

## ON SOLVABILITY OF QUADRATIC HAMMERSTEIN INTEGRAL EQUATIONS IN HÖLDER SPACES

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**Abstract.** Using Schauder's fixed point theorem we consider the solvability of a quadratic Hammerstein integral equation in the space of functions satisfying a Hölder condition. An example is included to illustrate our results.

### 1. Introduction

In this paper, we investigate the existence of solutions of the following quadratic integral equation of Hammerstein type

$$x(t) = p(t) + x(t) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) f(\tau, (\Lambda x)(\tau)) d\tau, \quad t \in [0, 1], \quad (1)$$

where  $\Lambda$  is a general operator.

If  $f(t, y) = y$  we get an equation in [13], if  $f(t, y) = y$  and  $\Lambda x = \max\{|x(\tau)| : 0 \leq \tau \leq r(t)\}$ , where  $r : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a continuous and nondecreasing function we obtain an equation studied in [6] and if  $f(t, y) = y$  and  $(\Lambda x)(t) = x(r(t))$ , where  $r : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  is a measurable function, we obtain an equation studied in [5]. When  $\Lambda y = y$  and  $f(t, y) = -y$ , (1) becomes

$$x(t) + x(t) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) x(\tau) d\tau = p(t), \quad t \in [0, 1].$$

This equation is a generalization of a famous equation in transport theory, the so-called Chandrasekhar  $H$ -equation in which  $p(t) = 1$ ,  $x$  must be identified with the  $H$ -function and for a nonnegative characteristic function  $\phi$ ,  $k(t, \tau) = \frac{t\phi(t)}{t+\tau}$ ; see for example [7, 10, 12] and the references therein. Quadratic integral equations arise in the theory of radiative transfer, in the theory of neutron transport and in the theory of traffic; see [1, 4, 8, 9, 11, 14] and the references therein.

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In the space of functions satisfying a Hölder condition, Schauder's fixed point theorem and the relative compactness in these spaces are the main tools used to prove our main result.

## 2. Preliminaries

We denote by  $C[a, b]$  the space of all continuous functions  $x : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  equipped with the norm  $\|x\|_\infty = \sup\{|x(t)| : t \in [a, b]\}$  for  $x \in C[a, b]$ . Let  $H_\alpha[a, b]$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1]$  be the collection of all real functions  $x$  defined on  $[a, b]$  which satisfies a Hölder condition

$$|x(t) - x(\tau)| \leq H_x^\alpha |t - \tau|^\alpha, \quad \forall(t, \tau) \in [a, b]^2, \quad (2)$$

where  $H_x^\alpha$  is the least possible constant for which inequality (2) is satisfied, i.e.,

$$H_x^\alpha = \sup \left\{ \frac{|x(t) - x(\tau)|}{|t - \tau|^\alpha} : t, \tau \in [a, b], t \neq \tau \right\}.$$

The spaces  $H_\alpha[a, b]$ ,  $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ , equipped with the norm  $\|x\|_\alpha = |x(a)| + H_x^\alpha$  are Banach spaces.

LEMMA 2.1. *The norm  $\|\cdot\|_\infty$  is dominated by the norm  $\|\cdot\|_\alpha$ , i.e., for an arbitrarily fixed  $x \in H_\alpha[a, b]$  and for an arbitrary  $t \in [a, b]$ , the following inequality holds  $\|x\|_\infty \leq \max\{1, (b-a)^\alpha\} \|x\|_\alpha$ .*

LEMMA 2.2. *For  $0 < \alpha < \beta \leq 1$ , we have  $H_\beta[a, b] \subset H_\alpha[a, b] \subset C[a, b]$ . Moreover, for  $x \in H_\beta[a, b]$  the following inequality is satisfied  $\|x\|_\alpha \leq \max\{1, (b-a)^{\beta-\alpha}\} \|x\|_\beta$ .*

The authors in [2] established a sufficient condition for relative compactness in the spaces  $H_\alpha[a, b]$ ,  $\alpha \in (0, 1]$ .

