

## Research Article

# Singular Cauchy Initial Value Problem for Certain Classes of Integro-Differential Equations

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The existence and uniqueness of solutions and asymptotic estimate of solution formulas are studied for the following initial value problem:  $g(t)y'(t) = ay(t)[1 + f(t, y(t), \int_{0^+}^t K(t, s, y(t), y(s))ds)]$ ,  $y(0^+) = 0$ ,  $t \in (0, t_0]$ , where  $a > 0$  is a constant and  $t_0 > 0$ . An approach which combines topological method of T. Ważewski and Schauder's fixed point theorem is used.

## 1. Introduction and Preliminaries

The singular Cauchy problem for first-order differential and integro-differential equations resolved (or unresolved) with respect to the derivatives of unknowns is fairly well studied (see, e.g., [1–16]), but the asymptotic properties of the solutions of such equations are only partially understood. Although the singular Cauchy problems were widely considered by using various methods (see, e.g., [1–13, 16–18]), the method used here is based on a different approach. In particular, we use a combination of the topological method of T. Ważewski (see, e.g., [19, 20]) and Schauder's fixed point theorem [21]. Our technique leads to the existence and uniqueness of solutions with asymptotic estimates in the right neighbourhood of a singular point.

Consider the following problem:

$$\begin{aligned} g(t)y'(t) &= ay(t) \left[ 1 + f \left( t, y(t), \int_{0^+}^t K(t, s, y(t), y(s)) ds \right) \right], \\ y(0^+) &= 0, \end{aligned} \tag{1.1}$$

where  $f \in C^0(J \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $K \in C^0(J \times J \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $J = (0, t_0]$ ,  $t_0 > 0$ . Denote

$$f(t) = o(g(t)) \text{ as } t \rightarrow 0^+ \text{ if there is valid } \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} (f(t)/g(t)) = 0,$$

$$f(t) \sim g(t) \text{ as } t \rightarrow 0^+ \text{ if there is valid } \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} (f(t)/g(t)) = 1.$$

The functions  $g, f, K$  will be assumed to satisfy the following.

- (i)  $a > 0$  is a constant,  $g(t) \in C^1(J)$ ,  $g(t) > 0$ ,  $g(0^+) = 0$ ,  $g'(t) \sim \psi(t)g^\lambda(t)$  as  $t \rightarrow 0^+$ ,  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $\psi(t)g^\tau(t) = o(1)$  as  $t \rightarrow 0^+$  for each  $\tau > 0$ ,  $\psi \in C(J, \mathbb{R}^+)$ .
- (ii)  $|f(t, u, v)| \leq |u| + |v|$ ,  $|\int_{0^+}^t K(t, s, y(t), y(s))ds| \leq r(t)|y|$ ,  $0 < r(t) \in C(J)$ ,  $r(t) = \phi(t, C)o(1)$  as  $t \rightarrow 0^+$ , where  $\phi(t, C) = C \exp(\int_{t_0}^t (a/g(s))ds)$  is the general solution of the equation  $g(t)y'(t) = ay(t)$ .

In the text we will apply the topological method of Wazewski and Schauder's theorem. Therefore, we give a short summary of them.

Let  $f(t, y)$  be a continuous function defined on an open  $(t, y)$ -set  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\Omega^0$  an open set of  $\Omega$ ,  $\partial\Omega^0$  the boundary of  $\Omega^0$  with respect to  $\Omega$ , and  $\overline{\Omega^0}$  the closure of  $\Omega^0$  with respect to  $\Omega$ . Consider the system of ordinary differential equations

$$y' = f(t, y). \quad (1.2)$$

*Definition 1.1* (see [19]). The point  $(t_0, y_0) \in \Omega \cap \partial\Omega^0$  is called an egress (or an ingress point) of  $\Omega^0$  with respect to system (1.2) if for every fixed solution of system (1.2),  $y(t_0) = y_0$ , there exists an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $(t, y(t)) \in \Omega^0$  for  $t_0 - \epsilon \leq t < t_0$  ( $t_0 < t \leq t_0 + \epsilon$ ). An egress point (ingress point)  $(t_0, y_0)$  of  $\Omega^0$  is called a strict egress point (strict ingress point) of  $\Omega^0$  if  $(t, y(t)) \notin \overline{\Omega^0}$  on interval  $t_0 < t \leq t_0 + \epsilon_1$  ( $t_0 - \epsilon_1 \leq t < t_0$ ) for an  $\epsilon_1$ .

