}^{k^*}$  denotes the Riemann-Liouville fractional derivative of order  $k^*$ ,  $\mathcal{I}^{q_1^*}$  denotes the Riemann-Liouville fractional integral of order  $q_1^*$  and the maps  $\hat{\Upsilon} : [0, 1] \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous.

The boundary value problem (1.1) is equivalent to the following integral equation:

$$\begin{aligned} u(t) = & \frac{1}{\Gamma(k^*)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{k^*-1} \hat{\Upsilon}(t, u(s)) ds + \frac{t^{k^*-1}}{\Theta^*} \times \left[ \Lambda_4^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*-\gamma_1^*} \hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) \right. \\ & - \Lambda_2^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*+q_1^*} \hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) + \Lambda_2^* \delta_2^* - \Lambda_4^* \delta_1^* \left. \right] - \frac{t^{k^*-2}}{\Theta^*} \left[ \Lambda_3^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*-\gamma_1^*} \hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) \right. \\ & \left. - \Lambda_1^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*+q_1^*} \hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) + \Lambda_1^* \delta_2^* - \Lambda_3^* \delta_1^* \right] \end{aligned}$$

where the nonzero constant  $\Lambda_i^*$ ,  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda_1^* &= \frac{\Gamma(k^*)}{\Gamma(k^* - \gamma_1^*)} T^{k^*-\gamma_1^*-1} \\ \Lambda_2^* &= \frac{\Gamma(k^* - 1)}{\Gamma(k^* - \gamma_1^* - 1)} T^{k^*-\gamma_1^*-2} \\ \Lambda_3^* &= \frac{\Gamma(k^*)}{\Gamma(k^* + q_1^*)} T^{k^*+q_1^*-1} \\ \Lambda_4^* &= \frac{\Gamma(k^* - 1)}{\Gamma(k^* + q_1^* - 1)} T^{k^*+q_1^*-2} \\ \Theta^* &= \Lambda_3^* \Lambda_2^* - \Lambda_1^* \Lambda_4^* \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

Let  $\mathcal{C} = C(J, \mathbb{R})$  denotes the Banach space of all continuous functions from  $J = [0, T]$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  endowed with the usual sup-norm  $\|u\| = \sup_{t \in J} |u(t)|$ . By Lemma 1, the boundary value problem (1.1) can be transformed to a fixed point problem  $u = \mathcal{F}u$ , where the operator  $\mathcal{F} : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}u(t) = & \frac{1}{\Gamma(k^*)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{k^*-1} \hat{\Upsilon}(t, u(s)) ds + \frac{t^{k^*-1}}{\Theta^*} \times \left[ \Lambda_4^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*-\gamma_1^*} \hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) \right. \\ & - \Lambda_2^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*+q_1^*} \hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) + \Lambda_2^* \delta_2^* - \Lambda_4^* \delta_1^* \left. \right] - \frac{t^{k^*-2}}{\Theta^*} \left[ \Lambda_3^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*-\gamma_1^*} \hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) \right. \\ & \left. - \Lambda_1^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*+q_1^*} \hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) + \Lambda_1^* \delta_2^* - \Lambda_3^* \delta_1^* \right] \end{aligned} \quad (1.3)$$

Observe that the boundary value problem (1.1) has a solution if and only if the associated fixed point problem  $u = \mathcal{F}u$  has a fixed point. For the sake of computational convenience, we use the notations

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{W} = & \frac{T^{k^*}}{\Gamma(k^* + 1)} + \frac{\Lambda_4^* + \Lambda_3^* T^{-1}}{|\Theta^*|} \left( \frac{T^{2k^*-\gamma_1^*-1}}{\Gamma(k^* - \gamma_1^* + 1)} \right) \\ & + \frac{\Lambda_2^* + \Lambda_1^* T^{-1}}{|\Theta^*|} \left( \frac{T^{2k^*+q_1^*-1}}{\Gamma(k^* + q_1^* + 1)} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (1.4)$$

## 2. Study of existence and uniqueness

In the first result we prove an existence and uniqueness result by means of Banach's contraction mapping principle