THEOREM 2.3. *Let  $0 < \alpha < \beta \leq 1$  and let  $B$  be a bounded subset in  $H_\beta[a, b]$  (this means that  $\|x\|_\beta \leq M$  for certain constant  $M > 0$ , for any  $x \in B$ ). Then  $B$  is a relatively compact subset of  $H_\alpha[a, b]$ .*

## 3. Main results

In this section we discuss the solvability of (1) in Hölder spaces.

We assume the following are satisfied.

(a1)  $p \in H_\beta[0, 1]$ ,  $0 < \beta \leq 1$ .

(a2) The function  $k : [0, 1]^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a continuous function and there exists a constant  $\kappa_\beta > 0$  such that  $|k(t, \tau) - k(s, \tau)| \leq \kappa_\beta |t - s|^\beta$  for any  $t, \tau, s \in [0, 1]$ .

(a3) The function  $f : [0, 1] \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous and there exists a nondecreasing function  $\Psi : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  such that  $|f(t, x)| \leq \Psi(|x|)$ ,  $\forall(t, x) \in ([0, 1], \mathbb{R})$ .

(a4) The operator  $\Lambda : H_\beta[0, 1] \rightarrow C[0, 1]$  is continuous and there exists a nondecreasing function  $\psi : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  such that for any  $x \in H_\beta[0, 1]$ ,  $\|\Lambda x\|_\infty \leq \psi(\|x\|_\beta)$ .

(a5) Let  $r$  be a positive solution of the following equation  $\|p\|_\beta + (K + \kappa_\beta)\Psi(\psi(r))r \leq r$ , where  $K = \sup \left\{ \int_0^1 |k(t, \tau)| d\tau : t \in [0, 1] \right\}$ .

**THEOREM 3.1.** *Under assumptions (a1)–(a5), (1) has at least one solution  $x \in H_\alpha[0, 1]$  (here  $\alpha$  is an arbitrarily fixed number satisfying  $0 < \alpha < \beta$ ).*

*Proof.* Consider the operator  $\mathfrak{T}$  defined on  $H_\beta[0, 1]$  by

$$(\mathfrak{T}x)(t) = p(t) + x(t) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) f(\tau, (\Lambda x)(\tau)) d\tau, \quad t \in [0, 1].$$

We claim that  $\mathfrak{T}$  maps the space  $H_\beta[0, 1]$  into itself. Take  $x \in H_\beta[0, 1]$  and  $t, s \in [0, 1]$  with  $t \neq s$ . Then, by assumptions (a1) and (a2), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{|(\mathfrak{T}x)(t) - (\mathfrak{T}x)(s)|}{|t-s|^\beta} \\ &= \frac{\left| p(t) + x(t) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) d\tau - p(s) - x(s) \int_0^1 k(s, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) d\tau \right|}{|t-s|^\beta} \\ &\leq \frac{|p(t) - p(s)|}{|t-s|^\beta} + \frac{\left| x(t) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) d\tau - x(s) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) d\tau \right|}{|t-s|^\beta} \\ &\quad + \frac{\left| x(s) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) d\tau - x(s) \int_0^1 k(s, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) d\tau \right|}{|t-s|^\beta} \\ &\leq \frac{|p(t) - p(s)|}{|t-s|^\beta} + \frac{|x(t) - x(s)|}{|t-s|^\beta} \int_0^1 |k(t, \tau)| |f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau))| d\tau \\ &\quad + \frac{|x(s)|}{|t-s|^\beta} \int_0^1 |k(t, \tau) - k(s, \tau)| |f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau))| d\tau \\ &\leq \frac{|p(t) - p(s)|}{|t-s|^\beta} + \frac{|x(t) - x(s)|}{|t-s|^\beta} \Psi(\|\Lambda x\|_\infty) \int_0^1 |k(t, \tau)| d\tau \\ &\quad + \frac{\|x\|_\infty \Psi(\|\Lambda x\|_\infty)}{|t-s|^\beta} \int_0^1 |k(t, \tau) - k(s, \tau)| d\tau \\ &\leq \frac{|p(t) - p(s)|}{|t-s|^\beta} + K \Psi(\psi(\|x\|_\beta)) \frac{|x(t) - x(s)|}{|t-s|^\beta} + \kappa_\beta \Psi(\psi(\|x\|_\beta)) \|x\|_\infty \frac{\int_0^1 |t-s|^\beta d\tau}{|t-s|^\beta}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $H_{\mathfrak{T}x}^\beta \leq H_p^\beta + (KH_x^\beta + \kappa_\beta \|x\|_\beta) \Psi(\psi(\|x\|_\beta))$ , so