*Definition 1.2* (see [19]). An open subset  $\Omega^0$  of the set  $\Omega$  is called a  $(u, v)$ -subset of  $\Omega$  with respect to system (1.2) if the following conditions are satisfied.

- (1) There exist functions  $u_i(t, y) \in C^1(\Omega, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , and  $v_j(t, y) \in C[\Omega, \mathbb{R}]$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $m + n > 0$  such that

$$\Omega_0 = \{(t, y) \in \Omega : u_i(t, y) < 0, v_j(t, y) < 0 \ \forall i, j\}. \quad (1.3)$$

- (2)  $\dot{u}_\alpha(t, y) < 0$  holds for the derivatives of the functions  $u_\alpha(t, y)$ ,  $\alpha = 1, \dots, m$ , along trajectories of system (1.2) on the set

$$U_\alpha = \{(t, y) \in \Omega : u_\alpha(t, y) = 0, u_i(t, y) \leq 0, v_j(t, y) \leq 0, \forall j, i \neq \alpha\}. \quad (1.4)$$

- (3)  $\dot{v}_\beta(t, y) > 0$  holds for the derivatives of the functions  $v_\beta(t, y)$ ,  $\beta = 1, \dots, n$ , along trajectories of system (1.2) on the set

$$V_\beta = \{(t, y) \in \Omega : v_\beta(t, y) = 0, u_i(t, y) \leq 0, v_j(t, y) \leq 0, \forall i, j \neq \beta\}. \quad (1.5)$$

The set of all points of egress (strict egress) is denoted by  $\Omega_e^0$  ( $\Omega_{se}^0$ ).

**Lemma 1.3** (see [19]). *Let the set  $\Omega_0$  be a  $(u, v)$ -subset of the set  $\Omega$  with respect to system (1.2). Then*

$$\Omega_{se}^0 = \Omega_e^0 = \bigcup_{\alpha=1}^m U_\alpha \setminus \bigcup_{\beta=1}^n V_\beta. \tag{1.6}$$

*Definition 1.4* (see [19]). Let  $X$  be a topological space and  $B \subset X$ .

Let  $A \subset B$ . A function  $r \in C(B, A)$  such that  $r(a) = a$  for all  $a \in A$  is a retraction from  $B$  to  $A$  in  $X$ .

The set  $A \subset B$  is a retract of  $B$  in  $X$  if there exists a retraction from  $B$  to  $A$  in  $X$ .

**Theorem 1.5** (Ważewski’s theorem [19]). *Let  $\Omega^0$  be some  $(u, v)$ -subset of  $\Omega$  with respect to system (1.2). Let  $S$  be a nonempty compact subset of  $\Omega^0 \cup \Omega_e^0$  such that the set  $S \cap \Omega_e^0$  is not a retract of  $S$  but is a retract  $\Omega_e^0$ . Then there is at least one point  $(t_0, y_0) \in S \cap \Omega_0$  such that the graph of a solution  $y(t)$  of the Cauchy problem  $y(t_0) = y_0$  for (1.2) lies in  $\Omega_0$  on its right-hand maximal interval of existence.*

**Theorem 1.6** (Schauder’s theorem [21]). *Let  $E$  be a Banach space and  $S$  its nonempty convex and closed subset. If  $P$  is a continuous mapping of  $S$  into itself and  $PS$  is relatively compact then the mapping  $P$  has at least one fixed point.*

## 2. Main Results

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let assumptions (i) and (ii) hold, then for each  $C \neq 0$ , there exists one solution  $y(t, C)$  of initial problem (1.1) such that*

$$\left| y^{(i)}(t, C) - \phi^{(i)}(t, C) \right| \leq \delta \left( \phi^2(t, C) \right)^{(i)}, \quad i = 0, 1, \tag{2.1}$$

for  $t \in (0, t^\Delta]$ , where  $0 < t^\Delta \leq t_0$ ,  $\delta > 1$  is a constant, and  $t^\Delta$  depends on  $\delta, C$ .

*Proof.* (1) Denote  $E$  the Banach space of continuous functions  $h(t)$  on the interval  $[0, t_0]$  with the norm

$$\|h(t)\| = \max_{t \in [0, t_0]} |h(t)|. \tag{2.2}$$

The subset  $S$  of Banach space  $E$  will be the set of all functions  $h(t)$  from  $E$  satisfying the inequality

$$|h(t) - \phi(t, C)| \leq \delta \phi^2(t, C). \tag{2.3}$$

The set  $S$  is nonempty, convex and closed.