**Theorem 2.1** suppose that  $\hat{\Upsilon} : J \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a continuous function and satisfies the following assumption:

(H<sub>1</sub>) There exists a constant  $\mathcal{L} > 0$  such that

$$|\hat{\Upsilon}(t, u) - \hat{\Upsilon}(t, u')| \leq \mathcal{L}|u - u'|, \text{ for each } t \in J \text{ and } u, u' \in \mathbb{R}.$$

If

$$\mathcal{L}\mathcal{W}_2 < 1,$$

where  $\mathcal{W}_1, \mathcal{W}_2$  are defined by (??) and (1.4), respectively, then the boundary value problem 1.1 has a unique solution on  $J$ .

**proof 2.2** Setting  $\sup_{t \in J} |\hat{\Upsilon}(t, 0)| = \mathcal{N}^* < \infty$ , and choosing

$$\frac{|\Theta^*| \mathcal{N}^* \mathcal{R}_2 + T^{k^*-1} (|\Lambda_2^* \delta_2^*| + |\Lambda_4^* \delta_1^*|) + T^{k^*-2} (|\Lambda_1^* \delta_2^*| + |\Lambda_3^* \delta_1^*|)}{|\Theta^*| (1 - \mathcal{L}\mathcal{W}_2)} \leq \mathcal{R}^*$$

where  $\Lambda_i$   $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  are given by (??), as a first step, we show that  $\mathcal{F}\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{R}} \subset \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{R}}$ , where  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{R}} = \{u \in \mathcal{C} : \|u\| \leq \mathcal{R}\}$ . For any  $u \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{R}}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{F}u(t)| & \leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(k^*)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{k^*-1} |\hat{\Upsilon}(t, u(s)) - \hat{\Upsilon}(t, 0)| + |\hat{\Upsilon}(t, 0)| ds \\ & + \frac{T^{k^*-1}}{|\Theta^*|} \times \left[ \Lambda_4^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*-\gamma_1^*} (|\hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) - \hat{\Upsilon}(T, 0)| + |\hat{\Upsilon}(T, 0)|) \right. \\ & + \Lambda_2^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*+q_1^*} (|\hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) - \hat{\Upsilon}(T, 0)| + |\hat{\Upsilon}(T, 0)|) + \Lambda_2^* \delta_2^* - \Lambda_4^* \delta_1^* \\ & + \frac{t^{k^*-2}}{|\Theta^*|} \left[ \Lambda_3^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*-\gamma_1^*} (|\hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) - \hat{\Upsilon}(T, 0)| + |\hat{\Upsilon}(T, 0)|) \right. \\ & \left. + \Lambda_1^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*+q_1^*} |\hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) - \hat{\Upsilon}(T, 0)| + |\hat{\Upsilon}(T, 0)| + |\Lambda_1^* \delta_2^*| + |\Lambda_3^* \delta_1^*| \right] \\ & \leq (\mathcal{L}\|u\| + \mathcal{N}^*) \left[ \frac{T^{k^*}}{\lambda^* \Gamma(k^* + 1)} + \frac{\Lambda_4^* + \Lambda_3^* T^{-1}}{|\Theta^*|} \left( \frac{T^{2k^*-\gamma_1^*-1}}{\lambda^* \Gamma(k^* - \gamma_1^* + 1)} \right) \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{\Lambda_2^* + \Lambda_1^* T^{-1}}{|\Theta^*|} \left( \frac{T^{2k^*+q_1^*-1}}{\lambda^* \Gamma(k^* + q_1^* + 1)} \right) \right] \\ & + \frac{1}{|\Theta^*|} \left[ T^{k^*-1} (|\Lambda_2^* \delta_2^*| + |\Lambda_4^* \delta_1^*|) + T^{k^*-2} (|\Lambda_1^* \delta_2^*| + |\Lambda_3^* \delta_1^*|) \right] \\ & = \mathcal{L}\mathcal{W}_2 \mathcal{R} + \mathcal{N}^* \mathcal{W}_2 + \frac{1}{|\Theta^*|} \left[ T^{k^*-1} (|\Lambda_2^* \delta_2^*| + |\Lambda_4^* \delta_1^*|) + T^{k^*-2} (|\Lambda_1^* \delta_2^*| + |\Lambda_3^* \delta_1^*|) \right] \\ & \leq \mathcal{R} \end{aligned}$$