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathfrak{T}x\|_\beta &= |(\mathfrak{T}x)(0)| + H_{\mathfrak{T}x}^\beta \\ &\leq |p(0)| + |x(0)| \int_0^1 |k(0, \tau)| |f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau))| d\tau + H_p^\beta + (KH_x^\beta + \kappa_\beta \|x\|_\beta) \Psi(\psi(\|x\|_\beta)) \\ &\leq \|p\|_\beta + K|x(0)|\Psi(\psi(\|x\|_\beta)) + (KH_x^\beta + \kappa_\beta \|x\|_\beta) \Psi(\psi(\|x\|_\beta)) \\ &\leq \|p\|_\beta + (K + \kappa_\beta) \|x\|_\beta \Psi(\psi(\|x\|_\beta)). \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

This proves that the operator  $\mathfrak{T}$  maps  $H_\beta[0, 1]$  into itself.

Using assumption (a5) and inequality (3), we deduce that  $\mathfrak{T}$  maps the closed ball  $B_{r_0}^\beta = \{x \in H_\beta[0, 1] : \|x\|_\beta \leq r_0\}$  into itself, for any  $r_0$  satisfying  $\|p\|_\beta + (K + \kappa_\beta) r_0 \Psi(\psi(r_0)) \leq r_0$ . Theorem 2.3 guarantees that the set  $B_{r_0}^\beta$  is relatively compact in  $H_\alpha[0, 1]$  for any  $0 < \alpha < \beta \leq 1$ . Moreover, it is easy to see that  $B_{r_0}^\beta$  is a compact subset in  $H_\alpha[0, 1]$  for any  $0 < \alpha < \beta \leq 1$ ; see the Appendix in [5].