(2) Now we will construct the mapping  $P$ . Let  $h_0(t) \in S$  be an arbitrary function. Substituting  $h_0(t), h_0(s)$  instead of  $y(t), y(s)$  into (1.1), we obtain the differential equation

$$g(t)y'(t) = ay(t) \left[ 1 + f \left( t, y(t), \int_{0^+}^t K(t, s, h_0(t), h_0(s)) ds \right) \right]. \tag{2.4}$$

Set

$$y(t) = \phi(t, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) Y_0(t), \quad (2.5)$$

$$y'(t) = \phi'(t, C) + \frac{1}{g(t)} C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) Y_1(t), \quad (2.6)$$

where  $0 < \alpha < 1$  is a constant and new functions  $Y_0(t)$  and  $Y_1(t)$  satisfy the differential equation

$$g(t)Y_0'(t) = (\alpha - 1)aY_0(t) + Y_1(t). \quad (2.7)$$

From (2.3), it follows that

$$h_0(t) = \phi(t, C) + H_0(t), \quad |H_0(t)| \leq \delta \phi^2(t, C). \quad (2.8)$$

Substituting (2.5), (2.6) and (2.8) into (2.4) we get

$$\begin{aligned} Y_1(t) = & aY_0(t) + \left( aC \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{\alpha a}{g(s)} ds\right) + aY_0(t) \right) \\ & \times f\left(t, \phi(t, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) Y_0(t), \right. \\ & \left. \int_{0^+}^t K(t, s, \phi(t, C) + H_0(t), \phi(s, C) + H_0(s)) ds \right). \end{aligned} \quad (2.9)$$

Substituting (2.9) into (2.7) we get

$$\begin{aligned} g(t)Y_0'(t) = & \alpha aY_0(t) + \left( aC \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{\alpha a}{g(s)} ds\right) + aY_0(t) \right) \\ & \times f\left(t, \phi(t, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) Y_0(t), \right. \\ & \left. \int_{0^+}^t K(t, s, \phi(t, C) + H_0(t), \phi(s, C) + H_0(s)) ds \right). \end{aligned} \quad (2.10)$$

In view of (2.5), (2.6) it is obvious that a solution of (2.10) determines a solution of (2.4).

Now we will use Ważewski's topological method. Consider an open set  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}$ . Investigate the behaviour of integral curves of (2.10) with respect to the boundary of the set

$$\Omega_0 \subset \Omega, \quad \Omega_0 = \{(t, Y_0) : 0 < t < t_0, u_0(t, Y_0) < 0\}, \quad (2.11)$$

where

$$u_0(t, Y_0) = Y_0^2 - \left( \delta C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1+\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) \right)^2. \quad (2.12)$$

Calculating the derivative  $\dot{u}_0(t, Y_0)$  along the trajectories of (2.10) on the set

$$\partial\Omega_0 = \{(t, Y_0) : 0 < t < t_0, u_0(t, Y_0) = 0\}, \quad (2.13)$$

we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{u}_0(t, Y_0) = & \frac{2a}{g(t)} \left[ \alpha Y_0^2(t) + \left( Y_0(t) C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{\alpha a}{g(s)} ds\right) + Y_0^2(t) \right) \right. \\ & \times f\left(t, \phi(t, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) Y_0(t), \right. \\ & \left. \int_{0^+}^t K(t, s, \phi(t, C) + H_0(t), \phi(s, C) + H_0(s)) ds \right) \\ & \left. - \delta^2(1+\alpha)C^2 \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{2(1+\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (2.14)$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \varphi(t) g^\tau(t) &= 0 \quad \text{for any } \tau > 0, \\ g'(t) &\sim \varphi(t) g^\lambda(t) \quad \text{for } t \rightarrow 0^+, \lambda > 0, \end{aligned} \quad (2.15)$$

then there exists a positive constant  $M$  such that

$$g'(t) < M, \quad t \in (0, t_0]. \quad (2.16)$$

Consequently,

$$\int_{t_0}^t \frac{ds}{g(s)} < \frac{1}{M} \int_{t_0}^t \frac{g'(s)dt}{g(s)} = \frac{1}{M} \ln \frac{g(t)}{g(t_0)} \rightarrow -\infty \quad \text{if } t \rightarrow 0^+. \quad (2.17)$$

From here  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} \phi(t, C) = 0$  and by L'Hospital's rule  $\phi^\tau(t, C)g^\sigma(t) = o(1)$  for  $t \rightarrow 0^+$ ,  $\sigma$  is an arbitrary real number. These both identities imply that the powers of  $\phi(t, C)$  affect the convergence to zero of the terms in (2.14), in decisive way.