This means that  $\|\mathcal{F}u\| \leq \mathcal{R}$ , which leads to  $\mathcal{F}\mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{R}} \subset \mathcal{B}_{\mathcal{R}}$ . Next, we let  $u, u' \in \mathcal{C}$ . Then, for  $t \in J$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{F}u(t) - \mathcal{F}u'(t)| & \leq \frac{1}{\Gamma(k^*)} \int_0^t (t-s)^{k^*-1} |\hat{\Upsilon}(t, u(s)) - \hat{\Upsilon}(t, u'(s))| ds \\ & + \frac{T^{k^*-1}}{|\Theta^*|} \times \left[ \Lambda_4^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*-\gamma_1^*} (|\hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) - \hat{\Upsilon}(T, u'(T))|) + \Lambda_2^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*+q_1^*} (|\hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) - \hat{\Upsilon}(T, u'(T))|) \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{t^{k^*-2}}{|\Theta^*|} \left[ \Lambda_3^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*-\gamma_1^*} (|\hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) - \hat{\Upsilon}(T, u'(T))|) + \Lambda_1^* \mathcal{I}^{k^*+q_1^*} |\hat{\Upsilon}(T, u(T)) - \hat{\Upsilon}(T, u'(T))| \right] \right] \\ & \leq (\mathcal{L}\|u - u'\|) \left[ \frac{T^{k^*}}{\lambda^* \Gamma(k^* + 1)} + \frac{\Lambda_4^* + \Lambda_3^* T^{-1}}{|\Theta^*|} \left( \frac{\mu_1^* T^{2k^*-\gamma_1^*-1}}{\lambda^* \Gamma(k^* - \gamma_1^* + 1)} \right) \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{\Lambda_2^* + \Lambda_1^* T^{-1}}{|\Theta^*|} \left( \frac{\mu_2^* T^{2k^*+q_1^*-1}}{\lambda^* \Gamma(k^* + q_1^* + 1)} \right) \right] \\ & = \mathcal{L}\mathcal{W}_2 \|u - u'\| \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $\|\mathcal{F}u - \mathcal{F}u'\| \leq \mathcal{L}\mathcal{W}_2 \|u - u'\|$ . Since  $\mathcal{L}\mathcal{W}_2 \leq 1$ ,  $\mathcal{F}$  is a contraction. Therefore, by the Banach contraction mapping principle, we see that  $\mathcal{F}$  has a fixed point which is the unique solution of the boundary value problem 1.1. The proof is completed.

## 3. The study of existence

Our final existence result is based on Leray-Schauder's nonlinear alternative.

**Theorem 3.1** Suppose that  $\hat{\Upsilon} : J \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a continuous function and the following conditions hold:

(H<sub>3</sub>) There exist a continuous nondecreasing function  $\Psi : [0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  and a function  $\Phi \in C(J, \mathbb{R}^+)$  such that

$$|\hat{\Upsilon}(t, u)| \leq \Phi(t) \Psi(\|u\|) \text{ for each } (t, u) \in J \times \mathbb{R}$$

(H<sub>4</sub>) There exists a constant  $\mathcal{Q}^* > 0$  such that

$$\frac{\mathcal{Q}^* |\Theta^*|}{\Psi(\mathcal{Q}^*) \|\Phi\| |\Theta^*| \mathcal{W}_2 + T^{k^*-1} (|\Lambda_2^* \delta_2^*| + |\Lambda_4^* \delta_1^*|) + T^{k^*-2} (|\Lambda_1^* \delta_2^*| + |\Lambda_3^* \delta_1^*|)} > 1,$$

where  $\mathcal{W}_2$  are defined by (??) and (1.4), respectively. Then the boundary value problem 1.1 has at least one solution on  $J$ .

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