We now prove that the operator  $\mathfrak{T}$  is continuous on  $B_{r_0}^\beta$  with respect to the norm  $\|\cdot\|_\alpha$ , where  $0 < \alpha < \beta \leq 1$ . Fix  $\varepsilon > 0$  and take  $x, y \in B_{r_0}^\beta$  with  $\|x - y\|_\alpha \leq \varepsilon$ . Then, for  $t \in [0, 1]$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{|[(\mathfrak{T}x)(t) - (\mathfrak{T}y)(t)] - [(\mathfrak{T}x)(s) - (\mathfrak{T}y)(s)]|}{|t - s|^\alpha} \\ &= \frac{1}{|t - s|^\alpha} \left| \left( x(t) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) \, d\tau - y(t) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda y(\tau)) \, d\tau \right) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - \left( x(s) \int_0^1 k(s, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) \, d\tau - y(s) \int_0^1 k(s, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda y(\tau)) \, d\tau \right) \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{|t - s|^\alpha} \left| \left( x(t) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) \, d\tau - y(t) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) \, d\tau \right) \right. \\ & \quad + \left( y(t) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) \, d\tau - y(t) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda y(\tau)) \, d\tau \right) \\ & \quad - \left( x(s) \int_0^1 k(s, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) \, d\tau - y(s) \int_0^1 k(s, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) \, d\tau \right) \\ & \quad \left. - \left( y(s) \int_0^1 k(s, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) \, d\tau - y(s) \int_0^1 k(s, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda y(\tau)) \, d\tau \right) \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{|t - s|^\alpha} \left| (x(t) - y(t)) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) \, d\tau \right. \\ & \quad + y(t) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) (f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) - f(\tau, \Lambda y(\tau))) \, d\tau \\ & \quad - (x(s) - y(s)) \int_0^1 k(s, \tau) (f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) - f(\tau, \Lambda y(\tau))) \, d\tau \\ & \quad \left. - y(s) \int_0^1 k(s, \tau) (f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) - f(\tau, \Lambda y(\tau))) \, d\tau \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{|t - s|^\alpha} \left| ((x(t) - y(t)) - (x(s) - y(s))) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) \, d\tau \right. \\ & \quad + (x(s) - y(s)) \int_0^1 (k(t, \tau) - k(s, \tau)) (f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) - f(\tau, \Lambda y(\tau))) \, d\tau \\ & \quad + (y(t) - y(s)) \int_0^1 k(t, \tau) (f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) - f(\tau, \Lambda y(\tau))) \, d\tau \\ & \quad \left. + y(s) \int_0^1 (k(t, \tau) - k(s, \tau)) (f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) - f(\tau, \Lambda y(\tau))) \, d\tau \right| \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\leq \frac{|(x(t)-y(t))-(x(s)-y(s))|}{|t-s|^\alpha} \int_0^1 |k(t,\tau)| |f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau))| d\tau \\
&\quad + \frac{|x(s)-y(s)|}{|t-s|^\alpha} \int_0^1 |k(t,\tau)-k(s,\tau)| |f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau))| d\tau \\
&\quad + \frac{|y(t)-y(s)|}{|t-s|^\alpha} \int_0^1 |k(t,\tau)| |f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau))-f(\tau, \Lambda y(\tau))| d\tau \\
&\quad + \frac{|y(s)|}{|t-s|^\alpha} \int_0^1 |k(t,\tau)-k(s,\tau)| |f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau))-f(\tau, \Lambda y(\tau))| d\tau \\
&\leq \frac{K|(x(t)-y(t))-(x(s)-y(s))|}{|t-s|^\alpha} \Psi(\psi(\|x\|_\beta)) + K_\beta \|x-y\|_\infty \Psi(\psi(\|x\|_\beta)) \int_0^1 |t-s|^{\beta-\alpha} d\tau \\
&\quad + \frac{K|y(t)-y(s)|}{|t-s|^\alpha} \gamma_f(\varepsilon) + K_\beta \|y\|_\infty \gamma_f(\varepsilon) \int_0^1 |t-s|^{\beta-\alpha} d\tau \\
&\leq \left( \frac{K|(x(t)-y(t))-(x(s)-y(s))|}{|t-s|^\alpha} + K_\beta \|x-y\|_\alpha \right) \Psi(\psi(\|x\|_\beta)) \\
&\quad + \left( \frac{K|y(t)-y(s)|}{|t-s|^\alpha} + K_\beta \|y\|_\alpha \right) \gamma_f(\varepsilon),
\end{aligned}$$

where,  $\gamma_f(\varepsilon) = \sup\{|f(t, y_1) - f(t, y_2)| : t \in [0, 1], y_1, y_2 \in [0, \psi(r_0)], \|y_1 - y_2\| \leq \varepsilon\}$ . Hence,

$$H_{\mathfrak{I}x - \mathfrak{I}y}^\alpha \leq (KH_{x-y}^\alpha + K_\beta \|x-y\|_\alpha) \Psi(\psi(\|x\|_\beta)) + (KH_y^\alpha + K_\beta \|y\|_\alpha) \gamma_f(\varepsilon). \quad (4)$$

Also, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&|(\mathfrak{I}x)(0) - (\mathfrak{I}y)(0)| \\
&= \left| x(0) \int_0^1 k(0,\tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) d\tau - y(0) \int_0^1 k(0,\tau) f(\tau, \Lambda y(\tau)) d\tau \right| \\
&\leq \left| x(0) \int_0^1 k(0,\tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) d\tau - y(0) \int_0^1 k(0,\tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) d\tau \right| \\
&\quad + \left| y(0) \int_0^1 k(0,\tau) f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) d\tau - y(0) \int_0^1 k(0,\tau) f(\tau, \Lambda y(\tau)) d\tau \right| \\
&\leq |x(0) - y(0)| \int_0^1 |k(0,\tau)| |f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau))| d\tau + |y(0)| \int_0^1 |k(0,\tau)| |f(\tau, \Lambda x(\tau)) - f(\tau, \Lambda y(\tau))| d\tau \\
&\leq K|x(0) - y(0)| \Psi(\psi(\|x\|_\beta)) + K|y(0)| \gamma_f(\varepsilon). \quad (5)
\end{aligned}$$