Using the assumptions of Theorem 2.1 and the definition of  $Y_0(t)$ ,  $\phi(t, C)$ , we get that the first term  $\alpha Y_0^2(t)$  in (2.14) has the form

$$\alpha Y_0^2(t) = \alpha \delta^2 C^2 \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{2(1+\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right), \quad (2.18)$$

and the second term

$$\begin{aligned} \left( Y_0(t)C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{\alpha a}{g(s)} ds\right) + Y_0^2(t) \right) \times f\left(t, \phi(t, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) Y_0(t), \right. \\ \left. \int_{0^+}^t K(t, s, \phi(t, C) + H_0(t), \phi(s, C) + H_0(s)) ds \right) \end{aligned} \quad (2.19)$$

is bounded by terms with exponents which are greater than

$$\int_{t_0}^t \frac{2(1+\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds. \quad (2.20)$$

From here, we obtain

$$\text{sgn } \dot{u}_0(t, Y_0) = \text{sgn}\left(-\delta^2 C^2 (1+\alpha) \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{2(1+\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right)\right) = -1 \quad (2.21)$$

for sufficiently small  $t^*$ , depending on  $C, \delta$ ,  $0 < t^* \leq t_0$ .

The relation (2.21) implies that each point of the set  $\partial\Omega_0$  is a strict ingress point with respect to (2.10). Change the orientation of the axis  $t$  into opposite. Now each point of the set  $\partial\Omega_0$  is a strict egress point with respect to the new system of coordinates. By Ważewski's topological method, we state that there exists at least one integral curve of (2.10) lying in  $\Omega_0$  for  $t \in (0, t^*)$ . It is obvious that this assertion remains true for an arbitrary function  $h_0(t) \in S$ .

Now we will prove the uniqueness of a solution of (2.10). Let  $\bar{Y}_0(t)$  be also the solution of (2.10). Putting  $Z_0 = Y_0 - \bar{Y}_0$  and substituting into (2.10), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 g(t)Z'_0 &= \alpha a Z_0 + \left( aC \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{\alpha a}{g(s)} ds\right) + a(t)Z_0(t) \right) \\
 &\times \left[ f\left(t, \phi(t, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right)\right) (Z_0(t) + \bar{Y}_0(t)), \right. \\
 &\quad \left. \int_{0^+}^t K(t, s, \phi(t, C) + H_0(t), \phi(s, C) + H_0(s)) ds \right) \quad (2.22) \\
 &- f\left(t, \phi(t, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right)\right) \bar{Y}_0(t), \\
 &\quad \left. \int_{0^+}^t K(t, s, \phi(t, C) + H_0(t), \phi(s, C) + H_0(s)) ds \right) \Big].
 \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$\Omega_1(\delta) = \{(t, Z_0) : 0 < t < t^*, u_1(t, Z_0) < 0\}, \quad (2.23)$$

where

$$u_1(t, Z_0) = Z_0^2 - \left( \delta C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1+\alpha-\mu)a}{g(s)} ds\right) \right)^2, \quad 0 < \mu < \alpha. \quad (2.24)$$

Using the same method as above, we have

$$\operatorname{sgn} \dot{u}_1(t, Z_0) = -1 \quad (2.25)$$

for  $t \in (0, t^*]$ . It is obvious that  $\Omega_0 \subset \Omega_1(\delta)$  for  $t \in (0, t^*)$ . Let  $\bar{Z}_0(t)$  be any nonzero solution of (2.14) such that  $(t_1, \bar{Z}_0(t_1)) \in \Omega_1$  for  $0 < t_1 < t^*$ . Let  $\bar{\delta} \in (0, \delta)$  be such a constant that  $(t_1, \bar{Z}_0(t_1)) \in \partial\Omega_1(\bar{\delta})$ . If the curve  $\bar{Z}_0(t)$  lays in  $\Omega_1(\bar{\delta})$  for  $0 < t < t_1$ , then  $(t_1, \bar{Z}_0(t_1))$  would have to be a strict egress point of  $\partial\Omega_1(\bar{\delta})$  with respect to the original system of coordinates. This contradicts the relation (2.25). Therefore, there exists only the trivial solution  $Z_0(t) \equiv 0$  of (2.22), so  $Y_0 = \bar{Y}_0(t)$  is the unique solution of (2.10).

From (2.5), we obtain

$$|y_0(t, C) - \phi(t, C)| \leq \delta \phi^2(t, C), \quad (2.26)$$

where  $y_0(t, C)$  is the solution of (2.4) for  $t \in (0, t^*]$ . Similarly, from (2.6), (2.9) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
|y'_0(t, C) - \phi'(t, C)| &= \left| \frac{1}{g(t)} C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) Y_1(t) \right| \\
&\leq \left| \frac{1}{g(t)} C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) \right| \\
&\quad \times \left( \left| a\delta C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1+\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) \right| + \left| a\delta C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1+\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) \right| \right) \\
&\leq \frac{2\delta a}{g(t)} C^2 \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{2a}{g(s)} ds\right) = \delta(\phi^2(t, C))'.
\end{aligned} \tag{2.27}$$

It is obvious (after a continuous extension of  $y_0(t)$  for  $t = 0$  and  $y(0^+) = 0$ ) that  $P : h_0 \rightarrow y_0$  maps  $S$  into itself and  $PS \subset S$ .

(3) We will prove that  $PS$  is relatively compact and  $P$  is a continuous mapping.

It is easy to see, by (2.26) and (2.27), that  $PS$  is the set of uniformly bounded and equicontinuous functions for  $t \in [0, t^*]$ . By Ascoli's theorem,  $PS$  is relatively compact.

Let  $\{h_r(t)\}$  be an arbitrary sequence functions in  $S$  such that

$$\|h_r(t) - h_0(t)\| = \epsilon_r, \quad \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \epsilon_r = 0, \quad h_0(t) \in S. \tag{2.28}$$

The solution  $\overline{Y}_k(t)$  of the equation

$$\begin{aligned}
g(t)Y'_0(t) &= \alpha a Y_0(t) + \left( aC \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{\alpha a}{g(s)} ds\right) + aY_0(t) \right) \\
&\quad \times f\left(t, \phi(t, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) Y_0(t), \right. \\
&\quad \left. \int_{0^+}^t K(t, s, \phi(t, C) + H_k(t), \phi(s, C) + H_k(s)) ds \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{2.29}$$

corresponds to the function  $h_k(t)$  and  $\overline{Y}_k(t) \in \Omega_0$  for  $t \in (0, t^*)$ . Similarly, the solution  $\overline{Y}_0(t)$  of (2.10) corresponds to the function  $h_0(t)$ . We will show that  $|\overline{Y}_k(t) - \overline{Y}_0(t)| \rightarrow 0$  uniformly on  $[0, t^\Delta]$ , where  $0 < t^\Delta \leq t^*$ ,  $t^\Delta$  is a sufficiently small constant which will be specified later. Consider the region

$$\Omega_{0k} = \{(t, Y_0) : 0 < t < t^*, u_{0k}(t, Y_0) < 0\}, \tag{2.30}$$



where

$$u_{0k}(t, Y_0) = \left( Y(t) - \bar{Y}_0(t) \right)^2 - \left( \epsilon_k C \exp \left( \int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1 + \alpha - \nu)a}{g(s)} ds \right) \right)^2, \quad 0 < \nu < \alpha, \quad k \geq 1. \quad (2.31)$$

There exists sufficiently small constant  $t^\Delta \leq t^*$  such that  $\Omega_0 \subset \Omega_{0k}$  for any  $k, t \in (0, t^\Delta)$ . Investigate the behaviour of integral curves of (2.29) with respect to the boundary  $\partial\Omega_{0k}, t \in (0, t^\Delta)$ . Using the same method as above, we obtain for trajectory derivatives

$$\operatorname{sgn} \dot{u}_{0k}(t, Y_0) = -1 \quad (2.32)$$

for  $t \in (0, t^\Delta]$  and any  $k$ . By Ważewski's topological method, there exists at least one solution  $\bar{Y}_k(t)$  lying in  $\Omega_{0k}, 0 < t < t^\Delta$ . Hence, it follows that