Add (4) and (5), and we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\|\mathfrak{I}x - \mathfrak{I}y\|_\alpha &\leq (KH_{x-y}^\alpha + K_\beta \|x-y\|_\alpha) \Psi(\psi(\|x\|_\beta)) + (KH_y^\alpha + K_\beta \|y\|_\alpha) \gamma_f(\varepsilon) \\
&\quad + K|x(0) - y(0)| \Psi(\psi(\|x\|_\beta)) + K|y(0)| \gamma_f(\varepsilon) \\
&= (K + K_\beta) \Psi(\psi(\|x\|_\beta)) \|x-y\|_\alpha + (K + K_\beta) \|y\|_\alpha \gamma_f(\varepsilon) \\
&\leq (K + K_\beta) \Psi(\psi(r_0)) \varepsilon + (K + K_\beta) r_0 \gamma_f(\varepsilon) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0,
\end{aligned}$$

where, we used the fact that  $\gamma_f(\varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$  since the function  $f$  is uniformly continuous on the set  $[0, 1] \times [0, \psi(r_0)]$ . Therefore,  $\mathfrak{I}$  is continuous on  $B_{r_0}^\beta$ .

Apply the Schauder fixed point theorem (recall  $B_{r_0}^\beta$  is compact in  $H_\alpha[0, 1]$ ) to

obtain the desired result. □

### 4. Example

Here we illustrate our theory with an example.

EXAMPLE 4.1. Consider the quadratic integral equation

$$x(t) = \sqrt[8]{m \cos^2 t + n} + x(t) \int_0^1 \sqrt[6]{l \sin^2 t + \tau} \arctan \left( \frac{\tau^2 x(\tau)}{1 + \tau^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} d\tau, \quad t \in [0, 1], \quad (6)$$

where,  $l, m$  and  $n$  are nonnegative constants.

Note that (6) is a special case of (1), where  $p(t) = \sqrt[8]{m \cos^2 t + n}$ ,  $k(t, \tau) = \sqrt[6]{l \sin^2 t + \tau}$ ,  $f(\tau, y) = \arctan(\tau y)^{\frac{1}{3}}$  and  $\Lambda x = \frac{\tau x}{1 + \tau^2}$ .

One can easily check that:

$$\begin{aligned} |p(t) - p(s)| &= \left| \sqrt[8]{(\sqrt{m} \cos t)^2 + n} - \sqrt[8]{(\sqrt{m} \cos s)^2 + n} \right| \leq \sqrt[8]{|\sqrt{m} \cos t - \sqrt{m} \cos s|^2} \\ &= \sqrt[8]{m} |\cos t - \cos s|^{\frac{1}{4}} = \sqrt[8]{m} \sqrt[4]{|\cos t - \cos s|} = \sqrt[8]{m} |\cos t - \cos s|^{\frac{1}{4}} \\ &\leq \sqrt[8]{m} |t - s|^{\frac{1}{8}} |t - s|^{\frac{1}{8}} \leq \sqrt[8]{m} |t - s|^{\frac{1}{8}}, \end{aligned}$$

for  $t, s \in [0, 1]$ , where we use [3, Theorem 2.1]. Thus  $p \in H_{\frac{1}{8}}[0, 1]$  and  $H_p^{\frac{1}{8}} = \sqrt[8]{m}$ . Therefore, the assumption (a1) of Theorem 3.1 is satisfied with  $0 < \alpha < \beta = \frac{1}{8}$  and  $\|p\|_{\frac{1}{8}} = |p(0)| + H_p^{\frac{1}{8}} = \sqrt[8]{m + n} + \sqrt[8]{m}$ . Moreover, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |k(t, \tau) - k(s, \tau)| &= \left| \sqrt[6]{l \sin^2 t + \tau} - \sqrt[6]{l \sin^2 s + \tau} \right| \leq \sqrt[6]{|l \sin^2 t - l \sin^2 s|} \leq \sqrt[6]{l} \sqrt[6]{|t^2 - s^2|} \\ &= \sqrt[6]{l} \sqrt[6]{t+s} \sqrt[6]{|t-s|} \leq \sqrt[6]{l} \sqrt[6]{2} |t-s|^{\frac{1}{6}} = \sqrt[6]{2l} |t-s|^{\frac{1}{6}} |t-s|^{\frac{1}{24}} \leq \sqrt[6]{2l} |t-s|^{\frac{1}{8}}, \end{aligned}$$