$$\left| \bar{Y}_k(t) - \bar{Y}_0(t) \right| \leq \epsilon_k C \exp \left( \int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1 + \alpha - \nu)a}{g(s)} ds \right) \leq M \epsilon_k, \quad (2.33)$$

and  $M > 0$  is a constant depending on  $C, t^\Delta$ . From (2.5), we obtain

$$\left| y_k(t) - y_0(t) \right| = C \exp \left( \int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1 - \alpha)a}{g(s)} ds \right) \left| \bar{Y}_k(t) - \bar{Y}_0(t) \right| \leq m \epsilon_k, \quad (2.34)$$

where  $m > 0$  is a constant depending on  $t^\Delta, C, M$ . This estimate implies that  $P$  is continuous.

We have thus proved that the mapping  $P$  satisfies the assumptions of Schauder's fixed point theorem and hence there exists a function  $h(t) \in S$  with  $h(t) = P(h(t))$ . The proof of existence of a solution of (1.1) is complete.

Now we will prove the uniqueness of a solution of (1.1). Substituting (2.5), (2.6) into (1.1), we get

$$\begin{aligned} Y_1(t) &= aY_0(t) + \left( aC \exp \left( \int_{t_0}^t \frac{\alpha a}{g(s)} ds \right) + a(t)Y_0(t) \right) \\ &\quad \times f \left( t, \phi(t, C) + C \exp \left( \int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1 - \alpha)a}{g(s)} ds \right) Y_0(t), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \int_{0^+}^t K \left( t, s, \phi(t, C) + C \exp \left( \int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1 - \alpha)a}{g(u)} du \right) Y_0(t), \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. \phi(s, C) + C \exp \left( \int_{t_0}^s \frac{(1 - \alpha)a}{g(u)} du \right) Y_0(s) \right) ds \right). \end{aligned} \quad (2.35)$$

Equation (2.7) may be written in the following form:

$$\begin{aligned}
g(t)Y_0'(t) &= \alpha a Y_0(t) + \left( aC \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{\alpha a}{g(s)} ds\right) + aY_0(t) \right) \\
&\times f\left(t, \phi(t, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) Y_0(t), \right. \\
&\quad \int_{0^+}^t K\left(t, s, \phi(t, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(u)} du\right) Y_0(t), \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. \phi(s, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^s \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(u)} du\right) Y_0(s)\right) ds \right). \tag{2.36}
\end{aligned}$$

Now we know that there exists the solution  $y_0(t, C)$  of (1.1) satisfying (2.1) such that

$$y_0(t, C) = \phi(t, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) U_0(t), \tag{2.37}$$

where  $U_0(t)$  is the solution of (2.36).

Denote  $W_0(t) = Y_0(t) - U_0(t)$  and substituting it into (2.36), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
g(t)W_0'(t) &= \alpha a W_0(t) + a\left(C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{\alpha a}{g(s)} ds\right) + W_0(t)\right) \\
&\times \left[ f\left(t, \phi(t, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) (W_0(t) + U_0(t)), \right. \\
&\quad \int_{0^+}^t K\left(t, s, \phi(t, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(u)} du\right) (W_0(t) + U_0(t)), \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. \phi(s, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^s \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(u)} du\right) (W_0(s) + U_0(s))\right) ds \right) \tag{2.38} \\
&- f\left(t, \phi(t, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(s)} ds\right) U_0(t), \right. \\
&\quad \int_{0^+}^t K\left(t, s, \phi(t, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(u)} du\right) U_0(t), \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. \phi(s, C) + C \exp\left(\int_{t_0}^s \frac{(1-\alpha)a}{g(u)} du\right) U_0(s)\right) ds \right).
\end{aligned}$$

Let

$$\Omega_{00} = \left\{ (t, W_0) : 0 < t < t^\Delta, u_{00}(t, W_0) < 0 \right\}, \tag{2.39}$$

where

$$u_{00}(t, W_0) = W_0^2 - \left( \delta C \exp \left\{ \int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1 + \alpha - \mu)a}{g(s)} ds \right\} \right)^2, \quad 0 < \mu < \alpha. \tag{2.40}$$

If (2.38) had only the trivial solution lying in  $\Omega_{00}$ , then  $Y_0(t) = U_0(t)$  would be the only solution of (2.38) and from here, by (2.36),  $y_0(t, C)$  would be the only solution of (1.1) satisfying (2.1) for  $t \in (0, t^\Delta]$ .