where the inequality  $|\sqrt[6]{l \sin^2 t + \tau} - \sqrt[6]{l \sin^2 s + \tau}| \leq \sqrt[6]{|l \sin^2 t - l \sin^2 s|}$  follows from [3, Theorem 2.1]. Therefore, the assumption (a2) of Theorem 3.1 is satisfied with  $\kappa_{\beta} = \kappa_{\frac{1}{8}} = \sqrt[6]{2l}$ .

Now, since  $|f(\tau, x)| = \left| \arctan(\tau x)^{\frac{1}{3}} \right| \leq |\tau x|^{\frac{1}{3}} \leq |x|^{\frac{1}{3}}$ , then  $f(\tau, x) = \arctan(\tau x)^{\frac{1}{3}}$ , satisfies the assumption (a3) of Theorem 3.1 with a nondecreasing function  $\Psi(r) = r^{\frac{1}{3}}$ .

Also, we have  $\|\Lambda x\|_{\infty} \leq \sup_{\tau \in [0, 1]} \frac{\tau |x(\tau)|}{1 + \tau^2} \leq \frac{1}{2} \|x\|_{\infty} \leq \frac{1}{2} \|x\|_{\beta}$ , so the assumption (a4) is satisfied with  $\psi(t) = \frac{1}{2}t$ .

Next, we will show that the operator  $\Lambda : H_{\beta}[0, 1] \rightarrow C[0, 1]$  is continuous with respect to the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{\alpha}$ . Take  $x, y \in H_{\beta}[0, 1]$  and  $\tau \in [0, 1]$ , and we have

$$\left| \frac{\tau x(\tau)}{1 + \tau^2} - \frac{\tau y(\tau)}{1 + \tau^2} \right| = \frac{\tau}{1 + \tau^2} |x(\tau) - y(\tau)| \leq \frac{1}{2} |x(\tau) - y(\tau)| \leq \frac{1}{2} \|x - y\|_{\infty} \leq \frac{1}{2} \|x - y\|_{\alpha}.$$

Then  $\|\Lambda x - \Lambda y\|_{\infty} \leq \frac{1}{2} \|x - y\|_{\alpha}$ .

Note that the constant  $K$  satisfies

$$K = \sup \left\{ \int_0^1 |k(t, \tau)| d\tau : t \in [0, 1] \right\} = \sup \left\{ \int_0^1 \sqrt[6]{l \sin^2 t + \tau} d\tau : t \in [0, 1] \right\}$$

$$= \sup \left\{ \frac{6}{7} \left( \sqrt[6]{(l \sin^2 t + 1)^7} - \sqrt[6]{l^7 \sin^7 t^2} \right) : t \in [0, 1] \right\} \leq \frac{6}{7} \left( \sqrt[6]{(l+1)^7} - \sqrt[6]{l^7} \right),$$

so for the inequality appearing in the assumption (a5), we could consider the inequality

$$\sqrt[8]{m+n} + \sqrt[8]{m} + \left( \frac{6}{7} \left( \sqrt[6]{(l+1)^7} - \sqrt[6]{l^7} \right) + \sqrt[6]{2l} \right) \sqrt[3]{\frac{r}{2}} r \leq r. \quad (7)$$

Choosing suitable values for the constants  $m$ ,  $n$  and  $l$ , one can find a positive solution of inequality (7) and then all the assumptions of Theorem 3.1 will be satisfied and (6) will have at least one solution  $x \in H_\alpha[0, 1]$ , where  $0 < \alpha < \frac{1}{8}$ .

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