We will suppose that there exists a nontrivial solution  $\overline{W}_0(t)$  of (2.38) lying in  $\Omega_{00}$ . Substitute  $\overline{W}_0(s)$  instead of  $W_0(t)$  into (2.38), we obtain the differential equation

$$\begin{aligned} g(t)W_0'(t) &= \alpha a W_0(t) + a \left( C \exp \left( \int_{t_0}^t \frac{\alpha a}{g(s)} ds \right) + W_0(t) \right) \\ &\times \left[ f \left( t, \phi(t, C) + C \exp \left( \int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1 - \alpha)a}{g(s)} ds \right) (W_0(t) + U_0(t)), \right. \right. \\ &\quad \int_{0^+}^t K \left( t, s, \phi(t, C) + C \exp \left( \int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1 - \alpha)a}{g(u)} du \right) (\overline{W}_0(t) + U_0(t)), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. \phi(s, C) + C \exp \left( \int_{t_0}^s \frac{(1 - \alpha)a}{g(u)} du \right) (\overline{W}_0(s) + U_0(s)) \right) ds \right) \tag{2.41} \\ &- f \left( t, \phi(t, C) + C \exp \left( \int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1 - \alpha)a}{g(s)} ds \right) U_0(t), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \int_{0^+}^t K(t, s, \phi(t, C) + C \exp \left( \int_{t_0}^t \frac{(1 - \alpha)a}{g(u)} du \right) U_0(t), \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. \phi(s, C) + C \exp \left( \int_{t_0}^s \frac{(1 - \alpha)a}{g(u)} du \right) U_0(s) \right) ds \right) \left. \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Calculating the derivative  $\dot{u}_{00}(t, W_0)$  along the trajectories of (2.41) on the set  $\partial\Omega_{00}$ , we get  $\text{sgn } \dot{u}_{00}(t, W_0) = -1$  for  $t \in (0, t^\Delta]$ .

By the same method as in the case of the existence of a solution of (1.1), we obtain that in  $\Omega_{00}$  there is only the trivial solution of (2.41). The proof is complete.  $\square$

*Example 2.2.* Consider the following initial value problem:

$$t^2 y'(t) = 3y(t) \left( 1 + \frac{t}{1 + t^2} y(t) + \int_0^t \frac{2e^{-s^2} y(t)}{s^3(1 + y^2(t)y^2(s))} ds \right), \quad y(0^+) = 0. \tag{2.42}$$

In our case a general solution of the equation

$$t^2 y'(t) = 3y(t) \quad (2.43)$$

has the form  $\phi(t, C) = C \exp(3t_0^{-1} - 3t^{-1})$  and  $g(t) = t^2$ ,  $a = 3$ ,  $\varphi(t) = 2$ ,  $\lambda = 1/2$ ,  $\psi(t)g^{\tau}(t) = 2t^{2\tau} = o(1)$  as  $t \rightarrow 0^+$ .

Further

$$\begin{aligned} |f(t, u, v)| &= \left| \frac{t}{1+t^2} y(t) + \int_0^t \frac{2e^{-s^2} y(t)}{s^3(1+y^2(t)y^2(s))} ds \right| \\ &\leq |y(t)| + \left| \int_0^t \frac{2e^{-s^2} y(t)}{s^3(1+y^2(t)y^2(s))} ds \right|, \end{aligned} \quad (2.44)$$

$r(t) = \exp(-t^{-2})$ ,  $\exp(-t^{-2}) = C \exp(3t_0^{-1} - 3t^{-1})o(1)$  as  $t \rightarrow 0^+$  and

$$\left| \int_0^t \frac{2e^{-s^2} y(t)}{s^3(1+y^2(t)y^2(s))} ds \right| \leq \left( \exp(-t^{-2}) \right) |y(t)|. \quad (2.45)$$

According to Theorem 2.1, there exists for every constant  $C \neq 0$  the unique solution  $y(t, C)$  of (2.42) such that

$$\left| y^{(i)}(t, C) - \left( C \exp\left(\frac{3}{t_0} - \frac{3}{t}\right) \right)^{(i)} \right| \leq \delta \left[ \left( C \exp\left(\frac{3}{t_0} - \frac{3}{t}\right) \right)^2 \right]^{(i)}, \quad i = 0, 1, \quad (2.46)$$

for  $t \in (0, t^\Delta]$ .

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